

# WARANGA NEWS

Waranga News acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waterways of our distribution area. We recognise their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

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 26 June 2025

## Residents out and about in Melbourne

### Fun day at the Aquarium

A large group of residents, staff, volunteers and family members of Waranga Health headed off to the Melbourne Aquarium for a wonderful day out.

It was the terrific assistance from the night, kitchen and day staff that made the morning run smoothly.

GV Health was a great support and a special shout out goes to the wonderful Lifestyles Team for organising the day and making it all possible.

(Left) Mary Beck and Gwen Hitchcock enjoying the delights of the aquarium.

(Below) The whole group looking forward to their tour.



**Opera in the Country at Rushworth Shire Hall 5 July at 5pm. Details page 3**

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

# GVHealth

# Waranga Health News



June 2025

## DRESS UP DAYS



We celebrated the King's Birthday in style, with plenty of sparkle and regal flair. Staff and residents dressed in their most eye-catching outfits and voted for their favourites in a friendly fashion showdown. All staff who took part received a \$20 voucher to support local businesses, a small thank you for bringing the royal energy. Our most sparkly resident also received a \$20 voucher to a local café.



## OUT AND ABOUT



In May, a group of 10 residents, family members, staff and volunteers enjoyed a wonderful day out at the Melbourne Aquarium. The group explored the underwater world and spent quality time together on what was a truly special outing. A big thank you to our night, kitchen and day staff for ensuring the morning ran smoothly. A special shoutout to our dedicated Lifestyles team for helping make it all possible.

## FAREWELL



We recently said goodbye to RN Graduate Nurse Kate Golightly during a study day at Waranga Health. Kate has been a valued member of our team and gave great care to our residents during her time with us. We wish her all the best in her next rotation.

## HAPPY INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY



We recently celebrated our incredible nurses who play a vital role in delivering high quality care to people across our region. We are fortunate to have so many skilled, compassionate and dedicated nurses working at Waranga Health. Your hard work makes a real difference in people's lives every day. Thank you for everything you do to support our residents, their families, and our wider community.

## WARANGA HEALTH - COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE

PHONE (03) 5851 8000 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON:

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Country Hearing Care  
District Nursing

Excise Physiologist  
Podiatry  
QUIT Educator

Women's Health / Sexual Health  
Nurse

Waranga Campus Rushworth | P: (03) 5851 8000

E: waranga.admin@gvhealth.org.au | www.gvhealth.org.au

## NOTICEBOARD

### Community Walking Group

When: Thursdays  
Where: Meet at Waranga Health, 14 High Street, Rushworth  
Time: 8am - 9am  
All abilities welcome

### Rushworth AA Group

When: Thursdays  
Where: Waranga Health  
Time: 7pm  
Cost: Free  
Contact Jenny on 0430 103 145 for more information

## SAVE THE DATE

### Carer Support Group

When: Thursday, 3 July 2025  
Where: Rushworth Community House  
Time: 2pm - 4pm  
New members welcome  
Phone 5851 8026 for more information

### Women's Health Information Night

When: Thursday, 5 September 2025  
Where: Rushworth Community House, 67 High Street, Rushworth  
Time: 7pm  
Cost: Free, supper provided  
An evening of fun, food and helpful health information.  
RSVP: Call 5856 1295



You can keep up to date with what's happening at Waranga Health on Facebook. Like our page at [facebook.com/warangahealth](http://facebook.com/warangahealth)



# Free On-Farm workshops

North Central Catchment Management Authority is coordinating a series of free workshops for farmers across the north central Victoria region in June and July.

Titled "Know your number, control your future", these workshops are designed for farmers and land managers who want to stay ahead of changing supply chain requirements, improving farm efficiency, and strengthening their business for the future.

The sessions are being led by two of Australia's most respected farm advisors:

- Dr Cassandra Schefe, highly regarded soil scientist from AgriSci; and
- Cam Nicholson, farm systems specialist from Nicon Rural.

Between them, they bring deep expertise in soil health, agronomy, carbon, and business decision-making.

## Rochester workshop July 1

A workshop will be delivered at Rochester Community House on 1 July between 10:30am and 3pm by Cam Nicholson. Workshop topics will include:

- Improving soil health, soil carbon, and fertility;
- Understanding key emissions levers on-farm;
- Preparing for Scope 3 emissions reporting (mandatory by 2030);
- Tools and calculators to help understand and improve your "farm number";
- How on-farm efficiency is directly linked to profitability and future resilience.

This is not about becoming net zero. Farmers aren't expected to be. But knowing your number is becoming essential – and the more you understand it, the better positioned you'll be in the supply chain.

The workshops will be practical, informative, and tailored to your region. Plus a free local lunch will be provided at each event.

To find out more, email [katrina.rast@nccma.vic.gov.au](mailto:katrina.rast@nccma.vic.gov.au) or [tammy.herne@nccma.vic.gov.au](mailto:tammy.herne@nccma.vic.gov.au)

To book, visit <https://www.nccma.vic.gov.au/projects/agriculture/know-your-number-control-your-future/>

### When

• Tuesday, 01 July 2025 | 10:30 AM - 03:00 PM

### Location

• Rochester Community House, 43-45 MacKay Street, Rochester

# Kids shine in Opera in the Country at Tatura

Last month Opera in the Country founder Charlotte Goode organised an Opera workshop in Tatura for primary school aged students.

The free workshop was attended by students from Sacred Heart Primary School, Ardmona Primary School, Tatura Primary school and St Augustine's College in Kyabram. There were 42 students who attended the workshop and learnt in three short hours a chorus from the famous opera Carmen!

The workshop was facilitated by Mei Wah Chan who was sponsored by Opera Scholars Australia (OSA) alongside Charlotte with concert performers Matthew Duffy and Nicholas Matters helping out.

"My concerts are all about bringing opera to regional areas who have limited access to this art form. On this occasion I wanted to provide some exposure to Opera for young people," said Charlotte.

"I grew up in Kyabram and I had very limited experience of opera and it was not until I was at university that I really started to experience and love classical singing and opera. I would be happy knowing that one young person thought more about opera or classical singing and perusing this after the workshop."

Having a strong relationship with OSA meant that Mei Wah was able to offer her services free of charge (as she was sponsored by this organisation) OSA also donated some music

stands to two of the schools who participated in the workshop with the goal of fostering a love for music. The students performed alongside Opera in the Country performers at the evening concert delighting parents and residents of Tatura.

Opera in the country have performed concerts in Kyabram, Girgarre, Numurkah, Tongala, Fish Creek, Shepparton and most recently Tatura.

## Next stop is Rushworth!

<p><b>Saturday 5 July</b>  <b>Rushworth Shire Hall</b>  <b>5.00 pm</b>  <b>Cabaret style seating</b>  A light dinner will be available at interval provided by Red Knights for \$10.  Wine \$8 glass  Complementary supper with tea/coffee after the performance.  Tickets online or at the door  Cost \$25, pensioners \$20,  under 18 free but need a ticket  <a href="http://www.trybooking.com/DCIOH">www.trybooking.com/DCIOH</a></p>
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Budding opera singers from Sacred Heart School Tatura.

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5820 0200

Kyabram  
5851 0200

Nathalia  
5866 2655

Echuca  
5482 2555

Rochester  
5484 1800

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# Energy solutions require balanced dialogue

As governments worldwide strive to ensure reliable energy supplies while transitioning from fossil fuels, they often face resistance from local communities affected by the proposed location of new energy infrastructure. While the global imperative to reduce carbon emissions is widely acknowledged, the local impacts of energy projects—such as wind and solar farms, large-scale battery storage and large-scale transmission lines—can generate significant opposition. Sometimes pushback is triggered by a NIMBY response, but in many cases communities feel excluded from decision-making processes, leading to distrust in developers and authorities. Unfortunately social media misinformation, party politics and dogmatic arguments on either side of the energy transition debate are frequently obscuring the more nuanced discussion needed to find workable solutions—recognising that no energy solution is without cost and all transitions involve disruption. The following article addresses the very contested issue of transmission lines on farmland, exploring reasons for decisions made and alternative options.

## Is there an alternative to 10,000 kilometres of new transmission lines? Yes – but you may not like it

by Magnus Söderberg

Professor and Director, Centre for Applied Energy Economics and Policy Research, Griffith University

and Phillip Wild

Senior Research Fellow, CAEPR, Griffith University

**Building transmission lines is often controversial. Farmers who agree to host new lines on their property may be paid, while other community members protest against the visual intrusion. Pushback against new lines has slowed development and forced the government to promise more consultation.**

It's not a new problem. Communities questioned the routes of earlier transmission lines built during the 1950s-70s to link new coal and hydroelectric plants to the cities.

But this time, the transition has to be done at speed. Shifting from the old coal grid to a green grid requires new transmission lines. In its future system planning, Australia's energy market operator sees the need for 10,000 kilometres of new transmission lines in the five states (and the Australian Capital Territory) which make up the National Energy Market.

Do we need all of these new transmission lines? Or will the "staggering growth" of solar on houses and warehouses coupled with cheaper energy storage mean some new transmission lines are redundant?

The answer depends on how we think of electricity. Is it an essential service that must be reliable more than 99.9% of the time? If so, yes, we need these new lines. But if we think of it as a regular service, we would accept a less reliable (99%) service in exchange for avoiding some new transmission lines. This would be a fundamental change in how we think of power.

### Why do we need these new transmission lines?

The old grid was built around connecting a batch of fossil fuel plants via transmission lines to consumers in the towns and cities. To build this grid—one of the world's largest by distance covered—required 40,000 km of transmission lines.

The new grid is based around gathering energy from distributed renewables from many parts of the country. The market operator foresees a nine-fold increase in the total capacity of large scale solar and wind plants, which need transmission lines.

That's why the market operator lays out integrated systems plans every two years. The goal is to give energy users the best value by designing the lowest-cost way to secure reliable energy able to meet any emissions goals set by policy makers.

To avoid having to build transmission lines everywhere, policy makers have opted to group renewables in "renewable energy zones" with good wind or solar resources, and build transmission lines just to the zones.

According to the market operator, the major reasons why we need such a strong transmission network are:

- to harness flows of variable renewable power from different regions to make sure the system is reliable
- to cope with outages or shortfalls in supply. If a cloud band cuts solar farm output in one state, the grid can draw on solar from another state.
- boosting regional economies with advanced manufacturing and production of emerging green products and technologies.

So while 10,000 km sounds like a lot, it's been kept to the minimum.

### What if rooftop solar takes over?

Even so, some energy insiders question whether we need all these new transmission lines.

What if the growth of behind-the-meter energy resources such as rooftop solar, grid-connected home batteries and electric cars begin to cut demand from the grid?

About one in three households now have solar on their rooftops—the highest solar take up per capita in the world. And as more electric cars arrive in driveways, we will start using their large batteries as a backup power supply for our homes—or to sell the power on the grid. Could it be that cities could make their own power, as Nationals leader David Littleproud has called for?

Planners at Australia's market operator do anticipate ever-greater levels of rooftop solar, batteries and electric vehicles. Their latest forecasts see these resources with enough capacity to power 30% of the grid by the end of the decade and 45% by mid-century.

These are substantial contributions, but not enough to power a nation. As we move to electrify everything, we will need to roughly

double how much electricity we produce. Electricity is a much more efficient way to power transport, for instance, but switching from petrol to electric vehicles will mean more grid demand.

Having said that, we cannot be certain. When we model ways of giving up fossil fuels and ending emissions, there is always major uncertainty over what shape the future will take. Some technologies may sputter while others surge ahead.

### We could trade new transmission lines for a less reliable supply

At present, electricity is considered an essential service under national electricity laws. That means there has to be enough power 99.998% of the time. To meet that threshold, outages have to be kept to ten minutes in a year.

Making electricity an essential service is a choice. We could choose differently. If we decided electricity should be a regular service, where 99% reliability is OK (translating to outages of up to 87 hours a year), we would be able to get away with fewer new transmission lines.

That's because wealthier households would likely respond to more outages by investing more in big solar arrays and batteries. Some would become energy self-sufficient and cut ties with the grid.

In this scenario, self-generation by the rich would mean a reduced demand on the grid, and we might be able to get away with building fewer new transmission lines.

But we should be careful here. If we took this approach, we would reshape society. The rich would be insulated while poorer households deal with the pain of power outages. The idea of the grid as a public good would begin to disappear.

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# Victoria's renewable energy strategy: wind takes the lead

As part of a broader effort to engage with communities on the development of the Victorian Transmission Plan, VicGrid has been conducting a series of community workshops and drop-in sessions across Victoria to gather feedback on the draft plan. One of these sessions was held on Tuesday, 17 June at Rushworth Library from 1.30-4pm. Notification of the event was posted on the Shire of Campaspe Facebook page on the previous day.

The Victorian Transmission Plan sets out proposed renewable energy zones (REZ) and transmission projects that will be needed to meet the state's future energy needs. It proposes seven REZ: South West, Central Highlands, Grampians Wimmera, Southern Mallee, North West, Central North and Gippsland.

The purpose of the local session was to collect community feedback particularly on the draft Central North REZ which tracks between Shepparton and Bendigo and is adjacent to Rushworth, Rochester and Kyabram. It includes parts of the Campaspe, Greater Shepparton and City of Greater Bendigo local government areas.

The designated area is strategically located near existing transmission lines, enabling energy generation without the added expense of line upgrades.

A significant item of focus in the local session was that the Plan is now prioritising wind energy development over solar for the Central North REZ.

It is planned that the zone will deliver between 60 and 100 megawatts of new wind energy by 2040. This would be generated by 15 - 20 wind turbines and produce power for the equivalent of 45,000 homes every year.

While the region has traditionally been known for its solar potential, data informing the Victorian Transmission Plan suggests wind projects are expected to have higher capacity factors and lower curtailment rates compared to solar in this region, making them more efficient and cost-effective.

Although the emphasis is now on wind, solar energy will still play a role in Victoria's renewable energy strategy. However, the draft plan proposes limiting solar developments in the state's REZ to less than a fifth of the capacity previously approved. This reduction reflects Victoria's strategic shift towards wind energy, which is seen as more compatible with the state's

transmission infrastructure and energy reliability goals.

## Where to now for Colbinabbin solar?

The Colbinabbin Cooba Solar Project by Venn Energy recently received planning approval from the Victorian Government. Details of this project can be found on the Venn Energy website (<https://coobasolarproject.com.au/the-cooba-project/>), including responses to frequently asked questions.

An important step in the development of any new energy project is approval to connect to the grid. It is understood that grid connection approval was received from the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) in November last year. Responsibility for approvals of grid connections in Victoria for future proposed projects within Renewable Energy Zones is anticipated to be taken over from AEMO by VicGrid in future.

According to the Venn Energy website, construction of the Cooba Solar Project is expected to commence later this year and take twelve to eighteen months.

## Community feedback

VicGrid acknowledges a number of concerns raised through community consultation while developing the Transmission Plan. These include the need to:

- Minimise impacts on agriculture and land use, particularly irrigated land and dairy farming.
- Protect the natural environment and biodiversity.
- Consider natural hazard vulnerability, particularly flooding and how new infrastructure may impact future flood events.
- Avoid areas of high rural dwelling density and project growth areas

VicGrid states that irrigated farmland has been avoided as much as possible and that minimising the impact to farmland within the zone will be

The draft proposed Central North Renewable Energy Zone



The proposed Central North Renewable Energy Zone. Numbers represent identified areas of flooding risk, biodiversity, mining, agriculture, dwelling density and community or cultural significance.



Graeme Hanigan discusses the Plan with Doug Galbraith, Manager Economic Development at VicGrid.

an important consideration of any future projects proposed by energy developers.

The current consultation period is set to close on 24 June and a final version of the Victorian Transmission Plan is expected to be released later this year. It will provide more detailed information on the development of the Central North REZ and other zones, including specific capacity targets and timelines.



To learn more about VicGrid, the draft Victorian Renewable Energy Zones or to find out more about webinars and booking a session, visit <https://engage.vic.gov.au/victransmissionplan>

# Rushy Kindergarten and Childcare Centre update

**Rushworth Kindergarten and Childcare Centre (RKCC) recently held a Special General Meeting to consider two questions that are critical to the future governance and operation of the facility.**

Widely publicised beforehand in the Waranga News and on social media, the meeting invited parents of children who use the Centre to join with current committee members to approve a new constitution for the organisation.

Committee members, parents and interested members of the wider community were also invited to discuss current and future management issues being faced by the facility, and to contemplate a potential solution that would guarantee on-going kindergarten and childcare operations in Rushworth for the foreseeable future.

## Adoption of “Model Rules”

At its inception in the 1980s, the Kindergarten and Childcare Centre operated under its own set of governance rules that met the requirements of the time. These rules were condoned by Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV), the Government agency that controls operations of incorporated associations.

In the decades since those rules were promulgated, much has changed, both in the operation of the Committee of Management and in the delivery of services by the organisation.

In 2023, CAV published its latest set of “Model Rules”, a set of pre-written rules for incorporated associations that can be adopted to save time and effort in setting up or upgrading an organization’s governance.

These rules cover essential aspects like membership, meetings, and financial management, and are written to ensure compliance with relevant legislation.

The 2023 revision also includes recognition of modern electronics and communications, allowing remote meeting participation and voting using electronic devices once individual bona fides are established.

RKCC President Tracey Rogers invited kinder committee and parent members to consider the following resolution:

***“That, in accordance with section 50 of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic), the Association adopts the Model Rules for an Incorporated Association as published by Consumer Affairs Victoria and in force as of 1 July 2023, in substitution for and to the exclusion of the existing rules of the Association.”***

Tracey explained that the current rules were outdated and no longer aligned with the kindergarten’s operations. She noted that, unlike Model Rules, the existing rules are not automatically updated to reflect changes in legislation, potentially impacting compliance.

Vice-President Cass Alexander then provided an overview of Model Rules, explaining their purpose, relevance to the kindergarten, and the benefits of adopting

them.

As there were no further queries or comments, a vote was taken, and the resolution was passed as a special resolution with one hundred percent of members present voting in favour of the change.

The agreed change request will now be communicated to CAV, together with an updated statement of purpose for the Kindergarten and Childcare Centre.

## Future RKCC management

RKCC has always been managed by a Committee of Management, comprising parents of children at the facility and members of the wider community.

Current kindergarten services are subsidised by state government programmes, but the Centre’s childcare services do not receive support at present, meaning that costs of childcare must be borne wholly by parents.

At the meeting, Tracey outlined the ongoing challenges that the kindergarten has faced in recent years, including the inability to fill all committee positions and increasing difficulty being experienced when recruiting volunteers generally.

Tracey also noted that with significant changes underway in Early Years Education, RKCC’s current management structure lacks the capacity and expertise to meet future compliance requirements and operational demands.

To provide further insight into these issues and to canvass a possible solution, Tracey introduced Ronni Druitt, CEO of the Goulburn Region Pre-School Association (GRPSA), and invited her to present a brief overview of their not-for-profit organisation.

Mrs Druitt then began by welcoming the opportunity to address the Special General Meeting. She noted that among the many Kindergarten and Childcare Centres managed by GRPSA, Colbinabbin and Murchison were the closest to Rushworth and Rushworth would thus be a “natural fit” if GRPSA was invited to take over management of the local centre at some time in the future.

Using a simple but powerful on-screen presentation, Mrs. Druitt explained how kindergartens and childcare centres within GRPSA retain their unique identity while benefiting from centralised support for families, staff and services.

She highlighted the advantages of having specialised GRPSA staff manage centre



Ronni Druitt, CEO of the Goulburn Region Pre-School Association shares a joke with local parent Jessica Rogers.

administration, funding, grant applications, regulatory reporting, and professional development, alleviating local staff and committee members from these burdens.

## Possible extra services

Mention was also made about possible extensions to the services currently being offered at the Centre.

Opening each day from Monday to Friday, offering long day care in addition to the current short day care and obtaining government support for day care were among the possibilities mentioned by Mrs Druitt.

Such extra services would be dependent on several factors, including increased demand for places and the availability of additional trained staff to oversee the children during any increased opening hours.

Mrs Druitt received enthusiastic applause for her presentation and answered several questions posed by staff and parent members.

Tracey thanked her for attending and delivering her presentation on short notice, then summarised the potential benefits of transitioning to an EYM model for the Rushworth community.

An informal vote was taken from those present to gauge their support for Early Years Management by an external not-for-profit professional organisation such as Goulburn Region Pre-School Association. To the genuine delight of Committee members, there was 100% support from all of the parents and other members of the community.

Tracey expressed her thanks to those in attendance for their strong support which now enables the Committee of Management to move forward with the process of engaging an EYM partner.

As one committee member commented: “this is the greatest leap forward by the Kinder and Childcare Centre in many, many years.”

**(Story and photo : Cass Alexander)**

# Drought support now available what's on offer and how to access it

With the extension of state government drought support to our region, Member for Euroa Annabelle Cleeland has shared some resources to help navigate the available grants, local events, expert advice and useful contacts.

## 1. On-Farm Drought Infrastructure Grants – \$5,000 available

**Status:** Expressions of Interest are currently open, with a starting date for full applications set to be announced soon.

**Grant amount:** \$1,000–\$5,000 (ex GST), dollar-for-dollar matched

### Who can apply:

- Those who own, share, or lease a primary production business in an eligible LGA/postcode
- Have an active ABN (held since 30 Sept 2024)
- Contribute labour to the business
- Earn over 50% of income or \$75,000/year from primary production (in an average year)

### Eligible projects include:

- Stock containment areas
- Reticulated water
- Irrigation upgrades
- Grain/fodder storage
- Re-fencing
- Feed system upgrades

### Key conditions:

- One grant per applicant/business
- Work already completed before 30 Sept 2024 not eligible
- Can't double-dip with other state/federal funding for the same works

### How it works:

- Apply and get in-principle approval
- Purchase items within three months
- Pay upfront
- Submit invoices/receipts
- Get reimbursed by Rural Finance

### How to apply:

- Lodge an Expression of Interest now: [admin@ruralfinance.com.au](mailto:admin@ruralfinance.com.au)
- Once full applications open, apply here: Rural Finance Grants

## 2. Rural Financial Counselling – Free Support Available

Another option available in our region is the Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS), which offers free, confidential advice for farmers under financial stress.

### They can help you:

- Review your finances
- Create recovery action plans
- Negotiate with banks
- Access grants and government programs
- Build financial resilience

Phone: 1300 834 775 (Wodonga office)

Email: [info@agbizassist.org.au](mailto:info@agbizassist.org.au)

## 3. Loans, Payments, and Technical Advice

### RIC Farm Loans

The Regional Investment Corporation offer a series of farm loans that may be of assistance, ranging from \$500k to \$2m:

#### Farm Investment Loan

Recover from severe business impact and prepare for future financial disruptions.

#### Agristarter Loan

Accelerate plans to help secure a first farm business or support succession arrangements.

#### Drought Loan

For drought preparedness management and recovery activities.

#### AgBiz Drought Loan

Enable farm-related small businesses to manage through, and recover from drought.

**More information on the loans available at RIC, how to apply, and eligibility requirements can be found online at Our Loans - Regional Investment Corporation**

#### Farm Household Allowance (FHA)

FHA is a fortnightly payment for farmers and their partners facing financial hardship.

It's paid through Services Australia at the same rate as JobSeeker or Youth Allowance and is available for up to four years (1,460 days) within specific ten year periods.

Payments depend on your income and assets – you can have up to \$5.5 million in combined assets.

More information on eligibility and how to claim it can be found at: Farm Household Allowance - Services Australia

#### Feeding Livestock - Agriculture Victoria

AgVic are also offering technical advice and information through their Feeding Livestock page.

This includes resources for Pasture, Beef, and Sheep - including tools, tables, calculators, links, and feeding books.

This can be accessed at Home | Feeding Livestock | Agriculture Victoria.

## 4. Mental Health Support – You're Not Alone

Drought puts a huge strain not just on the farm, but on you and your family.

If you're doing it tough, please know you are not alone.

Local mental health supporter, Ivan Lister, has supported many in our region through hard times and is always available for a confidential chat. Ivan Lister: 0474 501 406

## 5. Drought Decision Making Workshops – Euroa and Benalla

**Free events:** Practical advice to help make tough farm decisions in dry times.

### Topics covered:

- Animal health, nutrition, feed budgeting
- Setting up containment areas
- Water quality
- Personal support & wellbeing
- Ag Biz Assist and mental health services

### Euroa

Friday, 13 June 2025

11am–2pm (includes morning tea and lunch)

Euroa Football Club Rooms, 2 Dunn St, Euroa

### Benalla

Thursday, 19 June 2025

11am–2pm (includes morning tea and lunch)

Redgum Room, Benalla Lakeside Community Centre

More information on both events, and other fantastic initiatives by the Gecko CLaN, can be found at Home - Gecko CLaN

RSVP: Kerri Robson – 0418 140 710 | [kerri@geckoclan.com.au](mailto:kerri@geckoclan.com.au)

## 6. Fighting for Interest-Free Farm Loans

I am backing calls from my federal colleagues to reinstate interest-free Regional Investment Corporation (RIC) loans.

- Up to \$2 million
- First 2 years interest-free
- Then concessional repayments

## Quick Contacts List

- Rural Finance (grants): Rural Finance Grants
- RFCS (free financial advice): 1300 834 775 | [info@agbizassist.org.au](mailto:info@agbizassist.org.au)
- National Centre for Farmer Health: Support Hub – Victoria
- Mental Health Advocate (Ivan Lister): 0474 501 406
- State Agriculture Minister (Ros Spence): [ros.spence@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:ros.spence@parliament.vic.gov.au) | 1300 622 308
- Federal Ag Minister (Julie Collins): [Minister.Collins@aff.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Collins@aff.gov.au) | (07) 5531 1033
- Federal MPs (Helen Haines and Sam Birrell): [helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au) | 03 5721 7077 [sam.birrell.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:sam.birrell.mp@aph.gov.au) | 03 5821 5371



# Annabelle CLEELAND MP

Member for Euroa

03 5762 1600 | [annabellécleeland.com.au](http://annabellécleeland.com.au)  

Proudly supporting the local community



## Catherine Fraser

Civil Celebrant

Celebrating Marriages and Funerals

293 Hill Road  
Stanhope VIC, 3623  
[catherinmarycelebrations@gmail.com](mailto:catherinmarycelebrations@gmail.com)

**0427 572 549**

# Fifty years ago in our district....

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



## Long day at Rushworth Court House

The Chronicle continued to struggle in June 1975, with multiple errors to be found on most pages. A rude Colbinabbin man sent a letter addressed to The Chronic Office.

Rushworth Magistrate's Court hosted a Kyabram man to answer charges of vehicle theft from Kyabram and Murchison. Senior Constable Kevin Foley said the defendant was a little puzzled when asked to produce a driving licence. The Kyabram vehicle had crashed into a ditch near Murchison, another car taken away from the Caledonian Hotel by shortening the ignition switch. Three months gaol was the outcome.

A Rushworth teenager took an unopened can of beer into Rushworth dance, and was observed drinking from it by the dance organiser, who happened to be Sergeant Durston. When challenged the youth had replied, "I have done it before, and I'll do it again". Magistrate Curtain branded the remark foolish and took \$20 from him, for breaching the law banning alcohol within a 200-metre radius of a dance held without a liquor licence.

A noisy speeding car driven by a well-known Murchison man attracted fines totalling \$55. Numerous other traffic offences were brought to court.

In Mr Curtain's role as Coroner, he found that the death of Murchison's David Eldridge at North Murchison in March had been accidental but that a faulty clutch on his motor-cycle may have contributed.

## Schools

The initiative of St Mary's Mothers' Club in writing to Hawthorn Football Club, asking for a football, produced a positive reply letter. (*But did the footy ever arrive?*)

The school doctor and nursing sister visited Rushworth Primary. All Grade 1 students had been checked. The class thanked Lex Jongerden of Grade 6 who had fixed their failing kites. They were now "flying high".

## Community

Filling key positions for Colbo Young Farmers (called the Diddleys by some) at the AGM were Geoff Weppner (President), Bruce Wootton (senr. V-P), John Weppner (junr. V-P), Stuart Hill (secretary), Rob Raglus (public relations), Ken McMurtie (sergeant-at-arms), Trevor Cheatley (librarian) and Colin Barlow (safety officer). (*Sergeant-at-arms? Safety officer? Were there security issues at Young Farmers' meetings?*)

## Personal

Former Rushworth resident Mrs Charlotte Borger's 90th birthday was cause for

celebration in Bendigo, involving family and friends.

Barbara and Graeme Johansen welcomed Stuart, joining his big brother Dale.

Chief and Vera Perry, together with Mr and Mrs G. A. McLean of Warracknabeal, proudly announced the engagement of Lynette and Alan. (*The other Alan McLean*.)

Charles and Doris Jones closed their Rushworth Bakery, commenced by Charlie's father in 1935. In later years they had been linked to Tip Top Bakeries, with Doris and their daughter Anita operating the shop, while Charlie had joined Ibis Milk Products at Stanhope.

The Tom McEvoy haystack fire, and the big Sunday response of the Colbinabbin brigade, brought public thanks to all who helped pull hay out, thereby saving the shed. 1800 small rectangular bales were lost.

A fire in the kitchen of Wes and Kaye Risstrom's Church Street home was extinguished by Neville Toohey and son Nev (jnr.), using a garden hose. (*Wes, what did you say about Kaye's cooking?*)

The May wedding of Lorraine Flynn of Murchison to Denis Brose of Kyabram was reported in late June, the males in the party wearing tan suits. (*Just thought you may like to know!*)

## Football

Despite kicking 2-8 with the wind in the second quarter against Mounts, a quarter of six goals against the wind by the Tigers got them home 16-16 to 11-16. Being engaged did not trouble Alan McLean, named best with David Roberts, John Lambden, Bill Barlow (*he gets a lot of mentions on this page!*), Neville Clarke, Alec Horne, Mick O' Sullivan and Glen Heily. Best for Mounts were Mick Gee, Peter Nihill, Barney Tuohey, Cliff White, Denis Roney and L. Kennedy.

In the Seconds, Rushworth edged out Mounts 9-6 to 7-4. Scribe Alf Raglus spotted Geoff and Trevor Hawking, Rob Raglus, Robert Jones, Wayne Hageman, Ray Cruz and Charles Potter. Three of these lads were Alf's nephews. Mounts best were R. Bennett, K. Shawyer, B. Griffen, N. Pieper and N. Comer.

The following Saturday Rob Raglus was included in the Seniors, as his cousin John was relegated to the Seconds. Heathcote included Denis Pangrazio and Percy Manton back from South Bendigo. With the last kick of the day, John Bianco kicked out on the full, leaving the scores 13-15 to the Tigers 13-13.

John Raglus was a strong player in the Seconds at centre half-back and "it's hard to understand why this player was excluded from the senior team". Heathcote 9-1,

Rushworth 4-5, with veteran Wes Risstrom kicking a goal and delaying the re-painting of his kitchen!

Murchison kicked 17-12 to beat Girgarre 6-11. Ron Burls kicked three goals in one quarter for Murch.

Stanhope were having a tough time in GV football. While the Seniors got within three goals of Mooroopna, the Seconds managed just 0-9 to the Cats 14-15, and the Thirds kicked 1-0 to Mooroopna's 26-15. (*Where would Stanhope play footy in 1976?*)

## Other sport

Mounts were too strong in their netball games against Rushworth A and B-grade teams. Colbo B-grade goalers must have been tired, beating Heathcote 54-19. Mounts and Colbo were the top two teams in both A and B grades, though ladders were not always published.

Travelling district bowlers Don and Florence Perry (Rushworth) and Ron and Jean Roulston (Stanhope) enjoyed winter success in a big tournament at Eden on the south coast of NSW.

At Rushworth golf, J. P. Williams went around in 75, way better than his handicap of 19 suggested, to take an A-grade event. B-grade winner was Graeme Ross with an 86, minus a handicap of 36. Straight-shooter Les Hoyling was nearest the pin. Winners for the Associates were Dot Aitken and Elsie Laurie.

Last men standing in the Crosgrove Cup were Reg McIntosh and Graham Spence, down to play Les Muir and Alan Curnick for the trophy.

## Rushing to Whroo,

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Alan McLean

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

## **Warm and cosy and lots to do at Rushworth Library**

Winter is the perfect time to visit the library. The heaters are on and there are plenty of cosy nooks to escape the cold. Renee has sent us a wrap of some of the winter events coming up:

**Wrapped for Winter exhibition** is currently touring around Campaspe Libraries and will be on show at Rushworth Library until June 30. The exhibition showcases handmade knitted and crocheted crafts on which the public can vote for their favourite.

**Warm Winter Read** 1 June - 31 August 2025 Borrow, read and log the books you read over winter to win great prizes. Sign up at [readbooks.com.au/wwr](http://readbooks.com.au/wwr)

**July School Holiday Program** is out now. Rushworth library will host craft activities, family movies and Lego and games over the school holidays. Bookings now available on the Campaspe Library Website.

**St Mary's Rushworth artworks** are currently on display in the library. Come and see what Rushworth's budding artists have been busy creating.

**Pam Wells, Author** visit Tuesday August 5 at 1.30pm Family history month will feature author Pam Wells discussing her biography of her late husband Rod Wells, detailing his time as a Prisoner of War during WWII and his return to civilian life. Please book on the Campaspe Library website.

**On display:**

(Right top) Hand-crafted winter woollies,  
(Right) St Mary's students' artwork.



Wreath of painted gum leaves created by St Mary's students for Reconciliation Week.

### Author Talk Pam Wells

"The Tiger Has Many Lives: The Story of Rod Wells"

Pam Wells (nee Bennett) started her life in Echuca and her late husband Rod grew up on a Chumming dairy farm. Pam has written the biography of her late husband and tells the horrific story of his time as a Prisoner of War during WWII and his determination to survive and put his PoW experiences behind him following his release & return to civilian life.

Come along and hear about Rod's fascinating life.

**Rushworth Library**  
When: Tuesday, 5 August 1.30pm  
Cost: Free  
Bookings required please Phone 5461 2460  
Books for sale (signed by the author) \$25 each copy

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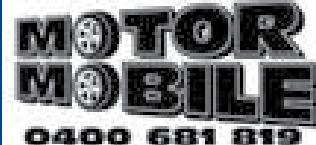


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# NEWS FROM THE OP-SHOP AND FOODBANK

BROUGHT TO YOU BY RUSHWORTH COMMUNITY SUPPORT INC.

## Keeping busy and warm

Just to make a change I will start with the foodbank news today. I don't know whether it's because it's colder and people need more food to keep warm but the foodbank is very busy at the moment. Plus there are new clients so our volunteers are flat out. Christine has made some lovely soup, which has been put in the freezer in containers to be given out. That is really going the extra mile for our clients and I'm sure they really appreciate it.

If you have any extra veggies or fruit from your garden the foodbank would really appreciate donations as they can use them at this time of year. Although the Foodbank Victoria organization supplies non-perishable items we still need to purchase milk, bread, veggies, fruit etc. and pay for freight, admin, handling, etc. All these costs are on the rise, as we well know from our own personal finances. The Op Shop was formed to provide money for these expenses and it has done well, but costs are rising all the time. If you do use the foodbank, it is not compulsory, but if you can provide a couple of dollars for the donation tin, it all really helps; as would donations from any other source, in kind or monetary value.

Apparently every second Friday of the month dry goods are delivered to the foodbank and on the second Tuesday of every month, two of our volunteers (driving their own vehicles) go to Mooroopna to pick up fresh produce. I say "well done" to everyone in the foodbank.

For Op Shop news - our shop is WARM. Come in and browse all the lovely winter clothes that are now out on the racks. Our sales are down a bit and we all reckon it's because

no-one wants to leave their warm cozy beds on these cold mornings, and if they do have to go down the street they scurry back to warm fires. Wimps, the lot of you! Our Op Shop has the heater on as soon as we arrive (purely for our customers, of course!) so it is snugly warm for you all to browse through our stock. We are just getting so much in at the moment, beautiful clothes, some of which have never been worn. Check out our boots, \$5 a pair unless otherwise marked, they can keep your toes toastie on these frosty mornings. If you want to wear thick socks get a size larger than your usual size. We have a number of onesies, fake fur jackets and heaps of warm jumpers and jackets. Men are also catered for in the warmth department, so don't be shy, us mature women won't bite you.

Reading is important to encourage in young children and we have a surplus of childrens books at the moment. So, at FIVE BOOKS FOR \$1 this is the chance to come in and replenish their bookcase. Nothing better than to snuggle up on parent's or grandparent's lap and enjoy a good story with illustrations. It lays the foundation for a love of books and learning.

Last thing is a funny story - and sorry Claire but you are at the centre of it again! A lady had been enthusiastically shopping and accumulated a good stash of clothing and other things. Claire pulled out a lovely green bag to pack all the things in and carefully folded the clothing so it all looked good. When she picked the bag up to pass to the customer the bottom fell out of the bag! So if you are wondering whether those biodegradable bags from the supermarkets disintegrate - yes they do!

Wishing you a full belly, a warm place and a smile on your face until next time.

Heather



What a beautiful fake fur jacket.



Motorcycle jacket.

## PUMPKIN SOUP

With winter here I like to eat to keep me nice and warm,  
A stew of meat and tatties too with carrots, peas and corn.  
But most of all it's pumpkin soup with lots of toasted bread.

But pumpkins are an awful veg that just mess with my head.

To start with, they are heavy when I carry them from the shop

Whether Queensland blue or Butternut they make my muscles pop.

And then I have to slice them, a dangerous thing do,

With a big sharp knife and a hard smooth skin, I'll need sticking plasters too!

As I puff and pant to peel the thing I wonder if it's worth it

But the pumpkin soup with a dash of cream and my stomach says it's a big hit.

The Op Shop has bowls, pots and pans with recipe books to help view

The tasty things that you can make, and we will taste test too!

A better deal you cannot get, it really is amazing -

To eat good food, sit by the fire and spend the evening lazing.

Heather



Plenty of jigsaws and games available.



One of our favourite customers, Rose, modelling a hat.



# Colbo Tit Bits

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## Our sympathy

Our sympathy to Marge West and her family, Robert, Anne, Heather and Bill, on the passing of her husband, Bob.

Bob was a much loved and respected member of the community, actively involved in so many ways in so many clubs and organisations and serving farmers through his RR & MR West store. May he rest in peace.

**Cemetery Trust**  
**Mowing Roster** (lawn section only)  
 June - Carmel Turner  
 July - Ramon Rathjen

## Colbo Diary

Coffee and Cake - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 10.15am @CCH  
 Colbo Community Shed - Thursdays BYO BBQ lunch  
 Colbo Pub Choir - 5pm Tuesdays at CCH  
 New Parents' Group - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays 9am @ CCH

### JUNE

Sat 28 Flight Night (CFNC)

### JULY

Sat 12 Miss Colbinabbin (CFNC)

### SEPTEMBER

Sat 13 Grand final (CFNC)

## FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER

June 29 Peter Morgan, Trevor Brown  
 July 6 Robert Brown, Sam Brown

*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.

**ROUND 11**  
**28 JUNE**

Colbinabbin v Heathcote  
 Mount Pleasant v LBU  
 Huntry v Leitch-Gun  
 White Hills v Elmore  
 BYE - North Bendigo

**ROUND 12**  
**5 JULY**

Colbinabbin v LBU  
 Leitch-Gun v Mount Pleasant (G)  
 Elmore v Huntry  
 North Bendigo v White Hills  
 Bye - Heathcote

**Eril Rathjen is a Colbinabbin local who has always had an interest in art, particularly botanical watercolours.**

Three years ago Eril decided to undertake formal study at the Royal Botanic Gardens Friends' Art Program, Melbourne, to develop her skills.

As a keen nature lover and gardener, she has found an abundance of inspiration in the local Colbinabbin area. In the pursuit of capturing detailed accuracy of colour and form, Eril finds this art form stimulating and endlessly fascinating.

## Local artists' work on display @ CCH



**Cathy Branson is a farmer and artist from Colbinabbin, where she has lived for over thirty years.**

She loved drawing as a child, but life took her in a more prosaic direction as an adult. Thanks to the encouragement of a friend in 2022 to attend an art class, she has now returned to painting. Taking up a paintbrush after so many years has enabled her to see the natural world differently and she loves the process of creating the detail she sees in the natural world on paper. She paints botanical watercolours, enjoying the elegance and beauty of the plant world and showing the fine details that plants possess that are often all too easily overlooked by the casual passer-by in the garden. Cathy has also returned to oil painting, enjoying showing the character of her subjects in oil portraiture.

## The Big Birthdays are rolling over for old friends



The years are passing by for this group who have been good friends since school days (some even since they were born!). So they all had every good reason to gather at Mitchelton to celebrate some of them turning sixty. Back row L-R Jac Avard, Kaye Linford-Lane, Marcia Wilson (Fraser), Sadie Vale (Morgan), Sam Heath (Brown). Front row L-R Anne McEvoy (Ellis), Janelle Beagley (Burge), Lou Rathjen\*, Lynne Millen (Brown), Robyn Dullard (Meagher) Missing in action: Cath Pearce (Ivey).

\* Lou wants it known that SHE is nowhere near 60 - she's just an add-on, filling in for her cousin, Cath.

There'll be reason to celebrate again next year when the rest of the group turn sixty!



## Rushworth COMMUNITY HOUSE INC.

67 High Street Rushworth 3612

**Phone (03) 5856 1295**

Email:

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

Website:

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## The House is on Facebook and the Worldwide Web

The Waranga News is a great place to check out what's happened in the Community House over the previous two weeks and to get a heads-up about things that are planned for the future.

However, for the most up-to-date advice about goings-on at the House, check out our Facebook page, which is updated regularly and is full of valuable hints and other information.

Rushworth Community-House  
Community Organisation 100% recommend 1.8 mi - 67 High Street, Rushworth, VIC, Australia - Closed now - 1.4K followers

Rushworth Community House is open 9:30 am Mon, Tues & Thurs 9:15 am Wed & Fri.  
5 posts in the last 2 weeks  
Following

The House is also on the World Wide Web. Point your browser to:

<https://www.rushcomhouse.org.au/>  
or just search "Rushworth Community House"



## Nick Buzzza leaves RCH Committee

At the June meeting of the Community House Committee of Management, Nick Buzzza advised the other members that he is stepping down from the Committee due to a major change of lifestyle - a move to Castlemaine.



Nick has been a member of the RCH Committee for more than eight years, and was President of the House for some of that time.

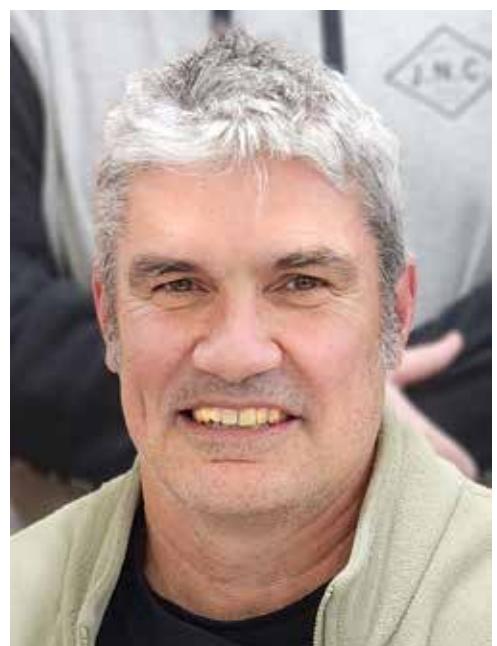
His quiet, considered approach to problem analysis and solving has been of great benefit to the organisation, and his knowledge of local history has also been invaluable.

Nick was largely responsible for the revitalisation of the Community House's transport service that led to the acquisition of the Kia People Carrier currently used by the service.

He has also spearheaded efforts to rejuvenate Rushworth's historic Court House in High Street.

Current RCH President Cass Alexander (*who took the accompanying photos*) thanked Nick for his outstanding service to the House and to the wider community.

His wisdom will be sorely missed by his colleagues at the Community House and by the people of Rushworth generally.



## Upcoming events at your Community House

Rushworth Community House is often a hive of activity, with people from many walks of life becoming involved in happenings at the House. Here are a few reminders about upcoming events at 67 High Street:

On Saturday 5 July, the Community House is planning to hold a free session called "Staying Safe Online" to help people avoid the traps that can occur through social media, online product purchasing and internet banking. Call the House to register.

On Thursday 24 July, representatives from Wellways will be at the House to discuss personal wellbeing over morning tea. Wellways connects people, strengthens families and transforms communities for individuals of all ages experiencing disabilities or challenges to their social and emotional wellbeing.

On Saturday 9 August, Rich River First Aid will be delivering a comprehensive series of First Aid modules at the House. Module details can be found in the last Waranga News edition. To join any of these courses, go to

<https://richriverfirstaid.com.au/>

then select Training Dates, scroll down to 9 August and click on the enrol button to select your module

Over the winter months, the House will be hosting board games each Tuesday morning starting at 10am. Don't be bored, call in to the House and get on board!

If you are the primary carer for a loved one, you can connect with people in the same situation on the first Thursday of each month at the House's free Carer Support Group. Call 5856 1295 for details.

The House is working with Elder Rights Australia (ERA) to plan an information session that explores the ways in which ERA could provide future support to seniors living in and around Rushy. Contact Anita at the Community House on (03) 5856 1295 to register your interest.

## Volunteer at Rushworth's Container Deposit Scheme

Help your Community House to help the local community - do yourself a favour and call 5856 1295

# Arts & Tourism

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

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## Six Threads at Milestone Cafe Emerald Bank, Shepparton



The Milestone Cafe has an ever changing exhibition space on its walls which always gives patrons something interesting to see and/or purchase while enjoying a meal. For the months of June and July there are 36 artworks by Six Threads, local textile artists, to enjoy.

## Glasgow House Gallery open



A wide range of vintage wares can now be found at Glasgow House Gallery in High Street, Rushworth where you can see Tracey from Friday to Sunday 10am to 3pm.



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.



## Lemon coconut slice

Here is a slice recipe, courtesy of the Australian Women's Weekly, that I've tested and trialled to share with you.

### Ingredients

250grms butter, chopped  
430gm caster sugar  
4 x eggs  
225 gm plain flour  
85grm moist coconut flakes (I used desiccated coconut)  
2 x lemons zested and juiced  
Icing sugar and double cream or yoghurt to serve.

### Method

1. Preheat oven 180°C. Grease and line a 20 x 30cm slice pan.
2. In a large microwave bowl melt butter in 30 second bursts until liquid.
3. Add sugar, whisk vigorously until combined. Make sure mixture isn't too hot, add eggs one at a time. Mix well after each.
4. Sift flour over mixture and fold through carefully. Add coconut, lemon zest and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup lemon juice stir to combine.
5. Bake for about thirty minutes or until firm and golden brown. Remove from oven, cool in pan and sprinkle the icing sugar over when totally cool. Serve with your preferred topping.

Pauline



Lemon Coconut Slice.

## Garden Hints & Tips

### Native tree tube stock

Plenty of native tree tube stock is still available at Goulburn Valley Tree Group native nursery in Kerferd Street Tatura. They are open on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 8.30am till 11.30am. Larger orders are welcome and can be collected by appointment by calling 0400 059 765.

It's no secret that this year has been dry, however in the nursery the stock is well advanced and ready for planting. Did you know that there are also biodegradable tree guards and stakes available when purchasing trees and grasses at GV Tree Group. Call in and have a browse, with many helpful volunteers waiting to assist you.

The feature tree this month is *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, commonly known as the River Red Gum. It is a flowering plant in the family Myrtaceae, and is endemic to Australia. It is a tree with smooth white or cream-coloured bark, lance-shaped or curved adult leaves, flower buds in groups of seven



or nine, white flowers and hemispherical fruit with the valves extending beyond the rim. A familiar and iconic tree, it is seen along many watercourses across inland Australia, providing shade in the extreme temperatures and refuge for wildlife. Ideally suited to wet clay soils these trees are fast growing and will produce ample firewood for generations that follow. So why not call in and pick up some for your property, the next generation will thank you.



### Handy Hints - from Lyn Rumble

*Hi there,*

*Repurposing or re-using everyday items - or quick and easy solutions to general household issues that maybe you hadn't thought of - is what I like to do. This issue is a little bit of all sorts - laundry, house painting and gardening. Hope these hints come in handy for you in your everyday quest to save money, repurpose things or perhaps just think outside the box a bit to help you in everyday home life!*

**\* Got some small items for the washing machine?** – put them inside a pillowcase in the wash cycle that will manage them much better.

**\* Do you grow your own potatoes** but they sprout too quickly? If you store a couple of apples with the spuds, the potato/apple mix will deter sprouting.

**\* Dark socks seem to attract lint don't they!** - Try washing them inside nylon stockings and that should keep them lint free.

**\* Is someone using your very special 'good' scissors?** When you are a dressmaker or crafter – you have some very special scissors that should only be used for specific purposes! Well I have found a solution if you have these 'special' scissors – put a padlock on it through the rings on handle! Problem solved – no one can use them now! – Because you are the only one with the key!

**\* Painting windows is a pain**, but if you do not have any masking tape handy, cut strips of newspaper and dampen them. Lay them along the edge of the window, and they will stick to the glass as long as you need them to. When finished painting just moisten the paper with a light spray of water and peel off the window.

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

## Busy times for Murchison venues

If you feel you're missing something in your life maybe you will find it in one of Murchison's many activities.

**Murchison Heritage Centre** open Saturday mornings 10 am - 12 pm. Groups welcome other times by arrangement - ring Janet 5826 2363.

Visitors can enjoy the local history displays in the Gallery, a slide show presentation of our significant district history Morning or afternoon tea, or light lunch can be provided. For groups travelling on a bus, a local resident can hop on board and give a guided tour.

**Neighbourhood House Murchison** is hosting a Christmas in July Lunch on 2 July, \$15 for two courses. Bookings essential. Neighbourhood House Christmas Carols fund-raising out the front of The Supa Valu on Saturday 12 July.

Murchison Indoor Market brought to you by the Neighbourhood House on Saturday 26

July, 9am-1pm at the Murchison Community Centre (10 Watson St). Live music, free kids activities, Sausage sizzle, Coffee van.

**The Men's Shed**

- Wednesday 2 July - Lunch with Chef Ian 12 noon.
- Wednesday 2 July - Elders Abuse Awareness talk 6.30 pm- 7.30 pm at the Men's Shed, light supper, heated venue.
- Wednesday 16 July - First Aid and CPR training 9.00 am to 2.00pm at the Men's Shed
- Saturday 26 July - Sausage sizzle at the NHM indoor market at the community centre.
- Wednesday 30 July - VMSA gathering at the Shepparton Greyhound Centre
- Wednesday 6 August - Lunch with Chef Rob 12 noon

## Campaspe Yorta Yorta MOU endorsed

**Campaspe Shire Council endorsed the renewed Memorandum of Understanding between Campaspe Shire Council and the Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation (YYNAC).**

The MOU recognises the important relationship between the Yorta Yorta People and Council, and supports the shared commitment to partnership, cultural recognition, and reconciliation.

The original MOU was signed in 2017 and was the first of its kind between YYNAC and a local government entity.

Council's development of a Reconciliation Action Plan and appointment of a First Peoples Engagement Officer, alongside YYNAC's strategic growth,

creates strong foundations for this next phase of collaboration.

Campaspe Shire Mayor Cr Daniel Mackrell said formal agreements with local Traditional Owner groups helped to shape the way forward.

"Our agreement with Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation (YYNAC) establishes some vital foundation principles and the ongoing relationship between the parties," Cr Mackrell said.

## Campaspe Youth GO! Grants are still open – but the deadline is fast approaching!

Youth GO! grants provide \$500 to \$1,500 to support youth-focused events or activities that promote connection, wellbeing, and empowerment for young people aged 12–25 living in our shire.

If you're part of a school, community group, or youth organisation with a great idea – this is a fantastic opportunity to bring it to life.

Here are a few examples of what previous grant recipients have done:

- Built a kitchen garden to support student wellbeing
- Hosted a Halloween-themed youth disco
- Organised a youth football and netball round
- Delivered a student-led mural project
- Launched a youth art exhibition
- Supported a senior school camp experience
- Ran family meal-prep and wellness nights
- Provided stress-reduction activities during exam time

Whether it's an art project, sporting event, movie night, or something entirely new – we'd love to hear your ideas!

### Key dates:

Applications close: Sunday, 29 June 2025

Outcome notified: 15 July 2025

Projects must be completed by: 31 December 2025

### Learn more and apply now:

Youth GO! Grants 2025 – Campaspe Shire Council

If you have any questions or would like to chat about your idea, please don't hesitate to get in touch. I'm here to support you throughout the process.

**Rani Gundry**

*Youth Community Development Officer  
Campaspe Shire Council.*

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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.

## Sit and listen - the restless flycatcher

Whenever I am in bushland it always feels like home. I seem to be able to let the smells, sights and sounds permeate my senses and I feel finely tuned to the life around me. For that moment, I am a part of their environment.

The best way to observe wildlife in the wild is to sit for a bit. Listen. The sound of the bushland is usually what I tune in to first as this tells me who is out and about and where.

The restless flycatcher is a species I always hear before I see. They have a very distinct call which is difficult to describe..it sounds almost mechanical. A whirling mechanical sound which implies a harsh call but it's not. I always smile when I hear it. Sometimes, I can follow the direction of the sound and gradually get closer and closer to get some decent photographs and watch their unique hawking skills.

These little birds are similar in shape and colour to the more commonly known willy wagtail. The Restless flycatcher lacks the willy wagtail's 'eye brows' and the markings of black and white are a little different but it's easy to mistake one for the other, particularly from a distance at rest.

Restless flycatchers eat insects and their hovering and hawking foraging technique is beautiful to behold. They hover and flit just above the bushland floor, usually around grasses and fallen timber, flushing out insects and snapping them up in mid air. Constantly busy, they flutter constantly, occasionally landing on the ground of fallen branches but usually take their breaks in the branches of trees at mid to low level. They don't stay still for long so photographing them can be a challenge! I find them friendly, gregarious little birds who don't seem to mind a witness to their antics.

Restless flycatchers have a higher, helmet like crown of iridescent, black feathers compared to the more rounded head of the willy wagtail. Willy wagtails are a little bit more portly in appearance and have a black hood which includes their throat. The restless flycatcher has a white throat.



These features and their very opposing calls can help you to tell them apart.

We have the flycatchers all year here at Loch Garry. In some areas they may be more nomadic or migratory. You will find them on their own or in a pair.

If you hear a strange metallic scissoring, whirring sound which is almost unbirdlike, chances are you've found one. They are aptly named as they rarely sit still but they always mesmerise me with their aerial abilities and quirky call.

## Rehabilitation of platypus in the Goulburn River

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority's Riparian and River Channel Manager, Carolyn Nigro, said sections of the Goulburn River, Broken River and Seven Creeks around the urban fringe of Shepparton will be rehabilitated for the iconic native species. The work forms part of the landmark \$24 million 'Platy Patch Project', a four-year, statewide initiative receiving significant co-funding from the Australian Government, Victorian Government and Melbourne Water. "Platy Patch is a new, major statewide waterway protection and restoration project aimed at improving streambank and aquatic habitats critical for platypus and threatened species," Ms Nigro said. "Goulburn Broken CMA will undertake works here as part of improvements taking place at fourteen sites across Victoria under the guidance of the Arthur Rylah Institute, Victoria's leading ecological research centre. "The proposed sites within Shepparton's urban fringe include sections of the Goulburn River, Broken River and Seven Creeks."

Platypus are mainly active at night, dusk and dawn. They need reliable surface water and flows, stable banks to burrow, intact streamside vegetation, instream woody habitat and sufficient insects and water bugs to eat.

Platypus are considered vulnerable in Victoria, with evidence of a population decline across the state.

Monitoring has indicated there are low numbers of platypus in the Goulburn River in Shepparton and that they are likely to use local tributaries including the



Seven Creeks and Broken River.

"Urbanisation and flooding have impacted the cover and diversity of vegetation and instream habitat in these waterways, reducing platypus habitat and potentially threatening the local population," Ms Nigro said.

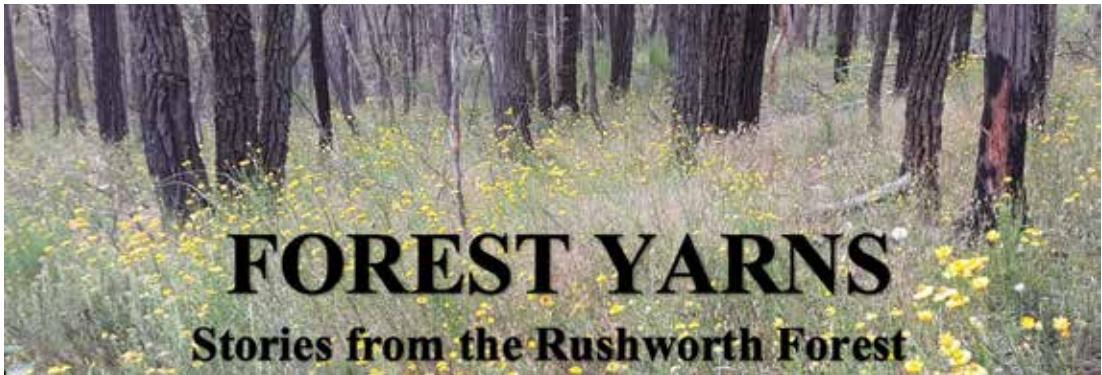
"On-ground project works will address these threats to platypus by removing weeds along the Broken River, revegetating streamside areas on the Seven Creeks and increasing instream woody habitat in the Goulburn River.

"The aim is that these combined actions will improve local platypus numbers over time."

Important native fish including Murray cod, silver perch and trout cod are also expected to benefit from these actions.

The project is jointly funded by the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust under the Urban Rivers and Catchments Program, the Victorian Government, and Melbourne Water, under the guidance of the Arthur Rylah Institute, with the support of One Tree Planted, Ballarat City Council, Coliban Water, Zoos Victoria, and catchment management authorities. Goulburn Broken CMA will also partner with RiverConnect, Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation, Parks Victoria and the Goulburn Murray Landcare Network.

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



# FOREST YARNS

## Stories from the Rushworth Forest

### Rushworth Railway Station

Rushworth railway station was the hub around which the timber industry, and particularly the firewood industry, was organised. As has been noted in previous stories, the line from Murchison to Rushworth was completed in 1890. A siding was constructed at the Rushworth station in 1899, along which the timber mills were set up after that date. The railway line was extended to Colbinabbin and Stanhope at the time of the First World War.

The siding on the north side of the station between the existing goods shed and Station Street was the site of the wood mills. The station itself and the silos used to be on the south side of the tracks opposite the goods shed. Unfortunately, the silos were removed some years back. There were also sheep and cattle yards on the north side of the tracks, and other infrastructure such as a water tank, a locomotion turntable and an ash pit.

### Heritage report

There is a report on the Victorian Heritage Database which provides a detailed history of the station, so this story will simply pick up a few of the salient points that refer to the timber industry. Firewood and wheat comprised the main outgoing goods products.

Firewood loading gradually decreased as other sources of heating became available to consumers. This led to the proposed closure of the dead-end siding in 1914, which was also precipitated by the extension of the line to Colbinabbin. Mills were set up at Erwen (Moora), Wanalta and Colbinabbin, which further reduced the demand for facilities at the Rushworth station.

### Extension to Colbo

In 1910 there was a review into the possible extension of the line to Colbinabbin, and perhaps even further to Bendigo. It was reported that "a large amount of timber was already being transported from the Rushworth Station and that a station at Colbinabbin would assist in the distribution of firewood to the Melbourne market.

Seven traction engines, besides farmers' (horse) teams, were hauling firewood into Rushworth from the parishes of Wanalta and Gobarup..."In those parishes are large quantities of box and ironbark timber which were rung several years ago, and are suitable for the Melbourne market."<sup>1</sup>

### Potential loss of loading facilities

In late 1913, prior to the extension of the railway line to Colbo, there was concern from the timber getters, sawmillers and others about the potential loss of loading facilities at the station. "Timber has hitherto been loaded onto trucks at a dead end (i.e. of the siding) alongside which there

is a high embankment and so convenient is this place that carters have preferred to take their loads there rather than to stations a shorter distance from where they start."<sup>2</sup>

The Rushworth folk came up with a practical scheme under which the existing facility could be retained. A deputation, "representing carters, (sleeper) hewers, Rushworth traders, grain buyers and the Forestry Department" was planned, to put the matter before the Railway Commissioners. They first gained the support of the Waranga Shire Council.

An employee of the Victorian Railways was subsequently sent up to make a report and apparently viewed the local solution as reasonable. By February 1914, the council had been advised "that it has been resolved to grant a special loading site at the Rushworth railway station whereby poles, sleepers and grain can be loaded by gravitation. He (Cr McKee) was assured that the plans were all in readiness for the work, and that when completed the facilities for loading will be greater than ever."<sup>3</sup> A win for the locals.

### Decline in rail usage

As the 20th century progressed, there was a gradual decline in the freight that was carted by train. This was due to the reduction in the amount of timber that was being taken out of the Rushworth forest, but also the development of road transport. This was particularly the case after World War 11. The station continued to operate in a reduced capacity, mainly catering for the grain industry. Passenger transport ceased in the late 1950s and the Rushworth station building was removed in 1969. The station precinct officially closed in 1987 but may get some new life with the recent completion of the walking and cycling trail to Murchison.

References: 1 Victorian Heritage Database Report: Former Rushworth Railway Station; 2 The Age 13.11.1913; 3 Kyabram Free Press 10.2.1914

### Forest nature note

It is worth keeping an eye out for dragonflies at any time, as there are many different species and they mature at different times of the year. Sometimes, an irruption occurs when a whole lot of dragonflies emerge at once. Near water is the best place to observe them. After mating while flying (giving new meaning to the term "mile high club") females can deposit up to 10,000 eggs at a time into water, where they later hatch as nymphs. They are your friends, because the nymphs can feed on up to 40 mosquito nymphs a day, while adult dragonflies will eat adult mosquitoes and other pests.

### A Name from the Past

#### Alan Stewart snr. Pioneer of Carag Carag

This district has been home to Stewarts of various clans and different religions for multiple generations. Stewarts have had a long-time foothold at Wanalta, Corop and Carag Carag.

This column has featured few, if any, names from Carag, so we take a look at a man who was close to the action at the Eureka Stockade near Ballarat, in 1854. His story was told in the Rushworth Chronicle of 22 January, 1922.

"Carag Carag lost one of its pioneers on Thursday night last in the death of Mr. Alan Stewart, senr., at the ripe old age of 96 years.

The deceased's great age had been telling on him for some years past, and he had gradually failed in health until, towards the end, he had been almost entirely confined to bed.

Death under such circumstances was not entirely unexpected, though it naturally came as a shock to Mr. Geo. Stewart to find on entering his grandfather's room on Friday morning that the old man had passed peacefully away.

Deceased was born in Scotland, and came to Victoria at the time of the Ballarat riot in 1854 (Eureka Stockade). He was widely known and generally respected.

The funeral took place on Saturday last, the remains being interred in the Rushworth cemetery. Rev. W. T. Johns conducted the service at the graveside, and Mr. E. F. Anderson had charge of the mortuary arrangements."

Alan Stewart, being a grandfather, had obviously been married with children. It is quite unusual to read an obituary which makes no mention of his family. What was quite common a century ago was death one day, and burial the next.

Alan McLean



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## ON THE BRINK by Neil Lawrie

Looking at endangered or extinct flora and fauna.

### Leadbeater's in NSW

Trail cameras are marvellous things. They can be set to keep watch on a site 24/7. No need to rely on stumbling across wildlife. No need for live trapping or netting. Trail cameras are revealing rare, 'extinct' and unrecorded species and their ranges. Recent trail camera footage has revealed that the Leadbeater's possum's range is bigger than previously thought and extends into NSW.

The Leadbeater's possum (*Gymnobelideus leadbeateri*) is named after John Leadbeater, a taxidermist at the Museum Victoria. It is Victoria's faunal emblem. Following the loss of much of its habitat due to clearing and bushfires it was thought to have become extinct by the early 20th Century. Then, in 1961, a small colony of Leadbeater's was discovered near Marysville. Logging restrictions ensured the protection of its habitat. The population peaked in the 1980's but has since declined due to a habitat bottleneck. The 2009 Black Saturday bushfires burnt out 43% of the Leadbeater's habitat and halved the population to 1,500. It is projected that the Leadbeater's ecosystem in the Victorian central highlands is almost certain to collapse within 50 years. The possum is listed as critically endangered.

One outcome of all this was that any suitable Leadbeater's habitat Victoria was surveyed in a vain effort to find more surviving populations of the possum. However, finding a small rare nocturnal arboreal possum in dense forest was always going a bit

hit-and-miss and indeed, a colony of the possums was missed, but it was not in Victoria.

The advent of trail cameras has meant that an area can be more precisely surveyed. Not only are the species in an area more likely to be shown, but also an indication of their numbers can often be gained. Trail camera surveys of Leadbeater's habitat in Victoria did not reveal a single possum and supported the findings of the earlier surveys. Another survey in NSW looking for the smoky mouse found a different totally unexpected species, the Leadbeater's possum. It was discovered last week near the Yarrangobilly Caves in the Kosciuszko National Park. At this stage there is no estimate of the size of this population, but it has important implications for the possum.

Being a critically endangered species even a small population will significantly boost its numbers even though there will almost certainly be genetic differences. More importantly, it provides some spatial risk-spreading, most important in the light of the devastating 2009 fires. It is hoped that the discovery will open the way for more funding to survey other potential Leadbeater's habitats.

Another important aspect of this find is the importance of preserving large areas of habitat, regardless of what is known to be in them. The fact is that with new techniques such as trail cameras more species are being discovered. As for the Leadbeater's possum, who knows? It is a species that has thrown up some real surprises and could throw up a few more.

## Birds of a Feather

### Coots

"As bald as a coot" is a common expression but have you thought where it comes from? If you look at a coot which is mostly black, it has an obvious feature called the frontal shield. This is a white area on top of its head which is featherless - hence the word bald. Like many water birds that dive they have dark or red eyes which probably help them see under water. Males and females are similar.

Our coot is officially called the Eurasian coot and occurs across Europe, Asia, New Zealand and widely across Australia wherever there are swamps and lakes. Coots are medium sized birds in the rail family but unlike most other rails are not secretive. They congregate in the open in large flocks called rafts and perhaps have one of the largest populations of any species of bird in our area. At the moment Lake Cooper has several thousand spread across the whole of the lake.

An unusual feature of coots is their feet. Unlike many other water birds they do not have webbed feet but instead have long toes with lobes of skin. These lobes can flatten out when swimming or walking on muddy areas to act like webbed feet but can also retract to behave like an unwebbed foot.

Coots are omnivorous, eating a wide range of small animals as well as foraging for plants in shallow water or diving in deeper water. Although they seem passive they can be quite aggressive towards each other. They lay a large number of eggs (up to twelve) so sometimes may have difficulty being able to feed all their young. When food is short for several days the parents may attack the weaker young if they continue to beg and only raise a few of their chicks.

As the Australian coot is a common bird it is often ignored or unappreciated when seen on a lake filled with ducks and egrets but when in large numbers they are quite spectacular.

*The Rushy Birder*



The Australian coot



The feet of an Australian coot

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## Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools

# Young scientists dig into dung beetles at St Mary's

This term in Inquiry, the Grade 3/4 students have been exploring the fascinating world of living things and their life cycles. They've investigated the differences between living, non-living and once-living things, and have even created their own fossil impressions using leaves, plants and air-dry clay.

As part of their study on food chains and energy transfer, students took a deep dive into the role of decomposers—particularly the humble dung beetle. They learned about the dung beetle's life cycle, habitat and its vital role in recycling nutrients in the environment. Inspired by their findings, students designed mini dung beetle habitats using natural materials from the playground and crafted dung balls out of playdough.

Many students were excited to spot dung beetles in their own backyards and on family farms. Here are a few fun facts they discovered:

- Liam: "Did you know that dung beetles live on every continent except Antarctica?"
- Isaac and Conor: "Dung beetles can lay anywhere from ten to several thousand eggs, which they bury in balls of dung."
- Alyssa: "They roll animal poop—usually cow poop—into balls to move it away from other insects that might try to steal it!"

The students have truly enjoyed getting their hands dirty in science—literally and figuratively!



Liam and Isaac show off their 'fossil'.



Conor and Alyssa - are they camouflaged dung beetle eggs?



Learning about life cycles of useful bugs – Ebony, Sienna and Indi.

## Staff Professional Development

This week our staff travelled to St Mary's Mooroopna for a day of professional learning. We joined St Joseph's Nagambie and Sacred Heart Tatura.

The focus of the professional learning was our behaviour curriculum and consolidation of our whole school routines.

Over the next few weeks and especially next term, students and staff will witness some changes to everyday routines. While we are greatly fortunate to have such engaged and well-behaved children at St Mary's who are part of our ongoing learning into brain development and the neuroscience behind learning, we know that if we provide consistent, predictable routines across our school our students will further flourish.

(Right) St Mary's staff join staff from other Sandhurst schools for some on-going learning.



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

## Stanhope Grade 5-6 Interschool Sports

Grade 5/6 students recently participated in a sports day held in Kyabram. These days present wonderful opportunities for students to mix with larger groups of their peers and to get to know students from other schools, thereby widening their social circles. Three of the students played Euroball, and one student participated in netball. A huge thank you goes out to Kristy B for driving our students to Kyabram and back.

“The sports day was fairly fun, but it felt a bit dangerous at times because the ball was hard! We mixed with a lot of people from other schools which was good. It was also very chilly!” – Cooper

“The sports day was good. The teams were



good. It didn't really hurt when the ball hit my face.” – Cass

“The sports day was good because they made me feel welcome and a part of their team. I would recommend others go next year.” – Xyla

“Euroball was kind of dangerous because they used a basketball. But it was fun!” - Kale



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

# First Responders Day at Stanhope Primary

Fiona Wallace  
Acting Principal

On Friday 20 June Stanhope Primary School hosted a First Responders' Day. We had volunteer presenters from the SES, the CFA, VicPol and St John's Ambulance. Students and staff from Lancaster PS, Merrigum PS and Girgarre PS joined us for the day as we learned from those who help us in our community. Students enjoyed listening to the presentations as well as learning practical skills and they also enjoyed being able to investigate the equipment and vehicles. I think if just one student remembers one thing they learned on the day then they could be of some assistance in an emergency.

Grade 2 student Mercedes was actually the original inspiration for the day. She mentioned last year that she'd like to learn some first aid. I looked around for suitable courses and came across the program run by St John's Ambulance. I then decided to make a day of it and invite other schools to join in.



(Clockwise from top) Students practise CPR. Mercedes about to try CPR. Getting down low for a fire. SES demonstrating Jaws of Life. VicPol show how the breathaliser works. SES using the pole saw to trim tall trees.



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## Bishop Shane Mackinlay appointed Archbishop of Brisbane



**Pope Leo XIV has appointed Most Reverend Shane Mackinlay, currently the eighth Bishop of Sandhurst, as the new Archbishop of Brisbane.**

Bishop Mackinlay was born in Melbourne in 1965, grew up in Ballarat and studied for the priesthood at Corpus Christi College, Clayton. He was ordained as a priest for the Ballarat Diocese in 1991.

He then undertook graduate studies in philosophy at the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, where he completed a Master's degree and a Doctorate.

Bishop Mackinlay served in parish ministry as well as teaching at Australian Catholic University, Ballarat, and Catholic Theological College, Melbourne, where he was appointed Master in 2011.

The following year he was appointed Associate Professor by the University of Divinity.

## District Church Times and Contacts

### Anglican

- St Paul's, Rushworth: 0419 512 632  
- 9.30am 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month - Communion
- 9.30am 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of month - Lay led service
- Christ Church, Murchison: Rev Richard Pennington: 0405879554  
- 11am service every Sunday
- St Matthews, Stanhope: 0419 855 964 (Church Warden)
- St John's, Colbinabbin: 0428 329 344 (Mick Clayton)

### Shine Church, Stanhope

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

### Catholic

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

### 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)

### 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 [warangauitingchurches.net.au](http://warangauitingchurches.net.au) or can be emailed to you each week.

### AN EVENING PRAYER FOR CHILDREN



Heavenly Father, up above, Please bless this child that I love, Let her sleep all through the night, And may her dreams be pure delight. AMEN

## Refugee Week St Vincent de Paul speaks out

**The way the Australian Government treated people seeking safe asylum in the 1970s and 1980s could be a better model than many of the practices it follows today, according to Mark Gaetani, the National President of St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia.**

The Refugee Council of Australia's theme for Refugee Week 2025 has a focus on the benefits of diversity in our community.

In April, the Council marked the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War, which saw nearly three million people fleeing Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos over the next two decades, including large numbers escaping by boat.

### Australia's rescue role

Australia played a key rescue role, settling over 140,000 refugees, with a key component being the substantial involvement of community organisations.

'Working with other agencies, St Vincent de Paul Society made an amazing contribution, helping to house and support some 10,000 people across the country over about fifteen years,' Mr Gaetani said.

The Refugee Council noted that this effective community effort prompted the then-Fraser Government to begin a planned annual Refugee and Humanitarian Program and a range of new supports.

In reflecting on that situation, Mr Gaetani noted the continuing success of Australia's Refugee and Humanitarian Program but

noted that because of the USA's suspension of settling refugees sponsored by the United Nations, Australia should do more to help alleviate today's crisis.

### Community support programs

'One improvement would be to accept additional people into Australia through greater use of existing community support programs,' he said.

'Another would be to reform our family reunion program, so that refugees already here could more easily bring their families to Australia and all start to re-build constructive lives together.'

Mr Gaetani highlighted Australia's continuing mistreatment of thousands of people who fled by boat to Australia more than a decade ago and still have no path to safe, permanent settlement, with many living in destitution.

### Time to finish the job.

'The first Albanese Government made a start in resolving these cases. It's now time to finish the job. In the interests of human dignity, these folk must be found safe, permanent settlement with a degree of urgency. Meanwhile, they should also receive proper support as members of the Australian community,' Mr Gaetani said.

'The Society strongly agrees with the words of Paul Power, CEO of the Refugee Council, that we honour Australia's generous response in the 70s and 80s, and must apply the same vision and compassion to people seeking safety today.'

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# living the **GOOD LIFE**

## **A cautionary tale for our times**

“I fear for the future.” writes Brother Cornelius of Mainz in the year 1471. “In the market square, I saw a cooper’s apprentice reading the Psalms—not in Latin, but in German! He claims it speaks to his heart. What’s next? Women preaching? Children quoting scripture to their fathers? This reading craze will tear society apart.”

History doesn’t record Brother Cornelius’s full reaction to Gutenberg’s printing press, but I can imagine his discomfort. After all, for centuries the written word was sacred, rare, and tightly controlled—available only to clergy, scholars, and the wealthy. Then suddenly, books were everywhere - in homes, in fields, in the hands of bakers and blacksmiths. And not just any books, but the sacred Bible. Available in the vernacular! The ‘Word of God’ let loose in the streets. Chaos!

## **And today?**

Fast forward to today and you’ll hear another chorus of handwrapping, only now it’s not about books but Smartphones.

People stare at little screens instead of talking to each other. They sit in cafes scrolling instead of chatting. Families gather at dinner tables and don’t speak to each other. We sigh and say, “What is the world coming to?” (And then we Google it.)

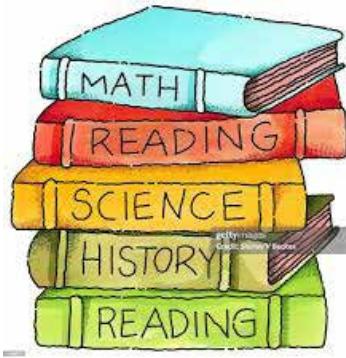
And I get it. I really do. I’ve been known to mutter about “Kids these days” and shake my head at the latest viral dance. But then I remember that they said the same thing about books.

Yes, books! Those paragons of culture and learning were once seen as a dangerous disruption. They isolated people. They caused them to ignore their family. They encouraged dangerous thinking. Worse still, they allowed ordinary folk to interpret things for themselves. The authorities were rightly

nervous - give people books and they’ll start asking questions. And do you know what? They did.

Books empowered revolutions, not just political and religious ones, but personal ones too. They opened windows into other people’s lives. They gave voice to new ideas. They told the truth in poetry and made us laugh in fiction.

They didn’t destroy society. They changed it, and perhaps, in some ways, saved it.



## **A fresh meaning**

Let’s not forget that Jesus himself didn’t get into trouble simply for telling parables or blessing the poor. What really stirred up opposition to Jesus was when this carpenter’s son quoted Scripture to the ‘experts.’ In the synagogue, in the Temple courts, Jesus would take ancient, sacred texts and give them fresh meaning: “You have heard it said... but I say to you...” Jesus wasn’t creating something brand new. He was quoting familiar texts but reinterpreting them, claiming new interpretations and shining a light on what had been previously overlooked.

It is no accident that moments of confrontation often arise from the ‘wrong’ person daring to interpret the ‘right’ words. And that, more than anything, is what unsettles the gatekeepers of every age. It isn’t just about the message. It’s also about who is allowed to utter it.

My wife belongs to two or maybe three Book Clubs. Who knows what those women

get up to when they’re “talking about books”? I suspect it’s less about Proust and more about life. Books are a launching pad for friendship, honesty, laughter and yes, even a bit of harmless gossip. I used to think it was all about reading but now I know that it’s about connection.

## **The litmus test**

And maybe that’s the litmus test for all innovative technologies, not whether they look like what came before, but whether they help us live with depth, joy, and compassion. A Smartphone can isolate us or facilitate connection. A Bible in Latin can create confusion or inspiration. A book, a screen or a voice can all be tools for ‘living the good life.’

This brings me to mention another shift happening quietly in churches like ours. As ordained ministers become scarce and as our small congregations can no longer afford them even if they were available, we are returning to something very old and very new: gatherings led by lay people, by the ‘ordinary’, who are anything but that. Folks, who read the scriptures, share a reflection, pray together and carry each other with faith.

It may feel unfamiliar. It may even feel threatening to some, but let’s remember that so did the first books. So did the first time a woman read Scripture aloud. So did the idea that someone outside the priesthood might have something worthwhile to say.

## **A sign of the Spirit at work**

I suggest that this is a sign of the Spirit at work. A holy disruption. A gentle revolution of reading, sharing, listening. And learning again to trust one another with sharing our insights on sacred stories and how we believe they shape our lives.

The medium might change, but the need to understand, to belong, to share stories never goes out of print.

That’s the gospel, and it’s good news.

*Brian Spencer, Minister  
Waranga Uniting Churches*

## **Tatura’s multicultural Mass**

Sacred Heart, Tatura celebrated Pentecost Mass with the annual Multicultural Mass.

They gathered as a community of diverse cultures, languages, and traditions to celebrate the Eucharist and their shared faith. These Multicultural Masses are a testament to the richness and beauty of community, where people from different backgrounds come together to worship and praise God.

Parishioners were encouraged to dress in national costume. Readings and prayers were spoken in different languages, as well as some of the hymns. After the Mass parishioners enjoyed delicious foods from a variety of cultures.



## **VALLEY FUNERALS**

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**119 Albion Street, Kyabram 3620**

**Phone: 5852 1061 Mobile: 0409 935 375**

# WARANGA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

## DEATHS

### PERRY, Ronda Mary

Passed away peacefully on 15 June, 2025.  
Age 77 years.  
Dearly loved wife of Robert (dec).  
Much loved mother of James, Grant (dec),  
Indigo (Gaylene), Mathew and Dani.  
Loving grandmother of Curtis, Finn, Ben,  
Gerard, Raphaela, Perry, Suzanne and Alia.  
*Loved and remembered always.*

### PERRY, Ronda Mary

Long time best friend of Colleen and Peter.  
Lots of loving memories,  
Will miss our daily morning chats and cuppas.

#### WEST Robert Rex "Bob"

**Passed away peacefully,  
on 16 June, 2025.  
Aged 86 years.**

Devoted husband of Margery.  
Dearly loved dad and father-in-law to  
Robert and Vanessa; Margery Anne  
and Dion; Heather and Scott;  
Bill and Belinda.

Proud grandfather to Christian,  
Ruth, Harry, Bryce, Cody, Logan and  
Madison.

*Loving Memories*

### WEST, Bob

Much loved brother of Margaret.  
Loved brother in law and friend of Trevor.  
A wonderful uncle and fishing mate of our  
boys.  
A kind and helpful man, at rest, in gods care.

### WEST, Robert (Bob):

**1938 - 2025**

Dearly loved brother and brother in Law of  
John and Margaret (both dec).  
Loved and respected uncle of  
Lawrie and Carol, Mick and Lyndel,  
Cherryl and Geoff, Stewart (dec) and Jenni,  
Merredith and Mick, Grantley and Judy  
and their families .

### WEST, Bob:

A dedicated and committed member and  
treasurer for 50+years, serving our recreation  
reserve with pride and admiration. Our  
heartfelt thanks to Bob, and sympathy to  
Marg and the West family.

Colbinabbin Town Recreation Reserve  
Committee

### WEST, Robert Rex

Passed away on 16 June 2025  
A loved uncle who was so kind and caring.  
Tim, Peter and Trish West

## FUNERAL

### PERRY, Ronda

A grave side service to celebrate Ronda's life  
was held at Rushworth Public Cemetery  
on Friday 20 June, 2025.

#### WEST Robert Rex "Bob"

A Service to Celebrate the life of Mr.  
Robert Rex "Bob" West will be held at  
the Colbinabbin Memorial Hall,  
Mitchell St, Colbinabbin,  
TOMORROW (Friday, 27 June)  
at 11am followed by a burial at the  
Colbinabbin Cemetery.

If you would like to view  
the service live, go to:  
[www.williamfarmer.com.au/tribute-centre](http://www.williamfarmer.com.au/tribute-centre)

**WILLIAM FARMER**  
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Bendigo  
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## BEREAVEMENT THANKS

### JACKSON, Yvonne

There are not enough words to fully express  
our heartfelt gratitude for the sympathy, love  
and support that has been extended to our  
family after the loss of Yvonne.  
Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts.

## Solutions from last edition

S	E	N	D	S	U	P		S	A	Y	S	O
T		E		O	I	E		G				
U		E	J	E	C	T	E	D	A	L		
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D	U	K	E	S		S	A	R	D	I	N	E

6	7	9	5	8	1	4	2	3
3	2	5	7	4	9	6	8	1
1	8	4	3	2	6	9	7	5
2	4	3	6	5	8	7	1	9
5	6	7	1	9	2	3	4	8
8	9	1	4	7	3	2	5	6
9	5	8	2	6	4	1	3	7
7	1	2	9	3	5	8	6	4
4	3	6	8	1	7	5	9	2

## PUBLIC NOTICES



### TELSTRA PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE A MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION WITH 4G/5G AT: 48 ROSAIA ROAD COROP VIC 3559

1. The proposal on the existing 50m lattice tower consists of:
  - Installation of (9) Panel Antennas on a new headframe on the monopole
  - Installation of (1) Equipment Shelter at ground level
  - Installing ancillary equipment
  - There will be no increase in height to the facility
2. In accordance with Section 7 of C564: 2025 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Code, we invite you to provide feedback about the proposal.
3. Please direct comments to: Emily Wardlaw on behalf of Telstra, 0422685472, PO BOX 586, Elsternwick VIC 3185, [consultation@acquirecomm.com.au](mailto:consultation@acquirecomm.com.au) by **Tuesday 1st July 2025**.

Further information can also be obtained from [www.rfnsa.com.au/3558006](http://www.rfnsa.com.au/3558006)

*Telstra Limited A.C.N 086 174 781  
Acquirecomm Pty Ltd A.C.N: 603 876 240*

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Saturday 10am – 1pm  
Sunday - Closed

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Dr. Judith Mulholland  
BSc. BVMS



Phone:  
58 522 000  
Mobile:  
0408 565 528

Email: judith@farriervet.com

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# DISTRICT INFORMATION BOARD

## WHAT'S ON AROUND THE TOWNS

### JULY

<b>Sat 5</b>	<b>Opera in the Country - Shire Hall 5pm</b>
<b>Sun 6</b>	<b>Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am</b>
<b>Sat 12</b>	<b>RFNC Annual Ball 6pm Shire Hall</b>
<b>Sat 19</b>	<b>Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm</b>
<b>Sun 20</b>	<b>RAD Felting workshop for Landcare 10 - 2</b>

### AUGUST

<b>Sun 3</b>	<b>Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am</b>
<b>Tue 5</b>	<b>Author Pam Wells visits Rushworth Library 1.30pm</b>
<b>Sat 9</b>	<b>First Aid Training Rushworth Community House</b>
<b>Sat 16</b>	<b>Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm</b>
<b>Sat 30</b>	<b>Rushworth Arts, Antiques, Crafts &amp; Collectables Market, Shire Hall</b>

### 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, Fri 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 9.30am at McEwen Place
- Stanhope Community Garden: Wednesdays 8.30 to 9.30am
- 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, 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11am - 1pm
- Rushworth & District Community Bank Board: meets 1st Tuesday monthly, at 6pm
- Rushworth Events Inc: meets bi-monthly, third Wednesday at 7pm
- Rushworth 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 st, Rushworth, Thursdays 7pm
- Stanhope: Chris's exercises at Seniors: Mondays 10.45am
- Rushworth: Chris's exercises at Rushworth Community House Mondays 1 - 2pm
- Colbinabbin: Chris's exercises at Colbinabbin Hall Mondays 3.30 - 4.30pm

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.

### LOCAL SERVICE PHONE NUMBERS

<b>POLICE or FIRE.....Emergency.....000</b>	Non-emergency 13 1444
<b>AMBULANCE.....Emergency.....000</b>	Non-emergency...13 3009
SES: (storm & flood).....13 2500	
<b>DOCTORS:</b>	
Murchison Medical Centre.....5826 2575	
Rushworth Medical Centre..... 5856 1329	
Stanhope Telecare Medical Centre.....4800 5291	
Waranga Medical Centre..... 5851 8400	
<b>HEALTH:</b>	
Stanhope Health.....5857 0451	
Waranga Health .....5851 8000	
Nurse on call..... 1300 606 024	
<b>HELP:</b>	
Lifeline.....13 1114	
Kids Helpline.....1800 551 800	
<b>POLICE:</b>	
Rushworth.....5856 1000	
Murchison.....5826 2222	
Colbinabbin.....5856 1000	
<b>SUPPORT SERVICE:</b>	
St Vincent de Paul.....0417 597 468	
<b>WARANGA NEWS OFFICE.....5856 1120</b>	

### ADVERTISING DEADLINES

#### FOR NEXT EDITION - 10 JULY

**Display Ads: Friday, 4 July**

**Classified: Monday, 7 July**

wnews@iinet.net.au

### Waranga News



#### A Voluntary Community Newspaper

Printed by Maxam Printing, Shepparton

Published by Mary Jo Fortuna OAM,  
of 3 Phillips Street, Rushworth, 3612 for

**Waranga News Incorporated**

(ABN 45 086 403 564)

Office Hours: Mon, Wed & Fri

9.30am - 5.30pm

(All day Mon & Tues of production week)

33 Moora Road, Rushworth.

Postal address: **PO Box 53, Rushworth, 3612**

**E-mail address: wnews@iinet.net.au**

**Website: www.wnews.org.au**

Advertising & Accounts: (03) 5856 1120

Editor: 0407 561 311

**Annual subscription: Online \$30;**

**Posted \$65.00 (inc cost of postage)**

**Advertising in the Waranga News supports your business AND your community call 5856 1120 or email wnews@iinet.net.au**

# Your Council News

## Coming Up

**Council meeting** | 6pm Tuesday, 15 July 2025 | Echuca Civic Centre  
Meetings can be streamed live: [www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/livestreaming](http://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/livestreaming)

**f** [@CampaspeShireCouncil](#)  
**o** [#campaspeshire](#)  
**P:** 1300 666 535 | 03 5481 2200  
**E:** [shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au](mailto:shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au)  
**www.campaspe.vic.gov.au**

## Project update

The installation of new pavement and bench seating in front of the change rooms at Girgarre Recreation Reserve is now complete.



## Immunisation Sessions

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

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

### Tuesday, 1 July

- 5.30 – 6:30pm | Kyabram Senior Citizens' Centre

### Thursday, 3 July

- 9.00 – 10:30am | Echuca Library
- 11.30am – 12 noon | Rochester Service Centre

### Thursday, 17 July

- 10.00 – 10:30am | Gunbower Primary School
- 11.30 – 12 noon | Lockington Bush Nursing Centre
- 5.30 – 6:30pm | Echuca Library

### Monday, 28 July

- 9.00 – 10:30am | Tongala Shire Hall
- 11.30am – 12 noon | Rushworth Service Centre

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



## Love driving?

Join our amazing team of volunteer drivers in Kyabram and help locals get to vital medical appointments.

With demand growing, we need more friendly faces behind the wheel!

You'll be a trusted link to health services—and a real community hero.

Ready to roll? Call Narelle Betts, Community Transport Officer, on 1300 666 535 to learn more and express your interest.

## Now Open

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

### Active Living Census

The Active Living Census is a region-wide survey conducted by Healthy Loddon Campaspe that asks residents in our region about their health, wellbeing and daily activities. This information helps schools, sporting clubs, community groups, government, and local leaders make better decisions about health programs, new recreation spaces, and services. It also helps the community get funding to make the region a healthier place for everyone. Take the survey today!

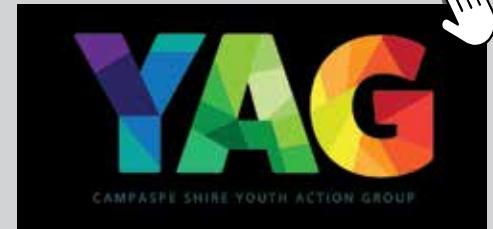
### Kindergarten registrations due

Kindergarten registrations are open for 2026. Children are eligible to attend kindergarten in 2026 if they turn three or four before 30 April 2026. Register your child online via Council's website by 30 June to be eligible for a first-round offer. For registration help, email [kinder@campaspe.vic.gov.au](mailto:kinder@campaspe.vic.gov.au) or call the team on 1300 666 535.



### Youth Action Group (YAG)

Young people are invited to join Council's Youth Action Group (YAG). YAG members provide a youth



perspective on our key plans and strategies, direct youth funding towards desired programs, activities and events, and brief community groups, businesses and Council on issues that significantly impact young people in the shire.

To be eligible for YAG membership, you must be a resident of Campaspe Shire aged between 12 and 25 years. If you are under 18 years old, you will require parent/guardian permission.

### Rochester Swimming Pool Development

Residents are invited to have their say in the development of the Rochester Pool. A survey presenting three options for the community is now open. The survey can be taken online or in person at any of our service centres, or at drop-in sessions at Rochester Shire Hall on:

- Thursday, 3 July 2025 from 4-6pm
- Thursday, 3 July 2025 from 7-9pm
- Friday, 4 July 2025 from 9am-11am.

## Youth GO! Grants 2025

up to \$1500 available  
for eligible projects!



## Apply now!

Last chance to apply! This grant program is open to schools, community groups and organisations to host youth-focused events or activities that promote social connection, positive well-being, and youth empowerment for residents aged 12-25 years across Campaspe Shire. Grants up to \$1500 area available. Applications close 29 June, so apply now on our Now Open page.

# Readers' Corner

## - interesting things to know and do!

### BOOK IT IN

Mary Poppins She Wrote

The Life of P L Travers

Valerie Lawson. Published 2006. Simon and Shuster.

That tart and opinionated English nanny, Mary Poppins, was the creation of an equally tart and opinionated woman, Pamela Lyndon Travers, born Helen Lyndon Goff, in Maryborough Australia in 1899. Her father was Irish and deeply immersed in the romantic tales of Irish myth, magic and legend, much of which he passed on to his daughter. He died in his early forties, leaving his family destitute and his daughter was put into the care of her spinster aunt, a woman who became the prototype for Mary Poppins.

As Lyndon (as she was initially called) grew up, her greatest ambition was to become a dramatic actress but although she made her thespian debut with touring companies from England, it was as a journalist that she travelled to London in 1924 after working for several well known publications such as the Bulletin.

In England she embraced Theosophy, met many literary giants such as T.S. Eliot and W.B. Yeats and continued to write many articles for women's magazines which paid the rent, but in 1926 she began to write rather different stories about children and their dreams and these gradually became the basis for the Mary Poppins adventures. In 1926 she really gave birth to her famous nanny in a short story called 'Mary Poppins and the Match Man'.

Mary Poppins is a strange nanny. She is stern, sharp, rude, plain and vain, very much like her creator. She comes with the West Wind and leaves with the East Wind. She sorts out the Banks family then disappears with her parrot-headed umbrella but where does she come from and where does she go? Her family appears to live in London and she speaks with a London accent but is she a goddess, a Time Lord or a star from the Pleiades constellation, (some theories suggested). Unsettling as this is, children love her although Travers (she changed her name in 1933) always insisted that she did not write for children!

When Walt Disney acquired the film rights for her books, a collision of major proportions was inevitable when he insisted that the attractive, cheerful Julie Andrews should play Mary and Dick Van Dyke should play her love interest Bert, and we know what a disaster he was! The film however, was a great success and there was talk of a Mary Poppins musical but Travers' demands overwhelmed the producers. She still made a considerable amount of money and died in London in 1996 as stubborn and irascible as ever, the personification of her famous nanny, the hero of her own story.

*The Bookster.*

### KIDS' QUIZ

1. What wizarding school does Harry Potter attend?
2. What video game features characters like Mario and Luigi?
3. What superhero is known as the "Caped Crusader"?
4. What kind of animal is Sonic in the video games?

*Did you know? ...*

**A person will sleep an average of 25 years in their lifetime.**

The average time a person sleeps at night is around 8 hours.

People also spend an average of 7 years trying to go to sleep!

Answers: 1. Hogwarts 2. Super Mario 3. Batman 4. Hedgehog

### Sudoku and Crossword puzzle

**Lovatts**  
www.lovattspuzzles.com

#### HOW TO PLAY

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in:

Each of the nine vertical columns

Each of the nine horizontal rows

Each of the nine 3 x 3 boxes

Remember no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.

#### Across

1. Hauls strenuously
5. Driving compartments
7. Tea container
8. Scorch
9. Edible mollusc
10. Trite
11. Largest desert
13. Very dark
14. Averted, ... off
18. Lampoon
21. Clutch
22. Made mocking remarks
24. Die down
25. Aid (felon)
26. Happily ... after
27. Privileged few
28. Cash points (1,1,2)
29. Miniature

#### Down

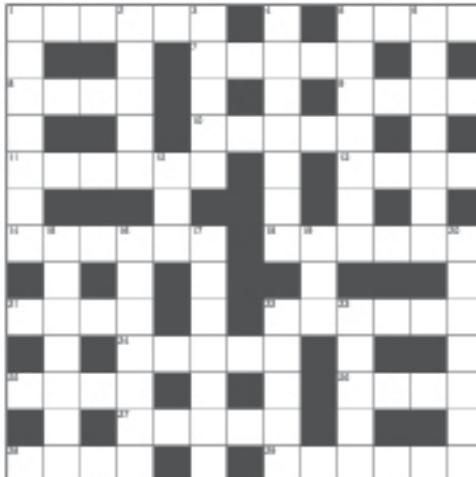
1. Metal-cutting blade
2. Flipped around, vice ...
3. Diving gear
4. Weirdness
5. Velodrome athlete
6. Gloomier
12. Caviar
15. Tumbler
16. Formal arguments
17. Charismatic
19. He is, they ...
20. Sanction
22. Precious stone
23. Gala day contest

Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★

	7				2
9	3			8	6
8		9	6	7	5
9		5	4		8
7	2				6 5
3	8	2	6		1
6		4	3	9	1
1		6			3 4
2				8	

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### Crossword No: 54



*Solutions will appear in the next edition.*

### K is for kangaroo

There are so many 'K' words, but we'd have to mention **Kangaroos** first, wouldn't we?

And then **Koalas** would have to come next . . . after all, we live in Australia and although we mightn't see many **koalas** around our local area, we certainly see lots of **kangaroos**. In fact, we see too many which end up being hit by cars and

trucks on the roads. With the countryside desperately needing rain to water crops, grow pasture and fill dams, the **kangaroos** are coming out of the bush to look for a spot of green feed. Hopefully the rain we've had in the last week or two will soon show results of grass sprouting up and keep the **kangaroos** grazing in the forest areas.

How about writing a 'K' story. Here's mine: **Kevin** was **king** of the **koalas**. He said, 'Kathleen, put the **kettle** on in the **kitchen** and we'll have a **cuppa** before I go **fly** my **kite**.' and he blew her a **kiss**, **knelt** down and patted the **kittens** before calling for the **kids** to come and bring their **kites**.



My story has twelve 'K' words. Can YOU do better?





# Rugging up for winter Bowls

The winter bowlers are having to rug up a little more, but the numbers playing are still great and everyone appears to still be enjoying the day. I guess we have to accept winter is here!

## Visit from bank

We were very pleased to have Alek and Georgia from the Rushworth and District Community Bank at the club on Thursday 19 June.

Alek discussed the banks range of products and encouraged any of the bowlers to pop in for a chat about any assistance with loans, insurance etc that they may require. As he pointed out, the bank returns a great deal to our local community. The bowls club has benefited from the banks donations on several occasions for projects at the club, for which we are very grateful.

## Results

The winners for the last three weeks have been a team from Stanhope plus new member Debbie and two composite teams.



**Above: L-R - Winners on 29 May were Geoff, Debbie, Mavis and Whoppa.**

**Above Right: Alek and Georgia sharing lunch and a chat with Rushworth bowlers Bruce and Noel.**

**Right: L-R - Winners on 12 June were Keith, Lyn, Daryl and Doug.**

**Left: L-R - Winners on 19 June were John, Terry, Wayne and Doug.**



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## Rushworth Golf Club clubhouse

### A little more club history

The current clubhouse is probably best described as adhoc, cosy, functional and serves its main purpose well.

Originally a surplus WW2 Army hut, it was relocated from Seymour to Rushworth sometime in the 1950s.

Walls were taken out, a large fireplace built, and modern exterior cladding added. Inside a kitchen, office, bar and club social area completed the project.

The works would have been completed by committed volunteer members and supported by local businesses and built in an era when simple was sensible.

Around seventy years later, apart from a few cosmetic changes it remains close to original and still holds an element of Army charm.

At our annual tournament and open events, guests marvel at the large open fireplace, with

a bed of hot iron bark coals creating a, can't leave atmosphere.

Our clubhouse, is old, modest, has character and is much treasured.

Recent weekly competitions have seen wins from Bomber Rathjen and Dean Pontin. More info available on our Facebook page.



**After the rain, the surrounding bush is lit with colour.**

# Colbo Sports Report

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## CFNC - A Grade netballers have big win against Mounts

Another week, another challenge beckoned after the shock loss to Huntly, with second place on the ladder well and truly up for grabs at the halfway point of the year.

### Netball

#### A Grade

##### Colbinabbin 72 def Mounts 38

Thanks to Mounts for a splendid display and to all who made magic on this chilly match day.

**Best on court:** Tanzin Myers

#### A Reserve

##### Colbinabbin 57 def Mounts 55

In the very cold conditions, the girls had a very exciting win against Mounts. It was a slow start for the girls going down in the first half however turning it around in the second half with the outstanding pressure from the defence end. The girls came away with the win by two points.

**Best on court:** Emily Percy

#### B Grade

##### Colbinabbin 34 It Mounts 50

What a game it was, an old-fashioned shoot out with the scores mostly even. Unfortunately, the game got away from Colbo with Mounts taking the lead. We wish Hannah all the best with her recent fracture and welcome back to our coach Kate.

**Best on court:** Maisy Pinniger

#### B Reserve

##### Colbinabbin 26 It Mounts 57

The B Reserve girls came across a polished and confident Mounts team this week. It was great to see all the girls trying their best and they all should be proud of their efforts!

**Best on court:** Demi Taylor

#### Under 17s

##### Colbinabbin 6 It Mounts 49

The team warmed into the game quickly and brought intensity from the start. The defence stood strong, working together to apply pressure and force turnovers. It was a challenging game, but the team rose to the occasion with determination and teamwork across the court. A great all-round effort!

**Best on court:** Mackenzie Fayle and Abbey Ryan

#### Under 15s

##### Colbinabbin 48 def Mounts 15

Another strong consistent game from all the girls. A highlight of this game which

is becoming a regular occurrence was the defensive pressure from everyone on court. Overall great game.

**Best on court:** Audrey McFadzean, Lilli Withey, Chelsea Griffiths

#### Under 13s

##### Colbinabbin 37 def Mounts 7

Another cold winter's day didn't stop the U13s delivering a strong 37-7 win over 5th-placed Mount Pleasant.

From the first whistle, the team brought energy, encouragement, and plenty of positive talk. It was fantastic to see a true team effort, with every player contributing to the win. Picking off intercepts and keeping the opposition under pressure for all four quarters.

**Best on:** Isla Knight and Maisy Masterson

#### Under 11s

Under 11s turned up today in the fog and icy cold conditions. Everyone toughed it out with cold roaring red fingers and played their best. So much so we were telling them to go warm up their hands under the dryers during the breaks!

Lilly Kennedy used her height and grabbed lots of rebounds and intercepts, she had strong passes and made great decisions on the court. Elsie Hill stepped up for the grade 3s and showed great defence not letting her player get the ball, reading the play and grabbing the intercepts.

#### Football

#### Seniors

##### Colbinabbin 8.8. 56 def Mounts 5.10. 40

Colbo were out of the blocks early hitting the scoreboard hard with four goals in the first quarter giving themselves a 19-point lead at quarter time. Goals were hard to come by for both teams from here.

Mounts were able to win the second half yet make no inroads on the deficit. Colbo wound up 16-point winners in a low scoring arm wrestle.

**Goal kickers:** Nick Knight 4, Sam Ryan 2, Brandon Grenfell 1, Issac Carracher 1

**Best on ground:** Alex van Ruiswyk, Connor Aldous, Issac Carracher, Matty Riordan,

**Nick Knight, Julian Bull**

#### Reserves

##### Colbo 7.11. 53 It Mounts 9.6. 60

In typical twos fashion, the game featured dropped marks, missed kicks, more dropped marks and more missed kicks and more points kicked than goals! In what was actually one of the more complete games of footy from the boys, you'd be forgiven for thinking they had this one in the bag.

Anyway, it was a back and forth, up and down, goal for goal game which featured key moments that the Mounts lads ended up making the most of more often than Colbo.

**Goal kickers:** Stephen Tuohy 2, Jimmy McMurtrie 2, Sam Coughlin 2, Evan McAuley 1

**Best on ground:** Nic Palmer, Ray Pearson, Jasper McArdle, Ned Morgan, Jack Colbert, Will Brown

#### Under 18s

##### Colbinabbin 1.0. 6 It Mounts 10.21. 81

The thirds had to brave the elements running out in the thick fog swamping the playing field, with goal post from either end barely able to be seen. The young fellas launched into it just as hard as they do every other week. A bit light on for numbers so Colbo Ducks and Mounts Coach Joey McCormack was kind enough to lend a couple of troops to his Colbo friends.

The scoreboard didn't reflect the effort that was on display given the conditions were atrocious no matter who you were. Unfortunately, the boys went down by 75 points but still have their two wins in the first half of the year.

**Goal kickers:** Zane Charles

**Best on ground:** William Ogden, Charlie McLean, Jackson Morgan, Will Patrick, Elliot Ryan, Hayden Rodgers

#### Round 10 – Bye

A big thank you to Eliza and her helpers who organised Ladies Day - always such a fun day, raising money for a great cause. Special mention to the boys helping out in the bar and all those who helped out behind the scenes.

**Helen Truran**  
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## CFNC - Merchandise

This year we have given the merchandise a revamp with a new supplier and some new designs. They are now available on the Breech Apparel online store and can even be delivered to your door!

We will be getting in some sample sizes of the jumpers/hoodies and training tops in the next couple of weeks. These will available to try on at the bar in a couple of weeks.

Rugby jumpers and grey long sleeves are still available however they are not on the online store due to different suppliers. These are available to purchase from the bar or send us a DM on socials to sort it out.

### Toyota Good for Footy Raffle

Help the Colbo Football Netball Club raise funds by buying a ticket or two in the Toyota Good for Footy Raffle.

You get the chance to win a car and we get some much needed cash for the club! Tickets can be purchased online. Just search for Colbinabbin Football Netball Club to make sure we get the profits. Good luck!

**Follow us in the next few rounds:**

#### Round 10 - Seniors

Colbinabbin - BYE

#### Round 11

**Saturday, 28 June 2025**

Colbinabbin vs Heathcote

Colbinabbin Rec Reserve

#### Round 12

**Saturday, 05 July 2025**

Colbinabbin vs Lock/Bam Utd

Colbinabbin Rec Reserve

#### Round 13

**Saturday, 12 July 2025**

Colbinabbin vs Leitch/Gunbower

Colbinabbin Rec Reserve

#### Round 14

**Saturday, 19 July 2025**

Elmore vs Colbinabbin

Elmore Recreation Reserve / Elmore

Recreation Reserve 1

#### Round 15

**Saturday, 26 July 2025**

Colbinabbin Seniors vs North Bendigo

Colbinabbin Rec Reserve

## CFNC - Valued Volunteer Award

This week's award went to none other than the very deserving recipient - Morghan Hughes.

Our social media queen! I may be biased but CFNC socials are up there with the best and it's all thanks to Mogs. She keeps you updated and informed each week, takes the action shots and sifts through them each week to make sure there's no complaints about that face you're pulling mid catch.

Not only does she do this, she's at training and game day every week (even when injured) and always happy to help out around the club.

Thanks so much for all you do Morghan!



## New Coach for Colbo bowlers

Colbinabbin Bowls Club President, Wayne Goodear, welcomes new Coach, Barry Cuttriss for the new season.

Barry has come to Colbinabbin from Moama Bowls Club and will be playing pennant for the club. Wayne Goodear is President for another year with Kevin McTaggart as Secretary.



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# RFNC - Great win for the seniors

## Netball

### 11/U - Rushworth 11 def Girgarre 4

1st incentive: Taylah Clarke

2nd incentive: Mason Jarrett

3rd incentive: Hunter Thompson

### 13/U - Rushworth 21 It Girgarre 25

Under 13s had a close loss in the wet against Girgarre. Only having nine out of our eleven players, some of the girls were asked to try new positions and did a fabulous job. The slippery conditions made it tricky but it was a great effort as they were switched on from the first whistle.

1st incentive: Charlii

2nd incentive: Mia

3rd incentive: Taya

### 15/U - Rushworth 38 def Girgarre 25

What a great team effort to get the win against a previously undefeated side. We worked hard and shot well. Defence was tight and attack was strong. Great game Tigers.

**Best on court:** Kade Starling, Willow Bertram

**2nd best:** Emily Walker

**3rd best:** Kaitlyn Garvey

### 17/U - Rushworth 35 def Girgarre 30

The girls had a great game Sunday, adapting well to the wet weather conditions and coming away with a win.

1st incentive: Zahley,

2nd incentive: Tyra 3

3rd incentive: Millie.

**The lolly award:** Emily



### C Reserve - Rushworth 18 It Girgarre 61

The club is proud of the girls efforts this week. Once again thanks for the U/17 girls for stepping up for us. Chloe, Keleigh, Jess C, Millie worked hard in the mid and goalers H, Sharon, Ella and Millie did an amazing job in defence by Jess M, Eliza, Ellie and Emily. **Incentives:** Jess C, Millie and H.

### C Grade - Rushworth 14 It Girgarre 61

C Grade faced a tough challenge and unfortunately walked away with a loss.

**1st incentives:** Caitlin Brown

**2nd incentive:** Bella Odwyer

**3rd incentive:** Madeline Knight

### B Grade - Rushworth 36 It Girgarre 53

Wet and dreary conditions made for a slow start against a strong Gig team. Winning the last quarter really showed what the team is capable of if they push through for the full four quarters.

1st incentive: Mary

2nd incentive: Emma

3rd incentive: Mads

### A Grade - Rushworth 44 def Girgarre 43

Each week has been a challenge so the girls weren't expecting anything different. They played their best game for the season to get the win. It was a complete team effort. Well done girls; enjoy the win!

**Best on court:** Montana Mylon,

**2nd best:** Ruby Oliver,

**3rd best:** Sheree Starling.



## Football

**U10s** - Headed to Tatura to take on the Bulldogs. It was a great close game against a tough opponent. Isaac and Hunter played well in the middle throughout the game. Plenty of goals across the board including Zoe for her first goal ever. Big efforts from first gamers Noah and Remi.

### Thirds - Rushworth 65 It Nagambie 70

Nagambie played host at Girgarre. The boys gave it everything but unfortunately a goal after the siren saw the boys lose by 5 points.



**Best players:** Archer Hogan, Jerry McCarthy, Riley Knight, Flynn Clarke, Manyuol Padual, Baxter Plunkett

### Reserves - Rushworth 31 It Girgarre 80

Full of confidence coming off a good game two weeks ago against Lanky the boys came out slow. Although they fought hard it just wasn't their day.

**Better players:** Will Robertshaw, Daniel Kelsey, Josh Newton, Lachie Armstrong and Kade Dearing.

### Seniors - Rushworth 105 def Girgarre 30

The senior team was determined to improve their stats and today they certainly did. With returning players Isaac Griffin and Sticka Kirby leading the way and Riley Edwards setting the tone up forward kicking 3 goals, and 8 goal first quarter was the reward for effort.

The second quarter Liam Adlington showed off his sidestep to snap his first of 2 goals for the quarter. The second half saw the midfield group continue to work hard, with intercepts and runs from half back. The end result was a 75 point win.

**Best players:** Jackson McCrae, Liam Francis, Luke Oakley, Ethan Arnold, Riley Edwards and Dylan Arnold.

*Go Tigers*

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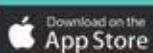


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