

# CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

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## Water Polo Team competes in Country Championships



Latrobe Valley Waterpolo Association's Women's Team has returned from competing in the Victorian Country Waterpolo Championships at Geelong on the 10 and 11 of February 2007.

The girls played valiantly all weekend but were unable to convert their hard work into a final's berth.

Ria Crutchfield did a great job as coach, and was supported well by Cheryl Mason who captained the side.

Cheryl played in goals most of the weekend, displaying her usual high standard of play. Kristy Timmer-Arends, in her first competition, played extremely well and was superb in defence.

Eliza Hartley and Emma Collins

made good position and swam well, opening up many passing opportunities. Emily Rickwood, also playing her first game for Latrobe Valley, used great skills and pressured the opposition constantly. Justine Crutchfield was a valuable contributor to the team but had limited time in the water due to illness.

Normal training for waterpolo is held at the Churchill Pool on Sundays from 3.45 pm to 4.45 pm. Junior training is held at the same time.

Anyone of any age or swimming ability is welcome - feel free to come along and have a go. Further information can be obtained from Cheryl Mason on 5166 1797 or Fiona Rickwood on 51222493.

## Overwhelming Support for Cancer Relay

The Cancer Council Victoria is delighted with the support it has received in the lead up to their Relay For Life event being held in Churchill this month.

Relay For Life is an overnight team event where family, friends and colleagues keep their batons moving around the track while enjoying the festive atmosphere of live music, entertainment and moving ceremonies. The event raises money for cancer research, education and patient support services provided by The Cancer Council Victoria.

In January, the organising volunteer committee put out the call for participants in the hope of increasing team numbers from six to twenty. Due to the success of two recent registration nights, they are delighted to announce that they have exceeded their target and now have twenty-two teams registered.

Michelle Carroll, Relay For Life

Coordinator for The Cancer Council Victoria explained; "The response and support we have received by local community members has been amazing. When we set the goal of twenty teams we really were not sure if we could reach it. To now have surpassed that goal is such a wonderful feeling. I have had so many phone calls and emails from local families and friends wanting to participate and they are really excited about the event. It is so moving to have that many people reach out and support the cancer cause."

If you are interested in participating and making a difference in the fight against cancer or in finding out more information, please call Michelle Carroll on 0407 566 971 or you can register anytime by calling 1300 65 65 85 or online at [www.relayforlife.org.au](http://www.relayforlife.org.au).



## Thanks to Churchill CFA

Firefighters from the Churchill Brigade was the subject of much discussion at the Saloon Bar recently. Respect for these well trained volunteers was expressed, and recognition of the long fire season ahead led to the idea of raising some funds for the Brigade.

Toni and Craig, proprietors of the Saloon Bar organised a raffle which was held on the 15th December, as

well as having a tin going round.

Two weeks later on the 29th December, another raffle was held, raising the combined total of \$501.25.

On Friday 16th February, the Saloon Bar and patrons invited the brigade members to the Saloon Bar for a presentation of the money and a free barbecue in appreciation of their efforts over the continuing fire season.

## Date for the Diary

**Churchill & District News Trivia Night**

27th April 2007

Churchill Cricket Club, Birch Drive, Churchill

7.30pm - 10.00pm

Entry \$5 (Bar will be Open)

Tables of up to 8 can be booked by ringing Ruth on 5122 1961 or Peter on 5122 2589. Don't have group of 8? Don't worry we will make one for you!

All proceeds will go to the GEP Breakfast program



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**EDITORIAL**

There can be no doubt about the high level of interest by Churchill and district residents in the development of the central business district. However, where do we go from here?

Council, at Monday night's meeting, unanimously agreed to commis-

sion a report to look at the range, sustainability, profitability and access of retail business in shopping precinct.

The report will also look at the 'practicality and desirability' of including a Hotel in the business precinct. The report, which is to be

prepared within one month, will be of great interest to all residents of the area. In the meantime, we will continue to dodge potholes and hope that a way forward will be found rather than discussions ending in a stalemate.

Ed

**Churchill & District News**

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

**The Team:**  
Team Leader/Secretary : Ruth Place

Editor/Treasurer: Val Prokopiv  
Advertising: Peter Prokopiv  
Layout/Design: Val Prokopiv  
Webpage: Tracey Burr  
Proof Readers: Ruth Place, Olivia

Jackson  
Photography/Computer Support: Matt Prokopiv  
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Karen Bradfield Charlie Rawlinson

**Contributions**

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

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

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

**Articles can be left in our Drop Off Boxes Located at:  
Cafe Le Mac's, Churchill Primary School, Churchill Library and the Co-Operating Church**

**ADVERTISING RATES**

Full Page: \$255.00  
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7cm x 6.5cm: \$32.00  
All prices include GST.

Inquiries Tel:  
Peter on 5122 2589

**The deadline for the submission of articles and advertisements for February 2007 Edition is March 30th 2007**

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

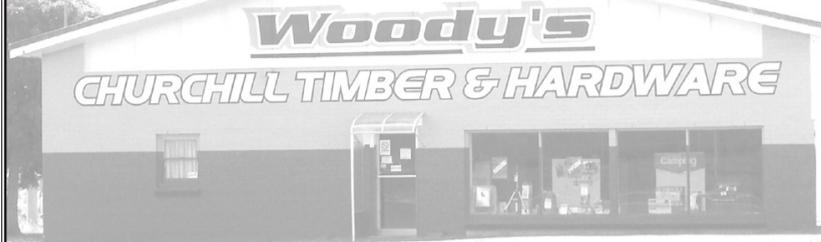
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**Hazelwood House Happenings**



The residents enjoyed a day out fishing at Port Albert. However, the only fish that were biting on the day were sea weed fish which had to be thrown back!

Peter Martin (below left) waits patiently for the 'big one'!

Vin Walker (right) celebrated his birthday with family and residents. The photo shows Vin and his daughter and grandsons who were visiting from Perth.

The residents attend 10 pin bowls once a fortnight, joining four other aged care facilities for a social game of bowls followed by afternoon tea. Fay, Cathie and volunteer Dawn, (right) enjoy a game of bowls.





## Cancer Survivors To Inspire At Relay For Life

Over the weekend of March 24 and 25, The Cancer Council Victoria will be holding the first ever Relay For Life event to be staged in Churchill, and are inviting along local cancer survivors and their carers to be part of this moving event.

In keeping with the tradition of Relay For Life, organisers of this overnight event have dedicated the opening lap to cancer survivors to honour their courage, strength and victory over the disease which affects one in three Australians. Their family, carers and friends are invited to walk with them during the 'Survivors Walk,' which opens the event.

are invited to register their involvement on the day and will receive a sash to wear for the lap. Registration is complimentary, as is an afternoon tea to be held in their honour at the conclusion of the walk.

Starting at 12 noon, the relay will be held at Gaskin Park Oval, and people of all ages and fitness levels are welcome to participate. So far, more than 240 people in 22 teams have registered to walk, stroll or run in Churchill's Relay For Life which celebrates life, hope and remembrance and raises money for cancer research, education and support programs.

will be held at sunset. Hundreds of candle tributes bearing personal messages will line the inside of the track, lit in honour and support of someone fighting cancer or in memory of loved ones lost. People can buy candles at the track on the night.

Organisers of the event invite any cancer survivors wanting to join the "Survivors Walk" to register at the clubrooms at Gaskin Park Oval between 11:15am and 11:45am on Saturday March 24, 2007.

*Photo: A recent Survivors Walk which was held in South Gippsland. Local cancer survivors and their carers embraced the event by walking in the opening lap.*

Cancer survivors and their carers

A moving Candlelight Ceremony

## Civics Roadshow to travel to Churchill and Morwell

As part of its 40th Anniversary celebrations, the Victoria Law Foundation is taking a Civics Roadshow to regional Victoria.

This exciting outreach initiative aims to increase community understanding of the law and legal institutions.

A pilot program will take place in Morwell on 29th and 30th March, 2007. The Roadshow will then travel to the Mildura and Warrnambool regions later this year.

Agencies participating will include the Supreme, County and Magistrates' Courts of Victoria, VCAT, the Juries Commissioner; Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission; Parliament of Victoria; Sentencing Advisory

Council, Russell Street Justice Museum and the Legal Services Commissioner.

As currently planned, the schools program for Years 9 to 12 students, will include role-plays of jury selection, a culpable driving trial, a VCAT mediation and a range of other interactive, engaging activities which introduce students to a wide range of legal and civic agencies.

This program will be based at the Gippsland Education Precinct in Churchill.

A theme underlying a number of the schools activities will be human rights. Justice for indigenous Australians and the protections offered by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights will both feature in a

number of sessions.

Tarwirri, the Indigenous Students and Lawyers Association of Victoria, will offer special activities for indigenous students, including the opportunity to visit the Morwell Koori Court and to have lunch with a judge and a Koori elder.

The community activities program will be based at Morwell Library, offering the opportunity to learn how to deal with problems with neighbours, banks, telephone providers and even large bills from lawyers!

Sessions on wills, guardianship and powers of attorney and general consumer protection issues will also be on offer.

## Carers Needed!

Anglicare Victoria's Gippsland Region is looking for people from any part of Gippsland who may be able and willing to offer a caring and loving environment for a child with a disability.

The children can come from all over Gippsland and their disabilities could include physical, intellectual or developmental delay and the inability to deal with the challenges of everyday life.

You can provide full-time, part-time or respite care in your own home and can be single or a couple, working or retired and with or without children.

Carers will be supported with:

- \* General training and training specific to the child's needs
- \* An Anglicare Victoria Case Manager and 24 hour on-call support
- \* Tax free reimbursements
- \* Possible additional funding depending on the needs of the child

Interested people can contact the Disability Recruitment Officer at Anglicare Victoria's Morwell office on 5133 9998.

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## Cutting Corner

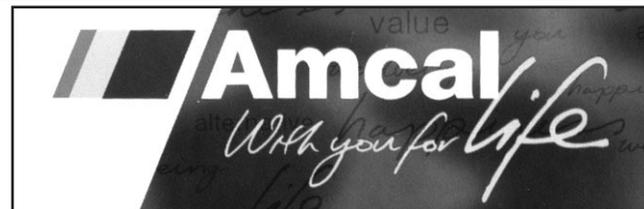
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## High Blood Pressure

Blood pressure is the pressure of the blood in the arteries as the heart pumps it around the body. Everyone has blood pressure - we need it to stay alive. People have high blood pressure when their blood pressure is constantly higher than normal. Maintaining blood pressure at the right level will help keep the heart healthy.

### Who is at risk?

- People at greater risk of having high blood pressure:
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  - \*Smokers
  - \*Eat too much fat and salt
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  - \*Do not exercise
  - \*Drink too much alcohol

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Friday March 23 2007

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For more details please ring Zelma Mildenhall on 5166 1264

## Church Times

### Co-operating Churches of Churchill

Rev. Dr. Bob Brown  
Williams Avenue, Churchill.  
Tel: 5122 1480  
Glenda and Ian Combridge  
Tel: 5166 1819  
Sunday Service: 9.30am.  
Choruses: 9.20am

### Lumen Christi Catholic Church

35 Walker Parade, Churchill  
Tel: 5122 2226  
Father Hugh Brown  
Assistant Deacon Terry Rooney  
Saturday: Mass: 7.30pm  
Sunday: Mass: 9.30am  
1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays: Yinnar:  
Mass: 11.00 am  
2nd and 4th Sundays: Boolarra:  
Mass: 11.00am

### Churchill Christian Fellowship

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

## Chaplaincy Contemplations

Hello to you all after an absence from these pages for three months. Personally, it has been a time of change with my daughter marrying and me moving to South Gippsland.

However, it is satisfying to report that I will remain as Chaplain at Monash University, Gippsland Campus until September, 2010. As this is a wonderful ministry to have both at the University and the wider community it is with appreciation that I thank the funding bodies for their continued support of this position. The Anglican Church of Australia, Gippsland Diocese; The Roman Catholic Church, Diocese of Sale and the Uniting Church in Australia, Presbytery of Gippsland fund the Chaplain's salary and Monash University supports the position administratively as well as supporting the Spiritual Centre.

This is an excellent example of ecumenical endeavour. The brief to this full time position is to be available to all staff and students and to foster multi-faith and ecumenical worship and activities in the Spiritual Centre.

It is also important to have close links with the community and this column is one way of doing that.

All the students are now back for this semester, whether on campus or online.

It is always a joy to welcome new students starting in a career path and to resume relationships with returning students from all over Gippsland and all over the world.

You may have heard about the friendship program where we are asking people in the community to befriend two international students. If you are interested in doing this, please phone the department of Health, Wellbeing and Development (formerly Community Services) on 5122 6425 and ask about an application. To become part of the friendship program a police check is required. If you are not able to undertake this role at the moment it is still good to register your interest for the future (eg. next semester).

There are many ways we can all reach out to each other as a community and this is one way.

In second semester, the i-Think Seminars will run every Wednesday at 1pm from 8th August to 12th September and the theme for this year will be "The Environment".

Notices will go out about these seminars closer to the time but pop the dates



in your diary. They will be held in the Hexagon Building 1S132 at the University.

In the Christian calendar this is now the time of Lent leading up to Easter. At this time it is good to reflect on the possibility of reconciliation and forgiveness. Our Aboriginal Brothers and Sisters have much to forgive with regard to their treatment by those who came after them to this land. We still need to work towards reconciliation.

It is also a time to ask for forgiveness for the things we have neglected to do or have done wrongly. And, it is a time for us to try and find it in our hearts to forgive others. Not an easy thing to do but worthwhile to try.

Jesus gives advice to his disciples, which is useful for us all to meditate upon:

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." Luke 6: V 32-38

Blessing on you all,  
Lyn Porritt, Chaplain

## Lumen Christi Parish News

By MARION ANSWERTH

The parishioners of Lumen Christi have welcomed with great enthusiasm the appointment of new Parish Priest Father Hugh Brown. Fr Brown, a Carmelite priest, also holds an important role at the Catholic Education Officer in Warragul as Coordinator of Religious Education in the Catholic Secondary Schools of the Sale Diocese.

He took up his appointment in the parish in December. Bishop Coffey has also announced the appointment of Deacon Terry Rooney to assist in the parish and he and his wife Marie have already settled into the new role very well.

Regular weekday Communion Services are to be introduced at Churchill, Yinnar and Boolarra with Deacon Rooney and lay people leading these services. Weekend masses remain the same and will be celebrated

by Fr Hugh.

Last weekend saw the celebration of the Centenary of the St Francis De Salles Church at Boolarra. Bishop Coffey celebrated a special mass with former resident Deacon Mark Kelly and several priests who served as pastors at Lumen Christi Parish, also officiating. A large crowd of current and former residents attended with many of the pioneering families of Boolarra being represented.

Following Mass, Bishop Coffey launched a book on the history of the Church in Boolarra compiled by residents Ann and Paddy Morgan. A picnic lunch was held in the grounds of the Boolarra Historical Centre and a display of historical photos and artifacts was exhibited.

The parishioners of Lumen Christi will join with the congregation at the Cooperating Church to celebrate World day of Prayer on Friday 2 March.

## Saturday Breakfast



The first Saturday Breakfast for 2007 was held on 24 February at the Co-Operating Churches.

Jo Whitelaw, Welfare Officer at Churchill Primary School (pictured above) was the guest speaker. Jo spoke about several of the programs that some people in attendance participate in at the school - the Breakfast Club and Walking School Bus program.

The Breakfast Club provides breakfast for students who do not have breakfast at home to get them started for the day.

Since the program started, there has been an improvement in attendance by participating students, greater enthusiasm and more energy which helps them in their learning and behaviour.

Food and money are donated by individuals, service groups and busi-

nesses and supported by Quantum Support Services. Jo runs the program, which commences at 8 am and is helped by two to three volunteers each school day.

The Walking School the Bus is a program whereby adult volunteers accompany Students of the school from their homes to school by walking with them.

This has improved attendance and provides a level of safety for the students. Volunteers involved in the programs undergo police checks.

Jo also spoke about her other work in the school which includes counseling of students who may have problems at school or at home and running programs to assist students. An example is a personal safety program for girls.

Her work compliments the work of the teachers in their roles. Her

position is funded by the state government which requires statistical data to justify funding Jo's and similar positions in other schools.

There was much discussion and asking of questions which helped make the morning a very worthwhile experience.

The next Breakfast will be held on 24 March at the Co-Operating Churches starting at 7.30 am and George Telford the Principal at Yinnar Primary School will be the guest speaker and he will talk about his experiences as a teacher and give some thoughts on the future of education.

People wishing to attend should contact Keith Enders by Thursday 22

March on 51221148 or by e-mail at kbenders@net-tech.com.au

## Church Snippets

By RUTH PLACE

February saw the re-start of all our church groups for another year of activities ranging from social, fund-raising, fun, worship, and administration.

The Ladies Fellowship started their year with a dedication service, with participation from our minister Bob. Their years program has been planned.

The Friendship Group met at Jean's place and had a good catch up chat with after noon tea.

The Lay Preacher Studies has reconvened, and this year they will study the New Testament.

Community Life Panel has met and the camp, though small will happen over the March long weekend when those participating will enjoy the beautiful surroundings of Lake Tyers Uniting Church Camp site. In March 2 clearing sales will

take place on 17th and 31st March, to clear the furniture and other goodies from the church shed.

Rev Bob has again arranged a series of Lenten studies leading up to Easter which is, frighteningly, not that far down to the track. There is a group meeting at Yinnar at 10:30am on Thursday mornings, and a group meeting at the Co-Op church on Sunday evenings, at 7:30 pm.

Our Saturday Breakfast, ably organised by Keith, who cooks great porridge, had as its guest speaker, Jo Whitelaw, Welfare officer at Churchill Primary School.

Jo explained her role and the various programs put in place at Churchill Primary School for the benefit of the students.

A lively discussion with many questions, followed her talk.

# Hay for Toongabbie



Hazelwood Rotary News

By MIKE ANSWERTH, Publicity Officer

The past month has been extremely busy for the Rotary Club of Hazelwood with a number of activities associated with the bushfires at Toongabbie, some major fundraising activities as well as plans for a project in Fiji and preparation for District Conference at Phillip Island in March.

### An Evening on the Gabbie Green

Through the interest of Hazelwood Rotarian Christine Payne and the support of District Governor Dennis Heslin and his Assistant Governor Charlie Medhurst, Hazelwood Rotary joined with the Lions Clubs at Toongabbie and Churchill in arranging an Australia Day event for the community touched by the recent bushfires.

The evening was a great success with entertainment and catering providing a relaxing and friendly way of showing support for this town in need. Around \$1,400 was raised from the event and went to the Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund for bushfire victims.

### Hay for Toongabbie

As a result of the club's involvement with the Toongabbie community a follow up project ensued with the Rotary Club of Berwick donating hay to some of the residents in that area who had lost their hay in the fires.

Members of the Rotary Club of Berwick and their families met up with Hazelwood Rotarians and delivered the hay to three grateful families while taking the opportunity to see first hand the devastation caused by the fires.

This was a very rewarding project for all those involved and will result in further assistance for the bushfire victims.

### Bunnings Barbeques

The Club continues to conduct regular barbeques at Bunnings on dates allocated by the store. These events are a great source of fellowship while raising valuable funds for the Club to distribute to local charities.

### Catering for International Speedboat Championships

Through the initiative of Past President Mark Nestor, the Club took on the massive task of catering for the International Speedboat Championships held at Hazelwood pond on 3/4th February.

Considering that we were required to cater for approximately 2,000 people on Saturday and up to 4,000 on Sunday and given that notice was very short, this required an enormous amount of effort by many members and some crucial last minute planning to ensure success.

Probably one of the largest projects ever undertaken by the Rotary Club of Hazelwood in its twenty five year history, it was an outstanding success and a credit to those who planned it and all members who participated. The organisers have asked the club to cater for future events.

### Assistance to Fiji

Rotarian Garry Watkinson has continued his efforts to arrange a container of goods to be sent to Fiji where Garry has contacts who can ensure the distribution of goods to those most in need.

President Kay Radford has sought assistance from other clubs in this project.

Plans are also progressing for a group of Hazelwood Rotarians to travel to Fiji to carry out a project that will provide better facilities for the local population.

## Dusseldorf Brass Band

In April the Latrobe City Brass Band will be hosting a visit from the Dusseldorf Brass Band to our area. They will be in Melbourne competing in the National championships.

This is a group of 70+ young people aged from 12 - 25 and members of the Clara Schumann School of Music in Dusseldorf.

The group will visit Gippsland Heritage Park and then will be

given a welcome dinner at Club Astoria in Morwell before performing in a concert at Kernot Hall. They will perform the 'Dusseldorf Down Under Concert at 7.45pm on Tuesday 10th April. Tickets, costing \$12 for adults, \$6 concession and \$30 family (2 adults / 4 children under 16), will be available from Latrobe Performing Arts Office or by contacting Judy McKenzie.

Following the concert they will visit Tarra Bulga National Park on Wednesday morning before returning to Melbourne.

If anybody is able to provide accommodation on the Tuesday night, would like concert tickets or further information please contact Latrobe Brass Band Secretary, Judy McKenzie on 5166 1412.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Val

I write to say "Thank you" to you the Churchill News Team, the Churchill Lions Club and the great many Churchill and Hazelwood people for their congratulatory phone calls and cards I received for being awarded "Citizen of the Year" on Australia Day 2007.

I consider it a great honour to have been recognised in this way in our community.

Being involved in Community work and activities has never been a one way thing. Our family has also been greatly rewarded by your friendship and often

help over the 56 years we have lived here in Hazelwood South.

I consider myself a very fortunate man to have spent my life here as a dairy farmer and conclude by recognising that none of this could ever have been possible without the support and similar involvement of my wife Margaret who died in a tragic accident in 1983.

Thank you again friends everywhere

Tom Lawless

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## Hazelwood North Primary School

### Welcome back to HNPS for 2007!

We would like to welcome our new preps who have been working hard with their teacher Miss Gliddon.

Some of the things they have been doing is learning about the letters 'm' and 's'. While learning the letter 'm' they made chocolate, strawberry and vanilla milkshakes.

Thank you to our wonderful staff and teachers for their great work towards the school.

The teachers have been doing a great job with the children as they are getting a great education.

We also would like to welcome our new students Mikayla in Grade 1, Dustin and Jordyn in grade 2, Rosi in Grade 3, Cooper in Grade 4, Wayd in grade 5, Sharna and Hayley in Year 6.

Thank you for reading about our school.

By Maddi, Renee, Sharna  
THANK YOU!

Pictured right: Grade Prep enjoying school.



## Churchill Primary School

### STUDENT LEADERS

The Grade 5/6 students have elected their School Captains and Vice Captains for 2007. Each candidate had to make a speech to the school assembly outlining why they thought they should be elected as School Captain or Vice Captain. The standard of the speeches was commendable.

The Grade 3-6 children elected the House Captains.

The results are School Captains- Jayden Wilkins and Darcie Jongerius

Vice captains: Cameron Adams and Tayarra Morris.

Yellow House Captains: Braydon Henshaw

and Abby Collinson

Blue House Captains: Tyi Johnstone and Tahlia Flake

Red House Captains: Dylan Rowley and Chantelle Semple

Green House Captains: Mitchell Whelan and Carissa Elgar.

Congratulations to all those students and best wishes for the work you will undertake this coming year.

### PREPS

The new Preps have settled well into their school environment. They are participating in play based, or developmental curriculum play.

While this is happening, the teachers are enjoying engaging with the Preps and assessing their development and needs.

The Early Years Assessments are taking place for all students P-2. This will assess/re-assess their progress and help teachers plan appropriate programs to cater for the children's abilities.

### ADAM CAHILL

Adam's death is a tragic loss which has affected all of the Churchill Community. The impact on staff and students who knew Adam, has been significant. Adam was an active and respected member of the school community. The school extends to his family- Linda, Phil, Simone, Josh and extended family- their thoughts at this diffi-

cult time.

The school council is considering ways of establishing a memorial to Adam.

### Staff Professional Development

This was a day when Staff considered Spelling in the school curriculum. They listened to the guest speaker and then set to work to evaluate and modify the school's approach as they work with children to develop their spelling skills.

Later this year a Spell-a-thon is planned as a fund-raiser.



## Yinnar South Primary School

We have had a fantastic start to the 2007 school year. We have 39 students enrolled.

We extended a very warm welcome to our new students: Preps: Anneke, Jacquie, Bianca, Cayden and Bradley, Grade 3/4 - Madeleine and Cameron. They will be a great part of our school community and we trust that all will have enjoyable, exciting and worthwhile educational experiences. We also welcomed Mr Robert Van Rooy our newest staff member. It's great to have Rob and having three full-time teachers on board is great.

All of our students have displayed excellent behaviour both in their classrooms and in the play ground.

All staff put in many extra hours of work over the holidays ensuring that the start to the school year was smooth, organized and educative.

We intend to hold several special whole school meetings (including all staff and students) during the year to ensure good communication, consistency and to promote a feeling of pride, respect and well-being for all.

At our first meeting of the year we discussed some exciting new initiatives. They included:

A Whole School Focus on Student Well-Being including "All About Me, establishing a Vegie Garden, liaising with Landcare; Performing Arts and more. We look forward to sharing the details of these activities and more as the year progresses.

### BETTER BUDDIES PROGRAM

National Australia Bank and The Alannah and Madeline Foundation have announced that

Yinnar South Primary School will take part in an innovative pilot framework designed to create positive school communities and reduce bullying.

The school is one of 30 schools to participate nationally in the pilot.

A four-year \$1 million partnership with NAB has allowed AMF to roll out a new edition of the Better Buddies Framework which has been enhanced using evidence based research.

Yinnar South Primary School volunteered to take part in the new framework having seen the positive impact of the Better Buddies initiatives in the past. Their activity kicked off during Better Buddies Week (26 Feb - 2 Mar).

We are really excited to be one of the pilot schools for The Better Buddies Framework. We hope our children and the entire school commu-

nity will benefit immensely from being involved in the program and we look forward to seeing more positive results with this enhanced framework.

NAB's support of the program also sees local NAB Branch Manager, Christine Cording, taking on the role of Yinnar South Primary School's Better Buddies Representative.

### PANCAKE DAY

Pancake Day on Tuesday 20 February was a resounding success. The children made and ate healthy pancakes with Mr Van Rooy, made exotic masks with Mrs James and had a great time decorating eggs with Ms Joanie. Participation and behaviour was terrific and by all accounts the pancakes were delicious!

## Churchill North Primary School

### February Report

We wish to congratulate the following fantastic students on their election to the Junior School Council:

Miles Eddy ...	President
Ashlee Flanigan	Vice president
Jackson Chin...	Secretary
Jye May ...	Assistant Secretary
Ainsley Browne	Treasurer
Kelsie Gardam	Publicity Officer
Keene Griffiths & Lauren Blake...	2/3J Reporters

Jake Wardill & Taylah Van Tilburg 3/4 Reporters  
Samantha Tullett 4/5 Reporter  
Adam Gargan 6S Reporter

Our School Captains for this year are:  
Nikita Hall & Miles Eddy  
Vice captains: Kelsie Gardam & Jackson Chin

### School Barbecue

Last Tuesday evening the school hosted a terrific barbecue for

all members of our School Community the staff providing the hamburgers and sausages while thanks are due to the delicious array of salads and desserts supplied by our parents.

Teachers were delighted with the community response and enjoyed catching up with both "old" and "new" parents.

Our school community welcomes Mrs Erica Judkins who has taken up her duties in the Grade 2/3 area.

## Gippsland Education Precinct

### Fusion Begin Breakfast Club for Seniors

Research shows that many young people today don't eat breakfast before going to school, and it is proven that without the energy breakfast provides, the brain and the body cannot function as well as if there was food in the system.

Fusion Gippsland, Christian Youth and Community Work organisation, are working together with local churches and community groups to meet this need in Kurnai College.

This term sees the beginning of a third Breakfast Club program at the Gippsland Education Precinct in Churchill. Every Tuesday morning for an hour, a small team are providing breakfast to senior students at the GEP, and building relationships with

them along the way.

Fusion hopes to build a stronger community within the walls of the school, between students, teachers and locals from our area, as well as providing the food that some young people just don't eat before leaving home for school.

The success of Brekki Clubs already being run in the Kurnai junior campuses shows that offering breakfast to the students also enables positive relationships to be formed.

We have seen because of this, regulars to the program are better equipped for the day, and are making positive change in their lives.

Liz Sulley, chaplain at the junior campuses says of the Brekki Clubs "it has been really special to see how such a simple thing can impact the young people's day so positively. We have a great opportunity here to reach out to the students at the GEP and give the community a chance to be a part of giving our young people a better shot at life."

If you are interested in helping out in some way either by donating finances or food to help keep the costs of the program down, or by doing some simple training with Fusion to be a part of the team, please contact Geraldine McClure of Fusion Gippsland on 5134 6922.



## Kurnai College Churchill

### ADAM CAHILL

The school has offered their condolences to the family of Adam Cahill, who died suddenly on Thursday morning the 15th February. The Staff and students have been saddened by his death, but realize how great the feelings of loss, suffered by the family, must be. They extend their sympathy to Philip, Linda, Simone and Josh at this very difficult time.

### SMOOTH START TO THE YEAR

The teachers are greatly impressed by the generally smooth start to the year, made by the students. The school feels that this a testament to the transition program between Kurnai and its feeder primary schools. The Action Squad, which visits the primary schools as part of the transition program has had a very positive effect. The school also attributes this program with the increase in student numbers. For the first time in five years, enrolments are over 300, showing that the community's perception of Kurnai is more

positive.

### NEW STAFF

Four new staff have come from within other Kurnai Campuses.

Les Ponton teaches Maths and Physical Training (P.E.). He is a Leading Teacher.

Greg Jessep teaches Maths and Science.

Kezia Horbath teaches Indonesian, Studies of Society and Environment (SOSE) and English.

Nicole Pryor teaches English and SOSE.

Staff new to the College are

Paula McKenzie who teaches Maths.

Dillie Pradad who teaches Maths and Science.

Erin Buttimer whose subjects are English and SOSE

Integration Aids who work with special students are Heather Slater, Margaret Hansen and Margaret Monahan.

### SWIMMING SPORTS

The vast majority of students took part in the Swimming Sports as competitors or spectators. It was a chance to support the school's swimming team and to have contact and mix with students from the other campuses.

### CORDIAL CLUB

This is an after school program which operates Monday to Thursday under the guidance of Pauline Martin. After the serving of cordial and biscuits, the students have an opportunity to do their homework under supervision and with support from people in the library. There are up to 20 students who attend.

### COMPUTERS IN THE SCHOOL

The purchase and setting up of an extra roomful of computers, has brought the total of rooms set aside for computers to three.

A successful Federal Government grant has been received to improve computer infrastructure

(upgrading of wiring, data projector etc).

### SMART BOARD INSTALLATION

Two new Smart Boards have been purchased and installed. One is in the Year 7 room. Staff will be in-serviced on their use as applied to secondary education.

### MAINTENANCE

Tree removal has cleaned up the grounds.

A Federal Government grant has been received to paint the interior of the school, which will occur over the next ten months.

The toilets have been refurbished and a group of Year 10 students have agreed to be responsible for seeing they are looked after.

## Boolarra Primary School

### Russell Northe Shows Support For Boolarra Primary School and Community

Member for Morwell Russell Northe was in Boolarra this week to visit the Boolarra Primary School as part of his commitment to both local primary schools and small towns throughout his electorate.

Mr Northe presented school captain badges to Boolarra Primary School students and spoke with staff and students. He said he had previously written to all local schools wishing them well for 2007 and offering his support throughout the year.

A number of schools have so far asked Mr Northe to present their school captains with badges and he said all other schools throughout

Churchill and District were welcome to make contact with him.

Mr Northe said he was pleased that a proposal for air-conditioning and classroom upgrades at Boolarra Primary School could now proceed after Nationals MHR for Gippsland Peter McGauran recently announced federal grants totalling \$3 million for school upgrades and projects throughout the region.

Boolarra Primary School will receive \$45,700 for its project while other schools in the district to benefit included Hazelwood North with \$10,300 for school ground improvements and Churchill North Primary School with \$35,800 for playground equipment.

Mr Northe said he was supportive of any funds which would help country schools to deliv-

er the best possible education to their students and he called on the State Government to increase its grant allocations to local schools as a matter of urgency.

He made the call in light of an Australian Education Union (AEU) report released late last year which claimed 95 percent of Morwell electorate schools had inadequate facilities with 79 percent needing maintenance.

Mr Northe identified the repair and maintenance of school buildings as a core issue.

"I believe the maintenance of public assets such as schools is a core function of the State Government and it's clear that this could be done much better than what it currently is," he said.

Mr Northe said he also hoped to meet with Boolarra Development Group members in the

near future as well as other residents and town groups.

"I am an avid supporter of small town communities and I plan to regularly visit all the small towns in my electorate on a regular basis in order to stay in touch with what is happening," Mr Northe said.

"I think it's important that smaller communities do not feel disadvantaged in terms of access to their local member or their opportunities for representation."



# Churchill Saloon Bar

Available for private functions Saturday or Sunday evenings:

An 18th or 21st Birthday, maybe a 50th or Engagement.

Give us a call at Churchill Saloon.

We can cater to most of your needs with food catering, music bands, etc

Don't forget our Friday Night



**variety** Club  
the children's charity™

raffles by our resident D.J. & Live Bands

2 Georgina Place

Churchill

Phone: 5122 1225

churchillsaloon@bigpond.com.au

A family owned and operated venue. - [www.churchillsaloon.com.au](http://www.churchillsaloon.com.au)

## COMING UP

**11TH MARCH:** SUNDAY BLUES DAY. COME ALONG AND JAM WITH YOUR FAVE INSTRUMENT AND OUR RESIDENT BLUES BAND SCRUB TURKEY.

**12TH MARCH:** MONDAY UNI NITE WE HAVE RUN4COVER PUMPING OUT COVERS ALL NIGHT.

**23RD MARCH:** SUPER SONIC DOING ALL YOUR FAVOURITE HITS.

**28TH MARCH:** RUN4COVER DOING IT AGAIN WED UNI NITE

## Community Social Events



Glendonald Residents Group Inc

By Margaret Guthrie

GRG Inc is holding a 'Trivia Night' on Friday 23rd March, commencing at 7pm, in the Churchill town hall.

This free evening is open to all members of the Churchill community and we hope to provide an evening of fun, and lots of laughs, for all those who attend.

Tables of 8 to 10 people are available, so we hope to see groups of friends come along and mingle with other local residents. Prizes will include some useful shopping vouchers and our Trivia MC will be a well-known local (you'll have to come along to see who it is!).

Also on the night, during the supper break, we have a guest speaker, Bianca Peruzzo, from Anglicare Victoria's Morwell office. Bianca will be giving a brief presentation on the range of services provided by Anglicare in Latrobe City.

Information brochures and contact details on a range of local services will be available at the hall for those who want them.

Bookings for the evening can be made through the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre (inside the Churchill Leisure Centre) on 5122 2955, or by contacting Barbara on 5122 1407 or Margaret on 5122 2997

You do not have to make up a full table to book either - individuals and couples are most welcome, and we will make sure that there are introductions from our friendly volunteer hosts.

Admission is free and supper will be provided. Childcare will also be available at no cost, but must be pre-booked.

This event is being funded by a grant GRG has received from the Latrobe City Gambling Impact Trust to provide some social activities in Churchill as an alternative to the "pubs and pokies" in Morwell and Traralgon.

We're also aiming to provide a (free) evening out for those Churchill residents who otherwise might not be able to get out and enjoy a social evening. If transport to or from the town hall is a problem for you, please let us know when you book, and we'll organise a willing volunteer to provide a lift.

We intend our 'Trivia Night' to be the first of several free Friday or Saturday night social gatherings we host for Churchill residents during the year. Suggestions so far include a 'Games Night' and an 'Old Time Dance' and speakers from Consumer Affairs and Latrobe Community Health Services. Other suggestions and ideas are very welcome, as we are aiming to provide a variety of free or low cost activities that will be of interest to, and fun for, local residents.

We have also received funding from the Department for Victorian Communities for a 'National Youth Week' event to be held in Churchill for local youth. Plans are under way for a free night on Saturday 14th April, which will include live music, a DJ, door prizes and food. More details (including the venue and time) in next month's Churchill News.

GRG can be contacted at P O Box 245, Churchill 3842 or by telephoning the Secretary on 5122 2997. Our next meeting will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 27th March in the Glendonald Pre-school.

## RAR - Public Meeting

By JOAN GOOD

Rural Australians for Refugees, Latrobe Valley will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday March 15th. The meeting will be held at the Uniting Church in Park Lane, Traralgon at 7.30pm and you are cordially invited to attend.

The guest speaker is Stancea Vichie, the Community Liaison Officer of the Hotham Mission, Asylum Seeker Project in Melbourne. The Asylum Seeker Project has been helping asylum seekers since 1998 and has been recognized internationally by receiving the 2002 Human Rights Award from the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission and has been commended by the UNHCR in Geneva,

The main work of the Project is with asylum seekers families on the Bridging Visa E who are not allowed to work, or to receive social security benefits or Medicare. Without the help of the Project they would be destitute and homeless, begging on our streets. The Project also operates as a research centre lobbying the government on behalf of asylum seekers.

Our Group has been assisting the Project financially for several years.

At this time when Latrobe City has just become home to at least 4 families of refugees from Sudan we feel it is more than ever relevant to raise the issue of the plight of refugees again.

## "Go Club" (Golden Oldies)

Thanks to the courtesy of the Churchill Football/Netball Club for the yearly use of their club rooms, we have started meeting once again this year.

The "Go Club" is a friendship group that meet every week to enjoy the company of other people in a friendly atmosphere.

There is no age limit, it is available for male or female people who are looking to have some time out in the company of others.

The afternoon commences at 1pm and finishes at 3.30pm and in this time we have a vary of activities you can enjoy. They are cards, bingo, rummykin, craft or just sit and chat, all followed by a "cuppa".

We have entertainers, bus trips, and various theme days.

If you are interested please come along and make yourself known to the group. If you want personal contact and more details please give Betty Wyatt a call on 5122 1691 or Joan Gardner 5169 1623.

We started back after the Christmas break in February. We meet at 1pm on Thursday's at Churchill Football/Netball Club Rooms in Manning Drive, Churchill

## Churchill CHIROPRACTIC

Dr David A Forsys, Chiropractor  
Laberta K Forsys, MSc, Dietitian  
Eve Townsend, Massage Therapist  
Hazelwood Village Shopping Centre  
Churchill

Phone: 5122 3336

# ATTENTION!

## Gippsland

### Apprentices and Trainees

*Tell us your story*

**Did you start training in one of these industries?**

- Construction
  - Engineering
  - Hospitality
  - Retail
- or Other Related Industry**

**and not finish or have you started but are now having some doubts?  
If so we would really like to interview you for our project.**

**If you have a story to tell about your training experience  
please contact us to arrange an interview when & where it suits you**

Contact:

Alison Hart, Monash Gippsland [alison.hart@arts.monash.edu.au](mailto:alison.hart@arts.monash.edu.au)

Phone: 03 51226353 (please leave a message with your contact details)

Check out our website for more detail:

<http://users.monash.edu.au/~alisonh/garp/>

## Newcomer

By ROSIE WILLIAMS

"Churchill?" I stared at my husband. "What is there in Churchill?" Meaning, selfishly, what is there for ME in Churchill. We had been renting for two years and were now looking to buy in an area both livable and affordable.

"Only one way to find out," was the answer, so we drove through the rolling hills of Gippsland to Churchill.

First priority, a library. Ticked that one off quickly. Next, a writing group.

"Neighborhood house," the helpful librarian suggested. "Just across the road in the Leisure Centre."

Leisure Centre? I thought, warming already to the idea of moving to Churchill. Heated pool, gym, aerobics- within a few minutes I was there, welcomed by the Coordinator, Christine, and given information and brochures on all the various activities.

"Hope to see you here next term" she smiled. "I'm sure you'll enjoy the classes."

The shopping centre had everything we needed, so the next step was to buy a house with views of the Jeeralangs and within walking distance to all facilities.

By February '06, we were settling into our new home and I was ready to sign up with the Writing Group at the Neighborhood Centre. From the first moment of walking into the room where the writers met, I felt at home.

"Hi," I said. "My name's Rosie and I'm new."

The friendly faces turned towards me and smiled in welcome.

"Hello," said a small woman with lovely brown eyes, "I'm Lillian - and I'm old!"

I enjoyed that first day so much I haven't missed a class since. The Group is run by Cora, who stimulates us with many varied activities. Each member had a different style of writing and every story is very well written. We share ideas, encourage and help each other.

I am proud to have some of my work in this year's Churchill writer's anthology.

Shortly afterwards, I met Isabel, who persuaded me that I could learn to use a computer, so I joined her On-line Learning Group on Fridays. With her positive, friendly approach, I am grasping new age communication and am very grateful for her help.

I also find the social inter-action between each group very enjoyable.

Everyone I have met at the Churchill Neighborhood Centre has been, and is, friendly and always willing to lend a hand or answer questions. My thanks, also, to the office volunteers.

I have never lived near a Neighborhood House before. It is certainly a vital part of the community, a warm friendly environment, open to everyone I am so glad I found it!

## Churchill Neighbourhood Centre has the answers

What's available in our Community to further enhance and develop your skills?

Would you like to learn something new?

Well come along to the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre if you are at a loose end and desire some fun in your life and join one of the exciting courses on offer or just come for the informal atmosphere to socialize, have a cuppa and chat.

Childcare is available for participants enrolled in morning classes.

Churchill Neighbourhood Centre delivers a wide range of programs and activities, such as computers, beginners and advanced, adult literacy, folk art, lead lighting and quilting, and a wide range of mixed crafts to suite everyone, come and join one of our tempting

activities and be part of the fun and exciting times at the centre. Can you tell a good yarn? Like reading, meeting interesting people or have memories you would like to record? If you have answered yes to any one or more of these questions, why not join the Creative Writers Group on Tuesday mornings. Your stories and poetry may be used in publications for your children or grandchildren to read and enjoy in years to come. Its fun and its exciting. Come and join us at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre, the heart of our community - Develop Friendships, Develop Community.

Why not give us a ring a ring on 5122 2955 or call in at the Centre (we are inside the Leisure BCentre). Talk to Henry and book yourself in for a great term, make new friends and have lots

of fun and laughs while you are here.

The CNC Creative Writing Group invites you to join us for a Literary Luncheon to raise funds for our next publication on Tuesday 27 March at 12 noon.

We will be serving a light luncheon of finger food, fruit, coffee and cake while entertaining you with a selection of poetry and prose readings.

There will also be a trading table and a lucky door prize.

The lunch will take place at Churchill Neighbourhood Centre and cost \$ 5.00 per head.

Please support our local writers by purchasing your pass by Tuesday 13 March at the Neighbourhod Centre. Everyone will be invited to our book launch late in the year.

## WHATS IN THE SHED CLEARING SALE



To be held at the Co-Operating Churches Corner of Williams Ave and McDonald Way, Churchill

March 17th and March 31st

9.00 am till 12.00pm both days

All reasonable offers accepted

Good include furniture (lounge suites, chairs, beds, tables, TV unit etc), baby furniture and goods, computer and other electrical goods, fitness equipment and much more!!

# Five Generations



The Shumanns, Cooks and Parniaks of Churchill, with Maria Kelava of Morwell have come together to celebrate the birth of Lindsee Parnaik, achieving 5 living generations of the same family.

Maria Kelava, 84 years, is mother of Rosa Schumann, her first child.

Rosa married Stan and their first child was Debbie. Debbie married Mervyn Cook and Melissa is their second child.

Melissa met Matt Parnaik at secondary college, and later married. Lindsee is their first child.

The Schumanns are original residents having lived in Churchill since 1966. Some of our readers may remember that their story was in our Looking Back section of the paper and also in our history

book.

When Debbie married Mervyn they moved into a Churchill house and have spent 25 years as a married couple here. Henry Parnaik also is a long standing resident, and known for his association with the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre.

Matt Parnaik, Henry's son, is in the Airforce and is at present stationed in Perth, Western Australia. It was here that Lindsee was born on 18th December 2006.

The photo shows all five generations together on the occasion of a family reunion in the middle of January. To celebrate the occasion, the family shared a meal at the Italian-Australian Club and then retired to Maria's.

## Wattle Club

The participant members of the Wattle Club are all enjoying the new venue, feeling at home and comfortable, looking forward to further fellowship and fun in their activities and outings.

A trip to Yarragon included a look around, followed by lunch outside under the trees making for a very pleasant experience.

Valentine's Day was special with members requested to dress in red. There were red hearts on the tables.

Much fun was shared with one activity being a reflection on the person's wedding day, where they were asked to remember things like the ceremony, the

reception and their presents. Some people still have some of their original wedding presents.

Chinese New Year gave the opportunity for Kerri and Kellie to dress up, a sight for sore eyes I am told.

Green tea was sipped, which brought forth some comments about its merits or otherwise for the sipper! Chinese food (Australian version) was the on the lunchtime menu.

It is the wonderful time for flowering gums, so last weeks outing was a trip to Drouin to see the famous flowering gums of that town, followed by lunch at the Warragul Country Club.

# Project to look at why apprentices and trainees don't complete training

A new project investigating why a substantial number of local apprentices and trainees leave before completing their training is seeking volunteers to interview from the Gippsland region.

If you started training in any of these 4 industries: Construction, Engineering, Hospitality, Retail (or other related industry) and did not finish (even if you changed to another apprenticeship), or if you are currently training and at anytime have had some doubts about completing, we would really like to interview you for our project.

If you have a story to tell, please email or phone us and leave your contact details or if you have any friends who you think may be interested in speaking to us, please pass this information on to them.

All interviews will be arranged at

a time and place which suits you and will be conducted up until June 2007.

*We know a lot about why people start apprenticeships and traineeships, and what it takes to complete them. However, we have little information to help understand the reasons why some people don't finish.*

Please visit our website: <http://users.monash.edu.au/~alisonh/garp/> for further details of the project or contact us via email: [alison.hart@arts.monash.edu.au](mailto:alison.hart@arts.monash.edu.au) or phone: 03 51226353.

This project is being funded by the Victorian and local governments, the local LLENs and Monash University in response to concerns about the rate of non-completion of

traineeships and apprenticeships in Victoria and the region.

We know a lot about why people start apprenticeships and traineeships, and what it takes to complete them.

However, we have little information to help understand the reasons why some people don't finish.

At a time of major skill shortages and significant growth, this is a problem both for the individual apprentices and for the region.

Covering the whole of Gippsland, the project will also seek the views of educators, training bodies, employers, trade unions and community groups throughout the region.



# Town Planning

By Margaret Guthrie, President  
Our February meeting was largely taken up with discussion of Latrobe City's draft structure plan for Churchill.

This important document sets out planning zones for Churchill's future development. It includes some possible re-zoning of areas that are currently undeveloped.

CDCA has provided a response to the draft, including a number of recommendations regarding zoning around the central activity district, town 'entrances' and land use (particularly between Tramway Road and Acacia Way), roadways and the continuing development of Churchill's 'green belt'.

We have also recommended that extensive public consultation (such as the recent public meeting over the proposed supermarket developments in Churchill) be conducted prior to major developments being considered by Council.

After all comments on the draft structure plan are received (it's likely that Monash University and other stakeholders will also lodge responses), a final report is prepared for Council's consideration.

We have requested that this report also be released for public discussion, before it is tabled at Council.

Last December we requested Council convene a public meeting, in order for the community to be presented with information about the proposed redevelopments of Churchill shopping centre.

The meeting, held last month at the Binishell at Monash University, was a well attended event. Some 350 residents were able to obtain facts, clarify views and express

opinions, which were heard by the 7 Councillors attending.

Safeway did not attend the meeting and we are still awaiting news of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal's decision regarding the proposal to turn the old Churchill hotel site into a supermarket.

It was great to see a number of Churchill community groups actively participating in the 'Clean Up Australia Day' campaign last Sunday. Readers of the "Express" may have noticed that Churchill had 5 registered sites, which was more than any other town in the Latrobe municipality.

We would also like to say thanks to Monash University who, in the week prior, organised for larger items of rubbish to be removed from Eel Hole Creek, and to the Student Union for promoting the Eel Hole Creek clean up to students.

We were all saddened to hear news of the recent passing of young Churchill resident, Adam Cahill. Adam was a remarkable young man who spiritedly met adversity and participated in life to the full.

Our sincere condolences to his family, friends at both Churchill Primary School and Kurnai College and to all those whose lives Adam touched.

We would like to mention the launch of the "Friends of the Morwell River Falls". A picnic is being held at the Falls on Sunday 18th March, followed by a walk around the Falls area.

The aim of the Friends group is to promote the Morwell River Falls as a great community asset and beautiful tourist destination. Working bees for path maintenance,

weed control, signage, parking options and picnics will be some of the activities of the "Friends of the Morwell River Falls".

They are even contemplating building a suspension bridge!

More information can be obtained from Catheryn Thompson on 5169 6625 or Phil Inger on 0428 594 703

Don't forget the Cancer Council 'Relay for Life' event on the weekend of March 24 and 25 at the Churchill Football and Netball Club.

Why not get a team together and participate in this worthy fund-raising event, or call in at the footy club over the weekend and show your support.

There will be food and entertainment on site. Phone Michelle on 0407 566 971 for more information.

CDCA would like to thank the Churchill Grubb Shack for providing the venue for our meetings over the last 12months (and making excellent meals and beverages upon request).

Unfortunately, we may have to change our meeting venue - please contact our Secretary prior to our next meeting on Wednesday 14 March for details.

CDCA can be contacted at P O Box 191, Churchill, or call the Secretary, Rob Whelan, on 5122 3602.

Our meetings are generally held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7pm. All Churchill and district residents are welcome. Tea and coffee will be supplied.

## Senior Citizens

The small but happy group of Seniors is back meeting on 3 Wednesdays a month at the Town Hall.

The first Wednesday of the month the group goes to Café le Mac for lunch.

This lunch must be booked through the Seniors prior to the day. The third Wednesday the majority of the members have another commitment so it was decided to stop

meeting on that day.

New members are most welcome. Further enquires contact Eric on 51221422, or Bonnie on 51221575.

# Lions Club Of Churchill & District - Still Active



By JOHN BARKER, Publicity  
Camp Quality volunteers Lions John Barker and Bob Lowick with Lionesses Margaret Barker and Sue Lowick took part in a Family Camp at Camp Rumbug, Waratah Bay. 13 families attended and all had a great time at the camp and on the beach. The Club also ran a Family Fun Day at Sale for local families. Families enjoyed bikes, paddleboats, canoes and swimming after a McDonald's lunch. A huge boost for our club and the sponsors is the club's Camp Quality esCARpade car on show at the Melbourne Motor Show as part of the Camp Quality stall.

the Australian Flag, and local guides led the singing of National Anthem. Catering continued during January and February at Bunnings with proceeds going to Camp Quality. Members also catered at the Computer Expo in Traralgon.

The sale of Christmas Trees went very well again with proceeds going to the Salvation Army for the distribution of Hampers to deserving families in our local area.

Clean Up Australia was conducted again this year by our members on Monday 6th March. There were problems with picking up rubbish on the roadside so they had to leave it there and were able to clean up areas adjacent to roads only.

Lion Norm Hall is riding in the Lions Ride for Sight again this year. Lion John Barker will again be taking part using the esCARpade vehicle to follow riders and pick up if necessary.

The Latrobe Health sponsor cheque was presented to our club to be handed on to the ride committee. Approx \$40000 is raised from this event for eye research.

All hands were on deck for the Outdoor Expo - our major fundraiser. Members were busy setting up Thursday and Friday, and catering over the weekend. All other hands offered were accepted as a large

workforce was needed.

Our latest NEW MEMBER is Lion Tony Banks. Welcome Tony.

The Lions Birthday Club, sponsored and run through the Churchill & District News by our Lions Club, is a great hit. Brianna Briggs, Breanna Downes-Smith, Hayley Beyer and Toby Thain were each the happy Birthday Club recipients of a \$15 voucher in January and February.

All children in Churchill and surrounding areas under 12 years of age are eligible to join. IS YOUR CHILD A MEMBER? IF NOT, WHY NOT? Make sure your child is registered - just follow the instructions in the Lions Birthday Club list published each month in the Churchill News. WE NEED MORE MEMBERS.

To all the families in our great community of Churchill and surrounding district, we thank you for your support. Need to contact us? Our address is The Secretary, Lions Club of Churchill and District, PO Box 110, CHURCHILL 3842.

Each year our club supports local children by sponsoring them to an Adventure Camp at Lions Village Licola. Three local children enjoyed the camp this year.

Members assisted at the Australia Day Concert at Toongabbie with proceeds going to the Lions Disaster Relief Fund. We assisted at the Cowwarr Cutters Cup with proceeds going to the local CFA.

Lion John Barker organised and ran the Australia Day Ceremony and breakfast in Churchill, which was sponsored by Latrobe City. In line with our policy of supporting local youth, Scout Scott and Venturer Aaron assisted with the raising of

# Lioness Club Of Churchill & District

By MARGARET BARKER, Publicity  
Our first meeting for the year was held on 13th February. At this meeting we dispersed funds to LifeLine Sleepout to be held on the 2nd March at Gippsland Heritage Park. Ronald McDonald House in Clayton is in the process of extending and we are raising funds in the form of Buy a Brick.

We have purchased a Bronze Brick with our inscription "We Serve Too". As many of our local people use the services of this facility we support them in any way possible.

Ride For Sight is coming up again. We support the Lions members taking part in this event that runs from 14th to 18th March.

Some of our members are busy raising funds to take part in the Relay for Life.

On the weekend 23rd to 25th February, 12 Lioness members journeyed to Ballarat for the Lioness Breakaway.

This was a very enjoyable weekend catching up with Lioness Clubs throughout Victoria. 101 ladies in all attended the weekend. Breakaway began in 1990 and continues to grow each year as new members become

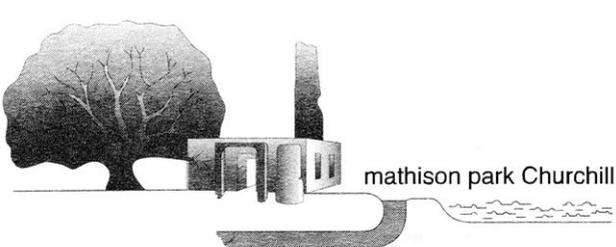
involved in the Lioness Clubs. This little poem was amongst our information for the weekend and I would like to share it with you as this applies to ALL volunteers -

### A Gift of Time for Volunteers

It's not for money, it's not for fame  
It's just for love of fellow man  
It's just to lend a helping hand  
It's just to give a little of self  
That's something you can't buy with wealth  
It's not for medals won with pride  
It's for the feeling deep inside  
It's that reward down in your heart  
It's that feeling that you've been a part  
Of helping others far and near  
That makes you be - a Volunteer.

"Many hands make light work". If you would like to be a volunteer please contact President Sue Lowick or Secretary Vicki Burgess on 5122 1614 or ask any member you may already know.

# Zitting Cisticola at Mathison Park



Zitting Cisticola - Cisticola juncidis

The Zitting Cisticola (pictured right) is a little warbler that frequents swamp areas. It is not easily seen except in spring when the male often sings from the top of a clump of reeds.

This picture shows a female, but the male in the breeding season has a golden head, making him easy to recognise and giving rise to the name Golden-headed Cisticola for the sub-species found in this area.

They are found in the swampy areas of the Park, although not often seen.

Working bees will be held on the 3rd Saturday of each month. For further details contact Terry on 51221440.

If sufficient people turn up and work through to lunchtime, a barbecue is cooked.

Exciting developments will be taking place soon, after delays beyond our control. Keep your eyes open, and come and see if you can help.

Last month we featured a beautiful bird photo by Ken Harris- Silver Eye. It was wrongly named Silver Zitting Cisticola. This month we have Ken's photo of the Zitting Cisticola with comments by Ken Harris.

## Morwell RSL Sub Branch Inc.



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### Entertainment for March

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Friday 9th    | CoolChange     |
| Saturday 10th | Alibi          |
| Friday 16th   | Low Profile    |
| Saturday 17th | Misty          |
| Sunday 18th   | Old Time Dance |
| Friday 23rd   | Flatliners     |
| Saturday 24th | I. C. Rock     |
| Friday 30th   | Stoneage       |
| Saturday 31st | Poison Ivy     |

**Telephone: 5134 2455**

Unknown Quantity are a new local band playing hits from the 60's till now. There are some well known faces in this band.  
Old Time Dance with Ken and Alice Rae, will start at 2pm and finish at 4pm. Held in the Anzac Room. Please note: NO BYO Food or Drinks allowed

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# CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS ART COMPETITION 2007

The Churchill & District News invites you to enter  
the 2007 Art Competition

**CATEGORIES:**

- |                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Children 7 and Under Drawing | 2. Children 7 and Under Painting |
| 3. Age 8-11 Drawing             | 4. Age 8-11 Painting             |
| 5. Age 12-14 Drawing            | 6. Age 12-14 Painting            |
| 7. Age 15-18 Drawing            | 8. Age 15-18 Painting            |
| 9. Adult Drawing                | 10. Adult Painting               |

**CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

- All artwork must have a completed entry form attached
- The entrants name must only be on the entry form and not on the artwork
- Entries must be original and not have won a prize previously
- Each entry must include a title
- Multiple entries will be accepted
- Unless otherwise specified, permission to reproduce entries in the Churchill & District News or for publicity purposes will be assumed. Copyright remains with the author.
- Entrants will be credited whenever their art work is reproduced.
- All contributions will be displayed at the discretion of the Churchill & District News Committee.
- The Churchill and District News reserves the right to reject any entry deemed inappropriate.
- The Churchill & District News will take all reasonable care in handling works, but will take no responsibility for any loss or damage.
- Entries must be received by Monday 30th April 2007
- Drawings and Paintings can be in any medium.
- Entries will be returned at a date, place and time to be arranged - it will be the responsibility of the entrant to collect their work.
- The Judges decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- Signing of the entry form for this competition constitutes acceptance of these conditions of entry.

**ENTRY FEES**

Adults: \$3.00 Per Drawing - \$2.00 Concession or Student  
 Adults: \$3.00 Per Painting - \$2.00 Concession or Student  
 Under 7, 8-11, 12-14 and 15-18 year old categories - 50c.  
 Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to Churchill & District News.

Entries can be sent to  
 Churchill & District News, PO Box 234 CHURCHILL 3842  
 Entries can be delivered to: 4 Dalpura Court, CHURCHILL  
 Note: Please phone prior to delivery on 03 5122 2589

## Churchill & District News Art Competition ENTRY FORM 2007

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

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

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

I have entered: Drawings \_\_\_\_\_ Paintings \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Drawing(s)/Painting/s \_\_\_\_\_ Category (see below) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



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Glendonald Residents  
 Group Inc.

## Trivia Night



Friday March 23rd, Churchill Town Hall

(enter from Marina Drive)

7pm - 10.00 pm

Guest speaker during supper break: Bianca Pezzutto (Anglicare Victoria)

Tables of 8 - 10

Gather your friends together for a night of free entertainment & laughter!

Free admission & supper

Childcare available at no cost (must be pre-booked)

Bookings through Churchill Neighbourhood Centre (5122 2955)

Or phone Barbara on 5122 1407, or Margaret on 5122 2997

I have read and understood the conditions of entry and agree to abide by them. I certify that this is an original unpublished painting/drawing, created by myself.

Entry form can be completed on behalf of U12's by a parent, guardian or teacher.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee to be included with Entry Form. Please make Cheques or Postal Orders Payable to the Churchill & District News. No Cash or stamps please.

**CATEGORIES:**

- |                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Children 7 and Under Drawing | 2. Children 7 and Under Painting |
| 3. Age 8-11 Drawing             | 4. Age 8-11 Painting             |
| 5. Age 12-14 Drawing            | 6. Age 12-14 Painting            |
| 7. Age 15-18 Drawing            | 8. Age 15-18 Painting            |
| 9. Adult Drawing                | 10. Adult Painting               |

Closing Date: 30th April 2007

# Health and Wellbeing

## Back Pain

Back pain is a very common problem with around eight in 10 people in Western countries suffering from backache at least some of the time. Back pain is usually not due to any serious disease. Most episodes of back pain get better quickly. Simple analgesics (pain killers) and modification of activity is all that is needed.

However, about 50 per cent of people who get back pain will have further episodes. The first step to manage back pain is to rule out the possibility of any medical problem, such as infection or fracture (although these are rarely the cause).

### The structure of the back

The spine is the main structure of the body, it provides support for the pelvis, legs, ribcage, arms and skull. The spine is made up of bones called vertebrae that are stacked together to form a loose 'S'-shaped column. Each vertebra is cushioned by spongy tissue or cartilage called intervertebral discs. The discs have a flat structure with a jelly-like centre.

Each vertebra is also joined at the back by pairs of small joints known as 'facet' joints. A mesh of connective tissue called ligaments holds the spine together. Complex layers of muscle provide structural support and allow movement. The spinal cord runs through the centre of the vertebral stack and connects the brain to the rest of the body.

### Common causes of back pain

Most people with back pain do not have any damage to their spine. The pain comes from the muscles, ligaments and joints. More persistent back pain may be associated with arthritis of the facet joints and degeneration of the discs. People with this condition may however

not experience any pain. Some common causes of back pain include:

- \* Arthritis - osteoarthritis and ankylosing spondylitis are two forms of arthritis linked to back pain.

- \* Muscle and ligament strains - weak muscles and ligaments are unprepared for sudden or heavy loads and are easily injured. Lifting a heavy load the wrong way, an unusual bout of exercise, or even bad posture over a period of time can hurt soft tissue.

- \* Osteoporosis - vertebral fracture due to osteoporosis. Osteoporosis is a disease characterised by thinning of the bones. The vertebrae can become so porous and brittle that they easily fracture. Pain is due to the fracture.

- \* Sciatica - the nerve that runs from the lower back into the leg is compressed by a bulging intervertebral disc, causing pain.

- \* Stress - one of the side effects of stress is increased muscle tension, which can lead to fatigue, stiffness and localised pain. Constantly tight muscles can create postural imbalances that may cause misalignment of the spine.

### Lifestyle factors contribute to back pain

Most cases of back pain are exacerbated by lifestyle factors, including:

- \* Lack of exercise
- \* Being overweight or obese
- \* Leading a sedentary life
- \* Poor posture
- \* Stress
- \* Bad work practices.

### Reducing and preventing back pain

In most cases, back pain can be reduced or prevented by making a few lifestyle changes,

including:

- \* Exercises regularly - to improve posture and increase muscle support of the spine. Try walking instead of using the car. Work towards doing 30 minutes of gentle exercise each day. This can be broken into shorter periods for equal benefit.

- \* Lifting and carrying - when picking up a heavy load, squat down, hold the object as close to your body as practical and lift by using your legs, keeping your back straight. Get some help from another person or use equipment (such as a trolley) if the load is too heavy to manage comfortably on your own.

- \* Maintain a healthy body weight - being overweight or obese puts extra strain on your back.

- \* Be aware of your posture - consider your posture, particularly in seated positions, such as when driving or sitting at a desk for long periods of time. Don't slump, keep your back upright and use support where necessary (such as a lumbar support cushion or footstool).

- \* Take regular breaks - when driving, standing or sitting for long periods of time, take a break at least every hour to change the position of your joints and loosen your muscles. Include a short walk and a few stretches as part of your break.

- \* Relaxation and pain management - learn some relaxation techniques to reduce stress levels and subsequent muscle tension. Try massage, heat or cold applications and gentle exercise. Seek advice from a physiotherapist.

- \* Change your mattress - surfaces that are too soft or too hard can aggravate a sore back. Avoid sleeping on your stomach.

### When to see your doctor

Most back pain can be managed at home, however, there are times when it is important to see your doctor to exclude any medical problems that may be contributing to the pain. See your doctor if you have back pain and any of the following warning signs:

- \* You have severe pain which gets worse instead of better over time
- \* If you are unwell with back pain
- \* If you have difficulty passing or controlling urine
- \* Numbness around your back passage or genitals
- \* Numbness, pain and needles or weakness in your legs
- \* You are unsteady on your feet.

### Treatment

Treatment depends on the cause, but can include rest, exercise, medication and manipulation.

### Where to get help

- \* Your doctor
- \* Other health professionals, such as physiotherapists, chiropractors, exercise physiologists or osteopaths.

### Things to remember

- \* Back pain is a common problem.
- \* Back pain most often comes from muscles, ligaments and joints. It can be caused by injury, inflammation, tension or spasm in the muscle, ligament, cartilage or bone.
- \* Staying active plays an important role in management.

\* Seek advice from a doctor if any warning signs exist.

### Quiz

Test your knowledge on back pain with our quick health quiz, and read tips to prevent and treat a bad back.

- How often do you exercise?
  - Four or more days of the week.
  - Once a week.
  - Not at all, or hardly ever.
- Are you currently at a healthy weight?
  - No, I'm obese.
  - Perhaps a few kilos overweight.
  - I'm maintaining a healthy weight for my height.
- Suppose you have to carry a heavy backpack. Which way do you carry it?
  - By the straps, alternating hands to prevent fatigue.
  - On my back with a strap over each shoulder.
  - Slung over one shoulder, alternating shoulders to prevent fatigue.
- How do you lift a heavy object?
  - I squat down, hold the object close to my body, lift with my thighs and keep my back straight.
  - I bend over at the waist, grasp the object and straighten up.
  - I squat down, hold the object close, and stand up by straightening my legs and body at the same time.
- What's your posture like after you've been sitting down for a while?
  - My back is straight and my bottom is towards the back of the seat.
  - My shoulders are rounded a little and my legs may be crossed at the knee.
  - My bottom is resting on the front of the seat, my back is slumped and my head is craned forward.
- Do you regularly perform stretching exercises to boost your flexibility?
  - No, or hardly ever.
  - Yes, but only as part of my warm-up and cool-down for sporting activities.
  - Yes, I regularly stretch at least twice per week.
- What's your mattress like?
  - Soft - my bottom sinks lower into the mattress than the rest of my body.
  - Firm - my shoulders and hips sink to about the same degree when lying on my side.
  - Hard - in fact, lying on my mattress feels like lying on the floor.

Your score is:

Score 7 to 11:

If you're not already suffering from chronic back pain, you will be soon. Your lifestyle habits are putting your back under unnecessary strain.

Score 12 to 16:

Some of your lifestyle choices could be increasing your risk of injury. Making a few changes here and there could dramatically reduce your experience of back pain.

Score 17 to 21:

Your healthy lifestyle choices are significantly reducing your risk of injury and chronic pain. Congratulations, you are taking good care of your



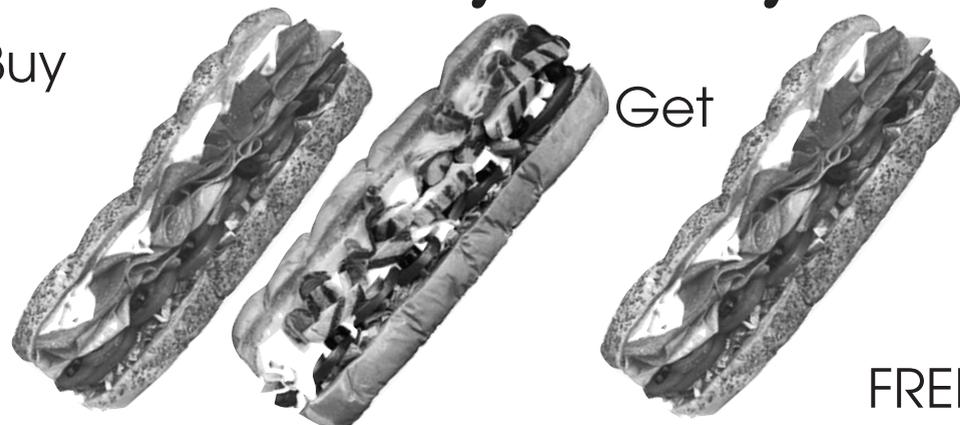
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A Churchill &amp; District History Series

# Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



## Yinnar Primary School

# SCHOOL LIFE 1981-2006

In 1981 the first parts of the new school arrived- a five module re-locatable classroom building. This was located behind the two original rooms. The demolition of the two original rooms happened later, and several rooms from the old Yallourn Primary School replaced them and were later brick veneered.

A community sport's stadium commenced construction in the school grounds for use by the school and after school for the public. The playing area was extended, the oval developed and trees were removed to allow this to happen.

### Robyn Irvine

Robyn Irvine has been associated with Yinnar Primary School for a long time, first as a pupil, then later as a teacher. Robyn's and Jim's children have also attended Yinnar Primary School.

Robyn has fond memories of her days at the school. As a child Robyn remembers Mrs. McLaverty, who owned the house which stood where the sport's stadium is now. She says the girls used to climb the fence to talk to her when they thought she was in the yard. Robyn remembers Mrs. McLaverty as a miniature person, dainty and petite, with her grey hair pulled back into a bun.

Next to Mrs. McLaverty's place was the working bakery owned by Mr. Baker. Contrary to the norm, Mr. Baker baked in an afternoon, so the bread was ready for the parents when they came to pick up their children after school, or ready for the children who went on the secondary school bus to take home with them, so they fresh bread for sandwiches the following morning. Robyn was one such child. She smiles as she recalls that sometimes the bread reached home minus its inside, or because it was too hot to hold, squished under an arm! The smell of the bread cooking was "heavenly" she says,

Cypress trees grew along the front of the school up to the front door. Over the years small bits had been 'removed' by constant use, and arches of various sizes had been formed in the hedge. In these arches, cubbies were formed and used by the girls constantly. They were always neat and clean, having been swept by bunches of twigs and leaves. "We had great fun in them," Robyn says.

Oak trees grew along the northern fence, and pine trees along the eastern fence. When the oaks lost their leaves and the pine trees lost their needles, the girls would sweep the leaves and /or pine needles in to straight rows to represent a floor plan of a house, in which they spent many happy hours.

"It was a great pastime," Robyn enthuses.

Memories of everyday classroom things have not stayed with Robyn, but she remembers some special events. Two of these are from the days spent in the classroom of Miss Bennett, now Mrs. Duncan.

The first was creating doll's house furniture from balsa wood and match boxes, glued together with the balsa wood glue. That memory is still comes to mind she smells balsa wood glue.

The second was a special treat given to the children of the grade. Miss Bennett went to the local shop and bought what seemed like "a huge amount of lollies."

Miss Bennett spread a large piece of brown paper on the middle of the floor, and tipped all the lollies on to it. They were allowed to go one at a time and take a lolly, go back to their place and eat it. Robyn remembers being "absolutely amazed at the quantity and that you could eat them!"

Academically, Robyn remembers reading John and Betty, Playmates and Holidays, the old

Victorian Education Department readers for Prep, 1, and 2. There were flashcards and sentence cards made of cardboard. The memory of the smell associated with those cards remains, as does the vision of the print contained thereon.

Grade 3/4s memories consist of spelling tests, but Grades 5/6s bring some exciting memories of finding out about the explorers who discovered the world's exotic countries. She knew that Australia was part of the world, as were other countries, but it was fascinating to know how they were found. To study these explorers, resources such as the fold out cardboard folders containing information sheets, were used.

The Grade 6 girls had a passion for Derwent pencils, and had a competition to see who could amass the biggest collection. Robyn proudly states that she had 24, but others had up to 72. Her Derwent pencil collection is still one of her most prized possessions. The old lift up desk tops could be a hazard, causing loss of, or damage to, your Derwent pencils, should you fail to remove them from the top before you opened your desk.

Robyn can draw a sketch of where all the building were located in the school yard. The girls and boys shelter sheds were located along Mrs. McLaverty's fence line, with the bike shed positioned between the two. Further along was the wood shed. The boys were responsible for



supplying the wood to the classrooms, but Robyn is not sure if they also were responsible for cutting the wood.

Playground equipment consisted of a monkey bar which has a fireman's pole, a trapeze type swing and an H bar for hanging by your legs. There were also 2 rockers which were used extensively and rocked vigorously!

Other memories include the fads of hoops, yo-yos, and knuckle bones.

As a teacher Robyn says the most dramatic changes have come about over the years in the areas of comprehensive reporting to parents. As a pupil, Robyn's report card consisted of a small sheet with the subjects listed and a numerical assessment, followed by one or two comments. Now she says they are computer generated and have consisted of up to 8 pages.

Intensive teaching of small groups is now employed. Specifics about numeracy and literacy have to be detailed for each child. New methods are being used such as guided reading.

The amount of parent involvement in the classroom has increased, and help is offered in all areas of the curriculum. However, Robyn is quick to re-enforce that Yinnar Primary School

has always had a proud reputation of enthusiastic parent support through Parent's Club (Mothers' Club) and School Council (School Committee). This positive contribution by parents is a hallmark of Yinnar Primary School community

### Julie Franklin- Teacher at Yinnar Primary School since 1986

Julie came to the school as Teacher Librarian. Her daughter Penny started on the same day. Husband Roy worked for Latrobe Valley Bus Lines and regularly drove the children to swimming classes. Penny went to the Yinnar kindergarten, and Merrill McPherson baby sat her. Even though the family lived on a farm on Vagg's Road, Julie had been teaching in Traralgon, so was unknown. She was variously called Penny's mum or the bus driver's wife, until she gained her own status.

Numbers of those attending the school had grown, so the library was the central assembly part of the building.

"People walked through your lessons or parents watched you teach as they waited for the end of school to pick up their children," she remembered. It was like being in a fish bowl, so we made mobiles which contained fish to hang around the area to simulate a fish bowl.

By 1987, the numbers had dropped due to the downsizing of the S.E.C. The library was able to

2/3 area for several years. She now teaches 3/4s.

Chicken hatching went with Julie into the classroom. Power failures in the Mod 5 building resulted in the coop being transferred to the principal's office. The eggs were numbered, and closely watched. When they hatched there was great excitement, with each child having 2 chickens. The chickens grew and ended up going home so hen coops had to be built to accommodate them. Some of those chickens are still alive! The local hardware store did very well.

Then there were the rats. Penny had saved up to buy a cage for a rat, as directed by Roy and Julie, so there was no reason to say no any longer. The rat came home and was regarded as so cute, that Penny was allowed to choose another of the same sex. Julie gained respect for rats as useful pets. The rats came to school, and the children loved them. They built mazes and houses for them. Another child bought a female to school and they bred. The life cycle lesson was applied to another species. The rats were measured and weighed. One weighing revealed a large loss of weight. The mother rat had given birth to 16 babies. After 5 weeks the rats were allowed to go home to children's places with parent permission.

The rats created an ideal education program on vermin and diseases, and learning that rats if kept properly can be as good a pet as a dog or cat. Some of the children are still breeding them.

Now, Julie brings her two poodles to school each day. They have an affinity with children who are having a hard time, and it is not unusual to see a small poodle face look out from a lap where they are being loved and loving in return.

Julie thinks that although Yinnar is a rural area, some children have no pets and this is an excellent opportunity experience and handle animals.

Julie quickly affirms that there is very good community support at the school, although it is a little harder now with more households with two working parents. However she says there are no hassles to get enough for excursions, in fact, a ballot sometimes needs to be used to decide.

The pressures of teaching have increased. More clerical work, and more meetings are the order of the day.

The children are still the same though, says Julie. They are fun to be with and it is great to see the changes and development- the ability to be more responsible and be able to cope with the demands placed upon them.

With 20 years at the school, Julie has seen staff come and go. The atmosphere changes sometimes, but there is always a friendly welcoming and supportive feel.

Julie declares her time at Yinnar Primary School has been fantastic and rewarding. It has been great to teach with few discipline problems. She does not want to move.

### Head Teachers

1881-1886: The first Head Teacher at Yinnar State School was Miss Catherine Kemp, who married to become Mrs. Catherine McDonald.

She was followed by Miss Kate McDermott, who held the position from 9/9/1986 to 10/11/1986.

Mr. Thomas Holland was head from 1886 to 1902. He was renowned for using the strap!

From 1902 to 1903, Mr. Thomas Simpson was Head Teacher, with Mrs Ina Irving as Sewing Mistress, until 1909. Then followed Ernest Williams in 1903 to 1904. He moved to be where his children resided with his mother-in-law who was caring for them after his wife's death.

be moved back into a classroom area.

Julie has always been very keen to have the children experience animals first hand, observing them and their life cycles. Over the years as librarian she has had axolotls (walking fish), and chickens which have hatched from fertile eggs. Magnificent pet parades were organized as fund raisers. They were also an opportunity to teach about pet care. Guest speakers were part of the arrangements made to re-enforce the message of pet care.

Guest authors also visited to create interest and encourage writing.

Michael Salmon with his monster stories, Jeannette Rowe author of 'Scallywag', Ruth Holmes from Boolarra for the launch of her book about a bulldog, and Gary Hurlle from Bairnsdale, with his bush adventure stories and stock whip, all paid visits.

In 1994 Julie returned with some trepidation to the classroom. She took over Peter Foster's grade 5 when he became Acting Principal. Julie describes her return as "a bit of a culture shock", but says she loves it and wonders why she didn't do it earlier.

In 1995 Julie taught a Grade 1/2 moving to the



# Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



From 1904 to 1905 Kate Bolger was at the helm. Her sisters lived in Main Street so she lived with them. One sister sold school supplies and lollies. The other was the post mistress. When the Bolger's father died the school children were given a holiday. After less than 2 years she transferred to Melton.

11/9/1905 to 6/11/1905, saw Eleanor Taylor take the reins, but her appointment was short lived as the lack of suitable accommodation was again an issue. George McLean came next and stayed six months only, also due to lack of accommodation.

Many letters to the department concerning accommodation finally achieved the required result, when Mr. Richard Lethbridge and his wife where able to move into the new residence adjacent to the school. Mr. Lethbridge stayed a very stable ten years from 1906 to 1916. Due to an accident he had one arm, but that did not stop him delivering disciplinary action in innovative ways.

In 1911, Miss Ida Hirst was appointed sewing mistress. From 1909 to 1911 Hamilton Richards was appointed Junior teacher. From 1910 to 1916 Mrs. Amy Lethbridge was sewing mistress.

In 1916, William Sinclair took over the position of Head Teacher until the end of the year. He was followed for a four year stay until 1920, by Eli Forth. Mr. Forth was known for using the cat and nine tails to give the kids the cuts.

Mr. Begley was the next Head teacher and he proved very popular, improving the general conduct, education and sporting prowess of the pupils. However, he was replaced the following year by Ernest Malcolm, who stayed until 1923.

Then followed John Finlayson, 1923 - 1925, Aloysius Tanner 1925- 1928, Joseph Crabtree 1928 - 1933, William Jackson 1933- 1934, Robert Allen 1934 -1935, Thomas Mortimer 1935 -1940, Harold Critcheley 1940 (May-Sept), Percy Scouller 1940 -1941, H. Bower 1941 - 1944, G. Treyvaud 1944-1950, W. Fisher 1950-1953 and from 1953 to 1961 M. Duncan. Ted Duncan was remembered as very strict, but someone who earned a lot of respect. He is also remembered as the teacher who stood in front of the fire all the time, with his hands in his pockets. Mugs of hot cocoa were supplied in winter. Sick children were sent to the school residence for attention by Mrs Duncan who is remembered as "lovely". From 1961-1967 Desmond Hackett was principal. In 1965, eight out of twelve pupils in the sixth form were awarded Junior Government Scholarships. This was attributed to successful teaching. Principals in later years were: 1967-1976 Maxwell Brown, 1976-1981 Gordon Graeme, 1981- 1983 Colin (Ross) Thomson, 1984-1985 Dick Cugley, 1986- June 1987, Garry Robbins, 1987-1993 Geoff Burt, 1994 for a short while Peter Foster (Acting Principal) and the rest of 1994- July 1995 Rob Higgins (Acting Principal), July 1995- 2002 Jim Connan and from July 2002 George Telford.

### Head Teachers Recollections

#### MR. G. TREYVAUD MAY 1944 - DECEMBER 1950

" We (plus dog) arrived in Yinnar, in a gas-produced furniture van on the Monday night before term (May 1944), raining cats and dogs, cold, no electric light globes in the residence. We were downcast, but not for long. As we climbed down from the van, there to welcome us, were members of the Committee. This was typical of the kindness help and friendship, we were to receive from the residents over the next five years.

In war time, Yinnar School was a distribution centre for ration cards and it hosted a huge bonfire to celebrate at the end of the war.

Young Farmers Club Field days was a great

day for all. In the main school room were exhibits of flowers, vegetables, art work, and hobbies. In the school grounds were cattle of all types, sheep, and ponies. Yinnar's Field Day was voted the best in Gippsland's Young Farmers Clubs.

The school won the A.N.A. prize for the best school garden in the Morwell Traralgon Inspectorate in 1946.

Nestle's Milk Factory was a great supporter of the school and provided a pipeline down the main street to the school which supplied water for the garden. (I was not averse to using some for our home garden).

The pupils at the school were a good lot. Some walked, some rode bikes, and one, the boy Perry, rode a steer. Olive Ritchie came the furthest- she rode a white pony from her home way up in the hills. The District Inspector, Mr. O. C. Phillips, (later Chief of Primary Education), had a very soft spot for the school. He loved teaching, and usually called in once a month and spent an hour teaching.

Mr. Keogh had a bullock team. It was an event when he passed the school, pens down and out to the fence to watch the team pass by.

The "Head Teacher" sat on a high stool, with a high desk in front of him. I hated it. When I departed Yinnar, the parents presented me with an executive desk and chair, which saw service in three other schools, Wedderburn, Reservoir West, and Altona.

Ex-pupils will remember Mrs. McLaverty, warming up milk in a large urn. The milk was supplied by the farming parents, and was much appreciated by the pupils."

Mr. Treyvaud developed great affection for Yinnar, which was returned by the community. The youngest of his two sons became a true local, having been born in the school residence with Mr. Treyvaud being the "mid-wife"

#### MAX BROWN 1967-1976

"When I transferred from Swift's Creek Higher Elementary School to Yinnar Primary School, at the beginning of 1967, it was not my intention to let retirement sneak up on me. But I did!

When I commenced duty at the school, I found a three-roomed building, one room recently built, and two other rooms of doubtful vintage and in need of patching up here and there, in which I had to squeeze over one hundred children and four teachers. A small staffroom had to be used to accommodate a group of children and a teacher, and it certainly trained them to tolerate extremes in temperature- hot in summer, cold in winter, as there was no heating or cooling in the room.

Constant pressure on everyone of conse-

quence and authority, for increased accommodation and renovations resulted in promises of relief. Late in 1967, the Public Works Department arranged for the older rooms and corridors to be re-stumped and re-floored. This, of course, temporarily worsened the accommodation problem. The Yinnar R.S.L. Hall was hired as a temporary classroom, provided that the occupants used the school toilets. The senior pupils 'volunteered' to occupy the R.S.L. Hall, probably pressured by the teacher of the younger children. It seems strange that the kids using the Hall seemed to develop some mysterious affliction which demanded frequent visits to the toilets!.....

There were also problems with the playgrounds in spring and summer, a lush growth of grass kept the parents busy with tractors and slashers Messrs. Quigley, Bond, Bennett and Heesom must have dreaded our calls for help, but they never failed to arrive with their machines and restore the ground to normality. One year, Norm Rendell came in with a cutter and baler, and cut a million bales of grass, give or take a few, and this was in a drought year. In Winter, the kids were prohibited from venturing too far away from the concreted area into the mud and slush. This rule was generally obeyed until two adventurous boys discovered they could do the breast stroke/ drown/ sail boats in a lake of stagnant water and septic tank overflow.

Anyone reading this would wonder why I

## Across Three Centuries



remained at the school for the time that I did... perhaps one reason was the unstinted effort made by the School Committee and fathers who spent time and effort to improve the environment. Perhaps it was the effort of the Mothers' Club who over the years worked so hard to provide finance to put necessary equipment and library facilities into the classroom. Then I had the very good fortune to have a realistic and co-operative group of assistant teachers who were prepared to accept more responsibility than normal classroom duties. And of course there was Sarah and Shane, Debbie, Gary, Jenny and Ross, Sandra and Rodney... It is people who make a school"

Part Three next month.

## Monash Graduates

### Jeeralang Journalist

"Hi, my name is Ebonnie Lord and I grew up in Jeeralang Junction. I have just finished my three year course, Bachelor of Arts (Journalism) - with double major of Journalism and Writing and a minor of Psychological Studies.

"I chose this course because I wanted to continue studying in humanities. Journalism allowed scope for this, while at the same time, providing practical writing skills.

I chose the Gippsland campus because this was where journalism was based, it was not as impersonal as metropolitan campuses and I liked the aesthetics of surrounding countryside.

"Completing the course made

me realise that journalism is what I really want to do, having to practice all aspects of it- even working to deadlines. Along with fantastic experiences like being involved in student publications (Threshold, EMIT) and a part of the New York Study Tour, it has given the opportunity to take several work placements, including: The Sunday Age, ABC Gippsland and Gippsland Water.

"Currently undertaking an honours degree in journalism, I plan to travel and work as a writer. Overall the degree has been the best thing I have done with my life to date- it has helped with my confidence, given me a good basis of knowledge and deepened my understanding."



Ebonnie Lord

### Cognitive Science Degree for Jacqui

Achieving an ENTER of 89.4 helped Churchill resident Jacqui Lee Howell get into a Cognitive Science course at Monash Gippsland.

Today, three years on, Jacqui has completed a Bachelor of Cognitive Science degree and will undertake an Honours degree this year.

Jacqui attended Kurnai College and said her high school years were great. "I really enjoyed my high school years and had many wonderful teachers," she said.

She chose to study Cognitive Science because she has an interest in a variety of areas that are linked to the field.

"The best aspect of my degree was the combination of different disciplines - psychology, maths and computing," said Jacqui.

While Jacqui is uncertain as to where the future will lead her, she says that learning will always be a part of it.

"As long as I never stop learning I will be happy to do anything," she said.



Jacqui Lee Howell

## Obituary

# Isabella Leeson 1935 - 2007

Isabella, known as Isabel, was born in 1935. She was one of five children born to Sam and Catherine.

She was educated at Fife in Scotland. She met Maurice Leeson in 1956 and they were married in 1958. They lived in Morwell before Isabel, together with Maurice and their four children moved into Heesom Crescent in 1965. The children were, Kathy eight, Wayne seven Elaine five, and Jimmy three. The family bought their four bedroom house from the SECV for a deposit of \$100.

The family enjoyed the early days of life in Churchill, even though times were difficult with no shopping centre, school, or kinder. Isabel fondly remembered the days when "everyone was friendly, and nobody kept to themselves."

As Churchill Primary School was built, a suggestion from a teacher gave Isabel the idea of applying to become the cleaner. She was successful. She and youngest son Jimmy, started school on the day the school opened. Jimmy in Preps and Isabel as cleaner. She took her job very seriously, being the first at school in the morning and the last to leave at night.

One of Isabel's strongest memories of those early times was that of the mud and clay. These were the constituents of the playground, and as you can imagine, became part of the inside of the school with so many little feet tracking the mud inside.

When in 1976, the school subsided and portables had to be brought in while the school building was bolstered with concrete foundations,

Isabel coped by wearing gumboots to walk from one portable to another.

That too was before the days of carpets on primary school floors. It was the days of polished bare boards. The polish that was applied was like Nugget, thick and hard to spread. Isabel's children remember helping her spread the polish, and concur with her about the difficulty of the chore.

Children's pants and socks became brown with being on the boards.

Great help was given to Isabel from fellow cleaner Maisie Doig, who joined Isabel some years later as the school grew, also from all Principals but especially Jack Braun, first Principal, and Tom Malone. Tom was a special support when daughter Kathy was killed in a car accident, and husband Maurice became ill with cancer.

Isabel coped with many incidents as the cleaner over many years. Among them, cleaning up human excreta, and cleaning up after a fire.

Isabel supported the children in all their doings- those they let on to her about anyway- as well as Maurice, who worked at the SEC in Mechanical Maintenance, especially through his bouts of cancer, which finally took him in 1989.

Isabel was very fond of her garden, and would share its produce with neighbours. Equally fond was she of her dogs- curly retrievers Sam and Midnight.

Isabel's grandchildren were very special to her. Often they would stay the night and enjoy her cooking.

As ill health overtook Isabel, the decision to



move to a unit at Mitchell House was taken. Her health continued to deteriorate, until on 29th of January 2007, Isabel passed away to join her much missed daughter Kathy and husband Maurice.

Isabel lived a humble hard working life, not seeking notoriety. Her funeral service too was simple and reflected the humble nature of Isabel.

Although, like their Mum, Isabel's children are not used to expressing their feelings, they

hold their Mum in high esteem, appreciating the way she provided for them, and supported them. They admire her strength of character in the hard times, and her commitment to her family (husband, children and grandchildren) in the ups and downs of their lives. They consider themselves lucky and proud to have had Isabel as their Mother and Grannie. They will miss her terribly, and the cuppas they shared.

## Obituary

# Rodney Stewart 1943 - 2007

Rod Stewart was the first child born to parents David and Gertie, in England in 1943. He spent his early childhood between England and Scotland. He had one younger brother Anthony, with whom he shared the same sense of humour.

His parents bought a Newsagency in Blackpool and Rod would deliver the papers before going to school.

His secondary education was a Tyldesley Boys School and these were happy years for Rod and his friends, one of whom, Keith Healey, has remained a friend to this day. Keith and Rod shared many adventures and misdeeds together!

Rod was a Sea Cadet and played in the pipe band. Following school, Rod became apprenticed to several electricians to gain the experi-

ence needed for that trade. In 1963, Rod met Pat at a Fireman's Ball in Blackpool. Two years later they married. Hoping for a better life, they emigrated to Australia, arriving in Churchill in 1967, with Allan their youngest child at six months of age.

Churchill was of course, a very young community in those days, with many English migrants arriving, among them Pat's sister Yvonne and her husband Dave Sargeson.

Rod found work at Hazelwood Power Station with Electrical Contractors, and established many friendships. In 1968, Sheryl was born to complete the family. Although it took a bit of adjusting to life away from family and friends of England, the new friendships, and family here together with the Australian way of life, helped them to call Australia home.

Rod joined the S.E.C. and worked in Field Services for seven years. Here he made lifelong friendships. The guys he worked with appreciated his dry sense of humour, with his own particular slant, and his sense of fun that helped other to laugh also. It was some of these folks that formed their special group of family and friends which has continued to meet together for a meal and to share special occasions like birthdays and weddings, and the sadnesses of life too.

In those early days of Churchill, Rod became a founding member of the Churchill Soccer Club. He contributed as com-

mittee member, player, coach, supporter, and in recent times as an active member of the building group, until his health deteriorated and he was unable to contribute as much. He is fondly remembered and it is always good to have someone to blame if a light bulb blows and you can say "it must have been one Rod put in"! Rod was made a Life Member. In his words, spoken at Rod's funeral, Robert Sands of Churchill Soccer Club says,

"Rod will be missed, but he won't be forgotten. He is an important part of our past; he is a part of our present, and by virtue of his actions and now his grandkids, forever a part of our future."

Fulfilling a dream to own property, Rod and Pat moved to Mirboo North. Here Rod returned to his painting hobby, read avidly and cooked wonderful dinner parties for friends and family. Sharing a meal and a drink and chat with family and friends was an important part of life.

They stayed there for fourteen years, enjoying the friendly community. In that time Rod worked for the Shire of Morwell and Office of Corrections, with part time work at the Brewery. Rod enjoyed the almost English pub atmosphere there.

In 2002, Rod and Pat made the move back to Churchill and took up residence in Canterbury Way.

Through his life Rod devoted time to fishing, a family affair from early days. He often went but rarely caught anything. He loved dogs, especially Dylan who was part of the family for many years and made the journey back to Churchill with Rod and Pat.

Rod loved music, and he imparted this love and knowledge to Pat, broadening her appreciation.

He was a great collector and had a wonderful collection of CDs, LP Records and stamps.

He was admired for his general knowledge and excellent memory, and loved to have a stir. There was always plenty of healthy banter about all kinds of sporting events, especially if England

was playing!

Painting and sketching was a special love. At Mirboo North he entered some of his work, successfully, in the Mirboo North Show.

Photography was another interest at which Rod did well.

But the overwhelming interest for Rod, apart from his family, seemed to be food and cooking. A large shelf of cooking books is testament to that. He loved eating in and eating out. A vegetable garden and fruit trees was one of the adjuncts to his passion for food. He made jams, pickles, preserved and dried fruit etc. experimented with cooking, creating an artist display. Homemade beer and wine also were tried. Cooking was a challenge, as he loved doing something new. Pat says his skill at cooking was a wasted talent.

Rod was never phased by long drives. He seemed to thrive on them. Several times he drove himself and Pat to Townsville and back to see Allan and his family.

Following the diagnosis of his illness, Rod approached his treatment with positive determination and courage. He went to watch his grandson Ben play soccer, took trips to Melbourne which he enjoyed as he and Pat could dine out and go and see the shows on in town; had trips to Lakes Entrance and Merimbula, as well as keeping in touch with his special group of friends, sharing a drink and a meal.

It was only on the last few weeks that Pat says Rod accepted his illness, but never became bitter.

And so Rod passed away at home, his wish, surrounded by his loved and loving family. He will be remembered as a loving son, husband, father and grandfather.

He has left a wonderful legacy in his children and grandchildren who will cherish their special memories of a person who taught them much about enjoying life and living it to the full as he had done.

His family, along with his many friends would say we miss him so, but it has been a privilege to know him.



# \*\*\*\*\* CHILDREN'S CORNER \*\*\*\*\*

## “Lord of the Rings” Word Search

D	N	O	R	L	E	F	W	O	L	S	S	R	F	D
Z	A	V	B	Q	L	B	R	G	W	N	J	N	J	G
E	M	W	G	A	L	A	D	R	I	E	L	Y	F	I
F	U	C	D	Q	R	E	A	G	M	Y	M	J	N	M
L	R	N	C	B	Y	W	G	M	Q	F	Y	V	T	L
E	A	I	H	T	R	A	E	E	L	D	D	I	M	I
G	S	Q	M	L	B	R	A	N	D	Y	B	U	C	K
O	O	Q	U	O	I	A	E	Q	S	B	R	G	R	W
L	R	X	D	A	R	G	N	D	O	W	N	R	O	K
A	L	O	D	R	E	O	I	H	I	R	J	S	E	Q
S	R	O	E	W	W	R	B	Z	H	R	P	P	K	M
F	C	C	R	T	A	N	A	C	P	B	T	V	P	T
J	J	Q	I	T	C	R	T	X	H	Y	C	S	Y	V
M	R	T	H	Y	D	Y	F	T	H	E	O	D	E	N
C	T	V	S	N	I	G	G	A	B	O	B	L	I	B

- |               |               |              |         |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| Aragorn       | Elf           | Hobbit       | Saruman |
| Arwen         | Elrond        | Legolas      | Shire   |
| Bilbo Baggins | Frodo Baggins | Meriadoc     | Strider |
| Boromir       | Galadriel     | Merry        | Theoden |
| BrandyBuck    | Gandalf       | Middle Earth | Troll   |
| Dwarf         | Gimli         | Orc          | Wizard  |

Hi Boys and Girls! This month we have a Word Search and a Digi Search for you. Good Luck!!!

### DIGI-SEARCH

Can you find the hidden numbers? They may be horizontal or vertical.

5	6	7	6	5	6	7	8	3	9	2	3	4	6	3
8	6	4	9	8	7	3	8	3	9	2	2	7	3	3
2	0	2	0	9	8	7	8	3	3	4	8	4	9	4
2	4	7	4	8	4	9	4	8	0	0	2	2	8	4
0	1	9	2	7	4	6	5	8	4	9	3	0	0	5
7	0	9	8	7	3	8	4	9	8	3	7	4	8	9
8	4	7	5	6	7	5	8	4	7	4	7	4	8	4
7	8	9	9	9	8	7	4	9	3	4	8	7	2	3
1	1	2	3	1	3	6	3	5	4	7	3	6	3	8
1	0	1	0	7	9	0	3	9	8	7	2	3	8	3
7	5	8	5	9	3	4	8	2	3	6	3	8	8	3
0	1	9	1	9	3	8	3	8	3	7	3	6	3	5
7	4	8	3	3	2	9	8	3	7	4	3	2	9	7
1	7	8	9	0	3	9	8	4	7	5	4	3	7	3
9	8	7	9	8	7	4	3	8	2	2	4	7	3	2

02098, 23638, 39234, 63547, 79685, 93005  
 05147, 30513, 42044, 69042, 82207,  
 10107, 38839, 49592, 75675, 89039,

# BIRTHDAYITES!!



Hayley BEYER, 6 years on the 17th of February



Breanna Downes-Smith, 12 years on the 28th January

These "Birthdayites" were all smiles as they were each presented with a \$15 voucher for Churchill Newsagency by John Barker from the Lions Club of Churchill & District. They were chosen at random from the January and February list. This could have been you - make sure you join so you also have the chance to be a lucky "Birthdayite".



Brianna BRIGGS, 10 years on the 22nd of January



Toby THAIN, 7 years on the 17th February

## LIONS BIRTHDAY CLUB

Proudly sponsored by the  
Lions Club of Churchill & District Inc.

Hi Kids,

If you are under 12 years old you can join the club. Ask your Mum, Dad, Guardian or Carer to ring the Editor of the CHURCHILL AND DISTRICT NEWS on 5122 2589 or write to

LIONS BIRTHDAY CLUB  
PO BOX 110  
CHURCHILL 3842



with your NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, BIRTHDATE, and whether BOY or GIRL

The lucky "Birthdayites" for January were  
**Brianna BRIGGS** and **Breanna DOWNES SMITH**,  
and for February were  
**Hayley BEYER** and **Toby THAIN**.

### BIRTHDAYITES FOR MARCH

Jay BARRY	7 years
Jack BENNETT	10 years
Cameron BIANCONI	7 years
Rowan FLAKE-FARRELL	9 years
Jye MAY	10 years
Joshua McCORD	9 years
Tristan TURPIN	9 years

The randomly chosen "BIRTHDAYITES" for March are  
**JAY BARRY** and **CAMERON BIANCONI**

Congratulations, you have each won a \$15 voucher for Churchill Newsagency. We will contact you soon.

John Barker Publicity

# The Cassini-Huygens Spacecraft At Titan And Views Of Saturn's Rings

By JEFF SING

Tonight, around 9 p.m. summer time, majestic Saturn can be found about 30 degrees (about one and a half vertical hand-spans at arms length) in altitude above the north-eastern horizon, having risen about 6 pm.

It will rise and set about four minutes earlier each day (or night) until August, when it will be too close to the Sun for observation.

Saturn reached opposition on February 11. Opposition of an outer planet, such as Saturn, occurs when the Sun, the Earth and the outer planet are in a straight line.

Saturn reaches opposition every 378 days, or about a fortnight later each year. This is due to its slow daily motion against the backdrop of the "fixed" stars (that is, from the Earth's perspective) while at the same time the Earth is also moving around the Sun.

## TITAN

The Cassini spacecraft, along with the onboard Huygens scientific space probe, was launched on October 15, 1997 on a four year mission while in orbit around Saturn: to land the Huygens probe on Titan's surface; to map some of its many moons using Cassini's high resolution cameras to capture thousands of images of the moons with unprecedented detail; and to find out more about Saturn's complex ring system.

In last month's issue, I described the landing of the Huygens probe on the surface of Titan. Over two years ago, planetary scientists watched fascinated while images of Titan's surface features from Cassini were relayed back to Earth - soon after the Huygens probe drifted through Titan's hazy nitrogen atmosphere to complete a successful landing.

Radar images taken by Cassini during a flyby of Titan in July 22, 2006 provided evidence of large bodies of liquid methane, resembling "dark" lakes, on the surface of the second largest moon in the solar system.

At the beginning of 2007, Cassini's high resolution images confirmed that lakes of liquid methane are present on Titan.

Methane is a highly volatile alkane hydrocarbon and if free oxygen were also to exist on Titan, a single spark would set the entire moon in flames.

Images taken by Cassini's radar instruments during December 2006 and January 2007 gave clues to how lakes of liquid methane formed on Titan.

It is thought that a giant cloud, about half the area of the United States, caused methane, ethane and other organics to rain

down and partly fill Titan's lakes over a twenty-five year period of a cloud activity cycle - before vanishing every four to five years - and then appearing again for another twenty-five years.

Ground based observations show that the cloud undergoes seasonal changes, each season lasting about seven years. At the moment Titan is experiencing winter and soon will enter into spring.

Scientists compare the methane cycle to the hydrological cycle on Earth, dubbing it the 'methan-ological cycle'. Liquid methane acts in the same way as water does on Earth.

By observing subtle changes during each season on Titan, Cassini and future exploratory missions will provide more insights into the meteorology of the giant moon.

## CASSINI AND SATURN'S RINGS

The most outstanding feature of Saturn is its spectacular rings, which are almost 300,000 kilometres across from end to end, and average about 18 kilometres in thickness - the latter estimate derived from recent ground and space-based observations.

The visible disk of the second largest planet in the solar system is about 120,536 kilometres in diameter.

Saturn's rings defy definition. There is estimated to be thousands, even tens of thousands of ringlets (the exact number is still unknown) that make up the entire Saturnian ring system, that is, according to recent studies using high resolution images taken from the Hubble Space Telescope and spacecraft flybys.

The main rings are numbered in order of discovery, but not in a strict alphabetical sequence. From the planet outward, they are known as the D, C, B, A, F, G, and E rings.

The diagram (bottom) shows the main features and divisions of Saturn's ring system and its major moons.

The A and B rings are the brightest, and appear well defined in even the smallest telescopes.

Saturn's rings are divided into the outermost A ring, the dense and bright B ring, and the inner, more delicate C ring. The C ring is also known as the "Crepe Ring" because of its relative transparency.

The Cassini division, a gap between the A and B rings, is not entirely empty but contains tenuous material analogous to the C ring. The F ring is a wild and woolly narrow loop just outside the A ring, while the three dusty fine and almost transparent rings are designated D (inside C), G (outside F) and E (outside G).

In September 2006, Cassini was able to hide in the shadow behind the disk of Saturn, shielding the spacecraft from the Sun, and this enabled a rare twelve-hour unobstructed view of the rings.

A new ring was discovered outside the brighter rings inside the 'E' and 'G' rings. Scientists believe the tenuous ring was the result of material expelled by meteor impacts with the moons Janus or Epimetheus, or other nearby moonlets.

In another discovery in October, 2006 Cassini spied continuously changing features that provides circumstantial evidence that either an asteroid or a comet collided with Saturn's innermost ring, the faint D ring. It left an apparent series of bright ringlets at regularly spaced intervals of about 30 kilometres apart.

In 1995, the Hubble Space telescope's images of Saturn's ring systems showed that a periodic structure in the outer D ring had been spaced over intervals 60 kilometres apart - indicating that the interval of this pattern has been decreasing over time.

When Cassini's researchers viewed the D ring along the line of sight nearly parallel to the ring plane, they observed shades of light and dark material that appeared on the far side and near side of the rings, and vice versa.

This phenomenon would only occur if the region contained a thin sheet of material that is vertically corrugated, like a tin roof. An explanation for this corrugated structure is that a meteoroid or comet slammed into the D ring and kicked out a cloud of fine particles.

Alternatively, an object struck an already inclined moonlet shattering it to bits, while leaving its debris in inclined orbit. Based on observations between 1995 and 2006 the timeline of collision has been estimated to have occurred in 1984.

Scientists think a comet or asteroid collided with one of Saturn's icy moons about 100 million years ago, shattering it to pieces, though through processes not fully understood these broken fragments somehow assembled to form the particles that make up today's rings.

Such an impact would have created debris in a large range of sizes, but until now scientists have only evidence of small chunks of rock. Medium size moonlets, between that of a moon and smaller particles predicted by theory were missing.

However in July, 2004 Cassini, while hovering directly above Saturn's ring system, detected strange gaps resembling S-shaped propellers in the planet's bright A

ring. Scientists think the gaps were formed by chunks of rock 100 metres wide as they plowed through smaller particles of the ring.

These chunks of rock could be the 'missing' moonlets.

Cassini is scheduled to make another 34 orbits around the Saturnian system, execute another 28 flybys of Titan, and flybys of 16 of Saturn's other moons, 10 of them at least twice, in the remaining time before the mid-2008 deadline of Cassini's exploration of the gas giant.

Also Cassini's team of scientists is considering the option to extend the mission. One of the benefits of doing this will be to take advantage of Saturn's different ring perspective as it enters its spring beginning in 2009.

During the remainder of the mission new surprises await Cassini's scientists as they will no doubt make further exciting discoveries and find out more, for example, about Titan's methane lakes and Saturn's strange rings and their attendant shepherd moons etc.

## CASSINI AND THE FUTURE

The \$3.26 billion (estimated in 2000 ) Cassini-Huygens mission, a joint NASA and European venture involving 33 American states, 260 scientists worldwide (including a number of radio telescope scientists and researchers from Australia) and 17 European countries - continues to successfully push the boundaries of robotic space exploration..

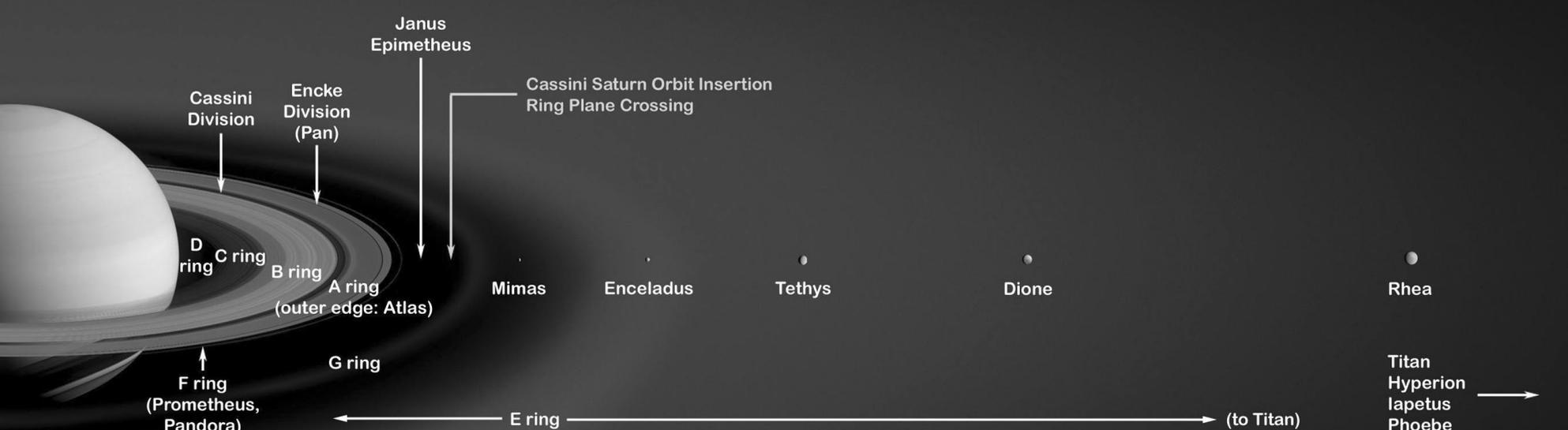
In the long term the study of Titan, for example, the most Earth-like body in the solar system, Cassini's findings will help future missions such as the Terrestrial Planet Finder, which is designed to search for other Earth-like planets beyond our solar system. It will provide an unparalleled opportunity to unlock the secrets of how life formed and evolved: not only on our planet Earth, but elsewhere in the Universe.

## OBSERVATORY TALK

The Latrobe Valley Astronomical Society will meet at the Wirilda Environment Park hall; near Tyers on Tuesday, March 13 starting at 7.30 p.m. Member Chris Moy will talk about how he built his "tin-shed" private observatory from inexpensive materials and by using a little ingenuity in its construction.

An observing session will follow if the skies are clear on a moonless evening. Supper is provided; along with members' telescopes. For further details contact Gavan Dinsdale on 51746453.

Pictured below: Saturn's main ring divisions and moons, courtesy of NASA / JPL



Sports News

# "the Cougars"

## Churchill Football / Netball Club From the President



On the weekend of 24th and 25th February the Churchill Cougars attended a training camp at Lake Tyers. The players and support staff had a terrific time and I am sure there will be many highlights to come from the camp. To witness the boys eat a Weetbix, blow up a balloon and then eat a raw egg in the shell was very funny and showed the commitment present to gain points for the team.

During the weekend, there was also beach runs, soccer, orienteering, road runs and plenty of other activities to keep the players occupied. The team feasted on some fine food prepared by some very good helpers and I wish to thank them for the effort. The weekend will be of great benefit to the team as it was terrific to see the competitive spirit displayed.

I hope that during the year we will be able to revisit Lake Tyers as we were made very welcome and enjoyed the hospitality.

On the track our numbers are looking good and there is a real "buzz" around the place. Everyone is looking forward to the start of what we hope will be a very successful 2007 season.

### Lakes Oil

It was great to play host recently to our new margin sponsor in Lakes Oil. The Company VCairman, Rob Annells, and Public Relations Manager, Bob Thompson joined the committee and coaching staff for a very enjoyable evening.

Lakes Oil is committed to a long term relationship with our club and we wish them all the very best in their venture at Hazelwood. Rob Annells very generously handed over a substantial sponsorship cheque on the night, which our Treasurer was most grateful to receive.

I am sure we will see plenty of Bob and the boys during the football season.

Mark in your diaries Thursday 12th April as this will be our official jumper presentation with the Lakes Oil logo emblazoned on our jumpers.

### Oxfam Trailwalker

Good luck on 24th March to our club members (5 of whom are Life Members) who are participating in the Oxfam 100km Trailwalker. There are two teams made up of four runners Team 1 is Gary Welsh, Tony Beevor, Shaun Answerth and Rob Martin. Team 2 is Adrian Waller, Darren Blair, Mark Answerth and David Rohde. They have been training for many months and let's hope they all make it to the finish.

### Membership

Season 2007 memberships are now available and we believe this year we have a membership package to suit everyone, so get on board and be a proud "Cougar Member". Just drop into the social rooms and pick up a membership application form. Packages include:

Cougar Gold Family \$240.00

Cougar General benefits plus admission to all home games, entry into \$500 cash draw, \$10 voucher towards club apparel, a stubby holder, free junior memberships for U/18 and 2 gold membership key tags.

Cougar Gold \$120.00

Cougar General benefits plus admission to all home games, entry into \$500 cash draw, \$10 voucher towards club apparel, a stubby holder and a gold membership keytag.

Cougar General Family \$90.00

Discount drinks, automatic entry into regular cash draws, voting rights, free junior memberships for U/18 and 2 membership keytags.

Cougar General \$45.00

Discount drinks, automatic entry into regular cash draws, voting rights and a membership keytag.

Cougar Social/Student \$20.00

Discount drinks and entry to Social Rooms and a membership keytag.

### From the Senior Coach (Leigh)

Churchill Senior Football Club held its pre season training camp on the 24th and 25th of February at Lake Tyres beachfront holiday retreat. In 5 teams of 7, the players competed in a variety of events, accumulating points for their respective teams, with the team with most points at the end of the weekend winning a dinner for 7 at the Cougar Cafe.

The camp began Saturday morning with all team members having to be ready to go before 8am or face losing points before the activities had even started.

It was here where we outlined the itinerary and rules for the weekend and gave each team an egg to be carried at all times over the next 2 days, wherever they went (it was evident this was going to take a lot of teamwork and planning when assistant coach Matthew McNamara broke his team egg within 2 minutes). Carrying the egg was quite a task as some of the activities completed were an 8km run, a blindfold race, orienteering, tennis, beach soccer, a bi-athlon, Cricket and flag sprints.

Points were very close all weekend. On Sunday morning when Jill Jenkins and Liz McDonald were asked

to check the rooms for cleanliness for the last points for the weekend, there was only .5 of a point separating the top 2 teams. We headed down to the pub after this for a well earned beer, meal, and awards ceremony.

In the end, Captain Cory Turner accepted the winning award on behalf of his team, giving a heartfelt speech, thanking his teammates, opposing teams and the helpers for the weekend, for without them, this weekend would not have been able to take place. So thank you to Rob and Jill Jenkins, Rob and Liz McDonald and Roger Brighton for their cooking and preparing of meals and helping out with activities throughout the whole weekend. Other award winners for the weekend were: Most Argumentative: Kenny Kerlake, Most Food Eaten: Brad McCartney, The "Sanks" Award: Grant McDougall and Most Competitive/Sook/Sore Loser: Nathan McDonald.

The efforts from everyone on the camp were of the highest quality and its a credit to all the boys who attended to make it such a worth while trip, not only for fitness but for the team goals and planning that we did on the Saturday night. Also a big thank you to the staff at the Lake Tyers Beachfront Holiday Retreat for putting up with such a large number of boys in such a way. It should also be noted that the staff at the retreat have sent us a letter commending us for our behavior and cleanliness and stating that the Churchill Football/Netball club would be welcomed back with open arms at any stage, which is great to know as the facilities there are perfect for us and we do intend on going back there in the future.

So, all in all, it was a very rewarding weekend and one that will hopefully give us that bit of an edge over the rest of the competition in 2007.

### Junior News

Churchill Junior Football Club was one of the community groups who had a stall at Churchill Glendonald Cop Shop. This event gave community groups a chance to promote themselves and enabled the local children an opportunity to access these groups and find out a little bit about them. Churchill Junior Football Club handed out flyers and offered an opportunity to register with the club before the official registration days on Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the first week-

men only \$5 and the ladies bringing a plate it's a great evening out having a bowl followed by a barbecue and drinks to finish the night off.

Now is time to get your teams in for the Yinnar Tournament on March 24th to the 26th (Men's 4s Mixed 4s then triples on Monday).

Yinnar triples is on Wednesday

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## Churchill Football/Netball Club

welcomes you to the

# Cougars Café

We invite you to enjoy a Friday night meal at our new restaurant. Come along and enjoy our menu on Friday nights from 6.00pm at the clubrooms at Gaskin Park, Manning Drive, Churchill. Fridays menu can be viewed from Wednesday evening at [cfnc.vcfl.com.au](http://cfnc.vcfl.com.au)

end in March.

Training commenced on the Monday the 5th and Wednesday the 7th of March for the Under 16's at 4.30pm-6pm with Mick Kaser (Coach). The Under 10's Rod Campbell(Coach) and 12's Peter Mason (Coach) will be on the Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th of March from 4.30pm-5.30pm. Under 14's Graham Harvey (Coach) will take training on a Tuesday and Thursday at 5pm-6.15pm starting the 6th of March.

The Churchill Junior Football Club held clinics at Churchill North Primary School, Lumen Christi Primary School, Hazelwood North Primary and also Kurnai College Churchill in the last month. The children enjoyed the skills and drills with some of the senior players and coaches. Assisting in the clinics was Gippsland Power Player Brent Connelly (from Yinnar) who thrilled the kids with his skills.

For more information about the Junior Club please ring Cheryl on 51661797.

### Social News / Events

17th March - Practice Match against Yarram (Gaskin Park)

24th March - Relay for Life (Gaskin Park)

12th April - Jumper Presentation Night, 7.30pm Social Rooms

14th April - Round 1 Churchill v Gormandale (Gaskin Park)

15th April - Seafood Day, 12 noon start, \$38.50 per per person (Contact Woody or Club 51223033)

### Wednesday Nights

Cougars Bingo

March 14th and 21st (Boolarra triples are on March 19th not the 16th.

*Sally had a figure that was the delight of the male members of the club but the envy of her more matronly colleagues. One day she turned up looking particularly attractive in a new dress cunningly designed to show off her still girlish figure to the best*

Come and try your luck at Cougars Bingo whilst enjoying a cold drink in the warm and friendly atmosphere. Eyes down at 8pm.

### Thursday Nights

Past Players Chook Raffle

If you are wondering what the past players are doing with themselves now, find out by joining them for the "Chook Raffle" and "Happy Hour" each Thursday night after work. (4pm onwards)

Friday Nights at Cougars Café

Come and enjoy a meal from our deliciously prepared selection each Friday night.

Bring your family and friends along for a meal that is not to be missed.

(Meals served 6pm-8pm)

### Planning a wedding, party, anything?

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- o 21st birthdays and other celebrations

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o Conferences

o Seminars and Exhibitions

o End of year break-ups

For further information or bookings please contact Julie on 5122 3033 or 5122 1762

\*Discount hire for Cougar General and Gold Members

Churchill Football Netball Club Inc - PO Box 111 Churchill 3842 Tel 5122 3033.

## Yinnar Bowls Club

Both teams did well in pennant this year. The first team missed 3rd division finals by just one place, but the second team finished top in division 5. Now for the finals - keep up the good work.

The twilight bowls for palliative care was a great success, good fun and laughter with a lot of money raised. They have had there funds cut due to the new cancer wing's own palliative care.

The last two twilight bowls for this season is March 7th and March 28th so get your names down because with

*possible advantage. Immediately, she was subjected to the surreptitious scrutiny of the other ladies.*

*"I wonder who made her dress" said one enviously.*

*"I should imagine it was the Police," answered her friend.*

Good Bowling

Geoff Marshall



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