

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

cdnews.com.au

Established 1966

Distributed Free



Boolarra Men's Shed - Page 9



Yinnar South Church - p 13



Churchill Scouts- p 17



Shop Local Market - p 23

Churchill Monash Golf Club Men's Pennant winners



On Sunday April 27, 2025, the Churchill Monash Golf Club Men's Handicap 1 team competed against Warragul in the pennant Grand Final, and were victorious 7 - 0. The final was played at Trafalgar. Congratulations to the Churchill boys who have now won this title back to back.
Back row from left: Ben Skinner, Josh Cahill, Leigh Anderson, Dave Byers, Peter Kearns, Adam West, Jay Langstaff and Greg Beyers.
Front row from left: Tyson Webb, Brodie Downie, Nathan Lugton and Ash West.

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Community news is a good source for accessing local news and information in smaller communities.

Churchill & District News readers have access across print and digital platforms.

Churchill & District News

www.cdnews.com.au

Churchill and District News



RGM

Wealth for life

We are pleased to announce RGM have recently acquired
Dainbridge Nicholson Financial Services.

Accountants & Advisors

- Tax Preparation
- GST & PAYG Compliance
- Tax Planning Strategies
- SMSF Compliance

Financial Planning

- Retirement Planning
- Insurance Advice
- Self-Managed Super Funds (SMSF)
- Investment Advice

Offices: Drouin, 25 Princes Way | Moe, 33 Kirk Street | Traralgon, 18 Hotham Street

T: 03 5120 1400

rgmgroup.com.au

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Established 1966

Distributed Free

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

The Team

Editor:	Carol Scott
Team Leader/Sec:	Ruth Place
Treasurer:	Maureen Schenkel
Assistant Treasurer:	Rachael Perrott
Advertising:	Ruth Place, Shelley McDonald,
Layout:	Allan Larkin
Production:	Carol Scott, Maureen Schenkel Ruth Place, Allan Larkin Aaron Xuereb
Proof Readers:	Ruth Place, Gary Weston, Shelley McDonald, Geraldine Larkin, Carol Scott Delma Hodges Lorraine Peake
Distribution:	Gary Weston, Roel Schenkel
Team Members:	Barbara Cheetham, Lorraine Glowacki
Webpage:	John Sunderland,
Facebook	Rebecca Barry, Rachael Perrott
IT:	Oscar Ewen

www.cdnews.com.au

Contributions

The DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION of articles and advertisements for the June 2025 edition is May 25, 2025

EDITORIAL

Articles for publication and Letters to the Editor can be sent to: Churchill & District News
PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842
Or Email: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au
All articles must be submitted by the 25th of each month for publication in the next issue.



COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION of VICTORIA

the voice of the community

MEMBER 2025

ADVERTISING

Advertising enquiries can be addressed to:
Ruth Place or Allan Larkin
Churchill & District News
PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842 or email:
cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au
Telephone: Ruth 0456 786 577
Allan 0427 372 517

Disclaimer

The Churchill & District News wishes to advise that the views or remarks expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editor or the Management Team and no endorsement of service is implied by the listing of advertisers, sponsors or contributors.

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS IS PRODUCED UNDER THE DIRECTION AND CONTROL OF THE CO-OPERATING CHURCHES OF CHURCHILL.
THE CO-OPERATION IS MADE UP OF THE ANGLICAN AND UNITING CHURCHES.

We acknowledge the support of



New Project for CDCA

This year is Churchill's 60th anniversary. The name Churchill was proclaimed in 1965 for a planned new town to be constructed here. CDCA is looking into the feasibility of a new project for this year – a Guided Historical Walk around the CBD. Plans are underway for this Walk to become a reality later in the year. The project concept was submitted to CDCA by Rob de Souza-Daw, a local resident and member of our Association. It is proposed that the Guided Historical Walk will be about 2kms around the

CBD, stopping at points of interest along the way, with pre-determined commentary provided. It will start mid-morning at the shopping centre and finish at the same location, just in time for lunch. It is envisaged that there will be a couple of Walks during the year, subject to demand and weather. Further information will be announced once plans for the Guided Walk are finalised. CDCA is also considering applying for some funding to construct and install some new

outdoor seating and/or picnic tables near playgrounds within Churchill's parks. Responses to our community survey undertaken last year at one of the Shop Local markets included a number of suggestions to provide seats and tables at local playgrounds, such as Walker Parade Reserve and the park in Mulcare Crescent. Before CDCA can proceed, we need to obtain permission from Latrobe City Council to have such outdoor furniture placed on their land. We have approached Council officers to discuss further. Hopefully, our plans will be approved – we have already had similar items constructed and installed on land owned by Federation University. Readers may have seen the wooden seat and the picnic table along the recreational concrete pathway between McDonald Way and Northways Road, alongside the Eel Hole Creek

wetlands. Planning is already underway for the next "Churchill – Shop Local" market event on Saturday August 30. CDCA has applied for sponsorship funding so that the markets can continue as free events for all. Hope you were able to attend our May market; it is always an enjoyable morning! Local residents of Churchill and district are most welcome to join CDCA members at our next meeting on Thursday June 12 at 7pm - downstairs in the Churchill Town Hall (enter from Philip Parade). You can find out more about CDCA through our website: cdca.org.au. Contact CDCA directly by emailing your inquiry to info@cdca.org.au or send us a message via our Facebook page (search for Churchill District Community Association) or even write to us at PO Box 191, Churchill. We welcome your thoughts and contributions!

Rainfall



Churchill Rainfall
Churchill had only received 4mm up to April 25, when 18 mm fell, and a further 1.5 mm by the end of the month, making a total of 23.5 mm for April. The 2025 yearly total to date is 130 mm.
Rain at Hazelwood South
Mostly dry, kept that way by the mountains to the north and Strzeleckis to the south east. The best rain came from the Pacific Ocean, by doing almost a full circle across NSW and

sneaking in from the north west. The April rain was a disappointing 26mm and only 41% of the monthly average. The top soil remains very dry, but just enough moisture to keep the grass green. Hazelwood South had 13% less rain than the Latrobe Valley weather station. The year so far, has 19% less rain than average. Rain from the Southern Ocean and south west winds can be expected in coming months.

Thank You

A big thank you is extended to Bruce Stephenson who has consistently provided each month's rainfall for Churchill to be recorded in Churchill & District News. After many years Bruce has decided it is time to hand it over to someone else, and Joseph and Paul Bonnici have willingly taken on this responsibility.

ANTONELLI ACCOUNTING

TAX AGENT & BOOKKEEPING SERVICES

- INCOME TAX RETURNS
- SMALL BUSINESS BOOKKEEPING & MANAGEMENT
- BUSINESS & GST SUPPORT



office@aaaccounting.com.au
03 51221155



ADVERTISING RATES

Effective January 1, 2025

No.	Size		B/W	COLOUR	10% Discount (6 issues)	
	Height x Width	Column size			B/W	COLOUR
			\$	\$	\$	\$
1.	58 mm x 83 mm	2 x 5.8 cm	32.00	NA	28.00	NA
2.	123 mm x 83 mm	2 x 12.3 cm	65.00	103.00	58.00	93.00
3.	93 mm x 128 mm	3 x 9.3 cm	74.00	118.00	66.00	106.00
4.	58 mm x 260 mm	6 x 5.8 cm	93.00	150.00	84.00	134.00
5.	138 mm x 128 mm	3 x 13.8 cm	109.00	174.00	98.00	156.00
6.	188 mm x 128 mm	3 x 18.8 cm	154.00	247.00	139.00	222.00
7.	188 mm x 260 mm	6 x 18.8 cm	324.00	517.00	291.00	466.00
8.	375 mm x 260 mm	6 x 37.5 cm	475.00	761.00	428.00	685.00

TO BOOK YOUR ADVERTISEMENT
PLEASE CONTACT
RUTH PLACE
0456 786 577

Submission of Articles:
Articles can be Emailed to: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au
- Mailed to: PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842
OR put in our collection box at: the Co-Operating Churches.
Advertising enquiries can be emailed to: cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au

Conference of the Birds 2025



Valley of Harmony & Unity
Centenary Park, Boolarra
Saturday, May 24
3.45 – 7pm

The Conference of the Birds is returning to Boolarra for another stunning community arts event. Last year Conference of the Birds - Valley of the Quest was presented by over 65 performers and artists to an audience of up to 400 people in Centenary Park, Boolarra. The event was vibrant and diverse with audience and performers uplifted and inspired by the experience. The Latrobe City Council nominated Conference of the Birds - Valley of the Quest in the Latrobe City Australia Day Awards category for Outstanding Community Event.

Conference of the Birds - Valley of Harmony & Unity promises to be even more impressive. Conference of the Birds is a seasonal community pageant when we come together to celebrate the last days of autumn, around a bonfire that heralds winter.

The art walk and ceremony is based on a 12th century Sufi tale. The story tells of the gathering of the world's birds during a time of crisis. They search for answers during a journey through seven valleys to ultimately discover that it is the collective wisdom of

a community that ensures survival.

Artistic Directors, Margie Mackay and Gilbert Douglas, have developed and presented epic-scale, accessible, site-specific collaborative works of art and ritual both in Australia and internationally. They are both passionate about cross-cultural artistic collaborations and committed to reconciliation, and the recognition of and respect for Indigenous cultures.

For Conference of the Birds Douglas and Mackay have collaborated with Gunaikurnai Elders and the local community to foster new relationships and create a sense of pride in and care for Country and each other.

The audience is asked to gather at 3.45pm for a First Nations ceremony.

Then the audience will be invited to make their way down the rail trail toward the meadows. Along the trail six of the valleys, described in the story, will be represented by installations interpreted and designed by local artists. Once the audience reaches the meadows, the seventh valley, the Fire Ceremony will take place.

It will feature music, dance, stories and a lantern parade followed by the lighting of the bonfire. The performers include the

Boorun Boys, the Djeetgun girls, Mirboo North Secondary College and Boolarra Primary School students, the Trafalgar Bollywood dance group, Company D&M dancers, and many talented local artists. At the conclusion of the ceremony the audience will make their way back along the rail trail, now transformed by light.

Please wear warm clothes, bring a torch and something to sit on. There will be food and hot drinks available at the meadows.

All cultures, abilities, genders and ages welcome. There will be a shuttle bus available for the elderly and those with mobility needs. Registrations are essential at <https://www.douglasandmackay.com/copy-of-contact-cofb>

Conference of the Birds -Valley of Harmony & Unity gratefully acknowledges the support of Regional Arts Australia, Creative Latrobe, Mirboo North and District Community Foundation and The Boolarra Community Development Group.

Volunteers are needed for lantern making, set up and marshalling of the event. If you would like to be part of the team please make contact at douglasandmackay@inet.net.au or 0417 370 179 or via the website www.douglasandmackay.com.

BOOK REVIEW

Anxious People

By Fredrik Backman, 2019

Fredrik Backman was born in Sweden in 1981 and is married with two children. He dropped out of college and worked nights and weekends in order to write during the day. His works include "A Man Called Ove" 2012, "My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She is Sorry" 2013, "Britt Marie Was Here" 2014 and "Anxious People" 2019. He has also written two "Bear Town" stories as well as short stories and novellas and some non-fiction.

Anxious People

The story begins with an attempted armed bank robbery and a hostage drama. The bank robber is desperate to find the rent money in order to retain access to the children of the marriage.

However it is a cashless bank, and in a panic the bank robber runs through the nearest open door, which happens to be a real estate viewing.

Naturally the people viewing the property are terrified and in the course of the novel we are introduced to each of them and hear their stories.

However, it soon becomes apparent that the

robber is more in need of help than they are and a really heart-warming story unfolds.

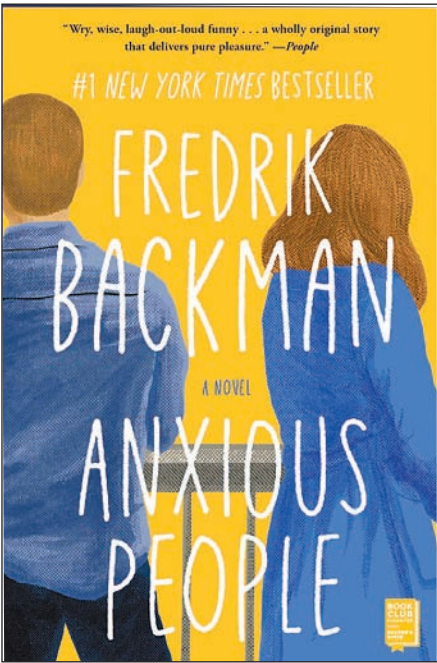
In the meantime, at the local police station the father and son team need to deal with the hostage situation.

The father is an old-fashioned policeman and the son much more technical and focused, wanting to solve the crime without the intervention of Stockholm police. Despite this they have great love and respect for each other.

Eventually the hostages are released but the robber has disappeared. A shot is heard but there is no dead or injured body. Only one of the policemen knows what really happened.

This is a really quirky and amusing story, largely about people doing the wrong thing for the right reasons.

The book received mixed reactions in our group. Some



found the writing chaotic and frustrating, others felt this was the author's strategy and essential to the story. It spoke of the good in people, couples sacrificing for each other, especially the love in a parent-child relationship as well as inclusiveness.

There were some hilarious moments and our stereotypical views were challenged. All in all this was a "feel good" but unlikely story, with a nod to the Stockholm Theory, which tries to explain why hostages sometimes develop positive feelings toward their captors.



Churchill
Neighbourhood
Centre
churchill.org.au

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TERM 2 2025

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
			9:30am to 11:30am Play Group Contact Anglicare	10:00am to 3:00pm Can and Bottle Recycling
10:00am to 3:00pm Can and Bottle Recycling	10:00am to 3:00pm Can and Bottle Recycling	10:00am to 3:00pm Can and Bottle Recycling	10:00am to 3:00pm Can and Bottle Recycling	10:00am to 3:00pm Reading & Writing By appointment
10:00am to 3:00pm Community Garden Free	10:00am to 12:00pm Community Garden Free	10:00am to 12:00pm Community Garden Free	10:00am to 12:00pm Community Garden Free	10:00am to 12:00pm Community Garden Free
From 10:00am Men's Shed \$5 per session	10:00am to 12:00pm Food Bank By appointment	10:00pm to 12:00pm Phone & Tablets \$50 T2 11 Sessions	10:00am to 12:00pm Food Bank By appointment	11th July 2025 First Aid CPR Refresher - \$80 Level 2 + CPR - 150 Education - \$180
10:00am to 2:30pm Intro to Care & Support \$80 T2 9 Sessions	10:00am to 12:00pm Intermediate PC \$50 T2 11 Sessions	10:30am to 11:30am Tai Chi \$132 T2 11 Sessions	10:00am to 3:00pm Form Support By appointment	11th July 2025 Youth First Aid \$50.00 12:00pm to 2:00pm
10:30pm to 12:30pm Photo Editing PC \$50 T2 9 Sessions	10:00am to 12:00pm Social Craft \$55 T2 11 Sessions	11:45am to 12:45pm Meditation \$110 T2 11 Sessions	10:00am to 12:00pm Patchwork \$110 T2 121Sessions	Sat
1:00pm to 3:00pm Beginner PC \$50 T2 11 Sessions	12:30pm to 2:30pm Cooking \$100 T2 11 Sessions	1:00pm to 1:30pm Chair Yoga \$88 T2 11 Sessions	1:00pm to 3:00pm Patchwork \$110 T2 11 Sessions	Coming Soon 1st Sat of the month 10:00am to 12:00pm Can and Bottle Recycling Community Garden
Make Suggestions at churchill.org.au/ideas	1:00pm to 3:00pm Fundraising Free	6:30pm to 9:00pm Patchwork \$132 T2 11 Sessions	4:00pm to 7:00pm Dungeons & Dragons 13-25 Free - T2 11 Sessions	
Volunteers always needed!	6:00pm to 9:00pm Dungeons & Dragons 18+ \$55 T2 11 Sessions			



Melina BATH MP

THE NATIONALS MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

MY DOOR IS ALWAYS OPEN

melina.bath@parliament.vic.gov.au 2/181 Franklin St, Traralgon VIC 3844

03 5174 7066  MelinaBathMLC

CHURCH *news*

Co-Operating Church Snippets



Easter Club was celebrated at the Churchill Church and at Boolarra and Yinnar Primary Schools.

At Churchill 40 of the Grade 1s and 2s and 38 of the 3s and 4s from Churchill Primary School came in two groups to hear the Easter story. They then had time to explore and do some of the twelve activities on the tables. The children were well behaved and showed very good manners.

It was a pleasure to have them come along with some of their teachers. The children enjoyed the time and had the opportunity to learn some more about God's love and that Jesus shows us that love in the same way, encouraging us to show love too.

Cathie led Palm Sunday service. She had decorated

the church with palm branches at the entrance and altar decorations. John had made palm crosses.

Coffee Connections

Heather Enders, a church member and retired psychologist, led our Coffee Connections program.

She is passionate about ensuring we do as the Bible commands, to take a time of rest each week. In that time we can do things as adults that we did as children including dancing, reading, singing, resting, pursuing a hobby. It is important that we have some down time to renew our mental health so we can be our best.

Tenebrae

Tenebrae was held at Lumen Christi this year. The service is called "The Service of Shadows" – a service which dates back to

the fourth century. It focuses on the shadows which fall on Christ in the last hours of his life on earth. Seven scripture readings are read. Some beautiful slides were prepared to illustrate each shadow reading. The readers are from both the Catholic and Co-Operating Churches. The feedback was that it was a very serene and peaceful service. There was a good turn up.

Good Friday

Cathie had prepared the church with a display around the altar, depicting the symbols of the Easter story. The large cross was lying on the ground in front of the altar on black cloth.

Members of the Churchill Christian Fellowship joined our congregation to participate in the service.

The service began with



the acknowledgement that Jesus knew what was ahead of him yet he did nothing to stop the intended outcome. Jesus died a painful death humiliated and scorned, whipped, spat upon and wounded by thorns in a crown used to demean. It was a death which showed God's unending depth of love for us. It was a death that overcomes death, a love greater than hate, a love that can restore all things.

The service and script of the Walk of Witness highlighted our lack of love for others, the times we forsake Jesus and God, when we ignore the suffering of others to go our selfish ways. The script also asked us to consider the pain, anguish, grief, steadfastness of Jesus in his quest for our redemption.

It asked us to put ourselves in the position of Christ, his disciples, his Mother and close friends as they saw how much Jesus was suffering and enduring for us.

We were bidden to live the life of love Jesus gave us as an example.

The Walk of Witness was held at the thirteen stations around Lake Hyland in Mathison Park. It was a different way to witness to our faith. The Churchill Christian Fellowship, Lumen Christi Parish and our congregation, shared the walk. Our pastor Cathie Halliwell did the preparation for both the service and walk.

Easter Sunday

This was a joyful service celebrating the remembrance of the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus. It

is a day when we forget the sorrow and horror of Good Friday to rejoice. God's love is so amazing that He would send His only Son to die for us and take upon Himself all our sins of every age. All we have to do is believe that Jesus did that for us because of his love and obedience.

Those characteristics of love and care are what we are called to display. We have Jesus' example to follow of love and care for those on the fringes, those who are outcast, those who are poor and lowly, the seemingly unimportant, women.

Easter has come to an end for this year. What difference has it made to the way we live our lives?

Cathie said very meaningful prayers at the Churchill service for ANZAC Day.



Church Times

Co-Operating Churches of Churchill

Sunday Services: 10.00am
Williams Avenue,
Churchill.
Tel: 5166 1819

King of Glory Ministries

Yinnar/Boolarra
Meeting at the RSL Hall,
Yinnar
7.00pm each Sunday.

Prayer and Bible Study:
10.00am Mondays at
Yinnar Bakery
and Coffee Shop.
7.00pm Wednesdays at the
Boolarra Co-op
Church Hall.

For more info:
Pastor Lynn Fowler
0493 193 141

Churchill/Morwell Catholic Parishes

Tel: 5134 2849
Fr James Fernandez
Saturday 5.00pm St Vincent's,
Morwell.
Sunday 9.00am Lumen Christi,
Churchill.

10.30am Sacred Heart, Morwell.
Every 4th Sunday alternates
Yinnar/Boolarra.

*See Church bulletin
or call 5134 2849*

Boolarra/Yinnar Co-Operating Parish

Boolarra/Yinnar
1st and 3rd Sunday: 10am
Christ Church Tarwin St.,
Boolarra

Churchill Christian Fellowship

3.00pm Sundays at Haz S. Hall
762 Tramway Road Churchill
(next to the soccer ground)
Everyone Welcome
0409 173 747



Churchill Christian Fellowship

By Steve McNeilly (Pastor)

The Bible urges Christian people to pray. In the Apostle Paul's first letter to Timothy he writes: "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence."

However, let us face it. Sometimes we are not sure what we should be praying for.

We recently had a Federal election and I know people who were earnestly praying that God's will would be done, and that the right people would be

elected.

There is a common saying that "We get the government that we deserve." I do not really agree with that. There are 26,770,000 of us in Australia. Some of us might be really good and some are probably really bad, but we all get the same government.

We cannot all deserve the government we get. If that was true, good people would get good government, bad people would get bad government and in-between people would get in-between government. The same applies at local and State government levels.

On Saturday June 6, people around the nation are coming together in hundreds

of locations for a National Day of Prayer. One of the venues is our overseeing church, Moe New Life Christian Centre, in Fowler St, Moe. The event will run from 10 am to 4 pm, and will feature a communion service beamed in live from Canberra.

Churchill readers of course are invited to join in. You might be surprised at the power and passion of prayer in this annual event.

Please feel free to come check us out any Sunday at 3pm, or enquire about one of our Home Fellowship/Bible study meetings. You will be most welcome.

For more information, please call 0409 173 747.

LEGO® Brings the Force to Yallourn — with more magic on the way



By Damian Andrews

The Force was strong at the Yallourn Production Centre on Star Wars Day (May 4), as LEGO® fans gathered for a locally built Star Wars-themed display filled with detailed models and fan-favourite ships.

Hosted by Lego Addicts Anonymous Inc. (LAA) — a local not-for-profit group — the event featured iconic sets such as the Super Star Destroyer, Death Star, Millennium Falcons, and more.

It was a big day for little bricks, drawing families, collectors, and curious visitors alike.

Founded to support creativity, wellbeing, and connection through LEGO®, LAA hosts regular meetups and public displays, welcoming builders of all

ages and abilities.

“It is about more than building models,” said founding member Sarah. “It is about building confidence, connection, and community.”

The group is steadily expanding, with exciting plans for future displays — including a Harry Potter-themed LEGO® showcase on Sunday September 28, 2025. That event will also feature builds from popular video games, TV shows, and movies such as ‘Jaws’ and ‘Back to the Future’.

LAA’s other growing specialties include:

A collaborative train layout, where visitors can contribute to and run LEGO® trains alongside modular buildings constructed by local creators.

A Great Ball Contraption (GBC) zone — where GBC builders showcase their unique machines that pass tiny balls from one module to another in endlessly creative ways.

Some of the more advanced GBCs even use LEGO® trains and mine carts to move the balls through the display.

LAA is also looking ahead, with plans underway to establish a LEGO® museum and interactive hub in the region. The goal is to create a hands-on community space that supports learning, inclusion, and regional tourism.

Lego Addicts Anonymous is one of several groups breathing new life into the Yallourn Production Centre, alongside the Men’s Shed, quilting club, and

Community Arts Co-op Inc.

To follow LAA or get involved, visit:

facebook.com/groups/legoaddictsanonymous

connect
with someone who cares
13 11 14
Lifeline

VALLEY TROPHY CENTRE
Servicing Gippsland & Beyond
Jen & Mick Kokshoorn
Ph: 0418 545 679 E: vtrophy@aussiebb.com.au

- * Trophies & Awards
- * Engraving services
- * Generous Club/Group Discounts
- * Competitive Pricing
- * Sports strapping tape & medical supplies

www.valleytrophycentre.com

Pest Control Services I&G Combridge
Wayne & Tanya Fleming
Glengarry

PEST CONTROL SERVICES
5166 1822

- Spiders
- Termites
- Ants
- Rodents
- Wasps
- Fleas - Bugs
- Flies - Mozzies
- Termite Inspections
- Pre-Purchase Inspections
- Vermin / Pest Animal Control

Tyrepower
Morwell
5134 1388



Cars are like the human body ...
Neglect them and they will break down!

Give your car a regular check-up for trouble-free motoring.

Morwell Tyrepower Service offers state-of-the-art:-

* Front end aligning from \$69 * Wheel balancing

* Battery checks * Tyres

We have the experienced operators to analyse and repair your problems.

Morwell



42 Vestan Drive,
Morwell

Phone 5134 1388

Fax 5133 9033



Book in today for a check-up. Remember we are a complete Car Care Centre

New Churchill Motors

Lot 8, Phillip Parade,
Churchill, Vic. 3840
Tel: 5122 1380
www.repcoservice.com.au



Specializing in General repairs and Servicing of 4WD and Passenger Vehicles including:-

- * Brake and Clutch Machining and Replacement
- * Cylinder head and Flywheel machining
- * Steering and Suspension repairs
- * Tyre fitting and balancing
- * Log book servicing and general repairs
- * Specialist Diagnostic equipment for current models

Like us on Facebook



All repairs covered by Repco Authorized
Service Nationwide Warranty





Churchill Fire Brigade



Strategic Fuel Reduction Burning

**CHURCHILL
FIRE BRIGADE**

CONTACT
STEVEN BARLING (CAPTAIN)
 0407 828 625
 or **CALL IN**
MONDAYS: 7PM - LATE
SUNDAYS: 9.30AM - MIDDAY
1 - 3 PHILIP PARADE
CHURCHILL VIC 3842

**YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE
AWAITS YOU HERE**



The brigade has recently conducted Fuel Reduction Burns in strategic areas within bushland on the town borders – one on Manning Drive South of the Scout Hall, and the other in the Ikara Way Reserve - to help make our township safer should a fire start in our area.

Both burns have been very successful, and have achieved the burn objectives which includes reducing the fine fuel in each area by 60 percent or more. When a fire starts in the landscape, it is the fine fuels which are one of the contributors to the intensity of the fire. Having

very much reduced the fine fuels means that any fire will be much less intense, giving firefighters a much better chance of controlling the fire before damage to surrounding properties occurs.

However, although we have reduced the fuels in each area and inspected the areas

throughout, please be aware that there may still be some hazardous trees and branches which may have been affected by the fire.

Consequently, we ask the public to restrict their access to the burn areas due to the ongoing potential for hazardous trees.

CHURCHILL – RECYCLE RIGHT

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

**IN THE
CONTAINERS
CHURCHILL HUB
FOYER**

X-rays
Printer Cartridges
Small E-waste items

In the
Pharmacy Box
(in the foyer)

All tablet blister packs

**AT THE
CHURCHILL
LIBRARY SERVICE
DESK**

Household Batteries
(inc. small Lithium
batteries)

**FREE TO RECYCLE AT THE
MORWELL TRANSFER STATION**

(Porters Rd, off Tramway Rd)

- Large E-waste items
- Light globes, car batteries and paint tins

- Large volumes of cardboard
- Scrap metals; glass windows and mirrors

**TEXTILE RECYCLING BINS AT THE
MORWELL TRANSFER STATION ARE BACK!**

Accepted items

- Clothing in any condition (NO underwear or socks)
- Footwear (pairs and odds)

- Accessories (bags, hats, belts, jewellery)
- Towels and sheets

Cash in your cans, glass & plastic bottles (with the 10 cent deposit logo) at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre – between 10am & 3pm weekdays

YINNAR HARDWARE

5163 1413

YINNAR HARDWARE

Mon – Fri: 8.30 am – 5.30 pm
Sat: 8.30 am -1.00 pm

- ★ FARM SUPPLIES
- ★ RURAL PRODUCE
- ★ STOCK FEED

58 Main Street, Yinnar. Phone 5163

Martin CAMERON

THE NATIONALS MEMBER FOR MORWELL

Securing the Valley's future

✉ martin.cameron@parliament.vic.gov.au

☎ 03 5133 9088

📍 Martin4Morwell

📍 12–14 George St, Morwell

🌐 martincameron.com.au

THE NATIONALS for Regional Victoria

Mathison Park



Our working bee goal was to put in the emergency markers for which the committee has worked, planned for and secured funding to have them installed.

There are four main markers at each of the four main entry points to the park.

These are at the top of the ramp in Northways Road near to the Kurnai school crossing; at one of the gates on the eastern side of the park along Northways Road, near the old farm house driveway off Monash Way past the Tramway Road intersection and beside the carpark and playground off Mackeys Road.

As well several others with code location numbers on them and situated throughout the park as shown on the attached map.

The importance of these markers is to help emergency services such as ambulance, fire brigade, police and SES to quickly and accurately pinpoint where the emergency has occurred.

If you are visiting Mathison Park and see, or are involved in such an

emergency you can phone 000 and quote the nearest marker number.

Other tasks completed were the removal of further fencing to allow for cleaning up.

The Gippsland Interchange crew had been busy with our volunteers cleaning up fallen branches and dealing with fallen trees.

Bird Signs Celebration.

To celebrate the installation of our new bird signs in the park, and to thank those involved we held a small event in the park on April 24.

Our guest was Ken Harris with an apology from David Mules who had been so kind as to supply the wonderful photos and text which you can see on the signs.

Our Ward Councillor Leanne Potter and our Council Officer Denise Whittaker we acknowledged and thanked for being there as well.

Our heartfelt thanks were expressed to Ken and David for their generous contributions of their photos and text for these three signs.

Already we have received some high praise for the signs which have been appropriately situated.

Others acknowledged were Richard, one of our committee volunteers, for collating the photos and cataloguing the material into sections, obtaining quotes for production, and then handing over the work to the Comms Team at LCC.

We acknowledged the Comms Team's work in bringing these signs to production.

Other members of our volunteers obtained quotes for the production work with Young Signs and finally installed the signs.

It is a job well done and one of which we were proud to recognise on the day.

Ken, who had dressed especially in his Harris Tartan kilt, was then invited to walk and see the signs. He was very impressed and pleased with the signs and could recount stories of when the photos were taken.

The afternoon finished with afternoon tea in the picnic shelter which Chris and Faye had set up for us.

Plants in my Garden

By Mike Beamish

Species: *Acacia extensa*.

Family: Fabaceae

(previously Mimosaceae).

Derivation:

Acacia: This is a Greek word used by Dioscorides to name some prickly species in Egypt and is derived from acis, meaning 'a pointed instrument'.

extensa: From extensus, a Latin word meaning stretched out, spread out or spreading and presumably referring to the winged or spread out, flattened stems and phyllodes of the species.

Common Name: Wiry Wattle.

Distribution:

The south-west of WA, in the Avon, Darling, Stirling and Warren districts, confined to Jarrah forests especially alongside waterways.

Description:

A slender, erect shrub up to 3m tall with grey, smooth bark and elongated, prominently angled, flattened and almost winged branches and phyllodes. The phyllodes are slender, stiff, erect or spreading, flattened and linear to 20cm long and 2mm wide, with a prominent mid-nerve and a small, recurved tip.

Flowers occur in winter and spring and are numerous bright yellow balls to 10mm in diameter, usually singular in the axils on 10mm long stalks, but occasionally in irregular racemes. Pods are initially reddish fading to brown, straight or slightly curved to 10cm long and 5mm wide and constricted between seeds. The seeds are dark brown, oblong, 5mm x 2mm, sitting longitudinally in the pod with the seed-stalk folded and gradually thickened into a pale frilled aril.

Opinion:

My specimen came from a visit to the APS Colac-Otway group in September 2015 and is planted in my northern bed, originally in heavy shade. However, since then some surrounding trees have blown over or lost branches, so the wattle now



gets more morning sun and dappled rather than heavy shade in the afternoons. Perhaps that will help with better flowering, as so far I would call flowering sparse rather than numerous!

The shrub is now around the 2m tall mark and leans slightly towards the adjacent footpath, presumably heading for more light, but as yet it does not hit me in the face when I walk by, so no pruning is necessary for the time being, unlike some of its neighbours that seem intent on blocking the path.

Most of the time it is an unobtrusive plant and only

catches the eye when the little golden balls appear towards the end of winter (the photo was taken at the end of August).

The Australian Plants Society Latrobe Valley Group hosts monthly activities, excursions and / or meetings. Interested persons are welcome to join in, please contact Mike for more information, email mcandcjb@gmail.com or phone 0447 452 755.

Sources: Simmons – Acacias of Australia, Volume 1.

Sharr – WA Plant Names and their Meanings.



CDCA
Churchill & District Community Association Inc.

supports Churchill & District News
We love our community newspaper!

CDCA meets on the 2nd Thursday of every 2nd month

Next meeting - 7.00 pm Thursday, June 12, 2025
Downstairs in Churchill Town Hall

Contact CDCA via our website – www.cdca.org.au or find us on Facebook!

Aaron Pearce ◀

Plumbing Services

PO Box 408 Churchill
0412 795 984

- * Split System Air Con
- * Solar Hot Water
- * Wood Heating
- * Roofing
- * Gas Fitting
- * Drainage

Reg No 46053

- ✓ Freshly baked bread daily
- ✓ Pastries
- ✓ Gourmet pies
- ✓ Salad rolls
- ✓ Cakes
- ✓ Donuts
- ✓ Cold drinks
- ✓ Tea and coffee
- ✓ Basic grocery items
- ✓ Daily newspapers

Fish & Chips, HSP and Souvlaki available:
Fri, Sat, Sun 4.00 pm - 8.00 pm

Yinnar

BAKERY

Coffee Shop



- ✓ All to have-in or takeaway
- Mon - Wed
6.00am - 6.00pm
- Thurs - Sun
6.00am - 8.00pm

44 Main Street,
Yinnar
Ph: 03 5115 8696

cooking with *Noelene*

<https://thegardeninggastronomer.blogspot.com/>



What do you know?

Here are the answers to last month's challenge:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. Devilled | 4. Eel |
| 2. Dice | 5. Baste |
| 3. Earl Grey tea | 6. A la carte. |



Here is my challenge for you this month:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. What is a dish of tomatoes, capsicum, onions in olive oil and mixed with scrambled eggs? | 3. Meaning - sharp or spicy tasting? |
| 2. These are small wedge shaped bivalve molluscs, found in wet sand along beaches. When shelled and steamed can be used in salads, soups, rice and pasta dishes? | 4. A very small amount of salt, pepper or spice held between your thumb and index finger? |
| | 5. Whole fruits or large pieces of fruit cooked in a sweet syrup until clear and the shape is still definable? |

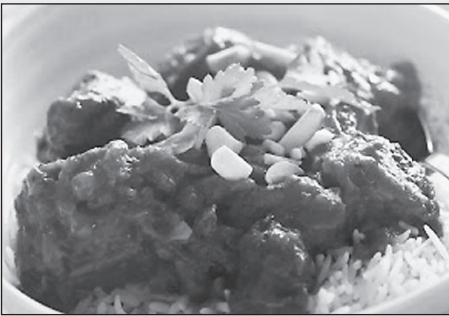
Brown sugar sponge



Ingredients

4 eggs lightly beaten, 165gm of firmly packed dark brown sugar, 150gm of wheaten cornflour (cornstarch), 1 tsp of cream of tartar, 1/2 tsp of bicarbonate of soda, 300ml of heavy cream. Preheat your oven to 180 deg C. Grease 2 round cake pans 22cm (9") deep. Beat the eggs and brown sugar together in a large bowl with your electric beaters until thick and creamy. Mix together the cornflour, cream of tartar and bicarb of soda. Now sift the dry mixture over the egg mixture and gently fold in. Divide the batter between the two pans. Bake the cakes in the preheated oven for about 18 minutes or until risen and golden. Check that a skewer inserted comes out clean. Beat the cream in a medium bowl with electric beaters until firm peaks form. Place one sponge on a serving plate, spread with half the cream. Top with the remaining sponge and spread with remaining cream mixture. N.B - Filled sponge is best eaten the day it is made. Unfilled sponge can be frozen for up to 2 months.

Slow cooked beef and date stew



Ingredients

1 tbs of canola oil, 1 kg of beef rump cut into cubes, 2 onions, peeled and roughly chopped, 2 tbs of minced garlic, 1/2 tsp of ground cinnamon, 1 tsp of ground cumin, 1 tsp of minced ginger, 1/2 tsp of ground tumeric, 1 tsp of ground coriander, 500ml of beef stock, 1 x 400gm can of diced tomatoes, 1 cup of dates roughly chopped, cracked black pepper, slivered almonds and parsley for the garnish, steamed rice to serve. Lightly spray the bowl of your slow cooker with oil, turn on low to heat. Heat the oil in a large saucepan over a medium heat and brown the cubed beef in two batches, remove to prepared bowl of your slow cooker. Add the onions to the saucepan and cook till the onions are tender, add the garlic, ginger and spices, along with the dates, tomatoes and stock. Mix to combine and bring to the boil, then add the mixture to the beef in your slow cooker. Cover and cook on high for 4 hours or on low for 6 hours. Season to taste with cracked pepper. Serve over steamed/ boiled rice and garnish with parsley and slivered almonds.

Gingerbread men



Ingredients

125gm of butter/marg at room temperature, 100gm of brown sugar, 60ml of maple syrup, 1 egg lightly beaten, 310gm of plain flour, 1/2 tsp of bicarb of soda, 1 tbs of ground ginger, 1 dsp of ground cinnamon. Heat your oven to 160 deg C. Line 3 baking trays with baking paper. Use your electric mixer to beat butter/ marg and sugar until light and fluffy. Add the maple syrup and egg, beat to combine. In a medium bowl mix together the flour, bicarb of soda, ginger and cinnamon, and fold into the butter mixture, until just combined and a soft dough forms. Place the dough between 2 sheets of baking paper and roll out to a thickness of 5mm(1/4"). Cut shapes from the dough using a gingerman cutter. Place on prepared baking trays about 1"(2cm) apart. Bake one tray at a time in the preheated oven for 15 minutes or until firm to touch. Leave stand on trays for 5 minutes, before carefully transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.

Crunchy honey chicken



Ingredients

500ml of canola oil, 50gm of vermicelli noodles, 1 egg lightly beaten, 1 and 1/2 cups of water, 1 cup of self raising flour, 1/3 cup of cornflour, 450gm of chicken breasts, cut into bite sized pieces, 1 tbs of peanut oil, 4 spring onions cut into 2" pieces, 1 x 225gm can of pineapples rings, drained and quartered, 3/4 cup of honey. Let's get started. Pour the canola oil into a medium saucepan and heat over a medium heat until hot. Deep fry the noodles in two batches, for a couple of seconds until white and fluffy. Remove with a slotted spoon and drain on absorbent paper. In a large bowl whisk together the water, beaten egg and flour until batter is smooth. Place the cornflour in a shallow bowl and coat the chicken pieces, shaking off any excess cornflour. Dip the chicken pieces into the batter mix and deep fry in small batches until golden brown. Remove and drain on absorbent paper. Heat the peanut oil in a large pan over a medium / high heat and stir fry the spring onions and drained and quartered pineapple. Place the chicken onto serving dishes and top with the spring onions, pineapple and noodles. Drizzle over honey. Delicious!

Chocolate avocado mousse



Ingredients

1 avocado, soft but not over ripe, halved and pitted, 2 tbs of heavy cream, 2 tbs of icing sugar, 1 heaped tbs of cocoa powder, 1/2 tsp of vanilla extract. Scoop the flesh of the avocado into a bowl along with the cocoa powder, icing sugar, cream and vanilla extract. Blend with your hand processor until smooth. Place in your refrigerator for 30 minutes to chill. Serve topped with whipped cream and or fresh mint sprigs. Mmmmmmm, delicious.

Tuna chowder

Ingredients

1 dsp of sesame oil, 1 onion, peeled and finely chopped, 2 celery sticks, trimmed and finely sliced, 1 tbs of plain flour, 750 ml of milk, 200gm can of tuna in springwater, 420gm can of corn kernels (drained), 1 dsp of freshly chopped thyme, cracked black pepper to taste, 1 tbs of freshly chopped parsley and sweet paprika to sprinkle. Heat the oil in a large saucepan. Add the onion and celery and gently cook over a medium heat, stirring occasionally until the onion is softened. Stir in the flour to thicken. Turn the heat to low and gradually add the milk, stirring continuously. Now add the tuna and its liquid, the drained corn kernels and thyme. Mix gently, and bring to the boil, cover and simmer for 5 minutes. Remove the pot from the heat and season to taste with cracked black pepper. Sprinkle the chowder with sweet paprika and chopped parsley. Ladle into soup bowls and serve hot. If you like you can top the chowder with a spoonful of cream cheese in the bowls. It is your dish.





**By Neil Cartwright
(President)**

An unusual request came our way recently. Local cricketing identity, Ian Gibson, needed some plaques made for an upcoming tour of New Zealand by Veterans Cricket Australia.

Some were to be presented to Cricket Clubs hosting the event and others for “Man of The Match” etc.

Ian told me that their usual supplier was unable, on this occasion, to fulfil

the order, so approached the Boolarra Men’s Shed.

Our artisan Lawrie produced the plaques using locally sourced Blackwood and the result exceeded Ian’s expectations.

Boolarra produced plaques will soon be adorning New Zealand clubhouses.

Thanks to funding from Latrobe City Council, Boolarra Men’s Shed was able to purchase a new Defibrillator, replacing the outdated and no longer

supported one we currently have.

The new one is a state of the art, fully automatic unit, which has been installed on the exterior of our building allowing it to be utilised by the whole community. A sign on the roadside close to the gate also alerts people to the location of the unit.

Just a reminder that our Sharpening Machine is available and can sharpen knives, chisels, secateurs, loppers and also hairdressing and dressmaking scissors

etc for members of the community. Our rates are competitive, so drop your dull tools at the shed and they will be sharpened up.



ADVERTISE

IN YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

SEND YOUR MESSAGE ALL OVER THE LOCAL DISTRICT



CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

5122 2961


CDNEWS.COM.AU



CHURCHILL AND DISTRICT NEWS

MATCHBOX GALLERY

LEADLIGHTING & FINE ART




Pip Nikodemski
Marie Ward


36 Main Street, Yinnar 3869

0429 432 896


Normal opening hours
Fri – Sun 11 – 4 or by appointment
Local artists encouraged to use gallery space to display their work.
Leadlight enquiries welcome



www.matchboxgallery.com.au



pipnikodemski



Matchbox Gallery - Yinnar

Group exhibition by Local Artists

March 1st – May 18th



GUTTER GLEAN

GIPPSLAND

0432 464 449

GUTTERGLEAM.COM.AU

TRUSTED BY LOCALS, POWERED BY FAMILY!

- VACUUM GUTTER CLEANING
- SOLAR PANEL CLEANING
- WATER TANK CLEANING
- ROOF MOULD TREATMENTS



REQUEST A FREE QUOTE

FULLY LICENCED
FULLY INSURED
WORKING WITH CHILDREN
& POLICE CHECKS

RESIDENTIAL
&
COMMERCIAL

BEFORE



AFTER



BOOK NOW



Darren Chester

Putting Locals First

#lovegippsland




THE NATIONALS for Gippsland

www.darrenchester.com.au

Authorised by Darren Chester MP, National Party of Australia, 126 Franklin Street, Traralgon VIC 3844



In the meantime help the Strzelecki koala by driving carefully in bush areas, by being a responsible pet owner, by protecting and planting koala habitat, by finding out more about our precious and threatened Strzelecki koala species and by letting others know about the Strzelecki koala.



**Latrobe Health
Assembly**

**Shaping
The Valley**



Medical students changing the future of healthcare for Latrobe Valley young people

The Latrobe Health Assembly is proud to host four medical students from Monash University's School of Rural Health as they explore innovative ways to engage young people with the health system in the Latrobe Valley.

This initiative provides future healthcare professionals with firsthand experience in community-based health advocacy and service design.

As part of their placement, the students are facilitating workshops with young people to identify barriers they face when accessing healthcare and to develop strategies for better support.

One key initiative being trialled is a Youth Health Journal, a tool designed to help young people

record symptoms, moods, past medical history, and responses from healthcare providers. The journal aims to empower young patients by ensuring they leave medical appointments with a clear and comprehensive understanding of their healthcare provider's advice.

The placement students have already heard from students at Kurnai College Morwell who highlighted the benefits of the journal concept with one student saying "This would be great, as I always struggle to follow what the doctor is saying and walk out of appointments confused.

A place for them to leave me with notes means I can take my time understanding what they said."

"We know that navigating the health system can be challenging,

especially for young people," said the Chair at the Latrobe Health Assembly, Tanya Rong.

"This placement is a valuable opportunity for medical students to learn directly from the community while supporting young people to take ownership of their health needs in a way that suits them best."

The project highlights the importance of youth-centred approaches in healthcare and demonstrates the value of collaboration between future health professionals and the communities they will serve. The students' placement aligns with broader efforts to make healthcare more accessible, understandable, and responsive to the needs of young people in the Latrobe Valley.

GIPPSLAND
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE



Imagine Live

Tuesday May 27, 2025,
10.30am and 1pm

GPAC Main Theatre.
Tickets from \$15

"It's about animals!"...
"It's about Imagination!"...
"It's about our Home!"

Magical and meaningful, Imagine Live is a celebration of creativity, friendship and our precious natural world.

With the help of the audience, performers play and sing their way through the iconic pages of the best-selling book, 'Imagine' and quickly discover there is way more to these pages than first meets the eye.

Spot a leopard, dive with a dolphin or dig up a dinosaur as the pages of the book spring to life before your eyes.

Beautifully underscored by a rich original musical score, Imagine Live combines digital puppetry, animation and playful audience participation as characters and objects travel between real and animated worlds.

Les Divas : An all-male revue

Friday August 1, 2025,
8pm

GPAC Main Theatre.

Tickets from \$66

From the producers of Prada Clutch's: All-Drug Revue comes Les Divas: An all-male revue.

Australia's six-foot something songstress Prada Clutch plays the Goddess of Pop; Cher in her show set on the Las Vegas Strip featuring an all-star line-up of her most famous friends.

The all-male revue includes some of the world's greatest divas including: Barbara Streisand, Shirley Bassey, Tina Turner, Mariah Carey, Beyoncé, Whitney Houston, Celine Dion, Diana Ross and of course – Cher!

Emma Memma: Dance Island Party

Friday September 26, 2025, 10am GPAC Main Theatre. Tickets \$37.50

Due to huge demand, ARIA award-winning children's entertainer, EMMA MEMMA, has announced a third leg of shows for her brand new tour Dance Island Party.

Families will be treated to a sprinkling of Emma Memma's classic songs featured in last year's hugely successful Boop and Twirl Tour.

Also new favourites like 'Coconut Tree', 'Welcome to Dance Island', 'Beach Trolley' and 'Jellyfish Blob' soon to be released on the new 'Dance Island Party' album.

EDCOMP IT SERVICES

Home & Business IT Support
Hardware/Software Solutions

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| ✓ Network Services | ✓ NBN Set Up | ✓ Virus Removal |
| ✓ Professional Services | ✓ Computer Sales & Repairs | ✓ Cloud Services |
| ✓ Managed IT Services | ✓ Installation | ✓ Onsite Repairs |
| | ✓ Collaboration Services | |

1 Contingent St Trafalgar, Vic 3824

Phone: 56331344 Email: sales@edcomp.com.au



COMMUNITY SAFETY *Words of Wisdom* Reporting town issues

This month we are looking at how to report issues around the town.

Many people have noted that they have trouble reporting issues around town, because they do not know to whom to report it. For instance, if you see a pot hole in the road, do you report it to the local council or Vic Roads?

Problem solved!

Simply download "Snap Send Solve" on to your mobile phone.

Once you have it on there, and you see a problem to be reported, take a

photo onto the Snap Send Solve app.

The app will work out where you are (you can still type in an address) and report the problem, then you will get an email to say that the department has received the job.

It is as easy as that!

The thing is, if you do not report things, you cannot expect authorities to automatically know what is happening in your neighbourhood.

The app works wherever you are in Australia.

FOR EMERGENCIES, RING 000 FOR NON URGENT POLICE ASSISTANCE OR ATTENDANCE WITH NO SIRENS, RING 131444

Police advise members of the public that, if you require police assistance, call 000. The police communications operator will be able to assess your need and either send a police vehicle, relay a message or find out when the police station will be attended.

MORWELL

RSL CLUB

Phone
5134 2455

Victoria Cross Bistro

Morwell RSL

OPEN 7 Days

LUNCH and DINNER

UPDATED MENU

THURSDAYS

Kids eat free with each main meal purchased.

**GROUP
FUNCTIONS**

**BOOK NOW
for your next
GROUP FUNCTION**

STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



A Dot on the Map – San Marino

At the present time, serious stamp collectors shake their heads in wonder at the number of countries that issue stamps to help balance the country's budget, or, even worse, to bulk out the annual bonus of the person at the head of the postal service. It is a practice that has been around for a long time, and one of the early players was San Marino. It began this policy just after World War II by issuing long sets of colourful stamps and releasing the lower values onto the stamp market in huge numbers. It was aimed at the child stamp collector, and it worked. If you look at an album from

the 1950s, you are almost sure that stamps from San Marino will be in it. They were cheap, colourful and beautifully printed in bright colours. How could any kid resist?

San Marino is a very small republic seemingly perched on a mountaintop in Italy. The mountain and the land surrounding it covering an area of 61 square kilometres, make up the Republic of San Marino. You can drive into the town at the top of the mountain but finding a parking space is nearly impossible, and sensible tourists park at the bottom and ride the cable car to the summit. It is believed to have been first settled as a monastery in the year

301 AD by St Marinus, a stonemason who took on holy orders. Its mountain, Mount Titano, overlooks the coastal plain in north-eastern Italy.

Its history is checkered with different controlling groups occupying it but the locals have always won their independence back by appealing to the Papacy. At one time it was a Papal State but it reverted to being a Republic in 1291. In recent times it has been a neutral state but in WWI it sent ten men to join the Italian army and ten to set up a hospital. In WWII it enforced its neutrality, although as the war passed by, German soldiers occupied it for a few weeks, and they were forced out by the Allies who stayed for two months. Its written constitution which goes back to 1600, stipulates the democratic election of the Grand and General Council, headed by two Captains Regent with equal powers every six months. The council meets in its largest town, Dogana.

San Marino has a total population of a little over 34,000. The Republic relies on retail, financial services and tourism to keep it viable, and the warm summers and cool winters guarantee a steady flow of tourist visitors throughout the year. Its official language is Italian, but the local dialect Romagnol is still used. It uses the Euro as its official currency, but it is not a member of the European Union. It is a member of the United Nations. Collecting the stamps of this tiny country would ensure a very colourful and interesting collection indeed.

Morwell Red Cross



20 Years of Service Awarded

On March 12, Val Giles who is a long standing volunteer in the community of the Latrobe Valley, was presented with a 20 Year service Badge from Red Cross. Val who joined Morwell and District Red Cross back in 2004, has served various positions within the Branch over the last 20 Years. From 2006 until 2009, Val held the position of Branch Chairperson, as well as Deputy Chairperson of our Branch from 2013 until 2019. During her time as Deputy Chairperson Val also spent three years in the role of Deputy Divisional Operations Officer for Red

Cross Emergency Services, Central West Gippsland (now known as Latrobe/Baw Baw).

Val commenced her work as a Red Cross Emergency Service Volunteer prior to becoming a Branch member.

During her time as a volunteer, she has offered compassionate and psychological first aid to those affected by flood and fire, at relief and recovery centres within Gippsland. She played a key catering role at the Omeo and Morwell Open Cut Fires of 2003.

She has been extraordinarily successful in organising trivia nights, raising considerable funds for Red Cross, through raffle

ticket sales, Bunnings BBQs, Christmas Gift Wrapping at Mid Valley and High Teas. In the early days, Val would regularly serve refreshments to donors at Red Cross Life Blood Services, assisting with the welfare program at Morwell RSL and is a member of the Maryvale Private Hospital Board. Through Val our Branch has been able to donate Trauma Teddies to Maryvale Private Hospital, which were gladly received by members of the Hospital.

Meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month in the Yinnar and District Memorial Hall at 1:30pm. New members are always welcome, so pop in and say hello.

Danny O'BRIEN MP

State Member for Gippsland South

Working for Gippsland South

54B Cunninghame St, Sale
 03 5144 1987
 danny.obrien@parliament.vic.gov.au
 www.dannyobrienmp.com.au
 /dannyobrienmp

THE NATIONALS for Regional Victoria

SHOP LOCAL

2025

9.00 am to 1.00 pm at Churchill Shopping Centre on these dates:

Winter Market - Saturday, August 30th

Christmas Market - Saturday, December 6th

CRAFT MARKET & STALLS

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLES

ENTERTAINMENT

VOUCHER GIVE-AWAYS

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL RETAILERS & SHOP LOCAL IN CHURCHILL

LIKE 'CHURCHILL SHOP LOCAL' ON FACEBOOK & STAY INFORMED ABOUT OUR SHOPPING CENTRE MARKET DAYS

Book your market stall site on-line at churchill.org.au/events

Good community turn-out at the Holy Innocents church

A rainbow in the clouds was a beautiful reminder of God’s love for mankind as locals and visitors gathered at Holy Innocents Church, Yinnar South for the first service there of 2025.

The service was held to commemorate both the church’s namesake, the ‘holy innocents’ (that is, the children two years and under) massacred by King Herod in his attempt to execute the Baby Jesus, as well as to discuss the future of the historic church and its importance to the Yinnar South community, and hear locals’ thoughts on what they would like done with the building.

The service, organised by Reverend Bec Hayman, was very simple. The pews had been placed along the walls so everyone could see one another.

‘Amazing Grace’ was sung and it was moving to think of all the congregations in the past who had sung that very song in that very church.

A bible reading from the gospel of Matthew, telling of Jesus’ birth and Herod’s cruel acts that followed, was read aloud. Instead of a sermon, attendees shared various thoughts on the reading, touching on hard questions like why suffering exists when God is good. Bec finished the little service with a prayer.

Then, going around the circle, everyone introduced themselves and shared why they had come that morning. Some shared that they had come for the church service and to worship God, some had come because of their interest in historical churches, some because they had heard the church was going to be moved and were against it, and three of the men said, ‘Because my wife made me’!

After a break for morning tea, various ideas for the future of the church were discussed.

There was strong community feeling that the church should stay in its current position on Middle Creek Rd and not be moved into Yinnar, which had been an alternative idea put forth as an option to enable easier building maintenance.

The possibility of a mid-week Bible study was raised, but only a couple of people were interested; however, everyone was in agreement that they would like to have a service there every fifth Sunday in months containing five Sundays, with most locals leaning towards more relaxed, informal services. Visitors commented they felt welcomed there and would like to come again.

Attendee Carol Iverach said it was good to see the place getting more use. She commented, “Without people, a church is just an empty building.”

The service was advertised on Facebook and in the Churchill News to help spread awareness that it was on.

The church was open prior to the service for people to come in and have a look around. In total, 24 people

stayed for the service, an impressive level of attendance for a building described by the Morwell Advertiser in 1936 as “having a seating capacity for approximately 25 people”.

The church has also been fitted with a keypad access to make it available as a place of prayer or quiet reflection for anyone at any time, though those wishing to do so should first phone Bec to request the access code.





St Vincent de Paul Society

good works

St Vinnies

SOUP VAN

Soup van started Friday January 17

6.00 pm at White Parade reserve

6.30 pm at Illawonga Court

Soup, sandwiches, frozen meals, fruit, pantry items.

Please bring a bag and yourselves. SPREAD THE WORD

Friends of Morwell National Park



April Activity Report

For the day's activity the nesting box survey was to be completed. This survey had been delayed twice because of wet weather. The forecast for the day was clear with the possibility of rain so we hoped to complete the survey this time.

The survey started on the boxes closest to the car park and two vehicles were used along the main track to carry our gear and lunches. To survey each nesting box, we used a pole mounted camera to put into each box, so we could look upon an attached screen and then record what was inside each nesting box. While the first boxes were checked a few inkweeds were located and removed by a few others in the group. The early boxes contained leaf litter with only a few containing sugar gliders. As we moved through the boxes, a few more sugar gliders were found.

In one box, a sugar glider was active (out of the box upon the lid) while we approached the box. We were unable to look inside this box due to the sugar glider sitting on the top of the box.

Around 12 noon, a little rain started to fall. This provided a good opportunity to stop for lunch and then wait and see what the weather was like after the lunch break. We lunched on the main track and were able to sit upon some trees cut down by the Parks contractors. Along the main track it has been widened with the additional timber pushed off the side of the track.

After lunch the sky had brightened but the rain still threatened, so the group continued with the survey while watching the sky.

As we finished each section, we were happy the rain had not returned yet. We got to the Butt Butt hill and completed the six boxes scattered across this hill. That left us with just the boxes across the creek. Most of the group travelled across the creek in one of the vehicles while a few balanced across upon a fallen tree trunk. As these last boxes were surveyed more inkweed was located and removed.

Over the day at least 45 sugar gliders were observed

on the screen and this figure will improve when the footage is reviewed on a larger screen where more detail can be observed.

As everybody returned to the car park, the rain returned. We were happy to complete the survey and return home dry.

May Activity

Saturday May 17, 5.00pm The group will meet in the Kerry Road picnic area for a nocturnal walk. The evening will start with a BYO dinner. You will need to bring your own food and drink for the picnic (folding chairs would also be very useful) and wear clothing and footwear suitable for the conditions of the evening. Torches and spotlights will also be useful for the evening walk.

If you want to come just for the nighttime walk, this activity will occur when it starts to get dark.

Anyone who is curious about the nightlife or bat activity in Morwell National Park is welcome to join us for the activity.

(Note: The activity is on a Saturday night rather than the normal Sunday morning.)



real dentures, real smiles.



gippsland dentures

57 Buckley Street, Morwell 5134 8309
96 Hotham Street, Traralgon 51761464
4A Peart Street, Leongatha 5662 0003
www.gippslanddentures.com.au



Bistro Open 7 days

Lunch and Dinner

Bookings essential

Phone 03 5134 3449

Website

www.morwellbowls.com.au

Email

bowls@morwellbowls.com.au

[morwellbowls.com.au](https://www.morwellbowls.com.au)



THURSDAY NIGHT IS POT & PARMA NIGHT \$25

Includes a pot of beer, glass of house wine or soft drink
Chicken schnitzel with your choice of toppings served with your choice of chips and salad or vegetables

Traditional Ham, Napoli & cheese	Parmanara Creamy garlic sauce, bacon, onion & parmesan
Naked Traditional chicken schnitzel topped with a sauce on the side	Texan Chipotle coleslaw, bacon, legendary BBQ sauce & cheese
Meat lovers Ham, bacon, salami, BBQ sauce & cheese	CSA Bacon, avocado, sweet chili & cheese
Mashed up Mashed potato, gravy & cheese	Vegan Napoli, spinach & vegan cheese (vegan schnitzel)
Bolognese Bolognese sauce & cheese	

Strzelecki Bushwalking Club



March has been a spectacular month for the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club, with leaders outdoing themselves with the quality of activities offered.

The beginning of the month saw a group of walkers head off to the Dandenongs for a 14km jaunt around Grant's picnic ground. This was a pleasant walk amongst giant old gums and tree ferns.

There have been other day hikes including a visit to the Morwell National Park and into the Baw Baw National Park to the remote area of mustering flats.

A highlight of the March calendar was the four-day adventure to the Walls of Jerusalem National Park. The Park is located on

Tasmania's central plateau and is 518 square kilometres total area. It is known for its conifer forests and dolerite peaks. There are many lakes scattered throughout the landscape. In the Walls of Jerusalem Park along with great scenery and fantastic company of fellow bushwalkers was the other delight of evening visits from eastern quolls.

These little critters would scurry around camp looking for something to eat. They like to eat any insects plus any human food they can find!

This is very spectacular but rugged country and walkers must be fully self-sufficient and well prepared for extreme conditions. In

the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club, we are very fortunate to have highly qualified and experienced leaders which makes such activities possible for club members.

The Club also offered a multi-day kayaking event in the west of the State on the Glenelg River which was very well attended by our keen paddlers.

At the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club, we are always keen to welcome new members in and offer many opportunities each month to “get involved” and have fun with a great bunch of people.

Further information is available on the website at sbwc.org.au, on our Facebook page or by contacting publicity@sbwc.org.au



**Experience a
world of wow across
Museums Victoria**

Wonder at Horridus, our 67-million-year-old triceratops fossil at **Melbourne Museum**.

Discover a world of science at **Scienceworks.**

Connect with people and their stories from around the world at **Immigration Museum**.

Plus, at all of our museums, children visit for free!

Museums Victoria - a world of wow.
Visit now.



Latrobe
**Community
Health** Service

Are you prepared for flu season?



Flu season is already upon us, and with it comes the possibility of being struck down with a range of nasty symptoms—including fever, cough, headache, chills, aching muscles and joint pain, runny or blocked nose, and loss of appetite.

The flu is contagious and has the potential to make some people very unwell, but there are some things we can do to prepare for flu season and help keep ourselves, our loved ones, and our community protected.

Get the flu jab

The flu jab is the first and best line of defence when it comes to protecting yourself from the flu—and the Australian Government recommends that everyone over the age of six months

has a flu vaccination every year.

Getting a flu vaccination is really easy, Latrobe Community Health Service is offering flu vaccinations to help keep our community healthy and safe. The LCHS flu clinic is available to everyone, and is free for people under five, over the age of 65 or who are medically eligible.

The clinic is available at LCHS Traralgon on Wednesdays and LCHS Morwell on Thursdays. Give us a call on 1800 242 696 to book your appointment today.

Practise good hygiene and keep away from those who are sick

Good hygiene is one of the best ways to prevent the

flu from spreading.

This means washing your hands regularly, throwing out tissues as soon as they are used, not sharing cups or cutlery with infected people, and keeping surfaces like benchtops and door handles clean. Staying away from people who are sick with the flu also reduces the chances of you becoming unwell.

If you do become sick, keeping up hygiene habits and covering your cough and sneeze will help stop the spread of flu to others. Make sure you wait until you are well again before you have visitors over or return to work.

Stock up on essentials

Flu symptoms can come on suddenly and knock you off your feet, which is why it is a good idea to have some essentials ready to go in case you do become unwell.

Tissues, cold and flu medications, pain relievers, nasal sprays to help with congestion, and throat lozenges to ease sore throats are great items to have on hand. Being prepared with meals such as soups, or ingredients like lemon, honey, or ginger, which can help soothe nasty symptoms, can also make the flu easier to manage.

Rotarians unite for great cause



From left: Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester, Centenary House manager Tania Whitehead, Mitchell River Rotary Club's Bernie Farquhar and Centenary House deputy chair Dave Swainsbury.

Rotary Club of Mitchell River's annual fundraising breakfast for Centenary House was a great success with strong support from the community.

Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester welcomed guests to the event and thanked Rotarians for their tireless support.

"Gippsland Rotary Centenary House in Traralgon is the house that

love built," Mr Chester said.

"For almost 20 years, it has been hosting patients receiving treatment at Latrobe Regional Hospital and their family members. For some people, it has meant the difference between receiving treatment and just letting their condition take its course.

While I have worked with Rotarians to secure funding for capital works

on two stages of the project, the recurrent costs require fundraising, and it was wonderful to be in Bairnsdale for the Mitchell River Rotary Club's annual breakfast.

Most of the people who stay at Centenary House live in East Gippsland, and it is terrific to see our Rotary Club volunteers working together to provide funding for this much-needed service."

Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists

Dr Philip Zylstra will give a presentation, by Zoom, on "Rethinking Planned Burns" at the next meeting of the Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists Club. The meeting starts at 7:30 pm on Friday May 23, in the Moe Library. His presentation will be followed by our Club's monthly meeting and supper.

Dr Philip Zylstra came into bushfire research from a career in fire management and specialist remote area firefighting. He holds positions at Curtin University and the University of Wollongong, and researches fire behaviour and the implications that this has for the ways we interact with forests.

The Club outing on Saturday May 24, will be going to Tyers Park Lime Kilns area where we will be looking at the flora, fungi and fauna. We will also be looking for hollow bearing



trees, potentially used by Greater Gliders, in the lowland and damp forest. Wear appropriate clothing and bring your lunch and water for an enjoyable day out.

Meet at 10am at Tyers Hall carpark in Mt Hope Road for car pooling.

Everyone is most welcome, both to the meeting and the excursion.

For more information contact our secretary, Rose, on 0410 237 292. Please visit our website www.lvfieldnats.org to register if you wish to use Zoom to join the meeting from home and/or if you would like to come on the excursion.

Photograph: Greater Glider
Credit: David Stickney

Strut Re-Gas GIPPSLAND

"The Strut Specialist"

Struts are not throw away items ...
**They can be
RE-GASSED**

- Sales of Steel and Stainless Struts
- Repairs to all types of Struts
- Design applications and pressure modification
- Handles and Fittings available

**PICK-UP
IN MOST
AREAS**

Tel: 5166 1665 Mob: 0407 542 122

*Books Comics DVD/CDs
LPs Bric-a-Brac
Collectables
Confectionery*

Nook and Cranny
97 Buckley Street, Morwell

Trevor Whelan
Shop 16 West Place Churchill
(Access from Marina Drive)
ABN 57 719 482 063
Mob 0448690757
ford460v8@hotmail.com
www.sightandsoundengineering.com.au

Sight & Sound Engineering
Custom Electronics - Mobile Phone / Pc Repair Sales and Service - Cases for Mobile Phone/Tablet - New PC sytems / Upgrades - Home Theatre /Projector - VHS to DVD Conversion



Latrobe Regional Health



(Back) Michelle Smale, Nurse Unit Manager, Nicholson Rehabilitation. Sue Shadbolt, Clinical Nurse Coordinator/Regional Improvement Coordinator, Palliative Care Consultancy Gippsland
(Front) Donors, Jo McLean and Betty McLean

A heartfelt donation from a community member has made it possible to introduce a 'cuddle bed' to Latrobe Regional Health's palliative care unit, offering patients and their loved ones the comfort of closeness during their most vulnerable time.

The cuddle bed is a regular hospital bed which can be extended to accommodate two people, enabling a family member or friend to lie next to a patient.

"This bed will make a huge difference to palliative patients who are able to be close to their loved ones when they are in need of emotional support," Nicholson Nurse Unit Manager Michelle Smale said.

"We have supported

palliative care patients on the ward for around two years now and we have found a significant number of people stay with their loved ones, sitting on the side of the bed, holding their hand."

The purchase of the cuddle bed on the Nicholson Unit was made possible through a donation from local resident Betty McLean.

"Members of my family have needed palliative care from the team here at LRH. I have seen the marvellous work they do so I was happy to support them with a donation.

I am sure this bed will make people's lives better," Betty said.

The extra space will also allow patients to be close to their children or grandchildren to chat or

read them a story.

"We have even had people bring their pets which again, takes support and tenderness to another level," Michelle said.

Palliative care patient Daniel says the extra space in the bed also has a practical purpose.

"I have a syringe driver delivering medicine on each side, so it's been good to have that extra space with all the extra bits I'm attached to.

I am not cuddling my wife, but I do get to cuddle the drivers at night," Daniel said

"I've also had a fair few people in here who have been able to sit on the bed next to me. The kids can come in and sit next to me. It is a good bed!"

1st Churchill Scouts take on Phillip Island

By Keiran Swallow (aged 12)

The Phillip Island Camp was a great time away for Churchill scouts and the leaders.

There were lots of fun activities including A-Maze-N Things, hiking, free time, going to the beach, and sand (a lot of sand). At A-Maze-N Things, we had a fun time doing lots of things. This included finding the leaders hiding in a maze, doing a short horror walk, magic, chess, illusions, and

escaping the maze.

We did a few adventurous hikes including Rhyll Inlet, and Conservation Hill and saw a lot of wallabies at both. Both were fun and felt longer than they were. Every night we did a night hike to the beach, and they were fun. Free time was my favourite. We got to watch movies every night. Over all, the Phillip Island camp was an extremely fun way to start the school holidays.

Churchill Scouts has limited vacancies:



Churchill
Scout Group

Joey Scouts, for ages 5 to 8
Cub Scouts, for ages 8 to 11
Scouts, for ages 11 to 14
Venturer Scouts for ages 14 to 18
Rover Scouts for ages 18 - 25; and
Adult volunteer roles
For more information please email
groupleader@1stchurchill.com.au



Know your **LOCAL**
BUSINESS

J Style Hair and Beauty

With 17 years' experience behind her Julie opened her salon at 4 Georgina Place in Churchill in February. She offers a range of hairdressing services including cuts, colours, hair extensions and more. She is a blonde specialist.

In addition spray tanning is available and Julie plans to offer a range of beauty treatments.

Opening hours are Tuesday - Wednesday 9.30 am - 5.00 pm, Thursday 9.30 am - 8.00 pm, Friday 9.30 am - 5.00 pm, Saturday 8.00 am - 1.00 pm

Barbering services are available Mondays from 9.00 am.
Telephone: 5164 1010



Harriet Shing MP

MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA

Your voice in the Eastern Victoria Region

216 Commercial Road, Morwell VIC 3840

harriet.shing@parliament.vic.gov.au

1300 103 199

harrietshingmp @ShingvWorld

Authorized by H Shing, 216 Commercial Rd, Morwell.



By Leo Billington

How people are remembered and, hopefully are not forgotten (series continued).

Before remembering those interred at the Hazelwood Cemetery, and with no disrespect, an interstate resident enquiring after a long-deceased relative wondered if our cemetery was a “countryfied place.”

Pardon? “Is it small, with long grass, a few graves and sheltered under a large oak tree?”

Hang on a moment. Please make time for a visit.

The Hazelwood Cemetery site was government surveyed in June 1878. Once the necessary documentation was approved by the State government, it was officially gazetted as a cemetery in April 1879. Interments were then officially allowable.

“Then where’s the Morwell Cemetery? Morwell is a big town.” Sorry, Morwell has never designated land for a cemetery.

“Oh!”

Surveyed in June 1878, two years after George Armstrong Custer made, what is considered his dying

declaration in June 1876 - now known as “Custer’s Last Stand”.

However there is more. Alexander Bell was granted a patent for his telephone invention on March 7, 1876. As one reputable local historian wrote, “Morwell, from April 1878 onwards, was making progress.” Sounds a reasonable statement; after all, Roger O’Flaherty buys land “in Morwell” in 1878. He is soon followed by the Tolmie family.

Then, to add further perspective, “The Great 1890 Fire of Morwell” flared up in March. Commercial premises came alight as about 10 shops and some offices were destroyed.

The point is, the Hazelwood Cemetery is not small, not hiding under a large tree and is as old as Morwell. Actually, there are approximately 6,000 interments.

Nonetheless, our cemetery, similar to others, has its challenges when responding to enquiries.

William Black was born in 1828, in Fort William, Inverness-shire, Scotland, United Kingdom. His father, Alexander Black, was 31 and his mother,

Catherine Campbell, was 31. William married Christina Mackay on November 13, 1850, in Kilmallie, Argyll, Scotland, United Kingdom.

Initially, upon arriving at Mount Edgerton near Ballarat, he soon realised farming was more profitable. This decision brought him and family to Boolarra to begin dairy farming.

With other members of the extended family, the Black family settled on land once owned by the Perry and Primrose families.

After the passing of Christina (while enroute to Australia), William Black married Jane Matheson. He died in 1886, in Boolarra, at age 58, and Jane died in 1909, aged 69.

Recently, relatives of William and Jane Black approached our cemetery trust seeking William’s grave at Hazelwood. Jane is buried in the Boolarra Cemetery. William is buried at Hazelwood.

However, William’s place is not designated by co-ordinates (grave number by row letter).

In fact a row letter is not provided, William is in an unmarked grave, somewhere in the Presbyterian section. Jane has a small plaque on a lump of concrete - and that is all.

Our main link within the Presbyterian section is via a plaque for Barbara Mackay, William’s mother-in-law. Christina’s mother was Barbara MacKay. Barbara died in July, 1896.

Her husband, Murdoch MacKay, died in 1896 and is interred in the Buninyong Cemetery (close to Mt Edgerton).

Barbara soon moved to Boolarra to live with her daughter, Mrs Alexandrina

Hopkins. Sometimes known as Alexandra, she married John Hopkins in 1858.

Research shows John was an early student at the Morwell State School in Commercial Road.

Alas, John is interred in the Hazelwood Cemetery - in an unmarked grave, and records do not show any co-ordinates; like for William Hopkins. Other members of the Hopkins family are buried in the Presbyterian section.

History explains the Hopkins family settled in Boolarra after living at the gold-mining settlement of Mount Edgerton. The Hopkins and Black family knew each other prior to coming to Boolarra; with Hopkins brothers establishing a general store in 1889.

A l e x a n d r i n a (Alexandra) Mackay’s sister, Catherine married Robert Irving in 1855. Their son, John Irving became the head teacher at the Morwell State School. He married Ina (Georgina) Grant of Yinnar, but unfortunately died of Bright’s Disease in 1894 at the early age of 38.

When responding to enquiries, historical research becomes exciting and intriguing. One is never sure where family links go, and where they may be truncated.

There is more to write about other families mentioned above, and that will be saved for future editions of the Churchill & District News.

Another quick mention about accurate details hidden in cemetery records.



An example is found on a headstone for Leonard Ashton Grave. From Dumbalk, and working in Morwell as a carpenter, Leonard, aged 18 years, was killed in Commercial Road, Morwell.

The accident occurred on Friday November 15, 1940 when Leonard, riding his motor-cycle at early evening, did not see a truck coming towards him. It was raining, there was a head-on collision, resulting in Leonard’s death.

Leonard’s headstone shows “Lenard Ashton” - cemetery records are possibly more accurate; showing Leonard’s full name as “Leonard Ashton Grave.” That is, Grave is his surname rather than Ashton.

Finally a boast for

Hazelwood Cemetery, as recorded in the Morwell Advertiser, Thursday April 17, 1952.

“Trust Wants LV Crematorium.

Members of the Hazelwood Cemetery Trust consider that a combined Cemetery and Crematorium should be established in the Latrobe Valley.

A letter has been forwarded, to the Department of Health seeking information as to the procedure needed for the establishment and to Mr. Hyland M.L.A., seeking his support for such a scheme.

The local Trust feels that the facility is necessary because of the expanding population in the Valley and the distance to be travelled to the nearest crematorium.”




Rotary

NOW MEET EVERY
2ND WEEK

Contact Secretary Paula for dates

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Contact: Paula,
Secretary
0455 584 072



humanity
in motion

Hazelwood Rotary Club



A Churchill & District History Series

Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



By Leo Billington

More snippets of Morwell's history worth recalling

An urgent phone call to a local plumber was an instant reminder of just how invaluable this trade is to our modern lifestyles. A toilet was blocked - a solid mass of toilet rolls. What a mess!

A plumber arrived within 20 minutes of being called, speedy service at weekend rates.

However, one wondered what was it like years ago in an era when tinsmiths plied their trade, alongside being plumbers and/or iron workers. For some historians, a tinsmith was initially known as a tinker - derived from the word "tink"; that is to mend, repair by soldering or using rivets. A tinker generally worked with tin.

Morwell's first tinsmith was like many other tinsmiths. In stature, in a fledgling settlement largely consisting of wooden buildings, Robert Alexander Hedley's trade was equally ranked with a blacksmith and potter. Morwell had all three.

Born in Maryborough in 1859, Robert Hedley placed an advertisement in the Morwell Advertiser, Friday January 24, 1890 telling readers:

'Mr. R. A. Hedley has started as a tinsmith, plumber and iron worker in Tarwin Street.'

His regular advertisements appeared through until at least 1898. He was a successful, albeit humble business person. He also immersed himself in community affairs, forming close business networks with other early business luminaries - William Richard Stephenson (saddler), John Rintoull (blacksmith), George Watson (newspaper editor) John Barton Hoyle (finance agent) William Tulloch (business entrepreneur) and John Hall (retailer).

In May 1898, he was a signatory to a petition to the Morwell Shire Council urging it to seriously consider the Commonwealth Bill to accept an Australasian Federal Constitution. As treasurer of the local (June 1897) Queen's Jubilee Benevolent Fund, treasurer Robert played a major role in a successful fundraiser. Between 1896 and 1900, he was a trustee (ministerial appointment) on the Hazelwood Cemetery Trust. His appointment was endorsed by Morwell's Presbyterian Church. Robert's membership of the Morwell branch of the Australian Natives Association was widely applauded when the Hedley family left Morwell to live in Springvale.

A modest person, Robert once appeared as a witness in a magisterial case. On oath, he explained "I am a tinsmith." Self-deprecating perhaps, nonetheless his August 1897 candidature for Morwell's annual municipal elections recorded 235 votes, it was not enough to defeat already sitting Councillors Firmin (282 votes) and Kelleher (335 votes). This experience was explained away as "he has a bright future to be successful in the next elections."

Two years later, Robert's business was taken over by business partners, Lewis Samuel and Jas Bryden, trading as Samuel and Bryden - being tinsmiths and plumbers and "whatever customers required."

Samuel & Bryden first advertised on October 21, 1898, then regularly to 1899 and, after the partnership was dissolved, Jas Bryden maintained his promotion through to about 1918. Jas was once a founding member of the Morwell Fire Brigade being its first Lieutenant. By this time, he had relocated from a small shop in Commercial Road to

larger space in Station Street (approximately opposite the railway station).

Research indicates Robert Hedley and Jas Bryden enjoyed a competitor free tinsmith/plumbing market in Morwell and surrounding districts for many years. Jas retired late in September 1918, selling out to a new plumber, John Ferguson. John continued the promotion for such an essential service from 1918 to about 1922. In September 1922, Morwell born, returned World War 1 veteran, Clarence William Mitchell Smith took over.

Widely known as CWM (sometimes as Clarrie), his presence in town was handy in running a successful business. He was skilled in various trades - being taught by Jas Bryden, learning blacksmithing from John Rintoull and George Dayable. Clarrie learnt from the best.

Later, he spread his business acumen in the building trade and furniture removals. There was a period of employment with the Postmaster General Department (PMG) while being a staunch member of Morwell's Fire Brigade. Being in business, Clarrie cultivated his presence through success as a track cyclist, angler and field shooting. He died early in December 1954, aged 60 years. CWM was born four years after Robert Hedley first advertised his business.

George Pentland seems to be the "follow-on" Morwell - based plumber. By mid-1923, he was offering "satisfaction guaranteed on all classes of work." Windmills and tanks seemed to be a specialty.

Generally, Morwell's plumbing sector became more competitive through the mid-1940's and thereafter during a post-war building boom period.

One example, perhaps remembered by older residents was S J & Max

Schumann, based out of 20 Wilson Street in Morwell. Their advertisements told readers about skills in solving sewerage problems - septic tanks mainly. Hot and cold water installations were becoming popular alongside slow combustion stoves. Schumann plumbing was a "licensed plumber."

J R Clarke, in mid 1940, told everyone about expertise in hot water servicing, heating and ventilation, tanks, pumps, windmills and sorting out water supply problems. This business highlighted two invaluable aspects of advertising - being licensed experts able to solve sanitary problems and being registered as 1st class with the Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works. Such credentials were new to Morwell.

To unblock a toilet several weeks ago, the plumber arrived in a modern 4 x 4 2024 model Toyota ute pulling a trailer full of plumbing goodies. Action was swift - a sewer suction apparatus on a long extension lead was pulled out. By a hand-held remote button device, a powerful vacuum pressure was created effectively dislodging large distant clogs. Time taken, 20 minutes. Superb service - at a weekend rate.

Metal water tanks made by a tinsmith? Do not bother, buy a plastic tank. These are delivered directly on-site by specialised road transport.

Let us remember Robert

Alexander Hedley for a moment. Imagine what he would think now.

Postscript: Robert Hedley's first advertisement was placed early in 1890. Just 14 years earlier,

armed warfare between American Indian tribes and an American United States Cavalry Regiment took place in June 1876 - known as Custer's Last Stand.

For WINDMILLS, TANKS, Etc.

Call on

G. PENTLAND

PLUMBER

MORWELL

Satisfaction Guaranteed

on all Classes of Work

R. A. HEDLEY,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Tinsmith, Plumber,

AND

Ironworker.

Repairs Executed.

All orders attended to.

Tanks, Pumps and Baths always on Hand.

Address—

TARWIN STREET, MORWELL.



TANKS OF EVERY SIZE SUPPLIED

EVERY home should have "lashuns" of water—not just enough to skimp along on if the seasons are favorable. An extra tank or two conveniently placed round the home will save the women-folk much weary water carrying and perhaps enable you to enjoy more of the real comforts of Life.

We supply all kinds and sizes of Tanks, also pipes, guttering, taps, etc. Sole makers of Black Diamond Tanks—protected to resist rust.

J. FERGUSON

The Plumber MORWELL

The Art of Heidi Schwandt Garner

By Heidi Schwandt Garner

For me, creating art is about trying to replicate the feeling of a moment in time. That feeling of wonder and inspiration. Like a snapshot of that time and place, but with soul. I am in my element when I am in nature, surrounded by light and colour, immersed in its sounds, sights and atmosphere.

My earliest memory of my art life was when much fuss was made of a small picture of a horse I drew. It went straight to the fridge door, which now I know is standard practice, as all children's artworks are masterpieces that go straight to the refrigerator gallery. But a few years

later, in Grade 4, my classmates were asking me to do drawings for them, and then my Grade 6 teacher wanted one of my pieces, saying 'One day Heidi, you will be famous', or something like that. Well, I am not there yet.

I have always loved my solitude. I was born and spent my younger years in the south eastern suburbs of Melbourne, where I would spend much of my time playing near the train tracks behind our flat, or in abandoned houses. Watching the world from the attic, or high up in a tree, sitting in a quiet spot in the garden surrounded by the plants and their inhabitants, everything I saw was food for my imagination, and I started

to draw my own imagined world.

In my teen years we moved to the country. It was wonderful being amongst nature, so much to see and paint. Just about all my friends had horses, dogs and cats, and they wanted pictures of them. With a new set of Derwent pencils my parents had given me, I started doing animal portraits. I spent many years doing commissioned pet portraits, travelling to properties on my motorbike where I would take photos of the pet in its own environment and see the bond between pet and owner. At home I would piece together the perfect drawing of their animal. I sent photographs of some

of my portraits to the Derwent Pencil company in England to show them what could be achieved with their pencils. They were so impressed that they sent me two wooden boxes of different types of their pencils. To say I was surprised and ecstatic is an understatement.

I also entered exhibitions with landscape, flora and fauna paintings and with works in a variety of mediums including colour pencil, watercolour, pen and ink, soft pastel and acrylic paint. I won awards including a few First Prize, Best in Show and People's Choice, as well as Encouragement and Highly commended. I loved experimenting with different mediums, even once using nail polish to create dragons on the soundboard of a harp. It seemed like life was all about art, riding my motorbike and fun.

All of my realistic landscapes, flora and fauna paintings have a story. The story could be as simple as a beautiful plant in my garden during summer, or as random as the light playing on a field of grass or a patch of weeds. When I paint, it is like revisiting that place, that time, going on that holiday to the beach or outback all over again without leaving my studio. I love to be able to show that there is beauty all around us, in places we walk by if we take the time to walk. The destination is amazing, but it is the path that takes us there that holds the magic.

Priorities changed while raising a family. My art became more of a job as the focus was more about earning an income. Once you add 'must' or 'have to' to life, it sucks the joy right out of it. Over time, the animal portraits and paintings were not enough to support us and I got a job. I worked at many places during my life doing a range of things from market gardens and goldfish farms to home nursing and delivering mail



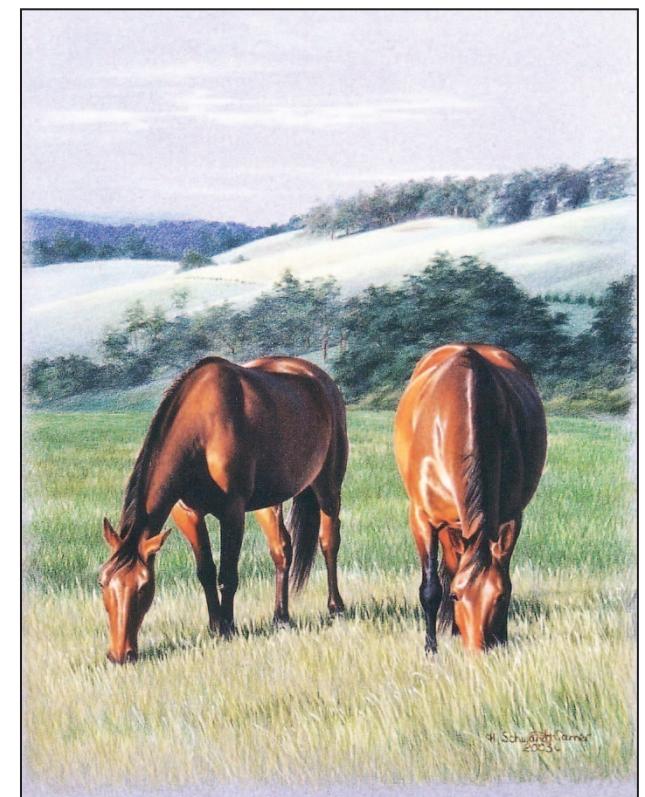
on a pushbike, but finally, when things were looking pretty grim, I decided I had to find a way to earn enough of an income through my art. At nearly fifty years old I decided to take up tattooing.

It was a massively scary step. It took off and gained momentum like a freight train. It was a big learning curve and after working at a few tattoo shops I opened my own studio. It seemed that was all I was doing and it was wearing me down. Luckily COVID happened and I was forced to close my studio multiple times.

However it brought balance and after nearly ten years I returned to painting.

Today I tattoo from my gallery/tattoo studio part time and at my home studio I do tattoo designs and paint. Tattooing helps pay my bills, but more importantly being able to paint keeps me grounded and (arguably) sane.

I am grateful for this opportunity to write this article. It has reminded me that I am my happiest when in nature, and when I am creating art. It brings joy to my life and it heals me.



Churchill & District Lions Club

Meet
1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each Month



Contact Secretary Phone:
Peter Tait 0421 167 915



Morwell & District Red Cross Branch

Members meet on the second Wednesday of each month (February through until December) at 1.30 pm. at the Meeting Room of Yinnar and District Memorial Hall, unless otherwise notified. New members and visitors are welcome to attend
For further information contact the Secretary
Phone 0427 273 910

Churchill Braves show spirit at Gippsland championships

Club blends experience and new talent in a spirited weekend of baseball at Stephenson Park.

The Churchill Braves took part in the 2025 Gippsland Baseball Championships in Sale in the first weekend of April, returning with one win from six games but a renewed sense of team unity, development, and club spirit.

Despite the 1 - 5 record, Club Coach Brad Jones described the tournament as a major positive. "It was a great opportunity to bring together newer players and experienced club members," he said. "Wins are nice, but weekends like this build our foundation for the season ahead."

Saturday's Results

Churchill opened the weekend with a 9 - 2 loss to Morwell. The standout moment included Luis Mayo coming in off the bench to pinch-hit with



a single and scoring the first run for Churchill after stealing two bases.

Game 2 on Saturday showed a competitive side against Pakenham despite the 5 - 1 loss, with Bryce Haley starting on the mound and Dylan Eldridge hitting a double to keep spirits alive.

Game 3 against Moe

saw Daniel McKinnon and Jason McKinnon play a long-awaited game together in the green and gold, alongside Blake McKinnon, nephew and son. It was a first for all three McKinnon's, who had strong family support along the sidelines.

Game 4 was a closely contested 6 - 4 result, with Tim

Bellerby hitting two home runs in a single game and Gregg Duncan throwing 2.1 innings of no-hit baseball.

Sunday's Highlight

The Braves' lone victory came on Sunday morning in a commanding 5 - 0 win over Sale, who would go on to finish as tournament runners-up. Jarrod Thomas was dominant on the mound, while catcher William Marks, who caught more innings than any player across the weekend, made a late appearance on the mound to close out the game. A Grade coach Sam Gillett managed the team and ensured strong rotation across the roster.

In the final game against Dingley, Churchill put runs on

the board but was ultimately outpaced, falling 25 - 8 in a game marked by defensive errors.

Team effort across the board

The Braves' squad was a diverse mix of club veterans, returning players, and exciting new faces. Assistant Club Coach Dylan Eldridge played in nearly every game, while Daniel McKinnon and Jonah Hughes took on managing duties in their first year as senior coaches. Rick Humphreys made a welcome return to the club, and Bryce Haley impressed with multiple pitching efforts.

Debutants Blake McKinnon (son of Jason) and Jacob Gruis showed early promise. Duane

White also stood out as a first-year player eager to learn and contribute.

Off the field, energy and support were high, and our President Gregg Duncan went to great lengths, literally, to make it to the final Saturday game. Also making their return to Churchill colours were Jason McKinnon and Jake Bone, with Bone bringing infectious enthusiasm in his first appearance for the club in five years.

Looking Forward

While the Braves left Sale with just one win, the broader takeaway was clear, this is a club growing in depth, spirit, and direction.

As preparations continue for the regular season, the Gippsland Championships offered a valuable reminder of what makes the Braves a strong community on and off the field. A total of 19 players contributed on the field throughout the two-day weekend, supported by plenty of spectators. Behind every game, scorer Ash Hartwig spent a total of nine hours across the weekend scoring the multiple games.

Moving forward, Churchill is fielding eight teams across this season and is eager to keep the club values shining through.

Churchill & Monash Golf Club

Men's Monthly Medal (Stroke) Saturday March 29, 2025.

Monthly Medal Winner: G. Blizzard 70 nett c/b Scratch Winner: R. Madigan 79 Putts: Adam West 27 A Grade Winner: R. Madigan 70 nett. B Grade Winner: M. Hutchinson 76 nett C Grade Winner: G. Blizzard 70 nett.

D.T.L: 1. M. Soppe 73, 2. C. Waring 73, 3. M. Ruan 74, 4. G. Barnes 74, 5. J. McCafferty 75, 6. J. Thomas 75, 7. R. Welsh 75, 8. W. McGrath 76 c/b, 9. V. Monument 76. N.T.P: 3rd D. Byers, 5th J. Cahill, 12th C. Waring (propin), 14th M. Hutchinson Birdies: 12th C. Waring, 14th A. Sharrock. Target Hole: P. Smart

Women's Monthly Medal (Stroke) Tuesday April 1, 2025.

Monthly Medal Winner: S. Gosling 77 nett Scratch Winner: P. Smart 81. Putts: P. Smart 30, V. Reid 30 A Grade Winner: P. Smart 77 nett.

B Grade Winner: S. Gosling 77nett D.T.L: 1. J. Tatterson 78 nett, 2. R. Madigan 79 nett N.T.P: 3rd C. Carder, 5th C. Carder, 12th S. Turner, 14th L. Van Rooy

Greenkeepers Revenge (Stableford) Saturday April 5, 2025.

A Grade Winner: G. Sanders 36 pts B Grade Winner: M. Smith 34 pts

C Grade Winner: J. McCafferty 34 pts D Grade Winner: L. Bevis 40 pts

D.T.L: 1. R. Zomer 34, 2. L. Chessum 33, 3. R. Sands, 4. R. Able 29, 5. A. Jenkins 28, 6. R. Davidson 28, 7. R. King 28, 8. B. Cluderay 28, 9. C. Gosling 27, 10. P. Kearns 27. N.T.P: 3rd M.

Bianconi, 5th P. Jordan, 12th A. West, 14th R. Madigan. Birdies: 3rd P. Flanigan, 5th P. Jordan. Eagle: 13th P. Chapple Target Hole: B. Jenkins

Stableford Tuesday April 8, 2025.

Winner: G. Barnes 35 pts D.T.L: S. Gosling 35 pts

N.T.P: 3rd G. Barnes, 5th V. Reid, 12th C. Barnes, 14th S. Turner

Stroke Saturday April 12, 2025.

Scratch Winner: A Jenkins 83 A Grade Winner: G. Sanders 70 Nett

B Grade Winner: W. McGrath 68 Nett C Grade Winner: M. Hammer 69 Nett

D Grade Winner: R. Zomer 71 Nett D.T.L: 1. T. Sterrick 69, 2. P. Flanigan 69, 3. W. Sutton 70, 4. P. Bolding 71, 5. G. Beyer 71, 6. R. Timbs 72, 7. M. Soppe 72, 8. B. Rowley 72, 9. R. Noordam 72, 10. P. McGann 72, 11. K. Westwood 72. N.T.P: 3rd G. Beyer, 5th C. Carder, 12th J. Balding (propin), 14th M. Hammer.

Par Tuesday April 15, 2025.

Winner: C. Barnes +2 D.T.L: 1. C. Stevens +2, 2. V. Reid +1

Stableford Saturday April 19, 2025.

A Grade Winner: D. Byer 43 pts B Grade Winner: M. Soppe 44 pts

C Grade Winner: M. Hammer 43 pts D Grade Winner: M. Lugton 49 pts

D.T.L: 1. C. Sterrick 38, 2. A. Auld 37, 3. T. Collins 36, 4. W. Sutton 36, 5. R. Vesty 36, 6. R. Zomer 36, 7. P. McGann 36, 8. D. Ireland 35, 9. B. Downie 35, 10. R. Madigan 35, 11.

J. Jeffrey 34. N.T.P: 3rd T. Bennett (Propin), 5th M. Hammer, 12th R. Welsh, 14th M. Brereton Birdies: 3rd M. Dear, B. Barnes, 5th M. Hammer, 12th D. Byers. Target Hole: M. Bianconi

Stableford Tuesday April 22, 2025.

A Grade Winner: C. Sterrick 35 pts B Grade Winner: C. Stevens 36 pts

D.T.L: 1. V. Reid 34, 2. S. Caldwell 34. N.T.P: 3rd S. Caldwell, 5th S. Caldwell, 12th J. Clegg, 14th C. Sterrick Birdies: 12th J. Clegg

Men's Monthly Medal (stroke) Saturday April 26, 2025.

Monthly Medal Winner: C. Wilson 70 Nett Scratch Winner: P. Smart 86

Putts Winner: P. Chapple 27

A Grade Winner: R. Harvey 74 Nett B Grade Winner: M. Soppe 75 Nett

C Grade Winner: C. Wilson 70 Nett (Medal) D Grade Winner: S. Gosling 71 Nett D.T.L: 1 J. Vickers 72, 2. J. McCafferty 72, 3. P. McGann 74, 4. R. Davidson 74, 5. R. Timbs 74, 6. R. King 75, 7. D. Byers, 8. G. Sanders 75, 9. B. Kilday 76, 10. C. Waring 76.

N.T.P: 3rd C. Gosling, 12th S. Allison (Propin), 14th B. Cluderay

Birdies: 3rd C. Wilson, C. Waring Target Hole: T. Collins

3 Person Ambrose (drawn partners) Tuesday April 29, 2025.

Winners: C. Carder/M. Dear/S. Gosling 61.5 D.T.L: M.Hutchinson/C. Stevens/J. Tatterson 62.833 N.T.P: 3rd C. Carder, 5th M. Dear, 12th C. Carder, 14th L. Brent.



Every Tuesday

10am to 12 Noon

Co-Operating Churches
Corner Williams Ave and McDonald Way Churchill
Admission Free

Tea, coffee and biscuits provided for morning tea by St Matts

BYO crafts on the day, knitting, crochet, card making, sewing or whatever craft you are interested in.

Everyone welcome, bring a friend, no booking required just turn up on the day and enjoy a friendly morning with like minded craft enthusiasts.

Please feel free to contact Sue on 0411 714 564 for more information

Disability Access

Koala Response

By Olga van
Cauwenberghe

In response to the Churchill & District News article "Strzelecki koalas need our action" (April 16, 2025), it is without doubt we could do more for the Strzelecki koalas within the Churchill and Latrobe City Council district. The suggestion to centralise a Strzelecki koala group to bring together the various isolated organisations and individuals doing their bit to support the koalas, is a common-sense approach.

To collectively and collaboratively work for a common cause as seen with the growth of the "Wildlife in Sandy Point" group, one can marvel at its success and ponder whether the same can be just as effective here in the Latrobe Valley. With many challenges identified in the Latrobe City region, not seen in Sandy Point (geographical distance from ranges, environment bioregion differences, local economic stance, population demographics, socio economic demographics, community dependence on logging for economic growth, historical industrial background defining the present-day situation and so forth), the potential group will face additional barriers, but that is not to say it is impossible. That is, if we want to truly do more to protect our koalas beyond what the individuals and groups are currently doing so well.

We need to acknowledge the marvellous uniqueness of our region before looking at its potential challenges. The positives (no doubt incomplete):

The Morwell National Park is the epicentre of the Strzelecki koala population.

Active "Friends of the Morwell National Park" group are routinely collecting koala data in the park.

Considerable DNA koala data was already collected in the past years outside the park.

The establishment of wildlife corridors by the logging company on its leased land and involvement in any number of environmental projects in past and present.

The Strzelecki Alpine Bio- Link project established 2019 in recognition of the need to... "conserve and restore habitat connections" ... with an emphasis on wildlife and koalas.

<https://strzelecki-alpine-biolink.com.au/our-mission/>

A number of individuals identified as either having the knowledge and skills on local fauna, or ability to educate the community, or lobby local politicians to build the momentum awareness of the Strzelecki koala plight in the region. Its growth is particularly evident in recent years.

The increasing number of posts from our region contributing to the Friends of the Strzelecki Koala Facebook page that suggest the success in increasing awareness of the koala plight. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2379484805628595/>

Local Landcare groups expanding bushland and removing invasive weeds on an ongoing basis.

Hard-working busy wildlife refuge centres doing their best caring for the wildlife.

Friends of the



Earth website with its comprehensive Strzelecki koala live data mapping to pinpoint koala hotspots and where they are at risk is evident and significant in our region. <https://strzkoala.australianmap.net/>

Federation University campus is wonderfully situated within eyesight of the Strzelecki koala habitat and has been actively involved with koala research.

In Latrobe City region, if a centralised dedicated koala group is formed:

It cannot be ignored that the well-established regenerated bush that is home to the Strzelecki koalas is almost bordering the Morwell National Park

boundary. This is in addition to loss caused by weather events and fire

The habitat loss goes beyond that caused by climate change, population growth, weather events and fires. All actions to support the koalas as they move down the ranges, be it road signs, leashed dogs, or restoring pockets of habitat, are a consequential response to that. Hence the politics for environmental management and the way we currently address habitat loss with its associated federal and state legislative laws, should be at the forefront of our advocacy. That is, as said previously, if we want to protect our koalas beyond what the current organisations are doing.

The HVP is contributing significantly to the Latrobe City economic growth, at a time of economic upheaval and many industries ceasing. Plans are in place to increase plantations following the ending to VicForest logging.

There is a need to recognise the lack of understanding/information about current width, connections and gaps of wildlife corridors on private /leased/crown land in the region. Does it intersect with the evidence based best practice to meet the required perimeters and connectivity to be effective for wildlife movements?

It is my understanding a recent group in the region has formed named the "Committee for the Strzelecki koala habitat and visitor centre". There is no engagement with the public on who all the committee members are and what they are doing /achieved since its announcement that it is up and running.

Focus is on koalas when many other species living in our bush are also worthy of our attention (bats, wombats, gilders, possums, platypus, echidnas and so forth).

Lastly, it can be argued that a centralised wildlife body does already exist in the region. The Strzelecki Alpine Biolink project is a Latrobe City Council driven project with many community group members including Landcare, HVP, Friends of the Morwell National Park and Victorian Environment, Land Water & Planning (now known as DEECA). According to the website its vision "is to conserve and restore

habitat connections" for the wildlife. It is clear the Strzelecki koala plight was a significant influence in the establishment of the project. Its priorities and actions indicate an incredible shared vision among its members.

Unfortunately, judging by the website, it is very quickly identified that the project is in hibernation mode or inactive. Extensive resources have been used to create this project but it seems to have fallen by the wayside soon after with no further information or outcomes forthcoming. A brief browse of some organisation members websites suggest some work can be attributed to the project vision, but it is unclear whether it is the project itself or their own group objectives.

This is a pity as the centralised project with the Latrobe City Council at its helm offering strong leadership and persuasive capacity, had the potential to be a significant advocate for our wildlife and region. The potential was there to turn this project into a standout national success story for its region. Furthermore, it had the potential to overcome the challenges mentioned above in a somewhat balanced way that meets the interests of all parties. Can it be revitalised?

The "Victorian Koala Management Strategy" report and "The Great Victorian Koala survey" report will soon be released and no doubt further information will come to light.

These are my thoughts and mine alone following years observing the Strzelecki koala saga in the Latrobe City Council region.

Keep a look out for your next issue of Churchill & District News

due to be published Wednesday, June 11



or see our website
cdnews.com.au

for all things
Churchill & District
News –

- * Previous Issues
 - * Advertising Enquiries,
 - * Gallery photos
- and connect with your
community . . .



Churchill and
District News

Email: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au or cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au

MARKETS SHOP LOCAL



Fun at Mothers Day Market



Sunshine!

After a chilly start to the day, our May market was bathed in glorious sunshine.

Fairy Merrin entertained many young children with her bubbles which glistened in the sun, while further along the pathway (between West Place and Hazelwood Village) face-painter Luna Sunbloom decorated children's faces, and a few adult's faces too!

People browsed the range of market stalls, met friends, chatted and made some purchases. Others just ate sausages,

had a stroll and listened to our musicians, Chris and Sandra, who were joined by a couple of enthusiastic youngsters and turned the session into a bit of a jam!

Thanks to our sponsors, EKU Energy, we had plenty of free shopping vouchers (to spend in Churchill shops) to hand out to randomly selected shoppers. Lovely to see the smiles on the faces of our lucky winners.

The vouchers are our way of supporting local retailers and saying thankyou to the people who spend their shopping dollars here in Churchill.

Many thanks to the volunteers from Churchill Fire Brigade and the Co-operating Churches of Churchill for cooking our sausage sizzles. A big thankyou also to Churchill Woolworths for their support for our market.

The Churchill Shop Local markets are a partnership between Churchill & District Community Association (CDCA), Churchill Neighbourhood Centre and Churchill & District News.

Our next market will be held on Saturday August 30. See you there!



What would
you like to see in
your community
newspaper ...



We are very pleased to have our regular contributors and the articles supplied are always appreciated.

It is a long time since we asked our readership what sorts of articles/reports they would like to read about in our community paper.

At our recent meeting we thought of

- * Pet care and responsibility,
- * Girl Guides,
- * Gardening,
- * Sports clubs,
- * What's on at the Leisure Centre and Library,
- * Little Athletics

There may be other topics which you would like to see published.

We would like to hear from you.

Please send your ideas, and if possible, the name of someone who could contribute such an article to cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au
We will do our best to supply your request with provisos that comply with our editorial policy.



Helping more women in the Latrobe Valley access free specialised care

The Victorian Government is making sure women across the Latrobe Valley have access to free, comprehensive care and support under the one roof – with more women's health clinics across the state now open and more on the way.

Member for Eastern Victoria recently announced the Latrobe Regional Hospital will be home to one of the next five clinic locations to be delivered in regional Victoria – part of a four-year plan to open a total of 20 specialized clinics.

The clinic will be open by the end of the year, with other new locations announced for Bendigo Health, Mildura Base Hospital, Northeast Health (Wangaratta), and Southwest Health (Warrnambool).

The clinic will transform how women in the Latrobe Valley receive healthcare – removing the barriers many women face when trying to access specialist care by delivering more services closer to home.

Services are delivered by hardworking health

professionals including gynaecologists, urologists, specialist GPs, specialist nurses and allied health support – all under the one roof, for medical abortion, conditions including pelvic pain, heavy bleeding, prolapse and incontinence, contraception and menopause services.

The first five clinics began services last year at Barwon Health (Geelong), Grampians Health (Ballarat, Stawell and Horsham), Peninsula Health (Frankston), Northern Health (Epping), and Royal Women's Hospital.

While the second group of clinics are now opening at Western Health (Sunshine Hospital), Central Highlands Rural Health (Kyneton), Eastern Health (Blackburn), Goulburn Valley Health (Shepparton), and Monash Health.

The clinics are part of the Government's landmark \$153 million women's health package that is transforming the way care is delivered in Victoria – and includes a mobile women's health

clinic, Aboriginal-led clinic and virtual women's health clinic.

The package has also expanded the sexual and reproductive health hub network to 20 locations, including 12 in regional locations as well as increased access to laparoscopies for endometriosis and associated conditions, and providing scholarships for more than 150 women's specialists.

For more information, please visit, health.vic.gov.au/public-health/womens-health-wellbeing-program.

Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas said "For too long women have not been heard when it comes to their health – it is why we are making sure every woman in Victoria can access free and comprehensive care, no matter where they live.

The third round of women's health clinics will be a gamechanger for women in regional Victoria, making it easier for them to get the free specialist care they need, closer to home."

Community Groups Workshops

Step into Volunteering

Have you been thinking about volunteering but not quite sure how to go about it? This session will cover:

Understanding what volunteering is and the different kinds of volunteering.

Exploring the benefits of volunteering and understanding what is important to you.

Knowing how to find a role that makes a positive impact on your life.

When: Thursday, May 22, 2025 - 9.30am - 11.00 am

Where: Gippsland Regional Indoor Sports Stadium (GRISS), Catterick Cres, Traralgon Vic 3844

Targeted recruitment and engaging young people

Recruitment and retention can be tricky at the best of times, particularly when looking to attract particular cohorts of volunteers. It is important to examine the make up of our volunteer teams, what barriers may exist for specific cohorts and how you can encourage volunteers from different demographics.

When: Wednesday May 21, 2025 - 6pm - 8pm

Where: Nambur Wariga Room, Latrobe City Council Headquarters, 141 Commercial Rd, Morwell Vic 3840

Grant Writing and Budget Workshop

Latrobe City invites you to participate in the following workshop aimed at assisting you to understand what funders are looking for and to transform your ideas into fundable concepts.

Afternoon Session:

When: Wednesday June 18, 2025 - 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm

Where: Meeting Room 4 and 5, Moe Library - 1/29 George St, Moe Vic 3825

Evening Session (repeat of above session):

When: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 - 5.30 pm – 7.30 pm

Where: Nambur Wariga Meeting, Latrobe City Council Headquarters, 141 Commercial Rd, Morwell Vic 3840



cdnews.com.au



Churchill and District News

Get in touch – our Emails

cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au

cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au

SCHOOL news

Hazelwood North Primary

Remembering Mr Ian Drysdale.

On April 4, Hazelwood North Primary School's longest serving Principal, Ian Drysdale, passed away. Ian served as Principal from Term 4, 1995 to the end of 2012. He was a much-loved Principal and member of the community who worked tirelessly for the school. Ian had many years of involvement in the HPV (Human Powered Vehicle) competition in Maryborough with our school. He travelled

from Mirboo North and Leongatha daily, often being the first to arrive at school and last to leave. He was dedicated to his work but also a wonderful family man, helping to raise four children with his wife, Julie. Ian was kind, supportive, approachable and caring towards staff and families. He would turn on everyone's heaters each morning when he arrived and regularly brought in treats for the staff from

the bakery on his way to school. Staff loved receiving personalised letters written by Ian at the end of each term thanking them for their efforts during the term and wishing them a nice break. Ian was such a good sport during whole school dress-up days and shave/dye hair for a cure. Past staff will forever treasure their time at HNPS with Ian at the reign. Life-long friendships were made, and the annual get-

togethers will not quite be the same without Ian. Condolences to Ian's family.

Bee Excursion

At the end of Term 2, our Grade 3 students ventured to the Max Biocare Research Park in Yinnar. They dressed up as beekeepers and were able to experience all that beekeeping has to offer. The students went on a nature walk and saw various plant life that attract bees. They taste tested different types of honey. In the science lab, students looked through magnifying glasses at bee wings and other insects to get a closer look at the minibeasts.

Building Curiosity

Staff at HNPS have been creatively getting students to be curious and problem solve by coming to school with some interesting fashion. On a mysterious Tuesday, staff members wore odd shoes, affectionately named 'Shoes-Day'. Students were not told of the 'secret code' nor the day that it would happen, but the conversations that were sparked from this seemingly small act turned

into questions of wonder.

Past and Present

We love having our past students visit on their days off. Hudson (now in Year 7), joined FS for the last day of Term 1 and had all students captivated while reading during fruit and story.

Welcome Ms Mac

This term we welcomed our new Performing Arts teacher, Ms Kate McCulley. Ms Mac started her performing art classes with a bang,

and the students have loved learning about freeze framing their actions.

Welcome Back Ms Adams

The students and staff have been very excited to welcome back from parental leave, Ms Eden Adams.

Ms Adams has stepped into the specialist role of Visual Art Teacher and students have been excited for these lessons. We look forward to the busy term ahead.



Grade 3 Beekeepers



Fruit and Story with Hudson

SCHOOL news

Churchill Primary

Churchill Primary School marked the end of Term 1 with a range of engaging and festive Easter activities enjoyed by students across all year levels.

Foundation students teamed up with their Grade 6 buddies to design and create colourful Easter bonnets, which they proudly wore during the end-of-term assembly. Meanwhile, students in Grades 1 to 4 visited the

Churchill Cooperating Church for a special Easter session. There, they were treated to a performance by church members that told the story of Easter, followed by creative craft activities with the help of

generous volunteers.

The final day of term was highlighted by an Easter Fair held on school grounds, featuring cross-age activities that brought students together for a day of fun and teamwork.

Events included traditional egg-and-spoon races, pony rides, an Easter egg scavenger hunt, a petting zoo, nature-based crafts, and even an escape room challenge.

It was a joyful and memorable way to conclude the first term of the school year, leaving students and staff alike looking forward to what lies ahead.



Cuddling up to animals at the petting zoo

Pony rides on the oval

SCHOOL news

Churchill North Primary

Food bank food fight

It is the messiest, most fun way to help raise funds to feed those in need!

Who does not love the idea of a Food Fight? Our school had the chance to engage in the naughtiest way yet to boost school spirit and help raise vital funds for Foodbank.

Also it was absolutely free for our school to participate and we received full personalised support along the way from the dedicated website and app.

Foodbank was proud to present this unique active way for our students to get really messy. It is just like a

school colour fun run, but so much more fun.

There were fake foods to throw and slime to slosh, all whilst running around and keeping our kids active and engaged.

Just like most fundraisers our students were encouraged to get family and friends to sponsor this high-energy day and funds raised will go to Foodbank so we can continue to feed the thousands of families in need every day.

Food Bank also provide much needed supplies to our school so we can run our breakfast club every

morning and have snacks within each classroom. This includes bread, milk, cereal, fresh fruit (apples, oranges, pears, carrots), fruit cups and messy monkeys.

To make this a community day we invited families and friends to bring a rug or a chair whilst students and teachers circulated around a course being slimed, water bombed and covered in coloured

powder. We also invited the local police, our ambulance service and our local Churchill Fire Brigade so that our families / students see these local services in a positive manner, having fun and engaging as a community.

The Churchill Fire Brigade is always looking for volunteers, so if this sounds like you please head down to the station on a

Sunday between 9.30 and 12.30.

We had a fundraising plan which included: The class with the most profiles by the end of the first week got an ice pole each.

Every \$500 raised a teacher will be slimed on the day of the event. The highest Fundraising Class on the event day had the opportunity to slime some teachers to congratulate

them on going the extra mile! The lucky grade was F1/W, they had so much fun sliming the teachers.

Our school raised an amazing \$4275.00 and our students were very happy with their efforts.

They now have the opportunity select some wonderful prizes online.

No actual food was harmed in the making of this event.



SCHOOL news

Yinnar Primary

It was a busy end of term for Yinnar Primary School students and a busy start to Term 2 as well.

On Friday March 28, students who qualified in our House Sports Day attended the Yinnar and District Champions Day at the Yinnar Recreation Reserve. It was a great day and students enjoyed competing against other

schools in the Yinnar and District area. Many students have qualified to go on to compete at the Division Sports in September.

Our Grade 5 and 6 students have been researching and delving into the Arts and Masters of the Renaissance period. For their studies they have chosen a Master and

learned about their work. They have also recreated some of the famous artworks from this period using different forms of media, including paint, clay and mixed media.

This term our Grade 5 and 6 students attended the Kurnai Transition Day as an introduction to secondary school life. While there, they can use the science equipment, conduct experiments and write up their findings. They also have the chance to get into the technology area and learn some simple techniques used in carpentry and woodwork.

Our Prep, 1 and 2 children welcomed Ruth and Flayme from the Responsible Pet Ownership Program and learned all about being safe around dogs, how to approach dogs and what to do if you come across an angry dog. Thank you, Ruth, and Flayme for coming out to Yinnar Primary School.

The last Friday of Term 1 our JSC students held the Easter Fair. This is a time honoured tradition in Yinnar and the students were very busy decorating their Easter Bonnets and

creating some Eggcellent egg inspired artwork for the fair. It is a fun day with lots of activities and all money raised on the day is donated to the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.

On ANZAC Day our School Captains and students marched in the ANZAC Parade through Yinnar. It was a very special moment to carry the flags for Australia, Britain and New Zealand and march with returned soldiers and their families in memory of those who served and died for our country.



Amy under the microscope - Kurnai Transition Day



Sadie Easter Bonnet



Ruth and Flayme Responsible Pet Ownership



Jess and Taig with their Renaissance Art Work



Jayden, Annie, Adelaide and Jaz at the Yinnar ANZAC Day Parade

Health Hints

By Andy Gergis Churchill Discount Pharmacy Cholesterol

What is it exactly? Is it good or bad?

Cholesterol is a waxy, fat-like substance found in your blood. While it often gets a bad reputation, cholesterol is actually important for building cells and producing certain hormones.

However, having too much of the wrong type of cholesterol can increase your risk of heart disease and stroke.

There are two main types of cholesterol: LDL and HDL. LDL, or “bad” cholesterol, can build up in the walls of your arteries, making them hard and narrow. This buildup is called plaque and can lead to heart problems.

HDL, or “good” cholesterol, helps remove LDL from your bloodstream, carrying it back to the liver where it is broken down.

Cholesterol levels are measured with blood tests

If your numbers are too high or too low, your doctor may recommend lifestyle changes or medication.

You can help manage your cholesterol by eating a healthy diet low in saturated and trans fats. Foods like fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins are great choices. Regular exercise, not smoking, and maintaining a healthy weight also play a big role.

In some cases, high cholesterol runs in families and it may require medication even if you live a healthy lifestyle.

The key takeaway? Not all cholesterol is bad, but keeping your levels in check is essential for a healthy heart. A simple blood test and a few healthy habits can go a long way in preventing serious health issues down the road.

If you are unsure about your cholesterol levels, talk to your doctor or pharmacist



Early Learning collaborative prize winners Kailani, Elijah, Heidi, Willow, Ari and Tina from Glassford Street Uniting Kindergarten, who were placed third in the 2024 collaborative statewide competition.

Gippsland Water is giving local students the chance to become water heroes by entering this year’s National Water Week poster competition.

Students are encouraged to design, draw or paint a poster that reflects this year’s theme, Water Heroes: Save Every Drop.

Categories are open for early learning, kindergarten and primary school students from across the

organisation’s service area.

Entrants will be eligible to win a gift voucher and a Gippsland Water prize pack featuring a bag, drink bottle, colouring pencils, trigger nozzle and native seeds.

Managing director Sarah Cumming said the poster competition was a fun and engaging way to teach local students about conserving water.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for local students

to learn important water saving lessons, while also showing their creative flair,” Ms Cumming said.

“The theme works hand in hand with our ‘Reduce your use’ campaign, which focuses on water conservation.

We are keen to see entries that inspire locals to take shorter showers, turn-off taps while brushing their teeth, using buckets and sponges to wash cars, or planting

drought tolerant native plants.”

Entries opened on Monday April 28, 2025 and close on Friday September 12, 2025.

Local winners will automatically be entered into the statewide poster competition as part of National Water Week (October 20 – 26, 2025).

To find out more, visit www.gippswater.com.au/nwwpostercompetition



Your flu vaccination is waiting for you!

Book your flu shot at Latrobe Community Health Service and help keep our community healthy and safe.

The Latrobe Community Health Service flu clinic is available to everyone—and FREE for people under five, over the age of 65, or who are medically eligible.

Available Locations:

- Latrobe Community Health Service, Traralgon: **Wednesdays**
- Latrobe Community Health Service, Morwell: **Thursdays**

Don't wait! A flu jab is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from the flu.



Call 1800 242 696 to book your appointment today.



ANZAC DAY

Churchill



Long awaited rain was due on ANZAC Day. In Churchill just before 9am a few drops of rain fell, then the morning cleared and we had blue skies and sunshine.

A very respectful crowd of approximately 250 gathered in Civic Space to remember. The Morwell Brass Band began the morning pre service playing hymns and appropriate songs which set the atmosphere for the day.

The service began with Richard Henshaw, President of the Rotary Club of Hazelwood welcoming everyone and

introducing RSL emcee Don George and his co emcee Peter Townsend. Peter read an introductory portion, then read the Requiem.

The laying of many beautiful wreaths was called out by our local Member of Parliament, Martin Cameron.

The Latrobe Valley Aero Club provided a three plane flyover.

The guest speaker Jessica Palling spoke of her service and what it means to her. Richard Henshaw gave this introduction to Jessica before she spoke

Introduction Lt. Colonel Jessica Palling
"My pleasure to introduce Lt. Colonel Jessica Palling today.

She an active member of the Australian Army currently based in Canberra.

Lt. Colonel Palling is a local person, born and raised in the area. Went to Boolarra Primary School, Mirboo North High School and Kurnai College, Maryvale.

It was during her teenage years we first met her and could see she was a person of real substance and destined for great things.

Lt Colonel Palling entered the Australian Defence Force in 2006 completing her Bachelor of Nursing the same year. She further developed her nursing skills locally before postings that saw her involved in the development of Combat Health.

Further postings saw her gain

qualifications and experience in Perioperative Nursing which led to roles in training and mentoring junior nurses and medics.

Lt Colonel Palling has had operational postings including to Iraq, where she was the Director of Patient Movement Cell coordinating the movement of multinational military patients throughout Iraq.

She has a lead role in the development and implementation of Health policies and procedures for the Army, and continues to study at high levels and develop her skills, currently filling a Senior Health Officer role.

Lt Colonel Palling is accompanied today



Lest We Forget



ANZAC DAY

Churchill cont.



by her husband Lewis, two sons Lionel and Thomas, and very proud parents Sue and Gary.”

Jessica’s Address

“Today, we gather to honour the legacy of the ANZACs — a legacy born on the beaches of Gallipoli, but carried forward every day by those who wear the uniform in service of our country. It is a legacy of bravery, mateship, sacrifice, and service — one that spans generations, conflicts, and continents.

ADF members are currently deployed on operations both overseas and in Australia, upholding the ANZAC spirit while serving Australia’s national interest at home and abroad. They stand ready to protect and assist, in war zones, on humanitarian missions, and in times of national crisis. The ANZAC spirit is not just something we remember — it is something we continue to live.

As introduced by Richard, my own career as a Nursing Officer has been varied. I have had the opportunity to serve on both Humanitarian and Warlike Operations — each bringing its own challenges, and rewards. There is great professional purpose in this work, but what has meant the most to me are the people I have had the privilege to serve with.

I count myself incredibly lucky that among those people are members of my immediate and extended family, and even one of my oldest friends — who is also a local. Together, they are veterans of multiple operations, both domestic and abroad. Knowing what they have faced — the hardship, the risk, the unwavering dedication — fills me with immense pride. They are not only my family, they are my comrades. My fellow veterans.

It is also the new connections formed throughout service that have made this journey so meaningful. From the lifelong bonds built during training and deployments, to the incredible staff and

trainees I had the privilege to command and the phenomenal people I work with currently — each one has left a mark.

I have had the honour of working alongside international partners — from NATO and ASEAN militaries to multinational civilian organisations. These partnerships reminded me that service, compassion, and duty know no borders. The common thread in all of it is people — resilient, resourceful, selfless people — working together for something greater than themselves.

Among those people, of course, are our medical and health personnel - nurses, medics, doctors, allied health, our Health Officers — the quiet heroes of our Defence Force. They serve with an extraordinary level of calm in the face of chaos. Whether treating trauma in the field, supporting communities in crisis, planning for the delivering of care in austere conditions — their work is nothing short of vital.

I have witnessed these young veterans in particular, many of them barely out of university or training, carry a burden most will never see. They provide care, comfort, and courage in the darkest moments, and when they come home, their mission is not over. They continue to serve within the Defence Health system, in our communities, in hospitals, in broader health services — and sometimes, they carry unseen wounds of their own. The ADF is drawn from the community we serve — and we could not do what we do without the community’s support.

I will be eternally grateful for the upbringing I had in Gippsland. From my days at Boolarra Primary School, Mirboo North Secondary College, and Maryvale Kurnai, to studying Nursing at RMIT in Sale, and later working at Latrobe Regional Hospital and Bairnsdale Regional Health Service — this region shaped who I am.

I am proud to have been a Boolarra Guide, a junior leader at 1st Boolarra Cub Scouts, and a Venturer and Rover at 1st Yinnar. What some might call a “small town” gave me more opportunity,

leadership, and resilience than I ever thought possible.

That community spirit — the same one I see reflected in the Defence Force — taught me what service really means. Many of the friendships that were forged within this very community are just as strong as the ones that have been made over my 18 years of service.

It would be remiss of me if I did not also acknowledge the unwavering strength of the families and loved ones behind every member of our Defence Force. Their support sustains us. Their sacrifice — the worry, the long absences, the emotional toll — is deep and real. Today, we thank them too.

As we reflect on service, we must also remember that the Australian Army is more than a fighting force — it is a national institution, a profession, and for many service personnel it becomes a family.

More than a quarter of a million Australians alive today have worn the Army’s uniform. We honour and respect every one of them — and we thank them for their service.

So on this ANZAC Day, as we remember the fallen, let us also recognise the living. The young veterans. The medics, nurses, infants, loadies, pilots, engineers and signallers.

Everyone and every corps. We honour the communities that shape them and the families who support them. We recognise the scars and unseen wounds that many carry. Most of all we recognise the enduring spirit that connects us all. Lest we forget.”

Our Youth Leaders were called out by our Ward Councillor Leanne Potter. These young people spoke very confidently and sincerely and were congratulated by Leanne after they concluded the speeches.

Kurnai College Junior Campus

Lily Sykes

Anzac Day Speech - April 25, 2025

“Since 1916, ANZAC day has been a significant part of our country; a National Day of Remembrance where we pay tribute to the Australian and New Zealand Soldiers who had served in conflicts, wars

and peace keeping missions during WW1.

It is a solemn occasion that allows people to commemorate the lives lost when in service to their countries, and to reflect on the human cost of life and the sacrifices made by those who had served in these wars.

The day is crucial in the way it shaped the National Identities of both Australia and New Zealand. It is a chance for communities to unite through commemorative gatherings and services, for them to come forward and pay their respects and show deep care and gratitude to the Veterans who had served in these wars, as well as the many families who stand by their sides. The day also serves as an educational guide/ or opportunity; allowing for younger generations to learn and understand the significance this day and war holds, experiences held and endured, and the significance that remembrance and peace holds among many.

Every year on this date, we gather and unite as one, where we remember and signify how ANZAC Day holds a deep cultural, emotional and historical significance for Australians and New Zealanders, and where we show respect, appreciation and gratitude. Thank you for listening.”

Jackson Amos

“ANZAC Day is a meaningful occasion where we remember and honour the men and women from Australia and New Zealand who served their countries with courage and determination. It marks the anniversary of the Gallipoli landing in 1915, but it goes beyond that, it stands as a symbol of the sacrifices made in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping efforts. On this day, we pause to recognise the bravery of those who stepped forward in times of great uncertainty and danger.

This day reminds us of the human cost of war. Behind every name etched in memorials are stories of courage, loss, and resilience.

ANZAC Day encourages us to remember those who never made it home and to



Lest We Forget

ANZAC DAY

Churchill cont.



recognise the ongoing struggles many veterans continue to face. It also plays a powerful role in shaping the national identity of both Australia and New Zealand. The values that arose on the shores of Gallipoli: mateship, endurance, loyalty, and sacrifice, are still deeply woven into who we are today.

These values are not just part of our history; they are part of our character. Commemorative services, marches, and moments of silence bring people together across generations. They provide an opportunity to pay our respects, support our veterans and their families, and ensure that the stories of the ANZACs are never forgotten. For Australians and New Zealanders, ANZAC Day is more than a public holiday. It is a day of reflection, remembrance, and deep gratitude. It reminds us of the cost of freedom and the importance of peace; and ensures that the legacy of those who served lives on. Lest we forget."

Churchill North Primary students Jaden, Jeremy and Lilly

"Today we are here to talk about Australian and New Zealand Forces during World War 1, the ANZACs. First we would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this country and their connections to country throughout Australia and their connecting to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to their elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples today. ANZAC (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps) Day is the anniversary of the landing of troops from Australia and New Zealand on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey, in World War 1 on April 25, 1915. The bravery of all the military personnel who participated in this campaign, and the lives of those who died in all military actions are

remembered. Many ceremonies, parades and other activities are held on ANZAC Day to remember the lives of those who participated in WW1, WW2, or died in military action, particularly in WW1.

Dawn prayer or church services are a particularly important aspect of ANZAC Day.

Australian and New Zealand soldiers formed part of the allied expedition that set out to capture the Gallipoli Peninsula on April 25, 1915. These became known as the ANZACs and the pride they took in that name continues to this day. The meaning of ANZAC Day today includes the remembrance of all Australians killed and severely injured in military operations. At the end of 1915, the allied forces were evacuated. Both sides suffered severe and heavy casualties and endured great hardships. Over 8000 Australians soldiers were killed. Thank you for listening to us today about the tragic events of the ANZAC soldiers who were either injured or died in battle trying to save our country." Churchill Primary School students Will and Adriana

"We gather here today to pay our respects to the fallen Australian and New Zealand soldiers. Before dawn on April 25, 1915, the first soldiers of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps reached the shores of Gallipoli.

We admire the bravery and strength of the animals, men and women who served our country.

Their bravery is something we will never take for granted.

ANZAC Day is a time to remember the soldiers who fought for our country and protected our land.

We honour the soldiers today through ceremony and wearing our poppies and badges with pride.

Thank you. Lest we forget."

Lumen Christi students Audrey, Anne, Charlotte, Tayler, Harper, Billy and Hunter.

"ANZAC Day means to me what it would to any other Australian. It means we are not just mourning all losses of loved ones in the wars. We are also reflecting on how free we are and how lucky we are to be safe. All thanks to the soldiers who gave up their lives for our country. We are so grateful for those heroes. May God bless them.

Lest we forget."

"What does ANZAC Day mean to me? We remember those who have served and died protecting our country and their families. Today we celebrate ANZAC Day by making poppies, ANZAC biscuits or wreaths to honour the memories of those who have died.

To me ANZAC Day is a day to remember all of the soldiers who fought for the freedom of our country and thank them for their bravery and sacrifice. We will always remember them."

"What ANZAC Day means to me.

My Pop and my Dad are veterans. It means we celebrate the veterans who sacrificed their lives in wars around the world and we pray for the military personnel that are currently deployed overseas serving our country.

ANZAC Day is important to me because I have a personal connection with my Uncle Lance currently serving in the army. Today I am thinking about his commitment to our country and for the lives lost in the past defending our way of life.

On ANZAC Day we commemorate all of the soldiers who fought and sacrificed their lives for us in the wars.

We also create wreaths or poppies to place on the graves of the ANZAC soldiers who

died in the war.

Today I hope all those strong and brave soldiers who sacrificed their lives for our country have their own special place in heaven."

Following the students speeches Cathie Halliwell from the Churchill Co-Operating Churches said very meaningful prayers.

Then the formalities of a traditional service followed with Don George reading the Ode to the Fallen. Joseph Bonnici played the Last Post, with a minute's silence held before he played Reveille. The national anthems of New Zealand and Australia were played, led by Sue Townsend and Bobby Naidu. With some words of thanks, the service was concluded with the invitation to partake of the delicious Gunfire breakfast supplied by the Churchill Lions who actively support the Rotary Club to put on this event. It was a special sincere respectful event and a happy time of community connection.

Churchill Rams Soccer Club

Later in the afternoon, The President of the Churchill Rams Soccer Club and Don George held a small ceremony with Joseph Bonnici playing the Last Post and Reveille The Rams played Olympians. The club raised hundreds of dollars which they donated to the RSL for the Welfare Program for veterans.

During the lead up to ANZAC Day volunteers sold RSL goods in Churchill raising upwards of \$1700 which also goes to the veterans Welfare Fund. The RSL extends thanks to the Churchill community for its generosity.



Lest We Forget



ANZAC DAY

Yinnar



Yinnar held a Dawn service and main service.

The Dawn service was well attended. Local Navy Veteran Gareth Peters provided his large white van as the screen for a slideshow of Australians in the First World War, the projector being provided by YDCA. The show was put together by Churchill Veteran Steve Sharman and was accompanied by music. The Armed Catafalque Party (guard for the cenotaph) was provided by 22 Engineer Regiment and all the soldiers were from Gippsland. The soldiers provided the guard for both the Dawn and the main service. The kookaburras joined in again with the Reveille this year!

The main service had a bit of spectacle and many moving parts this year, including the Morwell Caledonian Pipes and Drums leading the parade, Light Horse woman Liddy Davidson and her noble steed Tilly on the flank of the parade, 22 Engineer Regiment Catafalque party and leading the Veterans three flag bearers from Yinnar Primary School - Jazz, Jaydn and Adelaide. In addition, behind the Morwell RSL and Yinnar and district veterans, a large contingent of the ever reliable 424 Squadron Air Cadets was in attendance, led by Wayne Bass. 1st Yinnar Cubs, Scouts and Venturers looking very smart with their flags led by Jess and Mark. The large Yinnar Primary School contingent was led by Principal Mrs Christine Hall and the Pre-School group led by Miss Lee and a Yinnar South Primary group as well. Latrobe City was represented by Senior Citizen of the year and Boolarra resident, Delia D'Amico, who also marched with her family. After

the parade was halted, Light horse and guards positioned and wreaths and crosses placed, the MC for the ceremony, Captain (Ret.) Luke Townsend MBE MA, shared the following thoughts:

"I take this opportunity to mention a group that does not get a cross or a medal. They often get precious little recognition at all on days like this. I want to talk about Defence Families and the incredible role they have played over the years. If you think about the soldiers who went to Gallipoli and then went on to fight in France and in Flanders fields. They were away from home for four years. Think about what you were doing four years ago. Where were you in 2021- as a point of reference, the vaccine for the pandemic was being rolled out. That is a long time to have not seen your husband – remember there was no home leave – no aircraft to bring you home, so, they stayed over there. This was a time when communication with home was all done by letter. News was months old by the time the soldier would read it and by the time the family received a response.

Nearly 40% of the male population enlisted – all able bodied men from places like Yinnar were just missing. What does that mean in a rural setting like this? Mum has to do everything. In addition to all the things women were expected to do in that time, Mum has to collect and split the wood, milk the cows, plough fields and grow crops – all by hand and with bullocks and horses. Banjo Paterson recorded that the countryside was devoid of men, with women ploughing the fields, often with a child at their knee.

Then after four long years – Dad

comes home. Having had years of living in awful and traumatic conditions and now no longer surrounded by his mates. He is not the bloke who left. Mum has to deal with all that. When I would return from a tour in Afghanistan or Africa, my wife Roxanne would have so many things that she had to deal with on her own that she desperately needed to discuss – so many pressures that she just wanted to get off her chest. Many of my mates' wives had not had a break from childcare for the seven months of our absence, and their wife just wants their partner to be home and do his part. What often happens instead is a lot of conflict in the home. The soldier needs to get his head together. How do you process the things you have been through? Some things are just impossible to explain. It would take me some weeks before I could even leave the house to go to a BBQ or something simple like that. Everything during that time is too much.

If we keep our stress in a cup - Sometimes your stress cup is full and it just needs a few taps to overflow.

If the soldier is not given all the love and support he needs over that period and is not given a chance to adjust, then problems will persist. I can remember being on a combat patrol in Congo and then rushing to a plane and flying into London and getting on the underground. Within 24 hours I was back in a normal setting. My brain was convinced that other passengers were a potential threat. It takes time to come down and it is the families that deal with all of that. However you only get to deal with all that as a family - if you get your soldier back.

If you talk to Roxanne and other defence families, you will find that once your soldier is away in a conflict, every phone call, every knock at the door is filled with terror. That this could be me this time, finding out that he won't be coming home. While I was deployed as a reinforcement of the Mercian Regiment in Afghanistan, they took 21% casualties. Roxanne worked hard with the welfare office in support of the families, but never got used to knocks at the door or phone calls, even though she was expecting that as part of her role. There is an immense burden on families while their loved ones are away, but the support they do give us is epic. The support of my family is why I am still here and has made me what I am today. The Army describes families as dependants – As in Captain Townsend is being posted with four dependants. The reality is that we as servicemen are the dependants.

I am dependent on my family. We are here today to remember that, sadly, when tyrants stalk the earth, the soldiers, sailors and airmen must go, and not all can come home. We remember too the incredible role of the family in holding the fort, waiting, caring. I say on behalf of all Veterans - Thank you to our families."

Gareth Peters then delivered the Ode to the Fallen. Tina Thompson was our fantastic bugler again this year, delivering the Last Post, minutes silence and Reveille. The New Zealand and Australian National anthems were then played. After the service came to an end the participants mingled and chatted for a good while in and around the RSL.

Lest we forget.

Lest We Forget