

# CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

*"Connecting Your Community"*

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## Gippy Mummas hit the road for Gippsland's kids

For Donna Lawless and Sue Embrey, the roar of a 1991 Subaru wagon engine is more than just the soundtrack to a bush adventure.

Known as the Gippy Mummas, these two spirited Yinnar locals have turned their love of rally driving into a phenomenal fundraising mission to support sick kids at Latrobe Regional Hospital.

The Gippy Mummas are the only all-female team in the KidzFix Rally, a charity event that combines back roads with fundraising for sick and disadvantaged kids in small communities.

Since 2017, KidzFix has raised nearly \$90,000 for Latrobe Regional Health, and the Gippy Mummas are determined to push that total past \$100,000 this year.

"Rallying is so much fun. People come from all over the country, and each night we gather like a big family" Donna said.

What makes it really special is knowing the funds we raise go straight to equipment used here at LRH — our local hospital, helping local people."

Their journey began in 2016 with a trusty old Commodore, encouraged by Donna's mechanic husband, who volunteers with the rally's rescue team.

They have since upgraded to a Subaru L-series, clocking about 3000 km at each rally across unsealed roads, remote bush towns, and the occasional river crossing deep enough to test the nerves of any driver.

Despite the rugged terrain, the Gippy Mummas have proudly finished every rally.

"We have tackled it all, even river crossings that saw other cars towed out on trailers," Donna said.

Each year, the team receives the "Most Courteous Driver" award, reflecting their generous spirit both on and off the road.

Participation in KidzFix does not come easy. Teams must raise at least \$4,500 and drive vehicles more than 20 years old.

The Gippy Mummas meet the challenge year after year through community fundraisers, including trivia nights and barbeques.

One of this year's fundraising events will be a high tea fundraiser at the Yinnar Bowls Club, with all proceeds helping the team gear up for this year's September rally from Lithgow to Mallacoota via Lorne.

It will help LRH purchase four critical Nexus syringe pumps for its paediatrics unit.

Thanks to their past efforts, LRH has already acquired vital equipment including paediatric cots, a blanket warmer, a resuscitation trolley, sleeper chairs, and a jaundice meter — the latter eliminating the need for painful heel pricks in newborn babies.

If you would like to sponsor or donate to Gippy Mummas you can do so by going to kf24 Car Y4R3 and following the links. Courtney Whittaker, Acting Nurse Unit Manager of LRH Paediatrics, could not be more grateful.

"The support from KidzFix and the Gippy Mummas is phenomenal," she said. "This equipment makes a real difference for children and families throughout Gippsland."

The Gippy Mummas High Tea will be at the Yinnar Bowls Club on June 15 at 1.30pm. Tickets are \$35 a person.

To book, call Sue on mobile 0458 151 631, or Donna on 0439 631 470.



Donna Lawless, Courtney Whittaker, and Sue Embrey



## CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

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# Local walking groups unite for National Heart Week

Latrobe Health Assembly, the Heart Foundation's Walking group host for the Latrobe Valley, together with the Heart Foundation, brought together local walking groups for National Heart Week.

The morning tea united the walking groups for the first time in years, with some newer groups and walkers never having met before.

Beginning the event by joining the Moe Pet-Friendly Walking Group gave everyone the chance to make connections and get to know each other while being active.

Elaine, who has been a walking group leader in Traralgon for 13 years, said the benefits of walking groups include being active, staying healthy and providing social interaction. That last one is what is most important to Elaine as, living by herself, she says it gets her up in the morning.

"This was a fantastic opportunity for the local Heart Foundation Walking groups in the region to meet and mingle – it was a great event organised by the Latrobe Health Assembly, and we look



forward to working together to get more people across Latrobe walking," said Heart Foundation Walking Program Officer, Alicja Najbar-Kaszkziel.

This year, National Heart Week (May 5 - 11) encouraged Australians to never miss a beat by seeing their GP for a heart health check. Coronary Heart Disease is the leading cause of death in the Latrobe Valley, and is largely

preventable through diet and exercise. Walking just 30 minutes a day can reduce your risk of heart disease by 35%, which is why Heart Foundation Walking Groups go a long way toward maintaining a heart-healthy lifestyle.

"We are thrilled to be working alongside the Heart Foundation as the new host for walking groups in the Latrobe Valley.

This is an integral part of the work we are doing in physical literacy, which is about building the skills, knowledge and behaviours to lead active lives, while

also creating opportunities for social connections and friendships to form," said Latrobe Health Assembly Chair, Tanya Rong.

As the new host for the Latrobe Valley, the Assembly will continue connecting the groups, can assist in recruiting and retaining community members, and can support new groups in starting out.

To learn more about walking groups in the Latrobe Valley, visit: <https://www.healthassembly.org.au/projects/heart-foundation-walking-groups-latrobe-valley/>

## Rainfall



Churchill Rainfall

For the month of May we have received a total of 50mm over three days. The most rain received in one day was 37mm. This brings the 2025 rainfall to 180mm.

Rain at Hazelwood South

May started very dry. On May 23 the strong system in the Pacific Ocean, responsible for the record floods in NSW, reached Hazelwood South for one day, producing 31mm of rain, followed by 11mm

three days later, from the southern ocean, with cold south west winds. May had a total of 52mm rain and was 18% below the monthly average. The year so far, has 19% less rain than average. Much more rain is needed to recharge the ground water. The grass is green but not growing. The Latrobe Valley weather station reported frosts, no frosts were observed at Hazelwood South amongst the trees, and on the hills.

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# Churchill Hotel fire

It was with a mixture of much sadness and amazement that we learnt of the Churchill Hotel fire which devastated the building, and put many out of work and wondering about the future. The fire is under investigation and until that is complete we will not know the details of this tragedy for our town. Our thoughts go out to those involved in ownership and operation of the hotel at this time. We acknowledge the quick response of emergency services including our local fire brigades.





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# CHURCH *news*

## Churchill Christian Fellowship

**By Steve McNeilly, Pastor**  
April and May were interesting months at Churchill Christian Fellowship. I only mention April because one of our members preached her first ever sermon on the last Sunday in April. We had a record attendance that day as family and friends came to support her.

On May 18, we had a special hymn service, with a visiting keyboard player from Moe, Rob McCracken, providing the music. We did six hymns in total with interesting background information on the various hymn writers and the times in which they lived. I still find it a bit hard to believe that a woman named Fanny Crosby, who was blind from infancy, could churn out

more than 8,600 hymns in her lifetime.

We are still having regular Friday lunchtime gatherings. Some people come to do craft activities. Others try to get little jobs done around the hall, and some people work in the community garden. However, as I am writing this, no-one is working in the garden as it is pouring rain! Please feel free to join us from 11am to about 2pm on Fridays. There is usually a nice lunch to share.

Please feel free to come join us 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.

## Prayer for Dummies

**Prayer for Dummies at Yinnar South Historic Church**

Remember the old adage: 'There are no atheists in a lifeboat'? In desperate times, it is not unusual to wonder whether there is any Being out there who sees, who cares, who can help, and if there is, is it ok to send out an SOS?

Join us for a discussion on prayer over morning tea.

Where: Yinnar South Historic Church 320 Middle Creek Rd Yinnar South.

When: 10am June 29, 2025.

For more information: ring Bec Hayman 0467 023 363.



### 80th Birthdays celebrated

Pat Stewart and Vicki Mitchell turned 80 in April. There was a special celebration at church to acknowledge their age achievement.

Heartfelt words were spoken of each lady before the candles were lit and blown out and the cake cut.

It was delightful to see their beautiful smiles.

**Boolarra Service May 18, 2025**

The reverse cycle air

conditioning warming the Boolarra Church was very welcome as we met together on an extremely chilly Sunday morning! Cathie Halliwell took the service. Rather than one long sermon, Cathie broke her message up into sections. She spoke of loving one another, serving one another, and being watchful that we do not cling to tradition for tradition's sake alone.

Our Psalm for the day was Psalm 148, the beautiful psalm of praise exhorting all creation to praise God our Creator. We sang hymns together and had a laugh at the unreliability of technology when the overheads decided to stop working. It was a lovely, friendly atmosphere in the church. After the service we shared morning tea together.

### Bec's message

Our gospel reading was the start of Jesus' last speech to his disciples before his crucifixion and if I were to sum up this speech it would come down to these two statements: Love one another and be united. If I were to sum up the failings of the church over the last two thousand years, it would come down to two statements: A failure to love one another and disunity.

Interesting that our Acts passage is the account of

an early point of contention for the church. How are they going to go loving one another and remaining united through this particular time when Jews and Gentiles have different rules for eating foods?

We also know that the Good News is for all nations and so sometimes, rather than risking offence and shutting down dialogue, we just graciously accept what we are offered. John's Gospel could not be more emphatic:

We are to love one another and strive for unity. This is not just about loving those like us, accepting those like us, receiving hospitality from those like us, it is about reaching across cultural divides to embrace all people.

### Russell's message

If you want to build a church, do not get people to serve on committees or mow the lawns, instead tell them of the amazing love of God.

When Jesus ascended into heaven the Holy Spirit was sent to be with us, direct us and help us.

The world should be able to see the Holy Spirit in those who believe.

In other words God is seen to be everywhere by the actions of His people.

In Summary the world should be able to see the Holy Spirit everywhere in those who follow Jesus,

are we deepening our relationship with God every day?

God will not let anyone take us from him if we truly believe

### Coffee Connections

The theme for Coffee Connections was our greatest blessing. The devotion was centered on the Beatitudes

Some individuals consider a deep connection with God or a spiritual experience as their greatest blessing


This may involve a sense of faith, purpose and inner peace, leading to a greater understanding of life's complexities.

Spiritual practices and beliefs can provide comfort and guidance during challenging times.

The Beatitudes as taught by Jesus in the Sermon of the Mount, are a series of blessings which outline the characteristics of those who are truly blessed and will inherit God's Kingdom.

The greatest blessing from God is a personal belief and interpretation. Some may see it as a gift of life, others as specific relationship or event, and still others as a spiritual connection or inner peace.

Ultimately what is considered the greatest blessing is subjective and deeply personal.



## Church Times

<b>Co-Operating Churches of Churchill</b> Sunday Services: 10.00am Williams Avenue, Churchill. Tel: 5166 1819	<b>Churchill/Morwell Catholic Parishes</b> Tel: 5134 2849 Fr James Fernandez <b>Saturday 5.00pm</b> St Vincent's, Morwell. <b>Sunday 9.00am</b> Lumen Christi, Churchill. 10.30am Sacred Heart, Morwell. Every 4th Sunday alternates Yinnar/Boolarra. <i>See Church bulletin or call 5134 2849</i>
<b>King of Glory Ministries</b>  <b>Yinnar/Boolarra</b> Meeting at the RSL Hall, Yinnar 7.00pm each Sunday.	<b>Boolarra/Yinnar Co-Operating Parish</b> <b>Boolarra/Yinnar</b> 1st and 3rd Sunday: 10am Christ Church Tarwin St., Boolarra
<b>Prayer and Bible Study:</b> 10.00am Mondays at Yinnar Bakery and Coffee Shop. 7.00pm Wednesdays at the Boolarra Co-op Church Hall.	<b>Churchill Christian Fellowship</b> 3.00pm Sundays at Haz S. Hall 762 Tramway Road Churchill (next to the soccer ground) Everyone Welcome 0409 173 747

**For more info:**  
**Pastor Lynn Fowler**  
**0493 193 141**

## King of Glory Ministries

**King of Glory Ministries Yinnar/Boolarra Try Alpha in Yinnar**

King of Glory Ministries Yinnar/Boolarra will be running the Alpha program each Sunday night from 7pm at the Yinnar RSL Hall, commencing on Sunday July 13.

The program runs for 11

weeks, and for the duration of the program this will replace our normal Sunday night meeting.

Alpha is a safe place where you can ask any questions about life, faith and meaning, and share your thoughts in a non-threatening environment.

Each night will begin

with a time of fellowship over dessert, followed by a short video and discussion. The program is free and everyone is welcome.

To book your spot, phone Pastor Lynn Fowler on 0493 193 141 or email kingofgloryministriesinternational@gmail.com with the subject "Yinnar Alpha."



# Aviation and Aerospace Careers Expo at Latrobe Regional Airport

On Tuesday May 6, Latrobe City Council and Baw Baw Latrobe Local Learning and Employment Network (LLEN) hosted an Aviation and Aerospace Careers Expo at Latrobe Regional Airport.

The Expo saw approximately 100 high school students attend in two sessions which included a tour of GippsAero and Helimed. The event also showcased interactive displays and career

information from education institutions and aviation industries.

Swinburne University of Technology AIR Hub had its latest hydrogen powered drone on display and discussed opportunities in aerospace courses and programs.

RMIT University had a rocket and drone that were designed and built by students. Both universities were also available to discuss education and career

pathways.

Industry participation included a demonstration of an unmanned Aircraft Traffic Management system by Thales. Dovetail electric aviation was present, along with local aviation businesses, Jet Aviation and Pilatus.

Latrobe Valley Aero Club provided information on flight training and getting a pilot's licence locally. Gippsland Tech School also attended with a drone simulator for use

by the students.

Latrobe City Council Mayor, Councillor Dale Harriman said it was great to see so many students with an interest in a career that will bring investment and jobs to Latrobe City.

"By showcasing the aviation and aerospace sectors, we are helping to position Latrobe City as a destination for future-focused industries. Events like this help attract investment, drive job

creation, and encourage partnerships between education providers and industry.

The aviation industry offers high-growth opportunities that will keep our region thriving," said the Mayor.

"It was inspiring to

see students from across our region engaging directly with industry and education leaders. We want them to know that they do not have to leave Latrobe City to find exciting careers—they can build their futures right here."

## Yinnar Community Garden

There are hundreds, even thousands of kinds of apples. Often if you want to taste one, you either have to grow it yourself, or visit a heritage orchard such as Petty's Orchard in Templestowe.

Here in Gippsland we have Strzelecki Heritage Apples, which maintains a comprehensive list of over 400 cider, cooking, and eating apples. They even grow the Court Pendu Plat, which is believed to date back to Roman times. I purchased a Blue Pearmain tree from Strzelecki

Heritage Apples which finally produced two lovely big crunchy apples last February.

The Blue Pearmain is a very beautiful apple with a blue blush which looks like it could feature in a fairy tale, and was philosopher Henry Thoreau's favourite. This variety is "diploid", meaning it needs one other variety of apple growing nearby in order to pollinate. Some apple trees are "triploid", meaning they need two other varieties to pollinate.

If space is an issue,

you can take a shortcut by multigrafting more than one variety on to the same tree. Multigrafted trees can be purchased commercially, or you can save money by learning to graft yourself. The basic idea is to take a small twig or "scion" from the desired variety, and bind it to a robust rootstock.

At the Yinnar Community Garden we have Gravenstein, Five Crown, Snow, and Golden Delicious apples which are "espaliered" or grown flat against a trellis. If you would like some scion from

these trees, feel free to get in touch via Facebook or via email at yinnarcg@gmail.com .

The next event at the Yinnar Community Garden will be a Volunteer Open Day on Wednesday June 25. We will be giving a presentation and garden tour, followed by a luncheon. There will be no charge for this event. Further details to be confirmed – just keep an eye on our Facebook page, or send us an email. We look forward to seeing you in the Garden soon!



Blue Pearmain apple grown in Yinnar South, February 2025.



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# *with Noelene*

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



## What do you know?

Here are the answers to last month's challenge:

1. Piperade.
2. Pipis
3. Piquante
4. Pinch
5. Preserve.



## Here is my challenge for you this month:

1. A velvety sour cream that is allowed to mature naturally, until it thickens and develops a distinctive flavour?
2. A thin savoury or sweet pancake?
3. To make a decorative pattern and to seal the dough around the edge of an unbaked pie?
4. Crescent shaped pastry consisting of yeast dough, dotted with butter before baking?
5. Croutons or small pieces of toast?
6. Small yeast cake cooked on a hotplate inside a metal ring?

## Irish barmbrack

*This Irish spiced bread was traditionally baked with a wedding ring thrown into the dough in the belief that whoever found the ring would be married within the year.*



### Ingredients

650gm of bread flour, plus extra for dusting, 1 tsp of ground mixed spice, 1 tsp of salt, 1 dsp of instant dried yeast, 55gm of brown castor sugar, 300ml of luke warm milk, 150ml of lukewarm water, canola oil for brushing, 55gm of softened butter/marg, 325gm of mixed fruit.

Preheat your oven to 200deg C. Grease a 300cm x 120cm loaf pan.

Mix together the flour, mixed spice and salt into a large bowl.

Make a well in the centre and pour in the milk and water.

Mix together well, gradually incorporating the dry ingredients to make a sticky dough.

Place the dough on a lightly floured work surface and knead the dough till no longer sticky.

Brush a clean bowl lightly with oil. Place the dough in the bowl and cover with cling wrap, leave in a warm spot until doubled in size.

Turn the dough out onto a floured work surface and knead lightly for 1 minute.

Add the softened butter/ marg and mixed fruit to the dough and work them in well.

Return the dough to the bowl and cover again with cling wrap and leave to rise for 30 minutes.

Shape the dough to fit the loaf pan, cover and leave to rise to the top of the pan. Brush lightly with a little extra milk.

Bake in the preheated oven for 15 minutes. Now reduce the oven temperature to 180 deg C. Loosely cover the loaf with baking paper and bake for 45 minutes, or until the loaf is golden and sounds hollow when tapped on the bottom.

Transfer to a wire rack to cool.



## The cook's lament

*Consider how the housewife reacts, a cookbook and its counsel heeds  
And how she adds, with spoons and pinches, some cheese and chives, and never flinches.*

*Adds pepper also, pours in wine, and tests it well and finds it fine.  
Then serves her triumph, happy faced.  
To guests who salt before they taste!!!*

## Crusty leg of lamb



### Ingredients

1 x 1.5 - 2kg leg of lamb, 2 egg yolks lightly beaten, 3 tbs of marg/ butter, melted, 1 cup of cornflake crumbs, 1 tbs of sesame seeds, 1 tsp of mixed herbs, 1 small onion peeled and thinly sliced into rounds, fresh rosemary stalks (if you have rosemary growing in your garden or just a good sprinkle of dried rosemary). Preheat your oven to 180 deg C. Lightly grease a baking dish with cooking oil and line the base with rosemary stalks or a good sprinkle of dried rosemary. Remove any excess fat from the lamb, brush the top surface of the lamb with a little of the egg yolk. In a small bowl mix together the marg/ butter, corn flake crumbs, sesame seeds, mixed herbs and half the remaining egg yolks. Press the mixture firmly over the top of the lamb, break onion slices into rings and arrange over the surface, pressing with the palm of your hands. Brush the onion rings with the remaining egg yolk. Finally place the prepared leg of lamb into the prepared dish and bake in the preheated oven for 90 minutes or until cooked to your liking. When the crust becomes golden and crisp cover loosely with baking paper for the rest of the cooking time. This recipe is my gift to you, it takes a leg of lamb to another level, enjoy.

## French onion soup



### Ingredients

2 tbs of rice bran oil, 2 tbs of margarine/butter, 3 onions, thinly sliced, 1 tbs of sugar, 2 tbs of plain flour, 1 litre of vegetable stock, 1 x 40gm packet of dried French onion soup mix, 1/2 cup of dry white wine, 8 slices of crusty baguette, 3/4 cup of grated Parmesan cheese.

Heat the oil and margarine/butter in a large soup pot over a medium heat.

Add the onions and saute until tender. Add the sugar.

Stir in the flour.

In a separate bowl mix together the vegetable stock with the French onion soup mix and the dry white wine.

Now add the stock mixture to the pot. Cover the pot and continue to cook over a low heat, let the soup come to a simmer, stirring occasionally.

Simmer slowly for 45 minutes. To serve slice the baguette and sprinkle one side with the grated cheese and place under the grill until golden and bubbly.

Serve the soup topped with 2 slices of the cheese bread.

## Spicy roast chicken

*Another way to turn a simple roast chicken dinner into something special:*



### Ingredients

3 tbs of margarine, 3 tbs of minced garlic, 2 tbs of kecap manis (sweet soy sauce), 2 tbs tamarind puree, 1 dsp of sweet paprika, 1.5 kg chicken, cleaned and patted dry with paper towelling, 3 limes quartered and 1 onion peeled and quartered.

Preheat your oven to 200 deg C. Place the lime and onion wedges inside the chicken cavity and secure the legs together with cooking string. Heat the margarine in a small saucepan, add the minced garlic and stir to combine over a low heat. Add the kecap manis, tamarind and sweet paprika. Bring to a simmer, stirring continually. Remove from the heat and brush the mixture all over the chicken. Place the chicken on a rack over a baking dish. Cover lightly with foil and bake in the preheated oven for 40 minutes. Remove the foil and baste the chicken and bake until cooked. Cut the chicken into pieces and serve as you desire.

## Cornish cream tea



### Ingredients

350gm of self raising flour, 1/4 tsp of salt, 1 tsp of baking powder, 85gm of soft butter/ marg, 3 tbs of castor sugar, 175ml of milk, 1 beaten egg, to glaze. Preheat your oven to 220 deg C. Lightly spray an oven tray and line with baking paper. Mix the flour, salt and baking powder. Rub the butter in the flour mixture until it resembles breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar. Make a well in the centre of the mixture. Warm the milk then pour into the dry mix and stir with a bread knife to combine the dough. Sprinkle your work bench and hands with flour, then tip out the dough. Fold it over a few times, then using your hands shape the dough into a round, about 4cm thick. Use a 5cm cutter and dip it into a little flour. Cut scones from the dough then reshape the remaining mixture and cut out more scones. Brush the tops of the scones with beaten egg and place on the prepared oven tray. Bake for 10 minutes in the preheated oven or until golden and risen. Serve your scones with butter / whipped cream and jam, a pot of tea and your best crockery.





# Physiotherapy clinic launches new hub

Federation University Australia is boosting access to its virtual physiotherapy clinic with the launch of a second ‘satellite hub’ for people who do not have video call technology at home.

The hub at Gippsland Multicultural Services (GMS) in Morwell, will provide a private space for community members to access their telehealth appointments with Federation physiotherapy students.

Federation’s student-led Physiotherapy Virtual Care Clinic gives those living with chronic musculoskeletal, neurological or cardiorespiratory health conditions access to free healthcare under the supervision of experienced educators and clinicians.

Since launching in August 2023, the clinic has conducted more than 1500 video call consultations with consumers and enabled 44 students to learn while working with the community.

The launch of the GMS hub follows the success of the first satellite hub at Churchill Neighbourhood Centre in 2024 and is a partnership with the Latrobe Health Assembly.

The Assembly’s Chronic Disease Action Plan 2022-

2027 reports that 33.5 per cent of people in Latrobe are living with two or more chronic diseases.

For nearly four decades, GMS has supported diverse local communities including new and long-term migrants, refugees, recent arrivals, asylum seekers, ageing populations, people with a disability and other vulnerable populations.

Community members can access Federation University’s Physiotherapy Virtual Care Clinic with the referral of their health professional or a self-referral by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/FedPhysioVirtualCare>

Federation University Professor of Physiotherapy, Marie-Louise Bird said

“The virtual care clinic is reducing regional obstacles to healthcare for people living with a chronic illness like distance, cost and long wait times and we are proud to partner with Gippsland Multicultural Services and Latrobe Health Assembly to increase access to this service.

“The clinic is not only making it easier to access physiotherapy services for those living remotely, but the satellite hubs support those without videocall technology at home.”

# Federation student-athlete scores big for first nations sport



Federation University Australia student and proud Dunghutti and Ngarigo Monero woman Anna Solomon, has been awarded ‘Most outstanding sporting performance by an Indigenous student-athlete’ at the 2025 UniSport National Conference Sports Awards, which celebrate the achievement of university student-athletes and sporting programs.

The prestigious award was announced in Adelaide on Tuesday May 20, in front of a crowd of more than 120 university sport leaders, administrators and managers, representatives from international university sport federations, and national sporting organisations.

A Bachelor of Social Work student at Federation’s Churchill Campus, Anna was recognised for her exceptional achievements in netball, including captaining Victoria’s inaugural First Nations netball team competing at Netball Australia’s first-ever First Nations Tournament, leading with skill, pride, and determination.

Anna also made history as the first signing for the Victorian Netball League (VNL) Gippsland Stars 23 and Under team and was a standout player in Federation University’s UniSport National team, where she dominated the court during the week-long tournament in late 2024.

Beyond her on-court

success, Anna’s leadership and community impact were also celebrated. She has been a driving force in encouraging fellow students to participate in the First Nations Tournament, generously sharing her knowledge and experience.

As an ambassador for Federation’s Elite Athlete Program, Anna has played a key role in inspiring and recruiting future student-athletes to pursue both academic and sporting excellence.

Anna said she was honoured to receive the award. “I am so grateful to be recognised for my commitment to netball and the sacrifices I have made to support my sporting endeavours. It is truly an honour to be nominated

alongside such strong and competitive Indigenous athletes, and testament to our resilience and ability in pushing through the barriers First Nations peoples face.

I am honoured to be acknowledged for the impact I have had on my community and for my passion to be a positive and guiding example for my fellow Indigenous student-athletes and other students in the wider Indigenous community.”

This month, Anna will proudly represent Federation University at the 29th Indigenous Nationals in Perth, a week-long multi-sport competition for Indigenous student-athletes, running from June 23 to 27, 2025.

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# Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists

The next meeting of the Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists Club starts at 7:30 pm on Friday June 27, in the Moe Library. The speaker will be Dr Alex Maisey on “Feathers in the Fields: Bird Conservation in Working Landscapes”.

His presentation will be followed by our Club’s monthly meeting and supper.

Alex Maisey is a terrestrial ecologist with a focus on biodiversity conservation and ecosystem

management. He will be presenting an engaging overview of some of the bird-focused conservation findings from various projects his research group at La Trobe University has undertaken in recent years.

He will begin by introducing some foundational concepts in nature conservation within working landscapes. This will provide a broad perspective on how different landscapes — and their biota

— are shifting across the globe.

Drawing on two major research projects conducted in south-eastern Australian farm landscapes, he will highlight the factors that matter most to Australian birds — including habitat requirements, the influence of farm management practices, and how these considerations can be embedded into formal tools like Natural Capital Accounting.

Finally, he will explore how farmers (and others who influence land use) can increase the biological value of the landscapes they manage.

The following day, Saturday June 28, for our monthly excursion, we will meet by 10 am at Moonlight carpark in the Mount Worth State Park.

Everyone is most welcome, both to the meeting and the excursions. For more information contact our secretary, Rose, on 0410 237 292.

Please visit our website [www.lvfieldnats.org](http://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: Lyrebird  
Credit: David Stickney

# Plants in my Garden

By Mike Beamish

**Species:**

*Pterostylis collina* (syn. *Diplodium collinum* and *Taurantha collina*).

**Family:**

Orchidaceae.

**Derivation:**

*Pterostylis*: From Greek, *pteron*, meaning “wing”, and *stylos*, meaning “pillar, pole or column” and referring to the broad wings found on the upper part of the column in this genus of orchids.

*collina*: From Later Latin, *collinus*, meaning living on low hills and referring to one of this species’ habitats.

**Common Name:**

Shiny Greenhood or Shiny Bull Orchid.

**Distribution:**

Grows in shaded sites in wet open forest and rainforest from the coast to the hinterland ranges, in southern Queensland (Gympie to Mudgeeraba) and northern NSW (Mooball to Nelson Bay).

**Description:**

Arising from an underground tuberoid, non-flowering plants form a ground-hugging basal rosette, consisting of 3-6 ovate to oblong, dark green leaves, up to 40mm long and 15mm wide with entire margins. Flowering plants form a single stem from the centre of the rosette, up to 20cm tall bearing a single flower. The flower is green and white, sometimes stained with reddish-brown, can be semi-nodding and consists of 6 highly modified tepals (3 sepals and 3 petals) arranged around a central column comprised of the reproductive parts of the flower.

The dorsal sepal and 2 petals are fused into an open-faced ‘hood’ shape up to about 26mm long by 12mm wide, while the 2 lateral sepals are fused for enough of their length to cover the open face of the hood with a flat sinus and for their free points to form 25mm-long

‘horns’ over the hood. The third petal is called the labellum, is very sensitive to touch and sits inside the hood where its tip is deeply notched and protrudes prominently through the opening in the hood (the sinus). When a potential pollinating insect enters the hood, the labellum is triggered to trap the insect inside the flower and force it to exit the flower via a route past the column that will assist pollination of the flower. Ingenious!

**Opinion:**

Orchids are great little plants, but keep in mind that they are all protected in the wild, some are very sensitive to disturbance and hence, are vulnerable/threatened/ endangered. Never collect plants from wild populations and take care if you are undertaking activities around their habitats.

My plants are obtained from reputable and legal sources with the aim of taking the pressure off the wild populations and hopefully increasing their numbers in cultivation. Yes, I know that they all originated from plants collected from the bush back when that was the norm and before we knew better, but now we do know better, so do not be part of the problem!

My specimen is kept in a small water-well pot with other orchid species, the theory being to provide excellent drainage, prevent the mix from drying out and desiccating the tubers and also prevent the soil from



staying too damp, which will cause the tubers to rot, particularly in the hot weather when the tubers are dormant. I am concerned that my theory has not been successful, as there has been no sign of orchids in the pot for far too long and I suspect that the mix has remained too damp. So perhaps this is another species to be relegated to the ‘Plants that were in my Garden’ file.

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](mailto:mcandcjb@gmail.com) or phone 0447 452 755.

**Sources: Backhouse – Guide to Native Orchids of NSW and ACT (2022).**

Jones – A Complete Guide to Native Orchids of Australia (2021).

Sharr – WA Plant Names and their Meanings.

SHOP LOCAL MARKETS

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



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It was the biggest concert tour in history, and now you can re-live the hype when Taylor: A Tribute to the Eras of Taylor Swift comes to GPAC on Friday September 5, 2025, 7pm GPAC Main Theatre.

Join us as we salute 'Tay Tay' and the indelible impact she has had on Pop music with this joyous, effervescent concert experience, complete with sparkly costumes, cosmic stage production and over 20 exquisite renditions of Taylor's biggest hits from every era of her career.

Saturday November 1 8pm GPAC Main Theatre Tickets from \$79.90

Frontier Touring is delighted to announce five time ARIA award-winning artist Katie Noonan will

## KATIE NOONAN

JEFF BUCKLEY'S GRACE TOUR

NOV  
1

embark on a 20-date headline tour across Australia, performing the works of Jeff Buckley's iconic album Grace.

Celebrating one of music's most notable albums, Katie will take her mind-blowing live show across metro and regional areas of the country.

Katie first introduced her unique adaptation of Jeff Buckley's Grace live, recently performing an incredible five sold-out nights at Sydney Festival. Praise from fans and critics came pouring in for the singer-songwriter's ability to maintain the qualities of the traditional tracks while adding her unique flair and tone to curate a memorable tribute to a special body of work.



Latrobe  
**Community Health** Service  
*Gippsland Wide*

Meet our happy Home Care Package client Kevin, and his son Peter.

A Home Care Package can change many lives. As well as supporting you with the care and services you need to live happily in your home each day. It can also support your loved ones by taking the pressure of care off them and allowing them to spend more quality time with you.

Nobody agrees with this sentiment more than 94-year old Kevin from Moe, and his son Peter.

"My Home Care Package means more time with my family," Kevin said.

Kevin has five children and 14 grandkids who take turns to visit him most days. Thanks to his Home Care Package, which includes cleaning, personal care, garden and lawn maintenance, equipment, physiotherapy and weekly outings with a carer. Kevin and his family get to focus on the important things.

This includes working on his family tree project, maintaining the fish tank, chatting to cockatoo George in the backyard, and enjoying Kevin's garden together.

As well as spending more quality time with his dad, Peter says the Home Care



Package gives him more time for himself.

"There is probably only once or twice a week where I do not come down, and that is when Dad is with his carer. It allows you to do different things too," Peter said.

"We have a lot of people in our family who have worked as carers. Having someone like LCHS on

board as well means you have nothing to worry about."

Do you know someone who needs help at home? Consider referring your friend, neighbour or loved one to Latrobe Community Health Service. Phone 1800 242 696 and press 2 for Home Care Packages, or visit [lchs.com.au/hcp](http://lchs.com.au/hcp) to speak with our friendly team today.

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## COMMUNITY SAFETY

# Words of Wisdom

## Lock it OR lose it!

This month, we are reminding people that due to the amount of thefts from motor vehicles and properties, it is very wise to make sure that everything is locked, so that it is not easy for thieves to take possession of your items.

Trades people have been robbed a number of times in the district and this makes it very hard to keep earning a living when tools and associated items go missing.

If your vehicle is not garaged, make sure that if you have a video surveillance system on your property, park the vehicle near a camera so that you have a view of anyone trying to gain entry to that vehicle.

The harder you make it for the robbers, the more likely they will avoid your place and try somewhere else.

Remember....

**"LOCK IT OR LOSE IT".**

**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.

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Kevin Hogan with daughter Kelly

### Churchill Lions turn up the heat on patient care

When you are unwell, a warm blanket is a must-have. For Kevin Hogan the weight of a blanket only added to the physical pain of motor neurone disease (MND).

“Dad was always cold but he could not have too much weight on him because his legs would get sore.

We could not pack him with lot of blankets so to have one warm blanket meant he would not need lots of layers,” Kevin’s daughter, Kelly Bianconi said.

After Kevin died in June last year, his mates at the Lions Club of Churchill decided to donate money to Latrobe Regional Health’s Nicholson Rehabilitation Unit

to purchase a blanket warmer. The special cabinet safely heats blankets to maintain a patient’s body temperature or promote relaxation and comfort.

Club president Robin King said the donation was the club’s way of honouring Kevin’s contribution to the community for almost 30 years.

“Kevin was a great mate of mine,” Robin said. “We were the ‘A-team’ in the barbecue

van. Wherever he went, I went. The club is just like that, we all bond.

Being a mechanic, Kevin was the first port of call if something needed to be fixed. If there was anything going on in the club, he was ready to help.”

“If there was a blue on, he would fix it with his sense of humour,” club member Reg Grisotto added.

LRH Community Engagement Officer, Lisa

Twigger said the Lions Club of Churchill does not have clubrooms where it can honour past members so a plaque on the blanket warmer was the next best option.

“Kevin may not be involved with the club anymore but in a small way, his generosity will be remembered and he will still have a role in helping people in our community for years to come.”



A plaque on the new blanket warmer is a 'living' memorial to Kevin Hogan.



Pictured (back) Robin King, Bill Hurenkamp and Reg Grisotto from Churchill Lions with Kevin's wife Lesley and daughter Kelly Bianconi.



## Experience a world of wow across Museums Victoria

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# Strzelecki koala and the Budj Bim koalas

The aim of the Strzelecki koala articles is to raise awareness of this unique native animal with its important diverse genetic makeup, to get it more protection at all levels of government and to ensure that its habitat is vast, connected, protected, sustainable and healthy throughout Gippsland.

While the Strzelecki population is very small, an estimated 2000 Strzelecki koalas, there is an abundance of low genetic diversity koalas in the Western District of Victoria. These koalas are descended from a few koalas that survived the fur trade mass killings in the 1920s and 1930s. This abundant koala population requires a lot of management by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate (DEECA) to ensure its health, food supply and shelter. DEECA deals with many complex issues as it handles "boom and bust" cycles of the koala population, natural disasters and the blue gum plantation industry.

In April and May 2025, DEECA received a lot of criticism and outrage from Animal Rights campaigners and animal rescuer groups within Australia as well as international conservationists. These groups are concerned about the use of aerial euthanasia in the national Park Budj Bim in Western Victoria. (The Age 3-5-25 "Mercy Kill or Cull? Burning Question of Budj Bim Koalas" by Bianca Hall 18-5-25)

Many groups have said that this method is inhumane. These groups are angry and disappointed that DEECA did not inform all stakeholders prior to beginning this Budj Bim National Park management program. Jess Robertson (President of the Koala Alliance and a wildlife rescuer) stated on the ABC

Radio program on April 17, 2025, ("DEECA begins aerial culling of koalas," Justin Smith) that for a koala to be euthanised, it should be "assessed properly". That is "blood tested, weighed and examined on the ground."

Lisa Palma CEO from Wildlife Victoria said in the Yahoo!News (au.news.yahoo.com 15-4-25 article "Freak weather event in Australian National Park leads to estimated 700 Dead' by Michael Dahistrom, that euthanasia is appropriate when animals are suffering. However it should be done kindly and safely. In the same Yahoo!News article Dr Stephen Phillips, a specialist koala research scientist and ecologist, also questioned the method used by DEECA to assess the health and condition of each koala.

DEECA's James Todd on ABC Radio April 17, 2025 in response to Jess Robertson, said that the department conducted a trial first with the support

of experienced and accredited vets. "This euthanasia method for the first time involved shooters in helicopters and health assessments conducted by binoculars 30 metres away." Todd said that they needed to act quickly to prevent the further suffering and distress of the fire affected koalas. The park was difficult to walk in because a lot of the terrain consisted of granite rock. Todd stressed that this action was not taken lightly.

It is estimated that over 1000 koalas were killed by the aerial shooting.

(www.foemelbourne.org.au 20-5-25 "FOE Visits Mass Koala Shooting Sites at Budji Bim" 21-5-25)

The conservationists groups are questioning the DEECA decision. In the Age article Lisa Palmer from Wildlife Victoria wonders why they were not informed before this method was implemented, and why the secretiveness of the euthanasia operation.

While Anthony Amis from the SKAT team asked "How accurate were the health assessments? Was the terrain really too rugged or unsafe to enable such assessments? Were female koala's pouches checked for joeys?" Other questions could be: Were the koalas killed outright or did they suffer further after they fell to the ground?

Were vets and rescue workers on the ground at the time of the shootings to make immediate assessments? Were records kept about the overall condition of the dead koalas before they were disposed of? What are the implications for other koala populations in their future management? How will DEECA look after the Strzelecki koala population if it is affected by a natural disaster?

If you would like to know more:

Friends of the Earth Melbourne, SKAT, the

Latest News on Koala www.melbourne.org.au There is a YouTube report posted May 20, 2025, "FOE Visits Mass Koala Shooting Sites at Budji Bim."

ABC Radio "DEECA begins aerial culling of koalas," 17-4-25 Justin Smith.

If you wish to show your concern about this

matter, the Koala Alliance organisation has a petition to sign which can be accessed via the FOE Melbourne site.

In the meantime please place out water bowls for the native animals if the drought is still continuing, also drive carefully in bush areas and take care of our precious Strzelecki koala and other wild life.



While this Strzelecki koala sleeps in the Morwell National Park it is unaware of the events happening in Western Victoria. The photo was taken by K Hudson.



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## Churchill & District Lions Club

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# Churchill Fire Brigade



## Bi-Annual Election of Officers

During May, the brigade conducted the bi-annual elections to determine the brigade leaders and office bearers for the next two years with positions commencing on July 1, 2025. Current CFA District 27 Assistant Chief Fire Officer Daryl Hunter conducted the elections.

**Captain** – Matt Fisher  
**1st Lieutenant** –

Stephen Shankland

**2nd Lieutenant** –

Jacob Last

**3rd Lieutenant** –

Bridget King

**4th Lieutenant** –

Derek Watson

**Secretary/Treasurer** –

Lisa Cannon

Daryl extended his congratulations to all elected officers, and he thanked outgoing officers for their

work with the brigade over the past two years.

Of special note is that former Captain Steven Barling did not seek re-election after more than 23 years as Captain of the brigade.

Steve was thanked by Daryl for his very significant contribution to the brigade and community over those years.

## Smoke Alarm Program



Members of the Churchill Fire Brigade have been out checking our seniors smoke alarms and batteries. This service has been offered to our seniors now for about twenty years.

If you are a senior or disabled person and do not have a family member who can check your smoke alarm, please ring the brigade and ask to be included on the annual check list.

With the end of daylight saving time, it is wise for everyone to check the batteries in their smoke alarms. Only working smoke alarms save lives.

## Sad Day for our community – Churchill Hotel fire



On Tuesday May 13, 2025 at 4:50 am, the brigade was alerted to a structure fire at the Churchill Hotel. Upon arrival, fire was breaking through the roof, with the main bar and bistro engulfed in flames. Due to the intense nature of the fire and some parts of the roof collapsing from the immense heat generated,

the firefight could only be conducted from the outside of the building, and from above using two specialist aerial appliances.

The fire was deemed under control at 6:25 am by Incident Controller Matt Fisher, with extensive blacking out of hot spots under the collapsed roof continuing throughout

the day with the last crews leaving the scene at midnight.

The cause of the fire is under investigation by Police.

Our heart goes out to all of the staff and the owners and operators of the Churchill Hotel, as this has been a very significant loss for us all.

## Burning Off ? Please take extra care



Although the fire restrictions in Latrobe City were lifted earlier this year in May, we have not had any significant rain over the last few months. This has meant that we have seen a high number of burn offs escaping

and running up the bark of nearby trees, or burning into bushland and grassed areas when pushed by elevated winds.

We urge anyone who is lighting up a burn to take particular care, look to the

weather conditions expected over the next couple of days before lighting, and to prepare a fire break around the burn area and have appropriate resources on hand to be able to quickly deal with any escapes.

## Very busy month of May

The brigade has been very busy during May with 22 turnouts to a range of fires and incidents.

We have had one gas leak after a gas line into a property was ruptured when digging a post hole, two motor vehicle crashes, one car fire, fourteen fires including two significant structure fires and nine escaped burn offs, and four other responses including false alarms.



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for more information

Disability Access

Health Hints

By Andy Gergis  
Churchill Discount Pharmacy

How to keep your heart healthy

Maintaining a healthy heart is essential for a long, active life. The foundation of heart health begins with a balanced diet. Focus on consuming plenty of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and healthy fats like those found in nuts and olive oil. Avoid excessive intake of salt, sugar, and processed foods, which can contribute to high blood pressure and

cholesterol. Regular physical activity is another key component. Aim for at least 150 minutes of moderate exercise per week, such as brisk walking, swimming, or cycling. Exercise helps strengthen the heart, improve circulation, and manage weight. Avoiding tobacco products is critical. Smoking significantly increases the risk of heart disease. If you

smoke, seek help to quit as soon as possible. Likewise, limit alcohol intake, as excessive drinking can raise blood pressure and damage the heart. Managing stress is also important. Chronic stress may contribute to heart problems, so practice relaxation techniques like meditation, deep breathing, or yoga. Lastly, schedule regular

health checkups to monitor blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and other risk factors. Early detection and lifestyle adjustments can prevent more serious issues. With a few mindful habits, you can keep your heart strong and support your overall well-being. If you have any questions or concerns about your health please talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Federation students get record scholarships boost

The number of students supported through scholarships at Federation University Australia is growing with each year, with the University awarding a record 309 scholarships in 2025 across its campuses, up from 245 in 2024. This amounts to more than \$1 million worth of assistance in partnership with generous donors,

a proud milestone for Federation which began with just four scholarships upon its formation in 2014. Scholarships give students the opportunity to succeed in their studies without the stress of financial pressure, helping to cover costs including textbooks, petrol, groceries and computers. In Gippsland, 97 scholarships have been awarded this year. Gippsland Bachelor of Science student Jada Fischer said receiving the Loy Yang B Women in STEM Scholarship took the cost pressure off her studies. “It allows me to buy textbooks for the year and pay for petrol to get to uni,” Jada said. “If something happens to my laptop I will be able

to get it fixed. Everything I need for uni, it will help me be able to get there.” The first in her family to go to university, Jada has always taken an interest in science. “I have always liked knowing how things work, always wanted to know ‘how does that happen?’ Jada hopes to eventually work in environmental science to combat the effects of climate change. This year, 55 per cent of foundation scholarship recipients are the first in their family to attend university, one in three have an ongoing illness or disability, 60 per cent are experiencing acute financial hardship, and 47 per cent have experienced domestic or family violence. Federation University

Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Duncan Bentley, said scholarships helped to give students peace of mind so they could participate fully in their studies. “We are proud to give students the support they need to give life to their aspirations,” Professor Bentley said. “This year’s record number of scholarships would not be possible without the support of generous donors, and we thank them for helping to transform the lives of Federation students.” More information about Federation University’s scholarships can be found at [www.federation.edu.au/engage/give-to-federation/scholarships/](http://www.federation.edu.au/engage/give-to-federation/scholarships/)

## Visit Latrobe City – New Visitor Guide launched

Latrobe City has officially unveiled its brand-new Official Visitor Guide – a fresh and engaging snapshot of the region’s hidden gems and unforgettable experiences. The guide was launched at a special event recently, bringing together tourism operators and local businesses in celebration of everything Latrobe has to offer. Filled with local itineraries and insights, the guide is designed to inspire both first-time visitors and locals to explore more of what is in their backyard. The guide complements the Visit Latrobe City website [latrobecity.com.au](http://latrobecity.com.au) and Visit Latrobe City Facebook page currently available for visitors. Latrobe City Council Mayor, Councillor Dale Harriman was pleased to

launch the official guide. “Visitors to our towns are welcomed with open arms, and we love every opportunity to showcase our amazing lifestyle. There is something for everyone – creative souls, night owls, nature lovers and flavour seekers. The Official Visitor Guide is one way we can demonstrate our wonderful

region, and we encourage local businesses to help us spread the word,” said the Mayor. Visitors wanting a copy of the guide or local businesses needing copies to distribute can collect them from the Latrobe Visitor Information Centre in Gippsland Performing Arts Centre – open seven days from 10am to 4pm.



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# BOOK REVIEW

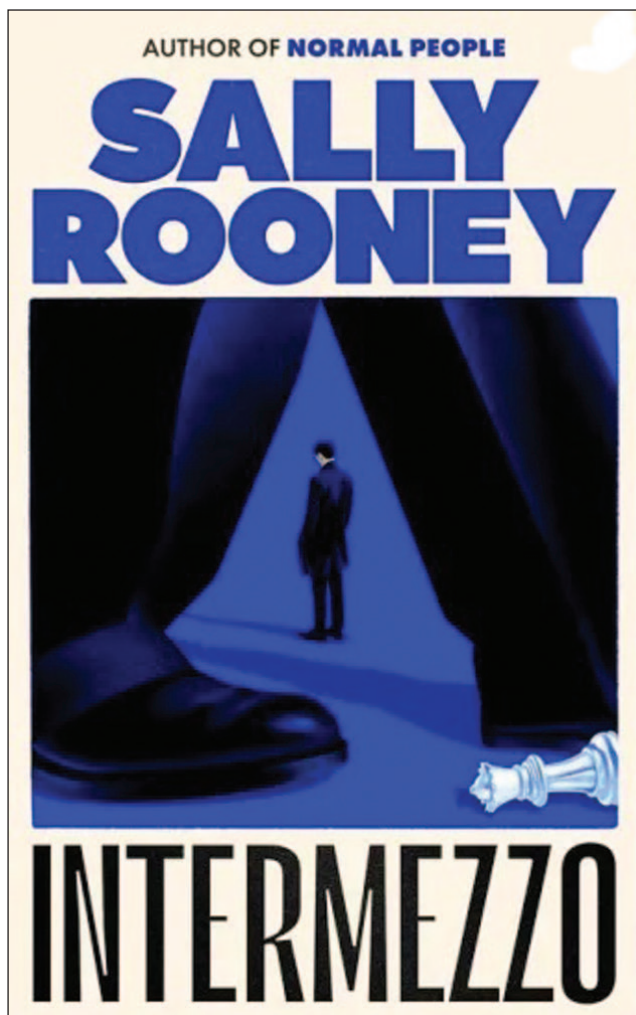
**“Intermezzo” by Sally Rooney 2024**

Sally Rooney is an Irish author and screenwriter who has written four novels, “Conversations with Friends” 2017, “Normal People” 2018, “Beautiful World” 2021 and “Intermezzo” 2024. She was born on 20/2/1991 and lived her early life in Castle Bar, County Mayo. At the age of eighteen, she moved to Dublin to study and has lived there ever since.

This story is set in Ireland and the main characters are brothers Peter and Ivan. Peter, who is ten years older than Ivan and in his thirties, is a successful lawyer and lecturer. While at university he met Sylvia, the love of his life, and they planned to marry. Due to a serious accident which meant she could no longer have children she broke off the engagement, but they are still very close. Peter has a casual girlfriend Naomi, but when she is evicted from her share house she moves in with Peter.

When Ivan was six years old his mother left the family and he and Peter remained in the care of their father, with whom Ivan had a very close relationship. Ivan, a dedicated chess player, has climbed ranks since childhood. Since his father's illness and subsequent diagnosis with cancer, followed by his recent death, he has lost focus and is not progressing as he may have expected. He is also upset that he was not able to speak at his father's funeral, Peter insisting that the eldest son has that responsibility. This has caused some tension in their relationship.

Despite his poor recent form Ivan has been asked to do a chess demonstration in a nearby town. He is transported to his accommodation by Margaret, the event coordinator, after the night's activities. She is thirty-six years old and separated from her husband. Ivan invites her in and one thing leads to another and they find themselves in bed. Margaret is very flattered by the attention but also acutely aware of the age difference and what



people would think. However, a relationship develops and she and Ivan continue to see each other with Margaret often acting as a sounding board for Ivan.

When Peter discovers the age difference in the relationship he challenges Ivan and the tensions between the brothers leads to a physical altercation, resulting in Ivan blocking Peter's phone and refusing all communication. When Peter learns Ivan is taking part in an important tournament he decides to go and cheer him on, but on arrival he finds he cannot go in until the game is over. Also waiting to go in is Margaret and she and Peter come face to face.

The main theme in this story is grief and loss, but also love and the many forms it can take. All of the main characters, with the possible exception of Naomi, are dealing with some form of grief. The reaction to grief by each brother is quite different. Peter is almost

manic, living on alcohol and prescription drugs and burning the candle at both ends. Ivan's reaction is more pensive and reflective, but also a bit directionless. The author captures these moods in her writing. When we are hearing Peter's story she writes in short sharp phrases, half sentences and unfinished thoughts, whereas Ivan's story is confused, repetitive and a little lost. As the story continues and the grief subsides the writing becomes more traditional. The book also deals with the different kinds of love and explores alternative relationships and the difference in attitudes to a woman taking a much younger partner compared to a male doing the same.

This book was not enjoyed by most members of our group. It was very wordy and difficult to get started, and had quite a different style of writing. However, four finished and two of the members who persevered enjoyed the book.



## STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



### Shell Money

In our culture, we have traditionally used metal coins as the basis for accumulating wealth and as a means of exchange for goods and services. It was fine if you had found a way of extracting metals from mined ore, but what was used before that? The answer for a large number of cultures was the shell. In isolated cases they are still used.

There are a number of properties that suitable shells had to have. They had to be reasonably plentiful, smallish in size, they had to be robust in structure, they had to be portable and in a lot of cases, pleasing to the eye. The most common shell to fall within these limitations is the cowrie shell. It is found in warm shallow seas in the Indian and south-western Pacific oceans. It is an inhabitant of the sandbanks close to shore which are exposed at low tides. The natives expose the shells at low tide and the creatures inside die quickly. The shells are collected,

cleaned and dried, then are graded for size. Those which are oversize can be trimmed.

They are then threaded onto a length of native twine ready for use. In other areas a similar procedure is carried out with shells which have similar characteristics. Along the Pacific north-west coast of America tusk shells which were easy to thread together in strings up to 15 inches long. Further south in central and southern California the olive shell and the bivalve Saxidomus were used. The Iroquois and Algonquin tribes in inland eastern USA used the shell of the hard clam which was carved into beads. The beads were strung or used as decoration for belts. The money was called wampum.

In West Africa, the shining dwarf olive sea snail was used and the large land snail Achatina monetaria was cut into circles and threaded together. The cowrie was used in most of central and east Africa, and it became the currency of taxation. In

Asia the cowrie was used in China from about 1000BC and the Chinese pictograph for money is a characterised cowrie shell. In India the cowrie shell was used until it was outlawed by the British East India Company. The ban led to a native uprising in 1817.

In Thailand, the cowrie still has an official value, 6400 cowries equal 1 baht. In Australia the pearl shell was used by some northern tribes, but it was not universal. The natives used to flake pieces off the inside of the shell to trade with other tribes. In the Solomon Islands, cowrie shells are still used locally and on New Britain they can be exchanged for the official currency, the kina. The ring cowrie was used in the Middle East. The cowrie shell appears on stamps of many countries, although the strings of shells are not illustrated yet. However, close examination of New Guinea dancers shows the use of shells as decoration adding to the value of the costume.



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# Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



By Leo Billington

## Down memory lane - just for a short while

Previous local history articles in this column have focussed on "the what could have been" rather than what eventuated.

Just recently, a comment was passed to your scribe that our Post Second World War development in this municipality became pre-occupied with coal and power stations. This is quite understandable; nonetheless local history took second place and has been trying to catch up since.

Hence, this month's history takes a different direction to pull our minds back to a few memories of the Post Second World War period.

In the early 50's, chewing gum was highly popular, being available in wax paper wrapped four piece packs, costing only 3d (thrippence/threepence) in the 1950's. It was made by the Wrigley Company, first established on April 1, 1891 in Chicago by William Wrigley Junior. It is now a subsidiary of the Mars Food Company.

Three flavours were readily available - PK, Juicy Fruit and Spearmint. William's son, Phillip K took over as CEO in 1925. It is written that P.K. chewing gum brand was named in his honour.

Juicy Fruit seemingly contained a broad mixture along with sugar - artificial sweeteners, aspartame and Acesulfame potassium. Some nutritionists have speculated about other ingredients - corn syrup, banana and pineapple, combined as an artificial flavouring.

During 1956, British skiffle musician, Lonnie Donegan asked us:

'Does your chewing gum lose its flavour on the bedpost overnight?

If your mother says don't chew it,

Do you swallow it in spite?

Can you catch it on your tonsils,

Can you heave it left and right?

Does your chewing gum lose its flavour on the bedpost overnight?

Life in fledgling Morwell

are not new to buying online!

A large advertorial that appeared in The Argus (Melbourne) on Thursday July 2, 1953 proved to be effective marketing. Nonetheless, Myer's stay was short-lived. There was too much local competition being established. Anyway, customers always want tactile experiences.

At 24 Commercial Road, Frank sold HMV's great invention, the Little Nipper, or an Astor Mickey, even offering free home demonstrations. Creative, logical marketing we must all agree.

Later into the 60s, to have a marvellous opportunity when buying LP's - an abbreviation for "Long Playing" or "Long Play", was/is a type of vinyl record characterized by its size (12 inches), speed (33 1/3 rpm) - from Johnston's Record Bar became a real treat.

Advertisements often quoted prices as gns/GNS; referring to a guinea, which was worth £1,1s (one pound and one shilling).

We must all remember Ekon Heating and Engineering, a substantial business in Latrobe Road, Morwell, specialising in briquette/electric water heaters, air conditioning, arc welding and steam pipe fabrication. These were initially built in Morwell in the 1940s to cater for the growth in post-WW2 house building.

Establishing his plumbing business, in early 1938, William Goodley received a licence to tap Morwell's water mains and make the necessary connections. Initially located at 290 Commercial Road (eastern end), then to Buckley Street - where Morel heaters are mentioned plus other services - and onwards to larger premises at 75 Latrobe Road (Morwell Advertiser, July 9, 1964).

It seems William was creative in selecting "Ekon" as the business name - a word associated with strength, bravery, and the ability to face challenges

Tourism popped its head up about this time - the idea of attracting tourists gained some momentum as power



stations and open cuts held a degree of new interests. So did trips through the Strzelecki hills taking in all kinds of flora and fauna.

Consequently, the Tourist Development Authority of Victoria was established by Act of Parliament, with responsibility for promoting tourist development and publicising the State's tourist attractions. It gathered up tourism ideas once held by the Victorian Railways Commissioners and in April 1959, the authority was in momentum.

Nonetheless, it was Morwell who wondered about tourism's knowledge, when on July 23, 1964, a tourist map appeared in the Morwell Advertiser without any reference to Morwell. By reading the editor's reaction, one can conclude anger and frustration was

Gippsland and ignore the existence of Morwell?"

Victoria

One more "for the road." Henry Conduit Hill died on May 3, 1957, in Morwell, aged 50, and was buried in Hazelwood, Victoria, Australia. His wife, Alma, died on February 18, 2014, in Ocean Grove, Victoria, at the age of 100.

After moving to Morwell, together, they worked tirelessly to successfully establish H C Hill Plaster Works. The company started in Church Street

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was looking up as the 1950s swung into action. Chewing gum, movies, domestic hot water systems, a new fire station and, Myers. First established in Melbourne in 1911 in Bourke Street, Myers announced it was coming to Morwell in editorial on Thursday May 27, 1952.

It was a small shop, but still called the Myer Emporium. Initially co-located with Clematis Art Florists at 208 Commercial Road, a revolutionary - for Morwell - teleprinter order service was installed.

A big future was heralded when a new location was opened at 22 Commercial Road next to Frank Johnston's radio and electrical business. It was a small, non-retail space with emphasis on a teleprinter service - customers ordered items from Melbourne, which were subsequently delivered, sometimes the next day. Amazon and Temu



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**PHONE - MORWELL 179.**  
**290 Commercial Rd., Morwell.**

building.

"You would scarcely think it was possible, now would you, to draw an authoritative map of Central and Southern

The map was drawn and supplied for publication by the South Gippsland Development League in conjunction with the Tourist Development Authority of

(approximately where the former Morwell Squash Courts were built) on land owned by Mrs James Bolger. Her husband, James Bolger, was a general carrier and undertaker who passed away in 1935. (His favourite promotional slogan was "Funerals conducted by motor hearse.") Hill's plaster works began advertising for employees during the mid 1940's. By late 1954, and after relocating from Church Street, their new brick office and manufacturing factory was established at the corner of Commercial and Driffield Road, Morwell. Following Henry's passing, Mrs Hill managed the business until retirement.

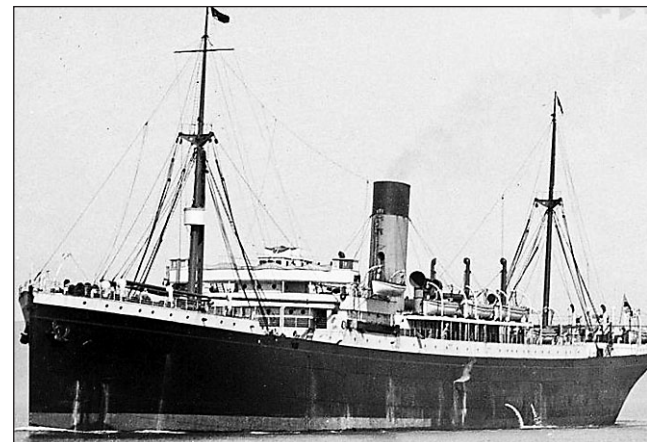
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**& Driffield Rds. or 7 Wallace St.**



# Hazelwood Cemetery



Left - Picture of the Budgeree Hotel - from a copy held at the Gippsland & Regional Studies Collection, Federation University



**By Leo Billington**  
**How people are remembered and, hopefully not forgotten (series continued)**

During building works at the Hutchins School in Hobart in March 2024, bones were found and construction of a new oval halted — leading to the ultimate discovery of almost 2,000 bodies that were believed to have been moved from the old graveyard over which the school is located.

This story was featured on the ABC to highlight dilemmas of old graves, some marked, many unmarked. In particular, graves deemed worthless in a modern, fast world.

An archaeologist, Lauren Hanson-Viney, working on this site was interviewed and remarked:

“It feels like giving back their identity and their history, and it is bringing them back into the world where they have just been forgotten under an oval for so many years,”

At Hazelwood Cemetery, there are situations where deceased persons are forgotten. They were once members of a family.

Lillian and John Reid are interred together in an unmarked grave. Their deaths

sent massive shock waves throughout the then small settlement at Morwell West. It was a double tragedy.

Morwell Police were called to a house in the Old Melbourne Road after taking a call from three Balts. (A speaker of a Baltic language; a Lithuanian, Latvian or Estonian.)

These persons had previously spoken earlier with John about obtaining accommodation in the area.

Both adults were found shot dead, still remaining in their bed.

A police report noted Reid was a returned soldier of World War I and a leading hand, employed by the State Electricity Commission at Yallourn North.

Since they kept very much to themselves nothing unusual was noticed by their nearest neighbours, who lived some distance away. An inquest was opened for formal evidence, and adjourned. The Coroner recorded a verdict of death from natural causes.

John's war service was marked with some indiscretions while on duty in England. He disembarked initially at Marseilles in April 1915, then mustered as a pack horse driver. Born in Hobart and employed as a farm

labourer, it does appear John may have “lost his way” once in England.

He married Lillian during February 1919 before being discharged from army duties in November 1919. Lillian and John returned to Australia on board the S S Zealandic, used on the Liverpool to New Zealand route.

She also was chartered to carry immigrants to Australia.

John did face a Court Martial hearing in England in June 1917 being convicted of a multitude of reckless behaviours. A group of Morwell returned soldiers attended the funeral under sub-branch president Mr. J. E. Gibson, who read the R.S.L. burial service.

Budgeree remains a place of interest, occasionally surfacing, particularly with appropriate reference to a renovated community hall which proudly stands alongside the former school building.

There was once a hotel at Budgeree, seemingly a handy stop-over before thirsty patrons headed onwards to the Gunyah hotel.

The hotel was opened sometime during 1900; a church followed about four years later.

With Morwell Shire elections called for in early August 1912, and Councillor McLean retiring along with Councillor John Stone unable to manage a promise to open a stone quarry near Yinnar, William James Scanlon nominated for the Yinnar riding, and was successful. He remained on Council until his death in early May, 1916.

His eulogy was published in the Morwell Advertiser, Friday May 12, 1916. In part it read:

“Four years ago when the Morwell Shire was divided into ridings he was elected a member of the Yinnar

Riding, a position he since filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to the Council and ratepayers generally.”

Edward was hand sowing seed on a sloping hillside. He attempted to push a log out of his way, subsequently tripping and finding himself pinned under the log as it rolled off a

steep bank, then described as a gorge. He was crushed to death despite efforts to revive him at Morwell's St Hilary's private hospital. He was about 49 years old.

Mrs Mary Ann, with fortitude, so necessary in those days and in the face of tragedy, carried on. At the annual Licensing Court hearing in Morwell on Wednesday, December 13, 1911, a roadside license - to conduct the Budgeree Hotel - was granted to William James Scanlon.

At the same hearing, Donald Rogers was granted a license to conduct the Gunyah Hotel.

Mary Ann carried on running the hotel, and the family farm, after William's death. They were married in 1898, after which they lived at Budgeree. Family tragedy struck again - on the night of Saturday, May 18, 1930. She was 56 years of age.

It was the eve of her birthday, and following preparations for Sunday, Mary Ann went to bed - her private room was one of 14 rooms in the hotel.

Evidence subsequently recorded she lit a bedside candle. Deep in sleep, unaware of pending danger, her bedroom was soon engulfed in smoke and flames.

When rescuers finally gained entry, Mary Ann was severely burned.

Budgeree's farming fraternity, and for many further afield, was extremely

shaken and deeply shocked. A popular community minded couple taken in regrettable circumstances. Mary Ann and William James Scanlon are interred together in the Hazelwood Cemetery.

Postscript:

On Friday May 10, 1918, Mary Ann's memoriam to William was printed in the Morwell Advertiser;

We think of you at early morn,

We think of you at noon,  
We did not think dear father

That you were going to

die so soon.

A painful shock, a blow severe,

To part with one we loved so dear.

Our loss is great, we'll not complain,

But trust in God to meet again.

Also, in June 1923, it was government gazetted that Mary Ann was to deliver the mail over a 10 mile distance throughout Budgeree, three times a week on horseback, earning £93.12 shillings annually, for three years.



## 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

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# Friends of Morwell National Park



## May Activity Report

This was our second evening activity of the year. Where the first evening activity was in the middle of summer this one was to be a lot chillier with a cool evening expected. It was great to have a few people from outside of the main group interested in seeing what would be found when it was dark.

The Billys Creek section of the park has been reopened to the public.

As we started losing daylight people ate the dinners they had brought. While dinner was being eaten

Matt set up a mothing sheet to see what insects would be attracted after dark.

When it was dark, the group using many UV torches (which would not stun any wildlife that looked into the light) set off for a walk around Fosters Gully.

As we started walking rain started to fall. The raindrops were clear in the torch lights but the tree canopy caught most of the rain.

Over the walk multiple koalas, mountain brushtail possums (bobucks) and ringtail possums were seen, while wallabies, wombats

and owls were heard. Halfway around the walk the skies cleared and the stars were on display.

When the group returned to the picnic area, they moved toward the light to see what had come onto the mothing sheet. A few moths and a spider had come to the mothing sheet but with it being a cold evening there were few insects around.

**June Activity Sunday June 15, 10.00am**

The group will meet at the Kerry Road picnic area to have a fungi and lichen walk. This will be a great

opportunity to discover some of the smaller interesting plants (often overlooked), just off many of the walking tracks.

A smaller group may complete some track maintenance (possibly the removal of some pine trees). You will need to bring your lunch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day. A camera might be useful.

These photos were not taken during the activity, but represent the types of animals seen on the night time walk.

# 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, August 14, 2025  
Downstairs in Churchill Town Hall  
Contact CDCA via our website - [www.cdca.org.au](http://www.cdca.org.au) or find us on Facebook!



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## Hazelwood Rotary Club



# Shield Garden Gone!



Glendonald Park has been home to an indigenous community garden for well over 10 years. Called the Shield Garden (for its shape), this native garden, complete with artwork and signage, was designed and constructed as a feature for the southern end of the park.

The project came about through the Latrobe Valley Neighbourhood Renewal Program (conducted by the former Victorian Department of Human Services) which focused on working with local residents and stakeholders to improve the amenity of areas with a high concentration of public housing.

Glendonald Park was one of the local sites chosen for improvement and saw the funding and construction of the BBQ shelter, a toilet block, playground improvements, tree planting and a range of community activities.

DHS suggested that a community garden could be constructed on one of the vacant blocks of land adjacent to the park, but local residents (most of whom lived on spacious suburban blocks which allowed for vegetable gardens and fruit trees if desired) were more concerned with retaining wide entrances to the park (for visibility and the perception of safety) and creating a park that locals could be proud of.

The original indigenous Shield Garden project brief was developed as a safe, accessible feature garden, with sensory and play elements, to raise awareness of local plant species and indigenous culture.

Funding for the garden was eventually found (through another DHS source) and the resident-led project was managed by Latrobe City Council's Parks and Reserves Manager (Simon Clarke) at that time.

A former Council arborist, John Ruyg of "Treemendous Landscapes" was engaged to further develop detailed designs and deliver the project in consultation with the local community.

John (now deceased) consulted extensively with the local indigenous community, including the then Koori School at GippsTafe before providing the final design of a garden in the shape of a shield, with a dry creek bed running through the area, concrete paths and seating, along with a detailed planting guide.

Once the garden was completed, local Gunai artist, Ronald Edwards Pepper was engaged to provide some symbolic artwork on the totem poles and path edges, reflecting elements of indigenous culture.

This was Ronald's first of many public artworks in Latrobe City.

Council arranged for signage, with seating, which included photos and information on the plants, Gunai/Kurnai language, and the usual credits for development and funding.

Unfortunately, this signage is about all that is left of the Shield Garden!

The block, at 4 Baranbali Court, is owned by the Victorian Housing Department, and was understood to be leased to Council as part of the park. Continuing maintenance was carried out by Council until, unbeknown to any locals, Homes Victoria (the construction wing of Housing, based in Melbourne) identified the block as zoned residential and decided to secure the block in preparation for housing construction.

Without apparent knowledge or notice, contractors were engaged to clear the block for development.

The garden, along with a couple of very large adjacent trees, has been cleared. Council, unaware of any of this, have been notified by CDCA and will assess if it is worth trying to relocate the totem poles and signage before housing construction begins.

CDCA contacted the local office of Harriet Shing, MLA, to ask why Homes Victoria would choose to demolish an indigenous garden for housing construction when they own other parcels of land within Churchill. It seems highly



disrespectful to not liaise with stakeholders first, even if it is just as a courtesy. (Technically, Homes Victoria has the legislative authority to bypass the usual planning permit requirements in order to fast-track the construction of social housing developments)

Harriet Shing is the Victorian Minister for Housing – at the time of writing, CDCA has not received a response.

The Shield Garden was well utilised by small children as a play area; the seating was often occupied by children, teens or adults and local fauna was from time to time spotted in the trees. Our garden will be missed!

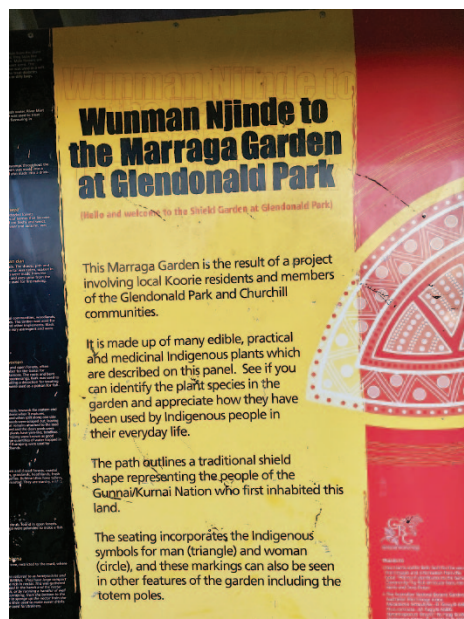
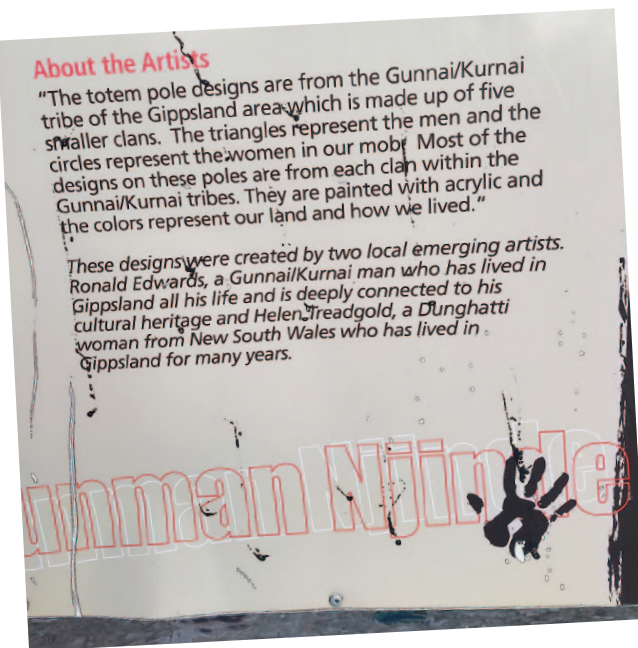
Local residents of Churchill and district are most welcome to join CDCA members at our next meeting on Thursday August 13, at 7pm - downstairs in the

Churchill Town Hall (enter from Philip Parade)

You can find out more about CDCA through our website: [cdca.org.au](http://cdca.org.au)

Contact CDCA directly by emailing your inquiry to [info@cdca.org.au](mailto: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!



## CHURCHILL - RECYCLE RIGHT

### REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

<b>IN THE CONTAINERS CHURCHILL HUB FOYER</b> X-rays Printer Cartridges Small E-waste items	<b>In the Pharmacy Box (in the foyer)</b> All tablet blister packs	<b>AT THE CHURCHILL LIBRARY SERVICE DESK</b> Household Batteries (inc. small Lithium batteries)
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### FREE TO RECYCLE AT THE MORWELL TRANSFER STATION

(Porters Rd, off Tramway Rd)

- Large E-waste items
- Large volumes of cardboard
- Light globes, car batteries and paint tins
- 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)
- Accessories (bags, hats, belts, jewellery)
- Footwear (pairs and odds)
- 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



# Churchill Braves turn pink for a cause

## Churchill Braves turn pink for a cause, raising over \$3000 for Breast Cancer Network Australia

In a heartwarming show of community spirit, the Churchill Braves traded their traditional green and gold for vibrant pink in Round 4 of the season, hosting a special Mother's Day home game against Traralgon and Morwell to raise funds for Breast Cancer Network Australia (BCNA).

Andrews Park was transformed for the occasion, with pink bases and field markings setting the tone for a day dedicated to awareness, support, and fundraising. Seven of the club's eight teams took the field, creating a sea of pink as players, coaches, and supporters

embraced the theme.

Club President Gregg Duncan, the driving force behind the event, worked tirelessly behind the scenes to coordinate the pink sports day. His efforts paid off, with the club surpassing its fundraising goal of \$1,000. A successful raffle further boosted donations, with the final tally reaching over \$3,000 for BCNA.

Club Coach Brad Jones praised the overwhelming participation and enthusiasm. "It was incredible to see so much pink being worn across every team and by our supporters. It really brought the community together for a great cause."

On the diamond, results were mixed for the Braves. A Grade delivered a thrilling

finish, scoring a walk-off win with two outs in the bottom of the ninth. Kyler Rinehart drove in Jarrod Thomas with a clutch hit into the gap, sealing victory over the Redsox.

B Grade had a tougher outing, falling behind early as Traralgon jumped to a strong lead. Despite a late surge, the Braves could not close the gap. There were, however, standout moments, with Rhys McKenzie and Daniel Harris each hitting home runs.

C Grade Gold secured a dominant win over Morwell, who also embraced the pink-themed day with enthusiasm. C Grade Green battled valiantly in a tight contest on the Tony Dickinson Diamond, narrowly losing



5-4 after a runner was tagged out at home in a potential game-tying play.

The day began with a high-energy Under-10s T-ball game, where 15 of the club's youngest players took the field under the guidance of coaches Daniel and Kayla McKinnon, showcasing great progress and teamwork.

In the Under-13s, Churchill Braves Gold powered past Traralgon 13-2 behind a strong all-round team performance. Zack led the offense with three hits, while Beau and Hudson

also contributed multiple hits and RBIs. The team ran aggressively on the bases and played error-free defence in a great all-round display.

The Under-16s continued the winning momentum with a commanding 15-5 victory over Traralgon. Big hits from Hunter and Blake, plus a two-RBI double from Cadel, highlighted a strong offensive showing.

The team's discipline at the plate was impressive, drawing 16 walks and stealing 16 bases in a dominant effort.

Churchill Braves Baseball Club extends heartfelt thanks to the local businesses and individuals who generously donated prizes for the raffle, helping us exceed our fundraising

goal. Special mention goes to Ash Hartwig, who was instrumental in securing so many fantastic prizes, and to Brooke Duncan, Melissa Duncan, and Dan and Kayla McKinnon for their creativity, coordination, and hands-on work with the raffle and decorations.

As Club President, I could not be prouder of the way our club came together for such an important cause. From juniors to seniors, supporters to volunteers, this day showed what Churchill Baseball is all about—community, compassion, and making a difference.

This Pink Round was not just a win for baseball—it was a victory for awareness, support, and unity in the fight against breast cancer.



Raffle prizes



McKinnon family - Kayla, Daniel, Paige and Zayne



President Greg Duncan, Hudson, Brooke and Hunter



Club Coach Brad Jones, Ashleigh and Zarah

## Churchill & Monash Golf Club

### Canadian Foursomes

**Saturday May 3, 2025.**

Winners: T. Collins/A. Auld 68.125 Nett Runners Up: C. Waring/G. Barnes 69.375 Nett c/b D.T.L: 1. M. Allen/B. Mathieson 69.375, 2. R. Harvey/G. Harvey 69.877, 3. C. Wilson/R. Madigan 70.125 Nett, 4. R. Welsh/A. Sharrock 71.00, 5. D. Burrridge/P. McGann 71.25 N.T.P: 3rd A. Auld (Propin), 12th D. Radnell, 14th M. Hammer

### Women's Monthly Medal (stroke) Tuesday May 6, 2025.

Winner: K. Del Piccolo 66 Nett Scratch: C. Carder 94, S. Turner 94 Putts: J. Blizzard 28, C. Carder 28 D.T.L: 1. C. Barnes 71 Nett, 2. M. McQuillan 71 Nett N.T.P: 3rd J. Clegg, 5th M. McQuillan, 12th K. Del Piccolo, 14th L. Brent

### Stableford Saturday May 10, 2025.

A Grade Winner: B. Downie 41 pts B Grade Winner: M. Harvey 35 pts C Grade Winner: J. McCafferty 34 pts D Grade Winner: D. Radnell 36 pts

D.T.L: 1. D. Burridge 38, 2. N. Lugton 37, 3. Adam West 36, 4. R. Vesty 36, 5. R. Zomer 36, 6. B. Mathieson 34, 7. B. Cluderay 33, 8. A. Sharrock 32, 9. C. Waring 32, 10. R. King 32. N.T.P: 3rd M. Soppe, 5th D. Byers, 12th S. Caldwell (Propin), 14th D. Byers Birdies: 3rd R. King, P. Bolding, M. Soppe, 12th D. Byers

### 2 Person Stableford Aggregate Tuesday May 13, 2025.

Winners: S. Caldwell/J. Blizzard 67 c/b D.T.L: 1. A. Jenkins/M. McQuillan 67

N.T.P: 3rd A. Jenkins, 5th M. McQuillan, 12th S. Turner, 14th M. McQuillan

### Par Saturday May 17, 2025.

A Grade Winner: J. Langstaff +1 B Grade Winner: T. Sterrick +2

C Grade Winner: B. Mathieson +7 D.T.L: 1. M. Lugton +3, 2. P. Flanigan +1, 3. M. Hutchinson 0, 4. P. McGann 0, 5. J. Jeffrey 0, 6. J. Sanders (snr) 0, 7. D. Byers -1 c/b N.T.P: 3rd R. Dent, 12th T. O'Sullivan

(Propin), 14th S. Sanders Birdies: 3rd C. Wilson Target Hole: D. Byers

### Stroke Tuesday May 20, 2025.

Winner: M. Dear 76 Nett Scratch: M. Dear 94 D.T.L: 1. S. Turner 77 Nett, 2. K. Del Piccolo 78 Nett N.T.P: 3rd C. Carder, 5th S. Caldwell, 12th C. Barnes, 14th C. Carder

### 4BBB Saturday May 24, 2025.

Winners: M. Harvey/G. Harvey 46 pts Runners Up: R. King/T. O'Sullivan 43 pts c/b D.T.L: 1. M. Hammer/L. Anderson 43, 2. R. Dent/P. Kearns 42, 3. S.Vary/C. Wilson 41, 4. J. Garth/R. Noordam 41 N.T.P: 3rd R. King, 12th T. Bennett (Propin), 14th C. Gilfillan Birdies: 3rd S. Allison, R. King, 14th C. Gilfillan Target Hole: G. Harvey

### Volunteers' Day - Ambrose Dropout Tuesday May 27, 2025.

Winners: M. Hammer/C. Barnes/G. Blizzard 64.147 DTL: S. Gosling/K. Del Piccolo/C. Gosling 69.333



C Grade Green team



# SCHOOL news

## Churchill North Primary

### Pirate day

On Friday May 16, our school had a Pirate dress up day. This is our third year of supporting such a great cause. Pirate Day, which is run through the Kids Cancer Project, is an annual dress up day during Brain Cancer Awareness month

we could for a great cause. Since 2015, over \$700,000 has been raised by Pirates for childhood brain cancer research. Students had the option to dress up for the day and bring along a gold coin which was donated to this amazing cause.

Seb said "I loved dressing up as a Pirate to help the sick kids"

Lilah said "She loved her costume for Pirate Day".

Lilly - "I liked giving the money to the cancer kids".

Havana - "That we got to have fun".

Melody - "I liked everything, that we got to have fun and carry a cardboard sword".

Here is a write up from Bella: "On Pirate Day we got to dress up as pirates. We still had to do learning, but it was fun. It was great seeing lots of people dressing up".

Mckenzie said, "On Pirate Day we raised money for kids with



cancer. Most people dressed up. Some people who did not dress up still brought some money. It was really fun looking at what other people dressed up in, some were wearing eye patches".

"Pirate Day is for everyone who can dress up like a pirate for a day and you bring a gold coin to help raise money for the people with cancer, and the gold coin is to contribute towards treatment so they can get better and getting over cancer." Poppy stated.

Quinton wrote: "On May 16, we had Pirate Day and most students brought a gold coin to donate. We could dress up and raise money and awareness for cancer patients to try and contribute towards treatment. It was amazing that we got to see how much creativity people used in their costume. People came as pirates and I came as Kraken, and it showed how people have different ideas on what a pirate can look like. It was fantastic to see how many



people donated and every dollar counts to make a change and bring awareness with cancer. Thank you for donating".

really creative. It was fun to see so many people dressed up as pirates".



# SCHOOL news

## Churchill Primary

### Churchill PS welcomes renowned U.S. Education Journalist

Churchill Primary School was thrilled to host award-winning American education journalist Emily Hanford earlier this month.

CPS had the honour of being the first school she visited during her time in Australia. Hanford is widely known for her influential podcast 'Sold a Story: How Teaching Kids to Read Went So Wrong', which has been heard by millions and has

played a significant role in transforming reading instruction practices around the globe.

### Mother's Day Celebration

There were plenty of smiles and heartfelt moments during the school's recent Mother's Day afternoon.

Mums, grandmas, and aunties were warmly welcomed to join in a range of special activities, including collaborative crafts, storytelling, and the sharing of delicious jam and cream scones.



Girls Soccer team



Mother's Day

In the lead-up to the event, students poured their creativity into handmade gifts, crafting personalised cards, photo frames, earrings, and necklaces to make Mother's Day truly memorable.

### Interschool Soccer Tournament

Students from Grades 4 to 6 recently represented Churchill Primary School in an exciting interschool soccer tournament.

Undeterred by the

wet and rainy conditions, all participants returned with wide smiles and demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship throughout the event. The boys' team put up a strong fight but narrowly missed out on victory in the finals.

Meanwhile, the girls' team advanced to the next division, and the school community wishes them the best of luck in their upcoming matches.



Emily Hanford with Principal Jacquie Burrows and Leading Teacher Halie McColl



Mother's Day



# SCHOOL news

Hazelwood North Primary

## Mothers Day breakfast and activities

We had a great turn out at the breakfast and activities in our school on Friday May 9. There were yummy pancakes supplied with a fruit platter and other breakfast options. Mums, Grandmas, Aunties and other special people had the option of going into grades and doing different activities with these people such as nail painting, origami, photobooth, colouring and many more.



## Cross Country

In Week 1 we had ten students go and compete in our District Cross Country at Gaskin Park. Well done to Abel, Tommy, Hugh, Elijah, Dylan, Mason, Oliver and Noah in competing and representing our school! Congratulations to Ava and Tannah who placed and competed at the Division Cross Country and placed 7th and 14th. We wish you the best of luck at Region Cross Country at Drouin on Thursday June 5.

## Whole school swimming

It has been a great success for our school seeing all the kids participating in our whole school swimming. Students have been learning different swimming styles, and techniques to help them in the water. Students got to learn about swimming safety and how to help others in the water if an unexpected situation were to arise.

## Education Support Staff Day

Friday May 16 was Education Support Staff Day. We have nine wonderful support staff members who go above and beyond with our students at HNPS. They are always kind and caring of students and always willing to support our teachers. We show a massive appreciation to Jason, Andy, Brodie, Fran, Sharn, Kaye, Julachai, Bryce and Kirsty.

## The Stand Up Leadership Workshop

During Week 4 of Term 2 Chloe and Ethan, two of our Grade 5 students had the opportunity to go and experience a leadership workshop with Dr. Zach Greig and Amanda Marshall called The Stand Up Project. Dr. Zach Grieg is the

founding director of The Stand Up Project (SUP) which is empowering young students to be upstanders. Chloe and Ethan both have leadership roles at our school, Chloe is Bataluk House Captain and Ethan is Vice Captain for our school. The students had the following to say about the day:

"They told us about a steam room experiment, where getting one person to stand up and say something then has a chair effect getting others to follow, which we want to start at our school. We learnt about the 4 Ds which are Distract, Delay, Delegate and Direct. Distract is to talk about when someone is getting bullied to distract the perpetrator to a different conversation. Delay is to wait a few days or hours to check on the victim after an incident. Delegate is to tell someone who can support such as an adult or teacher. Direct was to use direct speech during an incident by saying something direct such as STOP. We want to teach this to our school and stop bullying."

From Chloe and Ethan



# SCHOOL news

Lumen Christi Primary

## Backflips Against Bullying at Lumen Christi

At the beginning of May, the children of Lumen Christi enjoyed a presentation from "Backflips Against Bullying".

Backflips Against Bullying is an innovative anti-bullying program that combines acrobatics to engage students in meaningful discussions about bullying. The program features a high-energy one hour performance, using dynamic routines to illustrate various bullying scenarios, including cyberbullying, physical, verbal, and social harassment.

The performances are designed to captivate students' attention and spark

important conversations about bullying. By incorporating acrobatic skills and storytelling, the program aims to instil resilience, promote empathy, and empower students to become 'upstanders'—individuals who take action against bullying rather than remain passive.

The performance was super fun and engaging, the children at Lumen Christi really enjoyed this opportunity to learn about bullying and what to do if it happens to them or someone else.

## New Indigenous artwork at Lumen Christi

On Friday May 16, the students at Lumen Christi were presented with two

very special and personal pieces of art created by local Gunaikurnai artist, Ronald Edwards-Pepper.

Ronald Edwards-Pepper is a proud Gunaikurnai artist and cultural educator based in Morwell, Victoria, whose work is deeply rooted in his ancestral connections to the Gunaikurnai people.

Since earning a Bachelor of Visual and Media Arts from Federation University in 2017, Ronald has become a prominent figure in the Gippsland arts scene.

His art blends traditional Gunaikurnai symbols—such as handprints, diamonds, and circles—with contemporary materials like neon and glow-in-the-dark paints.

This fusion reflects

both his heritage and his innovative approach to storytelling.

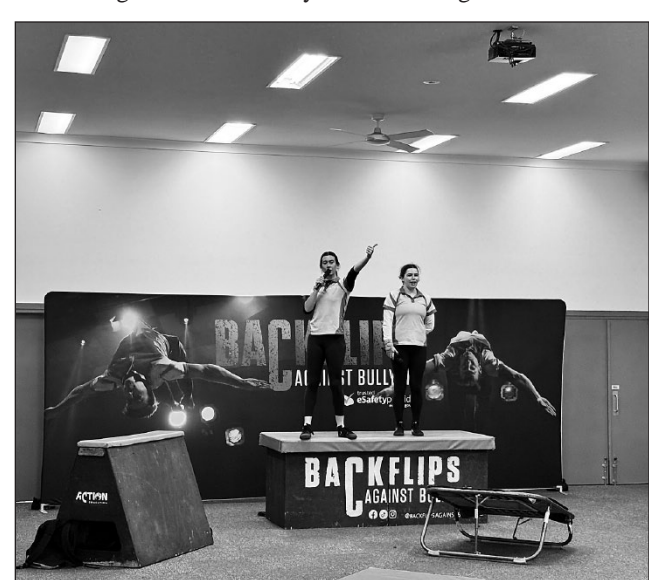
We have been working with Ronald over the past nine months to create two unique pieces that captures both the heart of the school and reflects our Catholic Identity.

Ronald attended our assembly and presented the children with the work that he created especially for the school. Ronald gave an artist's talk explaining the symbols and meaning behind the art.

He was also kind enough to give a Welcome to Country at the beginning of assembly.

We are looking forward to having our new artworks

framed and proudly displayed in our school. We are always looking for ways to connect with the local Indigenous community and ensure that as a school, we are actively seeking to celebrate culture and include Indigenous perspectives in our learning.





SCHOOL *news*

*Kurnai College Churchill Campus*

*Year 7 Camp*  
Year 7 students embarked on an unforgettable experience at Camp Coolamatong, nestled on the foreshore of the Gippsland Lakes.

From sailing along the Banksia Peninsula, digging fox holes on the beach, and mastering combat archery to cooking up bush tucker, the students built teamwork, confidence and resilience every step of the way.

The students had an incredible week of growth, laughter and building memories in the great outdoors.

*School Sport Victoria Events*  
Term 2 has been extremely busy with try-outs and training for school soccer, football, netball, cross country and badminton across all year levels.

*Cross Country*  
Students from the Churchill Campus and

Morwell Campus travelled to Alberton West Recreation Reserve to compete against other students in the Wellington Region Cross Country.

Congratulations to Sage Jobling who placed second in the U15 and Lavinia Benson who finished closely behind in third.

Matilda Read and Skylah Russell also placed within the top 10 and have made it through to the Gippsland Championships that will be held at Drouin Golf Course.

*Volleyball*  
The Year 7 team made up of students from both junior campuses completed in the Gippsland Championships.

A huge congratulations to these talented girls who displayed outstanding skill and teamwork. The team won all three games

and will head to the State Championships in November.

*Work Experience*  
Throughout the month of May, Year 10 students embraced the opportunity to step into the “real world of work” through their traditional two weeks of work experience.

This hands-on industry placement offers our students a valuable window into the local labour market and brings real meaning to the career education we provide at our college.

While we can teach theory in the classroom, nothing compares to the lessons learned on-site, facing real expectations and challenges.

For many, it was their very first experience in a professional workplace. It took courage, persistence, and a willingness to step outside their comfort zones — and we could

not be prouder!

Thank you to all our local businesses and industry partners. Your generosity, time, and mentorship make an incredible difference.

We are so grateful for your ongoing support in helping shape the future of our students.

*Tech School Program*  
Thirteen excited Year 9 students headed to the Gippsland Tech School to take on a high-tech challenge building their own robots and battling it out in a fast-paced LEGO Sumo competition!

Students worked in teams to design, code, and compete with their custom LEGO robots, using ultrasonic sensors and other tech to outsmart the opposition.

From building to battling, it was an action-packed day full of learning, laughter, and a few dramatic sumo showdowns!

Highlights from the day:

“It felt like I had joined Lego Masters for a bit!” – Ryan

“Our robot won every round!” – Eric

“It was great to work with others and socialise

outside our usual groups.” – Sienna

Well done to all the students who participated—your creativity, teamwork, and energy made the day one to remember.





# “Thank you for volunteering”

## Thank you to our volunteers . . .

Churchill & District News is run completely by volunteers who give their time and their talents to keep the paper coming out each month. We also run a writing competition for our local feeder primary schools. Each one of our volunteers contributes in their special way to make Churchill & District News our community paper.

We are grateful for what they do.

To also acknowledge volunteers, we include the following organisations and groups who also rely on volunteers to run successful programs.

Churchill Neighbourhood Centre, Mathison Park Advisory Committee, Morwell National Park Committee, 1st Churchill Scouts, Guides, Churchill Fire Brigade, SES, Lions Clubs, Rotary Clubs, school councils, sporting clubs. There are more than that to be sure.

Each volunteer is valued and contributes to the running of each organisation. Without volunteers, many groups would not function.

At this time it is good to also acknowledge the value and satisfaction the volunteers receive from being involved and helping out.

Each group would be happy to have more volunteers.

*Something to think about.*



*We appreciate and thank all the volunteers who make our organisations great*



## 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.**