

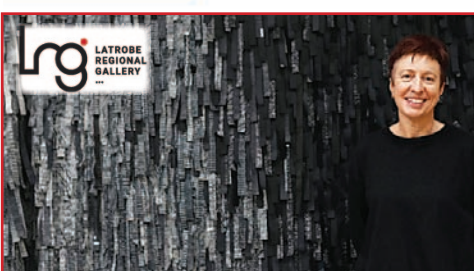
CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

cdnews.com.au

Established 1966

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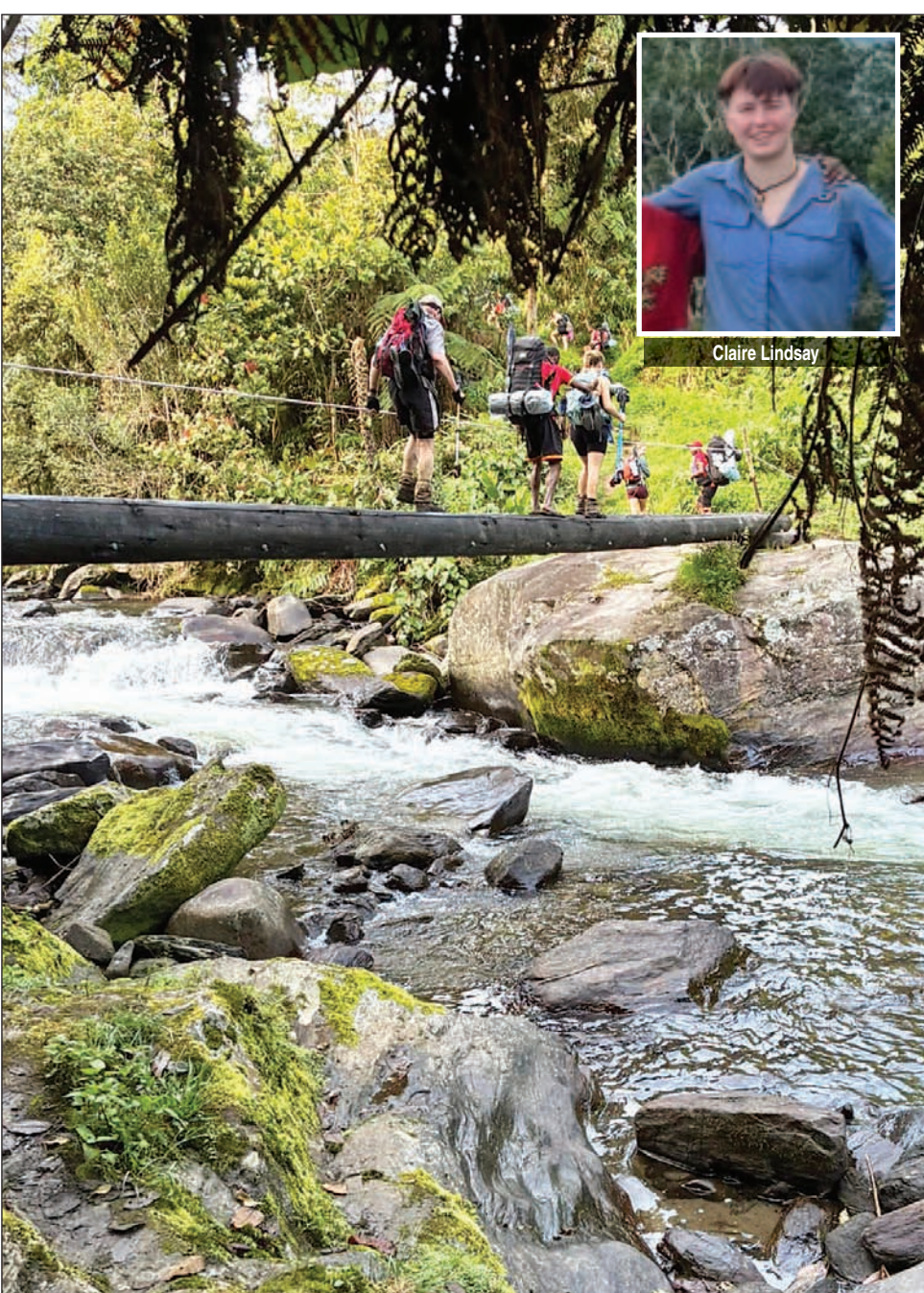


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We walked the Kokoda Trail



Claire Lindsay

By Claire Lindsay

Claire Lindsay is a year 11 student at Kurnai College, Churchill. She is Latrobe City 2025 Young Citizen of the Year and a member of Latrobe City Junior Council and current Junior Mayor. She was awarded the Marsh/Tierney Scholarship which allowed her to participate in the Kokoda trek.

In the thick jungles of Papua New Guinea, where the mist clings to your skin and every step feels like a battle against gravity, a group of young Victorians took on a challenge unlike any other: the Kokoda Trail. Selected as part of a prestigious scholarship program, we were a diverse team from all corners of the state, brought together not by coincidence but by a shared drive to test our resilience, deepen our understanding of history and grow in ways no classroom could ever teach.

The Kokoda Trail is 138 kilometres of steep ascents, slippery descents, river crossings, and endless mud. It winds its way through remote PNG villages and rugged mountain terrain, where the legacy of World War II lies silently beneath the canopy. Many Australians know the name Kokoda, but few grasp its full story. What we walked was not just a track—it was a sacred path of sacrifice and endurance.

At Isurava, we stood beside the four stone pillars - Courage, Endurance, Mateship, Sacrifice - etched with values we came to live and breathe each day. Further along the track we stood at Brigade Hill, where outnumbered Australian soldiers fought desperately to hold back Japanese forces. At many locations, students would read aloud information on a local soldier, or soldiers from their area who had fought along the Kokoda Trail, who, in the face of fear and exhaustion, would show unshakeable humility and courage to protect what we take for granted today.

Kokoda is not just history – it is also heart. The emotional journey we walked was as deep as the physical strain. There were moments of tears, frustration, and aching fatigue. There were

blisters that stung and legs that refused to move. And yet, it was within those moments that we found something greater: friendship. We came as strangers, but left as family, having carried each other through the toughest conditions imaginable. Laughing during dinner, sharing stories during water breaks, encouraging each other up never-ending climbs, we became part of something much larger than ourselves.

Central to that journey were the incredible porters, known lovingly as the "fuzzy wuzzy angels" by the soldiers of the past, and still just as important today.

These men not only carried our food, tents, and large packs with all our other equipment, they carried our spirits. They caught us when we slipped, sang as we walked, and smiled through every downpour. Their strength is extraordinary, but it is their kindness and care that stays with you long after you return home.

Walking through the villages, along the trail, was a cultural experience that words barely do justice. Children ran barefoot to greet us with shy smiles. Families opened their homes and hearts, offering food, laughter, and a window into life in rural PNG. We learned about local customs, sang songs and nursery rhymes, and shared quiet, powerful moments with people whose way of life is both simple and deeply connected to the land. The generosity of the villagers reminded us how little you need to give so much.

The Kokoda Trail is more than a hike. It is a journey through history, through culture, and through yourself. It humbles you, breaks you down, then builds you back stronger. It reminds you of the weight of the past and the beauty of human connection. And it is an experience we will carry for the rest of our lives.

To the porters, our guides, the village communities, and the soldiers whose spirits walk that track still—thank you. Your stories, your strength and your sacrifice are not forgotten.

We walked Kokoda, but Kokoda changed us.
More photos on Page 19...

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

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The DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION of articles and advertisements for the September 2025 edition is Austust 25, 2025

EDITORIAL

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



MEMBER 2025

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We acknowledge the support of



Government backing sports clubs

The Victorian Government is backing the heartbeat of local communities with a new wave of sports club grants providing more opportunities for people to get involved in the community and sports they love. Member for Eastern Victoria, Harriet Shing, announced funding for sports clubs in Evelyn, Morwell and Narracan through the Sporting Club Grants Program.

In Latrobe City, the Traralgon Scout Group and Churchill Scout Group will receive grants to improve their equipment and camping facilities. The Gippsland Go Karts will use their grant for first aid kits, and the Moe/Newborough Baseball



Harriet Shing MP

Club will be purchasing new junior equipment. The Morwell Golf Club will receive support for a junior participation program, and the Strzelecki Showtime Scout Show has been granted funding for first aid supplies.

Other local clubs, including the Traralgon Rovers Hockey Club, Traralgon Table Tennis Association and Churchill

Baseball Club, will benefit from funding to support new equipment and travel for key events. In addition, Moe Pony Club and Moe United Soccer Club will receive assistance for first aid kits.

Since 2014, The Sporting Club Grants Program has invested more than \$19.5 million in local communities to support thousands of sport and recreation clubs across the state. The program is backed by the Regional Community Sport Development Fund which is delivering infrastructure upgrades and other programs including the Regional Community Sport Infrastructure Fund to help more regional Victorians to get active and be a part of

their local sporting clubs. The Victorian Budget 2025/26 is investing in real cost of living help for families, with \$15 million to deliver the popular \$200 Get Active Kids Vouchers for another two years – helping more kids get involved in local sport and stay active. For more information on the grants and a full list of recipients visit sport.vic.gov.au. Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing said, “There are so many clubs across Eastern Victoria that bring people of all ages and abilities together and this is another way we are supporting communities to get involved in the sports they love.”

Basketball Australia launches new child safety resources

Basketball Australia has today launched a comprehensive suite of new Child Safety resources designed to strengthen the protection and wellbeing of children and young people across the basketball community.

The resources are now available via Basketball Australia’s Play digital hub and form a key part of the organisation’s

broader Safe Sport commitment. They include clear, accessible safeguarding information for players, coaches, officials, parents and administrators, as well as a new online training course - Safeguarding Children in Basketball.

The course, developed in partnership with eTrainu and informed by national principles and best-practice

approaches, is designed to empower everyone involved in the game with the knowledge and tools to create safe, inclusive environments at all levels of participation.

“Every child has the right to feel safe, supported and respected in sport,” said Matt Scriven, CEO of Basketball Australia.

“The launch of these new resources is an important step in helping ensure that child safety is

not just a policy, but a lived commitment across every court, club and competition in the country.”

The online portal also includes guidance on responding to concerns, reporting channels, and practical tools for clubs and associations to embed safeguarding practices into their everyday operations.

For more information and to access the Child Safety resources, visit: play.aus.basketball/child-safety

Rainfall



Churchill Rainfall

The rainfall received in Churchill for the month of July was 87mm. This amount was received over approximately nine days. Rain received for the year so far is 330.5mm, again well below the annual average.

Rain at Hazelwood South:

The “SAM” (Southern Annular Mode) climate driver has delivered. In July Hazelwood South had good soaking rain, resulting in 109 mm and 38% more than the monthly average. The

subterranean voids are still filling. The drains, springs and watercourses dry up as the rain stops. The rain deficit for 2025 has decreased from 22% to 13%. Hazelwood South was 24% wetter than the Latrobe Valley weather station.

More rain is needed to keep the bush happy during summer.

At least the tanks are full. The soil temperature is still too low for the plants to grow.

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Effective January 1, 2025

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

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0456 786 577

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

BOOK REVIEW

"The Fossil Hunter"

By Tea Cooper 2021

Tea Cooper was born in Australia in 1977. She has been a teacher, a journalist and a farmer.

She is a writer of contemporary and historical fiction, known for weaving together different timelines and with an emphasis on natural history.

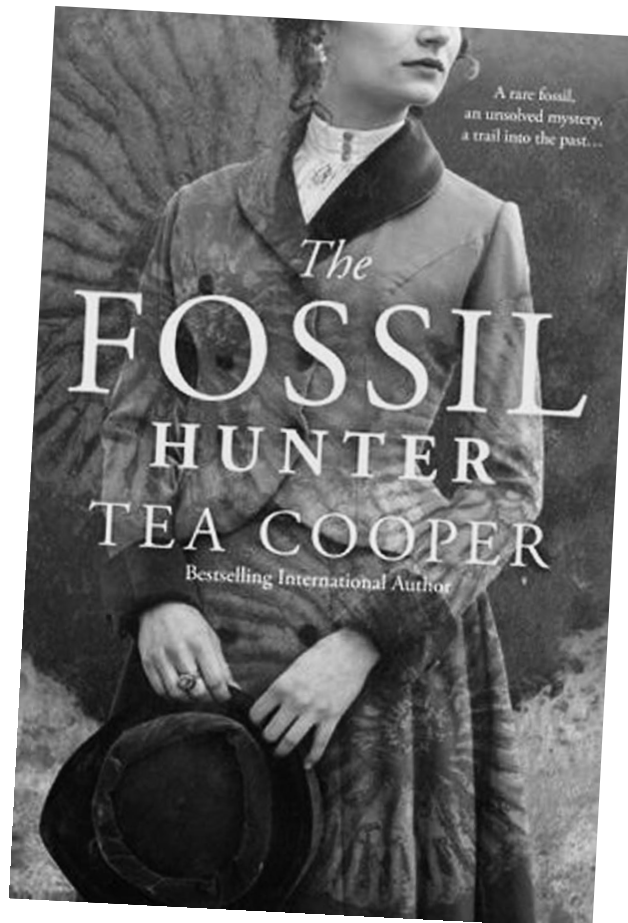
She has an impressive list of titles and has been nominated and received various literary awards. Her books include "The Naturalist's Daughter" 2013, "The Horse Thief" 2015, "The Woman in the Green Dress" 2018, "The Girl in the Painting" 2019, "The Cartographer's Secret" 2020, "The Butterfly Collector" 2022 and "The Talented Mrs Greenway" 2023. "The Fossil Hunter" is set in the Hunter Valley region of New South Wales.

The early part of the story begins in 1847 and we meet Mellie Vale who has been taken in by the local doctor and his family. Unbeknown to Mellie her father, who took part in a robbery, has been hanged for a murder which he did not commit and Mellie is now an orphan.

She is suffering from chicken pox but has clearly experienced trauma as she is sleepwalking each night and finds herself at the mill pond at the doctor's house.

The hired help scold and taunt her for coming in with her nightdress wet and soiled each morning and visiting cousins at the doctor's house tease her because of her chicken pox so she is quite miserable.

It is customary each year for the doctor's daughters and their cousins to stay with Anthea Winstanley, an amateur paleontologist who is convinced she will find the fossilised remains of a prehistoric sea dragon, evidence of plesiosaurs, in



Bow Wow Gorge. Because Mellie is so unhappy the doctor's wife decides to include her on the trip. She is reluctant to go but soon develops a bond with Anthea, who takes Mellie under her wing, and she remains with Anthea after the other girls return home.

While the girls are visiting an unexpected visitor arrives and puts pressure on Anthea to sell part of her land. Anthea is uneasy about him but he triggers past trauma in Mellie.

At this point we lose the story of Anthea and Mellie. The story of PJ Martindale begins in England in 1919. She has just returned from France where she has been driving an ambulance with an American serviceman who has asked her to marry him.

They are returning to Australia so he can ask her father's permission. While she is waiting for him to

arrive she visits a Natural History Museum where she finds a specimen from Bow Wow Gorge.

This is where her brothers, who have both been killed in the war used to go to find fossils, and she becomes obsessed with the idea of going there to find a fossil which she could name after them as a tribute.

On returning to Australia she is devastated by her father's reaction because he blames her for the death of his sons, wrongly thinking she signed their papers.

The plans to arrange a marriage are put on hold. She and her fiancée decide to start their exploration of Bow Wow Gorge but find the locals of the area are reluctant to give directions or information until someone mentions that strange things happen there and young girls go missing. PJ is not deterred and they go about exploring the area.

They come across a cottage where everything seems undisturbed for a long period of time, but someone has recently been because the stove is still warm.

They make arrangements to acquire the title to the land and cottage and continue their fossicking. When taking shelter in a cave during one of their expeditions they come across a human skeleton.

To whom does the skeleton belong? This book was very easy to read and the different time periods were clearly set out so it was easy to follow.

There were interesting facts about fossils but also that many women took up this pastime and sold their specimens to people who displayed them as curiosities in their homes.

The attempts to educate the American serviceman about Australian culture, flora and fauna were a bit cringeworthy and the story came to a tidy and predictable ending.

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COMMUNITY SAFETY *Words of Wisdom* New rules to protect emergency and roadside workers

In Victoria, drivers must slow down to 40km/h when passing stationary or slow-moving vehicles with flashing lights (red, blue, magenta, or yellow), including emergency, incident response, and roadside assistance vehicles. This applies to vehicles stopped or moving slower than 10km/h with flashing lights or an alarm sounding. The rule aims to protect emergency and roadside workers.

Elaboration:

- Rule 79A: Road Rule 79A in Victoria specifically addresses this requirement.

- Applicable Vehicles: The rule includes law enforcement, emergency, and incident response vehicles, as well as tow trucks and breakdown assistance vehicles.

- What to do: When approaching a vehicle with flashing lights (red, blue, magenta, or yellow) that is stationary or moving slowly, drivers must:

- * Begin to slow down safely to 40km/h.

- * Check the rear view mirror, especially on high-speed roads.

- * Pass the scene at 40km/h and be able to stop if directed.

- * Return to the normal speed limit once a safe distance past the scene.

- Divided Roads: The rule does not apply to vehicles on the opposite side of a divided road from the incident.

- Penalties: Failure to comply with this rule can result in fines.

- Safety: The rule is in place to ensure the safety of emergency and roadside workers and those they are assisting.

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

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

MORWELL
RSL CLUB

Victoria Cross Bistro
Morwell RSL

Bistro Closed for renovations

The Victoria Cross Bistro is currently closed due to major renovations.

Renovation works are due to be completed by approximately the 11th of August, with the hopes we will be back cooking sooner.

We apologise for the inconvenience caused and look forward to welcoming you back soon.

BOOK NOW for your next GROUP FUNCTION

Phone 5134 2455

CHURCH *news*

Co-Op Church Snippets



Nyree spoke of how Jesus instructed the disciples to go out with nothing but the instruction to spread the gospel. She did this by unpacking a bag of things she thought should go, then told the children that the disciples were told not to take anything. We have the same choice.

George spoke on Jesus

who set his face towards Jerusalem knowing what was ahead, but in obedience went forth. Jesus kept the main thing as the main thing- no deviations.

He knew, and we know, that life is not meant to be easy. Jesus did not look back because he knew if he did he would not see where he was going. Jesus came

to establish a kingdom of love and forgiveness not punishment.

He knew he should not put off what had to be done- be the sacrifice for our sins. Jesus is our example- an example of love, determination, kindness, forgiveness, being a servant, not being judgmental and putting others first.

The children's talk on the second Sunday was based on the Good Samaritan from Luke 10: 24-37.

The generosity of the Samaritan was highlighted in the fact that he had pity on a man despite the fact that he was a Jew.

He gave his time irrespective of his own plans. He used his own resources to clean and bandage the man's wounds and placed him on his own donkey while he walked. He took a room at the inn where he cared for the man before leaving and giving the innkeeper more money for him to care for the man.

He then gave his word he would pay anything further that the innkeeper needed when he returned next time.

People were encouraged to do as the Samaritan had and be generous as they were a neighbour to everyone.

Coffee Connections

A small but enthusiastic

group gathered to have fellowship and some nibbles before exploring memories of our childhood toys. As we went around the circle and shared our memories, it evoked similar ones for others in the group. Among the toys and pursuits mentioned were dolls. One in particular was very old but had been repaired by the doll doctor. Cubbies were mentioned several times with those near the creek, inside homes and up trees. As a lot of us were war or just post war babies, there was not much in the way of toys due to cash shortages, but those we had were treasured and cared for.

Having a bike at the end of primary school was an invitation to freedom, and many rode bikes to school, on trips with friends, or to visit. There was freedom then. Puppets, pick up sticks, Chinese chequers, home made scrabble, all rated a mention. A couple admitted to being tomboys and thus their play involvement was different to others. It was happy time with laughs and fun.

Leprosy Mission guest speaker Glen Coleman

Glen showed a small video for the children which showed how Bela contracted leprosy and how her friends would not play with her, shop keepers would not serve her and her family was scared.

Bela was not able to feel the pain of the burn from a hot pan. She had white patches on her skin which affected the nerves so she could no longer feel pain.

Bela was taken to the hospital where she received the multi drug therapy and was cured before she experienced any further disability.

When she was cured she was welcomed back into her



community and could play with her friends again.

Every two minutes a person in poverty stricken areas of our world, is diagnosed with leprosy. People living without sanitary facilities and clean water can contract leprosy.

It is not a dead disease, but a forgotten one in many parts of the western world.

If leprosy is not treated early it can lead to terrible disability including loosing feet and hands, nerve damage, all making it difficult to navigate living.

Leprosy Mission aims to find and help people with leprosy early so they can access the multi drug therapy. Close family and friends can also receive a drug to lessen the chance of catching leprosy.

The Mission also works hard to research leprosy and find ways to lessen the burden. Part of what they provide are mobility aids to help people get around and be able to care for themselves, be able to go to school and work, loans for small businesses to provide for their family.

All this requires those of us in Australia to give generously so that all lepers can be found and helped, research can continue, leprosy can be defeated and discrimination gone.

The Mission asks for our prayers for more resources, more people to find those affected and often hidden away due to fear, so they can be cured. You can also donate to Leprosy Mission through the web site.



Church Times

Co-Operating Churches of Churchill

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

King of Glory Ministries

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

Prayer and Bible Study:

10.00 am Mondays at
Yinnar Bakery
and Coffee Shop.
10.00 am Wednesdays at
Boolarra Co-op
Church Hall.

For more info:

Pastor Lynn Fowler
0493 193 141

Churchill/Morwell Catholic Parishes

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

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

See Church bulletin
or call 5134 2849

Boolarra/Yinnar Co-Operating Parish

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

Churchill Christian Fellowship

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

Churchill Christian Fellowship

By Steve McNeilly (Pastor)

People sometimes ask me what sort of church we are, so let me briefly explain. CCF is affiliated with CRC Churches International, a movement of interdependent churches that started in Adelaide and Melbourne at the end of the second world war. 'Interdependent' means that we are relationally connected but free to manage our own affairs.

We have a State Executive and a National Executive but their function is to assist local churches, not to govern or control.

For many years now, there have been CRC

churches in New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Sri Lanka and the Philippines, to name just a few. CRC Missions is the worldwide missions department of CRC Churches International and regularly updates local churches of exciting developments around the world.

Each year there is a CRC Missions Day in the Australian churches where a special offering is taken up for some particular nation.

In 2025, July 27, the special offering was for a new building at the Honiara church in the Solomon Islands.

It is so good that we can

not only be active here in Churchill but that we can also help our brothers and sisters around the world. God is good!

Please feel free to join us any Sunday at 3pm at 762 Tramway Road, or come along on Fridays from 11am for our craft garden/lunch social time. Home Fellowship/Bible study meetings are held on Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning.

You will be most welcome at any of these meetings.

For more information, or to register your interest for our next Men's breakfast, please call 0409 173747.

Make ink from plants

Sunday August 31, 10am to 4pm

Latrobe Regional Gallery workshop

Pricing: Full \$60, Concession/Member \$50

Due to popular demand we are offering an extra date for this amazing workshop on Sunday August 31.

Join Cheryl Cook and Dijanne Cevaál from Inkpot Alchemy and explore what nature brings in the form of inks. In this all-day workshop, you will learn several techniques to make ink from plants. You will also have an opportunity to try your inks and learn botanical printing techniques. You will paint, make marks, and print in various forms on cloth and paper.

Bookings:

• by phone on 03 5128

5700

• email: lrg@latrobe.vic.gov.au

• in person: everyday from 10am to 4 pm

World Photography Day

Tuesday August 19, 2pm
Latrobe Regional Gallery Free

Latrobe Regional Gallery is celebrating World Photography Day on August 19, responding to our current photography exhibitions, Gippsland Interclub Photography Exhibition and Straightcut: Photographs from the LRG Collection.

Join Ruth Burleigh, local photographer and founder of the Gippsland Interclub Photography Competition, and Karli Duckett, documentary photographer and founder of



LATROBE REGIONAL GALLERY

Here's what you will discover beneath the surface:

- Make your own scuba diver mask, you will need it to go exploring
- Create a floating jellyfish using recycled plastic bags
- Stencil colourful scales onto giant fish on the wall
- Draw sea creatures that glow under the light table

Bridget Hillebrand

Into the Deep
Now to September 28, 2025

Gallery 3

LRG is thrilled to present a major new solo exhibition by acclaimed Victorian artist Bridget Hillebrand, inspired by the coastal waters of Southern Victoria.

Into the Deep is a new large-scale installation informed by Hillebrand's ongoing concern for ecological shifts occurring beneath the ocean's surface.

Spanning 12 metres, this relief printed, hand cut and hand-assembled corpus of washi paper explores the precarity of deep-sea environments, which remain largely unmapped, unreachable and invisible to humans.

The work invites reflection on our emotional and ethical relationships with the unseen: what does it mean to care for something we cannot touch, measure, or fully know?



Cheryl Cook and Dijanne Cevaál

Hillebrand's delicate paper strips mimic underwater movement, light refraction and fragility. The work is accompanied by an original soundtrack created in collaboration with Erasmus Toscano and incorporates recordings captured during one of

Hillebrand's dives at Mushroom Reef on the Mornington Peninsula. By combining these elements, Into the Deep becomes a vessel carrying questions, empathy, and connection across distances and between bodies, both aquatic and human.



Karli Duckett (Left), Ruth Burleigh (Right)



Bridget Hillebrand

SEEKING COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Churchill Town Centre Plan

We are seeking your input into how your town centre is planned and where you have noticed issues or had good experiences.



Scan the QR code to Have Your Say.

Scan the QR code above where you can:

- Complete a survey
- Find out more information
- Provide feedback on map
- Book a meeting with town planners



For more information contact us and ask to speak to a Strategic Planner on 1300 367 700 or latrobe@latrobe.vic.gov.au

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



Churchill Fire Brigade

SPECIAL FEATURE



Lithium Portable Battery Safety

Many portable devices today are powered by rechargeable lithium-ion batteries. These types of batteries pose a higher risk of fire than others.

Lithium-ion batteries are popular because they are light-weight and long lasting compared to other rechargeable batteries.

You will find them in many devices such as phones, tablets, power banks, laptop computers, toys, appliances and tools, as well as mobility equipment such as e-bikes and e-scooters. They can also be found in many other modern devices that need power.

What causes Lithium-ion batteries to catch fire?

Lithium-ion batteries release toxic and flammable gases when they short circuit, which may lead to them catching fire. If the battery is fully charged, violent fire behaviour with sparks and jet-like flames may be experienced.

The main reasons lithium-ion batteries short circuit and catch fire - a process called thermal runaway - are because they:

- Are incorrectly charged using a charging cable that was not designed for the device or battery. This can result in overcharging or overheating.
- Have been damaged by an impact, cracked, dented, punctured, crushed or exposed to overheating.
- Have been in fresh or salt water for a long time, causing corrosion within the battery.

It is therefore very important that you dispose of old or damaged lithium-ion batteries correctly - see more information below.

How can I prevent my devices or batteries from catching fire?

Use the correct charger

Using chargers with incorrect power delivery (voltage and current) can cause damage to the battery including overheating that can lead to fires.

- Ensure the battery and charger is suited for the job and has no electrical faults.
- Only use chargers that are supplied with the equipment or device, or certified third-party charging equipment that is compatible with the battery specifications.
- Only purchase and use devices and equipment from reputable manufacturers and suppliers.
- Always follow the manufacturers' charging and operation instructions.
- Disconnect a device or battery once it indicates that it is fully charged.
- Only use chargers that meet Australian Standards - look for the Regulatory Compliance Mark.

Do not help your devices to overheat

Devices left on soft surfaces like beds and couches can overheat and catch fire.

Do not charge batteries or devices on soft surfaces such as beds, couches and carpet.

Keep batteries and devices away from items that can easily catch fire like blankets, clothing and paper.

Never charge a device under a pillow.



Do not leave charging devices unattended

There is a higher risk from fire if you are not in attendance or sleeping while devices are charging

Avoid charging batteries or devices overnight.

Avoid leaving batteries or devices unattended while they are on charge.

General charging safety

- Only plug in one device per outlet, and always keep power boards and cables neat and tidy.
- Do not use battery charging devices with worn or damaged cables.
- Always ensure the battery charger is switched off from the electrical power supply before connecting the batteries. This will minimize the risk of shock and sparking while connecting the batteries.
- Lithium-ion batteries can be sensitive to heat and therefore must be charged and stored in moderate temperatures.
- Never store or leave batteries and devices in areas where they can be exposed to heat or moisture.
- Do not leave devices such as phones, computers or charging devices in direct sunlight or in parked vehicles where they can quickly heat up.
- Larger batteries and equipment such as power tools and especially electric bikes, scooters or skateboards should be charged in the garage, shed or carport away from living spaces.
- Victorian fire services recommend that interconnected smoke alarms are installed in areas where devices are often charged.

What is the difference between lithium-ion batteries and lithium batteries?

Do not confuse replaceable lithium batteries with lithium-ion batteries

Lithium Batteries are single use only.

Lithium batteries are NOT rechargeable and you need to buy new ones once they run out of charge.

You might use lithium batteries in torches, television remote controls, some

gaming controllers, smoke alarms and digital cameras.

Lithium batteries are most commonly sold alongside normal single use batteries in similar sizes like AA, AAA, C, D or 9v batteries. They can also be found as 'button' batteries like CR2032 or A76/LR44 as used in watches, heart rate monitors or memory backup power supply in computers.

Lithium-ion batteries are rechargeable

The construction of lithium-ion batteries is very different to single use lithium batteries

You will usually find them in just about any modern device that can be plugged into a charger. Besides mobile phones and appliances, they can also be found in e-bikes, e-scooters, mobility scooters and larger versions in electric cars.

They are often larger and usually in a shape to suit the device they are meant to power. Though not always, they are often not meant to be removed from the device by the consumer. That is, they must be serviced by a technician.

Lithium-ion batteries are sometimes also called Li-ion batteries.

How do I know if my battery is damaged?

Thermal runaway events involving batteries can occur rapidly and can often be quite violent, involving toxic, flammable smoke and vapours, flames, and metal projectiles.

Do not use batteries or devices that show signs of swelling or bulging, leaking, overheating, or signs of mechanical damage (cracked, dented, punctured, or crushed).

Warning signs include:

- Strong odours
- Discolouration, blistering, bulging, or swelling of the casing
- Leaking
- Heating up and feeling extremely hot to touch
- Abnormal popping, hissing or crackling sounds
- Smoke and fumes
- Never touch a swollen or ruptured

device or battery with bare hands as the heat and/or chemicals can cause severe burns.

What to do if there is a fire

We do not recommend handling anything that is on fire.

If a small battery or device such as a phone or tablet starts overheating

- Unplug it from the power outlet if it is on charge.
- Avoid inhaling any smoke or fumes.
- If safe to do so, remove it to an outside area away from anything that can catch fire and away from windows or doorways.
- Leave the building and call Triple Zero (000) even if you no longer see visible smoke or flames. There is a good chance that the battery might reignite if it has not been cooled enough.

If the device or battery starts to smoke or emit flames

- Do not touch the device.
- Evacuate the area and close doors if safe to do so to slow the spread of fire. Ensure no one goes back inside the building for any reason. The vented battery gases, vapour and smoke are highly toxic and flammable and must not be inhaled.

- Call Triple Zero (000) and advise it is a Lithium-ion battery incident. Wait in a safe location outside for firefighters to arrive.

- If anyone has been exposed to spilled electrolyte, flying debris, smoke or vapours, or flames, seek urgent medical assistance. Burns should be immediately treated with cool running water for 20 minutes. Burns larger than a 20-cent piece require emergency care. Treat with cool running water immediately, call Triple Zero (000), and follow the advice of the operator.

Disposal of Lithium-ion batteries

Note that some batteries may contain toxic chemicals, heavy metals and other environmental pollutants that can contaminate water supplies and ecosystems when they are incorrectly disposed of.

Protect yourself from burns

- Never touch a swollen or ruptured device or battery with bare hands as the heat and/or chemicals can cause severe burns.
- Always use gloves/hand protection before touching or moving leaking batteries.

Many battery related fires start in household bins, garbage trucks and waste facilities

- Never throw lithium-ion batteries in your regular waste or recycling collection bins.

- Where safe to do so, place leaking or damaged (but not overheating or off-gassing) batteries in a clear plastic bag and take them to a reputable place (see below) for disposal.

More information on where and how to dispose of used batteries can be found from:

B-cycle
Planet Ark
Mobile Muster
Australian Battery Recycler's Initiative



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National Flags

Each sovereign country in the world has a national flag, looked upon with pride by the whole population. It is the symbol shown to the world of our national identity in all situations where that country is being represented among other countries. Some countries have a flag which is readily recognised by others, while others can be mistaken or indeed obscure outside its immediate neighbours. Some have been around for a long time, while others are relatively new. Some are a mixture of flags of countries which have joined together to form a single country, like the Union Jack of Great Britain which is also made a part of the flags of former colonies.

New flags often show that the country is a former colony which has gained independence, while others show a political change of government like Russia and South Africa, or just a change to show individuality like Canada. One flag which has constantly changed is that of the United States

of America which adds a new star when a territory it controls gains statehood.

There is no flag with a single colour. Many have just two and some have three with a few having more. The



different colours sometimes come in bars of different sizes, either vertically or horizontally such as France, Ireland or Italy which are vertical and Belgium or Russia which have horizontal stripes. Others use crosses of one colour on a background of another colour like Norway or Switzerland.

Other countries use symbols on flags of another colour. The Southern Cross appears on flags of the Southern hemisphere countries such as Australia and New Zealand. Others use Christian crosses

or the five-pointed star of Islam as part of the design.

Israel uses the six-pointed Star of David. Mexico features a cactus and an eagle holding a rattlesnake in its beak. The flag of Mozambique in Africa features crossed AK47 rifles, Papua - New Guinea has a bird of paradise. The flag of

Argentina features a golden sun with a stylised face.

Every national flag, except two, is oblong in shape. The odd ones are Switzerland which is a square flag and Nepal which is a swallowtail of sorts. Each flag can be described symbolically to reflect the character of its inhabitants. Australia uses the Union Jack, a symbol of British origin and the Southern Cross, a symbol of independence used on a flag flown at Eureka in Victoria in a civil uprising against the government of the time.

The colours used as a background on the Australian flag can vary with different circumstances. Our national flag has a dark blue field but our merchant ships have a red field, our naval ships have a white field and the air force a light blue field. The stars of the Southern Cross and the seven-pointed nation star are different colours on these flags. These flags were shown on a set of four in 1991 to celebrate Australia Day.



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STAIR CLIMB

By Derek Watson

Hello fellow locals, for those who do not know me, my name is Derek, I am a volunteer firefighter with the Churchill Fire Brigade; some may recognise me as the dedicated sausage sizzler from our Churchill markets.

I am attending the Melbourne firefighter stair climb again this year in September. This will be my fourth year raising much needed funds towards cancer research and mental health, as all proceeds go towards the Peter MacCallum cancer foundation, Lifeline and the 000 foundation.

So far I have been collecting funds from cans and bottles with the help from some amazing locals.

If you or any businesses would like to jump on board to support myself and this great cause there are three ways you can do so:

1. Scan the QR code on the posters I have placed around town (you will find them on the windows of many of our local small businesses who have shown great support in allowing me to place them up)

2. Follow the link provided below or



3. By collecting cans and bottles for me to collect and convert to donations

Every little bit counts, and I would love your support!

I know that times can be tough, so donating may not be in the budget for some, but if you would like to show support even though you may not be able to financially, please jump onto my personal profile and share one of my posts from there.

www.firefighterclimb.org.au/climber/derekwatson/

Churchill Neighbourhood Centre

Tool Library Launching in Churchill!

We are excited to announce a new initiative launching right here in Churchill – a Tool Library, brought to you in partnership between the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre and the Churchill Men’s Shed.

Much like a traditional library – but instead of borrowing books, you will be able to borrow tools! From screwdrivers and hand saws to pressure washers, drills and even garden hoses, this community project is designed to make DIY, gardening, and home maintenance more accessible for everyone.

The Tool Library is based on the successful model used by the

Brisbane Tool Library, promoting sustainability, community sharing, and reducing the cost barrier to getting those odd jobs done around the home. Whether you are a first-time renter needing to put up a shelf or a seasoned home improver tackling a big backyard project, the Tool Library aims to give everyone equal access to the tools they need.

We are currently calling for donations! If you have old or unused tools lying around at home – hand tools, power tools, gardening equipment or anything in good working order – we would love to take them off your hands.

Donations can be dropped off at the Churchill

Neighbourhood Centre during open hours.

Our team will test and tag and restore all tools before they are made available for borrowing. We are aiming to create a resource that is safe, reliable, and well-stocked – and your donations will help make that possible.

Together, we are building a stronger, more connected and more resourceful community. Watch this space for more details on when the Tool Library will officially open and how you can become a member.

For more information, please contact the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre or drop by for a chat. Let us build this together!

Plants in my garden



By Mike Beamish

Species: Grevillea chrysophaea.

Family: Proteaceae.

Derivation:

Grevillea: Named after Charles Francis Greville (1749-1809), a founder of the (Royal) Horticultural Society and who introduced and grew rare plants at Paddington, London.

Chrysophaea: From Greek chrysos, meaning ‘gold’, and phaios, meaning ‘dusky’ or ‘brown’, referring to the flower colour.

Name:

Golden Grevillea.

Distribution:

Endemic to Victoria, there are three main populations: 1 – Brisbane Ranges, 2 – Southern fall of the Great Dividing Range in the Macalister and Avon River catchments, and 3 – the eastern Strzelecki Ranges, from Traralgon South and Woodside, through Holey Plains and Stradbroke as far east as Sperm Whale Head in Lakes National Park. Plants further west, north and east of these areas are now attributable to other species (G. alpina, G. celata)

Description:

A small shrub to 2m tall, though Brisbane Ranges plants tend to be larger in size and have slightly larger flowers than Gippsland plants, while Holey Plains plants tend to be short and wide, if not prostrate. Leaves are up to 6cm long and 15mm wide, more

or less sessile (stalkless), simple (not lobed), oblong to elliptic, pubescent (fluffy) to glabrous (hairless), minutely granular (not completely smooth) and green above. Underneath they are pale and velvety, with a prominent yellowish midvein. Flowers occur from winter to early summer, in small umbels of 2-8 individuals. Each flower has a golden-brown, yellow-green or golden-yellow perianth (the curly bit) up to 10mm long, with a reddish-brown pistil (the straight bit) extending up to another 20mm.

Opinion:

I have been struggling to grow this species to flowering for years, as is pretty obvious I suppose, since it is our Group’s floral emblem. I have been writing these articles for 20 years and this is its first mention! I have tried many, many times and can usually get cuttings to strike (from my records: 15% in 2004, 0% in 2005, a big, slack gap, 100% in 2016 and 2018, 85% in 2019, 15% in 2020), but then the plants do not thrive when planted out.

One attempt at seed in 2019 produced no seedlings. Most of my attempts have been material from the Wellington River area, where it grows in dry, hot, pink gravelly rubbish soils that it is obviously well-suited to, as it rejects my well-watered, cool, heavy clay loams in the garden. I have also tried

material from the sandy loams of Traralgon South and the Brisbane Ranges, without any luck either.

The plant that has finally delivered flowers came from a 2019 cutting that survived potting up and lived in its 150mm pot until planted into a bottomless tub in April 2022.

The tub is in the bed at the front north-western corner of the block, is shared with two Hakea plants and is shaded by surrounding plants, particularly in the afternoons.

My Golden G grew very well from that point and flowered that same year, in October. Instead of dropping dead immediately, it is still alive and flowering every year, has reached about 1.5m in height and 0.5m in width. Here’s hoping!

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

Sources: Sharr – WA Plant Names and their Meanings.

Elliot & Jones – Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants, Volume 5.

Olde & Marriott – The Grevillea Book, Volume 2.

Costermans – Native Trees and Shrubs of South-eastern Australia.

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Please see our Website.

<https://www.cdca.org.au/>

This edition of the News is published after CDCA's Annual General Meeting but, for production purposes, this article had to be written before our AGM, held on August 14.

Without a crystal ball, it is impossible to inform readers of the outcomes!

Who will be on the new committee elected at the AGM? Will members propose that CDCA's Rules be amended? Will meetings continue to be held on the second Thursday of every second month? What other changes might be made?

One thing that is known at the time of writing is that long-serving committee member and President, Margaret Guthrie, has decided to retire. So that means a change!

If you are interested to find out what occurred, please see our website, which can be found at [cdca.org.au](https://www.cdca.org.au)

CDCA has had a website for quite a few years now and, while the pictures may not change, every effort is made to keep information up-to-date.

You can look around

our website to find out when the next CDCA meeting will be held (it is on the Home Page), who the current office bearers and committee members are, check the agenda for a forthcoming meeting (including guest speaker) and read the minutes from the last meeting (click on the drop-down menu 'About CDCA').

You can download a membership application form from the Home Page or contact CDCA with your inquiry or suggestion via the "Contact Us" function on the website.

CDCA also has a Facebook page (search for Churchill District Community Association) and there is usually a post or two about the next CDCA meeting that is coming up.

Alternatively, you can email CDCA directly at info@cdca.org.au and expect to receive a response within the week.

One thing that is certain is that the Winter Shop Local Market, to be held on Saturday August 30, at Churchill Shopping Centre, will go ahead as planned. In fact, most arrangements

are already locked in for this event. (See the advertisement elsewhere in this edition of the News.)

The Shop Local Markets have been facilitated by CDCA, in partnership with Churchill Neighbourhood Centre and Churchill & District News.

The date for the Christmas Market has already been set – Saturday December 6. There may be some small changes to how the December market is organised, but all three partner organisations are committed to continue hosting this event for the Churchill and district community.

Planning is also well underway for CDCA's Guided History Walk in Churchill. This walk of approximately 2kms in length will take in significant sites of interest around the Churchill town centre. An informative presentation will be provided before starting the walk and at each stop (or point-of-interest) a brief factual talk will be given, citing history and purpose.

Walk participants will be invited to meet at Pizza HQ (at Hazelwood Village) for registration, map/handout and to view the presentation (perhaps over a cuppa purchased in-store), before departing as a group on the Guided Walk.

More information, including cost, will be provided about the date and time of this interesting new CDCA venture in the near future. Look out for posters, Facebook posts and other advertisements soon.



Are you due for a cervical screening?

It is not something you think about often—but having a cervical screening test every five years is important for all women and people with a cervix. If this is you, and you have had sexual contact with another person, and are aged between 25 and 74 years, it might be time to book a cervical screening.

LCHS Sexual and Reproductive Health Nurse, Catherine Bateman, explains cervical screening tests check for a virus that, if left to its own devices, could cause cell changes that can develop into cervical cancer.

"Cervical cancer is one of the most preventable cancers, and regular cervical screening is the best way to protect yourself from it," Nurse Bateman said.

Nurse Bateman said it is common to feel nervous or scared about doing a cervical screening test, but you do not need to be.

"It is usually a quick procedure and everything is explained to you. We try to make the experience as comfortable as possible, so you feel confident to come back every five years."

She also explains that screening has evolved over the years to make it less daunting.

"Previously, all samples had to be taken by a doctor or a nurse but now patients can take the sample themselves in privacy, if they choose to," Nurse Bateman said.

If you are due for a cervical screening test, or you are not sure when you had one last, you can book an appointment by calling 1800 242 696.



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Friends of Morwell National Park

July Activity Report

The activity for the day was to complete some track maintenance along Billys Creek Track and perform tree planting into the section of track that was diverted away from the creek. A few vehicles drove into the planting work site with the plants and equipment while the rest of the group walked in from the car park.

Peter had propagated all the seedlings and trees to be planted. Peter and Graeme had brought all the digging tools and tree guards to protect the trees from the grazing animals. The group worked in small groups to plant and then guard the planted trees. It was great how everybody just put in

to take on different roles to plant the different plants.

We put in 135 plants, comprising Muttonwood (Myrsine howittiana), Hemp Bush (Gynatrix pulchella), Musk Daisy-bush (Olearia argophylla), Snowy Daisy-bush (Olearia lirata), Kangaroo Apple (Solanum aviculare), Forest Hound's-tongue (Austrocynoglossum latifolium) and Silver Wattle (Acacia dealbata).

Thanks go to Peter for germinating all these plants from collected seed and, over a few years, growing these for the day's planting.

After planting, the group worked together to move a tree which was across the track stopping all vehicle access beyond

that point. Lunch was held on the walking track, and we enjoyed the winter sun. Some groups of walkers and bicycle riders travelled past appreciating the day while we ate lunch.

After lunch, most of the group got to stretch their legs as they walked back to the car park, while the other equipment was driven out.

August Activity

Sunday August 17, 10.00am

The group will meet at the Kerry Road picnic area to undertake some track maintenance. You will need to bring your lunch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.



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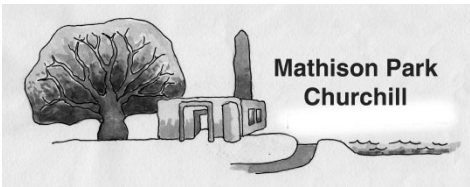
Churchill & District Lions Club

Meet
1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each Month



Contact Secretary Phone:
Peter Tait **0421 167 915**





More trees planted in Mathison Park



Our thanks to the Council for providing about 60 trees to plant in the park. Some of these will replace the ones which have unfortunately succumbed to the weather with little rain. Others will make another row down the Tramway Road section. They will be sheltered from the cold weather and wind while they establish themselves.

We extend our thanks to the Council workers who came along and helped plant some of the trees. They returned the next week to help alongside the Gippsland Interchange crew.

Our July working bee spanned a whole day. On the Friday marking out of where holes were to be dug the following morning was

done. Bruce brought his excavator and dug around 50 holes ready for planting in the afternoon when the volunteers turned up, at or before, 12 noon.

One of the trees was planted behind the seat in memory of Steve Millet, a park volunteer who died.

Darren Chester Launches 2026 #LOVEGIPPSLAND Calendar Competition

Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester, is calling on Gippslanders to enter their best photographs capturing the iconic essence of the region in his newly launched 2026 #lovegippsland calendar competition.

This year marks the 14th edition of the local MP's well-loved annual photography competition, with prizes available for the best entries.

"I love Gippsland and this calendar showcases the best Gippsland has to offer, with 13 pictures chosen for the final version," Mr Chester said.

"This year's theme, 'Iconic Gippsland', will be a great opportunity for locals to share images of what they believe makes Gippsland such an iconic region, whether it's the coastline, rivers, lakes, mountains or a special building in a town you love.

I am continually amazed by the impressive standard and sheer number of entries my office receives each year, and I look forward to seeing a diverse array of submissions again this year."

More than 30,000 free copies of Mr Chester's #lovegippsland calendar will be available across Gippsland at the end of this year.

Entries close at 5pm on Friday, October 3, 2025, with a maximum of two entries per person.

The best three entries will receive a hamper of local products, and 13 photographs will be chosen to appear in the calendar, including the front cover.

To enter the #lovegippsland calendar competition, photos must be a minimum size of 4MB to a maximum of 10MB.

If photos are selected for



Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester has launched his 2026 #lovegippsland calendar competition with entries now open for Gippslanders to submit their best photo capturing the iconic essence

inclusion in the calendar, they must be available in a resolution of greater than 4MB at 300DPI.

Photos should be landscape-oriented as per the calendar's shape.

Entrants need to provide their name, hometown and contact details, plus a caption for their photo.

Visit www.darrenchester.com.au to enter or for more details.



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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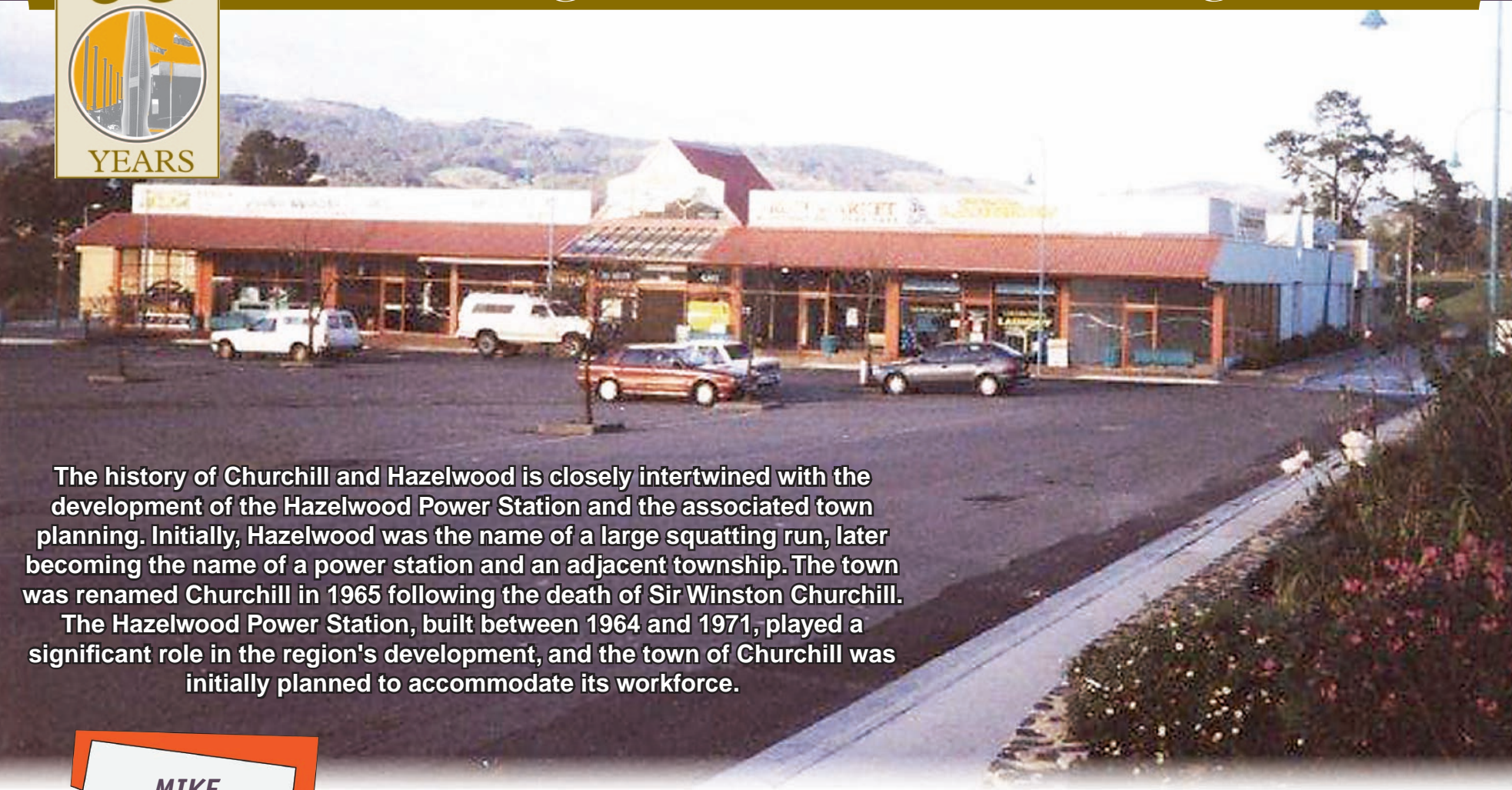
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Hazelwood Rotary Club



Celebrating Churchill's 60 Years



The history of Churchill and Hazelwood is closely intertwined with the development of the Hazelwood Power Station and the associated town planning. Initially, Hazelwood was the name of a large squatting run, later becoming the name of a power station and an adjacent township. The town was renamed Churchill in 1965 following the death of Sir Winston Churchill.

The Hazelwood Power Station, built between 1964 and 1971, played a significant role in the region's development, and the town of Churchill was initially planned to accommodate its workforce.

MIKE ANSWERTH LUMEN CHRISTI

Churchill was an artificially created town built by the Housing Commission of Victoria beginning in 1965. It initially became part of the Parish of Sacred Heart, Morwell, joining Boolarra and Yinnar which had been part of the Parish from the early 1900s.

With the emergence of the growing township of Churchill, the priests from Sacred Heart were required to say masses at all three centres as well as Morwell.

As early as 1966, a Catholic Men's Group formed under the leadership of a Scottish migrant by the name of Jack Higgins, and this group met monthly to discuss the future

Parish and to socialise. From this group, a Parish Development Committee was set up and worked closely with the Parish Priests of Sacred Heart, Monsignor Noel Daly (later

Bishop Daly) and Father Bill Caffrey, to obtain government funding for a new school in Churchill.

In 1977, Lumen Christi Parish, Churchill, was established and the Yinnar and Boolarra churches were transferred from Sacred

Heart, Morwell, to become part of the new Parish.

Father Jeremiah Coffey was the first Parish Priest of Lumen Christi and remained here for ten years. He later became Bishop of Sale from 1989 to 2008.

The Parish began with a task force of Josephite nuns teaching in the school, which was opened on February 14, 1977, as well as providing pastoral support to the Parish. The school quickly expanded, with a second stage of classrooms and resource areas added soon after opening.

The first Principal of the school was

Sister Maureen O'Kelly and other nuns were Sisters Bernadine Guinane, Sister Madeline White, and Sister Audrey Thompson.

The Sisters of St Joseph left the Parish in 1982.

The succeeding principals were: Mr Michael Dyson (1983-1992), Mrs Pat Bateman (1993-1994), Miss Denise McKenna (1995 - 2006), Mrs Catherine Blackford (2006 - 2012), Mrs Joanne Brewer (2013-2016), Mr Dave Cooper (2016 - 2022) and Mrs Sally Darby (2022 - current)

In 2027, the Parish and the school will celebrate their fiftieth anniversary.

NOELENE MARCHWIKI nee GRUNBERG

I was part of the local farming community out at Jeeralang Junction prior to the build up of Churchill. There was nothing out there. The Willatons ran the Post office on Junction Road and Amy Willaton ran the telephone exchange. We had a windup telephone and she would pick up and connect us to whatever number we wanted. As I was the oldest in the family, I used to go and collect the mail from Mrs Willaton, at night, after getting off the bus. While the world has moved forward, that was personal contact of the time and I miss that experience. I remember there was a fire once, at the farm, and it was just a matter of picking up the phone and screaming that there was a fire. Amy had Lindsay and Brian come up to the farm and everything was brought under control very quickly. We were somewhat isolated back then but you never felt that your neighbours would let you down.

When my parents sold their farm, they bought what had been a Display home in Walker Parade once it came on the market. They acquired the house and that is where

they lived till the end. It is still there today and the neighbours are the same but getting on in years. When the Churchill Pub opened my mum was the bar maid and she worked there for many, many years.

I left the area for work reasons but returned. When I married, my husband and I were one of the first residents in Blackwood Crescent. It was amazing because we had a brick veneer house and that was a big thing. I remember my mum and dad coming and saying how lucky we were to have such a house.

I could give you names of original people who were on farms. When I drive through Churchill, I still recall the farming areas, the people. Everybody knew each other and we helped each other. The Farleys, the Rowleys, I love the connection we have here in Churchill.

The Government of the day wanted Churchill to grow and prosper but it did not happen overnight. There were issues associated with social housing in the past but today you can visibly see the growth that is happening in the area.

I attended the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education. My youngest son and youngest daughter attended Monash University here in Churchill and have been very successful.

One of the houses in Blackwood Crescent was transformed into a Medical Clinic and we were very glad just to have it in Churchill.

They did not alter the configuration of the house too much and used the bedrooms as consulting areas and the laundry was used as the nursing area.

In its infancy, Churchill had a very young population and the original inhabitants struggled in those early days because there was not much here. I remember receiving child endowment of \$14 a fortnight and I often used that money to pay off lay-bys. There were no credit cards.

I remember a lady who lived on the corner of Glendonald Road and Monash Way and my Dad helped fix things for her. Tilly Drayton's original house does not look like it does now...it was very, very basic. She was the oldest person I knew when I was young and she had lived there all her life. She was amazing. She would chat to me about things. She used to carry water buckets and, if I ever went down there with dad, I would say I would help and she would say "No you won't. If you start helping me I will lose my strength."

My two younger brothers went to Hazelwood South Primary School along Monash Way. It was a little old white house which they converted into a school room. I remember being in the car with Dad, when Churchill was just a thought and there was a gate there to a farm that we passed (roughly about where the roundabout is now). My Dad was against the idea of a town but he commented that one day that gate

way would be the road that would drive you through this new town. He was not far wrong.

Once the first shopping centre was open for business there was not the need to travel to Morwell. The fountain, situated in the middle, sometimes had water coming out of it. There was a hardware store run by Fox's, a newsagency, a green-grocer, butcher, Koedyke's milk bar, chemist, Skinner's supermarket (they had originally come from Traralgon), and the very first hairdresser (Ann Lorraine's Salon).

I remember the hairdresser so well because I used to work there part time, an after-school job. Sometimes I would work on a Thursday but mostly on Friday and Saturday morning.

There was the hardware store, then Ollquist's chemist then the hairdresser. My mum worked for Koedyke's for quite some time and I worked at the milk bar on Sundays. Mr Koedyke had a dairy and he opened a milk bar on Switchback Road. The Brick family were a big part of the community and they lived in Fraser Crescent. Ross Ollquist was amazing. He encouraged Churchill to be the town it was becoming and what it was going to be in the future.

Obviously things have changed but I am glad that Churchill has grown. I love this place so much and, even though I have left it in the past, I never doubted that I would return. Churchill is part of me.

Celebrating Churchill's 60 Years



The history of Churchill and Hazelwood is closely intertwined with the development of the Hazelwood Power Station and the associated town planning. Initially, Hazelwood was the name of a large squatting run, later becoming the name of a power station and an adjacent township. The town was renamed Churchill in 1965 following the death of Sir Winston Churchill. The Hazelwood Power Station, built between 1964 and 1971, played a significant role in the region's development, and the town of Churchill was initially planned to accommodate its workforce.



BILL BROWN

Having arrived at our new home in Howard Avenue Churchill in 1966 as a young man with a wife and family, I recall six other families moving in the same day occupying the last available houses in our street.

This steady influx into Churchill, I believe, was due to the attractive housing packages offered by the Victorian Housing Commission at that time, which attracted young families to the town by providing an opportunity to buy a home at a reasonable cost.

There was no infrastructure or amenities available at that time except for the daily milk delivery by Mr. Koedyk. There were no buses, taxis, or other transport. Most families only had one car which was normally

used by the bread winner who was generally employed outside of the town.

Through necessity a strong community spirit developed in the town. This resulted in the early use of carpooling and broad support, where residents assisted each other coping with young children and other day-to-day needs.

This culture of support was particularly important in the early stages of Churchill's development because the young families moving into the town in that period had just bought new homes, were busy raising a family and establishing a new lifestyle that comes when you are thrust into a new community environment. It was a challenging and exciting time.

Within the first few years, Churchill

acquired a news agency, milk bar, post office and primary school. This was important because it allowed residents to educate their children and obtain the daily necessities from within the town and reduce the need for unnecessary travel to neighboring towns.

By 1975 the town continued to develop, my children were playing soccer, football, hockey, basketball, and tennis at facilities established in Churchill. My wife was employed at Exacto a business located in Churchill.

Due to privatisation, the ensuing closure of the SEC and other economic factors effected Churchills population, and it never reached the expected levels predicted at its inception, and as a result has remained static over the past 20 years. Unfortunately, a lot

of our youth had to leave the area to obtain employment. This was the case with my three children who moved to Melbourne.

I still reside in the same house and would not change it for the world. I have successfully raised a family and have been actively involved in several of Churchill's sporting and community organisations. I have proudly represented the town in several fields and have made numerous lifetime friends over the journey. I have witnessed Churchill grow from its earliest beginnings to a modern-day township that boasts a vibrant friendly community that has the facilities in place to satisfy and sustain much of our community's day-to-day needs.

As a Churchillian, I am honored to be one of the early residents of Churchill.

RUTH PLACE

I came to Churchill in 1977.

Mathison Park was a recently owned farm and cows still grazed in the paddocks. Blackberries grew in profusion. In the season a bucketful could be picked in no time.

The Glendonald Estate was developing with a section of homes owned by SEC personnel. In the early 80s, many homes were built and lots of people were located there from other places.

Schools enrolled many pupils, far more than today. The original buildings were in place.

There was clay and mud to contend with, as there was in other parts of Churchill.

Now we have the new buildings.

The old or original shopping centre was in place with shops filled and customers using their services.

The shopping centre had a fountain in the middle. Events were held there. Carols by Candlelight was one. Schools had choirs and

they performed at the Carols service.

Over the years many changes and additions have been done to our shopping area with Hazelwood Village being one of them.

The houses in the original part of Churchill had cared for gardens.

Community spirit was alive and well. It is still, but trying to get volunteers is a hard job now.

Advocacy for a health clinic produced the one on Philip Parade.

It was there that the Wattle Club for older citizens was held. The Lions Club began a Red Cross blood Bank in the community room. Now the PAG group meets there.

Another development was the HUB. It allowed a Latrobe City service centre to be in Churchill with its additional library facilities. The Neighbourhood Centre moved in as well as Pooh Corner now called Federation University Childcare centre. The Watson Park kinder was moved into the facility as well. Leaving only Glendonald Kinder still working

away from the Hub.

Hazelwood House was in full operation with a caring staff. Now empty and the future still unknown.

A small choir from the Neighbourhood Centre at the Leisure Centre sang Christmas Carols to the residents. Church services were held there monthly.

The fire station was located on the land at the corner of Wattle Crescent and Switchback Road. To raise funds they collected newspapers and bottles for sale. Then they moved to the new station in Philip Parade.

Things we no longer have are the very special building called the Binishell, part of the university grounds. Our bank has gone too. The florist is long gone. Our second supermarket is gone. There are some empty shops where once the shopping centres were filled.

One of the astounding observations for the present is the growing number of residential estates popping up with new houses.

CAROL SCOTT

We were excited to be able to buy a house with 100 pounds deposit. In those days you didn't qualify for Housing Commission homes unless you had children. We wanted a house before we started a family. Repayments were \$45 per month over 45 years.

Switchback Road was a single road with paddocks on the other side. Milk was delivered by Mr Koedyke, there were no shops.

I caught the bus to work in Morwell. Rev Arch delivered the Churchill News to each newly occupied house.

I think the doctor was at 2 Roy Court. The church was a house in McDonald Way- Brian was christened there.

Mr Tormey delivered briquettes. We watched the binishell go up at GIAE, commonly referred to as 'the Institute'.

There were carols in the new shopping centre.

We had paper garbage bags which the dogs loved.



Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



By Leo Billington

A short walk down memory lane – do you remember?

In March and August 1890, Morwell's business centre, largely hugging Commercial Road, was almost totally destroyed by fire. Weatherboard shops and offices were destroyed, Morwell's heart was literally gone. Ironically, there was general agreement that bricks would be a better option in rebuilding what was razed to the ground.

To give some perspective in our local history, about two years earlier, the Hazelwood North Mechanic Institute committee announced an opening date for their illustrious building – Thursday evening, May 24, 1888.

Promotion was far and wide, mainly heralded by 'The Gippsland Farmers' Journal' and Traralgon, Heyfield and Rosedale News in editorial on Thursday, April 26, 1888. "A grand concert will be given, with a ball to follow."

Such a big occasion, and particularly because it was the Queen's birthday, Queen Victoria was 69 on that same May date.



concert was held in the building. Mr Kelleher, president of the shire, performed the opening ceremony, and congratulated the district on the possession of such a fine building, which he said reflected great credit on the public spirit of the people of North Hazelwood, and was an evident proof of the wealth and prosperity of the district.

A very long program was gone through at the concert, encores being demanded in every case, and granted in most. It was past eleven o'clock before the performance closed by singing the National Anthem.

Where all were so good it

most efficient accompanist.

After the concert there was a ball, which, on account of the dark wet night, was not so well patronised as the concert. However, those who stayed thoroughly enjoyed themselves, as was evidenced by keeping it up till daylight.

I understand that after paying all expenses the committee will have a nice little sum to the credit of their funds."

Thus, the Hazelwood North Community Hall "began its life." Occasionally, I am asked about the hall's history, albeit it being born as a Mechanics' Institute, in Church Road, adjacent to the original state school building.

As has been written elsewhere, these Institutes apparently originated in Scotland early in the 1880's. Their establishment was aimed to educate those without formal schooling, mainly working-class men,

in technical subjects. The halls also hosted community events, concerts, and lending libraries.

Today, the Hazelwood North Community Hall, located opposite the state school on land donated by Charlie Jones and family, is a popular venue for a wide variety of community functions. Back in the day, the state school was a small building surrounded by a farm cyclone fence; safe child security was not an issue back then.

Charlie's brother, Harry Jones had a farm adjacent to today's Hazelwood South recreation reserve. With both Hazelwood community halls destroyed in the 1944 fires, there was a concerted effort to rebuild with government

financial assistance. In March 1947, a well-attended meeting agreed to buy about 12 acres, approximate cost £210, from Harry for use as a recreation oval, mainly for football games.

had been Rowe's office; occupied by T H Rowe & Co (General Agents) in Hotham Street. This rather temporary wooden building was destroyed by a lightning strike late in November

1950's provided temporary accommodation for newly arrived families fleeing war-torn Europe. Living conditions were tight.

While on the topic of temporary housing, on January 27, 1958, fire destroyed 11 CRB huts (Country Roads Board), on location at the corner of Spry and McDonald Streets.

Used by employees, these smallish dwellings were simple wooden huts. At least the depot manager's house escaped destruction and, years later, was shifted



In December 1948, armed with an insurance payout of £300 and some government money (£800), a new hall was eventually built next to the football/recreational oval. Those who lobbied for this hall believed Hazelwood North residents "could be invited to participate."

Well no. A building was found for Hazelwood North, an old building bought and moved from Traralgon. It

1959 (Traralgon Show Day). Locally organised working bees and some carpenters rebuilt a hall.

And to think a solid brick hall was erected at Hazelwood South!

While all this was happening outside Morwell, elsewhere at the Yallourn Camp, converted Nissen huts (a prefabricated steel structure originally for military use, especially as barracks) during the early

to a small acreage beyond Morwell.

Another photograph taken in mid 1950 from a front veranda of a house in Monash Street, Morwell gives a panoramic view of vacant land looking east. Although a faint photograph, trees bordering Waterhole Creek are quite visible. Today that whole area is covered with houses, being Bridle Estate and beyond.



The Gippsland Farmers' Journal and Traralgon, Heyfield and Rosedale News followed proceedings, reporting seven days later that:

"The Mechanics' Institute was opened in the evening, when a



Strzelecki Koalas and Common Wombats



The Strzelecki Koala and the Common Wombat: Similarities and Differences

Scientists think that the common ancestor of the koala and the wombat at some stage decided to make the most of the food source available in trees.

This ancestor evolved into the koala while the wombat became the species continuing to eat grasses, fungi, the leaves and bark on shrubs and mosses. (www.australian.museum “Bared Nosed Wombat. 20-6-25)

Because the koala and wombat evolved from the same ancestor and are marsupials, these animals have a lot in common. (www.bushheritage.org.au 20-6-25) Koalas and wombats have backward facing pouches to rear their joeys, live isolated lives except when mating and raising young, mark their territories, have poor eyesight, a good sense of smell, are mainly night feeders, have strong limbs and claws, sleep a lot and vocalise to warn off other

animals or to communicate with their young.(www.australian.museum “Bared Nosed Wombat. 20-6-25 www.bushheritage.org.au 20-6-25) The physiology of each species suits their habitats, food resources and life-style.

Both species have fur. However while the koala’s fur has two layers making the fur insulating and water proof, the wombat only has a single layer of fur. (iview series, “Wild Australians-Wombat” 20-6-25)

Therefore the wombat needs to have a water proof and warm shelter. Hence the wombat makes a burrow to live in. Burrows keep temperatures liveable and provide protection from wind and rain.

The koala’s body is suitable for climbing and curling in the fork of trees. The wombat’s body is designed to be good at digging and its burrow has many chambers and can be quite lengthy, maybe up to 90 metres. (iview series, “Wild Australians - Wombat” 20-6-25)

The burrow gives the wombat somewhere to sleep and for a female, somewhere to raise its joey. A female wombat will make a nest made of leaves and grass in one of the burrow’s chambers. This is the first place a young joey will explore when it starts to leave its mother’s pouch.

The burrow also provides protection from predators. A wombat will kill its predator by using its strong hard rump to crush an enemy against the roof or wall of the burrow. (lonepinekoalasantuary.com “Common Wombat” 18-6-25)

While the koala has adapted to eat exclusively the leaves from eucalyptus trees, the wombat has a more varied diet and can live in a variety of habitats from below the snow line to the ocean.

The wombat does not loose its teeth because they are continually growing. Therefore the wombat needs to eat tough grasses and bark to keep its teeth from becoming too elongated.

(www.bushheritage.org.au 20-6-25)

On the other hand, the koala’s teeth will wear down and scientists can estimate the age of a koala by the state of its teeth.

Both the koala and the wombat raise a single joey. The gestation period before birth of the hairless and sightless joey is longer for the koala. It is 33-35 days long while the wombat is shorter at 20-21 days. Both koala and wombat joeys attach to a teat and stay in the pouch.

Koalas start to leave the pouch at six to seven months while it is eight to nine months for the wombat joey.

Also the wombat’s joey relies on its mother’s milk about three months longer and is dependent on the mother for at least six months longer too.

(www.softschools.com ‘Wombat v’s Koala ‘ 18-6-25)

A female koala can reproduce yearly but a female wombat does so every two to three years. Both koalas and wombats

have a breeding season but a wombat is capable of breeding anytime throughout the year. The scent from a female’s cuboid scat will indicate to a male wombat when a female is ready for mating. (lonepinekoalasantuary.com “Common Wombat” 18-6-25)

Like the male koala, the male wombat chases the female at breeding time. Both species reach sexual maturity at two years of age (www.australian.museum) and the male is bigger in size than the female. (www.wildlife.vic.gov.au 20-6-25)

The life span of the koala is around 12 to18 years for a female and 10 years for a male. (www.softschools.com)

The wombat’s lifespan in the wild is about 15 years. In captivity the wombat can live up to 20 years. (www.wildlifevictoria.org.au“Our Wildlife Fact Sheet, The Common Wombat “20-6-25)

Since European settlement the lifespans of koalas and wombats are affected by introduced species and diseases as well as human activity. The viability of both species is greatly impacted by habitat

our help.

- Drive slowly in all bush areas and be alert for native animals crossing roads or grazing on road sides.

- Seek assistance from Wildlife Victoria if you see an injured or dead koala or wombat.

- Be a responsible pet owner by keeping dogs away from wildlife.

- Record sightings of wombats via WomSat (www.womsat.org.au) and Strzelecki koala sightings or koala scats to Anthony Amis at anthony.amis@foe.org.au

- Preserve, protect and plant native trees and habitat for wildlife.

- Join or support an organisation that helps wildlife like the Strzelecki Koala Action Team, a collective of Friends of the Earth Melbourne or the Wombat Protection Society of Australia.

Interesting Facts

Wombat scats (poo) are cubed shaped because a wombat has a slow digestive process which allows all the nutrients and water to be absorbed by its body. Wombats mark their territory with their poo. (www.bushheritage.org.au 20-6-25)



loss and the fragmentation of habitat. Because both species are very unique and important in the Australian landscape, more protection for the animals and their habitat is needed to prevent their extinction.

The Strzelecki koala and the common wombat need

Koala scats are pellet shaped and when fresh will smell of eucalyptus. The presence of koala scats indicate important food or shelter trees. Maybe a koala will be still in the above tree. (www.enviromant.nsw.gov.au ‘Koala Habitat’ 16-7-25)

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Hazelwood Cemetery

By Leo Billington
How people are remembered
and hopefully not forgotten

Years ago, it was believed that if information was on Google, then it was correct. Do not doubt Google. Do not doubt social media. In fact, do not do a fact check. Just swallow the lot, and swallow we do. Occasionally, articles telling aspects of local history are dropped from up on high with little or no thought given to accuracy. What matters if names, dates, and similar are wonky; as long as there is a story.

Historical accuracy matters a lot where cemeteries are concerned. Ageing headstones should be accurate. Bronze plaques are scrutinised for accuracy before being manufactured. Cemetery records, old and new are available for scrutiny, if anyone bothers. Families who know their family histories may be a source for those compiling family trees. But memories could be problematic.

Your scribe has been researching and writing local history for about 40 years. Still it is amazing what slips past, unchallenged, or even unquestioned. So we blame Mr Google. Ever so easy.

For example, a former historian quoted a second source of knowledge by writing that Morwell's Rowell Street was named after Morwell's first tailor. Unfortunately, that second source could not provide a Christian name.

To start with, when Caroline and Edwin George Thomas Rowell first arrived in Morwell in about July 1888, there were six children. When Caroline died in February, 1944, there were 10 children, and at least two were eventually employed as tailors. There may have been three.

Further still a partnership, Robinson and Harris, was advertising in 1888 as tailors, clothiers and outfitters. Their advertisements continued until about mid-1889 when Joseph Charles Robinson became the sole proprietor.

Mr John Yule conducted his tailoring business from Murdoch's Hotel in Commercial Road. He advertised quite regularly in 1893 and 1894, before selling out.

Fast forward several months, and in November 1892, Mr Edwin Rowell places his first advertisement, that he is now in business as a tailor with premises in Station Street, Morwell. Advertisements in the Morwell Advertiser under this business name continue

through to about 1899.

Relocating to Commercial Road from Station Street during 1899, about nine years later, advertisements were offering tailoring by E Rowell and Sons. This seems to be the business name until after Edwin's death late in December 1918. It is about December 1917 when Rowell Bros began advertising their tailoring skills. Another change in the business name occurred during 1939 when Rowell and Johnson became synonymous with fine tailoring.

By the early 1940's, Rowell and Johnson began to experience competition from others, focused on catering for local residents desirous to avail themselves of general menswear during wartime, and there afterwards.

Looking back at who may have been the sons of Edwin George Thomas Rowell, Howard Gordon Rowell was a tailor, Frank enlisted for war service in September 1915 giving his occupation as gardener, Alfred Edwin was a tailor, Ernest Gaston Rowell was a grocer and Benjamin, when he enlisted also for war service, gave his occupation as carter.

It is reasonable to conclude that E Rowell and Sons was a family business consisting of Edwin George, and sons Howard Gordon and Alfred Edwin. Daughter Emily was employed as a tailoress until her marriage and moving to Essendon to live. Rowell Brothers would be Howard Gordon and Alfred Edwin.

No doubt, the Rowell family business was important from the late 1890's until World War 2. To remain in business all those years, about 48 years at least, is a massive achievement, perhaps warranting a street name.

Some write the Rowell business was located between the newsagency and the State Savings Bank. An accompanying photograph shows (only just) some letters of the Rowell shop being alongside the Australasian Bank (building still remains). This is almost directly opposite today's Latrobe City Council offices.

Howard Gordon Rowell lived in a beautiful house at 278 Commercial Road, with other family members living close-by.

Mary Louisa and her husband, Howard Gordon Rowell are buried in the Hazelwood Cemetery, unfortunately with a difficult-to-read headstone. A short distance away is a

Rowell family plot holding Edwin George Thomas Rowell, his wife Caroline and their daughter, Carrie.

Somewhat carelessly, and lack of attention to detail, the Rowell family plot is listed in Hazelwood Cemetery records as being marked (presumably with name or headstone or similar). However as the accompanying photograph shows, this is not correct. A sheet of concrete covers what is actually a valuable piece of Morwell's history.

It is so easy to avoid research; just plonk historical items on social media and it is all so true. Well, it is not.

While commenting on facts, it is true the Hazelwood Cemetery Trust has received state government funding to enable work designed to

effectively drain an area affectionately tagged "Lake Presbyterian". When heavy rainfall bothers us, the naturally formed dish shaped area literally becomes a large

pond. Cosmetically, it is not a picturesque scene, particularly afterwards when water - sodden ground is a public health and safety hazard.

Another true fact, the



Rose Garden Festival to return in full bloom in 2025



Latrobe City Council is pleased to announce the International Rose Garden Festival Morwell will return on November 7 and 8, 2025, featuring all our festival favourites.

This is the eighth year of the festival and the seventh with major partner AGL Loy Yang. The free community event will shine a light on the Rose Garden, which features over 4,000 roses that receive over 6,000 hours of care each year by dedicated Friends of the Rose Garden volunteers.

As part of the festival, ABC Gardening Australia host, and crowd favourite Costa Georgiadis will judge the cut rose competition on the Saturday.

Over the weekend there will be plenty of entertainment for the whole family including stalls, workshops, talks, live music, children's activities, food trucks and Devonshire tea – complete with famous CWA scones.

On Saturday, enjoy a performance from dirtgirl, scrapboy and Costa the Garden Gnome.

Latrobe City Council Mayor, Councillor Dale

Harriman, encouraged people to mark the Rose Garden Festival in their calendars now.

"The Rose Garden Festival is always a highlight on our events calendar and draws in a fantastic crowd each year," said the Mayor.

The "Friends of the Rose Garden" volunteers play a key role in ensuring the gardens are expertly maintained and presented ahead of the festival, allowing them to be enjoyed by all.

We look forward to welcoming people back again this year to experience all the rose garden festival has to offer – I highly recommend it for all ages!"

Among the highlights of this year's festival are night light displays from 6.30pm to 9.30pm, complemented by roving performances and pop-up attractions supported by AGL Loy Yang.

"AGL Loy Yang is proud to continue our long-standing support of the International Rose Garden Festival Morwell in 2025. This event brings people together from across the region, supporting local tourism, fostering community pride,

and contributing to the local economy," said Christo van Niekerk, General Manager AGL Loy Yang.

"We are excited to bring back the AGL Night Lights Installation again this year. It is a highlight for many visitors and a symbol of how innovation and art can brighten our shared spaces.

We commend the Friends of the Rose Garden, Latrobe City Council and all the volunteers who make this event possible. Their dedication ensures Morwell remains home to one of the most beautiful rose gardens in Australia."

Entry to the festival is free, ensuring accessibility to all members of the community. Visitors are encouraged to explore Morwell and its surrounding attractions, making it a weekend of discovery and leisure.

Keep up to date by visiting the International Rose Garden Festival Morwell website www.irgfm.com.au and subscribe to the festival newsletter.

The event has been made possible thanks to the support from AGL Loy Yang.

By Andy Gergis Churchill Discount Pharmacy Winter Depression

Many people feel a bit "down" during the colder months, but for some, winter brings more serious symptoms of depression. This condition is called Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), and it is linked to reduced sunlight during winter. Less daylight can affect your body's internal clock and lower levels of serotonin and melatonin—chemicals that help regulate mood and sleep.

People with winter depression often feel tired, sad or hopeless. They may lose interest in things they once enjoyed, eat more (especially crave carbs), gain weight or have trouble sleeping. It is important to know that this is a real medical

condition and not just the "winter blues."

There are several ways to manage and treat winter depression:

1. Get more light: Try to spend time outdoors during daylight hours. Even sitting near a sunny window can help. Light therapy lamps, which mimic natural sunlight, are also effective for many people.

2. Stay active: Regular exercise boosts mood by increasing feel-good chemicals in the brain. A brisk walk or home workout can make a difference.

Health Hints

3. Connect with others: Isolation can worsen depression. Make plans with friends or family, even if it's just a short chat.

4. Eat well: A balanced diet supports mental health. Avoid too much sugar and refined carbs.

5. Seek professional help: If symptoms persist, talk to your doctor. Treatments like counseling, cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), or medication can help.

Remember, you are not alone. With the right steps, winter depression can be managed and treated.

Harriet Shing MP

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

TEXTILE RECYCLING BINS AT THE MORWELL TRANSFER STATION ARE BACK!

Accepted items

- Clothing in any condition (NO underwear or socks)
- Footwear (pairs and odds)
- Accessories (bags, hats, belts, jewellery)
- Towels and sheets

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



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TUESDAY

STEAK NIGHT

\$25.00

300gm sirloin with chips & salad

5.30pm – 8pm

with Noelene

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



What do you know?

Here are the answers to last month's challenge:

1. Tisane.
2. Toss.
3. Tiramisu.
4. Tapenade.
5. Tannin.
6. Tapas.



Here is my challenge for you this month:

1. Paper thin sheets of dough made from rice flour and then dried stiff?
2. Sweet amber coloured wine made from glutinous rice?
3. A small pasta, shaped like rice grains?
4. A meal where roast meat is served?
5. Eggs of fish and shellfish?
6. Choice cut of beef taken from over the hip bone?

Almond flour – useful facts



Almond flour is gluten free.

Almond flour is not a direct substitute for wheat flour, only use it in tried and tested recipes, meaning do not just substitute almond flour for wheaten flour in a recipe, it will not work.

For best results with almond flour, keep it stored in a sealed container in the refrigerator.

Do not pack heavily down when measuring almond flour in your measuring cup, just scoop in and level off.

Allow baked goods to cool completely before removing from cooking pans, to avoid them falling apart.

Almond flour is not the same as almond meal, almond flour is finely ground, skinless and blanched almonds.

Almond meal is coarser than almond flour as it is made from ground whole almonds with the skins on.

I had to purchase almond flour recently and I really commend the McKenzie's flour for the useful information on using almond meal in cooking/ baking, printed on the back of their package.

Baked potatoes with salmon and peas



Ingredients

4 large potatoes unpeeled (1.2kg), 60 gm of frozen peas, 120gm of sour cream, 100gm of sliced smoked salmon, chopped coarsely. Preheat your oven to 160 deg C.

I use sebago potatoes. Wash unpeeled potatoes under running water and dry with paper towelling. Pierce potato skins with a fork/ skewer, wrap each potato in foil. Bake for an hour or until tender. Meanwhile, boil or steam peas until tender, drain. Increase your oven oven temperature to 220 deg C. Remove potatoes from the oven, fold back the foil halfway. Slice 1 cm off across the whole potato. Discard the sliced off piece. Now carefully use a teaspoon to scoop out the flesh from the potatoes, leaving a thin border and the skins intact. In a medium bowl mash the potato flesh with the sour cream until almost smooth. Stir in peas and salmon. Divide the mixture between the potato shells. Place the filled potato shells on a lined oven tray and bake in the preheated oven for 10 minutes or until lightly browned.

Successful eggs – here's how!



Anyone can boil an egg or can they?

To prevent the egg from cracking, use eggs at room temperature.

Soft boiled eggs

Simmer the eggs in gently bubbling water to avoid the risk of the shell cracking in roughly boiling water. Simmer the eggs in the simmering water for 1 minute, then remove the pan/ pot from the heat and cover with a lid and leave for 5 minutes.

Hard boiled eggs

Place the eggs in cold water and gently bring to the boil, then simmer for 8 minutes. Then place the cooked eggs in cold water to prevent discolouration of the yolk. To remove the shells from boiled eggs simply tap the shells and peel away.

Scrambled eggs

There is no need to add cream or milk to get a soft creamy mixture. Simply melt 1 tbs of butter/ marg in medium saucepan/ pan and melt over a medium low heat. Pour in 2 well beaten and seasoned eggs and stir with a wooden spoon. Keep the heat low to avoid sticking. Remove the pan/ pot from the heat while the mixture is still slightly liquified and add another knob of butter/ marg into the still warm pan/ pot. Done!

Fried eggs

For best results use vegetable oil as butter/ marg tends to burn and brown. Use enough oil to just cover the base of the pan. Fry eggs gently over a medium heat, basting every so often with the oil. Cook until eggs have firm whites and soft yellow yolks or as you like your fried eggs.

Poached eggs

Half fill a shallow pan with water with the addition of a little vinegar and a small amount of salt to encourage the egg white to set. Bring the water to a gentle simmer. Break the eggs separately into a cup and carefully pour into the simmering water, repeating this process with each egg. Cook the eggs for 3 minutes or longer depending on your preference. You thought you knew all there was to cooking eggs. Eggs are amazing!!! Just 2 eggs give us a day's worth of vitamin B12, which helps our bodies to produce red blood cells, keeping us awake and alert, perfect for breakfast.

Zucchini, creamed corn and bacon soup



Ingredients

1 tbs of canola/rice bran oil, 40gm of butter/ marg, 1 medium sized onion coarsely chopped, 300gm of chopped bacon pieces, 4 medium sized zucchini, coarsely chopped, 2 x 400gm cans of creamed corn, 1 x 400gm can of whole kernel corn drained, 2 tbs of ground fennel, 2 tbs of minced garlic, 2 cups of chicken stock, 2 cups of vegetable stock, 180 ml of evaporated milk.

Heat the butter and oil in the base of your slow cooker. Heat on high, add the onion and bacon pieces, zucchini, creamed corn kernels, seasonings and stock. Cover and cook for 6 hours on high. Turn your slow cooker off and stir through the evaporated milk and season with cracked black pepper. I serve this with crusty garlic bread.

Peanut butter and chocolate truffles



Ingredients

80ml of thickened cream, 200gm of eating chocolate, coarsely chopped, 70 gm of crunchy peanut butter, 110 gm of granulated nuts.

Place the granulated nuts into a small bowl or spread over a dinner plate. Combine the cream and chocolate in a small saucepan, over a low heat until smooth. Stir in the peanut butter. Transfer to small glass bowl, cover and refrigerate for 3 hours. Now, at this point, roll rounded teaspoons of the truffle mixture into balls and then roll in the granulated nuts. Return to the refrigerator until the truffles are firm. These are delicious.

Vale Peter Russell-Clarke

July 4, 2025

A country boy who had no formal secondary education, who went on to become a chef, an author, a TV presenter long before it was necessary to be pretentious and self obsessed to be a success.

Peter Russell-Clarke was a witty, caring chef who promoted the use of simple fresh ingredients, who shared recipes with the community which could be easily reproduced in the home

kitchen. Some time ago I was very fortunate to acquire a copy of Peter Russell- Clarke's Food Encyclopedia from Churchill's Lifeline shop.

I feel really honoured to have been influenced by the written words of the likes of Peter Russell- Clarke and the late Margaret Fulton.



We walked the Kokoda Trail . . . from Page 1



Churchill Braves U13s – A Season of Growth, Grit and Great Mateship

The Churchill Braves Baseball Club is celebrating a record-breaking year in its Under 13s program, fielding 20 players — the largest U13 group in club history.

With nine new recruits joining a solid core from the 2024 season, the club has taken great strides in creating an environment where every player gets the chance to play, grow and thrive.

To support the increased numbers, Churchill entered two teams in the Latrobe Valley Baseball Association competition — the Churchill Green and Churchill Gold — named after the club's proud colours. Players were split thoughtfully between teams, with coaches considering experience, friendships, and school links to help build a fun and inclusive culture.

Importantly, the club is proud to have five girls playing across the two teams — a reflection of its

Churchill & Monash Golf Club

Men's Monthly Medal (Stroke) Saturday June 28, 2025.

A Grade and Medal Winner: R. Dent 70 Nett B Grade Winner: D. Cluderay 73 Nett C Grade Winner: B. Cluderay 74 Nett Scratch Winner: R. Dent 79. Putts: T. Webb 26 D.T.L: 1. D. Byers 75, 2. P. Smart 75, 3. Adam West 75, 4. T. Webb 75, 5. G. Barnes, 6. R. King 79, 7. G. Sanders 79, 8. P. Kearns 79, 9. S. Caldwell 79 N.T.P: 3rd T. Webb (Propin), 5th J. Cahill, 12th R. Dent, 14th R. Madigan Birdies: 12th R. Dent, T. Webb, G. Sanders, 14th R. Madigan. Target Hole: Adam West

Women's Mont.hly Medal (Stroke) Tuesday July 1, 2025.

Medal Winner: Chis Stevens 80 Nett D.T.L: C. Carder 82 Nett. Putts: J. Blizzard 28 N.T.P: 3rd M. Dear, 5th V. Reid, 12th M. Dear.

Stableford Saturday July 5, 2025.

A Grade Winner: R. Harvey 35 pts B Grade Winner: P. Bolding 35 pts

C Grade Winner: M. Lugton 39 pts D.T.L: 1. P. Kearns 35, 2. K. Barnes 34, 3. M. Harvey 33, 4. J. Cahill 32, 5. P. McGann 32, 6. R. Noordam 32, 7. D. Cluderay 32, 8. G. Barnes 32, 9. S. Turner 31 N.T.P: 3rd R. Madigan, 12th D. Radnell (Propin), 14th R. Dent Birdies: 12th P. Kearns,



strong commitment to being a welcoming and inclusive sporting community.

Coaching with Care

Veteran coach Gregg Duncan returned for his ninth consecutive year at the helm of Churchill's U13 program, taking charge of the Gold team. A current A Grade player and multiple-time junior LVBA rep coach, Gregg brings experience and

a passion for developing young players both on and off the field.

Joining him this year is Jonah Hughes, a fresh face in the coaching ranks who has already made his mark leading the Green team. Jonah makes the weekly commute from Melbourne and brings a calm, positive approach. In 2024 he served as Assistant Coach for the LVBA U14 State Winter Championship team and is passionate about helping kids improve their skills and confidence.

Green vs Gold – Club Spirit on Display

This season introduced a special four-game Green vs Gold derby series, with Churchill's two sides going head-to-head in friendly match-ups full of laughter, skill-building, and club pride. With a unique Saturday afternoon time slot, the games created a fun and supportive club atmosphere for players and families alike.

So far, three derbies have been played, with Churchill playing Churchill on a Saturday afternoon at Andrews Park West, home of the Braves. The real wins have come from personal milestones — first hits, first strikeouts, first time on the mound — and the joy of playing alongside friends while wearing the Braves colours. The emphasis has always been on sportsmanship, fun, and development.

Player Spotlight – Moments that matter

With 20 players across our Green and Gold teams, it has been a season full of milestones, laughs, and learning. Here is what some of our U13s had to say about their favourite parts of baseball and what they have achieved this season:

Finn B, in his first season with Churchill, says the best part is "getting to see my friends have fun." A highlight for Finn was

catching a ball that flew high into the air. He enjoys pitching the most because it helps him test his accuracy, and he is proud of how much he has improved his hitting.

Hunter D, a seasoned player with eight years under his belt, loves hitting — especially when it counts. One of his proudest moments was hitting a walk-off single at the LV U15 State Winter Championships to send his team into the grand final. As a catcher, he enjoys calling the game and throwing runners out, and he has found plenty of joy in hitting home runs this year.

Hudson D, also in his eighth year, enjoys base running and stealing bases the most. His biggest achievement this year was training with the U14 Melbourne Rangers representative side. He has worked hard on his hitting, especially after training with Major League player Aaron Whitefield, and recalls a funny moment where a hit bounced off second base and sent the fielders in the wrong direction.

Paige M, in her second year, says her favourite part of baseball is supporting her teammates and getting a fair go at both hitting and fielding. Her batting and fielding have come a long way this season, and she is proud of the confidence she has built — including getting her first hit.

Roy W, now in his third year with Churchill, loves pitching and the variety it brings. He came close to hitting a home run this season and has been happy with his improved batting average. For Roy, training has been even more enjoyable this year with a bigger group of players to learn and laugh with.

Murphy G, a four-year club player, says he just enjoys the game — especially playing with mates. He has taken on the

role of starting pitcher and feels he has improved at it this season. Scoring runs and helping his team has been a fun and rewarding part of his year.

Luna B, is only halfway through her first season but is already making her mark. She enjoys fielding and says shortstop has been a favourite position because it is interesting and fast-paced. She is especially proud of her catching skills and laughs about "getting home" and the funny conversations between teammates.

Jack G, is another first-year player who loves supporting his team and playing a good game. He has already hit a home run and enjoys playing third base, where he gets to tag runners and make big plays. He has also enjoyed the Thursday night training matches and mini competitions.

Keiran S, now in his second year, enjoys playing catcher and getting involved in both Churchill teams. He is proud of getting close to a home run this year and has worked hard on improving his catching. A fun memory for Keiran is watching Huddy's entertaining base running.

Beau S, who joined the club at the start of the 2024 season, says he has enjoyed learning new skills and making friends. He has been proud of pitching strikes during games and has improved his hitting — especially when it helps advance runners. His favourite part? That feeling when you get a good hit.

Zack H, now in his fifth season, has had an incredible start to the year — going 13 for 13 at the plate. He loves playing shortstop for the action it brings and says his batting has come a long way. One of his favourite memories is watching Huddy's base running antics during games.



Jake H, also in his fifth year, loves the teamwork and how the players celebrate each other's success. He was thrilled to hit a double this season and enjoys playing first base for all the action it brings. Like his teammate, he had a laugh when Huddy pretended Jake's pitch knocked him over — even though he caught it.

Ollie Mc, new to the game and just four games into his baseball journey, says he is loving the process of learning and discovering how much fun the sport is. For Ollie, simply starting something new is a big achievement. He plays right field and feels he is already improving with every practice. One of his highlights? Watching big hits sail so far they almost reach the cars!

Nicholas S, in his third season, says his favourite part is getting to play with friends. He is especially proud of how much he has improved at catching and enjoys first base for the reflex challenge it brings. A highlight for him was getting thrown into the catcher position unexpectedly — and rising to the occasion.

As we can see from the Player Spotlight, the growth of the Braves U13 program has opened up more opportunities than ever — with more kids getting to experience pitching, catching, and learning all aspects of the game. Baseball at Churchill is truly inclusive, where friendships are formed, new players are welcomed, and every child is supported to improve at their own pace.

Whether you are brand new to the sport or have played for years, baseball teaches patience, resilience, teamwork, and the value of learning from mistakes. Our U13s are already showing signs of leadership — running their own warm-ups, helping coach bases, and even stepping up to umpire the U10 games.

More than just a game, baseball builds confident kids and strong communities. The Churchill Baseball Club is proud to be a welcoming local sports option for any child looking to try something new, challenge themselves, and be part of a team that supports one another on and off the field.

Thank You to Our Braves Family

SCHOOL news

Churchill North Primary

CNPS Choir shines at the Big Sing

We are excited to share that our school had the incredible opportunity to take part in the Big Sing!

At the end of Term 1, the CNPS Choir submitted an application to be part of this special event — and we were thrilled to find out that we were successful! Our school was awarded 24 places to join 240 other students from across Gippsland, on stage for a spectacular combined performance.

We are especially grateful to our wonderful choir teacher, Mrs. Campbell, who gives us the chance to take part in amazing events like this. She works so hard every year to run choir, giving up her time to support us and help us improve. We feel very lucky to have a choir teacher like her who makes opportunities like the Big Sing possible for us.

In preparation for this big event, we practised every Friday at lunchtime throughout Term 2. We worked really hard to learn six songs and to master the different harmonies needed to make them sound great. It was not always easy, but we kept practising and made sure we knew how to sing

as a group and how to stand properly to get the best sound. We also learned the importance of listening to each other and working as a team to create one strong choir voice.

When the big day finally arrived, we took a bus to the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre in Traralgon and spent the entire day there. Accompanied by a live band, the choir captivated the audience with dynamic renditions of popular songs including 'Stand By Me', 'Better When I'm Dancing', and the iconic Australian anthem 'You're the Voice'. We practised our songs together with students from many other schools and were shown where to stand and where to move on and off the stage. Caroline and Bec, the event leaders, explained everything clearly. They showed us where to meet, what not to touch backstage, and even pointed out the alarm on stage that we had to make sure we did not bump into!

One of the most exciting moments for our school was that Quinton was chosen to sing a solo section during the performance. He did an amazing job and made us all so proud. It was very special

to see someone from our own choir step forward and lead part of the song.

After a full day of rehearsals, we went home for a quick rest and returned that evening for the big performance. On the night, we all proudly wore our Big Sing t-shirts and gathered together in the dressing room, where we took deep breaths, supported each other, and got ready to step onto the stage.

It was an incredible feeling to perform in front of such a big audience, including our families, teachers, and friends. Seeing so many familiar faces in the crowd made us feel welcome, proud, and very special. It was also wonderful to meet students from other schools and to sing alongside them, especially when we recognised some friends from outside school who were also part of the show.

We are so grateful to have been given this amazing opportunity and will remember the Big Sing as a highlight of our school year.

By Lilly, Ash, Elizabeth and Ebony

Author Visit

On Monday June 30, Nicky Johnston visited

Churchill North Primary School where she shared her literature, illustrations, and artwork. She captivated the students with readings from her latest books, sharing insights into her illustrations. Nicky read

'Jorn's Magnificent Imagination' to the Grade 3-6's. Jorn's story is about embracing dreams, believing in your own abilities, and the power of new ideas. It was written in honour of the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Sydney Opera House. After listening to the story, the students got the opportunity to draw the Sydney Opera House.

On Monday June 30, the whole school at CNPS had the exciting opportunity to visit Nicky Johnston, an author and illustrator who writes children's books. Some of her well-known stories include the 'Coco' series, 'Jorn's Magnificent Imagination', and 'Brave Danny', which she read to us. Nicky shared stories about her life and how she became an author. She told us that she used to be a senior art teacher, but after having four children, she decided to start creating books with other authors and illustrators. During the

visit, Nicky taught us how to draw the Sydney Opera House in a fun and creative way. We started by drawing it upside down, and when we flipped it over, it looked just like the real Sydney Opera House! She also explained who built the Opera House and told us about Jorn Utzon, the architect. In 'Jorn's Magnificent Imagination', we learned how Jorn was inspired by the shapes of orange peels, which helped him create his famous design. Nicky also showed us a time-lapse video of her drawing a picture for one of her books. The drawing was of a newspaper factory, and it was full of detailed shading and beautiful colours. She gave us a tour of her art studio through photos and even shared pictures of her own children.

At the end of the visit, Nicky kindly gave out autographs. Our School Captains thanked her for coming to CNPS, for sharing her stories, showing us her studio and artwork, and teaching us how to draw the Sydney Opera House. It was an inspiring visit that we will always remember.

By Jaden and Gypsy, 5/6C

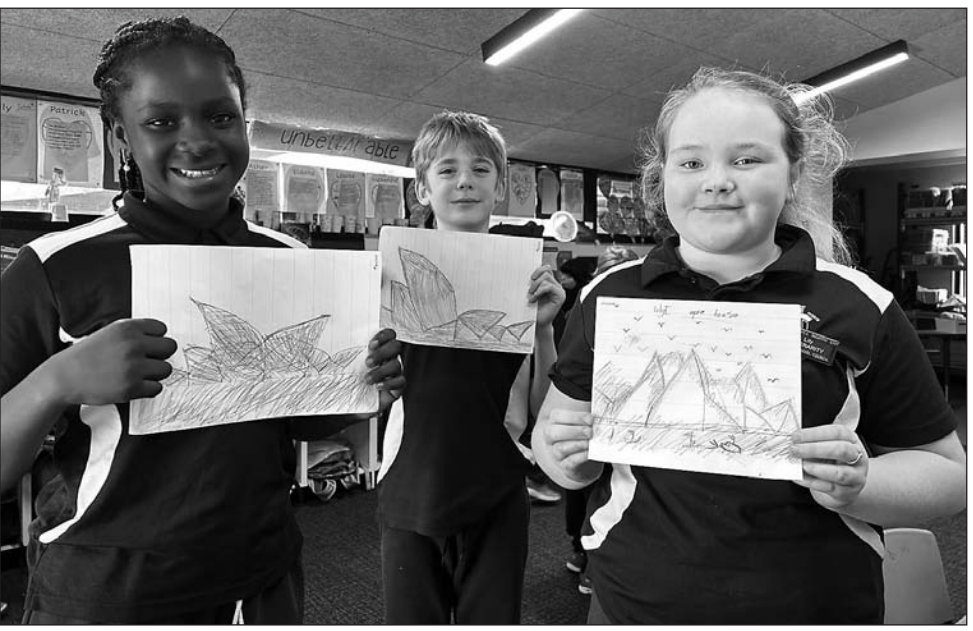
Melody — I liked that I

got to draw the squiggly lines for the Mr Squiggle drawing, Riley — we drew a bunny from one of Nicky's books,

Caden — That I got to press the buttons when Nicky read 'Finding Bunny',

Lilly — I like the drawings, and we learned how to draw and use our imagination.

Nicky Johnston is an award-winning author and illustrator of over forty books for children including 2023 Shortlisted book 'Jorn's Magnificent Imagination', 2022 Honor book 'Amira's Suitcase' and 2022 Speech Pathology book of the Year 'The Incredibly Busy Mind of Bowen Batholomew Crisp'. Nicky's illustration style is often described as whimsical, playful, narrative, emotive and colourful. She loves to work in watercolour, ink, pencils, pastel, and printing techniques. Her illustration workshops are fun, engaging and give students hands-on success at all levels. She shares her love of visual storytelling and inspires the students to stretch themselves. She is passionate about working with young children, encouraging them to use their imagination and develop their own ideas.



SCHOOL news

Churchill Primary

2026 Prep enrolments

Enrolments for students in Foundation in 2026 are now open. If you would like a school tour, please contact the school on 5122 1343 to make an appointment.

We are excited to welcome our 2026 Prep students to our Ready, Set, Prep! Transition Program. This program is aimed at supporting your child to have a smooth

transition to school for a confident and happy start. The program started in week 2 and continues throughout Term 3 and 4. Please see the schedule below:

Term 3

Wednesday August 27 – 2.15 to 3pm

Wednesday September 10 – 2.15 to 3pm

Term 4

Wednesday October 15 – 2.15 to 3pm

Wednesday October

29 – 2.15 to 3pm

Wednesday November 12 – 2.15 to 3pm

Wednesday November 26 – 2.15 to 3pm

Statewide Transition Day – Wednesday December 9 - 9am to 11am

Come and see our friendly staff at the office for an enrolment pack or more information.



SCHOOL news

Hazelwood North Primary

At Hazelwood North Primary School, we have had a number of exciting things happening to end Term 2. 5/6M held an Inquiry Showcase to celebrate and share their learning with the school, their families and the local community. The CFA attended to run a live burnable demonstration, Barwon Coffee Co Trafalgar provided delicious food and drinks, WIN News attended (and we had a segment broadcast on Friday July 4) and the 5/6 students shared their projects. We also held a raffle to raise money for the CFA and an 'ice the staff member' contest.

Mr Atherton was a very good sport when he was voted by the students to get iced and was thankful that the sun came out a little! We also said farewell to a much-loved staff member as she enters into retirement – Kaye Stockdale. Kaye has been at our school for nearly 30 years as a parent and an employee and worked tirelessly to ensure that our school was a wonderful place to work and learn! A lovely morning tea was held to give Kaye a proper farewell and our library has been named in her honour. We wish her all the best and we hope that she still pops in from time to

time! NAIDOC week was celebrated in the last week of Term 2 as it falls during the school holidays. Students were able to rotate through a range of activities including biscuit decorating, learning about indigenous symbols and playing games. Performing Arts kicked off in Term 2 with students engaging in a range of fun and interactive activities that included dress-ups, performing a range of plays and singing songs. We have loved seeing the students step outside their comfort zones and try something new.



NAIDOC Week biscuit decorating - Scarlett, Tommy, Spencer, Vipa and Adalynbw



NAIDOC Week activities - Isobel, Lenny, Blake and Hunter



CFA Burn Table demo



Kaye Stockdalebw



Performing Arts - Chase, Isaiah and Hughbw



Chloe and Memphis - Inquiry Showcase about Bushfiresbw

SCHOOL news

Yinnar South Primary

Yinnar South Primary kicks off term 3 with NAIDOC Week, authors, and tree planting. Yinnar South Primary School students returned to school with a full calendar of meaningful and exciting

activities, celebrating culture, literacy, and the environment. The week began with a focus on NAIDOC Week, where students learned about and honoured Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

cultures and histories. Classrooms were filled with hands-on activities, including baking traditional damper, and creating a vibrant NAIDOC-inspired hopscotch game that combined art, movement,

and cultural symbols. Midweek, students embarked on an excursion to Elizabeth Street, where they had the special opportunity to meet Australian author George Ivanoff, best known for his 'You Choose'

adventure books. The visit sparked plenty of curiosity and excitement among young readers, many of whom left feeling inspired to write their own stories. To finish the week,

Yinnar South students participated in National Tree Planting Day at Gaskin Park in Churchill. Armed with gloves and shovels, they enthusiastically helped plant native trees to support local biodiversity.

SCHOOL news

NAIDOC Week Celebrations

NAIDOC Week was celebrated across all Kurnai campuses. At the University Campus, we came together as a community to honour and recognise the history, culture, and achievements of First Nations People. The theme for this year's celebration is 'The Next Generation; Strength, Vision and Legacy' marking fifty years of celebrating NAIDOC.

To mark the occasion, staff and students shared a communal lunch featuring kangaroo sausages and a delicious selection of desserts prepared by our VCE Food Technology students under the guidance of their teacher, Gemma Finney.

Special thanks to Ashley Mayer from the Education Support team and the students who helped with the BBQ and serving. The desserts were prepared with a range of indigenous foods, such as lemon myrtle and finger lime cupcakes and wattle seed cookies. The strawberry gum pavlovas were particularly delicious.

Live music from the Kurnai College Band added

a festive atmosphere to the event. We extend a special thank you to Chris Gretton, our Music Coordinator, for organising the performances.

In the gym, students participated in games of Marngrook — traditional Indigenous football — using a possum-skin ball. These games involved both First

Nations and non-Indigenous students, celebrating culture and inclusion through sport.

We were also pleased to welcome community partners who joined us for the celebration and lunch.

Meanwhile, students in the Victorian Pathways Certificate program had the opportunity to cook



Kurnai University Campus



Johnny Cakes during a cultural cooking session led by Christine Johnson, a GunaiKurnai woman and Education Engagement Officer with the Smith Family, and Hollie Johnson, a GunaiKurnai and Monero Ngarigo woman and Koorie Support Worker at Kurnai.

Christine explained that

Johnny Cakes, a type of damper, have long been a traditional food—enjoyed on family camping trips and widely used on missions such as Lake Tyers. Student Madeline described her Johnny Cake as tasting like fresh bread, while her classmate Caleb thought it tasted more like a pancake.

A heartfelt thank you to all staff, students, and community members who contributed to making this year's NAIDOC celebrations such a success. Special thanks to Marina Cooper, our Koorie Student Wellbeing staff member, for her vital role in supporting the event.



SCHOOL news

At Yinnar Primary School, we are proud to be continuing our whole-school commitment to the Resilience Project in 2025. Each week, our students and teachers take part in engaging lessons focused on building positive mental health and wellbeing through the core principles of GEM – Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness. Many of our lessons this term have centred around Gratitude – the practice of noticing and appreciating the good things we have in our lives right now. Whether it's a kind friend, a sunny day, a delicious lunch, or a helpful adult, students are encouraged to take a moment to reflect on what they are

thankful for.

Prep News

We have been playing several different card games in mathematics to build fluency with ordering numbers and recognising pairs of numbers that make ten. One of our favourites is 'Pairs to Ten', a video of this game can be found with a Google search for 'Pairs to Ten Michael Minas'. This simple game only requires a pack of regular playing cards and will help your child build automaticity with recognising pairs of numbers that make ten. You might like to play this at home with your child. Michael Minas has a website called Love Maths and there are lots of different games to

play at home to practise and consolidate early numeracy skills. The Prep Learners have also been looking at other numbers in two parts and enjoyed looking at part-part-totals on dominos. We have been learning about the numbers in between 10 and 20, learning to read, write, represent and count collections with accuracy. The students have been motivated to practise these skills by using hands-on materials, the Beebot robots and by being allowed to write on the tables with whiteboard markers!

Max Biocare Forensic Science Grade 3/4

Our Grade 3 and 4 students had the opportunity to visit the Max Biocare

Institute right here in Yinnar and learn about the world of forensic science. The students had a fabulous day viewing samples under a microscope, taking fingerprints and conducting small experiments in a safe and well equipped environment.

Division Football and Netball

Our students qualified for the Division Football and Netball which was recently held in Traralgon. The teams played really well and displayed good sportsmanship.

Simultaneous Storytime

On Wednesday May 21, we all listened to the National Simultaneous Storytime story for this year

Yinnar Primary

called "The Truck Cat". Students all discussed the story afterwards and made their own truck cat.

Grade 5/6 Camp to Sovereign Hill

Early in May our Grade 5 and 6 students went to Sovereign Hill for a two night stay. There were six smaller day groups which occasionally combined to form three larger groups over the course of the trip. The boys stayed in one accommodation, while the girls stayed in another. We participated in a variety of activities such as mine tours, gold pouring demonstrations, gold rush lessons and watching the delicious hard-boiled lollies being made (and of course we got to try

some of the fresh lollies—yum!). Although the bus ride was long and tiring, it was definitely worth it. We returned to school at 3.45 in the afternoon, by which time the school day had already ended, and it seemed like everyone was eager to head home.

At Sovereign Hill, we had plenty of free time to explore and learn about the houses and miners' lifestyles, try our hand at gold panning, and visit the shops. Everyone loved the Aura Light Show on the first night and the theatre performance on the second night. Most people agreed that it was the best school camp ever!

Sovereign Hill was written by Patrick and Henry

Churchill Scout Group

Churchill Scout Group currently has some vacancies for young people from the age of 5, to join in Term 2, and we are offering a three-week free trial to come and see what we are all about!

Scouting actively engages and supports young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. Scouts is the perfect place for kids to be kids, immersed in nature while developing leadership and critical thinking skills.

Scouts of all ages have fun youth-led adventures, discovering new things and experiences they would not discover elsewhere. From camping, hiking, water activities, STEM, community projects, learning new skills and more. Scouts is all about having fun while gaining valuable leadership skills and self confidence.

From the age of 5, our Joey Scouts meet Thursdays from 5.30pm to

6.30pm

From the age of 8, our Cub Scouts meet Wednesdays from 6.30pm to 8pm

From the age of 11, our Scouts meet Tuesdays from 6.30pm to 8.30pm

From the age of 14, our Venturer Scouts meet Mondays from 7pm to 9pm

From the age of 18 to 25, our Rover Scouts meet Fridays from 7pm.

For more information, please visit www.bit.ly/ChurchillScoutGroup



Melina BATH MP
THE NATIONALS MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

MY DOOR IS ALWAYS OPEN

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