

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

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SCAN TO VIEW:
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LV Field Naturalists Club- p10



Cooking with Noelene - p12



Plants in my Garden - p17



Lifeline - p7



Shop Local - Successful Again



The Winter Father's Day Shop Local was attended by a record number of stallholders. The day was not wet - hurray - but winter winds were still having their way with creating chilly weather. Fortunately people arrived with multiple layers of warmth and coffee shops did a good trade in hot drinks.

Rebecca Cocker and her daughter have volunteered to run Dungeons and Dragons at the Neighbourhood Centre. They were at the event with a raffle to raise money for the Neighbourhood Centre. Apart from running Dungeons and Dragons, Rebecca is a crafter who makes personalised

glasses and other amazing items.

If you are interested in joining the group for Dungeons and Dragons, adults are Tuesdays nights with a charge of \$5, and kids run on Thursdays at 4pm. This game encourages people to explore their imagination on a paper based dice game.

Sue and daughter Michelle were there with an absolute eye-watering amount of buttons which they sell to raise money for craft items. Sue runs the Craft Connections at the Co-Operating Churches in Churchill where she shares her goods with those who wish to learn a new craft or use their own materials. Sue is also a valuable



volunteer at the St Matts Op Shop in Yinnar.

The Lifeline ladies were there to open the shop, which is usually closed on Saturdays. They reported that they had opened their door to many customers and added funds to help the Lifeline programs. If you are new to the area, they are open at 11a Georgina Place, just down from the Post Office, from 9.30 am - 3.30 pm Mondays to Fridays. They accept donations ONLY in the hours the shop is open.

1st Churchill Scouts were there running their raffle. They are trying hard to raise money to refurbish the Scout Hall which is in desperate

need of some TLC (tender loving care). They have been applying for grants as well, but are so thankful the community is getting behind them.

Entertainment was provide by Fairy Merrin doing balloon sculptures, Rachael with her Fantastic Facepainting, the 350s Blues band under Peter Gray and also Chris and Sandra busking.

Thank you to Woolworths for providing the sausages, bread and sauces which the Churchill Fire Brigade and Churchill Lions cooked for everyone's enjoyment. Woolworths also provided the free fruit.

A Shop Local market does

not just happen. It takes planning, communication, registering stallholders and promotions. The market committee has welcomed Pauline Lee who has volunteered to the role of Market Co-ordinator. Thanks Pauline. The market was a success and we look forward to your further engagement as

Co-ordinator. Special thanks must also go to the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre and their volunteers for all their behind the scenes and on the day efforts.

It is reassuring to know the market will proceed into the future with Pauline, the Neighbourhood Centre and Churchill & District News behind it.



Shop Local
MARKET
2026

Christmas Market
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"



Churchill.org.au
Neighbourhood Centre

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

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Articles for publication and Letters to the Editor can be sent to: Churchill & District News
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All articles must be submitted by the 25th of each month for publication in the next issue.



MEMBER 2026

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Addressing the hidden challenge of ageing at home

New research aims to tackle loneliness among older Australians receiving care at home by identifying more personalised ways to support their wellbeing and social connection.

With 80 per cent of older Australians wanting to remain in their own homes as they age, and more than one million already accessing aged care support at home, understanding what works to address loneliness is becoming increasingly important.

Federation University PhD candidate Beliz Yegencik, is undertaking the research in partnership with home-based health and aged care provider Silverchain. The research aims to ultimately inform more tailored support for people receiving care at home.

Ageing at Home

While programs already exist to address loneliness among older adults, much of the research to date has focused on people living in residential aged care or independently in the broader community.

Ms Yegencik said people receiving home care have unique needs, characteristics, and preferences, but there has not been as much research looking specifically at loneliness in this group.

"We know there are programs that can help people feel more socially connected, but we need to understand what works for people receiving care at home and whether those approaches meet their needs," Ms Yegencik said.

Mobility issues, frailty, and other health challenges can make it difficult for people receiving home-based aged care to access

activities and services in the community.

"When someone has mobility issues, for example, getting out and participating in a community program may not be an option for them," Ms Yegencik said.

"That means we need to think about support that meets people where they are. For some people, that could be something delivered in their home, while for others who are comfortable using technology, a digital option might work."

The research could ultimately inform tailored approaches ranging from face-to-face support to digital solutions, based on what is effective and appropriate for individual needs.

Ms Yegencik is also an affiliate of Monash University's Optimal Ageing Centre (ITTC), which brings together expertise in technology and health to develop new approaches to supporting the physical, cognitive and mental wellbeing of older adults.

Her research aligns particularly with the Centre's focus on promoting independence and sustaining social connection. Federation University is also a partner in the Centre.

Ms Yegencik said the partnership with Silverchain could help translate the research into practice.

"One of the exciting things about working with Silverchain is the potential to take what we learn through the research and see how it

could work in practice," Ms Yegencik said.

"If we can identify an approach that is effective and practical, there is the potential for it to be incorporated into existing models of care and potentially inform how other home-based aged care providers support their clients as well."

Originally from Türkiye, Ms Yegencik studied psychology before completing postgraduate study in the United Kingdom and working in dementia research with older adults.

Her interest in mental health and healthy ageing brought her to Australia to undertake her PhD through a Federation University Co-operative (Co-op) Scholarship. Co-op education brings students, researchers and industry together, providing opportunities to apply research to real-world challenges and create outcomes that can be put into practice.

"I really enjoyed working with older adults and I have always been interested in mental health, so bringing those two areas together felt like a natural decision for me," she said.

With demand for home-based aged care increasing, as more Australians choose to remain living in their own homes as they age, Ms Yegencik hopes the research will ultimately contribute to more effective ways of helping older people stay socially connected at home.



Rainfall

Churchill Rainfall

Rainfall for the month of August for Churchill was very good with a total of 71.25mm recorded. This is roughly double the amount that fell during August 2025.

Our highest 24hour rainfall was 23mm with most of the month's rain falling in the first half of the month.

August was a fairly mild month temperature wise for both overnight and daily temperatures, and overall the three months of winter 2026 were rather warm compared to previous years.

Churchill's overall three months of winter rainfall was 179.75mm.

Churchill's rainfall year to date total is now 378.5mm.

Spring is finally with us, the daffodils have never looked better and the fruit trees are all starting to look

good around town with many already full of blossom.

Rain at Hazelwood South

August used to be the month to go for snow trips, now the heater is left to go out in the mornings, the jumper comes off in the afternoons, and harvesting from the garden has started early. The 72mm of rain was 11% below the August average. The higher temperatures are causing the trees to use more water, lowering the soil moisture and groundwater level. More tree growth and less water, is not great for the coming summer fire season. The undergrowth is thinning from lack of water. Hazelwood South received 7% more rain than the Latrobe Valley weather station. For the year of 2026 the rainfall is only 1% below the average.



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Tribute to Sylvia Cranwell

By Shallimar Halliwell
Welcome speech

Good morning everyone, and thank you so much for staying with us after the service and Sylvia's plaque dedication. Today is a really special day for our church community. We have come together not only to remember Sylvia, but also to celebrate her life, her impact on the people around her, and the memories that she has left with all of us. Today's fundraiser is being held in her memory, with the aim of raising money and awareness for Motor Neurone Disease, or MND.

MND is a devastating disease that affects people and their families in so many ways. While we cannot change what Sylvia and her family went through, we

can choose to remember her by doing something positive and helping support others affected by MND. Of course, we thought the best way to do that was with a little bit of water, a few very brave volunteers, and some very cold buckets! Today we have our Buckets for MND challenge. The idea is simple: the bigger the donation, the bigger the bucket — and the bigger the splash!

We also have our BBQ and refreshments available, with sausages and onions for \$3.50, cans of soft drink for \$2, and cup of soup for \$3.50. I want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has helped make today possible — our volunteers, the Lions who are helping with the sausage



sizzle, everyone who has donated, everyone who has volunteered to be dunked, and of course everyone who has stayed behind to support us.

Most importantly, thank

you to Sylvia's family and friends for allowing us to honour Sylvia in this way. I hope today can be a reminder that even something as



simple as getting together, having some fun and getting a little bit wet can make a difference when we do it together.

Before we finish today, I just want to say one more thank you to everyone who has supported this fundraiser. Every donation, every sausage bought, every bucket poured and every person who stayed today has helped us

honour Sylvia and support the cause that we have come together for. It has been wonderful to see our church community come together in her memory. Thank you all for being part of it, and thank you for helping us make today meaningful.



Community Pizza & Bush Dance

SAT 31 October 2026
5:30 PM till 11PM
Jeeralang North Hall
1005 Jeeralang North Road
Jeeralang North

Enjoy home made soup and freshly made pizzas baked in the wood-fired pizza oven.

Join in and dance the night away with the ever popular

Briagolong Bush Band

Tea/coffee/cordial provided
Other drinks BYO

Adults \$30. Children U12 \$5
5yo & under free. Family \$60

Booking recommended
Peter 0438312411 / studna@hotmail.com


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CHURCH *news*

Co-Operating Church Snippets

In our All Age Worship service we had the story from the Bible of Jesus walking on the water. Two of our young ones together then met the challenge of making a representation of that story. Their wonderful work is in one of the photos. It was much admired.



Coffee Connections

The topic of our August Coffee Connections was our Most Inspirational Role Model(s).

The group brought examples of their inspirational role models. Mothers and Fathers were well represented in the way they brought us up, the example they showed and the values they instilled.

Some expressed the difficulty in deciding which was their inspirational role model, sharing several

examples such as ministers, people in organisations and teachers.

Some of the qualities expressed by those attending included:

Selfless love: Putting the needs of family, friends, or the community first.

Quiet strength: Staying

calm and faithful during hard times.

Moral compass: Letting strong values guide every decision.

Daily consistency: Doing the right thing even when no one is watching.

A Christian who reads the Bible and Prays and puts the above values into action.

August has been a very busy, often challenging month. Cathie puts an amazing amount of time into preparing her services and we are blessed to have

those services which teach, challenge and encourage us in our faith journey.

Jesus told many stories, using examples that the people of that time could relate.

Many people have written books to help young and old interpret and appreciate the deep meaning of the Gospel. Cathie shared four of these, saying God's word is meant to shape the way we live. It invites us to read, think, pray and do. The first story was "Think Pray and Do". The second, "Deep Breath, Little Whisper" was about the Holy Spirit who, when words fail us, can pray to God for us.

The "Apostles Creed for All God's Children" is a confession of our faith together, as world wide it forms an eternal cloud of witnesses.

The last book was "Home is Right Where You Are". Jesus gave us the words for all occasions. Our true home is found in the love of God revealed in Jesus, which means nothing can separate us from that love, no matter where life takes us.

For Communion Sunday, Cathie set the table for the institution of holy communion. Cathie challenged us to think of whom we might invite to be at the table to share that



hospitality. It could be a friend, a stranger, someone who is friendless, homeless, or without family support. It is tempting to decide who we think should belong. Tables appear in the Bible often. An invitation to come and be at someone's table is offering more than food but inclusion. God shows us that His table - the communion table - is open to all. Being included is a wonderful feeling.

We were invited to partake of Cathie's generously spread communion table or receive communion in our usual way.

On August 23, we had a special service in which the family of the late Sylvia Cranwell attended. It was a service to dedicate the plaque on the organ Sylvia used to play with such joy.

Cathie read a most emotional tribute to Sylvia thus:

"Today we remember Sylvia with gratitude. We give thanks for her life, for the gift she shared, for the music she offered, for the worship she helped lead and for the friendship and memories that remain with us. We dedicate this plaque in her memory. May it remind us not simply that she was here, but that her

life touched ours. When we see it, may we remember with gratitude. When memories bring tears, hold us gently. When memories bring smiles, help us receive them as gifts. And when grief reminds us how deeply we have loved, remind us that love is never wasted. We entrust Sylvia to your eternal love, and we entrust ourselves to you as we continue the journey without her physically beside us. Even here God is with us. Even now, there is hope.

Ian C then read out the words on the plaque as the family gathered around it.

"In Recognition and Gratitude to Sylvia Cranwell for sharing her gift of music with our congregation over many years. Thank you for your loving devotion.

Your music truly made this a special place of worship. Where there is devotional music God is always at hand with His gracious presence".

Following the service there was a fundraising event in the church grounds to raise money for research into MND which is what took Sylvia's life. The young people of our congregation organised the event and raised approximately \$1,200, a great effort. Six brave souls braved the icy cold buckets dumped on them to the applause of the dry spectators.

Family service

The Anglican congregations of Churchill, Morwell and Traralgon come together on a rotation roster to have a family service and to be together and have fun while learning.

It was Churchill's turn. Around a campfire on a cool sunny evening the group sang songs together, some with actions, and then listened to the story of Joseph read by Bec, but with interactions from everyone. The telling was done with laughter and joy. The lesson was forgiveness as displayed by Joseph.,



Church Times

Co-Operating Churches of Churchill Sunday Services: 10.00am 1 Williams Avenue, Churchill. Tel: 5166 1819	Churchill / Morwell Catholic Parishes Tel: 5134 2849 Fr Paul Zaher Saturday 5.00pm Sacred Heart, Morwell. Sunday 9.00am Lumen Christi, 37-39 Williams Ave, Churchill. 10.30am Sacred Heart, Morwell. Thursday 5.00pm at Lumen Christi 9.00am every 4th Sunday alternating between Yinnar / Boolarra. <i>See Church bulletin or call 5134 2849</i>
King of Glory Ministries Yinnar / Boolarra Meeting at RSL Hall, Yinnar 3.00pm each Sunday.	Boolarra / Yinnar Co-Operating Parish Boolarra / Yinnar 10.00am 1st and 3rd Sunday. Christ Church, Tarwin St, Boolarra
Prayer and Bible Study 10.00am Mondays at Yinnar Bakery and Coffee Shop. 10.00am Wednesdays at Boolarra Co-Op Church Hall.	Churchill Christian Fellowship 3.00pm Sundays at Haz S. Hall 762 Tramway Road Churchill. (next to the soccer ground) Everyone Welcome 0409 173 747

For more info:
Pastor Lynn Fowler
0493 193 141

IN RECOGNITION AND GRATITUDE TO
SYLVIA CRANWELL
SHARING HER GIFT OF MUSIC WITH OUR
CONGREGATION OVER MANY YEARS

Thank you for your loving devotion
Your music truly made this
a special place of worship.

Where there is devotional music
God is always at hand with His gracious presence.

Churchill Christian Fellowship

By Steve McNeilly (Pastor)

It's been four and a half years now since a small group of Churchill Christian Fellowship members entered into a five year licence to use the old Hazelwood South hall on Tramway Road. We received the keys on April 1, 2022 and, looking at the task ahead, some were wondering if the date was appropriate, and that we were in fact April fools to take on the restoration of the historic hall.

One of the first tasks was to replace the roof, and then most of the inside ceilings. Jeff Kemp did that work. Then it was cleaning, patching and painting walls, cleaning out bees from the chimney, building a new stage, fixing toilets, replacing damaged floorboards and

getting carpet laid. So many challenges to overcome. It was almost six months before we were able to have our first service there and a bit longer before we actually had electricity in the building. Our congregation was enthusiastic and full of optimistic vision. We often referred to the H.S. Hall as the Holy Spirit Hall. Several people from our overseeing church at Moe also helped with the work.

As we draw near to the end of our five year term, questions have been raised about what might happen moving forward. Would we need to look for a larger meeting venue? Would we be able to further develop our existing home on Tramway Road? The Department of Energy, Environment and

Climate Action, which owns the building and land, has agreed to negotiate a further five years.

Our next tasks include a kitchen upgrade, further development of our community garden and making better provision for youth and children's ministries.

Our men's breakfasts will now happen on the third Saturday of each month, \$5 suggested donation, 9am start. Ladies' meetings continue on Wednesdays, Home Fellowship on Tuesdays, and other special events as advertised. Visitors are always welcome.

For more information or to receive regular newsletters, please call 0409 173 747.

By Leo Billington

How people are remembered and hopefully not erased by time (series continued)

Now is an opportunity to cement a few facts about the Hazelwood Cemetery. Actually, these facts are carved in granite.

From a north-eastern corner of the Hazelwood run, 10 acres of Crown land was gazetted as a cemetery on April 7, 1879, established to serve the newly settled areas encompassing Morwell, Morwell Bridge, Yinnar, Hazelwood and Driffield.

Fact number one, the gazetted notice was published 147 years ago.

By April 8, 1879, a train was able to finally travel from Princes Bridge in Melbourne to Sale.

Hazelwood Cemetary

should have been one in Morwell.

Ignorant questions still come our way, where is the Hazelwood Cemetery and is it managed by local government? No, it is not part of Latrobe City Council's responsibility and the original 10 acre site is where it has been for 147 years. Just as old as Morwell.

Nonetheless, some early history adds further ingredients to all this. During March 1892, Morwell Shire severed its connection with Traralgon Shire. Even three years later, on June 19, 1885, under the heading of MORWELL:

"MORWELL. At last



an unmarked grave.

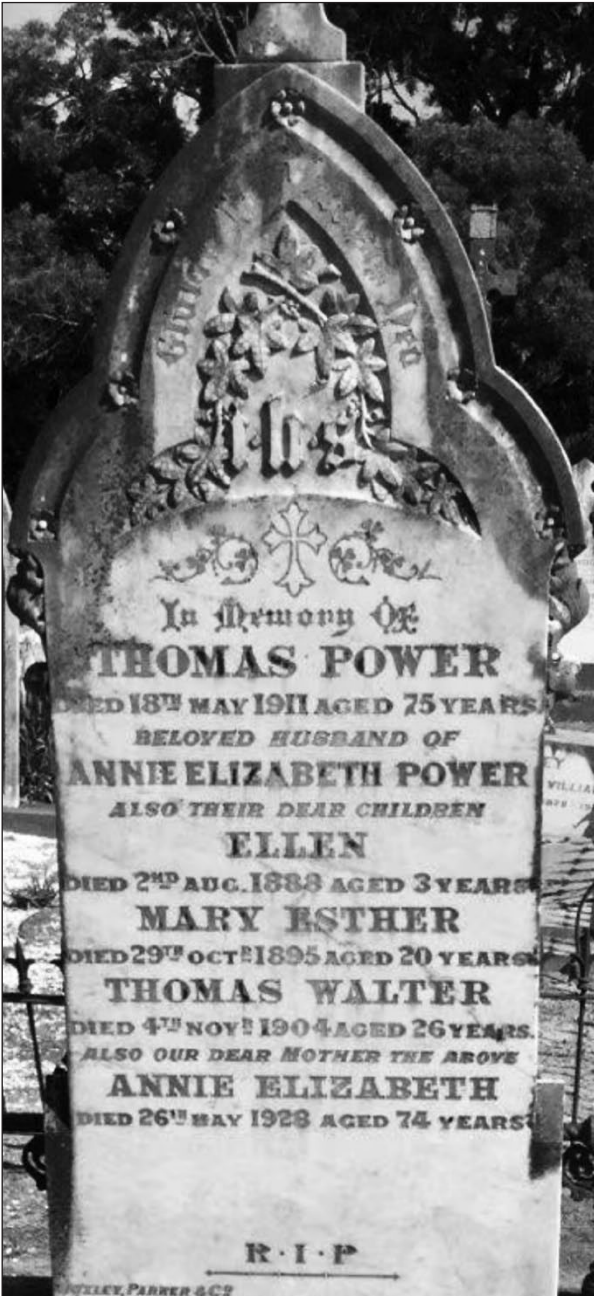
On Thursday August 2, 1888 at Driffield, 4½ year old David Overton Williams died and is interred at Hazelwood.

At about the same time, 3-year-old Ellen Power, suffering from diphtheria, died at her parent's Hazelwood residence and is interred also at the Hazelwood Cemetery.

Yinnar bootmaker, Joseph Butler, desperately seeking medical assistance for his daughter, Charlotte, was unable to access medical aid in the small village. Charlotte's interment at Hazelwood Cemetery was on August 4, 1888.

Quite suddenly one Saturday (Morwell Advertiser, April 27, 1889), editorial appeared, apparently being what the Woorayl Shire Council thought about Hazelwood Cemetery:

"Cemetery, 5 acres, ground quite wild, graves dug anywhere. Fences out of repair. no acting local trustees, and apparently no regulations as to depth of graves. This place is utterly neglected, and in a very discreditable condition. The site has been badly chosen, as the western corner of the cemetery is not more than 4 chains from the head of a stream, running into the Little Morwell River,



the surface of the ground falling rapidly from the cemetery to the running stream".

Not a glamorous summation of our cemetery, nonetheless it shows widespread interest about Hazelwood Cemetery. In printing this editorial, one might conclude Leongatha citizens thought their cemetery, located as it is right on that town's southern boundary, was better placed to serve a community.

Within a year there were three persons appointed as Trustees - Messrs Firmin, Kinder and Nadenbousch. These three gentlemen concluded "there was no necessity to register a plan (of the land) as the cemetery site was only a reserve". (Morwell Advertiser, Friday August 1, 1890).

Hazelwood Cemetery certainly did not have a grand start. Early Trustees became known as "barbwire and crowbar men" - that is, this was how maintenance and care was handled.

Catherine Ogilvey was interred on July 29, 1892 following a "serious illness" and Isabel Chambers, who suffered from an "incurable cancer" was interred on Friday May 19, 1893, unfortunately in an unmarked grave in the Methodist section.

Mr Chambers was

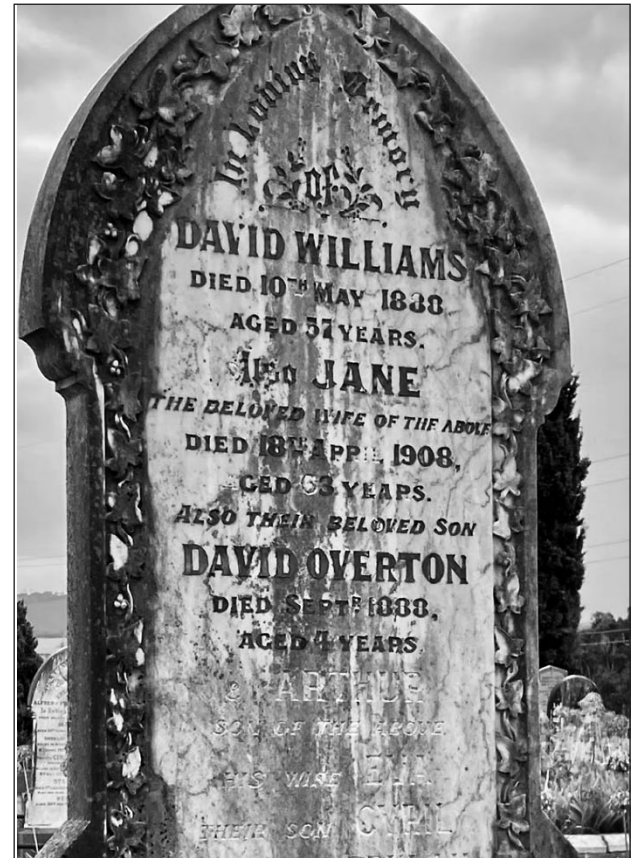
a "leading light" in the Morwell Total Abstinence Society and a stalwart within Morwell's Methodist Church fraternity.

There were other interments prior to 1900. Hazelwood farmer, 73-year-old Robert Watson died on Friday March 16, 1894. He was an invalid for almost eight years and was interred on March 19, 1894.

Arthur William Robertson, a Morwell based journalist working on the Morwell and Yinnar Gazette, committed suicide early in July 1897. His funeral cortege to Hazelwood Cemetery on Friday July 9, 1897 was well attended. Arthur was suffering from Bright's disease, known today as an inflammatory kidney disease.

When 24-year-old Hannah Vernon Wright died on Tuesday February 19, 1901, Morwell's residents were deeply shocked. Hannah had planned to be a missionary overseas but the illness/disease, Consumption quickly took her life within about four weeks. A large cortege attended her funeral several days later.

Years ago, an ill-informed rather serious comment was made to me - that, when the Morwell Open Cut is closed down, Hazelwood Cemetery, being right next door will slip into the resultant vast space. Just plain ignorance! It is now 147 years old and not going anywhere.



In October 1844, Hazel and William Bennett took up the Hazelwood station lease. John MacMillan succeeded the Bennetts in 1859.

As recorded, Lands Department records show surveyor, James Robinson, made three surveys to establish a layout for Morwell's future - and his first survey was in January 1878.

Fact number two, there was never a site surveyed for Morwell to have its own cemetery, Hazelwood was the one.

There are now over 5500 interments at the cemetery which are arranged in sections including: Religious Denominations, Children's Garden, Non-Denominational Memorial, Non-Denominational Lawn and Remembrance Gardens.

Even during 2026, questions still probe the whereabouts of a Morwell Cemetery. Given Moe and Traralgon have cemeteries of their own, and are of a similar size, perhaps there

a move has been made to take steps to have our cemetery improved, a meeting having been convened for Tuesday evening, the 30th inst. in the local Mechanics' Hall, at 3 o'clock. Seeing that the place has not yet an air of neatness about it that should characterise the surroundings of the resting place of our departed friends, let us endeavour to make a commencement on the 30th. (Tuesday 30, 1885)

Traralgon Record and Morwell, Mirboo, Toongabbie, Heyfield, Tyers and Callignee Advertiser (Traralgon, Vic. 1883 - 1886)

Perhaps Traralgon identities did not know too much about Morwell, and Hazelwood.

There appear to be words written about burials taking place prior to 1879. While these burials may have occurred, there are early recorded interments such as William Black from Boolarra, who died on December 11, 1886, and is in





Comic Book Heroes

A source of entertainment for the young from the 1930s has been the cartoon strip and the comic book. The cartoon strip appeared in newspapers to entertain the younger members of the household while Dad read the news and sporting pages, and Mum the fashion pages and recipes and the gossip columns. Often frowned upon as having little literary merit, they nevertheless provided characters who told a story in pictures to those with limited reading ability.

The first Australian strip published was Bib and Bub, the gumnut twins which was an offshoot from the popular storybook 'Snugglepot and Cuddlepie' by May Gibbs. They told a story with a moral in four or five illustrations. Other single strips followed as their popularity increased, each with a central hero. Soon half-page stories related longer stories, telling the exploits of Ginger Meggs, Fatty Finn and others.

The characters became so popular that they were featured in their own publications which sold cheaply at newsagents. Some were serialised in magazines. I remember coming across a pile of Woman's Mirror magazines from the 1930s and 40s in a shed on my Grandma's farm which told the stories of The Phantom.

Australia was not alone

STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE

in this. The most prolific country publishing comics was the United States where the exploits of Popeye the Sailorman, Felix the Cat, Superman and many others graced the shelves. Walt Disney's film cartoon characters like Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck appeared in comic books and it was not long before they appeared in COLOUR! Joy of joys! Comics were swapped by children at school and they were popular reading material for the young troops in WWII.

In Europe the spread of comics began after the war. Paper shortages kept the size of the comic down and each country saw different cultural forces shape what was offered. In Great Britain the comic book included written stories as well as comic strips. French and Belgian comic books were colourful and were more like the graphic novels of today. The outcome was the Asterix series in France which included Latin puns, a favourite amusement of both the writer Goscinny and illustrator Uderzo. Belgium produced the Tintin series with the young reporter hero and his dog travelling to

exotic parts of the world and experiencing adventure. Other countries experienced similar publications.

Over the last 25 years the comic book heroes have been featured on issues in many different countries.



Disney stamps have been widely produced in many countries as American stamp producing companies have expanded to cater for the production of stamps for small as well as poorer countries. As a result, the collecting of stamps featuring the comic book heroes of the world is a growing theme.

However, Ginger Meggs not only had his stamp, but a book published by Australia Post to honour him. It was produced in 1985 as part of the Children's Classic Book set of five connected strip of stamps and matching bookmarks.



Strzelecki Bushwalking Club

The Strzelecki Bushwalking Club is inviting bushwalkers from across Gippsland to a special combined club's weekend.

This "gather round" of Gippsland's walking clubs will take place on the weekend of October 24 and 25, and will showcase the majestic Erica/Rawson and Walhalla areas.

The weekend will feature eight guided walks with four offered on each day. The program has been carefully constructed to cater for a wide range of walkers, from those seeking an easier option to experienced hikers looking for a challenging adventure.

We are lucky to live in a very beautiful part of Gippsland, and the walks will include journeys into the Alpine areas and several in the Walhalla area which will focus on the history of our early pioneers. Some of the walks will travel on the iconic trails of the region and there are other opportunities to travel on tracks that are largely unknown. Some people will be ticking off a

bucket list walk while others may be choosing to travel on a trail that they did not even know existed.

This event has been organised by Strzelecki's walks Co-Ordinator, Jim Rowley, who has been working tirelessly over the last few months to organise this event. Jim, together with a group of knowledgeable and competent walk leaders, will guide participants throughout the program.

An invaluable addition to the weekend is the comprehensive walk booklet prepared by our resident cartographer, Martin Norris. The booklet contains detailed maps and a thorough description of each walk. The booklet is beautifully illustrated with photos of the local landscapes and locals of days long gone by. The booklet is an excellent resource to help walkers prepare for their weekend and help them enjoy their chosen walks.

Martin's expertise in this area has produced a resource that will be accessed by walkers well beyond this

event.

Another feature of the weekend will be the social event on Saturday evening at the Erica Hotel. This event will provide walkers a chance to socialise with each other and compare notes after a long day on the trail.

The exact numbers of walkers expected in the region over this incredible weekend are still unknown as SBWC has only recently sent out invitations. However, we have received an early influx of walk registrations which is indicative of a "bumper weekend".

SBWC is fiercely supportive of our local areas, and we expect this event to be a huge economic gain to the Erica/Rawson/Walhalla townships. There potentially could be hundreds of walkers and visitors in the area for the weekend. We have directed walkers to the various accommodation options, and many have already made bookings in the area.

It is highly likely that walkers will sample the local coffee shops and eateries after long days of walking.

Of course, the SBWC hopes that many of the walkers enjoy the event and will return to the area in the future. What a great way to enjoy a spectacular area of Gippsland and to help local businesses at the same time.



Martin Norris (left) and Jim Rowley, walks coordinator of Strzelecki Bush Walking Club (right)

Darren Chester

Putting Locals First
#lovegippsland



THE NATIONALS for Gippsland

www.darrenchester.com.au

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

Please contact me with any State Government matters.

Harriet Shing MP
State Member for Eastern Victoria

216 Commercial Road, Morwell Vic 3840
harriet.shing@parliament.vic.gov.au
(03) 5134 8000 harrietshing.com.au



Authorised by Harriet Shing MP, 216 Commercial Road, Morwell 3840, Advertisement

Lifeline

Churchill Op Shop ready for footy finals fever!

The team at Lifeline Gippsland's Churchill Op Shop is all set and ready for the footy finals season, with gorgeous football-themed displays throughout the store and plenty of fantastic footy bargains to help supporters gear up for the footy finals.

Whether you are looking for team colours, winter warmers, or a bargain for your finals watch party, now is the perfect time to pop

in and have a browse. Our volunteers have worked hard to create vibrant displays celebrating finals fever, making the shop a great place to visit for both footy fans and bargain hunters alike.

Every purchase made at our Churchill Op Shop does much more than provide great value and cheer for our teams.

In fact, every \$39 spent in a Lifeline Gippsland op shop helps answer a call from someone experiencing one of the darkest moments in their life through the 13 11 14 Crisis Support Line.

That is why our beautiful Churchill shop exists.

Like all Lifeline Gippsland Op Shops, it is dedicated to raising funds for vital suicide prevention



and crisis support services. Lifeline Gippsland receives only around 10% of its funding from government sources and must raise the remaining 90% through the generosity of the community.

We do this through our op shops, fundraising activities, grants, and donations.

This finals season, why

not support your local team while supporting a local cause?

Every bargain purchased helps make a real difference in the lives of people across our community.

Hope your team has a win! And thank you for supporting Lifeline Gippsland!



Churchill Community Family Fishing & Fun Day



**COME ALONG
BRING THE FAMILY
FOR A DAY OUT OF
FISHING & FUN
AT
LAKE HYLAND
MATHISON PARK
MACKEYS ROAD
CHURCHILL**



Saturday 21st November

Everyone must register to enter

Cost is \$ 2.00 per child or \$ 5.00 per Family

Come along and experience the wonder of fishing as a family

Every child who has registered gets a chance to win a prize for catching a fish. They will also receive a Lucky Door prize entry ticket, a free sausage and a drink.

Registration opens at 10.00am.

Fishing starts at 10.30am and finishes at 1.30pm.

Prize presentation starts at 2.00pm



The Lions Club will have
Hot food & Cold Drinks available all day.
Free face painting and other exciting activities.



Presented by Lions Club of Churchill & District
See us on our Lions Club of Churchill Facebook page or
Web Page: lionsclubchurchill.com.au



Morwell Lapidary Club Inc. Gem Show

3rd & 4th of October, 2026

Open 10am to 5pm Saturday, 10am to 4pm Sunday

Churchill Football Netball Club Rooms.

Gaskin Park, Manning Drive, Churchill 3842

Bring the family, bring your neighbours, you're all welcome!

\$5 Entry, kids under 12 free

Food and refreshments available

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Club information

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Enquiries: morwell.lapidary@gmail.com

Ray Medew – 0417 269 650 or Peter Carrolan – 0417 372 059



A brighter space for children and families in Churchill

Children and families visiting Latrobe Community Health Service's Churchill site now have a brighter, more welcoming space to enjoy. Designed with children and their families in mind, the new environment aims to help children feel comfortable, supported and at ease from the moment they arrive.

The space features colourful, playful murals created by local artist Kat Tillman, drawing on ideas shared by local children. The murals are designed to spark curiosity and imagination, while helping create a more welcoming environment for families who may feel uncertain about visiting a health service.

The space also includes a dedicated play therapy room and sensory room, providing children with opportunities to play, relax and engage in ways that support their individual needs

and wellbeing.

The Churchill site provides a range of health and wellbeing services for children and families, including paediatric, allied health and nursing services. This includes services like continence support, occupational therapy, speech pathology, dietetics and counselling.

Families can also access a Community Led Integrated Health Clinic, which provides short-term support for disadvantaged families experiencing difficulties accessing health and community services.

Other services available include the Autism Assessment Clinic, the

Pathways to Good Health Clinic for children and young people living in out-of-home care, and the Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies program, which provides additional support to women during pregnancy.

For Latrobe Community Health Service, the new space is about more than creating a colourful environment, it is about helping children and families feel safe, comfortable and ready to engage with their care.

To learn more about children's services at Churchill, call 1800 242 696 or visit lchs.com.au/services/children-families/



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✓ Milk

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Fri - Sat
8.00am - 8.00pm

Sun - 8am - 3pm

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Strzelecki Koala

September is an important month for the Strzelecki Koala.

Now that we are in the middle of September, it is important to realise that this month is "Save the Koala" month. This was established by the Australian Koala Foundation. The last Friday of September is "Save the Koala Day" and this year it is on September 25.

The purpose of this designation is to promote awareness of how endangered the Australian icon marsupial is, to promote protection of crucial habitat and to raise funds for koala research and revegetation projects. (www.nationaltoday.com. 21-8-26).

September, the start of spring, is the time when our local unique species of Strzelecki koala is on the move again. It is the start of the breeding season. Mature koalas are looking for mates while the juvenile koalas are finding new home ranges to live in. It is a time for us to be always on the look out for koalas particularly when we drive. We need to ensure koala safety by preventing our dogs coming into contact with koalas and providing koala friendly yards around our homes. Cattle can also harm koalas that are travelling through paddocks. It is important that farms have fencing that koalas can climb through and enough trees to shelter in.

September and the continuing breeding months to April are a great time to spot the Strzelecki koala

in the Jeeralangs, Strzelecki Ranges and Churchill. Please consider recording your sightings of koalas or their scats (poo) on the Strzelecki Koala Map by emailing the information to ajamis50@gmail.com (www.strzkoala.australiainmap.net 21-8-26)

September is still a good time to plant non-invasive natives. If you have land that is suitable for trees consider planting food trees for the Strzelecki koala. Mountain grey gums, blue gums and the Strzelecki gums are their preferred food trees. (www.foe.org.au 21-8-26) Mountain ash, yertchuk, messmate, apple box, narrow leaf peppermint, and swamp gum can provide food sources too. (tralalgonsouthenvironment.wordpress.com 26-8-26)

September is conducive to being outdoors. If you enjoy outside activity, the natural environment and want to improve the Strzelecki koala habitat, consider becoming a volunteer with a local Landcare group like the Yinnar - Yinnar South group or join the Friends of the Morwell National Park.

September is an ideal time to start work in your garden. Besides planting the summer vegetables, remember to check for invasive weeds and animals as these impact negatively on the Strzelecki koala's habitat.



For people living on the land, September is a good time to prepare for the fire season.

Fire can destroy vital koala habitat and kill our precious koalas.

Lastly September is a month to prepare for the Koalathon that is happening on October 25. (see flyer on p.9) It is a fundraiser for the Strzelecki Koala Action Team (S.K.A.T.), a group in the Melbourne Friends of the Earth organisation. If you would like to find out more go to www.koalathon.org.au or raiselysite.com.

Good news for the Strzelecki koala. The Yarram Koala Sanctuary Development Project was launched on July 31.

Interesting Fact

Koalas will eat not just the eucalyptus leaves but other parts of the tree like the flowers, buds, stems and bark. (friendsofthekoala.org 22-8-26)

Letter to the Editor

By Karen Blake

The other day, someone reminded me that indigenous Australians were never nomadic. Instead, as I understand it, people moved through a pre-established route, according to seasons, to take full advantage of optimal harvesting/hunting opportunities. They also considered significant environmental issues such as periodic cultural, bushfire

management, and landscape burning.

The relationship that indigenous Australians have with the land is immensely important for a myriad of reasons.

I do not pretend to fully understand. Understanding of the land, the moon and the stars, enables the people to 'story tell', history, practices, tradition and so much more. Song is utilised

in the same way and also brings joy and togetherness; something that non-indigenous Australians often neglect.

In writing this, I am reminded that indigenous tradition is not history. It is continuous, forever, spiritual in a way perhaps more enduring than any other religious state of mindfulness.

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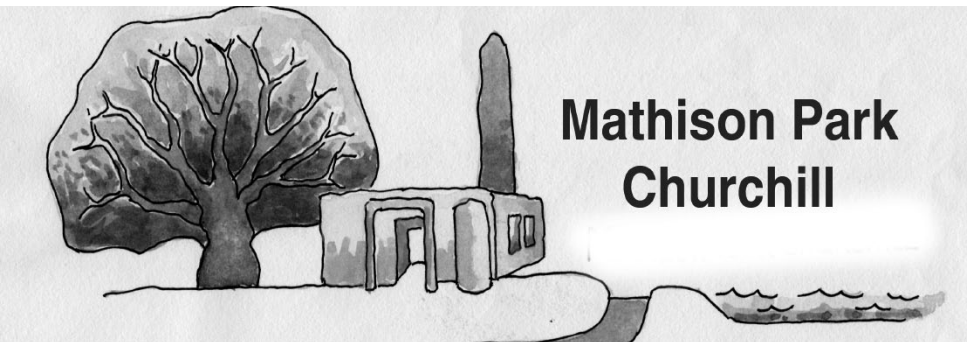
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Mathison Park Churchill

With the wet and cold weather the Gippsland Interchange crew has not been able to come and help.

However the third Thursday was fine although a little windy, so they were able to come. They spread mulch around the newly planted trees which were planted at the working bee.

Only five people were able to come, but with a great “get in and do it” attitude the 16 trees were planted before the morning was over.

Mathison Park is always looking for new volunteers. Even if you can only give 1-2 hours at a working bee that all helps the aging volunteers we have.

Working bees are generally held on the second Saturday of each month except January. Contact Ruth on 0456 786 577, visit the Latrobe City Council web site to check in, or leave a message on our Facebook page - Mathison Park Churchill.

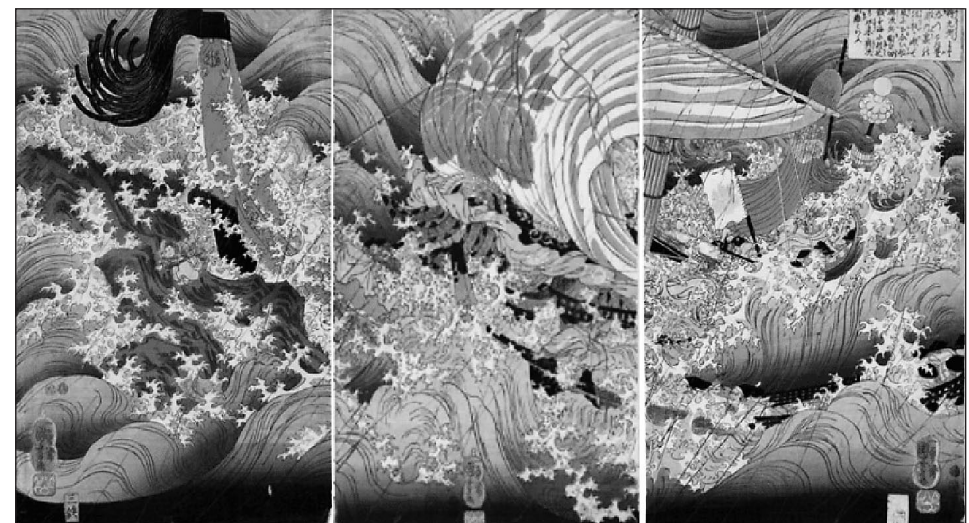


Churchill’s Public Toilet

After a month or so of little action, progress is being made on Churchill’s public toilet. We all look forward to its completion.



Latrobe Regional Gallery



Ukiyo-E

Responding to Tradition brings together Japanese woodblock prints from Latrobe Regional Gallery’s collection with a contemporary response by Japanese artist TWOONE.

Featuring works from the Allan Aldous Collection, gifted by Mrs Ngaire Johansen in 2000, the exhibition explores the beauty, drama and visual richness of ukiyo-e, one of Japan’s most celebrated print traditions.

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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Just Announced

Ross Wilson and The Peaceniks Sunday November 15, 4pm Ross Wilson is hitting the road with his all-star band The Peaceniks to celebrate over “50 Years of Hits” including all the Daddy

Cool and Mondo Rock favourites you would expect.

Queen Rocks - Royal Rhapsody Tour Saturday December 5, 4pm A musical extravaganza like no other! You will be treated to all of

Queen’s Greatest Hits.

Live @ 11: Light Up Christmas with Silvie Paladino Saturday December 12, 11am Ring in Christmas with one of Australia’s most talented entertainers.

Friends of the Earth Melbourne

SAVE THE DATE AND COME JOIN THE STRZELECKI KOALA ACTION TEAM AT THE

#Koalathon

Sunday 25th October 2026 (9am – 3pm)

Strzelecki Koalas are the only genetically diverse koala remaining in southern parts of Australia. But there’s only 2000 of us left...

To join the fun, scan this QR code or visit the website!
<https://koalathon.raisely.site.com>

Marathon loop (10km or 3hrs @ easy walking pace):

1. START at Darling Park Basil Reserve, Malvern East
2. Follow the GARDINERS CREEK TRAIL
3. At Patterson Reserve (next to the Hawthorn velodrome) RETURN to the start – Walk, run or bike it!

There will be many prizes!

St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

St Vinnies SOUP VAN

Starting 1st July 2026 we are changing
from Friday to Wednesday

6.00 pm at White Parade reserve
6.30 pm at Illawonga Court

Soup, sandwiches, frozen meals, fruit, pantry items.
Please bring a bag and yourselves. SPREAD THE WORD

Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists' Club



Image: Pseudoscleropodium purum Credit: LVFNC

Invertebrates making use of invasive mosses

On Friday September 18, the Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists' Club will host a talk by club member and ecologist Emily Crick.

Em will talk about her research which is focused on understanding how non-native plant expansions reshape local food webs. The study highlights that

while invasive mosses disrupt native flora, they simultaneously serve as highly functional, novel microhabitats for a diverse community of native and introduced invertebrates.

Em's talk will cover:

Ecological Impacts and interactions;

Novel Microhabitats: Invasive moss carpets offer damp microclimates that

ground-dwelling invertebrates use for shelter and moisture retention;

Habitat Disruption:

While individual bugs may co-opt the moss, the spread of exotic mosses tends to displace native groundcovers and alter natural forest regeneration;

Food Web Shifts:

Changes in understory plant composition directly affect local invertebrate assemblages,

subsequently impacting predators that rely on native ground bugs.

If you are interested in this topic you are welcome to join Field Naturalist club members at Moe Library meeting rooms, 7.30pm on Friday September 18. The presentation will also be streamed online - please contact the club for the link. Email info@lvfieldnats.org or phone or text the secretary Rose on 0410 237 292

On Saturday September 19, there will be a club excursion to Edward Hunter Bush Heritage Reserve, Moe, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Our Friday night speaker, Emily Crick, knows this reserve very well and can show us the species of moss referred to in her presentation.

The reserve is one of the Latrobe Valley's largest remaining patches of remnant vegetation.

On the urban fringe of Moe, it is rich in birdlife and wildflowers, especially native orchids.

Bring a cut lunch, refreshments and a folding chair. Meet in the car park, 116 Coalville Road, or contact the secretary Rose for carpool options from Moe Railway Station, ph 0410 237 292.

BOOK REVIEW

"Snow Flower and the Secret Fan" by Lisa See, 2005

Lisa See was born in Paris in 1955 but raised in Los Angeles with her American Chinese family. She writes historical novels about Chinese American women. Her first book was "On Gold Mountain" which was a family history, followed by "Snow Flower and the Secret Fan" 2005, "Shanghai Girls" 2009, "The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane" 2017, "The Island of Sea Women" 2019 and "Lady Tan's Circle of Women" 2023.

This story is set in 19th century rural China and is told through the eyes of an eighty-year-old woman, Lily.

Lily lives with her parents, siblings, an aunt, uncle and cousin and until the age of six her life was carefree. A visit from a matchmaker, Madame Wang, changes the course of her life forever. Lily is a beautiful child and Madame Wang persuades Lily's mother that she has a perfect match for Lily, Snow Flower, the daughter of educated parents.

In addition to the usual close circle of two or three close friends, referred to as "old sames", Lily and Snow Flower will have a more intimate and spiritual relationship, "lao-tong", which brings higher status and is meant to last a lifetime.

Lily's mother agrees because such a relationship gives the chance of a better marriage, which benefits the entire family. Snow Flower comes to live with Lily's family and the very painful process of foot binding begins, because again, husbands like to have wives with bound feet as it carries higher status.

The girls can barely walk and spend their days in the upstairs room learning the secret writing of women, "nu shu", sewing and embroidering, and for Lily, the more refined manners of

Snow Flower. In return, Snow Flower learns what it is like to live in a poor, uneducated family. They both record their daily lives in the folds of a fan.

The relationship remains very close and when the time comes for marriage Lily is wed to the son of the wealthiest and most powerful family in the village. Her mother-in-law

is strict but fair, however forbids her to visit Snow Flower in the nearby village.

Snow Flower is married to a butcher, a lowly profession, and her mother-in-law is cruel, yet despite the regular beatings she suffers, Snow Flower does not complain.

She and Lily do manage to meet occasionally at the market where they went as children with Madame Wang and their friendship continues.

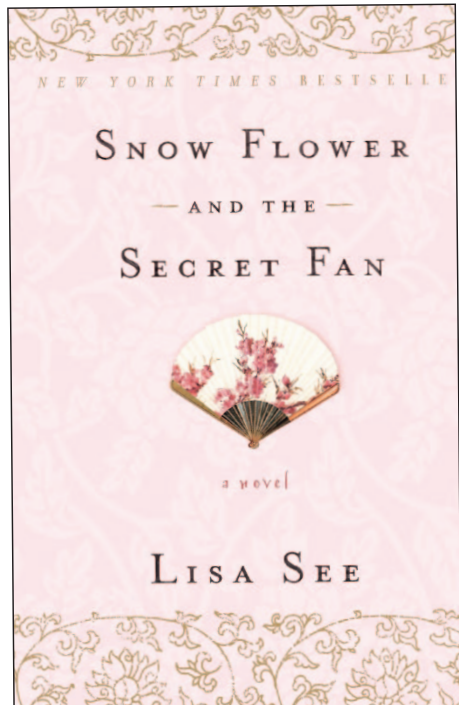
When Lily's mother-in-law dies Lily is free to visit Snow Flower whenever she wants.

On one of these visits there is an uprising and Lily is forced to flee to the mountains with the rest of the residents.

Whilst many of them perish through cold and starvation they eventually return to the village and Lily to her home.

It is clear to her that Snow Flower is unwell but when she asks Lily for help, Lily is so caught up in the social rules and protocols of the time she is not able to counsel her with compassion.

When Snow Flower tells her she is being helped by three "old sames" Lily flies



into a jealous rage, the consequences of which she still regrets at eighty years of age.

We all agreed that had we seen this book on the shelf none of us would have chosen it - it just goes to show that you cannot judge a book by its cover because we all loved it.

The characters were well drawn and the book was easy to read.

It was a compelling story about two women and their lives within the rigid social and cultural constraints of the time.

Women were treated as commodities because their families could benefit if they made a good marriage.

The rules within the marriage were largely determined by the mother-in-law, and after marriage women visited their husbands five or six times a year then returned to their family home until they became pregnant.

A woman who produced sons was more valued. Despite the concept that women had less power, the women in this story were strong and able to adapt to their changed circumstances.

Danny O'BRIEN MP State Member for Gippsland South



Working for Gippsland South

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A Churchill & District History Series

Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



By **Leo Billington**
Les Hare stories from
Morwell's heydays:

In its edition on Wednesday July 12, 1950, there was extensive editorial in the Weekly Times about "big changes at Morwell".

As reported "The transformation of Morwell, Gippsland, Victorian mining and farming centre, into a great industrial town has started.

Nearly 600 men, aided by huge modern machines, are tearing out green pastures to make way for the brown coal open cut, briquetting factories, railways and roads, and sites for hundreds of new homes".

There were photographs of new housing estates glamourising what was coming. The Argus in December 18, 1947 editorial, reported the Victorian Housing Commission had purchased 200 house sites in Moe, and 32 sites in Morwell with building plans "directly related to decentralisation or expansion of industry." The Traralgon estate was predicted to eventually contain 300 houses.

A plan for a modern town was highlighted. For a young Les Hare, Morwell during the mid-1900's was a mecca waiting for business development, and, as described in the August 2026 edition of this newspaper, Les was "quick off the mark".

As previously written, Les Hare was once described as a major part of Morwell's development. His success in business is one-half of a remarkable life. The other half, tells a massive

contribution to Morwell's wider community,

For Les, an early foray into Morwell's business circle was as a director of Morwell Investments Pty Ltd, leading discussions about how to erect more houses "at an early date with a view to assisting in supplying more houses in Morwell."

(Morwell Advertiser, Thursday September 1, 1938).

He was successful in obtaining a second-hand dealers' licence late in December 1938 and he was Morwell Shire President by December 21, 1938 at age 54 years. He was first elected to Council on Thursday August 28, 1930.

At this time, Morwell's Second Council comprised four ridings - Morwell, Yinnar, Boolarra and Hazelwood. Les remained as one of various representatives of the Morwell Riding between 1930 to 1949.

After then, he was representative from 1949 to 1966, in Morwell's Third Council East Ward. Other wards were West, Central, and South. Les retained his political "fire" when in an October 21, 1953 Morwell Council meeting, his outburst was timely: "If the State Electricity Commission cannot find enough funds to carry on the work at the Morwell Project, it should be sold to such private interests as could give a satisfactory undertaking to develop it". Councillor Hare said that it appeared that the governments were duck

shoving. "We have had public meetings, but the tax payer's money is in equipment which is deteriorating to the extent of millions of pounds. If the State Government is not going to develop, it should sell to private interests.

Are black coal interests holding up the works in Morwell?" (The background to this outburst was local widespread frustration to delays in developing Morwell's open cut, power station and briquette factory.

A call for private sector management was quite revolutionary back then.) This period was instrumental for Morwell's development, it was a turning point.

As written by the Weekly Times in 1950, "huge modern machines, are tearing out green pastures".

Councillor Hare was beating a drum, often coming up against the then Morwell Shire Council President. Les was instrumental in negotiating that the State Electricity Commission pay £391 for the construction of a road, known as Black Bob's Lane, to link Nadenbousch's Road to the Midland Highway, basically along the southern boundary of Hazelwood Cemetery. (Morwell Advertiser, Thursday October 22, 1953).

Being such a prominent personality, Les received plenty of mail suggesting what he (and Council) should do. An example was from a dissatisfied "Morwellite" printed on Thursday September 20, 1945: "You know Morwell is a great town and you have done a tremendous lot for it in the town and, like all public men, got little thanks for your effort. But no one ever does, so why worry! However, Les, it is the future of this great district that I am worrying over. Everyone appears to be scrapping like the proverbial Kilkenny

cats, whilst in your sister town, the Greater Traralgon Advancement League is well and truly on the job.

If a more co-operative spirit is not shown in our district, poor old Morwell may be left out in the cold". On Friday January 17, 1958, Les together with fellow Councillor Alf Ronald, attended a meeting of 11 West Gippsland municipalities at Warragul. Speaking as Morwell Shire Council President, Les suggested a site be found at Trafalgar for Victoria's proposed second university.

He told delegates a 50-acre site would be required. His idea was then referred to the Gippsland Municipal Association at their next meeting scheduled for mid-February.

We know his trip to Warragul disturbed bureaucrats in Melbourne's establishment.

Think about if a university campus was built in Trafalgar; it was being quite a maverick idea 68 years ago. Not being comfortable with vague proposals to build a new post office on Morwell's north-side, Les pushed hard to obtain plans for what was to happen at the old site, which

was to become vacant.

He did not want Morwell pushed around. (Morwell Advertiser Thursday October 6, 1949).

As Shire President, Les assured Courtalds, English rayon manufacturer, in early August 1948 that "Council would go the limit in extending co-operation in the event of a favourable location being found." Space has run out. To summarise Les' achievements: Was a Justice of the Peace by 1935.

Was a volunteer with Morwell Fire Brigade 1915.

Was Morwell Water Trust Chairperson 1940.

Was once President of the Morwell Football Club 1940's.

Was once treasurer of the Morwell Bowling Club.

Was President, Central Gippsland Football League, elected March 2, 1952.

Chaired Morwell's Coronation day celebrations in May 1953.

Was Appointed Morwell Shire Council permanent representative to Housing Commission Victoria.

Was committee representative on the Morwell Agricultural Society 1950, 1952



A big bulldozer battles with mud, making a path for a direct rail link with Yallourn.

THE WEEKLY TIMES, July 12, 1950—Page 21



Part of the main street of Morwell, which is becoming too small to handle the traffic.



Prefabricated homes being unloaded on the Housing Commission estate. Approximately 200 homes have been built in this area and 250 more are under construction.

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What do you know?

Here are the answers to August's challenge:

1. Spinach.
2. Waldorf.
3. Grain (goosefoot family).
4. Peppercorn, star anise, cloves, cinnamon, fennel.
5. Berry family.
6. Potato.



Here is my September challenge for you:

1. Two slices of bread enclosing a filling?
2. A mild curry dish, usually lamb or mutton braised in marsala paste, liquid and flavoured with saffron, cashew nuts and yoghurt?
3. Refers to a cut of meat for roasting, also refers to cut up meat or chicken into larger pieces?
4. A creamy dip, made from pureed chickpeas, olive oil, lemon juice, garlic and sesame seed paste?
5. Also known as Chinese parsley and cilantro?
6. Foods produced, prepared and served according to Jewish religious dietary laws?

Pappardelle with Chicken Livers

Ingredients:

250 gm chicken livers, 1 tbs rice bran / canola oil, 1 onion, finely chopped, 2 tbs minced garlic, 300 gm bacon pieces, 1 tbs tomato paste, 1/2 cup white wine, 500 gm pappardelle, 300 ml thickened cream, 1/3 rd cup of finely chopped fresh parsley.

Soak the chicken livers in a bowl of cold water for 15 minutes. Drain and pat dry with paper towelling. Remove any sinews and slice the livers in half. Heat the oil in a large frying pan, add the onion, garlic and bacon pieces, cook over a low heat until the onion softens. Add the liver pieces and cook over a medium heat, stirring until the liver changes colour. Add the tomato paste and wine, continue to cook until the wine evaporates a little. Now cook the pasta in a large saucepan of boiling water until al dente. Drain and keep warm. Stir the cream into the sauce and season to taste with cracked black pepper. Simmer for 2 minutes over a low heat then pour the sauce over the pasta and toss through.

Sprinkle with parsley and serve.



Rhubarb And Apple Streusel Slice

Streusel is the German name for sprinkle. Streusel is a mixture of flour or breadcrumbs with sugar, butter / marg and spices used as a crumble topping on baked goods.

Ingredients:

100gm butter/marg, at room temp, 110 gm castor sugar, 1 egg yolk, 100gm plain flour, 35 gm self raising flour, 1 tbs custard powder, 440 gm chopped rhubarb, 400 gm Granny Smith apples, peeled and thinly sliced, 2 tbs honey, 1 dsp of finely grated orange rind.

Streusel Ingredients:

75 gm plain flour, 35 gm self raising flour, 75 gm firmly packed brown sugar, 1 tsp ground cinnamon, 80 gm butter / marg, chopped.

With this recipe, you have to make the streusel first.

Streusel:

Blend or process the flours, sugar and cinnamon until combined. Add the butter / marg, and process until all ingredients just come together. Now wrap the mixture in cling wrap and freeze the streusel for an hour or until firm. Preheat your oven to 160 deg C. Line a lamington pan 20cm x 30cm with baking paper, extending the paper 3cm over the sides of the pan. Beat the butter, egg yolk and sugar with an electric beater until light and fluffy. Stir in the combined flours and custard powder. Use your hand to press the mixture into the prepared pan. Bake in the preheated oven for 20 minutes or until lightly browned. Remove the slice from the oven and cool for 15 minutes. Increase the oven temp to 180 deg C. Cook the rhubarb, apple, honey and rind in a medium saucepan, stirring over a medium high heat, until apples are just tender. Remove from heat and cool for 15 minutes. Now spread the fruit mixture over the slice base, coarsely grate the streusel over the fruit. Bake uncovered in the preheated oven for 15 minutes or until golden.

Cool in the pan before slicing.



Grandma's easy Apple Cake

Ingredients:

1 and 2/3rds cups self raising flour, pinch of salt, 1/4 cup castor sugar, 60 gm butter/ marg, 3/4 cup milk, 2 cooking apples, peeled, cored and sliced, 1 tsp cinnamon, extra 2 tbs castor sugar.

Preheat your oven to 160n deg C. Grease a 23 cm / 9" round cake pan and lightly sprinkle with fine dry breadcrumbs. Mix together the flour, salt and castor sugar in a large bowl. Rub in the margarine / butter with your fingertips. Add the milk all at once and mix quickly to a soft batter. Place the batter into the prepared pan. Press the apple slices around the edge and in the centre of the batter. Mix together the cinnamon and extra sugar and sprinkle all over the top. Bake in the preheated oven for 50 minutes or until cooked, test with a skewer until it comes out clean. Turn out onto a wire rack and invert right side up, to cool completely. Can be sliced and spread with butter/ marg, if you like.



Stirring Change

Change is inevitable, but it is tradition that gives us our identity and strength. The old ways of doing things are often the old ways because they are the best ways and never more so than in the kitchen.

Think of the wooden spoon, a thousand years of progress has not improved on that most simple of designs and a must have in every kitchen.



Lentil Fritters

Ingredients:

125 gm self raising flour, 1/2 cup milk, 2 eggs, lightly beaten, 1 x 400gm can of brown or green lentils, drained and rinsed, 1 x 410 gm can of corn kernels, drained and rinsed, 1/2 red capsicum, diced, 2 spring onions, finely sliced, oil for frying.

Place the flour in a large bowl. In a separate bowl whisk together the milk and eggs. Slowly add the milk mixture to the flour and stir well to combine. Now add the lentils, corn kernels, capsicum and spring onions to the batter.

Heat the oil in the frying pan over a medium heat. Place tablespoons of the batter in the pan.

Flatten each fritter with a spatula and cook for 3 minutes until golden brown.

Flip and cook the other side for a further 3 minutes.



Coconut Blueberry and Chia Seed Pudding

Ingredients:

250 ml coconut milk, 3 tbs chia seeds, 2 tbs honey, 1 tsp vanilla extract, 150 gm fresh blueberries, black sesame seeds to garnish.

Use a mixing bowl to combine the coconut milk, chia seeds, honey and vanilla extract. Chill in the refrigerator for 15 minutes. After 15 minutes, remove from the refrigerator and stir through the ingredients once again and refrigerate for a further 2 hours.

Remove the bowl from the refrigerator and divide the mixture between serving dishes. Serve topped with fresh blueberries and a sprinkle of black sesame seeds.

(The sesame seeds are optional.)





Churchill Fire Brigade



Spring 2026 Seasonal Outlook.

The Australian Fire Authorities Council has recently released the Spring 2026 seasonal outlook, which shows that below average rainfall has increased bushfire risk potential across parts of Victoria.

AFAC CEO Rob Webb said: "This outlook highlights a heightened risk of fire across several parts of Victoria, driven by a combination of dry conditions in the east and increased fuel loads through parts of Australia. The variety of risk factors across different regions reinforces the need for communities to understand their local conditions and prepare early."

While some areas are facing an elevated risk of fire this spring, bushfires can still occur in regions with a normal seasonal outlook. Communities are encouraged to stay informed, monitor local conditions and follow advice from their fire and

emergency services as the season unfolds."

The areas marked in red on the map below represent an increased risk of fire, largely driven by below average rainfall and dry conditions.

The Seasonal Outlook is the culmination of a complex analysis by expert fire specialists across Australia, and climate prediction and fire weather experts from the Bureau of Meteorology.

Summer Preparations

Given the spring seasonal outlook shown above, we need to start preparing now for this spring/summer and taking actions to prepare our property to minimise the risk of fire.

Prepare your property

- Move furniture, woodpiles and mulch away from windows, decks and eaves

- Prune tree branches so they are not overhanging the roof or touching walls

- Clean your gutters to get rid of any leaf/branch

litter.

- Keep grass shorter than 10cm. Regularly remove leaves and twigs

- Do not have plants higher than 10cm in front of windows or glass doors

- Check that your home and contents insurance is current and includes a level of cover in line with current building standards and regulations.

- Find out more about property preparation on CFA's website

- (cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property).

Keep burn offs safe and legal

Burning off grass, stubble, weeds, undergrowth or other vegetation is generally permitted outside the declared Fire Danger Period.

- Check and monitor weather conditions – particularly wind – on the day of your burn and the days afterwards as fires can flare up in windy

conditions

neighbours

- Notify your neighbours

- Never leave a burn-off unattended – stay for its entire duration

- Find out more on CFA's website (cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property)

Unregistered burn-offs can cause brigades to be called out unnecessarily.

Register your burn-off

Notify Triple Zero Victoria of your planned burn:

- Online (Preferred) -



Register online through the website

<https://firepermits.vic.gov.au/>

- You can do so if your burn-off commences more than two hours from now.

- By Phone - If you wish to start your burn-off immediately, you may register your burn-off by calling Triple Zero Victoria

on 1800 668 511, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. National Relay Service Users can ring 1300 555 727 and ask for Information to be relayed to Triple Zero Victoria via 1800 668 511.

* Please remember that emergency 000 calls will always take priority. Registering online is the fastest and simplest option.



Seasonal Bushfire Outlook Spring 2026



Legend:
Average risk of fire
Increased risk of fire

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The CDCA has had the 2026 AGM on Thursday August 27.

The results are:
President: Peter Gray.
Secretary: Mike Thompson.
Treasurer:- Ian Gibson.

A full quorum was present for the meeting with reports from the Latrobe City Council and Victorian police force. It has been decided

that the CDCA rules be revisited as required every five years. A sub committee has been formed by Peter Gray, Steve McNeilly and Ian Gibson to oversee outstanding issues such as Christmas decorations and CDCA rules for the future.

A thank you from Peter Gray for all the people who have contributed throughout

the financial year to keep CDCA active.

A financial report by Ian Gibson kept us all up to date on the incoming and outgoing finances for the year.

The next CDCA meeting will be held at the Churchill Town Hall on Thursday October 22, at 7pm.

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THE NATIONALS
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Schizophrenia

research

**Research gives
Australians living with
schizophrenia a say in
digital support**

New Federation University research is working with Australians living with schizophrenia to develop a digital tool designed around their needs, with the aim of helping people build greater independence and work towards their own goals.

Federation University PhD researcher Shelci Martin is focusing on adults aged 45 and over, a group whose needs can be overlooked in the design of digital health and wellbeing tools.

Rather than adapting an existing platform or assuming what people need, the research will use the real-life experiences and perspectives of people living with schizophrenia to guide the development of the tool.

Ms Martin is now inviting people from across Australia to take part in a survey exploring how they currently use technology, the challenges they experience in everyday life and where digital tools could potentially provide useful assistance.

Ms Martin said the ultimate goal was to create something personalised that could help people build their capacity and achieve greater independence in their everyday lives.

“Recovery means something different for everyone. It is not necessarily about having

no symptoms, it is about being able to live well and do the things that are meaningful to you,” Ms Martin said.

“For one person that might mean being able to visit a family member each week, while for someone else it could be something completely different.

We want to understand what people themselves want to achieve and how a digital tool could help them work towards those goals.”

The research recognises that many existing digital health and wellness platforms are designed for people already comfortable using apps and websites, potentially creating barriers for people with different levels of digital experience or accessibility needs.

The survey will help build a clearer picture of participants’ digital and functional needs, including how they currently use technology and areas of everyday life where additional assistance could be useful.

“The most important part is making sure we capture the voices of people who are actually living with schizophrenia and who could ultimately use the tool,” Ms Martin said.

“We are also speaking with mental health professionals, but we do not want to design something based only on what professionals or researchers think people need.

We want people with lived experience to tell us what would genuinely be

useful to them.”

Participants who complete the survey will also have the opportunity to express interest in the next stage of the research, involving co-design workshops where they can help shape how the proposed tool could work in practice.

Ms Martin said the aim was not to replace existing services or human support, but to explore another way people could build their own capacity and independence.

“The idea is that it could be something people use to help them reach their own goals and become more independent, rather than creating another thing they have to depend on,” Ms Martin said.

The research is being undertaken through Federation University’s ARC Optimal Ageing Centre in partnership with Flourish Australia, a mental health service provider and National Disability Insurance Scheme provider.

Australians aged 45 and over living with schizophrenia are invited to participate in the survey, with participants welcome from anywhere in the country.

To participate in the survey or find out more, visit

https://federation.sydney.edu.au/qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7UKPcLhLzu11NFC?Q_CHL=qr

**State delegation
strengthens advocacy
for jobs, investment and
community safety**

Latrobe City Council leaders have met with Victorian Government and Opposition representatives during a recent Parliamentary Delegation to advocate for greater support for jobs, investment, economic diversification and community safety across the municipality.

The delegation, led by Latrobe City Mayor, Councillor Sharon Gibson, along with Deputy Mayor Dale Harriman and Chief Executive Officer Steven Piasente, focused on what Latrobe City needs to continue growing and creating opportunities as the region experiences major industry change.

A key focus of the conversations was making sure Latrobe City remains a priority for government investment and support during the energy transition, including supporting the proposed Latrobe Regional Economic Support Package, the Gippsland Logistics and Manufacturing Precinct (GLaMP), the proposed Energy from Waste facility at Maryvale and opportunities in hydrogen, urea production and Carbon Capture and Storage.

Council also called for support to unlock housing and industrial development across Moe-Newborough and Morwell. Twelve infrastructure projects have been identified as

barriers to growth, with the potential to unlock more than 3200 residential lots, 127 industrial and commercial lots and almost 3000 ongoing jobs.

Councillor Gibson said the delegation was an important opportunity to make sure the voices of local communities were being heard.

“Our region is going through a period of change and now more than ever it is vitally important that we keep having these conversations about what comes next,” Councillor Gibson said.

“With the closure of Yallourn getting closer, and recent job losses at Maryvale, constructive dialogue among the key decision-makers is more important than ever, as is action on the ground. People want to know what the future looks like for local jobs, local businesses and our communities.

The Latrobe Valley has helped power Victoria for generations and we are ready to play an important role in the state’s future as well.

There are some exciting opportunities in front of us, but we need the right support to help make them happen.

That is why we are continuing to advocate for investment, better infrastructure and projects that will create jobs and support our local economy.

We are not sitting back waiting for someone else to shape our future. Council is working hard to attract investment, support new industries and make sure



**Latrobe
City**
a new energy

the Latrobe Valley is well placed to benefit from the opportunities ahead.”

Council also raised the need to review outdated coal-related planning controls that continue to limit investment and development in parts of the municipality where coal extraction is no longer viable or appropriate.

Community safety was another key topic, with Council advocating for increased police visibility in town centres, additional Protective Services Officers at transport hubs and support for the proposed Community Connectors Program, which would provide early intervention support for vulnerable community members.

Meetings with representatives from both sides of politics focused on practical ways to support local jobs, increase housing supply, help businesses grow and improve community safety.

Council will continue working with all levels of government to progress the priorities outlined in its Advocacy Agenda and ensure Latrobe City remains a great place to live, work and invest.

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Members meet on the second Wednesday of each month (February through until December) at 1.30pm. 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

School of Discipleship

Stepping beyond your comfort zone

By Shallimar Halliwell

During my recent trip to the School of Discipleship (SOD) 2026 weekend in Stanwell, Sydney, I had the opportunity to listen to a thought-provoking presentation by Rev Dr Sunny Chen. His sessions challenged me to rethink what it truly means to be a disciple and reminded me that following Jesus is not simply about knowing the Bible or attending church but about allowing God to continually transform who we are. It was one of those presentations that stayed with me long after it had finished because it encouraged me to look more deeply at my own faith and how I live it out every day.

Drawing on his background in linguistics and biblical interpretation, Rev Dr Chen explained that every great story follows a familiar structure, a problem, a climax and a resolution. Using examples from pop culture including The Mandalorian alongside the Gospel of John he demonstrated how recurring themes such as water, weddings and relationships connect different parts of Scripture into one unified story. Rather than seeing the stories in John's Gospel as separate miracles he encouraged us to look at the bigger picture and ask what John was trying to reveal about Jesus.

As he explained "Stories repeat important themes for a reason. The Gospel of John is not simply a collection of miracles. It is a carefully crafted story that reveals who Jesus is." This really changed the way I think about reading Scripture. Sometimes I can become focused on understanding one passage at a time, but his presentation reminded me that every part of the Bible fits into God's greater story. It challenged me to read with greater purpose looking for the deeper themes and God's overall message rather than only the individual events.

Throughout the presentation, Rev Dr Chen also shared some of his own experiences. He spoke honestly about the pressures of leadership within the national church, including organisational changes, increasing responsibilities and uncertainty about his own future. Rather than pretending to have all the answers he admitted that there came a point where he realised he could not control everything and simply had to trust God. I appreciated his honesty because it reminded me that even people with years of experience in

ministry still face seasons of uncertainty and doubt. That personal story led into one of the most meaningful messages of the session that transformation cannot be forced. Comparing God's work to the wind described in John's Gospel, Rev Dr Chen explained that real change happens in God's timing often in ways we cannot predict or control. This challenged me because I often want quick answers or immediate growth especially when life feels uncertain. His words reminded me that spiritual growth is not something I can achieve through my own effort alone. Instead it requires patience, trust and a willingness to let God work even when I cannot yet see the outcome.

One of the biggest challenges for me came during his discussion on discipleship. He encouraged us not to stay comfortable surrounded only by people who think the same way we do but instead to intentionally build relationships with people from different backgrounds and with different perspectives. As he said "Real discipleship begins when we step outside our comfort zones. Transformation happens through relationship, not transaction."

This really made me stop and reflect. It is easy to spend time with people who share the same beliefs because it feels safe and comfortable. However, Jesus spent much of His ministry building relationships with people who were often overlooked, misunderstood or completely different from Himself. If I want to become more like Christ, I need to be willing to do the

same. Discipleship is not about staying comfortable it is about loving others well listening with humility and allowing God to work through those relationships to shape my own faith.

Towards the end of the presentation, Rev Dr Chen reflected on the many mentors and teachers who had invested in him throughout his life. He spoke with genuine humility, explaining that his achievements were not the result of his own abilities but of countless people who had encouraged, challenged and supported him over many years. That reminded me that faith is never meant to be lived in isolation. God often uses the people around us to guide us encourage us and help us grow into who He has called us to be. It also challenged me to think about the kind of person I want to be for others and how I can encourage those around me in their own faith journey.

The presentation

concluded with a simple yet powerful reminder even during seasons of uncertainty God is still at work. Like the wind, we cannot control where transformation comes from, but we can choose to remain open to what God is doing. I found this message especially encouraging because life does not always go according to plan. There are times when it feels like nothing is changing or when God's purpose is difficult to see. Yet this presentation reminded me that God is often working behind the scenes, shaping us in ways we cannot yet recognise.

To wrap up, Rev Dr Sunny Chen's presentation was both inspiring and deeply challenging. It reminded me that discipleship is not about having all the answers but about continually allowing God to shape my heart. I left SOD with a renewed appreciation for reading Scripture more deeply, trusting God through

uncertainty and intentionally building relationships that reflect Christ's love. Most importantly, I was reminded that faith is a lifelong journey of transformation and that

some of the greatest growth happens when we are willing to step beyond what feels familiar and trust where God is leading us.



Community Groups

Volunteer for Open House Latrobe

Open House Latrobe is a design festival showcasing Latrobe’s unique architecture, industry and cultural identity, engaging locals and visitors alike.

Through walking/building tours, talks and a symposium, the festival program will open doors to significant buildings, infrastructure and landscapes across Traralgon, Morwell, Moe and beyond. From industrial heritage sites and energy transition projects to cultural institutions, civic spaces and natural environments, the festival will give the visitors from near and far an opportunity to experience first-hand how design shapes the region’s past, present and future.

We are looking for volunteers local to Latrobe City and anyone interested

in travelling to the region to support the program.

Photography Book Project

The Latrobe Valley Camera Club is proud to be creating a beautiful, professionally produced hard cover coffee table book celebrating the people, places and spirit of Latrobe City. Over twelve months, from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, their members will capture the stories, events, landscapes and everyday moments that make our region such a wonderful place to live. To register your interest in having your organisation, community group or event included please call project co-ordinators - Darryl on

0412 145 730 or Sharon on 0437 955 023.

Creative Register

Join Latrobe City’s Creative Register to hear about upcoming

opportunities. The register is open to creatives across all disciplines such as performing arts, music, visual arts, theatre, literature, dance, digital arts and more.

Registering helps Council understand your practice and connect you with relevant opportunities such as programs, events, commissions, grants and creative expressions of interest (EOIs).

Children’s Expo stallholder applications now open

Stallholder registrations are open for the Latrobe City Children’s Expo 2026. Council is seeking stallholders to register and feature at this year’s Children’s Expo to celebrate National Children’s Week.

Stallholders who offer quality goods or services to suit families with young children or provide entertainment options to suit a young audience are encouraged to register. The Children’s Expo will be hosted at Kernot Hall, Morwell on Tuesday October 20, 2026 from 1pm to 6pm. Stallholders will have access to the venue from 9am for setup.



Federation University first to open VCE vocational major pathway to degrees.

Students completing the VCE Vocational Major (VM) will have a direct pathway into selected bachelor degrees at Federation University from Semester 1, 2027.

Students who complete a Certificate III as part of their studies will be eligible for entry into a range of undergraduate degrees, including arts, business, science, IT, health, education and creative industries – making Federation the first university in Victoria to formally recognise the VCE Vocational Major as a pathway into higher education.

Federation University Vice-Chancellor Professor Duncan Bentley, said the initiative reflects the University’s commitment to ensuring more students can pursue higher education, regardless of the pathway they choose at school.

“Students undertaking the VCE Vocational Major with a Certificate III have developed practical skills, discipline and real-world experience,” he said.

“This pathway recognises these strengths and ensures

students have more opportunities to continue their education at university.”

Federation is already recognised as a leader in flexible pathways – with the highest proportion of students moving from vocational into higher education in Australia.

Pro Vice-Chancellor VET and Pathways and Chief Executive TAFE Darren Gray said the new pathway reflects the University’s commitment to broadening access and opportunity.

“A student’s potential is not defined by the type of VCE they complete, and their opportunities should not be either,” he said.

“This opens the door for more students who want to continue their education at university.” The initiative recognises the growing popularity of the VCE-VM, which was introduced in 2023 to give students greater opportunities to integrate vocational education into their senior secondary studies. Participation has grown rapidly, with more than 29,000 students across Years 10–12 enrolled in VCE– VM in 2025, gaining practical skills that prepare them for employment,

further training and study.

The initiative strengthens Federation’s commitment to improving access to higher education, particularly for regional and first-in-family students, who are more likely to pursue vocational pathways in secondary school.

Students who do not meet Certificate III entry requirements will continue to have access to Federation University through the Federation Access Studies (FAST) program, ensuring multiple pathways remain available.

Applicants may still be required to meet course-specific requirements, including literacy and numeracy assessments, folios, auditions or supplementary information where relevant.

To support successful transition, Federation will provide targeted academic support services for students entering via the VCE–VM pathway.

The latest announcement builds on Federation’s many pathway opportunities – providing greater access to university study for students from all backgrounds.

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

“Connecting Your Community”

Churchill & District Lions Club



Meet
1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each Month

Contact Secretary Phone:
Peter Tait 0421 167 915

COMMUNITY SAFETY Words of Wisdom

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

Road Worthiness

With the winter months behind us now, we need to look at the road worthiness of our motor vehicles.

During winter, we tend to forget about tyre pressures, tyre condition, headlights and tail lights that may have failed.

We tend to have the lights on a fair bit during the day and the globes do not last forever.

It is handy to have a spare set of replacement lamps on board. Remember, if your headlights do not work, your car is unroadworthy!

Also, do not forget to turn off your fog lamps when there is no fog or extreme conditions.

Make sure you have your vehicle serviced regularly, and drive to the conditions.

Also, around the Latrobe Valley area, there will be road works done to fix pot holes and other road issues left over from winter conditions.

Remember to stick to the speed limits when travelling through these work areas and watch out for workers on the road.

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

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Plants in my garden

By Mike Beamish

Species: Hakea clavata

Family: Proteaceae

Derivation:

Hakea: Named after Baron Christian Ludwig von Hake (pronounced 'hark'), 1745-1818, a German patron of botany.

Clavata: From Latin clava, meaning 'a club'. Used botanically to indicate club-shaped, in this case referring to the leaves.

Common Name: Coastal or Cactus Hakea.

Distribution:

Western Australia, one record from the eastern Fitzgerald River NP, but most of the population is eastwards from Esperance to Israelite Bay, growing on granite outcrops close to the coast.

Description:

A small or dwarf, scrambling shrub, usually no more than 1m tall, probably influenced by its preferred habitat, growing in cracks and pockets on exposed granite outcrops.

The leaves are flattened, narrowly club-shaped, fleshy and thick, with a sharp-pointed tip (mucro). They are mid-green, glabrous (no hairs), nearly elliptic in cross-section and up to 8cm long and 1cm wide.

Flowers appear in terminal and axillary clusters, are deep pinkish-red to pale pink or white in colour and can occur anytime from January to October, but usually with a flush in August and September. Fruits

are relatively smooth and narrowly ovoid with 2 small dorsal horns and are up to 2cm long. Seeds are not retained on the plant, as the capsules open when seeds are mature.

Opinion:

I have two of these: one is in the ground in the bed adjacent to the western side driveway, is 1m tall but very narrow and is the plant shown in the photos; the other is in a bottomless concrete tub/pipe adjacent to the northern driveway, is marginally bushier but much shorter at about 50cm tall. This one will have the better drainage, being elevated 40cm or so above ground level, but it also has more competition as there are two other plants in the tub with it, a Golden

Grevillea (G. chrysophaea) and a Frog Hakea

(H. nitida), both of which are bigger.

Also, the tub is nestled in a quite crowded part of the garden, so shade could be holding it back too.

Neither of my plants are anywhere near a granite outcrop, so hopefully that is not a critical factor in maintaining this species in cultivation.

Both my plants came from the APS LV raffle table, so presumably are cuttings grown.

Though they have both flowered sparsely, neither appear to have been pollinated as no seed capsules have formed. Seed would probably be easier to use for propagation, but unlike our local Hakeas,

this species does not retain seed once it is mature, so obtaining ripe seed in this part of the world could be problematic.

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: WA Plant Names and their Meanings – Sharr.

Hakeas: A Field and Garden Guide – Holliday.

Banksias, Waratahs & Grevilleas, etc – Wrigley & Fagg.



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CDCA meets on the fourth Thursday of every second month

Next Meeting - 7pm Thursday, 22nd Oct, 2026
Downstairs in Churchill Town Hall

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

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Basketball

Latrobe City to host South East Melbourne Phoenix NBL games for two more seasons.

Latrobe City Council has endorsed an agreement with the South East Melbourne Phoenix to bring National Basketball League (NBL) action back to Gippsland for the next two seasons, continuing a successful partnership that has delivered elite sport and significant economic benefits to the region.

Council has approved funding for two South East Melbourne Phoenix

in-season matches to be hosted in Latrobe City during the 2026/27 and 2027/28 NBL seasons.

Latrobe City Mayor, Councillor Sharon Gibson, is delighted about the ongoing partnership. “Not only do South East Melbourne Phoenix put on an incredible show when they are in town, they are also very generous with their time in the community and that is something really special. They have visited schools to teach skills to local children and they have tried out our disc golf course

in Churchill – we just love having them here.”

The agreement builds on a strong partnership between Latrobe City Council, the Victorian Government, NBL and the South East Melbourne Phoenix, with the region having hosted six Phoenix matches over the past five years. South East Melbourne Phoenix CEO Simon Derrick recently visited Latrobe City to celebrate the completion of upgrades to the Gippsland Regional Indoor Sports Stadium. The upgrades include new and refurbished changerooms and amenities, solar panels and batteries, upgraded lighting, foyer improvements, new broadcasting facilities and more. “We are so pleased to announce this partnership extension and the chance to further deepen our connection with the community which is always so supportive and welcoming. We

would also like to pass on our appreciation for the ongoing investment in the facilities. This will further enhance our games, for all our stakeholders, but will also deliver ongoing benefits for the community to enjoy throughout the years ahead,” said Mr Derrick. The games are expected to deliver a projected economic impact of about \$650,000 per event. In addition to the direct economic benefits, the events provide opportunities for community engagement, inspire participation in sport and showcase Latrobe City to a broader audience. Council officers will work closely with relevant user groups once match dates are confirmed to minimise disruption to regular programming and ensure successful event delivery. The events will be funded through Council’s existing Major Event Attraction budget.

South East Melbourne Phoenix will be facing

Perth Wildcats at Gippsland Regional Indoor Sports Stadium on December 13, 2026 at 5pm. Ticketing

information will be announced at a later date via semphoenix.com.au



Churchill & Monash Golf Club

3 Person Ambrose August 1, 2026

Winners: M. Lugton/D. Byers/Rene Zomer 57 pts

Runners Up: D. Burridge/G. Harvey/C. Sterrick 56 pts

D.T.L: 1. S. Caldwell/C. Stevens/G. Corponi 54 c/b, 2. A. Jenkins/G. Leahy/S. Gregor 54 N.T.P: 3rd P. Flanigan (Propin), 5th I. Fortune, 12th D. Byers, 14th I. Fortune

Women’s Monthly Medal (Stroke) August 4, 2026

Monthly Medal Winner: C. Stevens 78 Nett Scratch Winner: C. Sterrick 101

Putts Winner: K. DelPiccolo 29 D.T.L: 1. C. Sterrick 79 Nett

N.T.P: 3rd C. Sterrick, 5th L. Van Rooy, 12th C. Sterrick, 14th L. Van Rooy

Stroke August 8, 2026

A Grade Winner: D. Byers 69 Nett B Grade Winner: M. Lugton 69 Nett Gross Winner: D. Byers 81 D.T.L: 1. Adam West 72, 2. M. Soppe 73, 3. S. Allison 73, 4. P. McGann 73, 5. R. King 74 c/b N.T.P: 3rd C. Gilfillan, 5th S. Allison, 12th I. Fortune (Propin) Birdies: 3rd C. Gilfillan, R. King

No Event due to heavy Rainfall August 11, 2026

Stableford Multiplication August 15, 2026

Winners: D. Burridge/P.

Kearns 74 pts Runners Up: A. Sharrock/R. Welsh 68 pts D.T.L: 1. G. Leahy/S. Gregor 64, 2. N. Lugton/B. Downie 63, 3. T. Bennett/C. Thompson 62. N.T.P: 3rd A. Jenkins (Prop Pin), 5th B. Downie, 12th B. Downie, 14th P. Flanigan Birdies: 12th N. Lugton Target Hole: D. Byers

Stableford August 18, 2026

Winner: L. Van Rooy 31 pts D.T.L: C. Stevens 30 N.T.P. 3rd L. Van Rooy, 5th M. Ryan, 12th S. Caldwell, 14th M. Ryan

Par August 22, 2026

A Grade Winner: P. Kearns -2 B Grade Winner: A. Sharrock +1

C Grade Winner: J. Balding -1 D.T.L: 1. R. Davidson -2, 2. C. Stevens -3, 3. G. Corponi -3, 4. W. Sutton -4, 5. C. Waring -4, 6. A. Auld -4, R. King -4

N.T.P: 3rd I. Fortune, 5th P. Kearns, 12th D. Burridge (Propin), 14th C. Waring

Birdies: 12th D. Burridge Target Hole: C. Hobbin

Stableford August 25, 2026

Winner: G. Dingwall, 35 pts



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Churchill & District News Writing Comp Winners 2026

This is the 24th time we have run the writing competition. It is the last one!

We thank all who have been involved over the years for their wonderful support of this competition.

For this year though we extend a big thank you to our local primary schools which entered our writing competition. We had 281 entries across the grades from Prep to Grade 6. We would like to thank our sponsors Ampworks, Rotary Club of Hazelwood and District and Churchill & District Lions Club. Their help each year is most appreciated and allows us to be generous with our

awards to further encourage the students to write stories and poems. A special thank you is expressed to our retiring judges who read all the entries and diligently consider each entry. They then spent time coming to a final consensus. The entries show many promising writer's abilities as they continue to improve their skills in poetry and story writing. We are thankful that we have been able to encourage many people to continue to write and improve. First prize winners are published in this issue.

Category 1 - 7 and Under

Olivia C. P L o c k e d in at Pet Co 1st. Chelsea Masterman-Smith

The Zoo 2nd. Layla Bramstedt Lost Max Encouragement, Sabrina Collier My Cat Encouragement. Marcus Kohn Motorbike Ride Encouragement. Lacey Lewis The Tooth Fairy Encouragement. Huxley Jones Scary Movie Encouragement. Robbie Hawkins Space Encouragement, Zeke Boston Zanthia Encouragement. Lucas Stallion I fell Off the Bridge Story Encouragement. Millie Griffiths The West Slide Encouragement. Hunter Wardle Hunter and his Sister Encouragement. Freddie Murrell The Epic Crash in the Desert Encouragement. Winnie Van Heerwaarden The

Evil Bully Encouragement. Winston Smith Dinosaur Escape Encouragement. Prep B The Penguin's Wild Adventure Class Award. Prep S The Koala Goes Exploring Class Award.

Category 2 - 8-10 Years

Annabelle Taylor The Theft of the Clydesdales 1883 1st. Elijah Henshaw Big W Bandits 2 n d . Daniella O The Golden Fish 3rd. Evie Thomson My Place Encouragement. Ella Amas My Place Encouragement. Liam McDougall My Place Encouragement. Clara Murphy My Place Encouragement. Jorunn Van Dyke My Place Encouragement. Jackson Sparrow A Man at

Sea Encouragement. Nate Lowrie The Alien invasion Encouragement. Gawlin Burrows The Magic Forest Encouragement. Zoe O The New Planet Encouragement. Peter H Ferris Wheel Fire Encouragement. .Manny Ryan Time Machine Encouragement. Laylah Jones The Forbidden Forest Encouragement. Alexis Tiriana The Calming Breeze Encouragement. Sienna Lynn Shadows Haunting Encouragement.

Category 3 - 11-12 Years

Jesse Henry World Cup 1st. Amelia McKinnell Beyond Science Equal 2nd. Jacob Draper The Northern Lands Equal 2nd. Jack Dawe

Shallow Inlet E q u a l 3rd. Ebony A The Discovery Equal 3rd. Artur Da Costa The property of the live light Encouragement. Ge Min Tan The Adventure Encouragement. Hunter Newing Dragon Ball z Battle Stars Encouragement. Ge Min Tan Lucinda's Adventure Encouragement. Ashley Sheary Poetry Encouragement. Theo I School Camp Encouragement. Ebony Lawdorn The Thunderstorm Encouragement. Rayla Barrett Poems Encouragement. Alice Lever Home Encouragement

Category 1, 7 and under, short story, poem

Locked in at Petco

Once upon a time, there was an adorable little girl named Sarah who loved playing with her kitten.

Later that afternoon, Sarah waved BYE BYE to the kitten and her mum. Sarah chose to go to the Petco store.

When Sarah got to the mall, she went to Starbucks and got a one dollar pink drink. Then Sarah went to the candy factory and got everything she could and then

she went to Petco.

Finally at Petco, Sarah looked for the Lego. She was looking for Panda Lego. So, Sarah was walking like a fool when she found the Lego. Sarah carefully got the Panda Lego out and started building it.

Because she was so sneaky, she wasn't looking and she stepped on a button. The alarm went off. "That was a toy?!"

Sarah, who was hiding

under the big pillow, waited until everyone was gone.

Close to midnight, she eventually came out. She saw the time and it was 12:00. She had to go. She went to see if the door was open. But it wasn't and she said, "Nooo!"

Sarah was tired but she couldn't go to sleep. So, she was dancing around and whooping because now she could do all of the Lego.

Sarah found a TV and was watching "Amazing World of

Gumball" and was laughing her head off.

Next, Sarah found the beds and was jumping very swiftly and couldn't stop laughing.

After two hours and forty-five minutes, Sarah began to feel butterflies in her tummy because she had not eaten since lunch.

The mall was silent. Sarah was cold. She heard a scary noise. She cried and she shouted out, "Help!". She felt as scared as a little cub.

Sarah saw the door was tightly locked, so she knew she couldn't do anything.

Sarah went to the door. She was so scared and was breathing quickly.

Suddenly, Sarah saw a very, very bright light and realised that a cop was there. Sarah waved her hands excitedly and shouted bravely to get attention.

When the cop saw Sarah stuck inside, he immediately called the Mall's manager to

bring his key so he could free her. "Yay!"

The Mall's manager swiftly opened the door. Sarah yelled out, "I'm never going to the mall again!" and passed out asleep!

All of a sudden, Sarah woke up and felt down and sad. Then she actually knew her parents would yell at her.

By Olivia C.P.

Category 2, children 8 – 10, short story, poem

The theft of the Clydesdales 1881

Sunny stepped outside and breathed in deeply enjoying the cool fresh air. Peanut her little chestnut Shetland pony, trotted up to her. He nuzzled her long curly brown hear. She gave him a scratch on his short little neck just the place he like it. She stared into the distance enjoying the view. In one of the paddocks, she could see her father's Clydesdales that pulled a carriage and took people around the town. Sunny enjoyed living on the farm very much.

"Sunny it's time for dinner," called her mother from the back door.

"Coming," she replied.

She turned back to the house and walked inside. They were having Sunny's favourite for dinner, vegetable soup! After dinner she pulled on her pyjamas, brushed her teeth and crawled into her nice cozy bed. She was so tired that she fell asleep in almost an instant.

BANG! Sunny woke with a startle. "What was that noise?" she wondered, a bit worried. She slid out of bed and peeked out the window. The sky was dark and the moon was just creeping out from behind the thick layer of dark clouds. It was probably about midnight. Then she saw something strange. Her heart started beating faster. She checked again thinking she was just seeing things. She wasn't. Rose and Storm, the Clydesdales weren't in their

paddock! She had to go and find them, but she couldn't tell her parents. They would say to look for them in the morning, but it might be too late by then. They could have gone miles away. She slipped on her blue woolen jumper and some boots and quietly crept down the stairs. She stopped at her parents' room. It was dark and quiet except for the faint sound of her father lightly snoring. She continued toward the back door. She closed the door praying the clunk of the lock didn't wake her parents.

Once she was outside, she sat on the cold brick step wondering what her next move was. Who should she tell? Where should she go? She thought for a while then decided her best option was to try and wake up her best friend Emma who lived next door. She couldn't wake Emma's parents, or they would tell her parents. She walked over to Emma's house. Emma's bedroom was on the second level of her tall brick house. Maybe she could throw something at the window? No, that might break the thin sheet of glass. She looked around. There wasn't much but there was a drainpipe that went right past her bedroom window. It was her only option. She started climbing up the pipe. Her hands above her head hauling the rest of her body up with her. Her feet were firmly pressed against the brick wall for support. Her arms started to ache badly, but she kept going.

Finally, she reached the deep window ledge, and her hand hit the window. On no. She didn't want to scare Emma. She sat there for a moment to catch her breath and see if she had woken and scared Emma. Nothing.

There was no noise coming from the room. She pressed her ear against the cold glass trying to hear better. She couldn't hear anything. Gently she knocked on the window. It would probably still scare her but she had to be woken. After a second or two she saw a dark shape appear on the other side of the glass. It was Emma. The glass window opened creaking loudly.

"Who are you," asked Emma worriedly.

"It's Sunny," she replied.

"What are you doing here," whispered Emma confused. Sunny slipped through the window and sat on Emma's bed.

"It's an emergency," Sunny whispered back.

Sunny explained to Emma about the missing Clydesdales, how they needed to be found urgently and how their parents would say to wait until the morning.

"Let's go to the paddock to investigate," said Emma half worried about the Clydesdales, half excited for a mystery.

"Okay," replied Sunny.

"Let's go through the house," suggested Emma.

Together they quietly went downstairs and out the door. They walked carefully

in the dim light of their lantern. Finally, they reached the far paddocks where the Clydesdales used to be. "Let's look for clues," suggested Emma.

They looked around the ground for anything that might show where the Clydesdales might have gone. Then Sunny remembered something.

"The bang," cried Sunny suddenly.

"What are you talking about," asked Emma confused.

"The whole reason I woke and found the Clydesdales missing is because I heard a massive bang from outside," replied Sunny.

They looked around for what caused the bang. As Emma looked down, she noticed something neither of them had seen before.

"Look," said Emma. Footprints and hoof prints that match the Clydesdales large size.

Emma knelt down and examined the footprints.

"They don't look familiar," said Sunny. "To big to be anyone in my family or any of my father's workers. I think the Clydesdales have been stolen!"

"Lets ride our ponies and follow the footprints," suggested Emma.

They ran over to their ponies Mini and Peanut. There was no time to tack up so they just got on and trotted back to where the footprints were. They slowed to a walk knowing that riding fast at

night was a risk for themselves and their ponies. Carefully they kept their lantern close to the ground and followed the footprints away. Not long after Sunny spotted a light in the distance. Not a town just one light. They kept following the footprints. It was leading them toward the light. Emma noticed it too.

As they got closer, they recognised it as a building. Emma squinted her eyes trying to focus on the building. It was a barn.

That must be where the Clydesdales are hidden. Temptation to go faster crept up on them but they knew it would be too dangerous. Eventually when they got quite close to the barn they dismounted and continued on foot so they could get there without being seen. The grass was long and they crawled on hands and knees to stay hidden. If they were spotted, they would be at a huge risk. Thieves were dangerous.

They got to the barn and carefully peered in through the window. Sure enough there were the Clydesdales. They looked very distressed. The thieves had put tight ropes around their heads, and they had no food or water in the hot stuffy barn.

"Let's go find an entrance," whispered Sunny quietly so they didn't get caught.

They cautiously crawled around the walls of the barn. Then they spotted a door. One problem though. There

was a tall, tough looking man standing right on the doorway.

How would they ever get through? They crept back behind a thick bush to think about a way to get through. Maybe they could climb through a window. No, how would the ever get the Clydesdales back out?

Just then they heard a strange noise. They peeked around from behind the bush. The guard was lying against a bale of hay snoring loudly. Now was their chance.

They ran into the barn. Once there were in, they had to work quietly and quickly. Any second the guard could wake up. They untied the Clydesdales and led them out of the stalls. They climbed onto the fence and got on the Clydesdales and rode them carefully out of the barn. They urged the Clydesdales into a trot with the safety of the barn light. They got to their ponies, and they heaved a sigh of relief.

They were out of danger now. They started their journey home and their ponies followed behind them. They soon returned to their homes, put the Clydesdales in their paddocks and slipped back into their houses. Their parents wouldn't know about their rescue, and they planned to keep it that way forever.

The End.

Annabelle Taylor

Category 3, children 11 – 12, short story and poetry

World Cup

In the bustling city of Melbourne, Thomas lived in a small house with his dog Jim. Thomas is 20 years old and he was very small and shy, but he loved playing soccer more than anything.

His favourite team was Portugal even though he played for Australia. It was exactly one week before the World Cup. He was at training one night then the coach told

them that their goalkeeper broke his arm so he would be out for the tournament. "What will we do, who will be goalie?" "Does anyone want to try?" said coach Bailey. "I will," said one of the defenders.

It was time for the World Cup! Australia vs Spain. In the 87th minute the ball was passed over three mid fielder's heads straight to me, I did a feint left and exploded passed

a defender. It was 1v1 with the goalie, he charged at me so I chipped it over him and we won 1-0. After a few more games we were in the semi-final. It was 2-2. We had a corner in the 91st minute the ball was tossed in I leaped up as high as I could and smashed a header into the top right corner, the goalie had no chance.

It was the grand final, we were down 2-1 against

Portugal! With 20 seconds on the clock. We were headed towards goal the clock was running out, 10,9,8,7,6 the ball was crossed to me 5-4-3, I volley it in the top corner, the goalie dived and save it 2-1, the whistle blew, we had lost the game.

But the whistle didn't blow because the game ended, the whistle blew because the opposition had balled it before the goalie saved it. It

was a penalty and I was taking it! All the pressure was on me. I stepped up to take the penalty. I was nervous but I was determined to score. I took, three deep breathes and smashed the ball down the left-hand side, the goalie dived but didn't save, it was a goal! Everyone was cheering, it was going to be a penalty shoot-out!

I had the fifth penalty and by then we were down tied

3-3. I stepped up and smashed into the goal. It was depended on if our goalie made the save. The striker stepped up and chipped it down the middle, but our goalie didn't budge, he caught the ball, We won!!

Everyone was cheering. We stepped up on stage as I lifted the World Cup in the air, we were the champions.

Jesse Henry

SCHOOL *news*

Lumen Christi Primary

Lumen Christi lights up the night at Glow Disco

Lumen Christi Primary School in Churchill was recently transformed into a spectacular sea of colour and light as students came together for the school's much-anticipated Glow Disco.

The evening was filled with music, dancing, laughter and plenty of glowing fun, with students embracing the opportunity to dress up in their brightest and most colourful outfits. The glow-themed decorations and lighting created a fantastic atmosphere as students danced the night away with their friends.

For many students, the Glow Disco was a wonderful opportunity to spend time with friends outside the classroom and enjoy being

part of the Lumen Christi community. The energy on the dance floor was infectious, with plenty of fun had by all throughout the evening.

The event was organised and run by the dedicated Lumen Christi Parents and Friends Committee, who worked hard to ensure the night was a memorable experience for all of the children. Their commitment to creating opportunities for students and families to come together is an important part of strengthening the school community.

Principal, Sally Darby, praised the Parents and Friends group for their hard work and creativity. "Events like this really show the wonderful community spirit of Lumen Christi.

This amazing group of parents always come together to create something special for the children. The smiles on their faces at the Glow Disco make all the planning, effort and hard work worth it," she said.

The Glow Disco was not just a celebration of light and laughter, but also a successful fundraiser, with proceeds supporting future school projects and activities that enhance student learning and wellbeing.

A special thank you also goes to the many parents who volunteered their time to help on the night. From setting up and decorating to supervising students, serving refreshments and packing everything away at the end of the evening, the Glow Disco was truly a community effort.

The Glow Disco was

a fantastic celebration of friendship, fun and community spirit, and certainly left plenty of happy students with glowing memories to take home!

Lumen Christi celebrates the magic of books during Book Week

Lumen Christi Primary School in Churchill recently celebrated the joy and magic of books during a wonderful week of Book Week activities.

The highlight of the celebrations was our much-anticipated Book Week Dress Up Parade, where students enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to bring their favourite book characters to life. The school was transformed into a colourful collection of superheroes, storybook characters, animals and much-loved

figures from children's literature and fairytales.

It was fantastic to see so many students get involved and put so much thought and creativity into their costumes. The enthusiasm continued as families and friends joined us for the morning parade.

Students proudly walked through the parade, showcasing their costumes and sharing their love of books and stories with the school community.

Book Week is not just about dressing up. Throughout the day, students participated in a range of engaging Book Week activities in their classrooms and during their library sessions.

These activities provided opportunities for students to explore stories, authors and characters while developing

a deeper appreciation for reading and the wonderful worlds that books can open up.

Adding to the fun, our teachers also joined in the celebrations by dressing up for the day. Seeing students and staff sharing in the excitement made Book Week a true whole-school community event.

At Lumen Christi, we believe that books have the power to inspire imagination, spark curiosity and help children see the world through different eyes.

Our Book Week celebrations were a wonderful reminder of the joy that reading can bring, and it was fantastic to see our whole school community celebrating together.



SCHOOL news

Boolarra Primary

There have been lots of exciting things happening at Boolarra Primary School in our F-2 classroom! We recently visited Boolarra Preschool to learn all about bees and had a fantastic time celebrating our 100 days of school.

Our 100 day celebration included some very creative costumes and lots of fun activities. We practised counting to 100 using different objects and discovered that it is much easier to count larger numbers by grouping them into tens. Filling the carriages of our "Teddy Trains" was a fun way to practise counting by tens.

We also had fun creating some very "old" faces using crumpled-up paper bags and cotton wool. It was a wonderful day filled with learning, creativity and lots

of smiles!

Students were also asked a few questions about our bee excursion. Here's what they had to say!

What was your favourite part of the bee excursion?

Cooper: The honey! Because it was yummy.

Charlie: When we had a hat on and we went push push with the smoker.

Sadie: Seeing the beehive because I saw real live bees!

Emily: That was really fun, I was playing with my old kinder friends.

Leondre: Eating the honey!

Aria: My favourite part was when we tried honey and because it was my first time, I ever had honey.

What is one new thing you learnt about bees?

Cooper: There is a drone bee, a working bee and a queen bee.

Charlie: The drones get kicked out in the winter time because they are cheeky. The worker bees get the honey.

Sadie: There is a queen and the king doesn't have a stinger.

Aria: When we learned that the working bees are the only ones that go out and the queen bees make babies.

Why do you think bees are important?

Because they give us honey and they make all the food and there wouldn't be any food if they weren't here.

Charlie: Because they give us honey.

Sadie: Because they keep our plants healthy.

Leondre: You can't touch them. Bees will bite you! They fly away in the sky.

If you could ask a bee one question, what would it be?

Charlie: Can you please

sting a bear! But if I was a bee I would ask a wasp to sting a bear because I would die if I stung stuff.

Emma: Don't sting me please!

There have also been lots of exciting things happening in our 2-6 class! We have recently started using the SpellEx program to help us develop our spelling and literacy skills. We have been learning new spelling patterns, practising our words and building our confidence with spelling. It has been great to see everyone getting involved and giving it a go!

Our Grade 6 students have also had an exciting Discovery Day in Mirboo North. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to explore, learn new things and spend time with other students as they prepare for the transition to high school.

We also have an article from Ava, one of our Grade 6 students, sharing her experience of Discovery Day.

I most enjoyed the Art class because we painted with water colours and it was fun.

I also enjoyed the woodwork class because we were taught how to weave. I might do this in my spare time at home. I'd like to weave a basket.

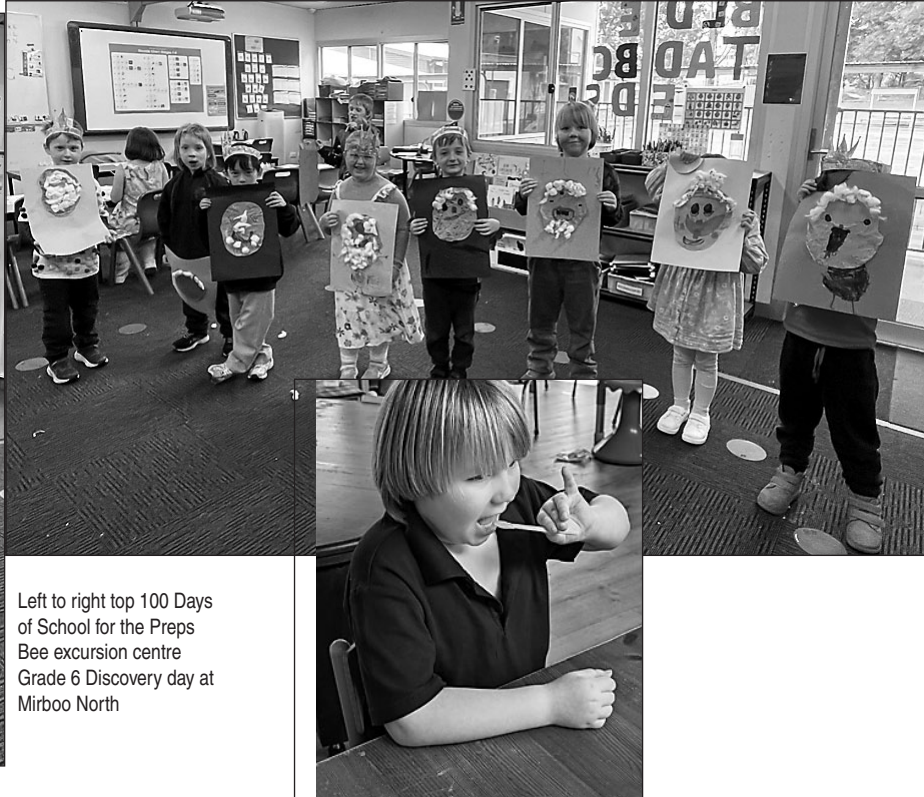
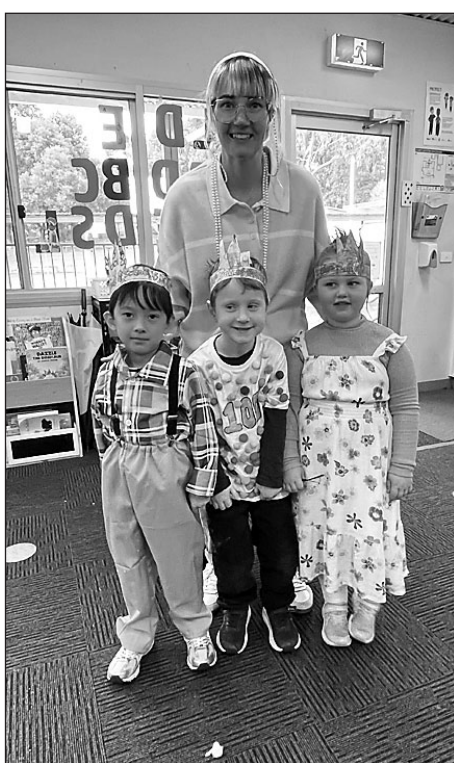
One thing I learned that I didn't know before was that you can basically make anything out of wood if you have the skills.

I am looking forward to high school because they have a lot of different activities that we don't have at primary school.

I also liked the teachers and I am looking forward to making new friends!

This term at school, we have been learning about fractions and decimals. Our Teacher Miss Nic has made learning fractions fun. Last week we had to guess the amount of lollies in a lolly jar, but we had to provide an answer in fractions and then convert the fraction into a decimal format. We all guessed and converted, but it was Leon who is a whiz at maths, who won the competition.

In Literacy, we have been using SpellEx, and we have been learning to become master spellers with Stella the Speller! It's fun to sing songs that help us learn spelling codes such as the suffix doubling rule. Stella has a checklist that helps us remember when to double a letter in a suffix. Stella has made spelling fun!



Left to right top 100 Days of School for the Preps
Bee excursion centre
Grade 6 Discovery day at Mirboo North



SCHOOL news

Churchill North Primary

STEM and Art

In Art this term, the whole school marked World Oceans' Day with drawn, painted or collage works showing all kinds of marine life. Students have also been learning about the work of M.C. Escher, looking especially at his tessellated

works and 'impossible' architecture. Everyone had a go at creating tessellations with a range of shapes and colours. Students especially enjoyed the impossible staircases, and the aqueduct which appears to flow uphill. Older students have been learning to draw the

impossible triangle for themselves.

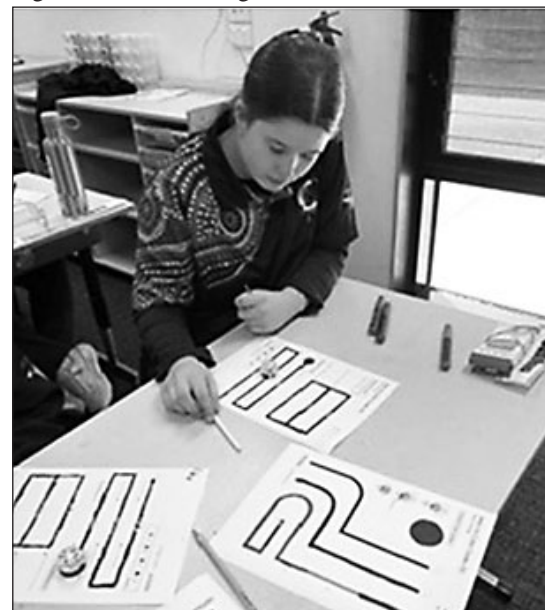
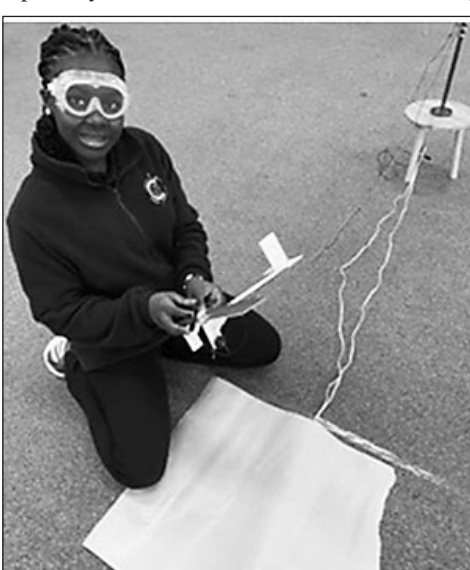
In STEM, (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) students have been investigating different kinds of programmable robots. For younger students, the Beebots, which they can program to move in

different directions, and for older students, the Ozobots, which are programmed using sequences of coloured lines.

Most excitingly though, after six months of building and troubleshooting, Grade 5/6 students completed their aviation project and achieved their goal of creating

model aeroplanes which really fly with the help of a 'centripetal thrust generator.' The students had to find solutions to an initial lack of thrust to enable the planes to have enough lift to get off the ground, and what to do when some planes taxied backwards!

Their hard work and persistence was rewarded with a visit from Win Television News. They asked us what was next for Stem at CNPS. Our answer was: "Watch this space!"



SCHOOL news

Stepping into the Spotlight: Our Wakakirri story comes to life!

Students from Churchill Primary school this year participated again in Wakakirri story dance festival, held at Frankston Arts Centre. This year's theme was 'Guardians of Us' and we chose to use the story 'The One and Only Ivan' as our story, which is a novel we study at school in Years 3 and 4 and based on a true story. 'The One

and Only Ivan' is about a gorilla named Ivan who lives in a shopping mall. When a young elephant named Ruby arrives, Ivan wants to protect her. Through his drawings, he helps Ruby find a better life in a zoo. The story is about friendship, courage, freedom, and hope. Students worked all year to learn a 5-minute dance with acting and characterisation to tell this story. On the night we were awarded with:

- Storytelling award

for story construction and clarity

• Storytelling award for strong use of the festival motif

• Production award for sets, props and costumes

• Ensemble award for dancing and acting

• Production award for projection

We are so proud of all 24 students' commitment and efforts to Wakakirri this year and are so proud of their excellent teamwork

Churchill Primary

and sportsmanship on the day, encouraging and congratulating students from other schools.

Bullying, No Way!

CPS students recently wore purple and participated in special activities based on preventing bullying through actions such as inclusion, kindness and speaking up as part of the Bullying, No Way week.

Bullying, No Way week is an opportunity for our students to learn how

small, positive actions can make a big difference in creating a safe, inclusive and respectful school community. Throughout the week, students explored what bullying looks like, the importance of including and supporting others, and what they can do if they see or experience unkind behaviour. This year's theme, 'Small Acts, Big Impact,' reminds us that even small acts of kindness and inclusion can make a big difference.

Henny Penny Hatching Program

It was so exciting being part of the Henny Penny Hatching Program! Students had the opportunity to observe eggs developing and chicks hatching, while learning about animal life cycles, the needs of living things and how to care for animals safely and respectfully.



Left and right top
Stepping into the Spotlight: Our
Wakakirri story comes to life!
Bullying No Way
middle
Chickens bottom left



SCHOOL news

It has been another cracking month here at Hazelwood North Primary School, full of dress-ups, digging, and a whole lot of school spirit.

Our Foundation students had a fabulous time recently celebrating their 100th day of school. The kids were so excited to show us their amazing costumes and crafty dress ups! The Foundation classes joined together for their 100th Day

of Learning and completed building challenges (towers and words), reading, letter hunting, and crown making!

A lovely bit of sunshine has helped Goodall Group get out and begin work on our vegetable garden. Students have flattened the ground and placed the garden beds that were purchased with Term 1 can drive money. In the coming days and weeks, we plan to fill up our garden beds and begin

planning what we are going to plant in this space. In other Goodall Group news, FJS received a special chip lunch reward for being the class that brought in the most bottles and cans to recycle.

We had a fantastic time dressing as ourselves this week, in celebration of 'Bullying No Way' Week. The idea came from our student school leaders, who wanted to raise awareness of how bullying affects

others. They decided that wearing whatever you like, regardless of what anyone else thinks, was a great way to celebrate being yourself and help stamp out bullying at our school. Everyone got involved, from bright colours to sporty gear to arty outfits — anything that showed who they really are! Our students were also able to participate in our fun lunch time games such as giant snakes and ladders, totem

tennis, chalk drawing, and bowling organised by our school Captains and Vice Captains. A great day to show awareness and show that Small Acts can have big Impact.

Recently we celebrated Book Week! Students (and their families) went above and beyond with the creative ways they dressed as their favourite book character. The day started with a whole school parade and

then students moved into their multi age groups to rotate through activities that were organised and run by some of our Grade 5/6 Leaders. Student leaders chose different picture books as their focus for these activities. We had puppet shows, origami, maraca-making, chicken making and dancing, and story-inspired art and design challenges. A brilliant, creative day enjoyed by the whole school.



SCHOOL news

Yinnar Primary

Building Project

Our community will have noticed that fencing has gone up around the school grounds and the foundations for our new relocatable buildings have now been laid.

Unfortunately, we have experienced a further short delay due to some regulatory requirements. We are hopeful that, once a builder is appointed through the tender process, the project will move forward more quickly, and we will see the Block A works get underway.

School Basketball

On Friday August 14, our Grade 5/6s participated in District Basketball at the Churchill Leisure Centre. We had five teams enter: one Grade 6 boys' team, one Grade 5 girls' team, one Grade 6 girls' team and two Grade 5 boys' teams. All the teams had a successful day, winning multiple games.

We played a range of schools within our district,

including Churchill, Hazelwood North and Lumen Christi, as well as each other.

Both Grade 5 boys teams missed out on progressing to the final based on percentage, as the ladder was tied on points at the conclusion of the day.

The Grade 6 boys team won all their games, so we progressed to the final. We played our roles well in all the games and worked well together as a team.

In the final, we played Churchill, who put up a great fight. We ended up winning by 29 points, so we have moved on to the Division round. We are proud of how we played and worked together throughout the day!

By Beau C and Farrah Regional Girl's Footy

On Wednesday August 5, our Grade 5/6 girls footy team travelled to Traralgon to compete at the regional level in girls' AFL.

We played four competitive matches against some super skilful teams, making every game a great challenge.

Throughout the day, our team showed resilience and never gave up, continuing to cheer each other on. We were very happy to come away winners in one of our games!

We would like to say thank you to Danny Young, for taking the time to come and coach us. We also want to thank Ms Gill for her help on the day and Mr Kneebone and Mr Twomey for running training sessions at school.

Finally, thank you to all the parents who came along to cheer us on from the sidelines and for driving us there. We would not have had the chance to experience this amazing day without your incredible support!

By Jess and Cindel

Upstanders Day

On August 21, we celebrated Upstanders

Day. Upstanders Day is an important day where we learn about kindness and standing up for others. It reminds us that we all have the power to help stop bullying and make sure no one feels left out.

Instead of being a bystander and watching someone get bullied or excluded, we can be an upstander by speaking up, getting help or including someone who is feeling lonely. Even small acts of kindness can make a big difference to someone's day.

Upstanders Day is important because it encourages us to show empathy, include others and treat everyone with respect. We can all be upstanders by choosing kindness and helping to make our school a safe and welcoming place for everyone.

By Bonnie, Daisy and Henry



SCHOOL news

Kurnai University Campus

Gippsland Regional Senior Soccer

Recently, the Senior Boys/Mixed Senior Soccer Team went to Harold Preston Reserve to compete in the Gippsland Region Senior Soccer against the division winners from the other Gippsland regions: West Gippsland, East Gippsland,

and South Gippsland.

Having a full side with six on the bench really helped us to rotate and have fresh legs on the pitch, and the weather was on our side with the sun shining, but the wind was blowing a gale in our last game.

For our first game against Lowanna College,

we went in thinking it might be tough, but Clay scored an easy first goal, followed by two more. We won 3-1; Clay had a hat trick, and we conceded our only goal of the day, with Cody in goal filling the goalkeeper role – as Jack T was coming later.

In the second game against Bairnsdale Secondary College, we also claimed the win with a 3-0 score line, with Clay scoring two, and our coach Hamzh putting one in the back of the net.

Our final game of the day was against Leongatha Secondary College, once again pocketing the win, resulting in no losses on the day, putting us through to state level. Clay was assertive again with two goals up his sleeve, followed by another by Harry, and Zak finishing it off, with the end score being 4-0.

All players putting in 100% and showing encouragement and great teamwork was amazing to see, and now we bring it to

the State Finals.

Written by Alex F.
VPC Community Garden Program

Our Year 11 and 12 VPC students have been rolling up their sleeves and getting involved in the Community Garden Program at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre as part of their Work-Related Skills studies.

Beginning last term and continuing throughout this term, the program has provided students with valuable hands-on learning

experiences while helping them develop important employability skills through teamwork, volunteering and community engagement.

During their time at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre, students have taken part in a variety of activities, including: gardening and caring for community spaces, recycling bottles and containers, supporting local community projects and building practical workplace and teamwork skills.

This wonderful initiative gives students the opportunity to grow their confidence, strengthen their employability skills and contribute positively to their local community.

A huge thank you to the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre for supporting our students and providing them with such a valuable and rewarding learning experience!



Lions Club of Churchill & District

Winter is here and it has been cold, I'm guessing open fires are roaring, heaters are on and power bills are shooting to a record sky high. However, dedicated Lions will still be up early with the BBQ set up and ready to go at the ever increasing Bunnings Sausage Sizzles and catering requests. These raise important funds that support our community projects, as we were for the Churchill Junior Football & Netball Clubs finals on Sunday August 23. We assisted the Football &

Netball Club with catering on the day with all proceeds raised going back to the Junior Football & Netball Club. The Club assisted the Churchill United Soccer Club with a donation to assist with uniform upgrades for the Under 5 and Under 7 team uniforms. The Club also renewed its Ram Associate sponsorship for the Soccer Club on completion of its existing sponsorship. The Club also gave financial assistance to Lifeline Gippsland, the

Morwell Citizens Band and Buckets for MND fundraiser on Sunday August 23. We also supported important Lions projects such as Lions District Governor's Walk for a Walker which supports the Lions Children Mobility Foundation, and the Lap the Map fundraiser for the Lions Assistance Dogs. The club assisted Bunnings with catering at the Bunning's Father's Day Family Community night on Thursday September 3, as well as catering a fish and chip lunch for

Bunnings staff in August. There was a free BBQ at the Churchill Community market, and catering was done at the Gippsland football preliminary finals on Saturday September 5. Catering will be done for ENGIE Australian Centre for Geomechanics on Friday September 18. From October onwards it will be a busy time and will stretch the club's resources. There will be catering and parking at the upcoming Horse Show, Gippsland Outdoor Living

and Caravan Expo and Derby Day at Glenview Park Latrobe Valley Racing Club Traralgon. In November there is the Lions Club community Family Fishing and Fun Day at Lake Hyland and the Traralgon Cup day. At our last Meeting in August President David Lyne welcomed and inducted two new members into the Club, President David spoke about the importance of attracting and getting new members, hopefully younger members, into the Club to keep it active

in the Community in the future. President David inducted Ali Oakley and Therese McNamara into the Club, both eager to be involved and serve the community



From left Secretary Peter Tait, President David Lyne, Ali Oakley, Therese McNamara and Sponsor Steve Duggan

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