

# WARANGA NEWS

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Print Post Approved PP1000007000

RRP \$2.00

A community newspaper  
staffed by volunteers

Thursday 10 October 2024

## Ballot packs mailed out for Council elections

Ballot packs for the 2024 Victorian local government elections have been mailed out to eligible voters.

The packs include essential voting materials such as the ballot paper, candidate statements, and instructions on how to complete and return the vote.

Voting is compulsory, and residents must complete and return their ballots by mail or drop them at designated locations before the election deadline.

It's important for voters

to follow the instructions carefully to ensure their vote is counted correctly. Electoral Commissioner Sven Bluemmel is encouraging people to vote as early as possible.

"This election is postal, so it's important to complete and return your ballot material as soon as possible to make sure your vote counts," Mr Bluemmel said.

For Campaspe voters, ballot material must be in the mail or delivered to the election office at former Echuca-Moama Information Centre, 2 Heygarth Street, Echuca by 6 pm Friday 25 October.

Greater Shepparton Council votes must be mailed or returned to the election office located at the Shepparton Senior Citizens

Centre, 132 Welsford Street, Shepparton.

Voters who haven't received their ballot pack by Tuesday 15 October should go to [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) to complete an online replacement ballot pack form.

Candidates who have nominated are listed in the ballot packs together with candidate photos and statements in the packs if provided.

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Chris Bolton **BOLTON ESTATE AGENTS** 0413 092 698



# Metals exploration active around Rushworth

In the bush around Rushworth, a very twenty-first century activity is underway on nineteenth century gold fields. Wodonga-based Dart Mining NL is drilling a series of test bores around the town to ascertain the status of any precious metals that may remain despite heavy regional mining in Rushworth's early days.

The company's Rushworth exploration is primarily seeking gold and antimony, and its search locations are concentrated around existing mining sites on Crown Land that were active during the nineteenth century.

Growler's Hill has already yielded promising assays, and several test bores have been sunk near the old Phoenix mine to the northwest of the town. The map at the bottom of the page indicates all of the target areas the company is planning to explore.

All exploration work is heavily regulated, under the Victorian Mineral Resources Sustainable Development Act and Dart Mining has secured all licences and environmental approvals to undertake the work.

(Top right) Dart Mining's drilling rig near the Phoenix Mine northwest of Rushworth.

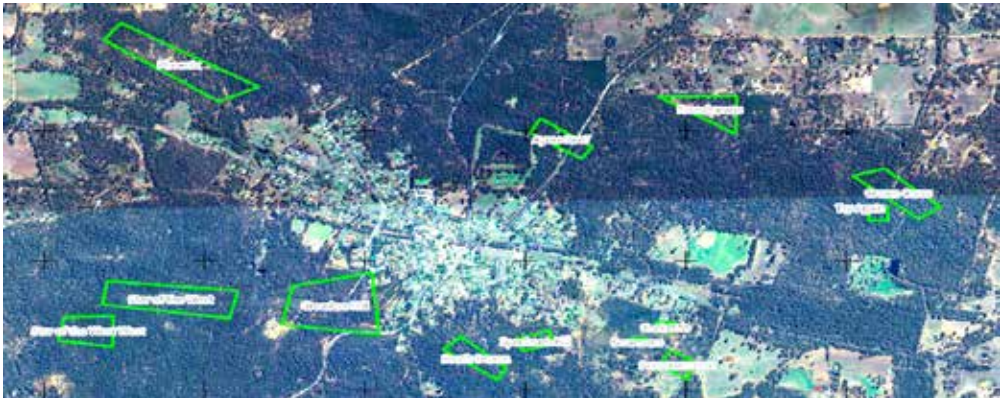
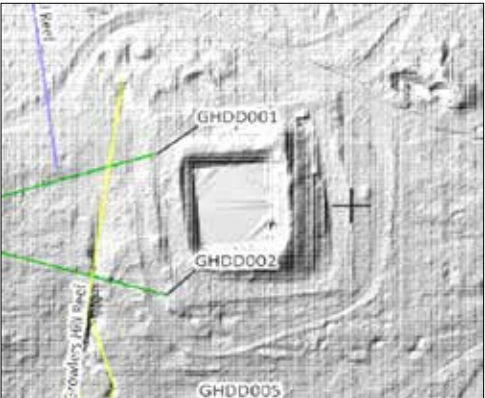
(Right) The rig uses water pumped into the drill shaft to cool and lubricate the diamond-tipped drill bit. Grey-blue trays store the collected drill cores in sequence to allow for off-site analysis.

(Below left) The areas around Rushworth in which exploration drilling has occurred or is planned to occur over coming months.

(Below right) Part of a LIDAR scan around the old Growler's Hill workings. The scans are captured using aircraft-mounted laser and are accurate to one centimetre.

Story & photos - Cass Alexander

LIDAR Scan & map - Courtesy Dart Mining NL



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# Campaspe candidates lining up for Council place

Twelve candidates who have nominated for the Campaspe Shire Council election are listed on the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) website, together with brief responses provided to a VEC questionnaire. The following are statements provided by each candidate to two of the questions:

(1) What is your vision for the municipality?

(2) What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

## Luke Sharrock

(1) Infrastructure, environment, roads maintained. Support growth assisting business, agriculture and industry. Animal shelter to stay. Original tourist information centre reinstated. Rein in unnecessary spending. Opportunities need to be established for the whole shire. Vote me I'm IT.

(2) Experience as the IT manager for the Murray Shire Council has provided me with knowledge and insight on how councils function. Exposure to budgets, time constraints. Ability in the balance between providing effective service with minimal resources. Level headed approach to make our community one we can be proud of.

## Deb Chumbley

(1) A vibrant inclusive and resilient community where diversity is celebrated and every individual feels valued and connected. Support for economic vitality. Commitment to equity and fairness. An inclusive community attracting people and businesses, boosting our economy and helping our region thrive with deep respect for our environment and cultural heritage.

(2) As a senior health executive and wide-ranging board member, I bring with me a wealth of experience in management, governance, project management, community engagement, and advocacy. As a long-term resident I support ratepayers priorities and am determined to work to achieve the greatest public good from finite public resources.

## Zoe Cook

(1) Council has an important role in ensuring that all of us thrive and that our local environment is protected. Together, we can continue building a supportive, vibrant and diverse community by delivering the infrastructure and services we all need.

(2) As a young woman deeply embedded in our community through sport, community groups and volunteering, I understand our community and what we need from our council. As your Greens councillor, I'll always put our community first.

## Rob Amos

(1) My vision for Campaspe Shire is a thriving, inclusive community where every voice is heard. I'm committed to fostering economic growth, protecting our environment, and enhancing local services, all while ensuring that community input shapes our future together.

(2) I have served four years on the Campaspe Shire, including two as Mayor. With 24 years experience running my own finance business, I bring practical experience. I served 12 years as a volunteer firefighter, four as Captain of Echuca CFA, and proudly served Australia for 10 years as a soldier.

## Daniel Mackrell

(1) The vision for Campaspe is that we thrive as a community and for it to be a liveable, safe and vibrant place to live. Somewhere that we all work together to make things better. Improve our roads, community and places where we can grow and achieve our potential.

(2) Some of the roles over the years include Chair of a Neighbourhood House, Campaspe Cohuna Local Learning Member, EMTDA Board Member, President of Echuca Business Chamber, Farmers Market Treasurer. Also 8 years as a Councillor, a Chief Executive Officer for 11 years and a successful local business operator.

## Brett Ould

(1) A municipality which is safe, promotes local businesses and attracts new investment to our community. Supports sustainable development, improving our roads, public transport and allowing residents the opportunity to have an input into the overall infrastructure of Campaspe, which is crucial for all our daily lives.

(2) Being a former Councillor and my role as a General Manager for NDIS. Proven community engagement experience. I have worked in both the Public and Private sector, always in a community engagement environment. I have the ability to listen and understand and work with the community to achieve our goals.

## Tony Marwood

(1) I want to ensure that our shire and our community is strong, proud, caring and prosperous. That the organisation will continue to improve service delivery and operational performance. We need to make sure we've the right infrastructure to retain our young people and be an attractive destination for others

(2) I've had many different roles and training Campaspe Shire Audit and Risk committee 4yrs and Deputy Mayor current. Bonlac Supply Board 12yrs Chairman 9yrs. Australian Dairy Industry Council water task force 6yrs. GMID water advocacy group current. Massey University Governance Course. Institute of Company Directors Course.

## Jessica Mitchell

(1) I want to create a supportive environment where everyone has a voice and opportunities to participate. I envision a future where our community thrives through innovative solutions, strong leadership, and collaborative efforts.

(2) With over a decade of experience in Employment Services and various qualifications in Leadership and Management, I believe in a holistic approach to engaging with others, ensuring individuals are part of the decisions that affect them.

## John Zobec

(1) As a rural council, Campaspe needs to be responsive, adaptive and improve the livability of our communities. Support our diverse communities through education, tertiary and university to improve employment opportunities. Attract new sustainable businesses, industries and tourism visitor economy, improve infrastructure and road networks throughout the Campaspe Shire.

(2) As a current councillor, I have the skills to ensure strong community engagement, transparency and equitable delivery of projects. Ensure accountability to Campaspe ratepayers, committed to prudent financial management and drive economic efficiencies. Be a strong voice, approachable, and listen to the concerns of our communities.

## Michael Farrant

(1) For small businesses to thrive. For the Shire of Campaspe to be a place of destination.

(2) I have over 30 years experience in business, therefore an abundance of experience in managing people, managing budgets, forward planning/thinking, negotiating, and an overall professional demeanour and mindset.

## Adrian Weston

(1) Campaspe is a great place to live where everyone is welcomed and respected. It has diverse communities and is set within a unique landscape. Our community spirit is strong and resilient.

(2) Twelve years' experience as a Campaspe councillor, including four years as your Mayor. Have completed the Australian Institute of Directors course and am currently a director of two organisations. I am financially literate and understand what constitutes good governance. I am well connected with Campaspe communities and value strong working relationships.

## Paul Jarman

(1) Together, we can build a stronger community by embracing new ideas, fostering collaboration, and ensuring that every community has opportunity and the infrastructure and services needed. I am committed to working tirelessly to create positive change and make our vision for a better future a reality. Let's make it happen.

(2) I am a person who has been in or owned small to medium businesses my whole life. I have strong expertise in Organisation Skills, Finance, Strategic Planning and Marketing. I have a strong sense of Community from across the Shire, I have lived in Rochester, Ballendella and Echuca.



# Have your say!

Readers are invited to contribute their letters, opinion pieces and ideas to these pages.

## Christmas Elves are getting ready

Just a another reminder from the Christmas Elves to let us know if you want to decorate a tree this year.

The following tree frame sizes are available to give out this year:

- 7 feet – 2 available
- 6 feet – 8
- 5 feet – 9
- 4 feet – 7

To reserve a tree please text 0429 686 375 or email [rushworthartistries@gmail.com](mailto:rushworthartistries@gmail.com) with your **name**, **email** and the **size** of the tree you want.

If you already have a tree please text with the same information, except, of course, you already know the size of your tree. Confirmation is needed that you will be using it this year. If you have a tree and don't want to decorate it contact the above number and an elf will come and pick it up.

Once this information has been received further information will be sent out to you with regards to categories, some suggestions, etc.

### Dates to note

- 2/3 November between 10am-1pm - pick up tree frames from Community Hub
- 30 Nov and 1 Dec 9am – 1pm - bring decorated trees to the Bell Tower in High Street
- 11/12 January 2025 - trees to be undecorated and left in the High Street.

If you want to keep the frame you **MUST** fill in a form before you take it. Remember - Rushworth Artistries Elves can be contacted by email [rushworthartistries@gmail.com](mailto:rushworthartistries@gmail.com) or phone 0429 686 375.

*Heather & Lyn  
Rushworth*

## For a Strong Community Voice at the table

Campaspe local government election is underway and your ballot packs should have arrived by mail. Ballot papers need to be completed and returned to a postbox by the 25 October to be counted.

I am one of twelve candidates to nominate for this election and with a robust group of candidates I am hopeful we will end up with a strong effective council. A council that reflects its community, is able to continue and build on the projects underway and to bring new energy to the work. As local government is the level of government closest to the people It is crucial we have a group of councilors that reflect and understand all of us.

I have not been on council before but have put my hand up as I believe I have the experience, skills, attitude and work ethic to do a great job. I moved to Echuca in 1992 and have worked across the region in a variety of health care roles as a Physiotherapist, providing Aged Care Assessments and in Community Development.

Having spent decades working with people and communities often at their most vulnerable I understand the complex challenges but also the advantages of rurality and smaller communities where people really look out for one another. I know how important it is for decision makers to listen to the people on the ground and to consider all perspectives when weighing up options.

I reared my children in Campaspe and now they have all returned to the area I am loving watching my grandchildren grow here, exploring the same bushland their parents loved. I have always been involved



in community and community groups from schools and sporting clubs to social support and service clubs as my family and interests grew and changed.

If elected I look forward to bringing my whole self to the role. I am not afraid of hard work and as a lifelong learner am open to learning new perspectives and skills. You have my guarantee that I will bring my best self to the role giving all that I have to best represent all members of the Campaspe community.

*Deb Chumbley*

**Vote 1 Deb Chumbley for a strong community voice at the table.**

Authorised by Deb Chumbley PO BOX 2080 Echuca South 3564

## Stanhope Food and Wine Festival thanks

Stanhope enjoyed a great day on Sunday for their Celebrate Stanhope Food and Wine Festival.

It's was a wonderful atmosphere with entertainment by JB & Me and June Newman, delicious food and great tasting wines.

All the children's entertainment was free including horse and cart rides, face painting and lots more.

The crowd swelled to over 750 people entering on the day.

A massive thank you goes out to the Stanhope Community for volunteering on the day, without you the Festival Committee could not have run this event.

Thank also to all our sponsors.

*Glenda Cowie  
Stanhope & District  
Development Committee*





# Free entry to Campaspe outdoors pools to continue this summer

Campaspe Shire Council has again waived fees for its outdoor pools for the 2024-25 season, continuing the policy of the past two seasons.

The decision was made during the council’s final meeting before entering the election caretaker period.

The motion was introduced by Cr Adrian Weston, who noted the increased usage of the pool in 2023 and 2024.

It was seconded by Cr John Zobec who also outlined the benefits the waiver brought to communities. The resolution was passed unanimously, with councillors expressing strong support for the program, citing both the community’s appreciation and the vital role

pools play in promoting water safety skills.

The fee waiver applies to several outdoor pools, including those in Kyabram, Tongala, Lockington, Stanhope, Rushworth, and Colbinabbin, but does not include the year-round indoor Echuca War Memorial Pool.

The initiative was originally introduced to encourage pool usage after a period of decline and a hotly contested Council decision to close a number of the outdoor aquatic facilities. The measure has proven successful,



Local children will enjoy summer fun this season free of charge.

with pool visits significantly increasing over recent years. Council has since committed to retaining and upgrading the outdoor pools.



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**ADRIAN WESTON**

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- ✓ Supporting Sustainable Communities

For more information contact:  
☎ 0459 534 462

Authorised by A Weston PO BOX 162, Rushworth VIC 3612

**I have lived and farmed in Southern Campaspe for most of my life. I have been your Councillor for twelve years working to strengthen community and council partnerships.**

**I am dedicated to continuing the efforts to:**

- Support agriculture and fight to keep our water in the region.
- Ensure sustainable financial management and efficient delivery of services.
- Deliver local projects and services for all communities big and small.
- Listening and working with community groups on the things that are important to them.
- Facilitating economic development, growing community and regional prosperity.

**Support me to be your strong and trusted voice in Council.**



# Versatile band still making music

by Alan McLean

This is the third and final part of a series highlighting the role of Rushworth Citizens Band since its creation 142 years ago.

The past few decades have seen the predictable highs and lows of many community organisations. As band president, Jeff “Chief” Perry was an important anchor-man for many years, though he told anyone interested that he could not read music or play a single note.

Bert Hawking was a long-serving band-master, and his team had regular engagements to play at events held by a group called the Rushworth Old Boys’ and Girls’ Association. (The revisionists of today would probably find the name offensive!) As the name suggests, former citizens of the town remained in touch, alternating their reunion gatherings between the Fitzroy Gardens in Melbourne, and at Whroo or Rushworth. The band sometimes played in Melbourne, and almost always when the annual get-together was in this district.

The opening footy match of 1965 was Rushworth’s debut in the Heathcote League in April, against Colbinabbin. Local interest was very keen and the band played before the big game, and again as half-time entertainment.

A memorable and spontaneous performance was given later that season on a Saturday in September, 1965, as the Rushworth Tigers’ two footy teams returned from Heathcote after winning memorable drought-breaking premierships. Led by Bert Hawking, the band marched up High Street to the Shire Hall, playing “See the Conquering Heroes Come”, and followed by jubilant supporters and some of the players.

This may have placed senior back-pocket player Graham Collard in a dilemma. Should he stay with his excited team-mates, or grab his trumpet and join his band colleagues at the head of the march?

Other long-servers included, among others, Ron Hawking, Graham Hawking, Fred Parrott, Ron McLeod, Alex Spence, Stewart Nurse, Allan Nurse, Geoff Beck, Les Muir, Harold Weaver, John Newton and Noel “Hoppy” Merryfull.

Hoppy accepted a role as music librarian, which virtually guaranteed his attendance at band practice nights! He had to set out the sheets for the evening’s playing. He also gave a warm welcome to younger recruits, like Graeme “Wiggy” Wall, Graham Wakefield, Lyn Jacobson, Darren Nurse, Darren Butler, Rebecca Fortuna and Michaela Houghton.

The band had an on-going football interest. The celebration barbecue at Whroo, the day after twin Rushworth premierships in 1977, included some spirited brass numbers by the band, when some of the players were nursing serious headaches after rather a long night.

For many years, the band provided the music for the annual Christmas carol singing, which was usually held in the Shire Hall. They readily accepted invitations to play at Christmas in neighbouring towns.

Barney Barnbrook had charge of the conductor’s baton late last century, and Graham Wakefield has been a stalwart for many years. Out-of-town interest has always been welcomed, as has non-playing support.



In terms of the latter, Rushworth’s Mary Beck, has been a fine contributor, in part in recognition of the playing and drumming of her late husband Geoff.

142 years, with short interruptions during the two big wars. It is an extraordinary record for any organisation in any town, large or small. Long may the band keep blowing, drumming and entertaining.



Stewart Nurse and Duffy Collard - the two long-serving band members known for their rendition of the Last Post at ANZAC and Armistice Day services over many years.

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# A family of Show stoppers!

The Lemin family have been showing off their wares at the Seymour Show for decades and this year was no different.

The Seymour Agricultural and Pastoral Society Inc. operates the Seymour Show and is affiliated with the Victorian Agricultural Show Ltd and Equestrian Victoria and is a member of the Central and Upper Goulburn Ag Society Group. The show has been running since 1905 at the Kings Park in Seymour.

Whether it's jams, relishes, herbs, flowers, or cakes the Lemin family have entered most of these into the show over the years. This year was no different.

Ninety-two year old Dorothy Lemin, started in the Whittlesea Show with her mother before she moved to Seymour. This year Dorothy beat her daughters and granddaughter with her fabulous muffins! Hail the matriarch!

Hailey Lemin, local P12 teachers-aid and Rushworth SES volunteer had an enormous win this year having thirty entries. So much so that she won the 'Kath McLarty Memorial Award for the Aggregate in baking, preserves, needle/craft, produce, plants and flowers.



Hailey with her aggregate sash.

Her sash, cake slice and folk set and punch bowl set, along with her many colour ribbons (seventeen firsts, nine seconds and one third,) are representative of her dedication to this and other areas of her life.

Hailey started baking at grandmas in the school holidays when she was just five years old. Each year in the holidays in September, before the Show, Hailey and her siblings would go over to grandma and grampas to bake. Hard to imagine a five-year-old putting something into a Show, but that is where it all started.

Mum, Robynne, was back with entries this year as was Will, Hailey's father who entered with his baking and plants/vegies. Her aunties also entered and everyone won awards. What a talented family.....but Hailey took the cake....so to speak!



Grandma, Dorothy's first prize.



Hailey's Bush Picnic first prize entry.



Hailey's enormous collection of ribbons.



One of Hailey's prizes; a cake server and fork set.

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## Mycellium Teaparty by Angie Russi at Sydney Teapot Show 2024

When Angie Russi (who won last year’s ‘supreme teapot’ award at Sydney) was in her garden she noticed a large growth of fungi at the base of a tree. The fruiting bodies were tiny and perfect, spreading into the folds of the tree bark, obviously fed by a massive system of mycelium reaching into the tree itself.

“It looked like a perfect mini tea party,” she said.

In an ode to this ecosystem, Angie created a three-part pot with a natural twist. By embedding plant roots into porcelain, she transformed this normally smooth material into something beautifully textured.



## Merrigum Exhibition of Vintage and Depression Glass

Interested in the vintage coloured glassware you’ve seen around and wonder about its origins? Know something about it and search it out or just enjoy beautiful and interesting objects? Whichever, Merrigum Museum’s upcoming exhibition is for you!

During Seniors Month, Merrigum Museum is mounting its second exhibition of vintage glass, following on from its very successful exhibition of Green Depression Glass held during Seniors Month 2023. Amber-coloured glass, both Vintage and Depression, is the feature of this year’s display, which includes a number of unusual pieces.

‘Amber glass’ is generally yellow-brown, but the term covers many variations in colour and colour density. It is produced by adding iron, sulphur and carbon to a basic glass mix.

This fascinating exhibition includes pieces from the early twentieth century up to the 1970s, with a concentration on Depression glass and items from the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s.

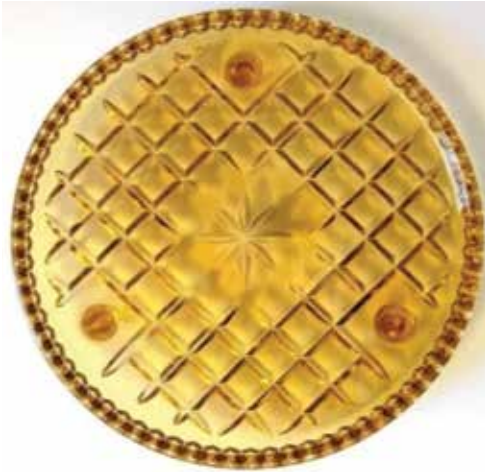
The pieces emanate from a wide range of manufacturers including USA, UK and European makers, and also Australia’s own Crown Crystal Glass Pty Ltd. Formed in 1926, this was the largest and most successful manufacturer of Australian domestic glassware in the last half of the 20th Century. It produced cut, pressed and blown glassware for industrial and household use, including Pyrex, and also made crystal. The company traded as Crown Corning from 1972 to 1988.

Depression Glass is the inexpensive machine-made glassware produced during the period 1929–1939. Mass-produced, this glassware can be clear, or translucent in shades of pink, amber, yellow, green, or blue. The term however is often now used as a catchall that also includes the hand-pressed, more elegant patterns of the period.

Losing popularity as Australia began to recover from the Depression, the glassware

has nevertheless remained popular among collectors, and today Depression Glass is highly collectable.

A wide range of Vintage and Depression amber glass is on display, including everyday utility items and others of a more decorative and ornamental nature.



**Come and enjoy a visual feast**  
**Where?** Merrigum Museum, 111-113 Waverley Avenue, Merrigum  
**When?** Sunday 13 October 2024, 10am to 2pm  
Sunday 20 October, 9am to 2pm (concurrent with ‘Wheels at the Gum’!)  
Sunday 10 November 2024, 10am to 2pm  
Also by appointment from 14 October to 31 October 2024: call 0427 585 599 or 0428 552 370. Groups and individuals welcome: just phone us!  
Entry: Adults \$5, Children \$2

**Kyabram Town Hall Gallery Exhibitions**  
**WHAT’S ON IN OCTOBER**

- JAN FRAZER - Textile Art - Of Material Interest: FABRICATIONS - Opens 7 October
- SPLINTER CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS - INDUSTRY & INVENTION
- U3A SHEPPARTON - Artists’ Exhibition - Opens 7 October

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[www.kyabramtownhall.com.au](http://www.kyabramtownhall.com.au)

Kennedy Shiraz 2019, Kennedy Cambria (Reserve) 2014, Kennedy Pink Hills Rosé 2021, Henrietta Shiraz 2020  
Henrietta Rose 2022 available online and being served at Colbinabbin Country Hotel.



# Murchison Pool preparing for summer

With summer on the way Murchison Swimming Pool committee is again preparing to provide the local community with a facility that brings fun, fitness opportunities and swimming exercise to summer activities. Murchison Pool is renowned for its fun waterslide, reliable and friendly Life Guards and the pleasant garden setting overlooking the Goulburn River.

The Murchison Swimming Pool AGM was held on Wednesday 2 October with a healthy turnout of sixteen community members. The main message from the outgoing (although re-elected) President Rachel Puls is that the Pool Committee needs more volunteers to help keep the pool open. As it is one of only ten volunteer-managed pools in Victoria, Murchison Pool opens on the goodwill of the community members who put up their hand to contribute in some way.

Greater Shepparton Council provides an operational grant to the committee, however the running costs for the facility are substantial and require fund-raising activities to support them. The committee does have several ongoing fund-raising activities including a meat tray and six-pack raffle each Friday evening at Murchison East Pub during pool opening season, a battery collection system run by Murchison Lions Club who

collect donations and return all funds to the swimming pool (with a community member accepting the batteries). The pool committee also offers the pool facility to community groups to run a BBQ evening to raise funds for their own organisations.

However, further volunteers are required to support the young people working in the canteen, painting and gardening around the facility prior to opening as well as cleaning and tidying the facility during the open season from December until Labour Day in March.

If you or your children or grandchildren enjoy the Murchison Swimming Pool during summer, consider putting your hand up to join the committee or just turn up at the pool on Sunday 27 October at 2 pm to meet committee members and discuss tasks that require volunteers.

You could even elect to be a Murchison Swimming Pool sponsor and have your

business or personal name on the board at the pool. The current committee members look forward to welcoming new members or supporters of this important summer venue for the Murchison district community.



## Your community needs you!

Volunteering fosters personal growth, builds skills, strengthens communities, expands networks, boosts well-being, and offers a sense of purpose.



Geoffrey Lipshut

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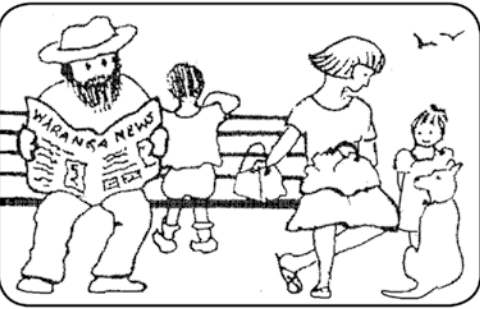
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Around Rushworth

Fontainebleau visit for Garden Club

Fifteen members of the Rushworth Garden Club enjoyed a picnic at the Fontainebleau dam in the Whroo forest for their last gathering.

A visit to the grass trees (*Xanthorrhoea*) on the way home was added as a special surprise.

The next meeting is on 17 October, where they will be travelling to Lisadurne, leaving in car convoy again from the Shire car park at 1.15 pm. Please give money (in an envelope with your name) to the treasurer on the day please. If you haven't indicated that you are going, please ring Pat.

Ethel Borger



Members admiring the grass trees in the forest.

Seniors Month In Murchison

Murchison's History Walk around town for Seniors month this year is called Walk 'n Talk and includes a visit to the impressive Murchison Men's Shed.

Commencing at 10 am on Wednesdays and Saturdays in October, it will also include the Community Centre which will be opened by RSL members to enable viewing of the very special murals that once lined the walls of the RSL Recreation Hut at Prisoner of War Camp 13 Murchison. The walk finishes at the Heritage Centre for a visit there and a welcome cuppa.

The tour is suitable for wheelchairs and walkers and takes about 40 to 50 minutes.

Kay Ball  
Murchison & District  
Historical Society

New life-saver for Murchison at Men's Shed

Murchison Men's Shed has purchased a new AED defibrillator, which has been installed in a cabinet outside the shed near the front personal access door. It has been registered with Ambulance Victoria and is available to be used by members of the public in an emergency.

The winner of the Shed's Father's Day raffle was Gloria Higgins from Murchison. Thanks go to Bunnings Shepparton for their donation of a table and two stools, and to Shepparton's Carrington Hotel for their donation of overnight accommodation and breakfast.

The Men's Shed members have been invited by Greater Shepparton Council to provide a bacon and egg roll breakfast as part of their flood recovery program, so keep an eye open for the blue BBQ trailer at the Historical Society. Eighty free bacon and egg rolls have been distributed over the recent fortnightly Wednesday mornings, and they will be there again on 23 October, 6 and 20 November between 8.00 am and 10.00 am.

Members were also invited to sell sausages and hamburgers at the community centre during the MM55 Meteorite and Grand Final weekend on 27 and 28 September.

On Wednesday 9 October, in partnership with GV Health, a presentation by Ross Read, a member of Beyond Blue talked about his experience with Mental Health and Depression. This presentation was open to the public and was followed by a free meal of pies, sausage rolls and sandwiches.

Members hope to be soon starting work on the internal wall and mezzanine floor to separate the kitchen area from the work area.



If you see a lot of action going on at the shed and you are looking forward to getting out of the house, drop in and have a chat with the guys!



Men's Shed coming events

- Wednesday 6 November – members lunch, chef Alan Rosser
  - Monday 11 November – Remembrance Day
  - Saturday 16 November – Monster garage sale at the shed
  - Saturday 7 December – Christmas Dinner at Tatura Hotel
  - Sunday 8 December – Christmas Carols at the Park
- Contact Dennis McCullagh (President) 0428148210  
Con Scarvelis (Secretary) 0421525665



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GENERAL STORE

CO-OP

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Strength and balance

Strength and Balance classes are up and running at 3.30pm on Mondays at the Colbinabbin hall. Ring Rushworth Community House to find out more or to enrol in the class.

Colbo General Store AGM

The Colbinabbin General Store Co op Board AGM will be held in the Colbinabbin Hall on Tuesday 15 October at 7pm.

Golden Wedding

Congratulations to Donald and Rhonda Risstrom who are celebrating their Golden Wedding anniversary - yes - that's fifty years. An occasion well worth celebrating!

Welcome to Colbo

I don't know that our newcomers are completely installed in town, but we're pleased to welcome to Ben and Nicci McEvoy and their little family to Colbinabbin. It's a great place to live.

Music, music, music

• An afternoon of live music on Sunday 20 October 1-4pm amid the vines at Shiraz Republic - a free event - featuring Kankawa Nagarra (Olive Knight) from the Kimberley region, Darren Hanlon and Archer, three great artists offering a celeration of music, culture and community. Book at info@shirazrepublic.com.au

• Octolbo on Sunday 27 October there will be four local acts playing from 1.15pm to 5.45pm in the Uniting Church opposite the pub. Each act will play for 45 minutes with half an hour to pop across the road in the break to rehydrate or grab a bite to eat at the pub. Bookings limited to fifty people. Ring Julie on 0408 602 841 to book in.

Colbo Co-op AGM

The next Colbinabbin Community Co-op AGM takes place at 7pm on Tuesday October 15 at the Colbinabbin Memorial Hall.

Do you have any suggestions that will help shape our community owned and run General Store to continue to thrive? The Co-op is currently accepting nominations for the Board of Directors. The Co-op Board oversees a range of issues such as governance, strategy, marketing, performance and finances.

Directors serve on the Board for a minimum of 1 year and a maximum of three years, with meetings taking place monthly in person and online. Please don't hesitate to contact Jim Morgan on 0417571967 for more information. Nomination forms are available in store or via email: info@colbostore.com.au

Cemetery Trust

Mowing Roster (lawn section only)

October - Robert Brown

World Crossfit championships in U.S.



Josh Young (centre) is a grandson of Colbo's Doug and Sandra Young - and their whole family is bursting with pride that Josh travelled to America to compete in the Cross Fit Adaptive Games - and took out the World Championship!

Birthdays and farewell celebrations

The Avard family had reasons to gather at Colbinabbin for a celebration or two last Saturday. Chris (centre) had his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, his niece Ruby Lee, née Avard, (left) celebrated her 25<sup>th</sup> and another niece, Tessa Murphy (right) was being wished Bon Voyage as she takes off to live and work in England.



Got any news? Tell

Nata or Shell

or ring Vicki at the

News 5856 1120

wnews@iinet.net.au

Colbo Diary

- Strength & Balance 3.30pm Mondays at hall
- Coffee and Cake 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 10.15am @CCH
- Colbo Community Shed - Thursdays BYO BBQ lunch
- Colbo Pub Choir - 5pm Tuesdays at CCH

OCTOBER

15 Colbo Store AGM at hall 7pm

20 Live music at Shiraz Republic

27 Live music - Octolbo at Uniting Church


LIBRARY

Wed 16 October

Janice Tait

Wed 23 October

Pam Nihill



FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER

Oct 13

Leo McEvoy, Tim Hill

Oct 20

Christopher Ryan, Steve Tuohy

If unable to attend for duty, call Chris/Leo.

Siren, radio and test pager at 9am. Crew member should ensure the siren and radio tests are carried out. Vehicles should be checked for fuel and taken for a road test.





# Rushworth

## COMMUNITY HOUSE INC.

67 High Street Rushworth 3612

**Phone (03) 5856 1295**

Email:  
**admin@rushcomhouse.org.au**

Website:  
**www.rushcomhouse.org.au**

Facebook:  
**Rushworth Community-House**

Office Hours:  
**Mon, Tues Thurs : 9.00am to 3.00pm**  
**Wed, Fri : 9.00am to 1.00pm**

**Your local access point for Medicare, Centrelink and other Australian Government services.**

### Do yourself a flavour - visit the Community Garden real soon!

The P-12 College does it. So does St Mary’s School. Students from both schools have activity sessions in the Community Garden - and they love it!

The Garden welcomes people of all ages and interests, so please try it for yourself.

Half way through spring, the garden is bloomin’ beautiful, thanks to our team of garden volunteers and the efforts of Rushworth’s enthusiastic students.

There’s a host of vegetables on the sprout, garden beds under development and summer crops being planted ready for end-of-year harvesting. Yum!

You can purchase super fresh veggies from the Community Garden whenever they’re in season - but you have to make the effort to visit to know what’s on offer.

Do check it out - it’s a healthy alternative!



## Important update to Rushworth’s container deposit scheme payments

Thanks to the dedicated work of volunteers at the Community House’s Container Deposit Scheme, more than ten thousand containers were exchanged for money in the first week of the school holidays.

People depositing bottles and cans at the Horne Street Depot site have generally indicated that they prefer cash payment, rather than a credit to a bank account through the official VISY phone app.

However, as the Community House needs to ensure that we have money on hand, it has been necessary to impose the following limits

- If you are depositing less than 1,500 items, we will continue to offer money for the entire transaction;
- For those who plan to deposit more than 1,500 items, we will no longer be able to offer an on-the-spot cash settlement. Instead, we will be asking you to install the VISY CDS Vic North phone app and use it whenever you visit the Rushworth Container Deposit Site.

App users also receive a 10-cent refund for each eligible can, carton, or bottle they return, and can customise their refund preferences using a personal Zone ID.



They can choose to receive vouchers, a bank transfer or PayID, or donate to a variety of registered charities and community groups.

The app also allows people to manage their accounts, explore donation options, and review their transaction history.

The Horne Street CDS is open:

- Tuesdays 9.00 am until 3.00 pm
- Wednesdays 9.00 am until 1.00 pm
- Thursdays 9.00 am until 3.00 pm

## Di is quite the quintessential quilter

Quilting has been a popular pastime at the Community House for many years, and the tradition continues strongly to this day.

Quilting is the process of joining a minimum of three layers of fabric together either through manual stitching using a needle and thread, or mechanically with a sewing machine or other device. An array of stitches is passed through all layers of the fabric to create a three-dimensional padded surface.

Completed projects can range from purses and pages to bed covers and wall hangings.

A group of dedicated quilters meets each Wednesday at the House to practice their art, learn advanced techniques and share their wisdom over multiple cups of tea!

One of the group’s new members - Di - recently completed her first project, and the House is delighted to acknowledge her efforts and praise the quality of her finished apron.

To find out more about quilting, just call in to the House any Wednesday morning.



## Staying safe on-line - a timely reminder

The Community House’s new *Being Safe Online* program will increase your on-line knowledge and skills and provide feedback about your progress after each session.

Established in Australia by the *Good Things Foundation*, the program is supported by Rushworth and District Financial Services.

People bring their own devices to the sessions, and are taught how to manage those

devices confidently and safely. They learn about device security, and how to identify likely scams and carriers of malware.

Course assessments measure participant’s progress at the end of each session.

*Being Safe Online* is a free course which runs each Tuesday morning between 11 am and 1 pm. To enquire further or to enrol in the course, contact the Community House.

**Strength & Balance Classes are now in both Rushworth and Colbinabbin.**

**Rushworth - Mondays between 1pm and 2pm at the Community House**

**Colbinabbin - Mondays between 3.30pm and 4.30pm at the Colbinabbin Hall**



# NEWS FROM THE OP-SHOP AND FOODBANK

BROUGHT TO YOU BY RUSHWORTH COMMUNITY SUPPORT INC.

**FOOD BANK HOURS**  
Open 10 am to 12 noon  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
located next to  
Campaspe Shire Service Centre

*Donated goods are appreciated and may be left in the 'Pantry' after hours but please don't leave perishables as the 'fridge' is not refrigerated!*

## Op Shop and its Little Green Shed

**Hello folks, another fortnight has gone past and I'm here to tell you about more bargains that can be had at the Rushworth Op Shop but first to recount an amusing story (well we thought it was!)**

As you know, or should by now, there is a green shed on the corner of Esmonde Street where you turn into the big parking area behind the Op Shop. This is where furniture and other lovely things are stored that we can't fit into the Op Shop.

The other week Claire took a customer over there to look at furniture and while he was there he spotted some tools.

"Ah!" says he, "a pair of electrical wire strippers, just what I need."

So Claire, never one to miss a sale, says 'Sold' and added it to the bill. The man came over to the shop, paid his bill and left. Then came a frantic call from Claire, still over at the shed, to say one of our volunteers, Ross, had come back to finish a job and to find his wire

strippers had vanished! Fortunately, the buyer was known to us so he could be contacted and the wire strippers were returned to Ross.

The moral of the story is – don't stand still in the Op Shop or Shed, Claire will sell you!

Staying with the Little Green Shed I have added some photos of its interior and some of the things for sale there. Hugh has been tidying it up and making it look good. He has taken over some of the larger framed pictures from the shop as they can be better displayed on the shed walls.

Also in the shed are work clothes and Halloween ornaments. The shed is normally open the same time as the Op Shop but it **does depend on volunteers being available.**



**Hugh is using his interior decorating skills to spruce up the Little Green Shed and display items to their best effect!**

## Op Shop items for sale

At present we have a large amount of St. Mary's school uniforms in the sorting area of the shop on sale at \$2 an item. Please ask a staff member to assist you.

We have been having a big cull of clothes to make room for summer dresses to come out. With Melbourne Cup celebrations coming up, now is the time to get in and bag yourself a snazzy outfit. We also have beautiful shoes and a few hats.

For men we have an excess of shorts (the more shorts you have the less washing you have to do!) and smart shirts. For families we have HEAPS of puzzles and games, some of them brand new. Great opportunity to get some for the long school holidays ahead.

So until next fortnight, we wish you a full belly and a happy smile.



**Something for every age group at the Op Shop.**



## Calling for volunteers

**We are putting out a call for volunteers, both for the Op Shop and the Little Green Shed.**

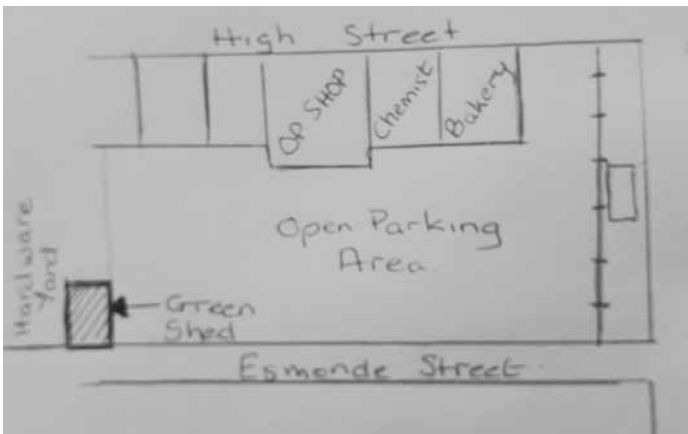
You do not need to commit to huge amounts of time. One day a week or fortnight even a morning a week would help us. You do not have to be at front of house and handling money as we know that can be intimidating for some people. If you are quite happy sorting out in the back or assisting Hugh in the shed, we are more than happy to accommodate you.

People have asked if we

could be open on Thursdays and Sundays. The answer is yes, as long as we have sufficient volunteers who can give us time and are happy to work in our merry team.

The Food Bank would also appreciate some more volunteers. Just call in and see us and we can answer any questions you may have about volunteering.

## Where is the Little Green Shed?





# Fifty years ago in our district....

Looking through the pages of past 'Rushworth Chronicles'  
.....compiled by former district resident Alan McLean



## Gumboots at Elmore, prince at Nagambie, October 1974

An already wet year was worsened when heavy spring rain brought more flooding near Corop and a very muddy start to the opening of the Elmore Field Days. Anyone without gumboots might as well have not paid the entry fee, as Ayson's Reserve had been inundated the weekend prior. Just how exhibitors got on to the field on the Monday before the Tuesday opening is one of life's great mysteries.

Prince Charles attended the Bendigo Show, before being driven to stay overnight at the home of Sir Alec Chesurch at Avenel. The journey took the prince (and his showbags) via Nagambie as he was driven up the main street, waving to the crowds without the car stopping! (Perhaps he was in a hurry. Any reader meeting King Charles now should ask whether he remembers Nagambie. It was only 50 years ago and he would have been there for about two minutes.)

## Shire of Waranga

Tony Larkins was announced as the new Shire Secretary. The Shire was again extremely busy with road repairs following flood damage.

## Community

Within an innovative programme taking arts-related activities to country Victoria, an Arts Train came to Rushworth, offering various classes in the railway carriages.

Rushworth – Colbinabbin Apex Club held a gymkhana on the Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve.

Forty Rushworth CWA ladies attended an afternoon garden party at the home of Mrs Ivan Jell in Parker Street.

## Personal

Noela Flanagan of Stanhope and Michael Barlow of Rushworth announced their engagement.

A kitchen tea was extended to Heather McLean, formerly of Moora, at the home of Mrs Eileen Barlow at Rushworth. Colours indicated for the gifts were green, gold and brown. (Just thought you might like to know.) Heather was preparing to marry Joel Reed, of Oak Park. (They visit Rushworth regularly. If you see Joel about town, just say "Giddy mate, how are ya?")

Another kitchen tea was given to Marcia Jacobson of Wanalta, at the home of her aunt Mrs Shirley Jacobson. Marcia was preparing to marry an Englishman and to move to England.

The death was announced of Stan Rissstrom at Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital. He was 83, and the bachelor brother of Lance Rissstrom of Rushworth.

After over 17 years as an agent for Ampol, selling fuel by the 44-gallon drum, Alf Raglus took a public notice to advise of his resignation. There were still three service stations in the town and two agents selling petrol by the drum.

Perrys' Butcher shop advertised sides of beef, cut and packed, at 31 cents per pound! (I will have a side thanks Graham, at the price

which is about 70 cents per kilo.) Strangely the same deal for lamb cut and packed was 32 cents per pound. (Hang the expense Graham. I'll have a pack of lamb as well, and put it in the freezer!)

Advertising sale of monuments for cemeteries was the company Geo. Ferries, based at Castlemaine. Local agents for Ferries gravestones were Graeme Collard of Rushworth, Bill McTaggart of Colbinabbin and Mrs J. Watt at Murchison. (I might also need one of those before long!)

## Sport

Footy season was still wrapping up. Over at Toolleen, the Mt Pleasant club presented David Roulston with Life Membership, after many years in various administrative roles. He went on to become the long-serving secretary of the Heathcote District Football League.

The Elmore club gave ten trophies in each of three grades, so anyone missing out was a bit stiff. Most Determined Player award in the Seconds went to Gavin O'Sullivan, of truck fleet fame.

In the opening round of A-grade cricket at Rushworth, John Raglus took a hat-trick. Rushworth had also entered a B-grade team and the Under-15 boys played in the mornings, on the now disused High School commemorative oval adjacent to the golf club.

The Rushworth Speedway continued to be popular with events well supported and decent crowds turning up to see the vehicles charge through the mud.

Murchison bowlers started their season with a win by two shots over Hill Top Tatura, though three rinks went down. Bill Tuena's team were 10 up, Alan Tweddle's trundlers down by four, Ern Darby's squad also under by four, with Jim Hammond's brigade played a draw.



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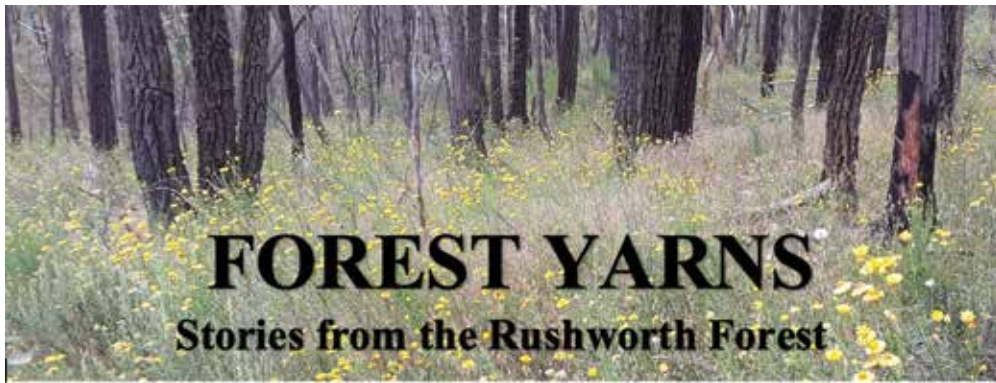
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## Stanhope Community Garage Sale

Birdwood Avenue, Stanhope  
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A Stanhope and District Development Committee Project





## The squatting era and the gold rush

Following in the footsteps of the Major Mitchell expedition in 1836, squatters quickly moved onto much of the suitable grazing land across the Waranga area. Generally speaking, the squatters were interested in land that was ready made for sheep, and to a lesser extent, cattle grazing i.e. open woodlands and grassy plains which needed minimal clearing. Ironically, some of these areas had resulted from regular firestick burning by the local Aboriginal people.

An early visitor to the area, George Willmer noted in 1853, as he passed through the forest, “sterile mountains, covered with ironstone and quartz, without any grass worthy of the name.”<sup>1</sup> In other words, no good for sheep and cattle.

Squatters also needed access to reliable water for their stock. Water was scarce in the forest, especially during the drier months. As a result, the box-ironbark country south of Rushworth was not of great interest to them. The squatters had minimal impact on the forest which, up until then, was largely unchanged over millennia by the original custodians, the Ngurai-illum Wurrung people. In areas taken up for squatting runs, where it was considered that there were too many trees e.g. Waranga Park station on the current site of Waranga Basin they would be ringbarked and left to die.

At a squatting run headquarters, there may have been a few substantial buildings, but the quantity of timber used would have been minor in comparison to later eras. A typical squatter’s outstation would only be comprised of a log hut for the men and some basic timber stockyards to accommodate the sheep at night. The hutkeepers and shepherds would use minimal other timber, apart from for their firewood.

## Gold rush

With the gold rush came the most dramatic change that the Rushworth forest has ever seen. The early alluvial diggers really had little use for timber and simply wanted to get rid of it as quickly as possible so that they could access the gold-bearing dirt and gravel. Vast areas were clear-felled, with a lot of the timber going to waste.

Patches of blue and green mallee were burned. Another early visitor to the forest said that “the valleys are covered with what they call whipstick scrub – a scrub of dwarf

gum trees, which run about twelve feet high or so, growing densely side by side, and so locked together with cord like runners (*ed. snottygobble?*), that it is impossible to penetrate them.”<sup>1</sup> Of course, he was talking about patches of blue and green mallee.

Diggers used some of the timber to cut props (both round and split) to shore up their mines and build huts, as well as for firewood. As the alluvial gold quickly petered out through the 1850s, to be largely replaced by underground quartz reef mining, demand for timber for the mines started to increase dramatically. As well as being used in the mines, firewood was required to power the steam engines which were used in turn to power the batteries used for crushing gold-bearing rock and quartz. As timber was exhausted in bigger gold mining centres like Bendigo, eyes turned to the seemingly limitless supplies in areas like the Rushworth-Heathcote forest.

Gold mining continued through the last half of the 19th century on an industrial scale, with much of the surrounding country being almost denuded of forest. Early photos of Rushworth and Whroo show places like Growler’s Hill and Balaclava Hill completely bare.

With the slow decline in mining activity as the century progressed, the industry’s demand for timber also declined. Records of product coming out of the Rushworth forest<sup>2</sup> show that the demand for props, poles and slabs used in mining had pretty much ended by the start of the first world war. There were brief flurries into the 20th century when demand for mining timber increased again, but they were short-lived. By then, the timber from the forest was being converted into other end-products.

## Regrowth

Such was the devastation wrought by the mining industry on box-ironbark forests, it is hard to know what the forest looked like prior to the gold rush. Most of the trees we see these days are from regrowth. There are few trees old enough to have hollows. The understorey would also have changed immeasurably from that existing pre-mining days.

References: <sup>1</sup> *Lawrence, Ruth and Bellette, Marc, Gold, Timber, War and Parks: A History of the Rushworth Forest in Central Victoria (CSIRO Publishing 2010)*; <sup>2</sup> *Public Records Office of Victoria, State Forests Output Books (Rushworth 1916-29)*

## A Name from the Past

### Stan Risstrom - lived for over fifty years after war gassing

Returnees from the First World War often suffered from the prolonged effects of gassing on throat and lungs. Few survived as long as former Moora lad Stan Risstrom, born there in 1891 and who lived until October of 1974. He was a member of the third generation of Risstroms in this district, and there have been four more since Stan’s time here. His obituary appeared in the Rushworth Chronicle of 7 November, 1974.

“The death occurred of Mr Stanley Robert Risstrom at the Macleod Repatriation Hospital on the 3rd October at the age of 83.

He was the second son of the late John and Mary Risstrom. He was born at Moora and went to the State School there and on leaving school worked about the district and New South Wales until World War 1 broke out when he enlisted.

He served in France for about three years and was gassed three times from which he never fully recovered. When he returned he worked at McRobertsons as mechanic for about ten years, after which he returned to Rushworth where he was employed for some time and finally worked with the Water Commission.

He never married and is survived by his brother Lance. His brother George and sister Jessie predeceased him.

The funeral took place after a service at the Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Hilton White officiating. Mr W. Barlow read the R.S.L. service and the last post was sounded by Mr B. Hawking and Mr. S. Nurse.”

## Rushing to Whroo, 1853 to 1880



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**Alan McLean**

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# All about wildlife

*Kirsty Ramadan from BoHollow Wildlife is a wildlife rescue expert. Here she shares some of her knowledge about our very familiar wildlife neighbours.*

## Snake season

The way the wind has been over the last month, I'm beginning to feel like we live on the southern coast! It's been a slow start to the snake season this year but it has definitely begun.

Our Australian snakes can spark fear into people, understandably as we possess a high number of the most venomous snakes in the world. Fear can often lead to irrational behaviour. Anyone who is phobic of spiders knows all too well that their reaction is an over-reaction and fear of snakes can lead to the same behaviour.

We do not have tigers, lions or bears in Australia. Our top predators here are crocodiles, large monitor lizards, birds of prey, dingoes and snakes.

Snakes play a vital role in our environment and are a key member of healthy biodiversity. In the case of actual numbers of envenomated bites in Australia, over ninety percent of all bites are what we call 'dry' bites. A dry bite is when the snake has not actually envenomated you when it has bitten. Different snakes have different rates of how likely they dry bite. An Eastern brown for instance has a dry bite instance of around 80 percent. An inland taipan on the other hand, if it chooses to bite in defence has a dry bite rate of only 5 percent.

The venomous snakes we have in our area which are ones to take care around are the eastern brown, the tiger snake and the red-bellied black snake. Dry bite or not, we certainly do not want to try our luck with getting bitten by any of these snakes. There are lots of things we can do to make living with them easier. Keep the walking areas in your garden tidy so you can see where you put your feet. I love a rambling garden. So do snakes as they usually contain higher diversity of prey species and have plenty of places to hide. I would not give up a rambling garden for fear of snakes but I would ensure



Red belly black snake

my pathways are clear. If you are still worried about not seeing them, you can trim bushes, hedges and shrubs so they are off the ground a little and you can see under them.

A great alternative is to snake proof your yard. This is also a great way to protect your pets, especially if you have a pet that will attack or play with a snake. Snakes do not seek out our pets to bite unless it is something small and something it may see as a food item. Cats and dogs only get bitten if they antagonise the snake. You can stop snakes getting into your yard by blocking entry points. Any holes, gaps in fences can be filled with suitable material. Vermin mesh is a fantastic product which you can attach to fences and gates. This is a hard wire mesh with tiny squares which mice and even baby snakes cannot get through.

Gates are a little more fiddly to do but as long as there are no gaps under or through gates and fences, this helps keep your pets safe. Make sure doors to your house are sealed at the bottom. Gaps under doors are entry points. As a basic rule, if a mouse can get in, so can a snake. Gaps around pipes under sinks, etc can be common entry points for rodents and snakes, especially if your house is on stumps.

Dog doors can be another entry point. Snakes use their excellent sense of smell and eyesight to navigate the world. They are very reactive to movement. If you do find yourself in close proximity to a snake and it feels threatened it will display defensive behaviour. Flattening out its head and neck, this is called flaring, is a telltale signal from the snake to tell you it is watching and telling you to back off. The snake's head will be off the ground. If you keep advancing in what is perceived as a threatening manner, the snake will lift its head higher, standing up fully, may open its mouth and be in the typical 's' stance off the ground. To persuade you to back down, they may surge towards you to push you away. As soon as you back away or stay stock still, the snake will lay back down and try to flee when it feels it is safe to do so.

There are some common sense things to do and not to do when it comes to snakes: DO keep an immobilisation bandage in your first aid kit. We live in Australia, this is a no brainer. Verse yourself in how to use it. Remember you are immobilising the person's limb to restrict movement, you are not trying to stop blood flow. There are plenty of great online videos which explain this. DO keep your eyes open while bushwalking or walking around your property. This includes warm summer evenings and nights.



Eastern brown snake

DO call a snake catcher to catch an unwanted snake and for advice when you need. Most snake catchers are happy to explain how you can help make your yard and home snake safe.

DON'T attempt to kill a snake. Snakes are protected under the wildlife act and are an essential member of a healthy environment. Trying to kill a snake also puts you at high risk of getting bitten. Killing a snake is not a hero act: it is killing an animal that only wants to get away from you.

DON'T use 'snake netting'. This stuff is illegal due to animal cruelty reasons. It is cruel for not only snakes but also any other animal who gets caught in it.

DO remember that snakes will respect you if you respect them.



Tiger snake



## On the Brink *by Neil Laurie*

Looking at endangered or extinct flora and fauna.

### Macquarie Island - a case study

Macquarie Island is an Australian island to the south-east of Tasmania, about midway to Antarctica. It makes for an interesting case study and ties in with the last On the Brink which was about feral cats and the damage they do.

The island was accidentally discovered in 1810 by a sealer who named it for Governor Lachlan Macquarie. He was not the first to the island; he reported seeing an old shipwreck, possibly Polynesian. The island was uninhabited by humans. In the ensuing years the fur and elephant seals were hunted almost to extinction for their furs and oil respectively. The island became an important stopping off place for Antarctic explorers including Wilkes, Scott, Shackleton and Mawson. The Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions (ANARE) established a permanently occupied research station in 1947. Macquarie Island was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1933 (largely due to Mawson's insistence). In 1977 it was declared a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO and was placed on the World Heritage List in 1997.

No trees grow in the harsh Antarctic conditions. All the vegetation is herbaceous; there are no woody plants. Of particular interest are two megaherbs, the Macquarie Island cabbage (*Azorella polaris*) and the silver-leaf daisy (*Pleurophyllum hookeri*), each growing to a metre or more in height. Terrestrial fauna is limited to small invertebrates. Wildlife consists of marine birds and aquatic mammals. Invasive species came to the island with the sealers, some as a food source, others as stowaways. Rabbits, weka, cats, rats and mice all bred prolifically and did great damage to the fragile sub-Antarctic ecosystem. The rabbits and rats ate out large areas of vegetation. The cats not only ate the rabbits, but also the nesting seabirds and their young. Rats and the weka ate bird eggs. It was a disaster.

It became very clear that Australia

had to do something and a cat eradication program in the 1970's, using a combination of poison baits and shooting, often with the use of dogs. It was expensive but successful with the last cat eradicated in 2000. The eradication of cats in turn led to a surge in the rabbit population (300,000 rabbits) and the subsequent extensive damage to vegetation. As most wildlife leave the island over winter, it was decided to bait the island for rabbits and rodents then. Calici virus was also introduced. Unfortunately, there was a spike in seabird deaths, due to the birds scavenging poisoned carcasses. The baiting program continued with staff scouring the island and removing any poisoned rabbits or rodents. Remaining animals were hunted down, again by using detector dogs. By the end of 2011 rabbits, rats and mice had been eradicated from Macquarie Island.

The programs cost \$24 million. It must be pointed out that the Australian and Tasmanian governments have an obligation to preserve this World Heritage Listed site.

Since the eradication programs, the recovery of vegetation on Macquarie Island has been described as "absolutely extraordinary" by researchers. Once bare areas are now covered by vegetation. In places the tussocks are over head height. Seabirds are thriving and breeding in safety.

To protect the biosecurity of Macquarie Island there are strict protocols to be followed by those travelling to the island. All freight sent to the island is checked by detector dogs before it leaves Hobart and again before it is offloaded. Tourism is limited to a few small cruise ships and is subjected to the same restrictions as those travelling to Antarctica. Access is restricted to certain areas. The research station continues to be a base for conducting ecological, geographical and meteorologic research.

Macquarie Island is a testament to Nature's resilience.

## Bird swooping - know what to expect in spring

As spring approaches, some native birds may swoop during their breeding season.

"Every spring, some native birds swoop to defend their eggs and chicks for a short time while their young are most vulnerable," said Simon Ruff, Senior Wildlife Projects Officer at the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA).

"While swooping is unsettling, it's normal behaviour for a range of native birds, warning people and animals not to come near their young. It's rare for birds to make contact."

Native birds swoop in urban and rural areas, parks and gardens, along bike tracks or anywhere that birds are nesting. Species that may swoop commonly include magpies, masked lapwings and butcherbirds.

Not all birds swoop during the breeding season, so the presence of magpies or other common swooping birds doesn't necessarily mean you'll be swooped.

"Remember, the swooping behaviour will only last a short time, normally stopping soon after the young leave the nest," Mr Ruff said.

If you are worried about being caught out by a protective bird this spring, here are some steps you can take to feel safe, while also helping our native birds:

- Know your local swooping hotspots and avoid the area
- Move quickly but do not run if you find yourself close to a swooping bird
- Wear protective head and eye coverings
- Don't harass birds – this can make swooping worse
- Don't feed the birds and do not destroy their nests.
- Avoid known swooping hotspots by planning your route. Report a swooping incident on Victoria's interactive swooping bird map.

All native wildlife is protected by law. Harassing, harming or disturbing native birds and other wildlife is illegal in Victoria and penalties apply.

You can report wildlife crime such as harassing, harming or disturbing wildlife to Crime Stoppers Victoria on 1800 333 000.

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# Cooks Column

## Mei Goreng

This is a classic Indonesian dish using traditional flavours of garlic, chilli, palm sugar and lime. You can substitute the tofu with chicken, adjust the ingredients to suit the fresh produce available in any season, and experiment with different mixes of Asian greens and herbs - the final flavour is really up to you!

### Ingredients

- 4 garlic cloves, peeled
- 2 shallots, roughly chopped
- 1 long red chilli, de-seeded and chopped
- 1/2 tsp salt, plus extra to taste
- 4 eggs
- 300 g dry egg noodles
- 1 tsp sesame oil
- 2 tbsp sunflower oil
- 200 g tofu or chicken, chopped bite-size
- 1 carrot, peeled, and julienned or grated
- 1 capsicum, thinly sliced
- 8 snake beans or green beans, roughly chopped
- 4 spring onions, sliced diagonally
- 1/4 cup thick sweet soy sauce (kecap manis)
- 1/4 cup light soy sauce
- 1 tbsp palm sugar
- 300g bok choy or Asian greens, roughly chopped
- 2 cups bean sprouts (optional)
- 1 large handful of mixed Asian herbs, chopped
- 2 limes, sliced into wedges

### What to do:

Prepare all of the ingredients based on the instructions in the ingredients list. Pound the garlic, shallots and chilli using the mortar and pestle to create a paste, then add the half teaspoon of salt. Whisk the eggs in a bowl, Heat a wok, add 1 tablespoon of oil and then pour the egg mix into the wok and cook on a high heat until the mix is cooked right through and looks like a big omelette. Transfer the omelette to the chopping board. Roll and slice it up, and set it aside.

Cook noodles according to the directions on the packet, drain and rinse with cold water. Toss through 1 teaspoon of sesame oil. Heat the rest of the oil in the wok and, when hot, add the garlic and chilli paste. Cook for 30 seconds.

Add tofu or chicken and fry for 1 minute. Add the carrot, capsicum, beans and spring onions, and cook for 2 minutes.

Increase to a high heat and add the cooked noodles. Add the kecap manis, soy sauce and palm sugar, then mix well.

Add sliced omelette and stir continuously for 30 seconds. Now add the greens and cook for about 4 minutes, stirring continuously.

Taste, and add salt as necessary. Top with bean sprouts and fresh herbs. Enjoy!

Seasonal Kitchen



# Garden Hints & Tips

## Gardening tools I cannot do without - Part 1

As gardeners we tend to acquire all kinds of tools to help us with our gardening, especially after we reach 'a certain age'. Here are some tools I find I cannot do without.

**Icy-pole sticks.** These are handy for pricking out seedlings and then to stick in the ground as a label.

**Meat skewers** are great when doing fine, fiddly weeding. They can also be used as mini stakes to support very young plants.

**Ratchet secateurs.** These make pruning easy on the hands and can be used for most pruning jobs. Simply cut using a series of squeezes. They are an anvil secateur so a quality cross-cutting secateur should still be used on easily damaged plants. For tiny pruning jobs such as bonsais, a sewer's thread cutter is useful. It is also possible to get electric pruners.

**Electric hedge trimmer.** Old style hedge trimmers are great, providing you don't use them for an extended period. An electric hedge trimmer makes the job easier on the body and also gets the job done in record time.

**Electric chainsaw.** These are much lighter than petrol chainsaws and you don't need to worry about mixing fuel or trying to get the cantankerous thing started. They range in size from about 13cm up to 40cm. You still need bar lube and they do need regular sharpening. Invest in an electric chain sharpener (they are easy to use) rather than trying to use a file. Electric chainsaws are not suitable for serious cutting, such as that big ironbark that you want to get rid of. They require the same care and respect when in use as their petrol counterparts.

**Garden fork.** Get the most expensive fork that you can afford. Cheap forks will break or bend the tines. No fork is indestructible so don't force it.

**Spades are essential.** We all have one but how many of us keep it sharpened? Buy a file and regularly run it over the edge of your spade. This will not only make digging easier but will also cleanly cut through roots, minimising the risk of disease.

The Zen Gardener

## Handy Hints - from Lyn Rumble

Hi there,  
*Recycling, Repurposing and Reusing is big on my list to try to do my bit for the environment. In turn that usually means I can save some money in my weekly budget, which is wonderful. I hope that some of these tips can help you too!*  
*Have a great week and stay safe,*

Lyn Rumble

\* **Shoe boxes are handy** – I recently came across a couple of shoe boxes. The boxes are very sturdy, one has a lift off lid – the other a flip up lid. They could make wonderful storage boxes for documents, arts and crafts, a sewing box, a kitchen box to handle packaged dried pasta sauces and soups, ribbons, tapes. Would even be useful in the garage for storing tapes and adhesives that are usually on the bench. If you wanted to 'pretty' them up, some contact adhesive or wrapping paper and double sided tape would work wonders - and it would cost you nothing! My two are destined to store some greetings cards I've made, and some sewing items.

\* **Do you love baked potatoes in their jackets but they take ages?** All you need to do to speed up the cooking process is pierce the centre of the potato with a wooden toothpick, and leave it placed inside the centre of the spud while it bakes in the oven. The toothpick acts as a heat conductor and helps the heat penetrate the spud quicker, so check for doneness a little earlier than you would normally.

\* **Soup has too much salt?** We are still having cold weather, so soups are still the go for me for a good hearty meal – but if you add too much salt, that can be really awful. The humble raw spud comes to the

rescue – if you peel a medium sized spud and cut up into say 6 pieces then add to your soup. Gently simmer your soup with potato added for another 20 to 30 minutes, then remove the potato (before it starts to go to mush) and your soup should be at least back to edible again.

\* **Do you use raisins and sultanas straight from the packet in your recipe?** If you're using them in a cake or slice – why not take a little extra time and soak them in warm water for about 20 minutes before using. If you want to give them a bit of a boost, you could use warm strong tea or warm fruit juice instead of the water. That will give them a lovely flavour. Just drain the fruit and use the fruit in your recipe as you would do normally. If there is any juice left and your recipe calls for liquid, then substitute that juice in there as well. Adds even more flavour!

\* **Soak BBQ wooden skewers before use** – Makes a huge difference if you soak your wooden skewers in warm water at least 30 minutes before using. It not only keeps the stick moist and therefore the food moist but it improves the timing in cooking your food quicker. Also it stops the wood from burning or even igniting on the BBQ therefore making it safer.



# Health and Wellbeing

## Mental Health Community Services Expo in Ky

In recognition of Mental Health Month, the Campaspe Murray Mental Health and Wellbeing Network is hosting a Community Services Expo on Thursday, 10 October, in Kyabram, coinciding with World Mental Health Day. The event aims to promote education, raise awareness and advocate for better mental health in the region.

The expo will be held at Kyabram Memorial Gardens, offering valuable resources to those who may be struggling with mental health challenges and fostering a broader understanding of mental health within the community.

Campaspe Shire Council Acting CEO Michael Sharp highlighted the importance of the expo in helping to address the ongoing mental health crisis and destigmatising conversations around it.

“Across Australia, mental health affects a significant portion of our population and unfortunately, the stigma attached to mental health conditions sometimes prevents many people from seeking the help they need.

“Events like this are crucial in providing a safe space to engage in these conversations,

support one another, and access vital resources,” said Mr Sharp.

This year’s expo is sponsored by Community Bank Kyabram & District and will see a variety of stalls from a range of local businesses, and health service providers, across the shire coming together to offer information and support, along with an interactive arts and crafts display by the Aldara Yenara Aboriginal Corporation, as well as a community BBQ supported by volunteers.

The free event will run from 11am to 2pm at Kyabram Memorial Gardens, and no bookings are required. For further information, please visit the Campaspe Shire Council website or contact the Community Development Team.

### Event Details

**Date:** Thursday, 10 October 2024

**Time:** 11am – 2pm

**Location:** Kyabram Memorial Gardens, 83-89 Allan Street, Kyabram

**Cost:** Free

#### Supported by:

- Community Bank Kyabram & District
- Campaspe Shire Council
- Loddon Mallee Public Health Unit
- Kyabram P-12 College
- Aldara Yenara Aboriginal Corporation
- Kyabram District Health Service
- headspace Echuca
- Anglicare Victoria
- Greater Bendigo-Loddon-Campaspe Mental Health & Wellbeing Local
- Njernda Aboriginal Corporation
- Echuca Community Mental Health

## New Specialist Women’s Health Clinic coming to Shepparton

GV Health has received funding to support the delivery of a new women’s health clinic.

The new clinic will address the unique health needs of women in the Goulburn Valley and remove some of the barriers local women face when trying to access specialist care.

Services will be delivered by general practitioners, nurse practitioners, allied health professionals and specialist doctors, all under one roof.

This arrangement will make it easier for women to access specialist screening, diagnosis and management of conditions such as endometriosis, pelvic pain, polycystic

ovary syndrome (PCOS), perimenopause, and menopause.

“This new clinic will deliver affordable and comprehensive healthcare, ensuring that every woman has access to the specialist healthcare services they need,” said GV Chief Operating Officer Donna Sherringham.

“This funding will allow more women to receive high quality care, closer to home,” Ms Sherringham said.

GV Health Chief Executive Matt Sharp said the announcement marked a vital step towards improving health outcomes for

women in regional areas.

“We understand the unique challenges women in our region face and this clinic will offer essential resources and support within our community. GV Health is grateful for the support of the Victorian Government and this service will help overcome ongoing access issues for women in the Goulburn Valley seeking specialist care,” Mr Sharp said.

The new clinic is expected to open its doors in December 2024.

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**New hours: Mon - Fri: 8.30am - 5.00pm**



# Murchison & District Lions Club celebrates 40 years

The 40th Anniversary of the Murchison & District Lions Club was celebrated on 15 September with a luncheon held at the Murchison Bowls Club. There were 31 in attendance including our V6 District Governor Lion Julie Ballard, and Geoff Durston from Rushworth, who was our Guiding Lion when Chartered. Past members and partners were happy to catch up with those present and a great time was had by all.

The anniversary cake was cut by our two remaining Charter Members, Lion Gordon Newton and Lion John Ferguson with Geoff Durston assisting.

The Lions Club was formed when young men who had reached the age of 40, some of whom had been in the Jaycees Club with the upper age of 40 for that organization, still wished to be in a Service Club, so the Lions Club in Murchison was formed with Rushworth Lions Club being our Sponsor Club.

Over the 40 years Murchison community organizations have received over \$150,000.

Our Annual Wood raffle held during winter months, our Christmas Stocking Raffle and maintenance of our cemetery are projects which are the main source of the Clubs income.

Over the 40 years we have donated to Shepparton Legacy, and we are the longest running donor to them. We also donate to Murchison Historical Society, the Primary School, Ambulance Service, Swimming Pool, and others.

Special efforts have been support of a local lass with a Hart Walker, distribution of funds to local flood victims, purchase of a Defibrillator for the town, underground irrigation for Cricked Ground, CFA Trailer fully equipped and support of our Nursing Home (now closed).

Our annual projects are the Christmas raffle followed by Santa around town visiting single older residents with a gift. The Wood Raffle for 15 weeks, collection of eye glasses, collection of used batteries with proceeds for our Swimming Pool, and the Cemetery maintenance.

Past projects have been the Lions Park with play equipment and Memorial Rock,



Lion Gordon Newton, Geoff Durston, Lion John Ferguson cutting the anniversary cake.

Gardens Barbeque Shelter, Assistance with Boxing Day Carnival, Tomato Fest, Murchison 10km Run, Great Victorian Bike Ride, Easter Driver Reviver, Australia Day, Car Rallies, Licola Lions Camp, Youth Exchange, and Sausage Sizzles.

From the first year of the Club we have assisted with the Italian Remembrance Day held around 11 November with visitors to the Italian Ossario, located in the Murchison Cemetery, with the parking of vehicles. That first day there were 45 buses in attendance.

We support Lions Foundations, National and our own V6 District, St. Vincents de Paul, Shepparton Legacy, and the remainder of our support stays in the Murchison Community.

Our motto is 'As Lions We Serve.'

Lion Helen Newton  
Murchison and District Lions Club



## Murchison Neighbourhood House 25 years celebrations

Save the date - Murchison Neighbourhood House is celebrating 25 years of support for the community on Saturday 26 October.

The celebrations will commence from 11am at Impy Street and will include the official launch of the Murchison Community Garden next door.

The Pre-loved shop will be open from 10:30am – 1:30pm and there will be a photo display following the history of the Neighbourhood House over the 25 years.

A free sausage sizzle and free coffee van

will be on site to satisfy your lunchtime hunger. The day will conclude at 1:30pm.

The celebrations will include displays and information from Goulburn Murray Landcare Network, Goulburn Valley Tree Group and “No Flies On Us” fruit fly group.

So there will be lots to celebrate and learn in Murchison on Saturday 26 October.





# Corop Wetlands program kicks off in Colbinabbin

Several local community representatives have joined Working Group meetings in Colbinabbin, as part of a new program exploring ways to support the Corop Wetlands community and landscape.

The Corop Wetlands Waterscape program is led by the Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC) and is bringing together community people from across the district, as well as from organisations such as DEECA, Parks Victoria, GBCMA, G-M Water and local government.

The program is designed to create a more connected and collaborative approach to supporting a healthy waterscape and the people who are part of it. The area includes the Mt Camel Range, the Corop Wetlands, Reedy Lake, and parts of the Whroo Forest.

Three Working Groups are exploring different themes, and are chaired by community members. The Corop Livelihoods Working Group is chaired by Adrian Weston, and also includes Clem Furphy, Hugh Jones, Maddie Marson and John Avard.

The Corop Biocultural and Environmental Working Group is Chaired by John Pettigrew, and the Corop Institutional Working Group is Chaired by Denis Flett.

The group thanked Julie and the team at the Colbinabbin Country Hotel for excellent hospitality and hosting of these events. The program is just beginning, and is keen to involve people right across the area - so stay tuned for more information.

The Corop Lakes area includes Gaynor Swamp, Lake Cooper and Greens Lake. Greens Lake is managed by Goulburn Murray Water. The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning manages Lake Cooper. Gaynor Swamp is managed by Parks Victoria with environmental water being delivered by Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.

The wetland is listed in the 'Directory of important wetlands in Australia', and is a place of high cultural significance to the Traditional Owners.



The inaugural Corop Livelihoods Working Group meeting in Colbinabbin. Clockwise from bottom left: Carl Walters GBCMA, Alice Milner G-M Water, Hannah Burrell TLaWC, John Avard Colbinabbin, Uncle Mick Harding Taungurung Elder, Adrian Weston Karook, Maddie Marson Heathcote Winegrowers, Clem Furphy Corop, Eloise Seymour Parks Victoria, Hugh Jones Heathcote Winegrowers, Voytek Lapinski TLaWC, Helen Morrongiello DEECA, Marc Turri Campaspe Shire, Fern Hames TLaWC.



Uncle Mick Harding offers a smoking ceremony to begin the inaugural Corop Livelihoods Working Group meeting in Colbinabbin.



Kids Corner

- interesting things to know!

World Egg Day  
11 November

Hey Kids! This time we are taking a look at eggs! Did you know that World Egg Day will be celebrated across the globe on Friday 11 October 2024?

This year's World Egg Day theme 'United by eggs' celebrates how the incredible egg can connect and unite people from all corners of the globe.

Eggs can be found in cuisines across our planet's cultures and countries, showcasing their appeal and important role in global nutrition.

As well as being an environmentally friendly protein source with an abundance of nutritional benefits, eggs have the power to bring people together. Eggs are a universal food found in cuisines across cultures and continents, bringing people together through shared culinary traditions.

Eggs can help bring people together....but what brings an egg together? Well, lots of different nutrients. That is why they are so good for us.



What's in an egg?

Calcium Makes sure bones and teeth are strong

Vitamin E Helps to fight infections and germs

Zinc Boosts the immune system against germs

Protein Helps to build strong muscles

Iron Helps the body use oxygen

Choline Good for the brain

Vitamin A Helps your eyesight

Eggs are a great way to boost your energy levels while also continuing to keep you healthy.

Fun Facts about eggs

"Yolk" means "yellow" in old English

So that means that eggs are quite literally made of "egg white" and "egg yellow"!

Eggs go off faster at room temperature than in the fridge

One day out of the fridge is like a whole week in the fridge when it comes to eggs. So make sure to keep them chilled!

Older eggs peel more easily than the super fresh ones!

Did you know it's easier to peel hard-boiled eggs that have been in the fridge for 10 days? That's because fresh eggs hold onto their shells!

Floating eggs are older than sinking eggs

And this happens because eggs have tiny pockets that hold air! The older the egg, the more air gets inside, making it float! So why don't you try grabbing a bowl, filling it with water, and seeing which egg is older and which one is fresh?

Some fish lay thousands of eggs in one go!

Sea creatures lay eggs in the most interesting ways! A female crab carries her tiny orange eggs under her belly. Some sharks lay spiral-shaped eggs with curly tails!

Chickens aren't the only birds whose eggs we eat. Ducks, quails, emus, geese, and ostriches lay tasty eggs too!

You need both hands to hold an ostrich egg. It is 24 times bigger than a chicken egg!

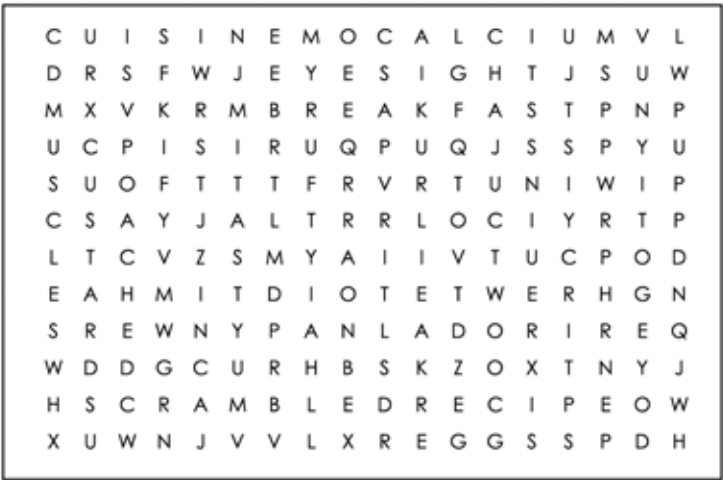


Can you match up the egg dish to its country of origin?

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| EGG CURRY            | UNITED KINGDOM |
| QUICHE LORRAINE      | GERMANY        |
| SCOTCH EGGS          | ITALY          |
| BREAKFAST BURRITOS   | FRANCE         |
| SHAKSUKA             | INDIA          |
| STEAMED EGG CUSTARD  | MEXICO         |
| STRAPATSADA          | MOROCCO        |
| HUEVOS ROTOS         | CHINA          |
| ONSEN TOMAGO         | INDONESIA      |
| FRITTATA DI ZUCCHINE | JAPAN          |
| KERAK TELOR          | GREECE         |
| BAUERNFRUHSUCK       | SPAIN          |

And now have a go at filling in the missing letters in these breakfast dishes:

\_ C \_ \_ MBL \_ \_ \_ GG \_  
P \_ \_ \_ H \_ D \_ E \_ \_ \_  
F \_ \_ \_ \_ E \_ \_ \_  
B \_ \_ \_ ED \_ E \_ \_ \_  
F \_ \_ \_ ENG \_ \_ \_ \_ BR \_ \_ \_ FAS \_



Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

|           |         |       |
|-----------|---------|-------|
| BREAKFAST | CUISINE | TASTY |
| SCRAMBLED | BURRITO | EGGS  |
| VITAMINS  | CUSTARD | ZINC  |
| EYESIGHT  | POACHED | IRON  |
| FRITTATA  | RECIPE  | YOLK  |
| PROTEIN   | QUICHE  |       |
| MUSCLES   | CURRY   |       |
| CALCIUM   | FRIED   |       |



*Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our*

# Strong links for Stanhope Primary and Stanhope Kinder

Stanhope Primary School students are enjoying their ‘Buddy’ program with the Stanhope Shine Bright Kindergarten children.

Kindergarten teacher David Bell and Acting School Principal Fiona Wallace are keen to continue reciprocal visits with the Primary School, forging strong educational links within our community.

In addition to regular shared sessions which foster learning, responsibility, and teamwork, the recent Book Week event proved a highlight.



Everyone got into the spirit of Book Week!



Buddy teams had fun laminating their pressed flowers.

(Right) Lily read to Diamond-Rose and Quinn.



Cooper and Cass supported buddies with construction work.

## Helping students prepare for the future

Funding is available to help secondary school students get involved in their communities and develop leadership skills.

Applications have opened for Future Ready 2025-2026 program grants, available for government secondary schools, not-for-profit organisations, Aboriginal entities and social enterprises to work with students across the state and help them get involved in their community.

Grants of between \$24,000 and \$56,000 over two years are available for a wide variety of activities such as mentoring and training, work placement and volunteering, and leadership and learning opportunities.

The program is designed to help students build confidence and skills, engage in practical learning that supports their pathway to higher education or employment and learn and develop in an inclusive and safe environment.

Funding can be used flexibly including to cover transport costs for students, such as

those living in rural and regional areas, who would otherwise face barriers to taking part.

Previous participants in the program, formerly known as Advance, include Werrimull P-12 School where students took part in a culture trip to Adelaide, a Rubicon leadership camp and a trip to Grampians National Park. These programs enabled students to develop organisational and leadership skills as they helped to plan and lead the trips.

Kyabram P-12 College received a grant to provide year 10 to 12 students with the opportunity to commence a Certificate II in Active Volunteering and undertake training in First Aid and barista qualifications. The grant also enabled students to participate in industry immersion days such as agriculture, building and engineering.

Lyndale Secondary College in Dandenong

North was supported to develop their Literacy Club, where students lead and organise a range of activities such as Write a Book in a Day, an excursion to Readings to select books for the College library and planning for a college Literacy and Arts magazine.

Activities funded with Future Ready 2025-2026 program grants will take place in the 2025 and 2026 school calendar years.

The Future Ready program aims to provide young Victorians with the support and opportunities they need to reach their potential.

Grant applications are open until 29 November 2024.

**For more information about the Future Ready 2025-2026 program, or to apply visit [vic.gov.au/future-ready-grants](https://vic.gov.au/future-ready-grants).**



# Season of Creation closes as parish gathers for Mass



Only the hardy parishioners of St Mary’s were brave enough to head out into the rain for the tree-planting ceremony behind the church. Others busied themselves with setting up the barbecue for a sausage sizzle while others checked on the urn and prepared for morning tea.



After the One Parish Mass in Rushworth, Denise Nihill took to the shovel to plant a Grevillea as a symbol of the dedication of St Mary’s Parish to caring for the environment.

**The annual Season of Creation closed officially on the feast of St Francis, 4 October.**

St Mary’s Parish, Rushworth, is registered as an Earthcare parish, committed to the work of healing and restoration of our part of the world.

Small steps, like not using plastic plates and cutlery, choosing environmentally friendly products, turning off the hot water service if it’s not needed, reducing food waste, car pooling etc. These are just some of those ‘little’ things that can add up when others join in the effort.

Bigger steps require some think-ahead planning with the parish intending to create a native garden which requires less watering and mowing of lawns.

With the use of mulch around all future plantings, it should be a way to conserve water as well as minimising weed growth and use of weedicides.

## Kangaroo Management Field Day

A field day to learn about different options for kangaroo management is being held at Violet Town on Thursday 10 October 10am to 12pm.

Options discussed will include different fencing methods and direct control. The event has been organised by Trust for Nature in conjunction with Victorian Landcare Program.

RSVP <https://www.trybooking.com/CVVHF>  
Location: meet at corner of Harrisons and Peck Roads.

## District Church Times and Contacts

- Anglican**
- St Paul’s, Rushworth: 0419 512 632
  - 9.30am 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month - lay led service
  - 9.30am 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of month - Communion
  - Christ Church, Murchison: Rev Andre du Plooy 0458 155 930
  - 10.30 am Thursdays Holy Eucharist
  - 11am service every Sunday
  - St Matthews, Stanhope: 0419 855 964 (Church Warden)
  - St John’s, Colbinabbin: 0428 329 344 (Mick Clayton)
- Presbyterian**
- St Andrew’s, Rushworth: Sunday 9am: Minister Kalpan Vasa 0477 241 042 or Elder Gary Dunstan 5856 1332.
  - St Andrew’s, Stanhope: 5831 6494 (Rev Kyung

Rae Ee)

**Catholic**

St Mary’s Parish. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays: Cornella 9am; Stanhope 10.30am. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays: Rushworth 9am; Murchison 10.30am.

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: One Parish Mass - Rushworth.

Contact a team member on the parish mobile phone: 0459 898 925. Sunday Mass continues online from St Kilian’s Sundays 10am.

**Shine Church, Stanhope**

Sunday services at 10am at the Stanhope Community Hall. All COVID restrictions abided by. Kids church running as well during service. More info call Wal Sinapius 0408 393 398.

**Generations Church, Tatura**

5824 3240 (Pastor Jeremy Burr)

**Salvation Army: 5852 3875**

**Uniting Church**

Waranga Uniting Churches – Rushworth, Colbinabbin, Murchison and Tatura.

Service Times: Weekly at 9.30am (with the ‘room’ open for a chat at 9am)

Every congregation is open for services which will be streamed each week into all four of our church buildings.

Each week one congregation will host the service with people in other congregations participating in leading the readings, sharing news and fellowship via the magic of Zoom.

You are welcome to join us in person or from your lounge room via Zoom.

The link for the Zoom service can be found on our website [warangaunitingchurches.net.au](http://warangaunitingchurches.net.au) or can be emailed to you each week.

*As you gather around the dinner table,  
join hands to give thanks to God for all his  
blessings.*



GRACE BEFORE MEALS  
For the food and those who prepare it,  
For health and friends to share it,  
We thank you, Lord  
AMEN.

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# living the GOOD LIFE

## Managing Jesus?

A strange and humbling role reversal happens as we grow older. Somewhere along the way, our children start to become ‘our’ caregivers.

They give us advice on how to eat better, remind us to take our medications, and worry about whether we’re getting enough rest. They say things like, “Don’t drive at night, Dad.” or “Mum, you really shouldn’t be lifting that.” At some point, the parent becomes the child.

As parents, it can be a hard shift for us. We’re used to being the ones in control: the decision-makers, the fixers, the protectors, and then, all of a sudden, we’re on the receiving end of concern and guidance. It’s humbling, sometimes frustrating, and even a little unsettling but beneath it all, there is a strange gift: a reminder that letting go of control, and allowing ourselves to be cared for, is not a sign of weakness, but of trust.

I often think about how this situation mirrors our relationship with God. Just as we have trouble relinquishing control to our adult children, we also struggle with letting go and trusting God’s guidance. Like the disciples in Mark’s Gospel, we have a tendency to try to ‘manage’ Jesus rather than simply receive his grace with open hearts and gratitude.

## ‘Managing’ Jesus

Peter, one of Jesus’ closest followers, was especially good at trying to ‘manage’ Jesus. When Jesus began to speak openly about the suffering and death he would face, Peter jumped in and tried to set Jesus straight: “No, Lord, this isn’t the way!” Peter wanted a strong, victorious Messiah, not Jesus, the suffering servant but Jesus’ response to Peter

was sharp: “Get behind me, Satan! You are thinking from a human perspective, not God’s.”

Peter, like many of us, wanted to shape Jesus’ mission to fit his expectations. He wanted to manage Jesus so that he could keep things neat and predictable. Time and time again, Jesus resisted Peter’s attempts, reminding Peter, and us, that his ways are higher, and his Kingdom doesn’t work according to our desires.

The truth is the desire to control Jesus didn’t stop there. When crowds gathered and resources seemed scarce, the disciples tried to send them away, managing the crisis by avoiding it.

When someone outside their circle performed miracles in Jesus’ name, the disciples told him to stop, trying to manage who got to use Jesus’ authority.



And when parents brought their children to be blessed, the disciples shooed them away, deciding for themselves who was ‘worthy’ of Jesus’ attention.

## Let the children come to me

But Jesus turned all of these actions upside down when he said, “Let the little children come to me. Do not hinder them for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” Children, seen as unimportant, vulnerable, and dependent were the ones Jesus pointed to as the ideal receivers of God’s Kingdom. Why? Because children can’t control or manage anything. They can only receive.

The good life, Jesus tells us, isn’t about

getting everything in order or about trying to steer God’s plans. It’s about letting go. It’s about learning to receive like a child, with humility, dependence, and trust.

## Not my will, but yours

This kind of surrender isn’t easy. Perhaps the most powerful example of it is found, not with the disciples, but with Jesus himself. In the Garden of Gethsemane, facing betrayal and the crucifixion, Jesus fell to his knees and prayed, “Abba, Father, everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.” Even Jesus, the Son of God, uttered a prayer of childlike trust and surrender: “Not my will, but yours.”

It’s a prayer that calls us to radical humility and openness. When life doesn’t go according to our plans, when we’re faced with situations we can’t control, can we trust God enough to let go? Can we, like Jesus, pray: “Not my will, but yours”?

It’s hard to do, but a good life isn’t about holding everything together. It’s about releasing our grip, and trusting that, in God’s hands, things will be held together far better than we could ever achieve ourselves. It’s about letting ourselves be cared for, just as we once cared for others. Maybe this is what Jesus meant when he said we must receive the Kingdom of God like a child?

So, next time your adult children remind you to be careful, or urge you to take it easy, take a moment to appreciate the gift they are giving you. Perhaps it’s a reminder of what God asks of us every day: to let go, to receive, and to trust that even when we’re not in control, we’re still deeply loved and held.

This is the gospel, and it’s good news.

Brian Spencer, Minister, Waranga Uniting Churches

This is the gospel, and it’s good news.

Brian Spencer,

Minister, Waranga Uniting Churches

# National Council of Churches prays for world peace

The National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA) invites all Australians and Christians worldwide to unite in prayer for peace, justice and reconciliation in Lebanon, the Holy Land the the broader Middle East.

NCCA President Rev John Gilmore expresses deep concern that our communities not allow the escalating conflict to undermine social cohesion in Australia. “We must not let violence beget violence as it is the innocent who are suffering”, Rev Gilmore says.

“Together let us seek peace with justice.

Let us continue to advocate for a permanent ceasefire, support humanitarian aid efforts, and, above all, trust in the transformative power of prayer. May God’s peace, which surpasses all understanding, guard the hearts and minds of all those affected by the devastating conflict in the Middle East”, prays Rev Gilmore.

He called for the safety and protection of all civilians, for the innocent caught in the crossfire, and for those who have lost loved ones or have been displaced.

Let us unite in our prayers for peace.



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WARANGA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

DEATH

**FRANCIS (Kennedy): Elaine Therese 21/9/2024**  
Loved Sister in law of Graeme (Kelly) (dec) and Alberta.  
Aunt of  
Haydon and Judy  
Julie and Gerry  
Philip and Michelle  
and families

*Rest in peace  
No more pain*

**MILLAR(Morgan), Mary Therese: (8/10/1927-8/10/2024)**

In Geelong.  
Late of Trentham and Ballarat.  
Daughter of James Thomas and Ida May Morgan (both dec),  
Wife of Lindsay Millar (dec)  
Sister of Tom (dec), Nan and Mick (dec)  
Loved and loving wife and mother,  
Grandmother, great grandmother, aunt and friend.

*97 years – a long life well lived  
Rest in peace.*

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

Les, Stephen, Peter, Louise and families would like to thank everyone for their love and kind wishes on the sad loss of our beautiful Wife, Mother and Grandma.  
Please accept this as our personal thanks.

Your local  
community  
newspaper

IN MEMORIAM

**FRANCIS, Graeme Charles (Kelly): 11/7/1939 - 11/10/2022**  
Two years ago you went to sleep,  
Loving memories are ours to keep.  
Loved Husband of Alberta. Loving Father and Father-in-law of Haydon and Judy, Julie and Gerry, Philip and Michelle and families

**JEWELL, Steven John: 14/5/1961-16/10/2020**  
In loving memory of Steven.  
There is not a day that goes by we do not think about you.  
We know we will still be together one day.  
In God's care now.  
Dad, Mum, Ken and David

THANKS

Les, Stephen, Peter, Louise and families would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the staff at Waranga Health for their very professional care and affection (with a smile) shown to our darling Elaine.  
Thank you all.

BIRTHDAY

**Michelle THORNE  
HAPPY 50th Birthday**

**Lots of love,  
Mum, Chris, Jeni and family, Karen, Owen and family, and Dannielle.  
Have a great day.**



PUBLIC NOTICES

**Rushworth  
Kindergarten &  
Childcare Centre**

ABN 13 231 252 680

**2024 Annual  
General Meeting  
7.30pm : Mon 28 October**

Meeting will be held at  
Rushworth Community House  
**67 High St, Rushworth**  
Parents and Grandparents are  
urged to attend and join the  
Committee of Management  
Committee Nomination forms  
available from the Kindergarten.  
*Community Members are also  
welcome to attend.*

**Rushworth  
Kindergarten &  
Childcare Centre**

ABN 13 231 252 680

**Special General  
Meeting to Plan  
Kindergarten  
Future Directions**

Meeting will be held at  
Rushworth Community House  
**67 High St, Rushworth**  
**Monday 28 October  
after the Kinder AGM**  
*Members of the  
Rushworth Community  
are cordially invited.*

**Campaspe Shire Council  
postal election**  
*My council, my vote*



An election will be held for Campaspe Shire Council.

**Check the mail for your ballot pack**

Ballot packs containing voting material will be mailed to enrolled voters from **Monday 7 October**.  
This is a postal election only.  
If you do not receive your ballot pack by **Tuesday 15 October** please visit [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) to complete the online replacement form, or call **131 832** to arrange a replacement.

**Candidates**

Candidates who have nominated for election are listed in the ballot packs and at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au).  
A photo and candidate statement will also be included if provided by candidates.  
Responses to a candidate questionnaire, if provided, are available at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)

**How to vote correctly**

You must complete your ballot paper correctly for your vote to count. Put the number 1 in the box next to the candidate you want to see elected, then number all the other boxes in order of your choice. You must number **every box** and only use each number once.

**How to return your ballot pack**

Put your completed ballot paper in the ballot paper envelope, complete the declaration, then post it ASAP using the reply-paid envelope provided, or hand deliver it during election office hours to:  
Former Echuca-Moama Information Centre  
2 Heygarth Street  
Echuca

**Voting is compulsory**

Voting is compulsory for all voters who were enrolled at 4 pm on Wednesday 7 August. This includes state-enrolled and council-enrolled voters.  
If you don't vote and don't have a valid excuse, you may be fined.

Your completed ballot pack must be in the mail or hand delivered by **6 pm Friday 25 October**.

State-enrolled voters can register for free VoterAlert SMS and email reminders at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)

[vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) | 131 832

@electionsvic

For enquiries in languages other than English:  
\* Arabic (Arabic) 0209 0100 \* Azərbaycan (Azerbaijani) 0209 0100 \* Bengali (Bengali) 0209 0101 \* 廣東話 (Cantonese) 0209 0105  
\* Chinese (Chinese) 0209 0102 \* 英語 (English) 0209 0103 \* 泰加語 (Tajik) 0209 0104 \* 泰加語 (Tajik) 0209 0105  
\* 泰加語 (Tajik) 0209 0106 \* 泰加語 (Tajik) 0209 0107 \* 泰加語 (Tajik) 0209 0108 \* 泰加語 (Tajik) 0209 0109  
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Authorised by S. Shannell, Electoral Commissioner, 520 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.



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DISTRICT INFORMATION BOARD

WHAT'S ON AROUND THE TOWNS

OCTOBER

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Thu 10 | Ram Sale, 11am Andrews Road, Colbinabbin  |
| Fri 11 | St Mary's Transition Prep program   |
| Sun 13 | Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am  |
| Sat 19 | Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm   |
| Sat 19 | Tongala Eats & Beats - Sound shell Tongala  |
| Sat 19 | Rushworth ART Depot (RAD) - every Market day - Sat 10am -1pm  |
| Fri 25 | Ballot packs for voters in Campaspe to be completed and posted back or dropped off by Friday, 25 October at 6 pm. |
| Sun 27 | Murchison Swimming Pool working bee - 2pm   |
| Sun 27 | Girgarre Open Gardens Festival  |

NOVEMBER

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Sun 10 | Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am            |
| Sat 16 | Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm |

Meetings & Activities - around the district

- Rushworth SES training: Wednesday evenings at 7pm
- Rushworth CFA: Tuesday nights
- Rushworth Food bank: Mon 10am -12pm, Wed 10am-12pm, Frid 10am-12pm
- #9 Op-Shop: Mon, Wed and Fri - 9am - 2pm Saturday 9am to 12pm
- Rushworth Community Garden every Wednesday
- Rushworth Community House - Genealogy, every Friday from 9.30 to 12.30pm
- Colbinabbin Library: Wednesdays
- Colbinabbin Community Shed: most Thursdays (old Shire Depot), 10am
- Rushworth Band practice: 7.30pm every Monday night
- Stanhope Walking Group: Tuesdays at 10am at McEwen Place
- Rushworth Market: 3rd Saturday of month - 8.30am to 1pm
- Rushworth ART Depot (RAD) - every Market day - Sat 10am -1pm
- Murchison CFA: Meeting 1st Monday 8pm - training on 3rd Monday 6.30pm
- Murchison Community Garden: Tuesdays 9am - 11am
- Rushworth Museum: every Saturday 10am-12 noon, 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11am - 1pm
- Rushworth & District Community Bank Board: meets 1st Tuesday monthly, at 6pm
- Rushworth Events Inc: meets bi-monthly, third Wednesday at 7pm
- Community Walking Group: Thurs 8 - 9am meet at front of Waranga Health
- Stanhope Mens Shed: Mon - Wed - Fri 9am - 12 noon
- Murchison Mens Shed: Wednesdays 10am – 3pm
- Rushworth Garden Lovers Club meet 3rd Thursday Month 1.30pm at old Senior Citizen's building
- Friends of the Hostel: Third Monday 1.30pm monthly
- Alcoholics Anonymous(AA) meetings, 14 High street , Rushworth, Thursdays 7pm



Local clubs or groups who would like to display their event, occasion, community service, entertainment, meeting or opening times, give Waranga News a call or email to be included in our events calendar.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

POLICE or FIRE.....Emergency.....000  
Non-emergency 13 1444  
AMBULANCE.....Emergency.....000  
Non-emergency...13 3009  
SES: (storm & flood).....13 2500  
DOCTORS:  
Rushworth Medical Centre..... 5856 1329  
Waranga Medical Centre..... 5851 8400  
Stanhope .....5857 0452  
West Goulburn Comm Health....5857 2400  
Murchison Medical Centre.....5826 2575  
HOSPITAL:  
Waranga Health .....5851 8000  
POLICE:  
Rushworth.....5856 1000  
Murchison.....5826 2222  
Stanhope Telecare  
Medical Centre .....5857 2507  
Colbinabbin.....5856 1000  
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St Vincent de Paul.....0417 597 468  
WARANGA NEWS OFFICE.....5856 1120

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## Waranga News



**A Voluntary Community Newspaper**  
Printed by Maxam Printing, Shepparton  
Published by Mary Jo Fortuna OAM,  
of 3 Phillips Street, Rushworth, 3612 for  
**Waranga News Incorporated**  
(ABN 45 086 403 564)  
Office Hours: Mon, Wed & Fri  
9.30am - 5.30pm  
(All day Mon & Tues of production week)  
33 Moora Road, Rushworth.  
Postal address: **PO Box 53, Rushworth, 3612**  
**E-mail address: wnews@iinet.net.au**  
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# Field and Game kicking Goals

by Graeme Wall

Rushworth Field and Game are continuing their hollow replacement program putting up parrot nest boxes at the Rushworth Public Park known as the Ironbark Stadium.

As the cricket season starts and the Football Club are continuing their rebuilding for the 2025 season it would only be fitting to paint the boxes in the Tiger's colours.

Rushworth Field and Game continue to work with local landowners and other organisations to provide safe nesting areas for our native wildlife. Conservation Officer Graeme Wall said “We are looking forward to more success from these boxes although not the recommended colours by some nest box traditionalists. We hope the Tiger's colours are well received by the parrots in the Park.

As locals exercise themselves and their pets around the Park, they will hopefully be able to view the parrots utilising the boxes over the next few months.

This is a further improvement to the Park following on from the work done by club members to the previous tennis club rooms.

Rushworth Public Park Trust President said it is so good to see clubs within the park cooperating to improve it for the benefit of the community and of course our native wildlife.



Charlie Cerci on the job erecting nest-boxes at the Rushworth Public Park.

## Sales & Subscriptions

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**Leon Doller**  
**0413 906 449**



# Another anniversary celebrated

Over two days of perfect weather, the 55th anniversary of the arrival of the now world-famous Murchison meteorite (MM) was celebrated in Murchison on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th September.

Great support from town organisations provided a variety of activities to mark the occasion. Many thanks are due to the Murchison & District Historical Society sub-committee who put the programme together. Society members opened the Heritage Centre to visitors so the wonderful sample of this 4.5-billion-year-old rock from outer space could be seen ‘up close and personal’ and two talks about the landing of MM in September 1969 were presented on the Friday. In the evening, the Stargazing at the Murchison Golf Club was a great success with over 100 in attendance. The Global Meteor Network was explained by enthusiastic member Derek Poulson, then as the daylight faded experts from the Astronomical Society of Victoria with powerful telescopes and high tech. equipment, showed us the wonders of the stars and planets in the clear night sky – it was spectacular and mindboggling!

The Meteorite Dash next morning got some keen early risers up and running and they were rewarded by a BBQ breakfast at the Tennis Club. No-one managed to run as fast as the meteorite was travelling as it crashed to earth in Murchison in 1969, so the promised prize money of \$1million remains un-claimed!

Uncle Vince Peters, Ngurai-illum Wurrung

Elder, gave a wonderful opening address and Welcome to Country, as the programme began in the Community Centre on Saturday. Dermot Henry, Deputy Director and Scientist from Museums Victoria, spoke about the arrival of MM and how the importance of MM to science has been revealed over the last 55 years.

Next speaker was Warwick Holmes from the European Space Agency who told us the amazing story of the Rosetta Program. Warwick, an Avionics Systems Engineer, was involved in constructing a space craft to land on a fast-moving comet to obtain samples and provide information about where MM originated from. Both speakers had everyone’s attention! Of course, the SONIC BOOM announcing the arrival of MM in 1969 couldn’t be left out and so was re-enacted at 10.58 via an enlightening film clip from NASA that explained why sonic booms occur. We then saw a fantastic film clip of Astro-photographic images provided by Brendan O’Keeffe.

The BIG screen (4.8m x 2.7m) was then available for the live streaming of the AFL Grand Final from the MCG. Couldn’t miss that! At 3 quarter time the raffle was drawn and Murchison resident Rosie Cornelious won the basket of local produce, generously



donated by Historical Society members and Murchison Pharmacy.

There was a wide variety of food and drinks available provided by the Murchison Men’s Shed, Murchison Primary School, Anglican Ladies Guild, Murchison Kindergarten, King Billy’s Coffee and Mad About Shakes from Toolamba. Art and craft activities set-up by Murchison Primary School and face painting kept the young children engaged.

All in all, there was something for everyone, and certainly the 55th anniversary of MM arriving in Murchison on 28th September 1969 was suitably and memorably celebrated.

*Kay Ball,  
Murchison & District Historical Society*

# Prepare your property ahead of increased fire risk

CFA is urging residents to prepare their properties ahead of the fire danger period, with parts of Victoria facing an early start to fire season.

The AFAC seasonal outlook for Spring, released last month, predicts an increased fire risk in west and southwest Victoria, following a notably dry Autumn and Winter.

Considering the outlook, CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan stressed the importance of early preparation this spring.

“An earlier start to the fire season means community members need to start

preparations now,” Chief Officer Heffernan said.

“By removing light and heavy fuels around your home, you’re protecting your property and helping firefighters defend it.

“Simple tasks such as clearing gutters, pruning overhanging branches, maintaining grass at a safe height, and moving wood piles away from your house or shed can greatly improve your property’s chances of withstanding a bushfire.”

## Be prepared

Take the following actions to prepare yourself and your property:

- Move your winter woodpile away from the house or sheds.

- Prune tree branches so they are not overhanging the roof or touching walls.
- Clear your gutters.
- Keep grass shorter than 10cm.
- Remove leaves and twigs from around your property.
- Test anything that is part of your fire plan such as sprinklers, pumps and generators.

The quickest and easiest way to register your burn-off is by using the Fire Permits Victoria website at [www.firepermits.vic.gov.au/notify](http://www.firepermits.vic.gov.au/notify), or call Triple Zero Victoria on 1800 688 511.

Make sure your household has a Bushfire Survival Plan. Find out how at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/bushfireplan](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/bushfireplan).

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# Rushworth FNC prepare for 2025 season



Rushworth Football Netball Club is looking forward to an energised 2025 with positions already being filled within the committee and coaching staff.

## U18 Coach

It is with great pleasure that the RFNC can announce that Ryan Raglus has been appointed as the Under 18's Football Coach for 2025.

Ryan is a Rushworth local who came up through the junior ranks of the Tigers captaining the junior teams at various points. Since then he has played a wealth of football in Geelong and Ballarat before eventually returning to Tigerland this season where he slotted back into the senior side as a key defender making an immediate impact with his effort, knowledge and instruction.

'Rags' will bring great enthusiasm and passion to the role, a role which is an important stepping stone in the clubs rebuild.

His shared philosophy and the willingness to learn, whilst also providing a positive, supportive and rewarding environment for our players, means he is the ideal candidate to nurture the young talent into senior football.

Please join us in welcoming Ryan as the Under 18's Coach and let's all get behind him for Season 2025!



## Returning players

### - Cooper Horsfall

The club is extremely excited to announce the return of Cooper 'Horse' Horsfall to Ironbark Stadium in 2025.

Cooper has been an integral part of the

Tiger's rebuild this year, bringing a hunger for the contest that has won him lots of admiration and respect, from both the playing group and supporters.

Joining the club in round five in the 2024 season and making a commitment to play out the rest of the season coming from Melbourne each week is testament to how this young man goes about his life.

The club can't wait to see him crashing and bashing his way through next year and beyond!

### - Nick Oaten

The club also welcomes Nick Oaten back to Ironbark for season 2025.

'Oatsey' joined us this year from Melbourne and has fitted in seamlessly both on and off-field.

Early in the season he played on the wing before making the move into the midfield where he provided great balance to the team. He is strong in the contest but also has a good ability to cover the ground on the outside.

Not the traditional kicking style, he rarely misses a target bringing others around him into the game.

Nick missed four games through injury this year but testament to the environment and culture the club are building at Tigerland, as soon as able, Nick was helping on the bench with rotations and giving insight into the game.

### - Matt Caton

The RFNC is excited to announce the return of Matt Caton.

Matt has played a number of new roles this year in the senior side. His ferocious attack on the ball and opposition players is something to behold.

Only slight in stature, this doesn't deter his competitiveness or appetite for the contest; something which we hold in high regard at Tigerland!

Matt has an extremely promising future playing senior football and we can't wait to see him develop both mentally and physically over the next year and beyond into an outstanding young person, both on and off the ground.



### - Dante Henry

What a revelation this young man has been this year. Just sixteen years of age Dante played all but one game in the seniors, playing up forward and slotting twelve goals but also spending time pinch-hitting in the ruck.

A rare talent that will light up Ironbark Stadium for years to come, from standing on opposition player's shoulders, to kicking 50-metre goals off one step or chase down tackles. We can't wait to see what this young man can do next year and the years to follow.

Dante has also been invited to the KDL presentation night as a nominee for the 2024 Rising Star award.

Please join the Tigers in welcoming all these players back to Tigerland and the Ironbark Stadium for Season 2025.



# Shepparton Cricket Assoc. hosting girls cricket sessions

The 'Come and Try' days for girls cricket will be held in Shepparton and in Tatura.

If you or someone you know are interested in participating, this is an opportunity for experienced and first-time young potential players to meet local coaches and learn new cricket skills and learn more about game sessions.

This is an event to build a female-only competition for younger players. Bring a smile, water bottle and sun-smart clothing/sunscreen. All equipment will be supplied.

Please make sure you get the word out and come along to the following sessions. There will be a bbq after session one and GMC Senior Women players to meet.

**Session one:**  
**Sunday 13 October**  
**Time: 9am – 11am**  
**Ages: 7-11 years – Junior**  
**12-17 years – Youth**  
**Location: Vibert Reserve, Shepparton**

**Session two:**  
**Sunday 27 October**  
**Time: 9am – 11am**  
**Ages: 7-11 years – Junior**  
**12-17 years – Youth**  
**Location: Frank Howley Oval, Tatura**





# Colbo Sports Report

Proudly sponsored by

## KANANGRA ACCOMMODATION

## Colbo FNC all in for season 2025

Colbo is pleased to welcome new players and returning players to the club.

### Senior coach - Linton Jacobs

The Colbinabbin Football Netball Club is excited to announce the appointment of Linton Jacobs as senior men’s football coach for the 2025 season.

Linno has a strong connection to Colbinabbin, playing in our last senior premiership in 2008 before returning to his home club, Eaglehawk.

He rejoined the Hoppers for another playing stint in 2014 before his coaching career beckoned. He plied his trade as an assistant coach at Eaglehawk until 2021, when he took the reigns as senior coach at Marong. After three successive premierships with the Panthers, Linno is excited to bring his skills and knowledge back to the MJ Morgan Reserve.

We are extremely proud to welcome Linno, Em, Pippa, Leo and Luna back to Colbinabbin for 2025 and can’t wait to get to work!



### Senior Assistant Coaches - Chris Guinane and Tim Kelly



### A Grade coach - Jen McIntyre

2025 is looking bright. Jen has re-signed as A Grade and A Reserve coach for next season and the club is thrilled!



### U18 Assistant Coach

We are thrilled to announce Harry Crilly as our 2025 Under 18s Assistant Coach.

No doubt that Chuck and Crilly will make the perfect pair in guiding and developing our young hoppers in the 2025 season.

The enthusiasm and determination they bring to our club is unmatched.

### New players - Dougal McKindlay

Perricoota born and bred Dougal McKindlay is a durable big man with near 100 games of Murray League experience makes his way to Colbo.

He has been a major contributor for three consecutive Preliminary Final campaigns with Moama. He brings height, competitiveness and a fantastic moustache. Welcome to Colbo Dougal and his partner Jess. Very excited to announce the return of Matthew Riordan for the 2025 season.

After ducking away to quickly win two flags with our new coach Linno, he will be back this year ready for another crack at one for Colbo. If all goes well Riordo should clock up his 200th senior game for Colbo next year.

Look forward to having Matt, Bec and the kids back around the club; you have all been sorely missed.

### - Brandyn Grenfell

The big fella is fresh off three premierships and has kicked over 350 goals in the last three years.

Can’t wait to see him in action at M J Morgan oval in the green and gold.

### - Dean Smith

Colbo are thrilled to announce the signing

of midfielder Dean Smith. Dean has won multiple Premierships and Best and Fairest awards throughout his career.

We welcome Dean and his family to the Colbo community with open arms for the 2025 season.

### Returning

The club welcomes back Charlie Ryan, Hughie and Jimmy McMurtrie and young gun Sam Ryan to Colbo for the 2025 season.

His return will add some extra spark all over the ground with his speed, height and skill. We all look forward to seeing you back out on the ground with your two brothers causing mayhem for the other teams in the HDFNL.

Also Daniel Hill, young farmer, returns to Colbo! We love when a hopper comes home, welcome back Daniel and Zena and Bevo and Samuel Coughlin for the 2025 season

### Netballers

Matilda McIntyre is back and locked in for the 2025 season as is Marg McEvoy, Grace McIntyre, Ella Kerlin, Emily Percy Tanzin Myers and Macy McCaig.

What’s better than one Whittle? You guessed it three Whittles! Georgie is a strong, athletic, tenacious defender who loves an intercept and a rebound and can also play mid court when needed.

She played a few games in 2024 and fell in love with Colbo. An encouraging and supportive team and club person, loved it so much she is bringing her sisters as well?

Chelsea is a tall, athletic defender who can run all day. A strong rebounder who can also play mid court.

Aleesha is a talented goaler who combines beautifully with any attack end. Accurate, clever and can also move into mid court

Welcome Georgie, Chelsea and Aleesha to the Hopper family.

### Coaching positions

The club are seeking coaches to lead our

**B Grade, B Reserve and Junior teams into 2025!**

**New to coaching, or been doing it for years?**

**We want to hear from you!**

**Please any expression of interest contact**

**Mikayla Palmer**

**Email:**

**colbonetballops@gmail.com**



# Rushy Bowls opens with the Norm Medson Trophy



The Rushworth Bowls Club held their opening day on 15 September playing for the Norm Medson Trophy, with a good turnout of bowlers enjoying the days bowls and the wonderful afternoon tea after the game.

The bowlers have been getting into practice with the first of the club events, 100 Up, nearing completion.

### Mens event

#### Round 1

Noel Lloyd defeated Baz Thompson.

#### Round 2

Geoff Cruz defeated Taffy Moreton, Jason Cashmore defeated Garrick Campbell, Noel defeated Tim Luttick, Kev Gilbert defeated Rocky Damon.

#### Round 3

Jason defeated Geoff, Noel defeated Kev.

### Ladies event

#### Round 1

Claire Campbell defeated Chris Borger, Col Draper defeated Glenis Ray, Lyn Nicholson defeated Tracy Ferguson, Sue Moreton defeated Karren Cruz, Kay Quirk defeated

Deb Thompson, Jean Sprague defeated Suzie Perry.

#### Round 2

Helen Hutchins defeated Claire, Lyn defeated Col, Kay defeated Sue, Jean defeated Nicole Donnelly.

#### Round 3

Jean defeated Kay. The last game to determine the other finalist will be played between Lyn and Helen.

The final of both Men's and Women's 100 Up will be held Sunday 13 October at 2pm.

It was great to see so many of our new bowlers entering the event and in fact performing really well. Great effort by all of you!

We are having a practice match against Murchison next Saturday 12 October so results will be in the next paper.

Jean Sprague



L-r: Rocky Damon, Tim Luttick, Jean Sprague, Claire Campbell

## Goulburn Valley Bowls season fixture for season 2024-2025

|  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <b>Weekend Pennant Division 3</b><br><b>Round 1 – 19 October 2024</b><br>Avenel v Rushworth<br><b>Round 2 – 26 October</b><br>Rushworth v Kyabram<br><b>Round 3 – 2 November</b><br>Rushworth v Shepp Golf<br><b>Round 4 – 9 November</b><br>Mooroopna Golf v Rushworth<br><b>Round 5 – 16 November</b><br>Rushworth v Mooroopna<br><b>Round 6 – 3 November</b><br>Eildon v Rushworth<br><b>Round 7 – 30 November</b><br>Rushworth v Shepp Park<br><b>Round 8 – 7 December</b><br>Rushworth v Avenel<br><b>Round 9 – 14 December</b><br>Kyabram v Rushworth<br><b>Round 10 – 18 January 2025</b><br>Shepp Golf v Rushworth<br><b>Round 11 – 25 January</b><br>Rushworth v Mooroopna Golf<br><b>Round 12 – 1 February</b><br>Mooroopna v Rushworth<br><b>Round 13 – 8 February</b><br>Rushworth v Eildon<br><b>Round 14 – 15 February</b><br>Shepp Park v Rushworth<br>22 February 2025 – Semi Finals<br>1 March – Prelim Final<br><b>8 March – Grand Final</b> | <b>Weekend Pennant Division 7</b><br><b>Round 1 – 19 October 2025</b><br>Murchison v Rushworth<br><b>Round 2 – 26 October</b><br>Rushworth v Seymour<br><b>Round 3 – 2 November</b><br>Mooroopna Golf v Rushworth<br><b>Round 4 – 9 November</b><br>Rushworth v Merrigum<br><b>Round 5 – 16 November</b><br>Eildon v Rushworth<br><b>Round 6 – 23 November</b><br>Rushworth v Avenel<br><b>Round 7 – 30 November</b><br>Kyabram v Rushworth<br><b>Round 8 – 7 December</b><br>Rushworth v Murchison<br><b>Round 9 – 14 December</b><br>Seymour v Rushworth<br><b>Round 10 – 18 January 2025</b><br>Rushworth v Mooroopna Golf<br><b>Round 11 – 25 January</b><br>Merrigum v Rushworth<br><b>Round 12 -1 February</b><br>Rushworth v Eildon<br><b>Round 13 – 8 February</b><br>Avenel v Rushworth<br><b>Round 14 – 15 February</b><br>Rushworth v Kyabram<br>22 February 2025 – Semi Finals<br>1 March – PrelimFinal<br><b>8 March – Grand Final</b> | <b>Midweek Pennant Division 6</b><br><b>Round 1 – 15 October 2024</b><br>Colbinabbin v Rushworth<br><b>Round 2 – 22 October</b><br>Rushworth v Mooroopna<br><b>Round 3 – 29 October</b><br>Avenel v Rushworth<br><b>Round 4 – 12 November</b><br>Nagambie v Rushworth<br><b>Round 5 – 19 November</b><br>Rushworth v Mooroopna Golf<br><b>Round 6 – 26 November</b><br>Rushworth v Colbinabbin<br><b>Round 7 – 3 December</b><br>Mooroopna v Rushworth<br><b>Round 8 – 10 December</b><br>Rushworth v Avenel<br><b>Round 9 – 17 December</b><br>Rushworth v Nagambie<br><b>Round 10 – 14 January 2025</b><br>Mooroopna Golf v Rushworth<br><b>Round 11 – 21 January</b><br>Colbinabbin v Rushworth<br><b>Round 12 – 28 January</b><br>Rushworth v Mooroopna<br><b>Round 13 – 4 February</b><br>Avenel v Rushworth<br><b>Round 14 - 11 February</b><br>Nagambie v Rushworth<br>18 February 2025 – Semi Finals<br>25 February – Prelim Final<br><b>4 March – Grand Final</b> | <b>Midweek Pennant Division 2</b><br><b>Round 1 – 15 October 2024</b><br>East Shepp v Rushworth<br><b>Round 2 – 22 October</b><br>Rushworth v Kyabram<br><b>Round 3 - 29 October</b><br>Seymour VRI v Rushworth<br><b>Round 4 – 12 November</b><br>Shepp Park v Rushworth<br><b>Round 5 - 19 November</b><br>Rushworth v Shepp Golf<br><b>Round 6 – 26 November</b><br>Moopoopna v Rushworth<br><b>Round 7 – 3 December</b><br>Rushworth v Seymour<br><b>Round 8 – 10 December</b><br>Rushworth v East Shepp<br><b>Round 9 – 17 December</b><br>Kyabram v Rushworth<br><b>Round 10 – 14 January 2025</b><br>Rushworth v Seymour VRI<br><b>Round 11 – 21 January</b><br>Rushworth v Shepp Park<br><b>Round 12 – 28 January</b><br>Shepp Golf v Rushworth<br><b>Round 13 – 4 February</b><br>Rushworth v Mooroopna<br><b>Round 14 – 11 February</b><br>Seymour v Rushworth<br>18 February 2025 – Semi Finals<br>25 February 2025 – Prelim Final<br><b>4 March – Grand Final</b> |
|--|---|--|---|



# Rainbow over Rushworth



Springtime weather can be often quite unpredictable with a mix of sunny days, rain, and sudden temperature changes. This year is certainly no exception with above average temperatures one day and back to the cooler degrees again the next. However most of us were happy to see a break in our recent long dry spell this last week, offering our thirsty paddocks and gardens some respite as well as treating us to a special rainbow display. This spectacle was captured by Marcie Martin at her home in Rushworth.

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