

WARANGA NEWS

Waranga News acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waterways of our distribution area. We recognise their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Published fortnightly since 1978

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Rushworth, Stanhope, Tatura, & Toolleen

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staffed by volunteers

Thursday 7 November 2024

Live music up close at Octolbo



It was a lovely sunny Sunday when Octolbo came to Colbinabbin, showcasing local music talent to fans who had gathered for the occasion. The 'cosy' venue was the Uniting Church – handily just across the road from the Colbinabbin Country Hotel.

The line-up of talent included the Colbo Pub Choir, twelve year old pianist Ruth Woodman, 'Lucid Lucy', Maple and Murray, with the final performance by the much loved Milkwood who finished off the event with the surprise announcement that it was their final performance (at least as Milkwood!).

To read more about this talented bunch turn to page 3.



Look for the scary creatures on Page 20!

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

Family Contribution To War Effort

The Koch family made a significant contribution to the Australian war effort during the World War 1. No less than four members of the family are listed on the Colbinabbin and Rushworth (Shire of Waranga) war memorials. This is all the more surprising because the family was of Prussian descent, perhaps making them more likely to have been supportive of the German side of the conflict.

However, this was the third generation of the Koch family in Australia. Given the amazing contribution by the family, there seems to be no doubt where their loyalties lay at a time when some people of German descent were being interned for the duration of the war because they were seen to sympathise with the enemy. Like many families of German descent at the time, the Kochs anglicised their name to Cook, although in their case by pronunciation only. The spelling was not changed.

The boys' grandfather, Friedrich (Fred) Koch, and grandmother Meri (Maria) were born in the Pozen/Posen area of Prussia (now part of Poland, about 300 km east of Berlin) and married there in 1854 before emigrating to Australia. Initially, the gold rush may have prompted the move to Australia, because many of their eight children were born around Castlemaine/Harcourt area, including Frederick Jnr, the father of two of the enlistees. The family moved to the Colbinabbin/Toolleen area when land was opened up for selection, and also had property at Avonmore on the Campaspe River.

When Maria, the matriarch, died in 1894, it was noted that she was "of Mount Pleasant... (and was) a very skilful and respected nurse."¹ This was no doubt handy as she had many of her own grandchildren to deliver. She is buried in the Colbinabbin cemetery.

Fred Junior married Eliza Ann West at his parents' home property in 1890, and they went on to produce ten children. No 64555 Private Lester Joseph Koch served in the 8th Light Horse Regiment, well known for its role in the infamous charge at The Nek on Gallipoli. Les, as he was known, enlisted later in the war, which was nearly over by the time he got there. He was farewelled by the local

community at the Avonmore hall, where he received a wallet and a cigarette case.² Les also served in Australia in World War Two as part of the 17th Garrison which looked after the No 1 Internment Camp near Waranga Basin. Ironically, many of the inmates were of German descent.

Les' older brother, No 3309 Leading Seaman Leonard George Koch, had signed up for the Royal Australian Navy in 1913, doing his initial training at HMAS Cerberus in Victoria before becoming part of the crew of the cruiser HMAS Encounter for the duration of the war. The Germans had territory in what is now Papua New Guinea and the Encounter was the first Australian ship to fire a shot in anger during the war when it bombarded the Toma Ridge near Rabaul, then part of a German colony. HMS Encounter spent most of the war close to Australia, including doing escort duty for convoys going to and from the war.

Fred Junior's brother Heinrich (known as Henry) had married Eliza's half-sister, Matilda West, in 1881. They also had a large family of nine, with two of their boys signing up for World War 1. No 2096, Private Edgar (Ted) James Koch, served for a time in the 38th Battalion, which has strong connections with Bendigo. It was formed at the Epsom racecourse in March 1916, and went on to fight in many significant battles on the Western Front in Europe. He was severely wounded in the chest and right arm at Broodseinde in Belgium in October 1917 but recovered sufficiently to return to the front in early 1918. Ted also served in the Civil Construction Corps in Australia during World War 2, which assisted with military construction projects as part of

the war effort.

Ted's younger brother Henry (No 20054 Sapper Clarence Henry Koch) enlisted in Rushworth and joined the 1st Division Signals Company in 1917, also serving on the Western Front late in the war. Sappers had the unenviable task of trying to maintain communications on the battlefield. Their equipment, including the all-important wiring, was often destroyed by shell fire and had to be replaced as soon as possible, often under fire.

Local communities made a point of organising welcome home events for men and women who had served overseas. Len Koch was part of a welcome home at the Colbinabbin hall, where the community honoured him and five others (ADobie, J McEvoy, E C Hill, W Aylett and Les Roberts) with specially struck gold medals. Further medals were given out at a welcome home at Avonmore hall to Len and Les, while at Oswald's Hall at Colbinabbin West, Les, Clarence and Edgar all received medals recognising their service and sacrifice.

What an amazing contribution the Koch family made to the war effort. There was a large, extended Koch family in the Colbinabbin - Mount Pleasant - Avonmore areas who would have been beside themselves with worry during the war years. Fortunately, all of their boys survived to return home, be reunited with family and friends and make ongoing contributions to their respective communities.

References 1 PROV, Magisterial Inquiry into the death of Maria Koch; 2 Elmore Standard 7.9.1918; Other - Ancestry, AWM, NAA, Trove websites. Thanks to Carl Koch and Nance Niven of Elmore.



Clarence Koch



Lester J Koch



Edgar Koch



L J Koch in Kandy Sri Lanka Sept 1919.

Octolbo comes to Colbo

The day kicked off with the locally acclaimed Colbo Pub Choir. This singing group was established around seven years ago when Julie started managing the Colbo Country Hotel. All comers are welcome to the group that gathers every Tuesday at 5.00 pm.

Next a warm welcome was given to Ruth Woodman from Colbo. Ruth is 12 and in grade 6 at Colbo primary. Ruth has been learning the piano for a couple of years, has completed three exams and confidently showed her talent at the keyboard.

Lucid Lucy

Following on from Ruth was Lucid Lucy. John from Tatura and Tom from Waranga Shores do a range of covers and originals. Pete, who hails from Melbourne, joined the lads on harmonica.

Lucid Lucy have been playing together for about eight years and in that time they've done a number of pub gigs and private performances.

However Octolbo was their first gig since before Covid .



Maple and Murray

Maple and Murray were the third act of the day. Their act name has somewhat of an interesting story. Lou Murraray hails from Tongala. She met Mark Osmond just 18 months ago. He's the Maple part of the name as he is from Newfoundland Canada.

The crowd enjoyed a variety of Irish, Folk, Acoustic and Country music from the duo.



(Above) *Maple and Murray*, Lou and Mark.
(Left) *Lucid Lucy's*, John and Tom.



Angelus from Milkwood

After fourteen years as folk duo - 'Milkwood', Julie Price and Louise Costa played their last song at Colbinabbin's 'Octolbo Festival'.

The pair who have been regulars at local markets, community celebrations and gigs have become a trio, welcoming cellist Emma King into the fold and changing their band name to 'Angelus' - taken from the angelus bell which tolls three times a day; reminding us to pause and reflect.



Milkwood

The last act of the day was the well-known Milkwood with Julie Price and Lou Costa who have been playing and singing together for fourteen years. The duo have survived living in different towns, different states, both running businesses and having babies and for Julie, grand-babies.

The recent addition of accomplished cellist Emma, who is also a member of the Shepparton Orchestra, has transformed their sound and the folk songs have become 'a twist of rock-with-jazz-chords' - and a touch of the theatrical!

The trio made their debut at the Dookie hall for the Grounded Festival on Saturday night before joining local bands 'Maple and Murray' and 'Lucid Lucy' for the Octolbo event where they announced the transformation of Milkwood into *Angelus*.

Stay tuned (pardon the pun) for more *Angelus* music coming soon.

(Left) New addition to the local music scene Emma King of *Angelus*.

Christmas Art & Craft Market

Saturday 30 November
Rushworth Shire Hall
71 High St Rushworth 3612
8.30am - 1pm
Come along and get your Christmas shopping started!

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Leon Doller
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Have your say !

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

We’ve got you covered

You are invited to the Rushworth Events AGM 6pm on 20 November at the Senior Citizens Centre/Band Rooms

I won’t bore you with a detailed history of Rushworth Events, so here is the short version.

Rushworth Events was established in 2016 as an incorporated association, not for profit legal entity, providing governance and insurance to a number of smaller sub-committees, which organised a variety of different events in Rushworth, and in doing so shared the cost of the biggest essential expense, insurance!

Over time and most noticeably following the COVID pandemic, the number of sub-committees has declined, so the portion of cost which was once shared across numerous subcommittees is now the burden of the remaining three.

In addition, the cost of insurance has risen, as the September CPI figures show (below).

Are you in a group that is struggling to pay their insurance?

Do you have an idea for a new activity, it can be a once off or a recurring activity, but can’t afford the insurance and you’re not sure how to go about it?

Rushworth Events would like to offer a helping hand, and perhaps the following list of activities might trigger some ideas for you:

Activities covered under the existing insurance schedule;

- daily outings,
- organised games
- play groups
- noncontact sports
- market stalls
- picnics
- dinners
- film festivals
- social functions with less than 100

people

We are able to provide cover for some larger / higher risk activities, provided we have additional information prior to the event.

- social events up to 500 people
- camps
- bushwalking
- waterborne activities
- fun paddle for the kayakers
- overnight trips
- fun runs
- cycling for seniors
- gravel cycling
- indoor rock climbing
- walkathons
- small festivals

The 2025 opening of the Waranga Rail Trail will provide opportunities for fun runs, park runs, wildflower walks, twilight or moonlight wildlife walks or bike rides, marathons etc.

Did I mention that being a part of an incorporated association with an ABN means that we can provide you with a Community Bank account, and that you can apply for local, state and federal grants?

There are plenty of grants available for worthwhile activities.

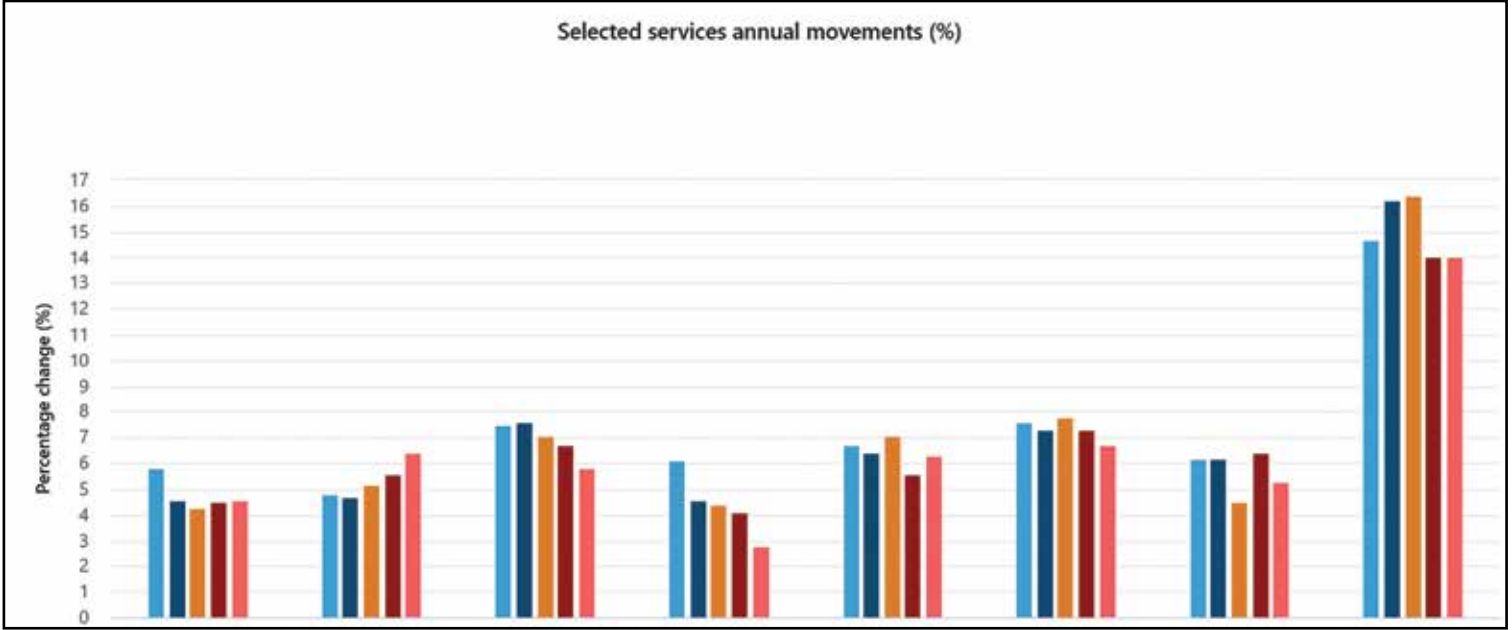
Want to know more? Contact us and we will see how we can help you.

Go on, let your imagination run rampant, then once you have an idea, contact us on events4rushworth@gmail.com or come along to our AGM and get to know us.

We’ve got you covered!

Graeme Hanigan
Rushworth (0438 359 600)

Below is graph showing Consumer Price Index to September 2024



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Consumer Price Index, Australia September Quarter 2024



Annabelle

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Letters to the Editor are welcome, but must be accompanied by the sender’s name and residential address (address not for publication). Anonymous letters will not be accepted. Longer letters may be subject to editing. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the Waranga News.



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Another active year at peaceful Whroo cemetery

The Annual General Meeting of the Whroo Cemetery Trust was held late last month.

The Trust’s mission is to care for this important historical burial place, providing a respectful environment for those buried at Whroo, while maintaining a safe and interesting place for all visitors. Trust members have been active throughout 2024 at this peaceful spot in the local forest.

The meeting commended recent approved enhancements to graves within the cemetery. Two of the Cheong family graves and a grave of members of the Birney family have been improved, thanks to the interest of descendants. Further possible actions to improve the presentation of the cemetery are being explored for 2025.

With the cemetery officially closed, and no revenue available from the sale of grave plots, news of a donation from an appreciative descendant of a family with members buried at Whroo was a highlight within the report from the secretary-treasurer.

Trust members armed with hoes, rakes and wheelbarrows have removed sticks and leaf litter, and kept Chinese scrub and eucalyptus suckers from too much intrusion into the reserve. The timbers of the information board have been freshened up with a coat of stain.

The Trust again commended and thanked the local fire brigade captain, Mark Jones, and brigade members, for allowing the use of the local fire station for Trust meetings.



Trust members Tim Le Deux (left) and Graeme Pettifer prepare to fit a steel surround on the Birney family grave.

The AGM re-elected office-bearers Alan McLean (Chair), Graham Pettifer (Deputy Chair) and Christine Norris (Secretary Treasurer) for the forthcoming year.

Other members of the Trust are Yvonne Sloper, Keith Irwin, Ken Bock, Terry O’Dwyer, Tim Le Deux and Lorraine Rule.

A nomination is in train to have Carolyn Parker-Clews join that membership. Margaret Pettifer, Doug Sloper, Clint Irwin and Des Mason have been active and supportive “friends of the Trust”.

Adoption fees temporarily reduced at Campaspe Animal Shelter

Campaspe Animal Shelter is temporarily reducing adoption fees from the 28 October until 4 November, encouraging residents to adopt a pet.

Campaspe Shire Council Director Communities, Jo Bradshaw said that now is an excellent time to adopt a pet, with a variety of cats and dogs available at the shelter looking for new homes.

“If you’ve been considering adopting a pet, now is the perfect time. Adoption fees are temporarily reduced, so come and meet the cats and dogs. You can also view the pets available for adoption on the Council’s website,”

Ms Bradshaw added The temporarily reduced fee structure is:

- \$100 Dogs
- \$150 Puppies
- \$80 Cats
- \$100 Kittens

“The normal adoption process and registration fees apply. Come make an appointment at the shelter give one of these beautiful animals their forever home” Ms Bradshaw said.

For more information or to see what animals are up



for adoption, call the Animal Shelter on 5480 3005 or visit www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/adoptdontshop.

Counting underway

At the time of going to print the result of the Campaspe Council elections has not been finalised.

A preliminary look at the progressive count, indicating the ongoing tallying of votes, displays the first preference results for each candidate as they are counted.

A final result is expected by Thursday 7 November and will be posted on our web page

wnews.org.au

Candidate Name	Votes
SHARROCK, Luke	1493
ZOBEC, John	1780
MARWOOD, Tony	1328
COOK, Zoe	1061
MACKRELL, Daniel	1137
MITCHELL, Jessica	2271
WESTON, Adrian	1324
FARRANT, Michael	1086
OULD, Brett	371
JARMAN, Paul	1839
CHUMBLEY, Deb	967
AMOS, Rob	2528
Total	17185

The progressive vote count as released on Friday 1 November.

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A Stanhope and District Development
Committee Project

Nominate your local heroes now for the 2025 Campaspe Shire Citizen awards

There is just over one month remaining to get your nominations in for the 2025 Campaspe Shire Citizen Awards.

Do you know a local hero or a community organisation or group that makes a difference in Campaspe Shire? Nominations for the Campaspe Shire Citizen Awards recognise those people and groups in our community who go the extra mile in their contributions and service across our shire in areas including sports, youth or seniors’ programs, the arts, disability or community services, just to name a few.

These awards are among the highest honours a council can bestow to publicly acknowledge local heroes and their dedication to making their community a better place. The awards also provide an opportunity for residents to acknowledge and celebrate these exceptional individuals and community groups.

Nominees must live within Campaspe

Shire and can be entered into one of three categories: Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, and Community Group of the Year.

All nominees and nominators will be invited to attend the award announcements, which will be held during the week prior to Australia Day.

Campaspe Shire Council Director Communities Jo Bradshaw encouraged nominations to be submitted from across the shire.

“We know there are so many people who make a huge impact on the communities they live in through volunteering across many areas whether it be sports, arts or other community services.

“We want to make sure these local heroes are given the recognition they deserve,” Ms

Bradshaw added.

Previous winners include Mr Don Hicks OAM of Echuca in 2023 for his services to sporting and community organisations, and Mr Mick Simpson of Kyabram in 2022 for raising dementia support and awareness, as well as community volunteer work.

Online nominations are encouraged but hard copies are also available from Council’s website or Customer Service Centres. For selection criteria and to submit a nomination, visit www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/nowopen. Entries close on Sunday, 1 December 2024 at 11.59pm.

If you require assistance with your nomination, please contact Council’s Civic Events Team on 1300 666 535.

Police Beat

Greetings and welcome to your local police report for the Rushworth Police Service Area, for the month of October 2024.

The following is a list of reported crimes and incidents. Any information in relation to these crimes can be reported to the Rushworth Police Station on 58561000, or by calling Crime Stoppers on 1800333000 if you wish to remain anonymous. Any information is greatly appreciated by both victims and police.

A burglary occurred to a shed at a Neill Street Rushworth property between 2pm. on 30/09/24 and 5.30 pm. on 02/10/24. An offender has entered an unlocked garage and stolen three motorcycles.

A theft to an open shed occurred at a Heathcote-Rochester Road Colbinabbin property overnight 03/10/24 and 04/10/24. A large quantity of power tools was stolen from the shed.

A stolen vehicle was located burnt out in Bakers Bridge Road Colbinabbin

on 21/10/24. The vehicle was completely damaged by fire.

A burglary occurred at the Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve overnight of 21/10/24. The clubrooms were entered via the front roller door. A quantity of alcohol was stolen.

Another burglary on the same night occurred at a Station Street Colbinabbin premises. The rear door to the office was forced open. Two motor vehicles were stolen.

Later in the day on 21/10/24 an offender was located and arrested in Echuca. The motor vehicles and other property from Colbinabbin were recovered at the premises.

That is our list of reported crimes for the month. Local members also attended seven family violence incidents during the month. Please continue to check your security and

lock up your sheds when not at home. Many incidents can be avoided by just taking a couple of minutes to check. Fire restrictions come into effect on Sunday the 3 November 2024. Please check the CFA website if you need to know further about the restrictions. It was also good to see a reduction in infringement notices issued during the month. Speeding was again the most issued. Concentration is the key. Pay attention and avoid a costly fine coming into Christmas.

Well that about wraps up another police report. Please stay safe and look out for each other. Until we chat again.

*All the best,
Ldg. Sen. Cons Steve Thomson
Rushworth Police*

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Two awards for Girgarre business

Gargaroo Café/Restaurant has scored two awards at the 2024 Campaspe Murray Business Awards held recently at Rich River Golf Club on Wednesday 30 October.

The popular café's first award was the People's Choice Award sponsored by Nichol Trading.

Excitement was all around when Gargarro was named a second time, winning in the Best New Business category which was sponsored by Tongala Bendigo Bank.



Leon and Joel's warm and welcoming venue has won the hearts of the Girgarre community and well beyond. Their passion and dedication make them a favourite destination for locals and visitors alike. Well done, Gargarro Café!

Selection Panel comments:

The Gargarro Café has quickly become a beloved community hub and a shining example of local success. Located within the Gargarro Botanic Garden, the café has played a pivotal role in revitalising Girgarre. Since its opening, the café has received rave reviews for its quality food, welcoming atmosphere, and exceptional service. The café's success is not just measured by its popularity among locals and visitors, but also by its significant contributions to the community. It has created jobs, supported local suppliers, and provided a much-needed gathering place for residents.



The team, Sandra, Brandon, Leon, Tia, Bronte, Joe and Joel went up to accept their award from the representative from the Bendigo Bank.

This year's awards attracted 60 applications across fourteen categories. Each category had two external judges who reviewed the applications and conducted onsite visits to gain a better understanding of the businesses.

Kyabram's Empire Signs Group took out the top award of Business of the Year.

Campaspe Shire CEO Pauline Gordon said this year was especially exciting with the addition three additional categories, Excellence in Health and Wellbeing, Excellence in Marketing and the Community Impact Award.

"The popular People's Choice Award, saw a tremendous response with over 3,700 votes

cast from the community for their favourite business."

"It was wonderful to see the new, yet very popular business, Gargarro Cafe, taking out both the People's Choice Award along with the Best New Business Award," Ms Gordon said.

The 2024 Business awards included Community Impact Award – Winter Blues Festival, Employee of the Year – Carmel Beck from Echuca Regional Health, Young Entrepreneur of the Year – Vanessa Bronsgeest from Soap Bar Co, while another local Rushworth business, Cross Carpet Cleaning, was awarded Best Home Based Business.

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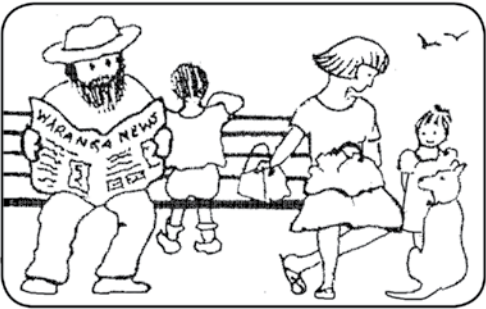
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Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns



Around Rushworth

Library a great resource

What a wonderful resource we have in the newly renovated library. Librarian Renee George is only too happy to help you with all your library needs.



Librarian Renee George with the Waranga News available as reference in Rushworth Library.

Garden Lovers at Lisadurne

Last meeting 22 members enjoyed an afternoon in the gardens of Lisadurne’s beautiful established gardens, followed by an afternoon tea.

Next meeting will be back to the Senior rooms on the 21 November @ 1.30pm.

It will be a busy time with a white elephant auction to raise funds for the club, then to decorate the Christmas tree for the Christmas street display.

So please bring something to sell at the auction , plus something to decorate the tree, suitable for all weather, as a garden theme.



Lots of activity at the Machinery Preservation Club

The Rushworth Men’s Shed is now the hive of activity for the members of the Rushworth Machinery Preservation Club. The Rushworth Community House has leased the Men’s Shed to the club for the last eight months.

These eager members are happy to share their stories about the different machines they are restoring. There were about six members present when Waranga News called in last Tuesday morning.

One member was restoring an old chaff cutter made approximately in the year 1897. He explained the workings of this machine. There is a big cutter in the front and at the back, two cylinders for the bags to collect the chaff. One bag fills and then the other one so the machine can keep moving while the full bag was sown shut.

The frame is made from Baltic pine and some of the bottom frame work needs replacing. It is hoped that it will be ready for Easter.

The tow truck we have seen so often in the Easter Festival has had its engine tinkered with to help it run a little bit smoother. The tractor is a major work in progress. It is a Fordson and has been identified as being built early in the 20th century. It has been stripped down and some parts are being repaired while other parts and being rebuilt.



Front of chaff cutter



Back of chaff cutter



Fordson tractor



Old tow truck



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Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns

Bill and Shirley celebrate 70 years of marriage

Bill and Shirley Raglus, former Rushworth residents celebrated their seventieth wedding anniversary with their immediate family over the weekend.

Bill and Shirl met at the then popular dances held at the Rushworth Shire Hall and Bill asked Shirl for a dance, the rest they say is history and after a period of courting Bill popped the question and Shirl said ‘Yes’. They were married in Rushworth at the Methodist Church on Saturday 30 October 1954.

The reception was held at the Rushworth Fire Brigade Hall and they honeymooned at Phillip Island.

Children began arriving in 1955, with the arrival of Judie, followed by Robert in 1957, Wayne in 1961, Wendy in 1963 and finally Ian in 1964. It was just after Ian was born that Bill said to Shirl he wanted to purchase a farm at Moora. Shirl wasn’t even sure at this stage what farming entailed but in her usual style of giving things a go she said ‘Yes’ and the whole family moved to Moora.

Bill has always said that Shirl did a great job of taking care of the kids and the house while he took care of the farm work. It did mean that at times, as the years went on, Shirl and the children got involved with helping at all of the peak times like shearing, or cropping/harvesting.

Bill was involved with the Rushworth Band and Fire Brigade and played tennis and football. Shirl loved to garden and sew in her spare time and made clothes for the kids as they grew up. Once the grandchildren came along, Shirl loved to make them special ‘farm tracksuits’ made up of lots of leftover fleecy material. The fourteen grandchildren treasured them, as they do their Gran and Pa. Each one of them loved spending time at the farm or going on holidays with them.

Bill and Shirl retired from the farm and moved into Parker St, where their passion for lawn bowls really took hold after they had both dabbled in it whilst still farming at Moora. Both of them being very successful in their own rights, Shirl took out a Victorian Open title



Bill and Shirley surrounded by their five children, Judy, Rob, Ian, Wayne and Wendy.



The immediate and extended family - some of whom travelled from Cairns, the Gold Coast and Arakoon in Far North Queensland.



once, whilst Bill was crowned Club champion on more than one occasion. They then moved to Shepparton to play bowls with Shepparton Park for a few years before deciding to move to Kyabram.

After Shirl suffered a severe stroke in 2021, she was moved into care at Warramunda. Bill would walk down from his unit in Unwin St, daily to visit with her, and was immensely happy when a space came up in February 2022 and he could be reunited with her.

These days they love visits from the family, or getting out and about when they can visiting with them. There are now twenty-five great grandchildren to keep track of and Bill and Shirl delight in hearing of their adventures, sporting pursuits and school days.

Their family are extremely grateful for the love and support Bill and Shirl have provided them over the years and much reminiscing happened over a special lunch on Saturday with most members of the family in attendance, some members travelling from Cairns, the Gold Coast and Arakoon in Far North Queensland.

Congratulations to them both.

Contributed by Kerrie Raglus

NEWS FROM THE OP-SHOP AND FOODBANK

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It's a better bet at the Op Shop

Well, I do hope you won on the horses over the Melbourne Cup Carnival. I don't mind going in the odd sweep but I have only ever bet properly on a horse once. A whole \$5 – and it lost. I'd rather buy a block of chocolate!

Anyway on to what we have to offer in the Op Shop this fortnight. As you can see by the photo we have our Christmas ornaments out for sale and some Christmas T shirts and hats. Hurry in and get some, whether to decorate your home or your beautiful community trees for which Rushworth is becoming well known. We have some of those nice chubby Santas that you sit on shelves also candles, plates and heaps of other things.

We also have a heap of brand NEW items that would make ideal Christmas presents. There are carved ornaments, woven candlesticks, boxes, jewelry, coffee cups and other items which are too many to list here. Christmas presents don't need to break the bank and a well thought out gift is welcome whatever its cost. Don't forget our Toy Department that has heaps of children's books and games. I also noticed some beautifully dressed china dolls that collectors would like.

The Op Shop has heaps of jeans, both mens and womens, so they are on a special offer of \$2 A PAIR OF JEANS and also, once again, \$5 a bag of CHILDRENS CLOTHES.

Onto a more serious note: There was a query to a committee member that the volunteers get all the best things that come

into the shop. The implication being that we didn't pay for them. I can assure you that anything volunteers buy from the shop is priced by another volunteer and our money is witnessed being put in the till. If we seem to get good bargains it is probably because we are there for a number of hours so we see loads of things being put out on the racks and shelves. It is no different to working in Target and buying the latest things that go out on the racks except we don't get staff discounts.

Oh, I forgot to say we have some brand new evening shoes that are in the shop as well, which would go with some of the delightful dresses we have.

While I was looking at my latest favourite magazine I came across an article about an artist who lives in Sweden. She goes around op shops and 'saves' embroideries, preferably wool tapestries, and then 'dresses' ordinary everyday items in them. She will go from scent bottles, tools, sewing machines to larger furniture items. I have taken a photo for you. Just look at that handbag. We have several old tapestries that seem to have gone out of fashion in the Op Shop. But how lovely to give them a second life in a unique fashion statement. Just another thing to add to my To Do List. Her website is www.ullastinawikander.com if you would like to see more of her endeavors.

If you have re-purposed something you bought from our Op Shop please come in and show us, we would be most interested.

Until next time, may you have a full belly and a smiling face.

OP-SHOP HOURS

Open 9 am to 2 pm
Monday, Wednesday and
Friday
Open 9 am to 12 noon
Saturday

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!*



Golf clubs can be found in the Little Green Shed along with other sports gear.



(Above) Christmas is coming and the Op Shop is ready!
(Left) Recycling old fabrics - the possibilities are endless.



Colbo Tit Bits

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Colbo Hall annual meeting

Colbinabbin Memorial Centre Annual Meeting Tuesday 12 November at Colbinabbin Hall 6.00 pm. Everyone welcome.

Cornella Care end of year lunch

Cornella Care will be gathering with friends for their Christmas lunch at CCH 12 noon on Wednesday 4 December. Ring Julie (0408 602 841) to book yourself in.

Advent blessing and Santa

The 9am Mass at Cornella on Sunday 1 December will include an Advent blessing for children and their families. There will be a cuppa after Mass while we wait for Santa to turn up and meet everyone. Please give Maree Stewart (0413 029 012) an idea of how many children might be there. The more the merrier!

Strength and Balance

A reminder that there will be no Strength and Balance classes for two weeks. Class starts back on Monday 25 November.

Got any news?
Tell Julie, Nata or Shell
or ring Vicki at the News 5856 1120
email: wnews@iinet.net.au

Colbo Junior Tennis in Campaspe



Colbo's Junior C team, which is basically a West and Stewart family mix (L-R): Fin Rathjen, Maddie West, Harry Woodman, Tom Rathjen, Angus McEvoy and Ruth Woodman. This year Colbinabbin has a Junior C and B section in Campaspe district tennis competition and both teams already have a win on the board.

Colbinabbin kids visited Rushworth for Halloween



FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER
Nov 10 Ray McEvoy, Pat Tuohey
Nov 17 Graeme Reid Bill West
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.

LIBRARY
Wed 13 November Janice Tait
Wed 20 November Pam Nihill




Photo above: A small tribe of Colbo kids ventured to Rushworth for trick n treat on Halloween. Rushy put on a show with many locals generously opening up their fantastically Halloween decorated yards and their plentiful lolly jars to the kids. Thank you Rushy, it was so so ghoul'd! (Ok need to work on the jokes!)

Cemetery Trust
Mowing Roster
(lawn section only)
November Laura Tuohey

Colbo Diary

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

NOVEMBER
Tues 12 Colb Memorial Centre meet 6pm

DECEMBER
Sun 1 Children's Advent blessing
We 4 Cornella Care lunch 12 noon
Sat 21 Carols by Barrels 5pm
Sun 22 Ecu Carol Service 8pm



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



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Australian
Government services.**

Community Transport trip a real winner

Rushworth Community Transport Service recently earned a big pat on the back for organising a second successful trip to see Anthony Tenace perform 50's, 60's and 70's music Live & Free at the Shepparton Club.



Four local ladies made the journey in the Community Car.

On arrival they were welcomed by Club staff who seated them quite close to the stage.

The ladies were soon fully occupied reading over the menu and deciding preferred meals and desserts.

Bar drinks were delivered promptly by Club staff and the food exceeded expectations!

Everyone agreed that it was a splendid day out and they're all looking forward to the next excursion on Tuesday 26 November.

Like to join in?

For more details (including pickup and dropoff arrangements) call the House 5856 1295. Travel is free - just pay for your meal.



P-12 College students broaden their horizons at the Community House



Students from both St Mary's School and Rushworth P-12 College have been enjoying activities at the Community House for several months, and feedback has been very positive.

Students normally learn about horticulture in the Community Garden, identifying and removing weeds, propagating native species, learning about modern growing systems, lawn mowing and much, much more.

Last week, year eleven students from the College conducted both indoor and outdoor activities at the House, restoring the look of our Sensory Garden, and acquiring new skills on the House's powerful simulators.

Everyone enjoyed some time in the Sensory Garden exploring its shapes, colours, smells, textures and species diversity.

Indoors, they drove the two vehicle driving simulators and flew the flight simulator.

Many of the students were experienced drivers and handled the car sims professionally.

The students also learned basic flying skills on the House's Flight Simulator under the watchful gaze of House President and former Air Traffic Controller Cass Alexander.

Departing Shepparton Airport in a single-engined Cessna aircraft they headed towards the Waranga Basin and Rushworth. Several students did remarkably well showing first class natural flying skills and good demeanour.

Neighbourhood House Survey thank you

The Community House extends sincere thanks to our staff, volunteers and members of the public who filled out our important participation survey last week.

Survey responses will help the Community House to determine its future services and activities, delivering things are most asked for within the local community.

Your responses will also help us to attract funding for new activities and projects that local residents would like us to deliver and help us to meet our obligations to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing.

(Above) The Cessna approaches the Basin west bank with Rushy in view among trees. (Below) Takeoff at Shepparton - scary for some - a breeze for others! Some students even managed successful touch and go's.



(Above) The House's Sensory Garden, back in shape thanks to the College students.

Container Deposit Scheme 6 month result

Rushworth's Container Deposit Scheme has recycled more than 125,000 items in its first six months of operation at the Horne Street Community Hub.

Clearly the scheme is very popular with Rushworth residents and more than twelve thousand dollars has already been paid out.

The Horne Street CDS depot site 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

Well done to the people of Rushworth who are supporting the scheme. Please join them!

The Community House needs extra volunteers to help us support the local community. Transport drivers, Community Garden, RCH Reception, Container Deposit Scheme. Please call the Community House (5956 12955) if you can spare a few hours per week.

Arts & Tourism

Places to stay, things to do and see in our district

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Chrysalis exhibition opens at Foundry Art Space Echuca

Saturday 2 November saw the opening of Shepparton Textile Artists exhibition called *Chrysalis* at the Foundry Art Space, Echuca.

The theme evoked creations of transformation, new beginnings and lots of butterflies and cocoons. There is much to see in textiles during the month of November so be sure to make the trip. It is open 10 to 4 every day except Tuesday.



Above: *The Voice of Country* diptych by Wendy Cooke.

Left: Kerry Handwerk, President Shepparton Textile Artists speaking at the opening.

Uccelli e Fiori in Ceramica opening in Kyabram

Last weekend was definitely a good time for openings as Angie Russi's exhibition opened in Kyabram at the Town Hall Gallery. The Isobel Harvey Gallery is the perfect setting for Angie's collection of amazing vases, urns, tables and spectacular candelabra. It can be seen daily except Sundays until the end of December.



Kyabram Town Hall Gallery Exhibitions

WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

- JAN FRAZER - TEXTILE ART
- COLLECTION OF MINIATURE DOLLS
- ANGIE RUSSI - Ceramics November and December.
- 10th ANNIVERSARY Of The Opening Of The Hall .

5852 1546 or 0490 371 641
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.

Cooks Column

Here's a date and apple slice that you can almost convince yourself is good for you. So much fruit and rolled oats - you can almost feel it doing you good.

Date and Apple Squares

Ingredients

- 225gm unsalted butter
- 140gm apple, peeled cored and chopped
- 140gm stoned dates. (I used dried dates)
- 280 gm brown sugar
- 175gm plain flour
- 1 tspn bicarbonate soda
- 100gm rolled oats

Method

Preheat oven to 170°. Grease and line a 18cm square pan. Tip apples into a pan with 2 tblspn water. Bring to boil, simmer until apples are soft.

Add dates and 50gm of sugar, cook a further five minutes. Take off heat and mash apples into mixture until smooth.

Melt butter, mix the dry ingredients together in a large bowl pour over the butter. Stir to combine and oats are covered.

Press half the mixture firmly into lined pan, spread apple/date mixture evenly over the top. Cover with remaining oat mixture press down. Bake 30 minutes until golden and firm. Cool completely in pan before cutting

Bon Appetite
Pauline



Date and Apple Squares

Because those who cook don't always have success, I thought I'd share with you my attempt at a Ginger Fluff that didn't. (That is: it didn't fluff - well it's fluffiness sank as soon as I took it out of the oven). Tasted OK with LOTS of cream, tho.

Glen



Garden Hints & Tips

Summer herbs for flavour

On a visit to one of my favourite spots ... The Benowa Botanic Gardens, these gardens are in Southport on the coast and if you are in the area are a must visit. There are several areas in the gardens where families congregate to relax, play, eat or just to explore.

My favourite area is a large native walk replicating bush, rainforest, grasslands and has some very large specimens of banksias, grevilleas and grass trees just to name a few. I missed the flowering of the stunning Gynea Lily. Botanic gardens are often found in medium to large country towns, as well as the larger cities, giving the garden lover much enjoyment as you wander around and take in the manicured garden beds, often maintained by friends of the garden groups, giving us beautiful displays all year round. The Australian Botanical Garden in Shepparton is a lovely garden to visit.

Summer herbs are looking and tasting their best with the recent rains and warm humid days. Lemongrass is putting on lots of new growth and if kept in a warm sheltered spot over winter will reshoot in spring for harvesting over the summer and autumn.



Benowa Botanical Gardens on the Gold Coast

Basil is taking off at a great pace as the days warm up giving us that spicy addition to our spring/summer salads and plenty extra to make a fresh pesto. One of my favourite herbs is the Lemon Verbena shrub which, by using a few leaves in a pot, will give you the most refreshing tasting tea. Lemon balm can also be used for this tea as are the dried leaves of the lemongrass stalks.

It's a great time to take cuttings of lavender, rosemary, thyme and oregano to pot up in a shady spot over summer then planting out in the autumn or the following spring once roots have formed.

So if you are looking for a lovely day out go and check out some Botanic Gardens Wouldn't it be lovely if we had our own in our town?

Happy Gardening
'Green Earth Gardener'



An example of a raised herb garden featuring a variety of delicious herbs

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. Of course, along the way we can find heaps of things to use for the most unusual reasons if we think outside the box a bit, so I really hope that some of these tips can help you too! - Stay tuned for the last several issues of Waranga News for 2024 as next issue starting the Christmas Handy Hints lists!

Have a great week and stay safe, Lyn Rumble

- * Need to paint some wooden balls or cylinder decorations?** – if they are small put them into a container and pour paint over them. Swish around until all coated, then drain them until dry. As long as items were clean – you should be able to reuse left over paint.
- * Old plastic container lids** – they are so useful around the house and in the work shed or garage – can be used in the kitchen for mixing pastes and icings or in the garage for mixing adhesives or reconstituting putty for household maintenance.
- * Coming to the end of a glue or toothpaste tube** – cut the crinkled end off the tube and use the remains for a bit longer. If more

- inside than you need initially – put the tube in a ziplock bag and extrude as much air out of the bag as possible. You can then use the remaining contents until the end.
- * Old wool or cotton sock use** – rather than just bin them - they make great cleaning and dusting cloths around the house.
- * Removing adhesive labels** – I've given you a few options over the years – here's another – use a hairdryer on the label and heat gently moving the hairdryer over the label slowly. You should be able to remove the label carefully starting at one corner and peeling back to remove and hopefully take any residue with it!

Health and Wellbeing

Bringing heart and health to our towns

Empowering students, engaging communities - just in time for Christmas!

As part of Healthy Ky, La Trobe First-Year Nursing students are offering FREE health screenings to residents in local communities. They will be coming to Rushworth on 10 December and, in partnership with the Rushworth Community House and Kyabram District Health Service, will be here to bring better health right to your doorstep—just in time for Christmas.

For easy health checks you can come along to Max's Maze on the 10 December or drop in to the pop-up clinic at KCLC's new site at 152 Allan St.

By participating, you're not only supporting the next generation of rural healthcare professionals, but you're also taking an important step toward your own health and well-being.

Keep safe from mosquito-borne diseases

More Victorians will have protection from the Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) this mosquito season, as eligibility for the free vaccine program is expanded to additional areas across the state.

This follows advice from Victoria's Chief Health Officer and means the vaccine is now available to people in 24 regional local government areas, primarily inland riverine regions, where there is a higher risk of exposure to the virus.

Most people with JEV infection do not have symptoms or have only mild symptoms. However, a small number (around one in every 250 people) can develop severe infection of the brain (encephalitis).

Symptoms may include fever, headache, nausea, vomiting and muscle aches, and people with severe infection can develop encephalitis or meningitis which can be fatal. For info: betterhealth.vic.gov.au/campaigns/protect-yourself-mosquito-borne-disease.



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For class times & information
contact Sue Barlow
0438 523 415
sue@mudhutyoga.com.au
www.mudhutyoga.com.au

Why Healthy Ky?

We all know how busy life can get, especially around the holidays. That's why it's more important than ever to prioritize your health. Students are ready to give hands-on care and local businesses have come together to support the program.

Win a \$50 Christmas Gift Card!

When you get a health screening, you'll automatically go into the draw to win one of three \$50 gift cards from local businesses, perfect for a last-minute Christmas gift! (Terms and Conditions apply - see on below)

Healthy Ky times and places

• Pop-Up Clinic at 152 Allan Street, Kyabram December 2nd – December 20th, 9am-5pm. Book your appointment online now or simply walk in for your screening!

Outreach Locations and Special Events

(walk-in only):

- Kyabram Container Deposit Scheme, Men's Shed Wednesdays: December 4, 11, 18, 9am-5pm
- Lockington, Plumbers Shed – Health Screening & Sausage Sizzle Tuesday, December 3, 9am-5pm
- Rushworth, Maxes Maze, High Street – Health Screening & Coffee/Pastry Tuesday, December 10, 9am-5pm
- Other locations to be announced

Weather or other factors may affect the exact timing of these events.

For more information or to book your screening, visit www.myhealthyky.com or email c.winder@latrobe.edu.au.



FREE Health Screenings & Treats
Maxes Maze, High Street
Tuesday 10 December, 9am-5pm

Christmas can be a tough time for many. Come visit the Rushworth Maxes Maze, High Street on Tuesday 10 December as part of 'Healthy Ky' where La Trobe Nursing Students will be offering free health screenings to support you during the silly season while gaining real-world experience in rural healthcare.

Come for a health screening, stay for a treat!

All participants go in the draw to win 1 of 3 \$50 gift cards for a local business
Ts&Cs apply

Other locations:

- KYABRAM - Pop-up clinic, 152 Allan St - 2-20 December
- LOCKINGTON - Health Screen & Sausage Sizzle, Plumbers SHed - 3 December
- KYABRAM - CDS, Mens Shed - 4 December, 11 December & 18 December
- KYABRAM - KCLC, 5 December, 12 December & 19 December

For more locations visit myhealthyky.com



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Phone 03 5856 1402
Lawrence Nguyen (Proprietor)

Are you a Loyalty Club member?
We are now offering a loyalty program rewarding points on all transactions. Call in and we will join you up.

Webster packing available to assist with your medication.

Hours: Mon - Fri: 8.30am - 5.00pm

Ossario Day 2024 in Murchison

Sunday 10 November will be the day for the Annual ceremony at the Ossario in Murchison this year to remember those Italians who died during their time of captivity in Australia, during World War 2.

Dignitaries, representatives of Italian Military and Italian Social Clubs, relatives of those for whom the Ossario is their last resting place, friends and the general public attend this moving ceremony. Official proceedings start at 11am but it is best to arrive well before that to secure a good vantage point, and to bring a seat.

Come along to experience a moving and colourful occasion. The Cemetery is located in Willoughby Street, Murchison.

Kay Ball, Murchison & District historical Society Inc.

(Right) Italian Service Men lay wreaths during a previous ceremony.

(Below) Floral tributes on the monument.





REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 2024

SUNDAY 10th OF NOVEMBER

AT THE OSSARIO

MURCHISON CEMETERY

OLD WEIR ROAD

11AM FOR 11.30AM START

ALL WELCOME

Good idea to bring a chair

ON THE BRINK *by Neil Laurie*

Looking at endangered or extinct flora and fauna.

Bird songs

In Rushworth we are blessed with a variety of birds and the background sound of their calls. It is wonderful to wake up to the chortling of magpies, to hear the evening laughter of kookaburras or to listen to the chirps and chatters of the small birds in the garden. In time you will be able to identify species of birds by their calls.

Birds will call for a range of reasons. Some mark out their territories, warning rivals to stay away. Some warn of danger or intruders. The group chortles of the magpies and the joint laughter of kookaburras seem also to be a means of bonding family groups. Finally, many birds will use calls to entice a mate. Sometimes the calls are amusing. A few years ago, I was working on my laptop when I was disturbed by two juvenile superb blue wrens who were having a fine time exploring the inside of my house. I managed to evict them and as I settled back to my work I heard some angry chattering from the garden -the delinquent youngsters were getting a real dressing-down by their parents. At present the incessant squarking of young magpies demanding to be constantly fed can be quite jarring. Sometimes it is quite sad: for weeks now, a little striated pardalote has been singing his heart out for a mate at a nesting box, so far without success. How critical birdsong is to mating is highlighted by the plight of male regent honeyeater (*Anthochaera phrygia*).

The regent hone eater, once common across southeastern Australia, is listed as critically endangered with only about 300 birds left in the wild. Destruction of habitat

has been the driver behind its decline. However, there is an added problem that is contributing to this decline.

Juvenile regent honeyeaters need to learn their songs, including the mating song, from mature male regent honey eaters. The problem is that with so few regent honeyeaters left, the youngsters are picking up and imitating the songs of other species, such as crimson rosellas, friar birds and various other species of honeyeaters. At breeding time, the females are being serenaded by males using the wrong songs and are totally unimpressed. There are several things being done with the aim of saving this honeyeater.

Both Taronga and Melbourne Zoos have captive breeding programs and are now releasing captive-bred birds into the wild. The birds have proven that they can be highly mobile with some birds being sighted hundreds of kilometres away from their release point in just a few months. The captive-bred honeyeaters are happily mingling with the wild honeyeaters.

To ensure that juvenile males learn the correct mating song they are played recordings of the adult males singing. This is done during the captive breeding programs and also at known nesting sites in the wild.

Finally, in some areas land is being revegetated to reproduce suitable regent honeyeater habitat.

We have so many wonderful bird songs here in Rushworth. They are always in the background, making it easy to take them for granted, but how sad it would be if we lost them?

Five things you can do to end the biodiversity crisis as the world talks about it at COP16

by Jim Radford

Associate Professor, Ecology and Environment,
La Trobe University

The world is charging towards tipping points for species extinctions, ecosystem collapse and loss of genetic diversity. Crossing these tipping points will be devastating for nature and human existence alike.

Avoiding this catastrophe of humanity's making is the purpose of the 16th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16) in Cali, Colombia. COP16 has been reviewing progress on implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at COP15 in Montreal, Canada, in 2022. Progress has been incremental at best.

By understanding our connection to nature, we can all reduce our impact on nature. Here are five ways you can make a difference, starting today.

1. Cut consumption when you can

Do you really need to update your mobile phone, your summer wardrobe or your flat-screen TV? What we buy reverberates around the globe.

Our demand for new products affects resource extraction (leading to habitat loss), carbon emissions (propelling climate change) and pollution (degrading habitat). These impacts are often far from where we make our purchases. From the lithium in our phones to the plastics in our clothes and the metals in our vehicles, our consumption drives demand, which almost inevitably harms biodiversity.

If you do need to replace something, consider buying second-hand or products made from recycled materials.

2. Watch what you eat

Agriculture is the single greatest driver of changes in land use and biodiversity loss. We all need to eat, of course, but where possible buy local and sustainably produced foods.

Reducing processed foods in your shopping trolley is a good start. Cutting your intake of over-fished, wild-caught seafood, red meat and palm oil-based products will also help. This issue is not straightforward because these products are available as a confusing mix of unsustainable and sustainable options.

A further complication, made worse by the rise of greenwashing, is that it can be hard to work out exactly what is in certain foods or where they came from. Sustainability certification and apps (GoodFish Australia, for example) can help consumers make better choices.

3. Choose renewable energy

The climate and biodiversity crises are inseparable. Neither can be resolved in isolation. For example, nature-based solutions, such as protecting forests as

carbon sinks, will help with both the climate crisis and biodiversity.

With greenhouse gas emissions driving climate change, which threatens many species, a whole range of our choices determine the impacts of our energy use. From your mode of transport to powering your home, choose renewable energy sources.

Tech giants such as Google and Amazon are turning to nuclear energy to power their generative AI and cloud storage in an effort to reduce their climate impact. However, 100% renewable energy is realistic if consumers demand it from their power companies and governments.

4. Get your hands dirty

You can take direct action to protect and increase biodiversity. Volunteer or donate to environmental projects in your neighbourhood. Not only will this make you feel good, but revegetation and habitat restoration do improve local biodiversity.

Many grass-roots, community-driven projects are making a difference on the ground. They range from urban restoration work, such as the Merri Creek restoration in Melbourne, to forest stewardship projects, such as Tarwin River Forest in Gippsland, Victoria. Get local and get involved!

5. Adjust expectations and accept responsibility

People in wealthy countries (such as Australia) have both the biggest environmental footprints and the most capacity to adapt. They must lead change.

The process starts with increasing awareness of the issues and taking responsibility for change. That includes adjusting our expectations about how and where we live.

Small changes are magnified when repeated by millions of people. We should never doubt the power of cumulative impact. After all, it's what got us into this mess in the first place.

So while governments and corporations haggle, posture and delay over global targets and policies, we can all start right now to make a difference through smarter decisions and sustainable choices.

Read the full article at "The Conversation" at <https://theconversation.com/5-things-you-can-do-to-end-the-biodiversity-crisis-as-the-world-talks-about-it-at-cop16-242205>

Fifty years ago in our district....

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



Dairy news and missing men in early November 1974

Big news of the month was the announcement of commencement of the new plant at Ibis Milk Products at Stanhope to produce dried milk powder, with cheese production to be scaled back. New equipment was reported to have cost \$2 million.

Police news

Police co-ordinated searches for two men reported missing. Glen Westaway of Echuca, son of Alan and Heather, was lost in the forest near Whroo. Sergeant Geoff Durston of Rushworth Police sounded the fire siren and a search party set out to comb the area near the restored puddling machine, amid concerns about a number of unfilled mine shafts. After an extensive search, Glen was found relatively unharmed on the Bailieston Road.

The other man was Robert Wood, an elderly retired farmer from Kyabram, whose car had been found parked near the Outlet Bridge. While the man may have left the scene in another vehicle or on foot, it was decided to close the outlet, so as to lower the level and check the downstream section of the channel. This was done without result.

Community

A pre-school assistant was sought at Murchison with applications to go to the secretary, Mrs Jan Hammond, of River Road.

Schools

From Rushworth Primary preps: "Darren had a needle so his mother bought him a new toy car and two glass dolphins for Mrs Johansen." (*You probably had to be there.*)

There were serious health and safety issues for Grades 1 and 2: "We went to see a play called 'The Gravy Garden'. There was a very fat man in it who was a greedy glutton. He nearly fell on Glen and Mark." (*You probably had to be there.*)

Personal

Presbyterian minister Rev Hilton Whyte made Rushworth – Stanhope his final parish, and retired after six years in the local pulpits, and many more elsewhere.

Mrs W. Fox was honoured for her 80th birthday with a celebration in the Shire Hall, organised and attended by her five daughters and two sons.

Mrs W. Pepperell of Phillips Street had her 92nd birthday. Grandchildren included twins Nola and Valma, Ron and Harry, of

Wanalta.

Robert "Rowdy" Hageman turned 21, and celebrated with family at the home of mother Win.

Stanley Risstrom, a grandson of a district pioneer, died at McLeod Repatriation Hospital, created especially for war veterans. He had been injured by gas in World War I.

Annie, Lizzie and Wattie Hay of Murchison Road placed their annual notice in memory of their mother. Mrs Hay had passed away in November of 1965.

A photograph accompanied a report of a kitchen tea for Colbinabbin's Pauline McEvoy, held in the Colbinabbin Memorial Hall on 12 November, a Tuesday afternoon.

The wedding at Nagambie of Heather McLean, formerly of Rushworth, and Joel Reed of Oak Park, back on 26 October, was reported. Bronwyn Barlow was matron of honour, Maureen Carr the bridesmaid. "They carried frangipani and stephanotis, tied with long white satin streamers." Joel's cousin Eric Millard was best man and Tony Cornish was the groomsman. (*I was an old-fashioned usher at the church, and kissed a few relatives. Two days later I was diagnosed with glandular fever, then called the Kissing Disease. Nobody reported picking up a dose!*)

Tennis

A whole page was given up to publish the full tennis fixture for all grades over the upcoming summer. (*That was a page easily filled, with a sigh of relief from the editor, a keen tennis player.*)

Rushworth I Juniors to go in against Toolamba were Peter Hawking (c), B. Carey, D. Roberts, Elizabeth Caygill, V. Anderson (probably Jenny or Jane, I suspect) and Louise Poulson.

Rushworth III Juniors were due to play Tatura II. Selected were Chris Bolden (capt.), Chris Geisler, S. Bolden, Kathy McArdle, P. Egan and Teresa Barlow.

Rushworth IV Juniors chosen to serve it up to Tatura I were Ian Raglus, Fiona Taylor, P. Jackson, Loretta Barlow, Gillian Risstrom and J. Hawking (capt.) but it does not say whether Janet or Joanne. (*I will go with Janet.*)

C-grade senior team was Peter Davidson (c), Rob Raglus, Stephen Barlow, Gerard McArdle, D. Cole, Susan Barber, Kerry Beck and Meredith Heily.

Cricket

Rushworth schoolboy cricketer Stephen Teasdale, who bowled with an unorthodox

windmill action, had a big match in B-Grade. From 19 overs across both innings against Tongala he took 12 wickets for 31 runs, while batsmen Chip Hageman (22 runs) and Ross Williams (12) were named in the paper.

A report of the A-grade match described Rushworth's performance as "shocking", without giving details, though that usually indicates multiple ducks and dropped catches. Trevor Hawking was the obvious exception, scoring 64 runs. High school teacher Alan Mee contributed 21 runs. (*Do any teachers wield the willow for cricket clubs across our district these days?*)

Opening the batting for Colbinabbin cricket, with some success, were Brett Cheatley and Bob McLean.

Request from Alan

Lately I have had a run of requests for the book "Grass-seeds and Thistles – the early years of Moora, Gobarup and Wanalta". It is completely out of stock. If anyone has finished with a copy purchased a few years ago, there is a buy-back offer available! If you can help, I would be grateful for a call on 0412 143660. Thank you.

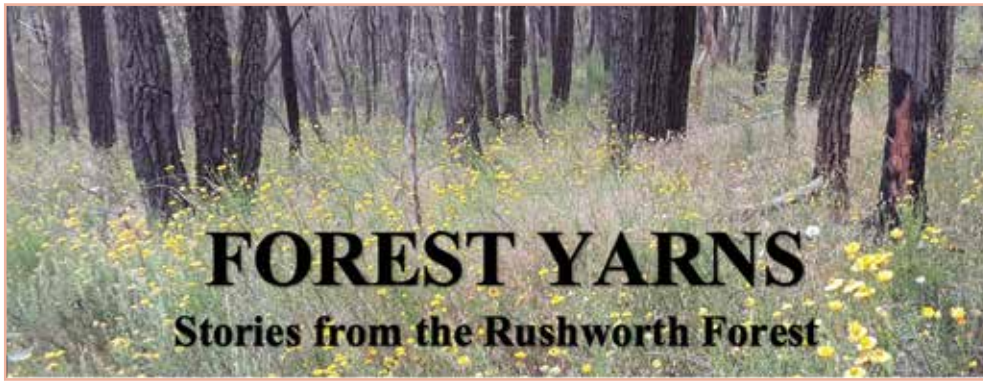
Alan McLean.

Rushing to Whroo, 1853 to 1880



\$25
Alan McLean
0412 143 660

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Store Rushworth



Charcoal, eucy oil and honey

Unfortunately, there do not seem to be any records of how much charcoal was produced in the Rushworth forest in the second half of the 19th century. Into the 20th century, as government became more actively involved in the management of forests, more records were kept.

In the 1917 financial year, the Rushworth forest officer (Mr H G White) reported that 6149 bags of charcoal had been produced. Without knowing the exact size of bags used, if you assume they were about 25 kg and there were 40 bags to the ton, you are looking at over 150 tons being produced that year. Charcoal could be produced using the dry timber from any of the main local species of eucalypts – red ironbark, red and yellow gum and grey and yellow box. Logs would be covered with soil so that there was little or no access to the oxygen which would make them burn too fast.

From that point onwards, the local charcoal industry was in steady decline. Production had virtually stopped by the start of the second world war. Only 40 bags were recorded in the 1938 financial year. This was not because charcoal was no longer needed. Production levels in Victoria were high during the war, when there was demand for it to power motor vehicles at a time when petrol was scarce. It was also used to power industrial facilities like the electricity supply plant at Heathcote.² This suggests that the supply of suitable logs was exhausted in the local Waranga area and production sites had moved to other areas by the 1940s.

Eucalyptus oil

Eucy oil distillation has been a long-standing industry in the Rushworth forest, continuing to this day courtesy of the Jones family. There have been previous stories published in the Waranga News about the industry, so this particular story will just recap some of the main points.

William Begg introduced the industry to Rushworth in the early 1890s. He had previously lived in Rushworth where he was a successful general merchant in the 1870s and 1880s. He gained licences to cut eucalyptus and distil the oil, with his plant being set up in Parramatta Gully. Eventually Begg sold the business to a distiller from Inglewood before it passed into the hand of the Jones family, who have now been on the site since 1909.

115 years of continuous production, which is quite an achievement!

Production was at its peak around the end of the first world war. The forestry officer reported that 16985 pounds (7704 kg) of eucy oil was registered in the financial year to 30 June 1917. The following year's production was almost as impressive – 15924 pounds (7223 kg). Thereafter, levels of production varied over the years, but generally were well below those levels. Only in 1919 and 1926 did output again exceed 10,000 pounds (4536 kg) in the period up to the second world war.¹

Present day eucalyptus oil production is substantially less than in earlier years. The Jones family still have a licence to cut leaves from various coupes of mallee, including some you can see from the Rushworth-Whroo Road. They also have a licence to occupy the factory site in Parramatta Gully. Unfortunately, it is virtually impossible to get assurances from the relevant government authorities that these arrangements will continue indefinitely to into the future. If ever it comes to the crunch and the Victorian government seeks to terminate the current arrangements, you would hope that the people of Rushworth would fight tooth and nail to preserve this important part of the town's heritage.

Honey

Unlike other industries that were required to report their output as a basis for paying royalties, it appears that apiarists were only required to take out a licence to operate in the forest. The first year that receipts from apiarists were recorded by the forest officer was 1933, when seven businesses paid for a licence. There was clearly a surge in interest, because in 1936, 38 licences were taken out at a cost of one pound and five shillings each (\$2.50 – about \$140 in today's dollars). During the early 1940s, there were still between 20 and 30 licences being taken out each year.¹ You would presume that many of these would be used to carry out very small scale operations to provide honey for personal use, and make a few pounds on the side.

References – 1 Public Records Office of Victoria, State Forests Output Books (Rushworth 1916-29 and 1929-42); 2 DSE Brochure (ed. Carolyn Slijberman 2006 – Heathcote and Rushworth State Forests.

A Name from the Past

Gustave Spoerri, but where was he buried?

This column generally features the name of a prominent district family, but on this occasion the attention is on a man who quite possibly had no relatives in Australia way back in 1883! One of the points of interest is a reference to Colbinabbin's Weppner family.

The Waranga Chronicle, predecessor to the Rushworth Chronicle, reported his death in the edition of 3 August, 1883.

"On Tuesday a magisterial inquiry was held by J. H. Roberts, Esq., J.P., at the Court House, Rushworth, touching the death of one Gustave Albert Spoerri, a Swiss, aged 19 years.

From the evidence of Johannes Weppner, of Colbinabbin, it would appear that the deceased, who was in his employ, ate an extremely hearty meal on Saturday, the 28th July, at 6 p.m., and retired to rest two hours later. Upon being called on the Sunday, he gave no answer, and upon being shaken seemed in a state of trance. He remained so till Monday, when he expired.

Dr Heily testified that the cause of death was overeating, which induced aero-sanguineous apoplexy.

A verdict was returned in accordance with the medical testimony. Deceased had been only eight months in the colony."

The problem seems to have been the build-up of fluids and the rupturing of clots in the stomach, but I am not a doctor! Did Mr Spoerri really eat himself to death, 141 years ago?

Gustave is not mentioned in Colbinabbin cemetery records. Rushworth cemetery listings include a "C. A. Spoerri", but no "Gustave".

However, if the records should have shown the initials as G. A., instead of C. A., this will be the man. Given the age of the young single man from Switzerland, and the uncommon surname, it seems almost certain that Rushworth is the burial place of Gustave, particularly as this is where the magistrate's inquiry was held.

Only if Mr Johannes Weppner had a contact address in Switzerland for Mr Spoerri's family, would they have ever learned that Gustave, the 19-year-old man, had died. Sad story.

Alan McLean

Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our
Halloween at Rushworth Kindergarten



On Thursday 31 October the Rushworth Kindergarten had a spooktacular Halloween.

The children came along dressed up in their Halloween costumes for a day of tricks and treats. We had a big spider, a couple of ‘Wednesdays’, a dragon, a Ninja Turtle and lots of other fun and spooky costumes.

Throughout the day the children enjoyed some fun activities and games with a Halloween theme. The children made chocolate spiders, played a trick or treat game and made some ants fairy bread. The children also enjoyed playing with some Halloween balloons and a game of Keepy Uppy. Enrolments for 2025 are open now.

Here’s a spooky group at Rushworth Kindergarten’s Halloween.



Finn Storen the spider.



Bailey ‘Wednesday’ Norris.

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- and we will share it around!

Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our
It's all been happening at St Mary's PS

Halloween disco 2024

Last Friday, we had our annual Halloween disco that was coordinated by our wonderful and active Parents and Friends committee. The evening was a huge success, with lots of games, prizes and delicious food. There were also some very impressive costumes on show. Well done to all of the families who contributed to such an amazing night.

Learning and Teaching

Over the past few weeks, our staff have engaged in numerous professional learning opportunities as part of Magnify Sandhurst. Magnify Sandhurst is a framework dedicated to ensuring that all students within Catholic Education Sandhurst schools receive the very best education on offer.

We are making substantial investments to bring our families contemporary, research-based and evidence-backed practices and pedagogies into our classrooms. These practices include areas such as neuroscience, literacy, and curriculum development, alongside offering professional coaching for our teachers.

Last week, we literally received a pallet full of resources that we are busily and excitedly cataloguing and organising so that we can utilise them in our classrooms next year. Some of our teachers have been so excited that they have tried a few of the resources in their lessons already.

Alongside these resources, all of our staff have been undergoing training in best practice for learning and teaching. These investments will ensure that St Mary's is at the forefront of education and will help every child to thrive!

Enrolments and transition at St Mary's

Our transition mornings are well underway for our 2025 Foundation students and have been running fortnightly on Fridays. It has been wonderful to see the excitement of the children as they come in and commence their schooling journey.

We continue to take enrolments year-round, so if you know anyone who wants the very best that education can provide, in a respectful, engaged and well-resourced environment then please contact our friendly admin team.

Thank you Jemae

This Friday, we farewell Jemae who has been working in our 3/4 classroom the majority of the year. Jemae joins us as part of her SEDA (Sports Education and Development Australia) College work program. Jemae has been an asset for our school and has made amazing connections with our staff and students. All the best Jemae!

Year 5s run the SRC

Last week, in the absence of many of our Year 6 students, our Year 5 students facilitated our fortnightly Student Representative Council sessions. They had some excellent mentors assisting them in Oliver and Sofia.

Our SRC aims to provide a platform for students to have a voice within our school.



Professional learning opportunities for staff



Transition mornings are fun times for our 2025 Foundation students



Students are excited with pallet full of resources for learning



Rushworth Kinder and Childcare are SunSmart

At Rushworth Kindergarten and Childcare they take sun smart practices seriously.

The children are eager to apply their sunscreen before going outside. Noah holds up his hands to show off all the sunscreen he has to put on his face, arms and legs while Taylah waits for the mirror to ensure that she gets the sunscreen spread evenly. While outside they are very lucky to have four very large shade trees which shade the playground, sandpit and cubby house.

In the height of the heat they also have a lovely large shade sail that covers the middle of the yard. The shade sail is in need of repair due to a tree scratching the seam. The fundraiser monies raised will be allocated to a new shade sail. All the children are given a hat with their name on it at the beginning of the year to wear when the UV index is over 3 and whenever we see the sun shining brightly.

The Centre can change routines to have inside activities on the extreme heat days, and water play is also a very popular way for the children (and staff) to cool down as well. The Kinder thanks all the amazing volunteers and the fund-raising committee for putting in tireless efforts to raise money for the small community-run centre. They specially thank each and every person buying a ticket in their raffles and purchasing goods at the markets.



Learning to apply sunscreen.



Noah shows all of his sunscreen, while Taylah waits her turn for the mirror.



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The Goulburn and Murray community needs your support this Christmas

Dig deep for the Salvos Christmas Appeal to help give hope to those in need

The Salvation Army is launching its annual Christmas Appeal in the Goulburn and Murray region allowing The Salvos to help those in the local community who are struggling during the Christmas season.

The cost-of-living crisis has been intensifying, with more Australians reaching out to The Salvation Army for support. This means that The Salvos' Christmas Appeal is vitally important this year, as its aim to raise \$27 million nationally.

"Christmas is the busiest time of year for The Salvos, and this year we expect the need in the community to be immense. For many, celebrating Christmas might seem out of reach due to the rising cost of living, with some on the brink of homelessness and others fighting to pay the bills. The Salvation Army want to be there to support those in need this Christmas and give people the Christmas they deserve. Whether it is practical support like food or presents, or if you are feeling down or lonely this Christmas, please reach out to us at The Salvos," says Major Warren Elliot the Salvation Army's External Communications Manager for Victoria.

There are many ways that you can partner

with The Salvos to support your community this Christmas, including lending a hand, donating products such as gifts and food, or offering a financial donation to the Christmas Appeal. The Salvation Army also host a number of special community celebrations during the festive season.

For more information on how you can support the Salvos this Christmas, or to find out about local Salvos Christmas events, please contact your nearest Salvation Army centre in the Goulburn and Murray area or visit salvationarmy.org.au.

"The Salvos are looking to give a new beginning to those doing it tough in our community this Christmas, but we can't do that without the generosity and support of others. It is now such an important time to come together as the Goulburn and Murray community and lend a hand to those in need of support. Please consider supporting The Salvos this Christmas," says Major Warren Elliot.

Whether gift-shopping or looking for Christmas decor, there's always something special to be at Salvos Stores. Not only will you save on your Christmas shopping, but

100% of the profits raised support The Salvos community work across the country. It is good for the planet and good for people in need.

"It has been a tough year for everyone, so this Christmas we encourage you to remember what is most important— connection with others, joining in community, and sharing with your friends and family. And if Christmas is a hard or lonely time for you, remember that your local Salvos family is always here. From all of us at The Salvos, we wish you a peace and hope-filled Christmas," says Major Warren Elliot.

During the Christmas period last year, thanks to the generosity of the Australian public, The Salvation Army nationally:

- received over 330,000 gifts and toys for families who might otherwise have gone without,
- provided over 184,000 meals to those experiencing homelessness,
- and provided more than 92,000 bed nights for families in need of accommodation during the festive season.

To find out about local Christmas event information, to donate to The Salvation Army's Christmas Appeal, or if you need support from The Salvos, please visit salvationarmy.org.au or call 13 SALVOS (13 72 58). Donations can also be made at any Salvos Store.



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St Augustine's Memorial Service

St Augustine's Parish community in Kyabram is holding its annual Memorial Service on Thursday 14 November at 7.00pm.

This is an opportunity to remember loved ones who have passed away and for the Community to offer support to grieving families.

A name card will be available to write the names of loved ones. The cards will be collected and burnt, and ashes spread in the school memorial garden. The lighting of the candle is a simple act of affirming that our loved ones have been a source of light in our lives and now continue to live in our hearts and memories.

This memorial service has been operating for over twenty-five years and has been a source of comfort to many.

An invitation is extended to all community members. All welcome.

"When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure."

Author unknown

Advent blessing for children at Cornella

There will be a special Advent blessing of children and their families on the first Sunday of Advent, 1 December at Cornella.

There will be a cuppa after the 9am Mass and Santa is expected to drop by to say 'Hi' to everyone. Let Maree Stewart know (0413 029 012) if you can be there - it'd be lovely to have a crowd!

Bishop Shane Mackinlay's role at Synod



Bishop Shane Mackinlay, Bishop of Sandhurst Diocese (centre back) with Pope Francis and other delegates at the end of the Second Session of the Sixteenth Assembly of the Synod on Synodality.

368 voting delegates from six continents gathered for the Second Session of the Sixteenth Assembly.

The aim is that these spirit-led discussions will pave the way for concrete actions and reforms, leading to a more inclusive, participatory, and missionary Church that embodies the spirit of synodality.

Throughout the Assembly, participants

Anglican and Catholic choirs combine

On Sunday 27 October at St Paul's Anglican Cathedral in Bendigo, members of Sacred Heart Cathedral Choir joined the Choir from St Paul's for a combined service of Evensong at 6.00pm.

The evening concluded with a shared supper and drinks in the Cathedral narthex. It is anticipated that this ecumenical form of

engaged in 'Conversations in the Spirit' – listening to presentations, reflecting in silence, and sharing insights in small groups to discern the guidance of the Holy Spirit collectively.

A podcast is available where Geraldine Doogue talks to Shane Mackinlay and Susan Pascoe: podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/plenary-matters/id1587458085

prayer will become an annual highlight of both choirs' liturgical calendar.

A return form of hospitality will take place on Sunday 8 December 2024 at 3.00pm when St Paul's Cathedral Choir will join Sacred Heart Cathedral Choir for the annual Christmas Carols concert in Sacred Heart Cathedral. The concert is free.

District Church Times and Contacts

Anglican

- St Paul's, Rushworth: 0419 512 632
 - 9.30am 2nd Sunday of month - lay led service
 - 9.30am 4th 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. 1st and 3rd Sundays: Cornella 9am; Stanhope 10.30am. 2nd and 4th Sundays: Rushworth 9am; Murchison 10.30am. 5th 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.

Living Waters Rushworth:

Sunday 3.30pm coffee: 4pm service 0428 323 631 (Pastor Peter Guerra)

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 or can be emailed to you each week.

As you gather around the dinner table, join hands to give thanks to God.



For food in a world where many walk in hunger;
For faith in a world where many walk in fear;
For friends in a world where many walk alone; we give you thanks. AMEN.

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Whispers of Christmas

Ten affirmations for a Season of Peace The way we talk to ourselves matters.

Our self-talk has a powerful effect on our thoughts, emotions, and actions. Whether we realise it or not, the words and phrases that run through our minds shape how we perceive the world, and ourselves. For example, if I'm constantly telling myself that I'm not good enough or I've messed up again, that shapes how I see myself and the world and it weighs me down, but if I fill my mind with words of encouragement and truth it lifts my spirit.

'Affirmations' are more than just wishful thinking. They help us focus on what is true and good, especially when circumstances are hard, or people are unkind. While we may not be able to control the impolite and unfair things some people say and do, we can choose to listen to other voices. If we choose to listen, for example, to voices of grace, hope and love as they come to us through the Christmas story we choose to focus on what is good, affirming, and life giving.

Affirmations are positive truths we choose to believe and repeat to ourselves. They remind us of our intrinsic worth and goodness and have the power to transform our mindset.

As we move towards Christmas, we can take inspiration from the nativity stories, gaining from them simple affirmations that speak of God's promises to us and to everyone and everything. These affirmations encourage us to find joy, trust, and peace, even in the busyness of the Christmas season.

Here are ten affirmations inspired by the Christmas narratives. I invite you to use these in the weeks leading up to Christmas to nourish your soul, to help align your mindset with God's life-giving truth. Use them to bring light and warmth to your journey, and the journey of others. And please remember that it's not what others say about you or what you tell everyone else that determines the direction of your life. What God says to you, and what you whisper to yourself behind closed doors has the greatest power and influence.

1. Fear not, for I bring you good news of great joy. (Luke 2:10)

Affirmation: I release fear and embrace joy.

Just as the angel calmed the shepherds, this affirmation reminds us that fear need not define us. Joy is possible, even now.



2. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:5)

Affirmation: I trust that light will overcome darkness.

When life feels overwhelming, this truth reminds us that God's light continues to shine, no matter how deep the darkness.

3. Be it unto me according to your word. (Luke 1:38)

Affirmation: I open my heart to God's wisdom, releasing my need to control.

Mary's quiet 'Yes' to God's call is a powerful example of trusting that all will be well in the end. Her response encourages us to release our grip on life's uncertainties and to lean into God's guidance with openness and faith.



4. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward all. (Luke 2:14)

Affirmation: I welcome God's peace and share goodwill with others.

Peace begins within and ends with community. This affirmation encourages us to cultivate peace in our hearts, extend it to those around us, and pray for the peace of the world.

5. Nothing is impossible with God. (Luke 1:37)

Affirmation: I believe that God is working in ways beyond my imagination.

When we feel stuck this reminder opens us to the unexpected, and invites us to trust the mystery of God, at work in all of creation.

6. They shall call his name Emmanuel, which means 'God with us'. (Matthew 1:23)

Affirmation: I am never alone. God is always with me.

Loneliness can feel especially heavy during the Christmas and New Year seasons but Emmanuel, God with us, reminds us we are never truly alone.

7. Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. (Luke 2:19)

Affirmation: I take time to reflect and find

meaning in life's moments.

The story of Christmas is a time for reflection. This affirmation encourages us to slow down and to savour moments of grace.

8. You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger. (Luke 2:12)

Affirmation: I embrace simplicity and find joy in humble moments.

The nativity story invites us to recognise sacred moments as they occur during the ordinary experiences of life, shifting our focus from material things to the non-material (spiritual) things such as joy, peace, hope, and love.

9. Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him. (Matthew 2:2)

Affirmation: I seek the presence of Jesus or God with an open heart.

Like the wise ones we are called to be seekers, staying open to the signs of God's presence in unexpected places.

10. Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. (Matthew 1:20)

Affirmation: I step forward in courage, knowing that God is in and with me.

Joseph's willingness to follow God's call to him encourages us to trust that God is with us even when the way ahead is unclear.

As you prepare and wait for Christmas day, may these affirmations ground you.

I encourage you as part of your daily practices to say them aloud, reflect on them silently, and share them and how they speak to you with others.

Each affirmation encourages you to change the way you see yourself, the world, and God's presence in your life.

As you choose to encourage and nurture a mindset of hope, peace, and trust, may you experience the deep joy that this Christmas Season promises, the presence of 'Emmanuel' - 'God with us'.

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

Brian Spencer, Minister,
Waranga Uniting Churches

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WARANGA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

BIRTH

FRASER:

Simon and Cate Fraser are delighted to welcome #12 and #13 grandbabies to our family.

Josephine Blanche Gilby was born on 4-10-2024 at Echuca Regional Hospital to Madeleine and Travis. Josie is a sister to angel Anabelle, Samuel, Vincent and Hugh.

Harriet Alexandra Fraser was born on 30-10-2024 in Christchurch, New Zealand to Simon and Georgina. Harriet is a sister to Oliver.
Deo Gratias



DEATH

SMITH, John

The Rushworth RSL Sub-Branch regrets the passing of our esteemed member.
Lest we Forget

THOMAS, Wayne Andrew

Died suddenly aged 62.
Loved Husband of Shirley.
Adored Father of Erin & Megan and ZeeZeePop to Harriet, Emery and Oscar
Brother of Shane and Tracy
Uncle of Christie, Matt, Kaitlyn and Sophie
Larger than life character that we will all miss him, he has left a hole in our lives that no one could replace.
Funeral will be held at Emu Bottom Homestead in Sunbury on 8 November, at 11am.
More details can be found on Tobin Brothers Sunbury website.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Colbinabbin Memorial Centre

Annual Meeting
Tuesday 12 November
At Colbinabbin Hall
6pm
Anyone welcome

Thinking of buying or selling???

Classifieds: \$2.75 per line (min. \$11).
Display \$5.40 per cm, per column.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Colbinabbin Football Netball Club AGM

Wednesday 13 November at 7pm at the Bowls Club.
All Welcome.

Colbinabbin Football Netball Club Special resolution

Vote to update the CFNC Constitution.
After the AGM Wednesday 13 November.

Support our advertisers
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our community newspaper

PUBLIC NOTICES

LOOKING TO RENT

Family of three looking for two or three bedroom home in Rushworth or surrounding area.
Good references available
Phone 0439 052 707

Stanhope District Development Committee Inc.

Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 13th November 2024
25 Birdwood Ave, Stanhope.
at 7.00pm
All Welcome



Member vacancies - Victorian Class B cemetery trusts

The following Class B cemetery trusts are seeking new members. In these volunteer roles you will gain hands-on experience in managing a public cemetery and valuable governance skills as a member of a public board. Free governance training is provided.

RUSHWORTH CEMETERY TRUST WHROO CEMETERY TRUST

Who should apply?

Trusts need people with a range of skills and experiences including administration, committees, and groundskeeping. Women and people from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

What it means to be a Victorian cemetery trust member

Cemetery trust members are appointed by the Governor in Council for terms up to five years on the recommendation of the Minister for Health. Cemetery trusts are responsible for the management of public cemeteries, including planning for future cemetery services for their communities.

How to register your interest

Contact the applicable cemetery trust within two weeks of this advertisement date:

Victorian Class B cemetery trust	Contact details
The Rushworth Cemetery Trust	0419 797 347
The Whroo Cemetery Trust	03 5444 1113

Interested in further information about cemetery trusts?

Class B cemetery trust member vacancies are advertised and regularly updated on the 'Join a Public Board' website <<https://www.boards.vic.gov.au/search-board-vacancies/victorian-class-b-cemetery-trust-volunteer-positions-vcv>> all year round!

Simply go to the website for further information about Class B cemetery trusts, to view a full list of trusts that currently have vacancies and details how to apply!

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring that government boards and committees reflect the rich diversity of the Victorian community. We encourage applications from people of all ages, Aboriginal people, people with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and from lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, gender diverse, intersex and queer people. The trust will provide adjustments to the recruitment process upon request.

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DISTRICT INFORMATION BOARD

WHAT'S ON AROUND THE TOWNS

NOVEMBER

Fri 8	Kyabram Spring Market 9am
Sun 10	Italian Ossario Day, Murchison Cemetery, Old Weir Rd. 10.30am.
Sun 10	Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am
Sat 15	Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm
Sun 19	Showdown at the Sound Shell Girgarre
Sat 23	Rushworth Pool Opening
Sat 30	Rushworth Art & Craft Market Shire Hall 8.30am - 1pm

DECEMBER

Mon 2 to Fri 20	Health Ky Pop-up clinic at Old ANZ Bank 152 Allan Street Kyabram - book online or walk in
Sun 8	Kyabram & District Bush Verse Group Christmas Party at Kyvalley Hall at 12 Noon
Sun 8	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, 1st and 4th 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
Stanhope5857 0452
West Goulburn Comm Health....5857 2400
Murchison Medical Centre.....5826 2575
HOSPITAL:
Waranga Health5851 8000
POLICE:
Rushworth.....5856 1000
Murchison.....5826 2222
Stanhope Telecare
Medical Centre5857 2507
Colbinabbin.....5856 1000
SUPPORT SERVICE:
St Vincent de Paul.....0417 597 468
WARANGA NEWS OFFICE.....5856 1120

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

NEXT EDITION - 21 NOVEMBER

Display Ads: Friday, 15 November

Classified: Monday, 18 November

October wnews@iinet.net.au

Waranga News



A Voluntary Community Newspaper

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Project Update

The carpark, footpath, kerb and channel works at Rotary Park in Rochester are complete and are open for use by the public.



Coming Up

Council meeting | 6pm Tuesday, 19 November | Echuca Civic Centre
Meetings can be streamed live: www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/livestreaming

Immunisation Sessions

By appointment only. Register at campaspe.vic.gov.au/immunisations

If you are feeling unwell or have any cold or flu like symptoms, you must cancel or reschedule your appointment.

Thursday, 7 November

9 – 10am | Echuca Library

11.30am – 12 noon | Rochester Service Centre

Wednesday, 20 November

9 – 10am | Kyabram Senior Citizens Centre

11.30am – 12 noon | Rushworth Service Centre

Need help making an appointment? Please call Council on 1300 666 535.

Employment

#campaspecareers

- Community Grants Officer
- Early Childhood Educator
- Group Fitness Instructor
- Learn to Swim Teacher
- Road Use Officer

For all positions currently open and application details, visit Council's website.



Tenders

Tender 24047 Road Rehabilitation Program – Johnson Street, Colbinabbin and Morton Street, Rochester.

Council requires a suitably experienced contractor to complete the above works. A non-compulsory site meeting will be held at 10am on 14 November 2024 starting at the intersection of Johnson Street and Mitchell Street, Colbinabbin.

Tender submissions must be uploaded to the eProcure tender portal on Council's website no later than 2pm on 25 November 2024. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Now Open

For all projects and applications open, visit campaspe.vic.gov.au/nowopen



2025 Campaspe Shire Citizen of the Year Awards

The Citizen of the Year Awards celebrate the achievements and contributions of individuals and community organisations or groups in our region. These prestigious awards are one of the highest honours Council can bestow to publicly acknowledge local heroes. Nominate today for any of the three award categories including Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, and Community Group of the Year. Visit the Now Open page for more details on eligibility, selection criteria and the nomination process. Nominations close Sunday, 1 December.

Green waste accepted for free

In preparation for the upcoming fire season, from 28 October to 10 November residential volumes (up to three cubic metres) of household green waste will be accepted free of charge at seven of Campaspe's Resource Recovery Centres in Colbinabbin, Echuca, Gunbower, Kyabram (Mt Scobie), Lockington, Rochester, and Rushworth. Toolleen residents are encouraged to take their green waste to Rochester as the Toolleen RRC does not have green waste processing facilities. Visit Council's website for details of locations and opening hours.

Notice of Intention to Sell Subject Land

Council gives notice of its intention to sell by private treaty the following parcel of land (the Land):

• Lot 2 PS134688 comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 01608 Folio 589 being part of 63 Moore Street Rochester carpark to Victoria State Emergency Service Authority and Country Fire Authority for a total of \$55,550.00 (GST inclusive).

The proposed sale will be subject to contractual terms satisfactory to Council. Any person may make a submission on the proposal to sell the Land. Any person wishing to make a submission can do so in writing by Wednesday, 20 November 2024. Following the consideration of any submissions, Council may decide to sell the Land, part of the Land or not to sell the Land. Submissions should be addressed to the Chief

Executive Officer and can be delivered to Council at 2 Heygarth Street, Echuca, emailed to shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au or posted to Campaspe Shire Council, PO Box 35, Echuca 3564. Submissions received on the proposed sale of the Land may be included in the Council Agenda and Minutes published on Council's website, including the personal information of the submitter. Please indicate in your submission if you do not wish your personal information to be identified in the Agenda and Minutes. Further information regarding the proposal, including a plan of the land, may be obtained from Council's Property Manager, Sally Ruckwood on 03 5481 2200 or on Council's website.

Pauline Gordon
Chief Executive Officer

The First 72 Hours

When emergencies strike, the first 72 hours are pivotal. We want to ensure our community is prepared and resilient. Download the First 72 Hours plan and complete yours today! Hard copies also available at all service centres, libraries and the Recovery Hub. www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/thefirst72hours

What are you going to do?

You can handle any emergency better if you are prepared!



OBITUARY

BERNIE RUMBLE - FROM MOORA ROAD TO THE ALBERT HALL.

Bernie Rumble, who spent the first 15 years of his life in Rushworth, passed away on 26 September at the age of 91. He was a foundation member of the Australian Welsh Male Choir which participated in his memorial service held at Gateway Funerals in Chelsea Heights on 21 October. Bernie’s daughter, Sheryl Herrod, delivered the eulogy and this obituary is based on her comments.

Bernard Allen Rumble was born at Rushworth on 27 November 1932 to Fred and Beatrix (Trixie) Rumble. He was the youngest of four sons: Stan, Oswald, Fred and Bernie. In his formative years Bernie lived the life of a country boy and later would proudly say: “I’m from the bush.” He learnt all the skills of hunting, shooting, fishing and generally how to live in a rural environment.

Like his older brothers, he found jobs to earn some money and help contribute to the family. Their father, Fred, was a motor mechanic at Egan’s Valley Garage / Rushworth Motors and this fuelled a love of cars in Bernie and his brothers and all had indefatigable self-belief in their abilities as ‘bush’ mechanics.

Bernie left school at the age of 14 and for a year or so he was the roustabout at the Wee Willie Winkie knitting mill. One of his tasks was to keep the apartment upstairs in good order as Mrs Ansett would travel up from Seymour to ‘camp’ for a night or two. Apparently at some point Bernie also did a rural mail delivery run in a horse and cart but this may well have been a part-time job.

In 1947, like many of his generation, Bernie headed to Melbourne to seek work. He was able to secure an apprenticeship as a boot maker with Bedgood and Co., a leading player vat the time in shoe manufacturing. This was the beginning of Bernie’s working life in the Australian footwear industry. On completion of his apprenticeship he moved to Footrest Shoes where he worked for many years. His next move was to Bata, first at the Seaford factory and then Mornington where he was Production Manager when he retired.

Bernie had a lifelong love of music, particularly singing. When he was 18 he entered a singing contest conducted by Radio 3DB and won first prize. The hidden talent of



The young Bernie Rumble.

the ‘Baritone from Rushworth’ was starting to emerge.

At the time Bernie was living in Mordialloc. He attended a debutante ball where he crossed paths with Lorelei Silverwater, a young lady from nearby Mentone. A romance blossomed and the couple married in 1952. They lived initially in Mentone and became the proud parents of Stephen, Sheryl and Geoff.

In 1957 the family moved to Frankston South. Shortly afterwards Bernie was introduced to the Victorian Welsh Male Choir and he was a foundation member when this became the Australian Welsh Male Choir in 1972. The choir provided Bernie and Lorelei with some wonderful opportunities to travel and establish new friendships. It enabled Bernie to perform at venues in Australia such as the Sydney Opera House, and overseas at the Albert Hall in London and the Cardiff Arms Park in Wales.

Following his retirement, Bernie and Lorelei became residents of the Baxter

Village and were soon integral members of that community. Bernie was able to arrange for the choir to rehearse in the Village chapel, a practice which still continues.

Although Bernie’s health deteriorated in recent years, in February of this year he was able to attend the 50th anniversary concert at the Frankston Arts Centre. This celebrated the founding of the Australian Welsh Male Choir and Bernie was presented with a plaque in recognition of his 50 years of service to the choir and his role in its foundation. He received a standing ovation.

Bernie had a great love of life, that special ‘joie de vivre’. He possessed a beautiful smile, a friendly disposition, a kind and caring demeanour and that wonderful Rumble gift of wanting to have a chat!



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ACCOMMODATION

Rushworth Cricket Club news and results

Wednesday 23 October

Under 13's had the bye

Saturday 26 October

D grade

Rushworth hosted Bamawn /Lockington United (BLU) at Ironbark Stadium. Rushworth won the game 2/85 from 22.5 overs while BLU were all out for 84 from 29.2 overs.

Rushworth lost the toss and were asked to bowl. Declan Baldwin was the star with the ball taking 6/27 from 6.2 overs. Heath Ogden again opened the bowling taking 2/19 from 6 overs and Dean Sheppard took the remaining 2/5 from 3 overs. Our best batsmen on the day were Brett Pateman making 30 and Peter Raglus not out on 28.

Sunday 27 October

B grade

Rushworth played Colbinabbin at Colbinabbin. Rushworth won the game 7/197 from the 40 overs (compulsory closure) while Colbinabbin were all out for 73 from 20.1 overs.

Rushworth won the toss and elected to bat first up. Liam Francis was the star with the bat making 73 not out, followed by Josh Francis on 30. Jak McMillan and Daniel Newton both making 21. Our best bowlers were Regan Hanson with 5/15 from 7.1 overs and Thomas Stevens getting the rest 3/15 from 3 overs.

Wednesday 30 October

Under 13's

Rushworth played Lieitchville/Gunbower (LGCC) at Gunbower. Rushworth lost the toss and were sent into bat. Rushworth were 2/87 (cc) LGCC were 2/84 (cc). Heath Ogden retiring after making 21 from 20 balls was the top scorer. Thirteen of our fourteen players had a bowl with the only wicket taker for the day was Heath Ogden with 1 for 9 from 3 overs and Isaac Perry was involved with the run out. Heath Ogden received the award for the game. Thank you to all the parents that took their kids out of school to play at Gunbower. Another great win for our new Under 13 team. It was a great game, played in good cricketing spirit from both teams to play.

Saturday 2 November

B grade

Rushworth hosted by Elmore at Elmore Reserve. Rushworth lost the toss and were sent into bat. Rushworth at the end of 40 overs were 8/163 defeating Elmore all out for 116.

Our best batsmen on the day were Josh Francis 50, Jak McMillan 26, Ahmad Karamat not out on 17 and Brodie Shepherd playing his first B Grade match not out on 3. Our bowling attack came from Regan Hanson with 3/22 from 8 overs, followed by Brodie Shepherd with 3/25 from his 5.5 overs and will be on a hat trick first ball next game.

D grade

Cooma forfeited Rushworth.



Award Winner Heath Ogden

Sunday 3 November

Master Blasters

Rushworth hosted the second game at Ironbark Stadium. This game was against one of the Moama teams. There were about 80 – 90 kids there having fun and enjoying the day. A BBQ was held for the kids and parents.



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