

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

Serving Colbinabbin, Corop, Girgarre, Kyabram, Murchison, Nagambie, Rushworth, Stanhope, Tatura, & Toolleen

Print Post Approved PP1000007000

RRP \$2.00

A community newspaper
staffed by volunteers

Thursday 6 February 2025

Heather voted top citizen

Local artist, Op-Shop volunteer and Christmas Elf Heather Wellington has been honoured as Rushworth's 2025 Citizen of the Year. The award was presented by Cr Adrian Weston and her close friend (and fellow elf) Lyn Rumble.



Heather's family were there to help celebrate: (l-r) Sally, Niamh, Bruce (back) Ruby, Heather, Eric, Heidi, Indi and Mike.

Heather has been a dedicated member of the Rushworth community for many years. She volunteers in a number of roles at the Op Shop, greeting customers with her friendly smile, as well as managing the weekly rosters and writing up the latest news for the Waranga News, including her very creative Op Shop Poem for each edition. With her friend Lyn Rumble, Heather co-founded Rushworth Artistries, launching a number of arts and craft initiatives in the community, including

a monthly embroidery group and 'Stitchin' Witches'. Rushworth Artistries also took on the job of upgrading the Christmas decorations in Rushworth, a project which has grown into the town's famous community Christmas tree competition and display.

Heather has served on a number of committees in the town, including the former hospital auxiliary and Rushworth Events Inc. But perhaps her greatest legacy has come from her time on the Rushworth

Easter Heritage Festival Committee when she played a key role in developing the festival into the outstanding event it is today.

Congratulations Heather!

More awards

Campaspe Shire Community Group
- Rushworth Field & Game - page 3

Rushworth Community Group of the year
- Rushworth Machinery Preservation Club
- page 2

Machinery Preservation Club recognised

The Rushworth Machinery Preservation Club was honoured on Australia Day as Rushworth’s Community Group of the Year.

The recognition highlights the club’s dedication to restoring mechanical artifacts significant to the town’s history. Over its 20+ year history, the Club has grown to approximately 70 members, all committed to preserving and showcasing machinery that reflects Rushworth’s rich heritage.

The Club was formed in 2013 by a small group of Rushworth locals who wanted to preserve the McDonald roller which had been installed in Geyle Reserve for a number of years, after it had finished its working life for the Shire of Waranga.

For many years the roller was a favourite plaything for local children, until it was deemed unsafe for that purpose and the Club acquired it and spent many hours getting it up and running.



The Machinery Preservation Club members were pleased to be acknowledged for their work. (Left) President James receives the Award from Cr Adrian Weston.

End of year Pool Party a great success

There was a great turnout for the Rushworth Pool Party on 20 December, with over 50 young people joining in the fun to celebrate the end of the school year with music, friends, and poolside fun.

Rushworth SES were there with their to cook the BBQ (that they do so well) and the Council’s team of lifeguards, youth workers, as well as volunteers all contributed to the succes of the day.

The event was supported by FReeZA, a Victorian Government initiative.



Rushworth Field & Game is Campaspe top group

Rushworth Field & Game has been recognised for its contributions to conservation and community support, named on January 22 as the winner of Campaspe Shire’s Community Group of the Year.

The Field & Game Australia branch is a dedicated group of 65 members and volunteers who have been instrumental in creating nesting boxes and henhouses, providing safe habitat for nesting native birds and animals such as ducks, parrots, kookaburras, and sugar gliders.

The group also actively works to reduce fox numbers in the region through organised fox drives, and its commitment to conservation was recently acknowledged when it was named the winner of Field & Game Australia’s Blue Wing Award.

Beyond its environmental efforts, Rushworth Field & Game has also recently refurbished the Rushworth Tennis Club rooms, making them available for use by the club and other community groups in a broader demonstration of its dedication to the community.

The group also plays an educational role, helping to raise awareness about animal conservation among other local groups and individuals and inspiring ongoing consideration for the native environment.

“On behalf of the Council and the community, I extend my congratulations to all nominees and winners of the awards across the shire. We are fortunate to have such exceptional individuals and groups in our region who inspire us all with their generosity of time and passion for the community,” Campaspe Shire Mayor Daniel Mackrell said.



Group honour: Receiving the award were Rob Donovan, Tammy Donovan, Charlie Cherchi, and President Graeme Wall.

Community Vision to inform Future Campaspe

Campaspe Shire Council is developing its Community Vision 2040 and Council Plan 2025-2029, aiming to shape the municipality’s future over the next two decades.

The initiative is designed to align council services and assets with the evolving needs of the community. A citizens panel is being created by council to inform its strategies, generated from a random cross-section of the shire’s population.

In early February, 8,000 randomly selected households will receive invitations to register interest in joining the panel. The group will then be narrowed down to around 40 people with diverse backgrounds, including a mix of genders, backgrounds, ages, education levels and location in the shire.

The panel will convene from March 21 to 23, 2025, in Echuca, when participants will engage in facilitated discussions to develop a collective vision for 2040, which will help inform the Council Plan 2025-2029.

In addition, there will be a Community Vision Survey opening in February, inviting all residents to share their perspectives on the future direction of the shire.

The council plans to adopt the finalised Council Plan by October 2025, with a draft version available for further community consultation prior to its finalisation.

For more information on the consultation process, go to campaspe.vic.gov.au/Our-council/About-council/Future-Campaspe-Community-Vision-2040-Council-Plan-2025-2029

SPARK arts & cultural grants at Campaspe

Campaspe Shire Council has announced the launch of the SPARK – Arts & Cultural Grants Program, aimed at supporting creative projects, practices, and new ideas within the community. The initiative aims to invest in the local creative

sector, recognising the value and role arts and culture play in building social connection, community wellbeing, and economic vitality. For eligibility criteria and application guidelines visit www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/grants

Welcome to Waranga News in 2025

Waranga News is back on the streets – for our 47th year!

We hope you enjoyed our special Christmas edition, which we were able to offer as a gift thanks to the support of our many contributors who chose to advertise in the festive season. As well as being a lengthy and colourful edition, it presented a compilation of community life, reflecting the vibrant and ‘happening’ nature of our thriving communities.

Speaking of thriving communities, the start of a year seems an appropriate time to reflect on such things - a time to look back on our many and varied achievements over the decades, the very best of which have been dreamed and driven from within the community itself. In Rushworth alone some of our most successful initiatives have emerged directly from the ideas and action of the people who live here – think Community Bank, Aged Care Hostel, Op shop and Foodbank, and of course a thriving community owned newspaper! Similarly, each of our towns and surrounds can reflect on how its community has shaped its own progress, and how it really highlights the strength of collective effort. These reflections can remind us that a place-based approach is such a powerful strategy for community development—it’s about tailoring solutions to fit the unique needs, culture, and resources of each area.

Most of Campaspe’s towns and communities can add the development of place-based plans to the list of more recent achievements over the past couple of years. Our plans have reflected the community wishes about public facilities, tourism, health and wellbeing and education. Looking ahead we seem to have a solid foundation to build on, based on the community input and ownership that we know (from experience) is a key to long-term success.

So as we move into 2025, we find ourselves on the brink of exciting possibilities. Our communities have already shown that they can reimagine what our collective future might look like and work with unity and shared purpose. The year 2025 can be a time to implement new plans and work towards stronger, more resilient communities – as well as being great places to live!

Sam BIRRELL MP **THE NATIONALS**
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NICHOLLS *for Regional Australia*

Grant Opportunity

I'm encouraging local community groups and organisations to submit an Expression of Interest for the Federal Government's Stronger Communities Grant Programme.



The Stronger Communities Programme provides grants for community projects to help strengthen and benefit local communities.

This funding will allow grassroots groups to go ahead with much-needed projects that will have lasting benefits to residents for generations to come.

I'm calling on interested organisations in Nicholls to submit an Expression of Interest Form before 5pm on February 14 to sam.birrell.mp@aph.gov.au

The minimum grant amount is \$2,500 and the maximum grant amount is \$20,000.

The maximum cost of your project cannot exceed \$50,000 and the project must be completed by no later than 31 December 2025.

The grant amount can be up to 100 percent of eligible project expenditure (grant percentage) except for local governing bodies where the grant amount will be up to 50 percent of eligible project expenditure.

You can find more information and download the Expression of Interest Form at <https://sambirrell.com.au/grants>

The guidelines for this grant have changed from previous grant rounds so please read through the objectives and examples to ensure your project is aligned.

Expression of Interest forms will be assessed by an independent community panel, with successful applicants notified and formally invited to apply.

Get School Ready

School is back for 2025 and I have a range of educational charts available to help students with their learning.

My Times Tables

2 Times Table

1	2
2	4
3	6
4	8
5	10
6	12
7	14
8	16
9	18
10	20
11	22
12	24

3 Times Table

1	3
2	6
3	9
4	12
5	15
6	18
7	21
8	24
9	27
10	30
11	33
12	36

4 Times Table

1	4
2	8
3	12
4	16
5	20
6	24
7	28
8	32
9	36
10	40
11	44
12	48

5 Times Table

1	5
2	10
3	15
4	20
5	25
6	30
7	35
8	40
9	45
10	50
11	55
12	60

6 Times Table

1	6
2	12
3	18
4	24
5	30
6	36
7	42
8	48
9	54
10	60
11	66
12	72

7 Times Table

1	7
2	14
3	21
4	28
5	35
6	42
7	49
8	56
9	63
10	70
11	77
12	84

8 Times Table

1	8
2	16
3	24
4	32
5	40
6	48
7	56
8	64
9	72
10	80
11	88
12	96

9 Times Table

1	9
2	18
3	27
4	36
5	45
6	54
7	63
8	72
9	81
10	90
11	99
12	108

10 Times Table

1	10
2	20
3	30
4	40
5	50
6	60
7	70
8	80
9	90
10	100
11	110
12	120

11 Times Table

1	11
2	22
3	33
4	44
5	55
6	66
7	77
8	88
9	99
10	110
11	121
12	132

12 Times Table

1	12
2	24
3	36
4	48
5	60
6	72
7	84
8	96
9	108
10	120
11	132
12	144

Copyright ©
Sam BIRRELL MP
FORMER MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

@sam.birrell
 www.sam-birrell.co.uk
 01452 861111

Times Table Charts, Alphabet Charts, Periodic Table and Maps of the World are available from my office.

Alternatively send me an email and I will post copies out to you.

426 Wyndham Street, Shepparton VIC 3630
sam.birrell.mp@aph.gov.au

(03) 5821 5371
sambirrell.com.au

Drum Muster containers can now be taken to Colbinabbin year-round

Helping to fulfil a need in within the community, Colbinabbin Resource and Recovery Centre now accepts DrumMUSTER containers throughout the year.

This significant development aims to provide greater convenience and support to Campaspe Shire's local farming community.

Historically, DrumMUSTER had offered a collection service once a year at Colbinabbin. However, due to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, it had become increasingly difficult to maintain the annual collection schedule.

Recognising the need for a more consistent and accessible solution, Council is now providing an increased collection service to the community of Colbinabbin and district.

The recent redesign of Colbinabbin Resource and Recovery Centre, including the installation of a new loading ramp, has created sufficient space to accommodate a DrumMUSTER cage. This enhancement ensures that the centre can now accept DrumMUSTER containers year-round while minimising the risk of fire and complying with all relevant environmental legislation requirements.

Council's Director Sustainability Michael Sharp said to ensure the safety and efficiency of the collection process, it was important that all DrumMUSTER containers were triple-rinsed before being brought to the collection site.

“This step is crucial in maintaining the high standards of safety and environmental responsibility that our community values.

“We encourage all community members to take advantage of this new service and contribute to the sustainable management of agricultural chemical containers,” he said.

“Council is committed to supporting local farmers and other community members by promoting environmentally responsible waste disposal practices.

“We thank the community for their ongoing cooperation and look forward to the positive impact this year-round service will have on our region,” Mr Sharp added.

For more information on DrumMUSTER and the proper preparation of containers for collection, visit www.drummuster.org.au



Rinse them out, Round them up, Run them in - all year round at Colbinabbin Resource and Recovery Centre.

***Keep up to date
with the WARANGA NEWS***
Annual subscriptions
\$65.00 posted - \$30.00 online
wnews@iinet.net.au

Rushworth Events says thank you

Rushworth Events Inc. is an association of sub committees, all of which contribute to the quality of life in Rushworth by providing free activities across many interests.

Those sub committees are; Rushworth Artistries, Rushworth ART Depot and Cycling Without Age - Waranga.

Whilst those activities are free, they do come at a cost and on behalf of the Rushworth Events Committee I would like to thank the Rushworth and District Community Bank and Rushworth Community Support for their generous assistance in covering those expenses.

Graeme Hanigan (President)

By the way, we have room for more activities. If you need help with facilitation contact us events4rushworth@gmail.com



The Rushworth Artistries Christmas Elves are transported to Santas Grotto on the Cycling Without Age Triobike.

Rushworth SES welcomes junior member

Rushworth SES, a Junior Accredited unit, is pleased to welcome fifteen year old Hayley to the team. Hayley has commenced her online training and has ‘buddied-up’ with another senior member of the unit to undergo practical training.


She is seen here practising on-ladder safety and hand-held radio learning, after which the members went out into the field to practise transmitting messages back to base.

The unit welcomes anyone over the age of fifteen to come along and test their skills with the unit. Training is on Wednesday night at 6.30 pm at the depot in Barlow Avenue. You can’t miss it!




Hayley ascends the ladder correctly supported by another member. (Left) Hayley is listening intensely to Trainer Hailey Lemin, on how to use the hand-held radio, with her ‘buddy’ Sue.


"We pride ourselves on good old fashioned service"




- Mechanical Services & repairs
- 50 Fleet authorised repairer
- Licensed roadworthy car & motorbike tester
- Pick up & drop back service Monday and Friday within a 100km radius
- New tyres, wheel alignments & puncture repairs
- 24hr car wash & vacuum
- LP gas bottle refills
- Spare parts
- New batteries
- Fishing licenses



Monday to Friday 8am - 5.30pm
Saturday 8am - 12noon
Proprietor - Glenn McPherson





25 STEVENSON ST 5826 2443

Like us on Facebook - Murchison Service Station

OUR FRIENDLY STAFF LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU!

Check out our weekly and monthly specials on:

GROCERIES FRUIT & VEG
DAIRY & FREEZER MEAT LIQUOR
READY TO GO MEALS & BUTCHER IN STORE
Have you signed up to our REWARDS PROGRAM

Free Home Delivery:
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday Only - cut off time 12pm

Phone : 5856 1441

COGHLAN'S  **plus LIQUOR**

Open 9am to 5pm on Sundays!

Have your say !

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

A heartfelt call to action

As REDFEB, Heart Awareness Month approaches this February, Heart Research Australia is urging all Australians to come together and take action to safeguard both their heart and brain health. This year we are shedding light on the crucial link between cardiovascular health and cognitive function and sharing effective day-to-day strategies to support both. It's crucial to understand that what supports the heart also benefits the brain.

Heart disease remains the leading cause of death in Australia, and its effects reach far beyond our hearts. Conditions such as high blood pressure and high cholesterol can not only cause damage to the heart, but can also increase the risk of cognitive decline, and the development of dementia. By 2054, the number of Australians living with dementia is expected to double. So, protecting our heart and brain health now is more vital than ever not only for our own health and wellbeing but to reduce the pressure on our health system as it braces for the impact of an ageing population.

In our communities the impact of heart disease and dementia are deeply felt. We see it in our families, friends and neighbours. The path forward begins with simple, actionable steps. Heart Research Australia's 4-M Approach—Meals, Movement, Measurement, and Mental Wellness—guides us to take small, meaningful actions today which can protect both our hearts and our minds.

At Heart Research Australia, we are committed to reducing the devastating impact heart disease has on families and the community. This REDFEB we are asking Australians to come together to wear red, raise awareness, and contribute to the vital research that will change lives.

By taking action today, we can reduce the devastating effects of heart disease tomorrow. Together as one community we can make a difference for our future.

To learn more about Heart Research Australia's 4-M approach and support Heart Research Australia's critical research, please visit www.heartresearch.com.au.

Nicci Dent
CEO, Heart Research Australia

PERRY'S BUTCHERY

FOR THE FINEST QUALITY MEATS

Stocking: Bulk Meat Packs
Local Fresh Vegies
Fresh salads three varieties
Fresh Fish avail Wed Arvo
Fresh Milk and Cheese



3 High Street
Rushworth
5856 1437
Phone orders welcome

What do you think?

Contributed by Graeme Hanigan

I could be wrong but I like to attribute my love of science to my grandfather.

He was a dairy farmer on the south coast from Sydney and ran the farm with my uncle and cousin.

As a kid I loved to visit during school holidays and would gladly get up at 5am to go to the dairy to help with the first milking of the day.

The farm was a wonderful place with a workshop where I imagined that anything could be repaired or built, or, using bush timbers and ropes, bridges and towers could be constructed and often were.

It was a wonderful practical experience in the application of physics but I didn't know that then.

I recall my grandfather constantly asking me about any random topic of the day, "What do you think?"

For a young kid this was quite confronting as here was an adult whom I loved and admired not telling me what to think, but asking me "What do you think?"

This mindset is the basis of science, exploring the universe we live in, asking questions and hopefully finding answers. It was the best gift a grandfather could ever give.

It is an approach to life attributed to Socrates "the unexamined life is not worth living", and I'd like you to ask yourself the question "What do I think, and why?"

Thanks to the good old Greeks, the word for it is epistemology which comes from the word episteme, a philosophical term associated with the inquiry for truth and knowledge and in today's world of misinformation and scams, it's a skill worth having.

Last year Tina and I went to a presentation in the Benalla Library by a science educator Melanie Trecek-King, and with her permission over the next year I will present material from her website, which I hope you find confronting, an enjoyable challenge, and rewarding in that it helps you towards better thinking.

Philosophy uses thought experiments. I also think of it as a form of meditation which conveniently requires no equipment as you do them in your head!

Here is the first:

Thought experiment: Overview
• How sure are you that the belief is true? (0-100%)

Instead of thinking that a belief is true or false, proportion your confidence along a spectrum. Put a number value on it, and try to avoid the extremes. Allow your confidence to shift with new evidence.

• What is the source of the belief?

Try to figure out where the belief came from and be as specific as possible. Was it a personal experience? Did you hear it from someone such as a parent or a friend? Did it come from social media or a news source?

• What are your reasons for believing?

What is the evidence for the belief? Is it sufficient? Is it comprehensive? Is it reliable?

• How could you figure out if it's true?

Unfalsifiable beliefs – such as supernatural, vague, or subjective beliefs – aren't testable.

They aren't necessarily unimportant or even untrue but they aren't evidence-based.

If your belief is falsifiable, how would you go about testing it?

• How would you feel if you were wrong?

When we want – or don't want – to believe we're more likely to use motivated reasoning to deceive ourselves. So if you feel emotionally triggered to the thought of being wrong, consider that your emotions might be driving your reasoning.

• What evidence would change your mind?

We should always be willing to change our mind with better evidence.

Thought experiment: Explanation

Our beliefs impact our actions and decisions yet we often don't think to question why we believe. More often than not we simply believe what others around us believe or what we've been told.

Once a belief is formed, we use confirmation bias to search for and favour supporting information. Maybe we've heard a vivid or emotional story. It's possible we even have a personal experience of our own. After all, the best way of knowing something is to have seen or experienced it ourselves, right?

Actually, our personal experiences can easily mislead us and as any magician knows, the human brain can be easily fooled.

I hope you've enjoyed this first thought experiment, more of which you can find at <https://thinkingispower.com/> or wait for the next edition of Waranga News.

Melanie can be contacted at trececking@gmail.com



Annabelle

Member for

CLEELAND MP

03 5762 1600 | annabellecleeland.com.au

Proudly supporting the local community

Australia Day at Murchison pool

There was an impressive attendance at the Murchison Australia Day event this year with wonderful support from various community organisations.

The venue of the Murchison Swimming Pool is a long-standing tradition and the pool and surrounds were in magnificent condition thanks to the Pool Committee members. The backdrop of the remnant bush along the Goulburn River banks reminded us how fortunate we are to live in such a serene setting.

The formalities of the day commenced with an acknowledgment of Country by Australia Day Committee President Tino who acknowledged the Ngural-illum people as the Traditional Owners of the land on both sides of the river, and Yorta Yorta who also originally occupied land near the river.

The raising of the flag commenced with students from Murchison Primary School carrying the flag to the pole for raising and the singing of the National Anthem.

A presentation regarding Australia Day was delivered by Murchison Primary School 2024 School Captain Stella Balmer, who spoke eloquently of some of the history of the Australia we know today.

Guest Speaker was former Murchison resident John Musso who lived on a farm in the district growing up and attended Murchison Primary School. John is now a Captain with Virgin Australia and entertained the audience with stories of his flying career and interesting tales of the aviation industry.

Presentations were made to entrants in the drawing and writing competitions and the children collected their prizes confidently walking up the steps of the dais and shaking hands with John Musso and local Shepparton Council member

Paul Wickham. The award for most active and successful community organisation for 2024 was Murchison Toolamba Football Netball Club. They have six football teams (over 150 players) and eight netball teams (over 80 players). In 2024 Premierships went to fifteen and Under Netball as well as the Reserves and Seniors Football teams. James Milnes was Seniors Best and Fairest in the KDFN League and Frankie Ewart was Under 15 Best and Fairest. The club was awarded the Championship Club in the League for 2024. The Australia Day Certificate was accepted by MTFNC Secretary and hard working committee member Shelley McCormick.

Debbie Morris top citizen

The Australia Day Citizen of the year 2024 was awarded to Debbie Morris. Debbie has lived in Murchison for 30 years and has been active in the community in many different capacities. Debbie was the first face you saw when entering the event this year, guiding people to the free breakfast BBQ and coffee van and handing out flags and stickers at the entrance. Debbie has been Secretary/Treasurer for several Murchison clubs over the years including Murchison Netball Club, Murchison Swimming Pool Committee and the Murchison and District Australia Day Committee. Debbie has been a support to many people of the community of Murchison offering help with window cleaning, catering and rosters at St Brigid's Church and offering a helping hand when ever needed. Debbie is a friendly, kind and caring person who has been an integral part of the Murchison



Debbie and Marty Morris with Debbie's Award



Community members attend the event.

community for decades. Debbie has recently retired from her career of teaching and continues to volunteer in the community. The formalities complete it was time for the traditional Duck Races in the pool for the children.

Thanks go to the Murchison and District Australia Day

Committee members President Tino, Treasurer Alan, Secretary Bruce and members Shelly, Donna, Debbie and Desley for planning, organising and delivering the day.



Stella's address



Community Organisation Award



Guest speaker, John Musso.

Valé Ray Pooley

4. 2.1952 ~ 7.12.2024

Raymond Francis Pooley was born in Melbourne on February 4, 1952.

He grew up in Hampton and attended St Mary's Primary school and later Hampton High. The beach was at his back fence and growing up he spent lots of time at Hampton and Brighton Beaches enjoying the freedom to venture beyond the confines of his immediate neighbourhood, often returning with stray animals which he happened upon on his travels. Ray loved animals and some might remember many years ago his beautiful German Shepherd 'Marco', who travelled everywhere in the ute with him.

After leaving school he obtained an Electrical Apprenticeship and completed four and half years of the five years, before deciding being an electrician wasn't his thing after all; he had made a decision to join the police force.

However, many years later when retired, all of his electrical knowledge proved to be an asset in his antenna business Rushworth Antennas. He took much pride and had great skills problem solving when installing antennas and televisions.

How his skills and expertise will certainly be missed!

Following the completion of his time at the Police Academy he was posted to Port Melbourne Police Station, where young officers received true policing baptisms of fire.

During his years residing in Melbourne he was right at home in the local establishments and his favourite pub was the Brighton Beach Hotel. He also had a special fondness for the Danish Club where he enjoyed wonderful times with family and friends. He especially liked introducing people to Aquavit, a distilled Scandinavian spirit. But in true Ray fashion, he actually enjoyed correcting people's pronunciation of it more!

Ray remained at Port Melbourne police station for three years and from there was transferred to the country and was sent to Rushworth in 1979. It was here that Ray found his happy place.

Soon after arriving in Rushworth the love of community commenced due to a visit from Stewart Nurse asking if Ray would attend the Rushworth and District Lions Club meeting, as a prospective member.

Ray was inducted into Rushworth Lions on 14 December, 1979 thus beginning 42 years of volunteering. In his time with Lions Ray held various office positions, his most



favourite being Secretary which, suffice to say, was at least half of his time in Lions. He took such pride in mowing and maintaining the Lions Park over 25 years, before the Shire of Campaspe took over the management.

Ray, together with mostly Bill and Wendy Tate, ran the Lions Bingo for a few years giving the locals hours of pleasant entertainment each week. He also spent years leading the Leos Club for the younger generation in town.

Ray played an important role as secretary of the popular Lions Annual Moora Muster Picnic Races which ran for ten years, giving much entertainment to the many who attended. This role had Ray working tirelessly planning the event from one year to the next.

At the Annual Easter Wood Auction Ray liked to buy the first trailer of wood and always the auctioneer and his 'loyal' supporters would run him up to a high price knowing he would be the winning bid.

Ray was the proud recipient of the Lions International Chris August Memorial Award for 'outstanding contribution and support to the Lions Club of Rushworth and the Community.'

Neil Thomas, former Police Inspector at Echuca, met Ray some 23 years ago upon his appointment as the local Police Inspector.

Ray had more years' service than Neil did, and Neil always respected members for local advice.

Since 'backup' was generally a long way away and mostly you worked one up, Neil clearly remembers Ray telling him that Rushworth may not be that busy, but when the 'shit was hitting the fan you had to do more with fewer resources.'

Neil attended Neighbourhood Watch meetings and other community meetings in Rushworth and he knew Ray had the trust and respect of the community.

When Ray retired he was still in touch with Neil and very soon after found himself 'giving a hand' to Neil and Andrea at The Great Aussie Beer Shed and Heritage Farm Museum in Echuca. Ray told everyone that he volunteered for one shift and stayed 20 years. Ray was devoted to the Thomas family and worked tirelessly with Andrea and Neil who became great friends. As Andrea summed Ray up so aptly, Ray was a Gentleman and a Gentle Man.

During 2024 Ray commenced volunteering on a weekly basis with the CCLEN and Rushworth P-12 L to P Program, mentoring students to acquire the hours necessary to obtain a driver's licence. He enjoyed the involvement helping them gain confidence and competency with their driving skills.

We were all shocked and saddened by the news of Ray's sudden death.

Ray passed away on 7 December 2024 in the Critical Care Unit at G.V Health Shepparton. He suffered a very short, acute illness as a result of an adverse reaction to another drug newly prescribed by his Melbourne specialist for an ongoing condition.

Ray's family would like to express many thanks for the wonderful care Ray received from the doctors and nursing staff in the Critical Care Unit at Goulburn Valley Health.

His funeral was conducted on December 19th 2024 at the Rushworth Shire Hall.

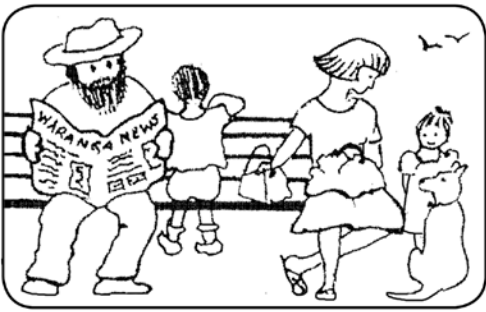
The large attendance from far and wide and the police guard of honour was a great tribute of respect.

Ray chose to care for our community and those within it. He was highly valued and respected and he loved being part of the Rushworth Community and the Rushworth Community appreciated Ray.

He will be missed 'like a country in drought misses the rain'.

***Gone but not forgotten.
RIP RAY POOLEY.***

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



Around Rushworth

New Year changes

As everyone will have no doubt noticed, the new year brought new owners to Gus & Ollies – welcome!

And if you still wish to see the previous owner’s smiling face around town, you’re in luck. In a (geographically) small career change Crystal has joined the team next door at the Rushworth Community Bank. Her new role is Business Development Manager.

Garden Club plans the year

At the recent meeting of Rushworth Garden Lovers the syllabus was set and members are hoping for an interesting year ahead.

Syd Sprague attended to update on the Lone Pine replacement for the Lions Park. He was asking advice on how to prune it into shape, but as it isn’t a garden tree we didn’t have any advice for him (only don’t plant in the same spot!) Since putting it on the community notice board he has received some advice, so will follow up on that.

On 20 February at the Rushworth Community Space at 1.30pm, we will be celebrating our birthday with a presentation of photographs of bird species in our local area by a well known photographer so will be worth coming along.

There will be the usual competitions, plus afternoon tea to celebrate the birthday.

Ethel Borger

Significant tree-plantings
Rushworth’s Lone Pine

Following concerns about the state of Rushworth’s Lone Pines - one at the old hospital site and one at the Lions Park - Syd Sprague has been updating us on current plans for replacement of the Lions Park tree.

Fencing has now been removed to enable the shire arborist to remove the dead tree and prepare the site for replanting in autumn. A new Lone Pine offspring has been obtained from Canberra. Thanks to RSL president Bill Barlow and his brother who transported the tree (pictured right) to Rushworth.



Separation Tree sapling gift to Girgarre

Gargarro Regional Botanic Garden has been gifted a sapling propagated from Melbourne’s heritage-listed Separation Tree, a historic river red gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) that marked Victoria’s 1851 separation from New South Wales. While the original tree was lost to vandalism, its legacy lives on through propagated saplings.

Campaspe Shire Council presented the sapling to Gargarro Botanic Garden at Girgarre on 19 December. This significant addition reflects Gargarro’s dedication to preserving Australia’s botanical and cultural heritage.



Cr Adrian Weston, Loraine Warde, John Warde, Judy Lawler, Doc McDonald, Cr Jessica Mitchell, and Arts & Culture Manager David Hughes.

Remembering Bob Hurley

Students at Rushworth High School in the early 1970s might recall Commerce teacher Mr Hurley. Bob, who lived at Rushworth from 1972 until the end of 1975, and who died on 2



January at Point Lonsdale, in an aged care home. He was three weeks short of 78 years.

Following a period as Principal of Bellarine Secondary College, he had been retired in Queenscliff for many years, and had battled Parkinson’s Disease since 2008, with the final period very challenging for him and his family.

Bob played football with Rushworth, mostly in the senior team, and he and wife Shirley’s middle son Ross was born here. The family lived in McDonald Street, before Bob won promotion to Alexandra.

Attending his memorial service at Queenscliff were old Rushworth teaching colleagues Ted Shanks, with wife Beth, and Joanne Watson, as well as an old Tigers footy teammate, Alan McLean.

Police Beat

Greetings and welcome to your local police report for the Rushworth Police Service Area, for the period of 01/12/24 to 16/01/25.

The following is a list of reported 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 theft of fourteen Merino ewes occurred at a Pook Road Toolleen property between 01/11/24 and 28/12/24. The Ewes valued at \$2800 were stolen from a large paddock. Another theft of 52 Merino ewes occurred at a Hayes Bridge Road Toolleen property between 16/12/24 and 18/12/24. This is very concerning for stock owners.
- A motor vehicle was stolen from a Station Street Rushworth residence on 25/12/24. The 2011 Great Wall utility valued at \$3000 was stolen from the driveway. Unfortunately, the keys were left in the vehicle. It was recovered in Kialla on 27/12/24 in a driveable condition.
- Another motor vehicle was stolen from a Murchison Road Rushworth residence between 26/12/24 and 27/12/24. The 1997 Toyota Landcruiser was later recovered in

Rushworth, with the winch to the vehicle having been stolen.

- At 2.30 a.m. on 07/01/25 a High Street Rushworth business was broken into. Entry was gained by forcing open the front door. A safe containing cash was stolen, and later recovered in Waranga Shores. These offenders also committed similar burglaries at BWS in Kyabram, and a Mooroopna Pharmacy on the following nights.
- A metal farm gate valued at \$200 was stolen at a Tait-Hamilton Road Rushworth property on 10/01/25. The theft occurred between 5.00 p.m. and 9.00 p.m.
- A motor vehicle was damaged at a Nuggety Hill Road Rushworth property in the early hours on 16/01/25. The rear window valued at \$400 was smashed by an unknown item. No entry was gained to the vehicle.
- Local members also attended an alarming thirteen family violence incidents during this period. We also attended two reportable fires.

That is our list of reported incidents. Please remain vigilant at home and don’t leave valuables or keys near your vehicles. Don’t

be afraid to call 000 to report any suspicious activity. It’s always better to report this and prevent crimes from occurring. Operation Roadwise concluded in the new year. Local members issued only a small number of infringements which was a good result. Licensed premises were targeted with vehicles being intercepted when leaving. The result was no drink drivers being processed. Clearly people took the advice from the previous police report leading into Christmas, which was great to see.

Well that about wraps up another police report. Please stay safe when out on the roads and look after each other. I had a coffee with Claire at the Colbinabbin General Store this week. I think she makes the best coffee going around. Pop in and try one when you can and support our great local businesses. This is a great little community which I love being a part of. Until we chat again.

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

NEWS FROM THE OP-SHOP AND FOODBANK

BROUGHT TO YOU BY RUSHWORTH COMMUNITY SUPPORT INC.

Welcome to 2025

All of us from the Op Shop and Food Bank wish you all the best for the coming year. It seems ridiculous to me that we are in 2025. When I was a kid that was a time when we would, according to my comics, be whirling around in our own little rockets and playing with aliens!

The Op Shop has had so many lovely donations over the holidays that we have no more room to store clothes. If you have clothes to donate, please consider holding on to them for a little longer or donating to another shop. We need a bit of time to clear the backlog that we already have. Books are another item of which we have plenty. We do, however, need donations of good china, glasses, vases, ornaments etc.

We have a container of **St. Mary's School uniforms** so it would be a good idea to come in and stock up on various sizes because children grow so quickly. We also have some P-12 uniform pieces. When I walked in the shop this morning there were a couple of wonderful art sets for children and as always we have a lot of children's books, folders, pencil cases, etc.



One special item we have is a beautiful wicker picnic basket, with all the accoutrements needed, for \$50.



In the Green Shed I spotted a couple of old typewriters, an antique sewing machine and cabinet, quite a few coffee machines and a good looking chess table. Outside the shed were a number of bikes for children. And as I was walking away from the shed a lovely piano was being delivered. Honestly, it is surprising what we do have to sell.

We had a delightful customer the other day – Bailey – a very friendly fluffy dog who had come in with his owner Melea to inspect our dog section for leads, toys and blankets. He was so cute I just had to take a photo of him.

I was very honoured to have been given our local Australia Day award and would like to thank everyone for their good wishes. On the day I said - and I would like to reiterate, that you get out of your community what you put into it. Volunteering not only helps your community but helps you as well, by making you feel good about yourself, making friends and improving the community you live in. We, at the Op Shop, do need more volunteers for sorting, selling, tidying, labelling etc. Even one morning or afternoon a week or fortnight is immensely helpful. So please consider speaking to Sam, Margaret or Claire for more information.

That's all for now. May you have a full belly and a happy smile until next time.

Heather Wellington

POST CHRISTMAS WOES

My clothes have shrunk, it's not my fault,
But Christmas treats that I had bought.
Lollies, cakes and Christmas pud,
Turkey, trifles, other goods.
Now – I'm not quite fat, just not thin
Should I think about a gym?
Too much money, too much work,
Mirrors make me look a jerk.
Should I try the walking group
With cake and coffee to recoup?
Should I exercise at home
With Abba music, all alone?
None of that appeals to me
There's nothing for it I can see
But head down to my favourite place
Creep in quietly, hide my face,
Have a look at Plus Size racks!
I'll just have to face the facts
My Christmas nibbles sure were good
But I shouldn't have had that extra pud!

Heather



Opening times

Rushworth Food bank:
Mon, Wed and Fri 10am-12pm
#9 Op-Shop:
Mon, Wed and Fri - 9am - 2pm Sat 9am to 12pm
Little Green Shed:
Mon and Fri 9.30am - 2pm Sat 9.30am to 12pm



Colbo Tit Bits

Proudly
Sponsored by

REID
Stockfeeds

Trusted
Performance

Happy Birthday, Pam

Swimming lessons and fun at Colbo



Pam Nihill had just one of her celebrations for her 80th birthday with the Coffee and Cakers at the Colbinabbin Country Hotel.

A new family member



Welcome to Addison May, born on 23 January, a baby daughter (7lb 3 oz) to Felicity Ryan and Nathan Rogers . . . another little granddaughter to add to Shane and Robyn Ryan’s clan.

Junior netball training

Under 15s and unders 17s netball training starts today, Thursday 6 February at 5.30pm. I hope at least some of the training might involve leaping in the pool!

Our sympathy

- Our sympathy to Carmen Troy on the death of her husband, Laurie after a long illness.
- also to Sharon, Paul and Samantha on the loss of their father, Neil Lund.

Colbo Diary

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

This season the Colbo pool has continued to be enjoyed by many, near and far, with lots of families utilizing it over the Christmas and New Year holiday period. It has been a great meeting place for families over the long school break.

Will and Heather led swimming lessons for forty-five plus students and the children all learnt many new things. We were lucky enough to have the inflatables from EWMA for two days which proved a level of challenge for many! Great effort, Heather. Thank you for the extra time you put in to keep things ticking over.



Above: Shelley (née Ristrom) and her daughter, Wren (Rodrigues) on the inflatables.

Just a practice run for next year . . .



Colbinabbin welcomed three lovely chaps, Greg Cummins, Pat Doyle and Don Edis, with their amazing vintage tractors this week, all the way from Yarrawonga!

The tractor enthusiasts were doing a run in preparation for an upcoming fundraiser for MND.

In March 2026 the members of the Katamatite Vintage Tractor & Engine Club are assisting in running the Two Rivers Run event between the Murray River and

Goulburn River as a fundraiser for MND. It will travel around North East Victoria leaving Yarrawonga, and travel through Goorambat, Murchison, Colbinabin, Wakiti Creek Resort, Wunghnu and back to Yarrawonga over a seven-day period.

This run occurs every two years and to date has raised \$113,000. It is hoped that money raised will add to the already fantastic work done by Australian of the Year, Neale Daniher. More updates later in the year!


Cemetery Trust

Mowing Roster (lawn section only)
February - Andrew Branson

LIBRARY

Wed 12 Feb Pauline Wilson

Wed 19 Feb Janice Tait



FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER

Feb 19 Peter Morgan, Trevor Brown

Feb 26 Robert Brown, Sam Brown

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

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



Rushworth

COMMUNITY HOUSE INC.

67 High Street Rushworth 3612

Phone (03) 5856 1295

Email:
admin@rushcomhouse.org.au

Website:
www.rushcomhouse.org.au

Facebook:
Rushworth Community-House

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



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

Spooky underfloor find

During the current rebuild of the Community House kitchen, workers stumbled upon a largely intact child's boot. Greyed with the passage of more than 150 years, the boot lacked only laces and part of its sole. Its shape and method of assembly is characteristic of the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Indeed, the boot had probably laid under the Community House kitchen floor since the building was constructed in the 1860s.

One wonders whether or not it belonged to the little girl whose presence has been observed in the corridor and felt elsewhere by several Community House staff members over the last two decades, usually well after dark and always when they were working alone.



Community House white-anted!



The first hint that something was not quite right at the Community House was an unnerving “bounciness” in parts of the kitchen floor. Locals Dave Francis and Jamie Beckinsale quickly revealed the source of the problem - active termites in the floorboards and elsewhere within the room. This was serious and it had to be addressed - pronto!

Pest Exterminator Rob Ralph tracked down the termite nest and applied a professional (and permanent) treatment.

Clearly, the entire kitchen floor had to be removed, together with all of the furniture and fittings in the room.

Local cabinet maker Peter Knobel removed the cupboards, and the softwood floorboards were lifted soon after. Interestingly, the 150 year old underfloor joists had not been attacked by the termites, which apparently had no appetite for ironbark!

The room was sprayed to apply a termite-resistant pad and kill any remaining insects.

Electrician Ned Barlow and plumber Red Weston then applied their skills, rerouting cables and pipes before Dave and Jamie replaced the floor with termite resistant yellow-tounge particle board.

The kitchen refit should be completed within a month or so. In the meantime, some House activities may be suspended.

Sincere thanks go to all of the local trades-people who helped the House at short notice.

What else is happening at the Community House

The Community House's 2025 town-wide garage sale is scheduled for Saturday, 15 March. Previous multi-site garage sales have proved to be hugely popular, with some “prospectors” visiting numerous locations in their quest for that elusive bargain.

Anyone who would like to participate as a seller in this year's garage sale is asked to contact the Community House before the end of February and register their sale.

If sufficient registrations are received, confirmation of the sale will be published in the Waranga News and on-line.

RCH AGM

Planning is underway for the House's Annual General Meeting, to be held on 12 March. Further details of the AGM will appear in advertisements in the Waranga News.

Yoga sessions on hold

The House's last Term Guide indicated that yoga sessions would be held each Tuesday morning at the St Pauls Church Hall.

To date, only three people have expressed an interest in attending the classes, and a minimum number of eight persons is needed to conduct the sessions.

Consequently, yoga sessions are “on hold!”

Line dancing

This very popular activity is held at the Rushworth Shire Hall each Thursday.

A session for beginners starts at 11 am, while experienced dancers will enjoy the evening session starting at 7pm.

Both sessions last around 90 minutes.

Strength and Balance

One hour sessions are held each Monday at the Community House starting at 1pm and at Colbinabbin Memorial Hall starting at 3.30pm. (Note: Rushworth sessions will be held at the Shire Hall while work is underway at the Community House.)

Quilting

The House's weekly quilting sessions have been suspended pending completion of the kitchen rebuild. Quilting is normally held in the quiet surrounds of the multi-purpose room at the rear of the House but that space currently holds all of the kitchen contents.

Stitchin' witches

Slow stitching/hand embroidery is an ancient skill associated with clothing and soft furnishings. Sessions for people of all ages to learn and practice this art form are held each Sunday between 1pm and 4pm at the Horne Street Community Hub.

Container Deposit Scheme

This innovation has really taken Rushworth by storm, with huge numbers of containers recycled and monies paid out.

If you have a few hours spare during the week and would like to help out, please call the House on 58561295 and let us know.

Arts & Tourism

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

This page is proudly sponsored by:



www.kennedyvintners.com.au

Campaspe Artists Studio Trail

A group of 28 artists around the Campaspe Shire are opening their studio doors (or setting up in community spaces) to the public to give a behind the scenes glimpse into their creative spaces on the weekend of 22 and 23 February, 2025. 10.00am to 4.00pm. This is a great opportunity to watch demonstrations and buy art at studio prices.



Art Journal Club is back in action at RAD

Last month members loosened up with an activity that called them to make more space for creativity in their busy lives and to reflect on their Christmas by creating a collage scene.

New members are always welcome and if you're interested in seeking some creative time one Sunday afternoon a month please reach out to Kerrie at Kez R Art on 0413351276.



Funding creative talent

Applications for the Victorian Government's 2025 Creative Projects Fund have been invited from artists, creative collectives and organisations.

The fund is designed to support the development of new work and provide professional development opportunities, by offering financial assistance which aims to nurture creativity and innovation across the state.

The Creative Projects Fund is divided into two focus areas, each tailored to cater to the diverse needs of the creative community. These focus areas offer pathways for both new and established practitioners to develop their creative projects and careers.

- The Uncovering Talent Focus Area: This focus area provides grants of \$5,000 to creatives at any career level who haven't received a Creative Victoria grant before. It aims to uncover and support new talent, giving them the resources needed to create and share their work with a broader audience.

- The Projects Focus Area: This focus area provides grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 to creatives with a proven track record. It is designed to support established practitioners in the development of significant new works and career-enhancing projects.

Application Process and Deadlines

Applications for the Creative Projects Fund are now open and will close at 3pm on Thursday, 13 February.

How to Apply

Applicants must fill out an online application form available on the Creative Victoria website. The form requires detailed information about the proposed project, including its objectives, significance, and the expected impact on the applicant's career and the broader community.

For more detailed information, including eligibility criteria and application procedures, visit

[\[creative.vic.gov.au/funding-op\]](http://creative.vic.gov.au/funding-op)(creative.vic.gov.au/funding-op).

Kyabram Town Hall Gallery Exhibitions

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

- 22nd -23rd STUDIO ART TRAIL
- LIFE'S JOURNEY Art - Hedley Lilford ends 1st March
- THE PERFECT MIX -Art by John Stevens & Friends - Official Opening 15th February 2pm - Opens 3rd February - ENDS 4th April
- EXTREMITIES- Splinter Contemporary artists. Open 10-4 daily except Sunday

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 - all available online and being served at Colbinabbin Country Hotel.

Cooks Corner

Spinach and Feta Rolls

Here's a back-to-school, healthy lunch idea; delicious served cold in the school lunch box, for a healthy alternative to the lunch box sandwich and they also freeze well.

Ingredients

- 500g spinach cooked and drained well
- 200g crumbled feta
- 1/4 cup finely chopped dill or parsley
- 3 finely chopped spring onions
- 1 cup fresh breadcrumbs
- Salt and pepper
- 2 sheets of puff pastry
- 1 egg lightly beaten.

Method

Preheat oven to 200°C
Place spinach, feta, dill, spring onions, breadcrumbs, salt and pepper in a bowl and mix well to combine.

Divide mixture into four portions and roll into sausage shapes.
Place one roll down the centre of half sheet of pastry, brush edge with beaten egg and roll up to enclose. Brush tops with egg and sprinkle, sesame or fennel seeds if you have them.
Cut into small rolls and bake for 25 minutes or until pastry is golden.

Seasonal Kitchen



Spinach



Fetta Cheese



Spinach and fetta rolls.

Handy Hints - from Lyn Rumble

Happy New Year to you all, I'm wishing this 1st issue for 2025 finds you all well and ready to save some money over the next months as we delve into Recycling, Repurposing or Reusing everyday items that maybe you hadn't thought of. Some of the things covered will be using items completely differently than you're used to – like today's subject – Vaseline 100% Petroleum Jelly! During 2024, I became a definite convert to this wonderful salve – so hope you get some benefits from these tips I'm sharing this issue!

Lyn

1. Vaseline Hints 1 – Flyaway hair taming – just smooth a small amount of Vaseline in your hands and smooth over the hair and then comb or brush over the area to create uniform tamed strands.
2. Vaseline Hints 2 - Revive dried up make-up like crème eyeshadow or blush – just add a small amount of Vaseline and mix well. Soon you will get a lovely rich mix to use once again, stretching your dollars a bit more. Applies wonderfully smooth on your skin for a luxurious feel.
3. Vaseline Hint 3 – Hands take a fair bit of abuse over the weeks and months – but Vaseline can work wonders. Take a generous amount and gently massage it all over your hands and fingers working it through and around your fingernails and cuticles. Keep massaging for a few minutes to make sure thoroughly coated. For a more luxurious deep massage, do just before bedtime, and then wear cotton gloves overnight – your hands will definitely show improvement by morning. (This also suits your toes, heels and feet in general – and wear clean pair cotton socks overnight)
4. Vaseline Hint 4 – Perfume fading too soon? – Try adding a small amount of Vaseline over your pulse points around your wrist and behind ears – then spray lightly with your favourite fragrance. Should help to prolong the aroma of your spray.
5. Vaseline Hint 5 – Homemade Lip Balm – Take a small amount of Vaseline with a tiny bit of your favourite lipstick in a clean container and mix well. Makes a great translucent lip balm for next to nothing and makes your lips feel and look fabulous as well!

Garden Hints & Tips

Planning your new garden

Summer is a good time to plan your garden. You may have a blank canvas to work with or just need a little rejuvenation of your existing garden. Either way a good plan is the perfect way to start so you have time to set up your space for Autumn planting. Autumn is the time when your soil has some warmth and waiting until you've had some good soaking rain is an ideal time to get your plants into the ground.

As the seasons are warming up we all need to think about plants that will survive the extreme temperatures whilst keeping our water use to a minimum. Lawns can be labour intensive and very thirsty. A garden with no lawn or less lawn would save us money, time and water.

A native garden would do the same.
Plants that attract birds, butterflies and bees creates a little ecosystem in your garden space. Provide a water dish for them and see what happens!

Mallee Gums are great small trees with their incredible flowers, foliage and trunks. Understorey plantings such as Banksia, Leptospermum, Dodonea, Bottlebrush and many more will bring in wrens, honeyeaters wattlebirds the list goes on. Add to that groundcovers such as running postman, grasses like lomandra, carex and then there are the paper daisies again the list goes on.

If you can bulk buy quantities of native plants at very affordable prices your garden will save you money to set up and continue



A native garden with no lawn and a haven for birds, bees, dragonflies and butterflies.

to save money and time while you watch it evolve.
As a group of dedicated volunteers we are happy to offer advice on your project. We are open Tuesday mornings as we are currently pricking out our seedlings. We grow all our plants from seed so they are already adapted to this local environment.
We open for sales Tuesday morning just prior to Easter, we will open Saturday morning a little later in the year.
Goulburn Valley Tree Group Native Nursery
6 Kerferd Street, Tatura
0400 059 765

Health and Wellbeing

Quality yoga classes on our doorstep

The Mud Hut Yoga Studio has been providing quality, rounded yoga classes for 15 years. The beautiful purpose-built studio is situated on a family farm between Rushworth and Colbinabbin, an easy drive from surrounding towns of Stanhope, Corop, Girgarre, Murchison, Tongala and Kyabram.

The studio itself and the peaceful rural environment provide a beautiful space to explore and discover the challenges and joys of yoga.

With emphasis on movement, breathing techniques and meditation Mud Hut Yoga promotes both physical, mental and emotional well-being.

Small class sizes ensure that students receive individual attention whilst at the same time being assured of a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

The studio was founded in 2010 and since then many hundreds of people have been through the doors. Some have only visited briefly, some regularly, others intermittently and some regularly since the very first class!

Life circumstances change all the time but commitment to a regular yoga practice can help us navigate the peaks and troughs more gracefully. Let 2025 be a year of change. A year of regular, committed yoga practice. And where do we start? Right where we are! The only place we can ever really begin.

2025 promises to be a great year for yoga at the Mud Hut . . but what about you?

Are you ready for change? Are you ready to try something different? Or are you ready to return to yoga after a break? Perhaps you have been struggling, either with motivation, or injury or sickness? Perhaps finding the energy and commitment to put time aside for your own self-care is an issue for you? Or perhaps you can't wait to get started?

However it is for you, we are here to support you.

Two quotes to inspire you:

"Yoga adds years to your life and life to your years"

"Yoga is not about self-improvement; it's about self-acceptance"

What term 1, 2025 will look like:

- 10-week term: **Tuesday** 28 January to **Friday** 4th April
- Check out the timetable at: <https://www.mudhutyoga.com.au/timetable>
- **New trial class time: Monday 7.00 PM for 5 weeks** – Starting Monday 3rd February. If you're interested in this timeslot please **register** (or give me a call) as the class will run pending sufficient enrolments: <https://www.mudhutyoga.com.au/term-bookings>

Mud Hut specials

Each year a small group of the Mud Hut Community head off overseas on a Yoga Tour exploring various parts of India and Sri Lanka. In March this year we are headed to **Nepal** and **Bhutan**. See below a picture of the Tiger's Nest Monastery in Bhutan. The trek to this monastery with its beautiful views will be one of the many highlights of this trip.



Meditation: There have been several enquiries regarding some meditation classes. If this would be of interest to you, please let Sue know. Next term may provide an opportunity to schedule some meditation sessions or workshops if there is sufficient interest.

Special offer

Many people have reported that post-COVID it has been difficult to resume previous routines. Even when it's something enjoyable and good for them! Even if they miss it! Likewise, some people have also found it difficult to begin new habits. The Mud Hut Studio would love to help people find their way back to the studio and recommence a regular yoga class . . or to begin a regular yoga practice in 2025.

Therefore, for **Term 1** there is a special offer: **Two for the price of one.**

Encourage a friend to sign up for the term and you **both receive a 50% discount** on the cost of a ten class pass. Normally costing \$180 for ten classes over the term (10-week term) you can **both** purchase the pass for \$90 each.

To be eligible for this offer you and your friend need to be either **new** to the Mud Hut Yoga Studio or to have not attended for over one year. To accept this offer please call Sue Barlow on 0438 523 415 to learn how to redeem the offer (it's super easy!)

The Mud Hut Yoga Studio is a welcoming space for beginners through to regular yoga practitioners. Anyone who would like to join our regular yoga classes will be warmly welcomed.



mediconsul pharmacy

YOUR HEALTH. OUR CARE.

11 High Street, RUSHWORTH, 3612

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



All about wildlife

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

Heat causes wildlife distress



We are in the midst of a week of high temperatures here in Northern Victoria. The heat can be very difficult for our wild creatures, although when temperatures build up slowly they seem to cope a lot better.

It's sudden temperature fluctuations which can cause even more havoc. Yesterday's activities began with a huge male roo out at Kialla. Poor roo was emaciated. He had a badly fractured and infected foot, an older injury which would have been excruciatingly painful.

My sons and I caught him up and sadly we had to euthanise. Not one of our favourite jobs, but a necessary one in our wildlife work. Sometimes, it's the last act of kindness we can provide for a suffering animal.

We travelled onwards to Rushworth where an echidna was stuck at the bottom of an old mine shaft in the Whroo Forest. Thankfully, the shaft was not very deep and was quite narrow so I was able to climb down, retrieve the echidna and manage to climb back out wedging my feet against the walls.

I intended to release the poor echidna immediately but after a quick, on-the-field health inspection, it was obvious that she had been there for quite awhile. She had lost a fair bit of weight and because the bottom of the shaft was full of pungent, stagnant water and mud, the bottoms of her feet were white and wrinkly like she'd been in a bath too long.

The decision was made to bring her home to the shelter for a week of good food and rest before going back out. The water probably saved her life in this heat. Echidnas do not like extreme heat nor extreme cold. Lucky someone noticed her as she was off the track and would have perished down there without help.

Headed home to drop echidna off and left straight away again for a Little Corella hanging up in a tree by his wing over the creek in Numurkah. I was getting a pole out to bring him down when he suddenly managed to snap the line himself and hit the water which hastened the urgency to get a net on the end of a pole and reach him from the shore before he got further out, got him just in time before he was out of reach, though a swim in the creek would not have been unpleasant in the stifling heat. On the way out another Corella dropped from a tree, an emaciated juvenile bird. Stopped, managed to net him on the fly and add him to the patient list.



Home again, only to be called to an injured Wedge-tailed Eagle over the other side of Rochester. Time had to be spent spraying down enclosures and birds at the shelter before I could hit the road again so it was just on dark when I arrived at the location. Searched for a couple of hours, could not locate the bird. Apparently he's been down for at least two weeks! Got home close to midnight, another long day. Rescues today have already been stacking up.



A disused mine shaft is no place for a echidna!

A juvenile White-faced Heron has been picked up in Shepparton, a duckling family in the centre of GV Health needs catching up and relocating. Mother Pacific Black Duck nests every year in the staff area of the hospital which is open roofed but enclosed in the centre of the hospital. If they don't call me to catch the mother and babes, sadly the ducklings begin to perish, likely through lack of food although the landscaped pond in there would be a great, safe place otherwise. Unfortunately, no one called this year until this morning and she only has two ducklings left of fourteen. I will head out to the location of the eagle again this afternoon and have another crack at finding him. Busy days. Stay cool.

Bohollow calendars 2025 - supporting wildlife rescue
Some still available at the Waranga News, 33 Moora Rd Rushworth



Critically endangered birds call north east wetlands home

A new pictorial guide to wetland birds of north-east Victoria is now available to help the community get to know their local birdlife.

Developed by Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), the guide features 52 wetland birds including critically endangered species such as the Australian painted-snipe and the Arctic breeding migrant sharp-tailed sandpiper.

"Visiting local wetlands and observing birds is a great way to get outdoors and connect with nature," says Dan Pendavingh, DEECA Natural Environment Program Officer.

"North-east Victorian wetlands are critical habitat for an array of wetland birds, including threatened species."

"Wetland-dependent bird species are declining at an alarming rate. Of the 52 species listed in the brochure, fourteen are threatened and therefore are protected under state and national environmental legislation. The fact that they call North East Victoria home makes our wetlands extra special."

"Permanent and temporary wetlands are critical for biodiversity and ecological productivity, so it's important that we conserve and restore wetland habitats to support their bird populations."

DEECA's Natural Environment Program supports the conservation of wetlands on private and public land. Ongoing work to protect and restore wetland habitats including weed and predator control and environmental watering is also supported by Catchment Management Authorities and community groups.

The wetlands birds guide was developed in partnership with Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, North East Catchment Management Authority, Birdlife Australia, Swamps, Rivers & Ranges and RiverConnect.

It adds to the existing collection of north east Victorian flora and fauna brochures developed by DEECA, including reptiles and frogs, wildflowers of the foothills and mountains, turtles and fish and woodland birds.



Australian painted snipe.



Sharp-tailed sandpiper.

Visit the DEECA website for an online copy and to download the full collection <https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/biodiversity/flora-and-fauna-brochures-of-ne-victoria-hume-region>



Big Reedy Lagoon Yarrawonga.

ON THE BRINK *by Neil Laurie*

Looking at endangered or extinct flora and fauna.

Road kill

About ten million native animals (including birds and reptiles) are killed in Australia each year through being struck by vehicles. The reason for this is very simple. These animals have evolved over the millennia in an environment without motor vehicles. Cars move much faster than their natural predators and have loud engines and bright lights. Very confusing for wild animals. Electric cars are silent and can 'sneak up' on wildlife. Many animals do not have the inherent ability to avoid being hit, even though most of them have strategies for avoiding natural dangers.

Sometimes it is these natural instincts putting the animal in danger. For example, when feeling vulnerable galahs start to fly very erratically to confuse predators and will frequently dart in front of vehicles. It is quite common for several galahs to be hit at once. Galah strikes become more common during harvest times when the galahs congregate along the roadsides, eating spilt grain.

Most animals are on the road because they need to cross them. An animal requires a territory large enough to support it. If it is bisected by a road, the animal will need to cross that road to access the rest of its territory.

Reptiles will bask on roads and will be sluggish until they warm up, making them very vulnerable. Other animals are on the road scavenging roadkill. A notable example of this was a dead rabbit in the middle of the road on the Colbinabbin hill. Beside it was a dead crow, beside the crow a dead cat and finally a dead fox! Wedgetail eagles are particularly vulnerable because they are slow to take off (they need to take several ungainly steps before they can fly).

Many animals will simply try to dash across the road even faster should a car be coming; a natural response to danger. This is a major cause of kangaroos, wallabies and wombats being hit by vehicles. Slow-moving animals such as turtles and echidnas just cannot move off the road in time.

It is unrealistic to expect animals to change their instinctual behaviours. To stop the roadkill carnage we need to change.

Around Rushworth it is better to avoid driving around dusk and dawn when the kangaroos are on the move. Rushworth is surrounded by forest. There is no way to avoid driving through kangaroo country. If you do need to drive at night, have a good set of driving lights (a mixed pair, one broad beam and one pencil beam works well), slow down to 80 kmh or less, set cruise control and have a foot hovering over the brake pedal. Don't relax once you are in town; kangaroos come in to graze on lawns and to drink. Some people swear by those silent kangaroo whistles mounted on the fronts of cars. It has been proven that they have no effect what-so-ever.

It is illegal to swerve to avoid hitting wildlife. It is better to slow down or brake in a controlled manner if it is safe to do so.

In some places wildlife crossings have been created. These may be mini suspension bridges over freeways for possums and quolls or tunnels under busy roads. In many places specific roadside warning signs warn drivers that they are entering a high-risk area. Unfortunately, these signs are often ignored and sometimes used for target practice by shooters.

Most animals hit by motor vehicles will die either from their injuries or from shock. If an animal is injured it is better to contact a wildlife rescue service rather than just leaving it to suffer a slow death. These wonderful people are experts who know how to deal with injured wildlife. Never approach an injured kangaroo. They can be quite dangerous. If a kangaroo is dead, check its pouch and contact a rescue service if there is a joey. Dead roadside kangaroos sprayed with an "X" have had their pouches checked.

We live in a beautiful area with lovely treed roadside verges which are wonderful wildlife habitats....providing we take a little care with our driving.

Fifty years ago in our district....

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



Cyclone Tracey prompts local help in Australia-wide response

1975 began with Waranga Shire, like most shires, holding a public appeal for money to assist the survivors of Cyclone Tracey, most of whom were housed in Adelaide or Perth after being flown out of the disaster zone. Darwin had been home to about 46,000 people until Christmas Eve, 1974.

Collections, events and a big raffle were held as part of the fund-raising effort. Winners of a new 36-inch colour TV in one raffle were Ray and Jenny Baldwin of Rushworth, parents of little Boss who got his photo in the paper!

Sandra Fitzgibbon, ex-Rushworth, was spared major damage to her home about 20 km south of Darwin. Phillip Crute, John Crute, Dennis Crute and wife Ann were not so lucky but had evacuated to their parents' home in Rushworth. Gary Draper and wife Gwen remained in Darwin to assist the clean-up, as did Ian Hageman. Rhonda Sullivan also survived and worked to assist the police after the cyclone before returning to Rushworth.

Naval rating Brian O'Mahoney got two weeks "survival leave" out of Darwin, returning to his parents' home in Murchison.

Road trauma

Road tragedy had struck again when Stanhope's Mervyn and Myra Elford and their youngest daughter Marjorie died in a collision near Hastings badly injured. Mervyn had a building business and was active in the local Presbyterian church and the Fire Brigade. Christine Dicketts is another member of this family.

Crime

Rushworth court sent a local man to gaol for three months, after he had taken a fancy to bales of wool stored in local shearing sheds. A close relative of this man faced similar charges but his stash also included liquor and cigarettes from Valley View golf club, property from Stanhope Motors and Star Motors of Rochester and tyres from Hilders' Garage Rushworth. Sergeant Durston had literally chased and apprehended the offender whose sentence was not reported but was certainly longer than three months as he "had form", and plenty of it.

A local lad lost his motorcycle licence and was fined \$10 for not wearing a helmet and another was poorer by \$35 for failing to display P-plates. Two other local youths failed to appear but were still fined \$5 for being drunk and disorderly.

Vandals had been smashing bottles at

the tip after the caretaker Bill Campbell had carefully stacked them for the collector. Constable Peter Hromenko was on the case.

Schools

At this time exam results were not announced until mid-January. Higher School Certificate scores from 1974 brought credit to Rushworth High School with eleven of the thirteen students qualifying for university entrance. Celebrating five subject successes were Judith Benn (Stanhope), Bruce Milthorpe (Carag), Roslyn Caygill, Elaine Kolenaty and Sheena Weaver (all of Rushworth). Doing well were John Holschier, Janice Collier, Yvonne Laurie and Anne Tuohey together with Kaye Grinter and Rhonda Stokes.

An A-rating (80-100%) was obtained by Roslyn Caygill for Biology and by Bruce Milthorpe for the impossible subject known to some as Pure Mathematics.

Community

Over 300 Guides and Brownies arrived at Murchison by train to celebrate 60 years of Guide and Brownie activity in the town. Visitors put on performances with songs from a number of different countries. Karen Hayes was enrolled in the local Brownie pack, and Mrs Jean Phillips received a presentation for her long period of support.

The Stanhope Mardi Gras on New Year's night had raised \$4000 as Miss Sharon Todd, a Rushworth High School student, was awarded Miss Mardi Gras. The procession had many novel floats, an award going to lads Peter Lloyd and Malcom McGrath who, with their aeroplane, portrayed "Around the World with Gough", Mr Whitlam having done some international visiting in the months previous.

Moora Rural Fire Brigade took possession of a new 4WD tanker equipped with an auto-prime pump. First to give it a test on the Corop bridge over the channel were the very handy crew of Bill Perry, Bob McLean, Ron and Bruce Wootton.

Personal

Passing in December 1974 or January 1975 were Mr Victor Budd of Rushworth, aged just 60, Mrs Irene Brown (nee La Peyre) at Wycheproof, but late of Rushworth and Stanhope, aged 83, Mrs Sarah Darrigan of Colbinabin, aged 87, Mrs Agnes Campbell (nee Matheson) of Moora, Mrs Mary Stone of Murchison, Alan Challis of Murchison, aged 62, and Edith Fox, the mother of Mick and Colin Fox. Henry Broadwood died at Numurkah, the grandfather of locals Margaret Watson and Rob Colliver, and their sister Marian.

Ken and Helen Harcoan welcomed

Kathryn, a sister for Susan and David.

Terry Eldridge of Murchison married Anne Dean of Wahring at Nagambie with the men of the bridal party starring in pale blue suits! Dianne McGrath of Stanhope married Peter Curran. They had met in the Air Force and were off to live at Butterworth base in Malaya.

In the kitchen for her tea with family and friends was Mary Tuohey of Colbo.

Sport

Runner Colin McQueen eighteen of Murchison, represented Victoria over 200 and 400 metres and a big future was predicted for the young athlete.

Rushworth A-grade cricketers went down outright to Lancaster, despite a captain's knock of 90 not out from Graeme Hageman. B-Grade dismissed Undera for 42 and 130 but just missed an outright win as they dropped seven catches. Stars were Charles Potter with 5/15 and Chris Hageman 4/33.

Selected for Junior Country Cricket Week at Bendigo were Craig Beck and Allan Hawking.

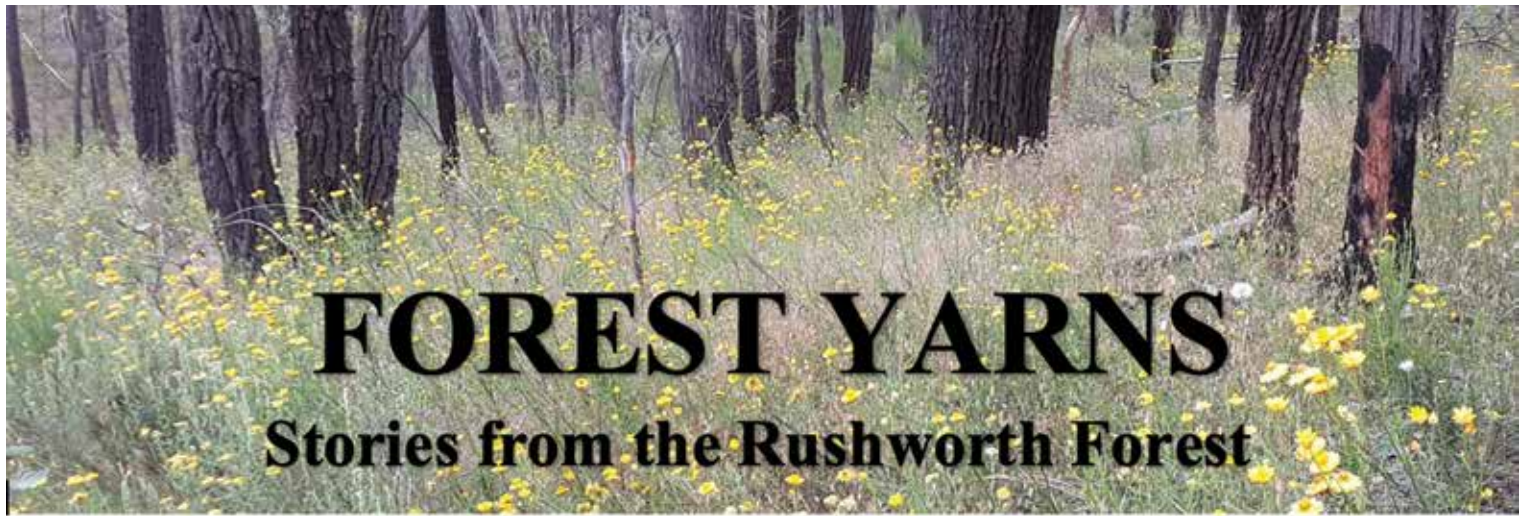
Playing at Stanhope green due to locust damage at Rushworth, Jeff Geddes took out his third Rushworth Bowls Club championship, defeating Geoff Beck 32-19. *(I hear that bowler Bruce Wootton has just notched up his fourteenth Club Championship, which is a mighty effort. He will be a pretty handy bowler when he gets the hang of the sport.)*

At a tournament at Nagambie Bruce Laurie and George Kolenaty won the open pairs event.

Football

Rushworth club's AGM attracted only seventeen members, hearing Eddie Gleeson step down as President, and Ian Borger calling nominations for a successor. Six nominees all declined. Coach Alec Horne had stepped aside due to "business commitments" and a sub-committee was seeking a suitable coach. The AGM was adjourned but appointed delegates to the Heathcote League, with authority to vote "as they saw fit".

Tooborac, the reigning premiers, were threatening to leave the League if they could not be permitted to play more ex-radius players. Heathcote Football Club were also talking of leaving the Heathcote League which would have been very strange if they had joined a different competition.



Sleeper hewing

The overwhelming majority, if not all of the railway sleepers that came out of the Rushworth forest were hand hewn, which begs the question, why were they not just cut to specifications in the local sawmills? In states other than Victoria, many sleepers were cut by sawmills.

In Victoria the Commissioners of the Victorian Railways held a strong view that hewn sleepers were more durable than sawn ones.¹ The average life of a railway sleeper was 20-30 years. The longer they lasted the better, because replacement costs were substantial.

Victorian Railways did not directly employ sleeper cutters. The men in the forest worked on contract at a set rate per sleeper, so the better you were, the more money you could make. Inspectors were employed to check the finished sleepers. Imagine the possibility of having some of your sleepers knocked back by an over-officious inspector after all the hours of work that had gone into their production. This is what happened at the Rushworth station in 1895, much to the chagrin of the local workers.² Sometimes this would prompt workers to take their sleepers to another place where the inspector was not so pedantic.

Returns

Many of the sleeper hewers worked alone or with a mate in the forest. Obviously, it was tough physical work and the returns were not great. In 1930, the average earnings were four shillings and threepence per sleeper.³ That's 43 cents each, or a bit over \$20, allowing for inflation over the last 100 years.

At the time, it was suggested in one source that a skilled sleeper cutter's average output was about 25 sleepers a week, which would earn them 5 pounds 6 shillings and threepence (\$10.63/week or a bit over \$500/week in today's money). Not much when you consider that the workers had to walk or supply their own transport (horse or pushbike) out to their site where they would often camp for the week, as well as supplying the equipment needed to do their work and paying royalties and cartage contractors.

Tom Hall, who worked all his life in the timber industry around Heathcote, reckoned that proficient sleeper cutters could average



Sleeper hewers and their tools.

six to eight sleepers a day, so the return might have been slightly better than that mentioned above.

Tools of the trade

A sleeper hewer's tools consisted of "a chopping axe, broadaxe, sledge hammer, wedges, crosscut saw, sleeper hook, cant hook and bar, a 10" x 5" (25.4 X 12.7 cm) board, chalk line, blue pot and branding hammer."⁴ After a suitable tree was cut down with the chopping axe, it was then cut into nine foot billets (nearly 3m – the size prescribed by the railways) using the crosscut saw.

The sleeper was roughly shaped into the required dimensions, using the sledge hammer (or wooden maul before about 1910) and wedges. The 10" x 5" board was then used in conjunction with the string line to mark the billet. After scoring the billet with the ordinary axe, the broadaxe would be used to square off the excess wood. To ensure that the billet was off the ground while this was being done, the sleeper hewer would sit the unfinished sleeper up on two wooden skids. The sleeper hook, cant hook and bar were used to move the sleeper into the desired positions.

Transport

Once the sleepers were completed, they had to be transported to the Rushworth railway station. The carting was usually done by contractors using horse and dray. Around 1930 the cartage rate was ninepence (9c) per sleeper and the royalty paid to the Forest Commission about the same. Add to that the 4/3 (43c) received by the cutter and the price of a sleeper loaded onto railway trucks was about 6/- (60c).⁵

According to Tom Hall, about 10-12 sleepers would weigh a ton, so when a dray was loaded with about fifteen sleepers to take into town, the horse "was well laden and very busy!"⁶

At the southern (Heathcote) end of the forest, extensive tramways were eventually built to transport timber products to Tooborac and Heathcote stations, but this never happened on the Rushworth end of the forest.

References: 1 Brett, Dr Andre, post on the Economic History Society of Aust and NZ website on 28/11/2019; 2 Nagambie Times 21/6/1895; 3 The Argus 28/5/1930 p 10; 4 Hand Tool Preservation Association of Australia newsletter, October 1989, p 9; 5 Hall, Tom, The Life of the Timber Industry in the Shire of McIvor and Heathcote (1985 notes); 6 ibid p 7

Fresh new look for Rushworth Kinder

It may have been school holidays, but there was plenty of action happening at the Rushworth Kinder & Childcare. During the holidays the service has seen new flooring installed and lots of maintenance works.

In early January the Campaspe Shire gave the Kindergarten & Childcare a fresh boost with the removal of the old floor coverings and fresh new ones installed. This process involved a load of work for the committee and their band of merry helpers, packing up and emptying the building and transferring everything into storage.

Throughout the end of January the committee have also been attending to some general maintenance including a new hot water service, new drainage and tap upgrades, along with the additional fitting of further shelving.

On Tuesday 28 January the committee and supporters were back in action laying new soft fall and attending to garden maintenance. Even the children got to work helping with the spread of the soft fall.



Group effort: Workers of all ages chipped in to get the Kinder & Childcare ship-shape and ready for the new year.

The work that has gone on at the kinder during the break has been a result of community support and the support of the fund-raising efforts in 2024.

Thank you to all of those who have supported the raffles, cake stalls, and other fund-raising activities that the team has undertaken. Work is continuing at the kinder over the coming months with the replacement of the worn shade sail.

Tammy Donovan



DAWES & VARY RIORDAN

can offer clients access to lawyers with specific knowledge in particular areas of law

- Immigration
- Property, Planning & Construction
- Banking & Finance
- Corporate & Commercial
- Water & Water Trading
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Agribusiness
- Local Government

- Intervention Orders
- Employment
- Family Law - Children & Property Matters
- Injury Law / TAC Claims
- Succession & Estate Planning
- Wills & Powers of Attorney
- Deceased Estates

For experienced and efficient legal advice in relation to any of these matters, please feel free to contact us

Dawes & Vary Riordan Lawyers
146 Hogan Street, Tatura | **03 5824 0300**
info@dvrlawyers.com.au | www.dvrlawyers.com.au



DAWES & VARY RIORDAN
LAWYERS

Echuca | Shepparton | Kyabram | Tatura | Rochester | Nathalia

WARANGA NEWS *Yearly Subscriptions*
\$65.00 posted - \$30.00 online
5856 1120 or wnews@iinet.net.au

Stanhope Community Garage Sale

Birdwood Ave, Stanhope
Sunday 8 February
from 8.30 am

Live music, BBQ, stalls and plenty of fun!

Ph 5857 2866
or 0427 539 110

A Stanhope and District Development Committee Project

Holiday fun at Rushworth Library

Rushworth library has been busy with school holiday activities including interactive games, NGV craft (pictured) and family movies.

The summer school holiday program coincides with the Big Summer Read which encourages school aged children to read at least ten books over the school holidays to win prizes.

Coming up at the library in 2025:

- Headspace workshops for parents and youth
- Monthly movie screenings
- Informative talks
- Monthly rhyme time and story time



Ruby Gillie, Oliver Gillie, Chloe Twynstra, Lily Twynstra and Abbey Twynstra show off their butterflies.



Finn Storen was excited to show his creation.



Taylah Jamieson enjoyed the craft activities.

Tiny Scent And Sew

Handmade Gifts (Locally Owned and Operated)

- Quilted Bags
- Hair Accessories
- Scented Dessert Soy Candle / Scented Soy Candle / Scented Soy Wax Melt
- Bits and Pieces

www.tinyscentandsew.com.au
FB Page: [tinyscentandsew](https://www.facebook.com/tinyscentandsew)
Phone: 0491 653 291
Email: tinyscentandsew@outlook.com

Celebrating 5 years in Rushworth with 10% off in store during November.



Open: Thurs 1-5, Fri 9-5, Sat/Sun 10-3, Monday 9-1
21 High St Rushworth
“More than just balloons”
Phone: 0418 571 673 Bruce & Gwen

Rushworth Market

Village Green High st, Rushworth

Saturday 15 February
8.30am - 1pm

*Trash ‘n’ Treasure/car boot *Soaps *Plants *Dog treats *Tools
*Crafts /Metal work *Fruit & Veg *Clothing *Knitted items

NEW STALLHOLDERS WELCOME E: rushworthmarket@gmail.com P: 0459 520 843

 Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/rushworthmarket>

Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our

St. Mary's welcomes students and families back for the 2025 school year

It has been amazing to welcome our families, students and staff back into our school as we commence 2025.

Our school is looking wonderful having had our landscapers in over the past few weeks working on the grounds and with our staff unpacking lots of new and contemporary resources and culling out anything outdated.

Welcome everyone

On Thursday, we welcomed our Year 1-6 students back while our Foundation students were scheduled times to come in and complete some testing, enabling our junior teachers to hit the ground running and target the individual point of need for each of our students.

On Friday, we welcomed the Foundation students as well. The Junior classroom was a flurry of activity with many parents, grandparents and even a great grandparent reading with the children and getting to know our staff. It was such a buzz.

We cannot wait to witness the amazing learning and growth of every child at St Mary's during 2025. Please remember that we continue to enrol throughout the year, so if you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact our friendly admin.



Magnify Sandhurst launched

Our staff returned two days prior to our students, embarking on extensive professional learning, collegiality and opportunities to prepare for embedding our brand-new learning and teaching framework into St. Mary's.

'Magnify Sandhurst' is a 5-pronged framework that has been adopted and unveiled by all 51 primary and secondary schools within Catholic Education Sandhurst (CESL). The learning that we have received thus far has been extensive and will continue throughout 2025 with the CESL multi-million-dollar investment into research-backed practices for all its schools.

This approach is a wonderful opportunity for our little school as it allows us to access contemporary professional learning, resources and working closely with all schools/leaders/educators and experts within our diocesan ecosystem.

Our focus will be delivering innovative pedagogies and strategies for literacy, numeracy, intervention and science through MultiLit and Ochre Education. Experts within Sandhurst (and our school) have worked with these two companies to ensure that our students receive the best education available.

This can be paired with extensive professional development for our staff. We will work with the world-renowned educator



Jared Cooney-Horvath on the neuroscience behind learning, helping our staff to understand the nuances of how the brain works and how to extract the most from each child while they are at school. Staff will also learn, through 'The Knowledge Society' the most evidence-based practices and teaching in behaviour and disposition, ensuring that our students continue to be engaged in all learning experiences and feel ownership over their own learning.

Finally, our staff will all receive a growth coach to enable them to remain at the forefront of learning and teaching.

Vin Ryan
Principal



Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our
Colbo School looking forward to a good year ahead



The whole school ready for the new year. (Two absent)



(Left)
2025 Prep Class
Left to right:
Sam Johnson,
Finn Barlow,
Max Barlow,
Clancy McEvoy,
Ava Hayes,
Freya Ellis and
Marlowe Pelle

(Right) The 2025 Leadership Group
L - R - Back row - Nick Weppner, Ethan Johnson,
Maisy Masterson, Isabelle Hill, Stephanie Guerra,
Evelyn Wilkinson and Corben Safstrom
Front - Vinnie Ryan and Arabella Smith



**Tell us your news
and we will tell
the world!**
wnews@iinet.net.au

Fijians singing around the parish of St Mary's



Singing at Sacred Heart, Cornella.



At St Mary's church, Rushworth.

Visitors from Fiji are delighting the congregations of St Mary's Parish with their four-part harmony singing at Rushworth and Cornella.

The group has come from Fiji to pick tomatoes at Colbinabbin and to do other farm work like fruit picking around Shepparton.

So the parish is pleased to have them joining in the Sunday Masses. They have a strong faith and prayer life. And, their singing is something else! When asked, 'Does everyone sing in Fiji?', they replied, 'Of course!'

It seems most of this group are brothers, sisters, cousins, aunts and uncles and they treat it like it's a holiday - but with the bonus of earning some money from grateful farmers as they are good workers.

They are renting the St Mary's Convent in Rushworth during their stay in Australia and love being just across the lawn from the Rushworth church - so they keep an eye on the church and surrounds and can go there for an 'extra' Holy Hour during the week.

Photo at right: time for a quick practice before Mass.



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.

AN EVENING PRAYER FOR CHILDREN



God bless mothers and fathers and grand-
parents too,
Uncles and aunts and friends old and new.
AMEN

CLIVE COVENTRY FUNERALS

Providing an individual funeral to celebrate life's journey

Servicing Colbinabbin, Murchison, Rushworth, Stanhope, Tatura & district

Reasonably priced funerals to suit all budgets

5852 1619

Locally owned and operated

5831 3922

92 Allan Street, Kyabram

113 Corio St, Shepparton

living the GOOD LIFE

The Belarus lives again: finding value in the unlikely

I have an old Belarus tractor. Built in the former Soviet Union, it was never a high-quality machine to begin with, and time has not been kind to it. My mate Slim reckons it must be one of the last ones still running.

The motor is strong and reliable, but everything else—the air cooler, windscreen wipers, gauges, etc.—gave up long ago.

The Belarus has also earned another distinction over the years: it's indelibly associated with swearing. In fact, I'd wager that more curse words have been hurled at that machine than at any other object I own. It's the kind of tractor that doesn't just challenge your mechanical skills, it also challenges your vocabulary, often in colourful, inventive ways.

Most of the serious farmers around here love their John Deere tractors. You know the ones - gleaming green and yellow, GPS steering, air-conditioning, and enough technology to practically run the farm on their own. They glide across the paddocks with effortless precision, the cabins sealed tight against dust and heat, the hum of the engine as smooth as a well-rehearsed symphony.

And then there's the Belarus. No GPS, no air-conditioning, not even a functioning dashboard. It rattles and wheezes, more character than comfort, the kind of machine that makes you feel every bump and hear every groan, and if you lose concentration the wandering hydrostatic steering will have you breaking down posts and vines. You don't so much operate the Belarus as negotiate with it—and often, those negotiations involve raised voices and some language you wouldn't use in church.

The Belarus came to a halt when one of its big back tyres failed. For the past eighteen months, I've been searching for a second-hand back tyre. A new tyre would cost more than the whole tractor is worth and I can't justify the cost. Every time I asked around, I'd get a chuckle and a shake of the head. "Belarus? Still running, is it?" I'd hear, but I kept looking, hoping that somewhere, someone had what I needed.

And then, finally, I found one. A second-hand tyre, good enough to keep the old machine going. I got it fitted, and the Belarus lives again. It will always be a third-choice, backup vehicle, but it's still here, it's still

running, and somehow, that feels like a small victory.

The beauty in persistence

There's something about sticking with



things that others have written off. It's easy to see value in something new, shiny, and efficient. But an old tractor, a struggling friendship, a fading church congregation—these things take more effort. They demand patience and commitment. And yet, when we put in the work and effort, we often find that they still have life left in them.

We live in a culture that moves fast. If something breaks, we replace it. If something is difficult, we walk away. But maybe we give up on things too quickly. Maybe, sometimes, the best stories come from the things that aren't easy.

Unexpected grace in the things we overlook

Jesus had a habit of seeing value where others did not. He told stories of lost coins, lost sheep, lost sons, reminding people that nothing and no-one was beyond redemption.

And then there were the people he chose to spend time with—fisherfolk, tax collectors, the sick, the outcasts. Society had written them off, but Jesus saw something more. He didn't discard the broken. He restored them.

One of my favourite moments in the Gospels is the story of Jesus and Peter after the resurrection. Peter, who had denied knowing Jesus three times when things got tough, must've thought he'd blown it with Jesus for good. But in the Gospel of John, chapter 21, Jesus meets Peter by the sea, and greets him, not with rebuke, but with a simple, repeated question:

"Simon son of John, do you love me?" Three times Jesus asks Peter, and three times Peter replies, *"Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."* Every time, Jesus responds, not with a reminder of Peter's failure, but with a call to Peter: *"Feed my lambs."* *"Take care of my sheep."* *"Feed my sheep."*

It's a beautiful picture of restoration. Jesus doesn't just forgive Peter. He entrusts him with something meaningful. Peter thought he

was finished, but Jesus saw that there was still life left in him and there was still work to be done.

The Joy of Keeping Something Alive

There's a quiet satisfaction in keeping something running when others think it was done for, whether it's an old tractor, a family farm or a struggling community event. They may not be the most impressive things, but they still matter. They still have a role to play.

The Belarus will never be my first choice of tractor but when I fire it up and hear the engine roar to life—after, perhaps, a few choice words to encourage it—I can't help but smile. It's still here. It's still doing what it was created to do.

Maybe that's the lesson, really, not just about tractors, but about life itself. When Peter thought he'd blown it for good, Jesus met him by the sea and simply asked, *"Simon son of John, do you love me?"* And with each 'yes,' Jesus asked Peter to do a job for him.

Turns out, even when we think something or someone is past their prime, they're often still capable of work and have life left to live. You just have to be willing to give them another chance.

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

*Brian Spencer, Minister
Waranga Uniting Churches*

Thanks from Christmas Bowl Appeal

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Christmas Bowl appeal.

For seventy-five years, church communities have embodied the spirit of Christ's love by giving hope to displaced families through the Christmas Bowl.

Generous contributions have provided food, care, and lifesaving support to those facing unimaginable hardships. From one church community to another, your Christmas Bowl gifts bring the peace of a safe place to belong to those who need it most.

The offering for the Christmas Bowl Appeal at the Colbo Carols Service yielded \$800. Thanks to all who made it happen and gave so generously.



VALLEY FUNERALS

'The caring people'

Tatura and G.V. Areas

5824 1180

Locally Owned
Affordable Funerals

Kyabram & District Funeral Services

Serving our Community - Contact Colin and Susan Moody

Serving Rushworth, Stanhope, Girgarre, Colbinabbin, Corop, Toolleen, Murchison
Nagambie and Tatura.

Elva Moody is our Rushworth Representative

Phone: 0428 859 593

119 Albion Street, Kyabram 3620

Phone: 5852 1061 Mobile: 0409 935 375

WARANGA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

BIRTH

ROGERS - RYAN

Congratulations Felicity and Nathan
on the arrival of your Beautiful little
Addison May
Born on the 23rd January
Weighing 7lb 3oz
A treasured new addition to our families
Love from Robyn & Shane
and Brenda & Phil



DEATH

MCARDLE, Robert(Bob): 12/3/1935-
19/12/2024
Loved Son of Jack and Doris (both dec).
Loved Brother of Joan Hill.
Uncle Bob to Jenny, Peter, Tim, Rod and their
families.
Grandson to the late Margaret and Henry
McArdle of Rushworth.
Sleep peacefully Bob.

IN MEMORIAM

MCTAGGART, Ellen Elizabeth:
15/07/1931—06/02/2006
To our dearest Mum
The years have passed so quickly.
You are never forgotten and your love will
live with us forever
Always in our thoughts and memories
Love forever
Glenn and Loretta McTaggart

PUBLIC NOTICES



MUD HUT YOGA
Peace ~ Flexibility ~ Strength
For class times &
information
contact Sue Barlow
0438 523 415
sue@mudhutyoga.com.au
www.mudhutyoga.com.au

LOOKING TO RENT

Family of three looking for two or three
bedroom home in Rushworth and
surrounding area.
Good references available
Phone 0439052707

PUBLIC NOTICES

Rushworth Community House Annual General Meeting



**Wednesday 12 March at
7pm.**
A light super will provide provided.
Please contact us on 5856 1295 to
advise if attending, to assist with
catering.

Rushworth RSL Sub- Branch AGM/General Meeting

The next Meeting of the RSL is to be
held on
**Friday 21st February 2025
commencing at 10am**
at the "Cottage" 1 Murchison Road.
All members are requested to attend
as this is our AGM. To be followed by
our first General Meeting for the year.
Apologies to Secretary on either:
58567231 (Home)
0408 664 607 (Mobile).

Helen Truran Marriage Celebrant

*Mobile: 0419 529 155
Phone: (03) 5826 2001
Email: hjtruran@gmail.com
Ceremonies with compassion*

Leon Doller
0413 906 449

Clean Edge

cleaning ~ gardening ~ maintenance

*Inside and out
we've got you
covered*

**Benn 0493 601 877
Lucy 0411 898 364
cleanedge33@gmail.com**

Campbell-Smith & Associates Certified Practising Accountant

ABN: 56 112 042 138
Principal: Don Campbell-Smith ABIA AIIA B.Bus. CPA
Specialising in Personal Tax Returns
Local Representative: Donelle Robinson
211 Nine Mile Road (PO Box 240), Rushworth Victoria 3612
Mob: 0400 920 850
Email: donelle.robinson@gmail.com
Give me a call for friendly professional service!

Kids Trivia answers

1. George Washington 2. 3. Au 4. Roald Dahl 5. 11 6. The Beatles 7. Italy 8. Mars 9. The Lord
of the Rings 10. Elephant 11. Poseidon 12. Mandarin

TRADE & SERVICES DIRECTORY



NED BARLOW
ELECTRICAL
CONTRACTING

Ned Barlow
Electrical Contracting

Domestic - Commercial - Industrial

**Servicing: Rushworth, Stanhope,
Murchison and surrounds**

Phone: 0438 348 110
(REC: 27429)

Rushworth Variety
(and Rushy Hire)

Trading hours:
Monday 10am – 3pm
Tuesday 10am – 4pm
Wednesday - Closed
Thursday 10am – 4pm
Friday 10am – 4pm
Saturday 10am – 1pm
Sunday - Closed

Phone No: 0432 491 176

www.farriervet.com

Dr. Judith Mulholland
BSc. BVMS

 **Phone:**
58 522 000

Mobile:
0408 565 528

Email: judith@farriervet.com
P.O. Box 295, Kyabram 3619 Victoria

SELF-SERVE

MORGAN
FUEL 24/7

Colbinabbin

DAVID BRANSON
LANDSCAPE AND
GARDENING SERVICES

- Hedgecutting and mowing
- Pruning and handweeding
- Property maintenance
- Residential and commercial

Prompt and excellent service

Contact David: 0456 062 287

Rushworth & surrounds
Water Supplies

ABN 62091078695

Water Cartage from 18,000
litres to 21,000

Emergency deliveries available

Phone Shannon
0419 556 239

Peter Knobel Rushworth

Cabinet Maker

Ph/Fax 5856 1309
Mob 0419 196 164

*Kitchens – Solid Timber Furniture
Furniture Design – Bars
Handcrafted Cabinetry & Furniture
Wrought Iron Work*

Workmate Earthworks
Brett Petersen

 **0409 001 239** 

Email: work-mate@bigpond.com
ABN: 75056053431

Bobcat, 10t Excavator, Bulldozer,
Tandem Tipper, Mini Tipper,
Grader Attachment, Various Augers,
Trencher, Vibrating Roller & Slashing.

Jaq's Bookkeeping
Services

I am a registered Bookkeeper/
BAS agent and I specialise in small
business bookkeeping.

Payables, receivables through to
all of your BAS/IAS and SRO
requirements.

Phone: 0401 186 636

Ironbark Dog
Grooming Rushworth
0425 700 806 




Septic Tank
Cleaning

PROMPT SERVICE

Contact:
ANTON DAMEN
0429 843 443

High Pressure Drain Clearing

Drain Clearing, Blockages & Root Cutting

Drain CCTV Camera Inspections

Pipe Locating & Drain Repairs

 **0413 370 665**
www.ncplumbing.com.au

 **NC**
NORRIS CREW
WINDSCREENS



AUTO GLASS

- WINDSCREEN REPAIRS
- WINDSCREEN REPLACEMENTS ON ALL
MAKES AND MODELS
- TRUCK AND MACHINERY

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED

BEN NORRIS 0429070032
JESS NORRIS 0400681290

NC
NORRIS CREW

DISTRICT INFORMATION BOARD

WHAT'S ON AROUND THE TOWNS

FEBRUARY

Thu 6	First Waranga News for 2025
Sun 9	Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am
Wed 12	Rushworth Community House AGM 7pm
Sat 15	Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm
Fri 21	Sub branch RSL AGM The Cottage 10am
Sat 22	Community Dance - Rushworth Shire Hall 7pm

MARCH

Sun 9	Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am
Sat 15	Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm

APRIL

Sat 19	Rushworth Easter Heritage Festival Market, High Street - 8.30am
--------	---

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, Fri 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.

LOCAL SERVICE
PHONE NUMBERS

POLICE or FIRE.....Emergency.....000
Non-emergency 13 1444
AMBULANCE.....Emergency.....000
Non-emergency...13 3009
SES: (storm & flood).....13 2500
DOCTORS:
Murchison Medical Centre.....5826 2575
Rushworth Medical Centre..... 5856 1329
Stanhope Telecare Medical Centre
4800 5291
Waranga Medical Centre..... 5851 8400
HEALTH:
Stanhope Health.....5857 0451
Waranga Health5851 8000
Nurse on call..... 1300 606 024
HELP:
Lifeline.....13 1114
Kids Helpline.....1800 551 800
POLICE:
Rushworth.....5856 1000
Murchison.....5826 2222
Colbinabbin.....5856 1000
SUPPORT SERVICE:
St Vincent de Paul.....0417 597 468
WARANGA NEWS OFFICE.....5856 1120

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

FOR NEXT EDITION - 19 FEBRUARY
Display Ads: Friday, 13 February
Classified: Monday, 16 February
wnews@iinet.net.au

Waranga News



A Voluntary Community Newspaper

Printed by Maxam Printing, Shepparton
Published by Mary Jo Fortuna OAM,
of 3 Phillips Street, Rushworth, 3612 for
Waranga News Incorporated
(ABN 45 086 403 564)
Office Hours: Mon, Wed & Fri
9.30am - 5.30pm
(All day Mon & Tues of production week)
33 Moora Road, Rushworth.
Postal address: **PO Box 53, Rushworth, 3612**
E-mail address: wnews@iinet.net.au
Website: www.wnews.org.au
Advertising & Accounts: (03) 5856 1120
Editor: 0407 561 311
Annual subscription: Online \$30;
Posted \$65.00 (inc cost of postage)

Advertising in the Waranga News supports your business AND your community call 5856 1120 or email wnews@iinet.net.au

Your Council News

f @CampaspeShireCouncil
 @ #campaspeshire
 P: 1300 666 535 | 03 5481 2200
 E: shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au
www.campaspe.vic.gov.au

Project Update

The second stage of Waranga Rail Trail is progressing well. A large portion of the 10km gravel path from Bendigo-Murchison Road to Channel Inlet Road has been installed. The replacement of a large culvert is underway, and repairs to six VicTrack bridges will start soon. The trail is expected to open in late March.



Coming Up Council meeting | 6pm Tuesday, 18 February 2025 | 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.

Wednesday, 19 February

- 9:30 – 10:20am | Kyabram Senior Citizens Centre

Monday, 24 February

- 9:20 – 9:50am | Tongala Shire Hall

Monday, 24 February

- 11:20am – 12 noon | Stanhope Community Health Centre

Tuesday, 4 March

- 5.30 – 6.30pm | Kyabram Senior Citizens Centre

Thursday, 6 March

- 9:10 – 10am | Echuca Library

Thursday, 6 March

- 11.40am – 12 noon | Rochester Service Centre

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

Tenders

Request for Quote 25002:

Echuca Customs House DDA Upgrade.

Council is seeking submissions from suitably experienced providers for the above work. RFT submissions must be uploaded to the eProcure tender portal on Council's website no later than 2pm on 10 February 2025. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Request for Tender 25005:

Kyabram and Stanhope Kerb & Channel Package Renewal.

Council is seeking submissions from suitably experienced providers for the above work. Submissions must be uploaded to the eProcure tender portal on Council's website no later than 2pm on 14 February 2025. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Request for Quote 24006:

36-45 Landsborough Street, Echuca, Extension Design.

Council is seeking submissions from suitably experienced providers for the above work. RFT submissions must be uploaded to the eProcure tender portal on Council's website no later than 2pm on 25 February 2025. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Now Open

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



Ripple Fest 2025: Pumphouse Artist in Residency Program - Expressions of Interest; and Young Artists - Expressions of Interest

Contemporary arts festival Ripple Fest is coming to Echuca and Rochester in May. Artists from various disciplines are invited to engage in self-directed projects, share skills with the local creative community and contribute to community arts engagement.

Diversity and Inclusion Reference Group - Expressions of Interest

An expression of interest process is open for individuals to join Council's Diversity and Inclusion Reference Group. This initiative is a key component of Council's Access and Inclusion Strategy 2020-2026. Council encourages individuals from diverse backgrounds and experiences to submit their EOI.

Echuca Moama Discovery Day

Campaspe Libraries will be hosting its annual Echuca Moama Discovery Day on Saturday, 15 March between 10am and 1pm, offering the chance for community organisations, sports clubs, service clubs, volunteer groups and not-for-profit groups to promote their activities. Community groups can obtain application forms from any Campaspe Library or by emailing libraries@campaspe.vic.gov.au. The deadline for applications is 28 February.

SPARK - Arts and Cultural Grants

This Program offers to support creative projects, practice and new ideas. Grants from \$5,000 up to \$10,000 are available. Council invites individual artists, creatives, cultural practitioners, arts groups or community organisations to apply.

Business workshop opportunities

Council's Economic Development is offering some workshops to assist small business owners.

AI in Business: Boosting Productivity & Sparking Creativity

Join Briana Cowan from Mingle Media for a comprehensive workshop designed specifically for business owners and staff looking to increase productivity and spark creativity through AI technologies. Tickets only \$20 per business, including lunch. 10.30-12noon followed by lunch on Wednesday, 26 February, Rochester Racecourse Recreation Reserve.

Social media and content marketing - FREE

Council and Business Victoria, in collaboration with Monarch Institute, are offering this free workshop to give small businesses guidance on how to improve their social media and content marketing skills. 10-1pm on Wednesday, 19 March, Echuca Library.

Visit the Now Open page on our website to register.

Readers' Corner

- interesting things to know and do!

BOOK IT IN

Book clubs have become a popular activity around our towns over the past few years, so we thought we would include some book reviews as a new feature this year. We hope these few words will contribute to lively discussions and help celebrate the joy of reading. To get the ball rolling we will talk about one book club's current choice ...

'The Bee Sting' by Paul Murray

Paul Murray's 'The Bee Sting' is described as 'irresistably funny' and even 'hilarious' by some reviewers and by others 'a family saga of desperation and denial'. Perhaps 'darkly comedic' could be a better description of this hefty read set in post-financial-crisis Ireland. The novel follows the once-wealthy Barnes family as they struggle to adapt to their declining fortunes. Dickie, the father, retreats into doomsday prepping, while his wife, Imelda, clings to a deluded sense of what 'should be'. Their teenage children, Cass and PJ, grapple with their own crises—Cass reacting to an uncertain future, and PJ embarking on a desperate quest for survival.

Murray's character development is rich, with alternating narrative perspectives that create insights into each one's experience. The novel explores themes of regret, family dysfunction, societal expectations, and the weight of the past.

Despite its 656 pages (definitely one for the longer summer break), 'The Bee Sting' remains engaging with its sharp insights and unexpected twists. Speaking of twists, it's the ending that seems to have generated the most comment in the reading community. While it has been described as nebulous, Paul Murray told Raf Epstein (in an ABC interview) "to me it's very clear what happens at the end."

We would love readers to get involved in this new initiative. Whether you are a seasoned book club member or a casual reader, your contributions would be most welcome. Either nominate a book you think should be reviewed, or pen a short review yourself of something you enjoyed (or didn't!)

KIDS' QUIZ

1. Who was the first President of the United States?
2. When was Australia first called Australia?
3. What is the chemical symbol for gold?
4. Who wrote James and the Giant Peach?
5. How many players are on a soccer team during a match?
6. Which band released the album Abbey Road?
7. Which country is famous for inventing pizza?
8. Which planet is known as the Red Planet?
9. Which book series features a character named Frodo Baggins?
10. What is the largest land animal in the world?
11. In Greek mythology, who is the god of the sea?
12. What is the most widely spoken language in the world?

Answers on page 26

Did you know? ... The fear of long words is called Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia.

Sudoku and Crossword puzzle

HOW TO PLAY

Lovatts
www.lovattspuzzles.com

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in:

- Each of the nine vertical columns
- Each of the nine horizontal rows
- Each of the nine 3 x 3 boxes

Rating: ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

				2		7	4	1
5		7	1				6	2
	8			7	1	6		4
4	5			3			2	7
6		3	2	9			5	
2	4				8	5		3
7	1	5		6				

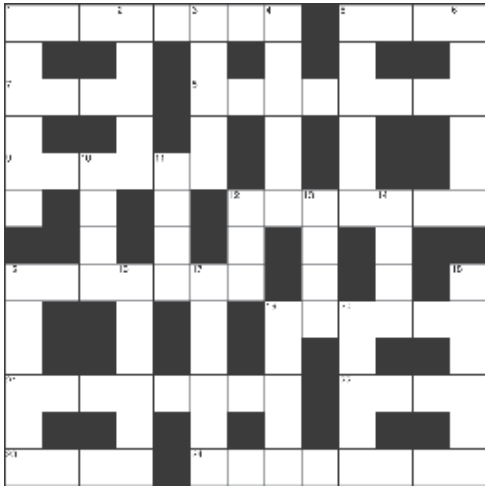
ACROSS

1. In these times
5. Alpha, ..., gamma
7. Feathered bird limb
8. Migraine
9. Shadows (prey)
12. Ball-filled seat
15. Page title
19. Complicated
21. Black & white exposure
22. Small island
23. Actor, ... Pitt
24. Roguery

DOWN

1. Freshest
2. Heavenly spirit
3. Hearth flakes
4. Horse shed
5. Thrashed
6. Becoming old
10. Greenish blue
11. Chinese gooseberry, ... fruit
12. Carry-case
13. Slightly open
14. Power group
15. Fraternise
16. Imperious request
17. Naturism
18. Me, ... & I
19. Redwoods or beeches
20. From Eire

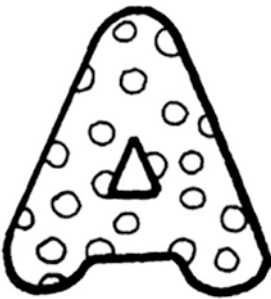
Crossword No: 45



Solutions will appear in the next edition.

Things to try

A is for Avocado



An avocado can be grown here in Australia, although it is native to the Americas.

Try slices of avocado on top of a piece of Vegemite toast. Or diced up into a salad.

They can be expensive to buy but if you're very patient, you could grow your own - from a seed. Wash the pip of an avocado well, push four toothpicks around its middle and hang it over a glass of water with about one third sitting in the water. In a few weeks, a root should appear and then in a couple more weeks, a shoot should grow from the top.

It makes an interesting indoor plant. However, it could take ten years or more after planting it to get a fruit. . . and might not fruit at all! I DID say, 'if you're patient'. Perhaps just buy an avocado from the supermarket ready to eat now.

The Amazing Race - Colbinabbinn style

You could be forgiven for thinking you were watching a TV reality show last Saturday in Colbo!

The Colbo Football Netball Club took to the streets, pool, channel, and other landmarks (such as the pub!) for the Amazing Race, which was designed to really test the fitness of our local sports people.

They covered a total of approximately 7km, with stops at ten stations, with clues at each one. A pretty warm morning saw participants looking for a cold glass of water at the pub, and this was all after a gruelling fitness session with the footballers. All are hoping for a fun-filled and successful year in the land of the Mighty Grasshoppers!



Share your news with the Waranga News - and we will share it around!



Catherine Fraser
Civil Celebrant

Celebrating Marriages and Funerals
293 Hill Road
Stanhope VIC, 3623
catherinemarycelebrations@gmail.com
0427 572 549

COLBINABBIN

GENERAL STORE

CO-OP

PHONE: 5441 5807 SMS FOOD ORDERS: 0472 569 208

AUSTRALIA POST

HOURS: 8.30am - 4pm, Mon - Fri

BANKING: @post bill pay - cheque & cash deposit
withdrawals - Money orders - Western Union

Stocking a wider range of post packaging for all of your business needs - Parcel pick up any time during shop hours - Phone recharge vouchers

SHOP HOURS:
7am - 5pm, Mon - Fri | 8am - 2pm, Sat - Sun

BREAD DELIVERY:
Mon - Wed - Fri

FRUIT & VEG DELIVERY:
Wed - Fri

MEAT DELIVERIES:
Fri order by 3pm Thu

The Cottage Ice Cream Shoppe

24+ Flavours

- Coffee • Sundae • Thickshakes
- Soft Serves • Hot Dogs • Gifts and more
- Locally made products

M, T & Th: 11am-9pm F: 11am-10pm
Sat: 10am-10pm Sun: 10am-9pm
Closed Wednesdays

18 Moora Road Rushworth
Ph. 5856 1905

Rushworth Speedway back for 2025

What a great crowd for the Colin Young Memorial on Saturday night to watch big fields in all classes on a great track.

It was a very hot afternoon which saw the track crew keeping the water up to the track. They did a great job to keep the dust to a minimum.

A big shout out to all the volunteers and participants who put on a great show.

To start the night off the GVAC Mods came out firing and the heat results were as follows:

Heat 1 GVAC Mods Heat 1A 1st BJ Harris, 2nd Rhys Meakins, 3rd Tyler Brown Heat GVAC Mods Heat 1B 1st Brad McNeil 2nd Braiden Simmonds 3rd Mark Bergman GOSA Heat 1A 1st Ross McClean, 2nd Tommy Schmetzer, 3rd Justin Ewart GOSA Heat 1B 1st Nathan Shortis, 2nd Ben Schmetzer, 3rd Mitch Watts GVAC Productions Heat 1 1st Daniel Kettels, 2nd Shane Hutchins, 3rd Lachlan Hamilton SSA 1200 Jnrs Heat 1 1st Arthur Hutchinson, 2nd Holly Hutchinson, 3rd Rebecca Johnstone VSC Std Saloon Jnrs Heat 1 1st Ty Claridge,	2nd John Hooton, 3rd William Hickey GVAC Ladies Heat 1 1st Larissa Ahearn, 2nd Sarah Meakins, 3rd Courtney Meakins SDAV Hotrods Heat 1 1st Shannon Meakins, 2nd Brendan Roberts, 3rd Andrew Kemp Heat 2 GVAC Mods Heat 2A 1st Daniel Wilson, 2nd BJ Harris, 3rd Mark Bergman GVAC Mods Heat 2B 1st Rhys Meakins 2nd Jaidyn Dredge, 3rd Garry Gapes GOSA Heat 2A 1st Nathan Shortis, 2nd D Joosten, 3rd Tom Barnard GOSA Heat 2B 1st Alex Gouveia, 2nd Ross McClean, 3rd Tommy Schmetzer GVAC Productions Heat 2 1st Daniel Kettels,	2nd Shane Hutchins, 3rd Darren Hodge SSA 1200 Juniors Heat 2 1st Libby Ahearn, 2nd Arthur Hutchinson, 3rd Holly Hutchinson VSC Std Juniors Heat 2 1st Ty Claridge, 2nd John Hooton, 3rd William Hickey GVAC Ladies Heat 2 1st Courtney Meakins, 2nd Larissa Ahearn, 3rd Cobie McGraw SDAV Hotrods Heat 2 1st Kali Hovey, 2nd Shannon Meakins, 3rd Andrew Kemp Heat 3 GVAC Mods Heat 3A 1st Rhys Meakins, 2nd Brad McNeil, 3rd Jaidyn Dredge GVAC Mods Heat 3B 1st Mark Bergman, 2nd BJ Harris, 3rd Nathan Kettels GOSA Heat 3A	1st Tom Barnard, 2nd Shane Barkley, 3rd Mitch Watts GOSA Heat 3B 1st Justin Ewart, 2nd Mark Lehman, 3rd Matt Railton GVAC Productions Heat 3 1st Daniel Kettels, 2nd Shane Hutchins, 3rd Lachlan Hamilton SSA 1200 Juniors Heat 3 1st Arthur Hutchinson, 2nd Libby Ahearn, 3rd Holly Hutchinson VSC Std Juniors Heat 3 1st Ty Claridge, 2nd William Hickey, 3rd John Hooton GVAC Ladies Heat 3 1st Larissa Ahearn, 2nd Sarah Meakins, 3rd Chelsea Hodge SDAV Hotrods Heat 3 1st Brendan Roberts, 2nd Shannon Meakins, 3rd Andrew Kemp
--	---	---	---

After a short interval during which the crowds got to enter the pits to see their favourite drivers/teams, the finals were back on the track.

The productions were out first, with an incident in turns three and four reducing the field slightly. Then the VSC juniors followed by the ladies with a very fast race.

The 1200 juniors were next and unfortunately there was an accident in the front straight which saw young Holly Hutchinson attended by the medics. Thankfully she was all good.

For the Colin Young Memorial for GOSA the crowd lit up the track with their phones - what a fantastic display this was and the drivers were revved up after this to put on some awesome racing.

The GVAC Mods also drove a hard and fast race which included the first and second place ladies in the mix.

To top the night off, the SDAV Hotrods were once again fast with the drivers putting on a great display.

Final results

GVAC Productions

1st Daniel Kettels, 2nd Lachlan Hamilton, 3rd Kaiden Britton VSC Std Juniors 1st Ty Claridge, 2nd William Hickey, 3rd John Hooton GVAC Ladies 1st Larissa Ahearn, 2nd Sarah Meakins, 3rd Cobie McGraw SSA 1200 Juniors 1st Arthur Hutchinson, 2nd Rebecca Johnstone, 3rd Libby Ahearn, 4th Jai Alexander, 5th Amelia Lock GVAC Mods 1st Rhys Meakins, 2nd BJ Harris,	3rd Garry Gapes SDAV Hotrods 1st Shannon Meakins, 2nd Brendan Roberts, 3rd Andrew Kemp GOSA 1st Nathan Shortis, 2nd Ross McLean, 3rd Tom Schmetzer Overall points for the Memorial Run , over two tracks (Wahgunya and Rushworth): 1st - Nathan Shortis 241 points 2nd - Ross McLean 200 points 3rd - Ben Schmetzer 198 points 4th -Tom Schmetzer 166 points
---	--

Next meeting - 15 February

Prize money

1st - \$300, 2nd - \$200,
3rd - \$100, 4th on - \$50

- GP Midgets Victorian Title
- Sports sedans
- GV Mods
- GV Productions
- GV Ladies
- VSC Standard Juniors

Come along for a start
- 4pm onwards

Advertising in the Waranga News supports
your business AND your community.

Rushworth Hardware

22 Moora Rd

Gas bottle refilling . Building Supplies
PVC Pipe and fittings . Water Tanks
Electrical Supplies and appliances
Power tools . Key cutting
Stock feed . Bird seed
Chainsaw sharpening, chains, spare
parts and hand sharpening equipment

A huge range of products and services!

Ph. 5856 1368



**Natrad
Radiators**

20 Campbell Street, Shepparton

Phone (03) 5821 8500

Fax (03) 5821 8462

natrad.com.au

Radiator Service

- Car, Truck, 4WDs
- Repairs, Recores & Assemblies
- Industrial & Agricultural
- Air Conditioning
- 3 year Australia wide warranty

Nip into Natrad



**METRO
PETROLEUM**

RUSHWORTH METRO FUEL

Oils, car accessories, food, drinks, snacks,
bbq gas, fishing gear, ice and much more!
American snacks and drinks.

Open 7 days - M - F 6am - 8pm W/Ends 7am - 7pm

22 High Street, Rushworth, 3612.

Ph: 5856 1548

Rushworth Bowls Club Men's and Ladies' Championship

The finals kicked off in the morning before the hot weather took over on Sunday 5 January 2025.

In the Ladies' Final the competitors were Lyn Nicholson and Debbie Thompson and in the Men's Final were Jason Cashmore and Bruce Wootton.

The green was looking beautiful and suited a fast start for some of the competitors with plenty of support provided by bowls club and family members. The Ladies' Championship winner was Lyn Nicholson and the Men's Championship winner was Bruce Wootton. Congratulations to all players.

Right: Lyn and Debbie
Far right: Jason and Bruce.



Ninth Borger Memorial Tournament highly competitive

It was a big night out for the ninth annual Rob Borger Memorial Tournament held on 19 January at the Rushworth Bowls Club!

It was of course a little hot to start off the evening, but once the sun went down and the lights came on, the conditions were near perfect....albeit a bit warm.

It was a fantastic turn out to support the event with bowlers from Colbinabbin, Stanhope, Mooroopna, Hilltop, Violet Town, Echuca, Kyabram, Tatura, Tongala and the home team Rushy.

Thankfully there was a break half way between proceedings with a nice cool salad/meat dinner, a few 'bevies' and raffle prizes.

Congratulations to the winners.

First place went to Brendan Boyd, Noel Mulcahy, Frances Britten and Ken Cornell.

Second place went to Ross Williams, Garrick Campbell, Chris Borger and Claire Campbell.

Third Place went to Rob Ponton, Jorja Ponton, Steve and Mel.

A big thank you to our local Coghlan's IGA for their donation.

Also to the grounds people, kitchen and bar staff and to the members who donated salads and a meat tray. To our sponsor, Christine Borger, a very big thank you.



Winners: Brendan Boyd, Noel Mulcahy, Frances Britten and Ken Cornell presented by sponsor Christine Borger.



Runner-ups: Garrick Campbell, Ross Williams, Chris Borger and Claire Campbell.



Third: Jorja Ponton, Rob Ponton, Steve and Mel.

Barefoot bowls

Barefoot Bowls is back

Thursday nights for six weeks.

Be at the Rushworth Bowls club rooms by 5.45pm to get names in for a 6pm start.

\$5 entry fee

Spare bowls are available at the club.

Sausages in bread for \$2.

Bar open!

Everybody welcome.

See you there!

Colbo Sports Report

Proudly sponsored by

KANANGRA ACCOMMODATION

Colbinabbin barefoot bowls Sponsors day

Sunday 19 January was sponsors day at the Colbinabbin Bowls Club with barefoot bowls bringing in the youngsters. With a warm day presenting itself, the challenge was not just on the green. Nevertheless, the players made the most of the day and bowlers weren't discouraged. The competition was fierce for the prize money!



Winners on the day were Trish Rathjen, Pat Stewart, Stewart Lowe, and Brian Spencer with Rhonda Risstrom from the Rushworth and District Community Bank presenting the prize money.



Runner-up team were Charlie McLean, Jack Cornish and Bob McLean, with Rhonda Risstrom presenting the prize money.

Support our advertisers who support our community newspaper
Call 5856 1120 or email wnews@iinet.net.au

Helping women get into sport

Applications are open for the 2024-25 Change Our Game Community Activation Grants Program.


The program delivers grants of up to \$10,000 to community sport and recreation clubs to help inspire women and girls to take part – including new women's programs, hosting a women's round as well as opportunities for club leadership roles.

Now in its eighth year, the Change Our Game Community Activation Grants Program has provided more than \$2.9 million towards 580 grants to sport and active recreation clubs and organisations across the state.

Fair Access Policy Roadmap is helping achieve more equitable access and increase the number of women and girls actively taking part in sport.

Applications for this program close at 5pm, Wednesday 26 February 2025.

For more information about the program, visit changeourgame.vic.gov.au.




Geoffrey Lipshut

Accepting Instructions in

- Wills & Estates
- Powers of Attorney both Enduring & Medical
- Property and Conveyancing
- Notary Public
- General Legal Advice
- Secure document storage available

~ Over 40 years experience ~

Personal Service • Reasonable Fees



Now at 6 Francis Street Tatura
Mailing Box 211, Tatura, 3616
geoff@lipshutlaw.com.au

Office: 5824 1503
Mobile anytime: 0417 134 929

\$3339 raised on Pink Ladies Day

On December 7th Rushworth Cricket Club played a double header at Rushworth for their Pink Ladies Breast Cancer Awareness Day. Thank you to Tongala and Colbinabbin for being part of this special day for the club which raised \$3339. Cut out Pink Ladies surrounded the oval including one male cut out representing the men the fight breast cancer.

About 40 ladies attend the day, with a Goulburn Valley Hospital Breast Cancer Nurse coming over and talking to the ladies about the signs and systems to look out for when checking. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful afternoon tea/grazing table prepared by Beth. Gift plants provided by the club as a thank you were given to all that attended. Thank you to Michelle for organising the nurse, Regan for organising the day and all the ladies for attending such a great day topped off by B and D grades winning their games.



**YOU CAN'T CONTROL FIRE,
BUT YOU CAN PREPARE FOR IT.**

The best way to keep you and your loved ones safe this fire season, is to make sure you have a fire plan.



Go to fireplanner.vic.gov.au to create your personalised fire plan now.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW FIRE?

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne





Just say when

Your time, your place, your convenience.

First home, second home, refinance or lending for investment properties, Bendigo mobile lenders are experts at home lending. They're also experts at customer service, so you know you'll be taken care of from open house through to settlement.


And because they're mobile, they can meet you at a time and place that's convenient to you – your home, your office, your favourite café, or evenings online – just say when!

Bendigo Bank – the better big bank.

Contact your local lender today, or search Bendigo Bank home loans.



Crystal Pateman
Business Development Manager
0499 969 899
Crystal.Pateman@bendigoadelaide.com.au

 **Community Bank · Rushworth & District**

