

# 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

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A community newspaper  
staffed by volunteers

Thursday 20 February 2025

## ‘Doing the Five’ at Colbo PS

Some readers might remember the ‘Kids Alive – Do the Five’ swimming program from back in the eighties. It was a campaign to educate everyone on five important steps to ensure water safety was essential for kids. We may have forgotten the jingle, but it’s good to know learning water safety and swimming skills is still a top priority.



With children returning to school, the warm weather provides perfect conditions for swimming lessons. Schools and local pools are offering programs to build confidence in the water, ensuring kids stay safe while enjoying their fun in the pool or at the beach. Pictured above are Colbinabbin Primary School children making a splash – Mila Te Hiko in pink, Clem Knight with the goggles, Pat Weppner smiling on the right, Sam Johnson in the back and Freya Ellis behind Mila with the goggles on.

### INSIDE THIS EDITION

- 3 – Clean Up Rushworth day
- 4 – Jayne Dicketts OAM
- 5 – New look for Stanhope market
- 7 – Dhurringile open to public

..... and much more!

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



# GVHealth Waranga Health News

February 2025



## OUT ON THE TOWN



Seven Waranga Health Aged Care residents recently enjoyed a lunch outing at the newly refurbished Kyabram Club. The day was filled with great food and laughter in a nice change of scenery for the residents.

## STAFF TRAINING



Waranga Health nursing and care staff recently attended their annual Basic Life Support training with Clinical Area Educator Sadie Vale. This essential training ensures all staff are equipped with the necessary skills to respond effectively in an emergency.

## WELCOME BACK



We are very excited to welcome Pip Gundy and Helen Lavery back into the District Nursing team after being away for 14 months.

## OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

**Signs and symptoms:**  
Unexplained fatigue, unexplained weight gain or loss, urinary changes (frequency or urgency), changes in bowel habits (constipation), increased abdominal size or persistent bloating, abdominal or pelvic (lower tummy) pain, appetite loss, feeling full quickly or indigestion.  
It is important to remember all the symptoms mentioned can be caused by other, less serious medical conditions. However, if you are experiencing any of these symptoms, which are persistent and troublesome, you should see your doctor.



## NOTICEBOARD

### Community Walking Group

When: Thursdays  
Where: Meet at Waranga Health, 14 High Street, Rushworth  
Time: 8am - 9am  
All abilities welcome

### Rushworth AA Group

When: Thursdays  
Where: Waranga Health  
Time: 7pm  
Cost: Free  
Contact Jenny on 0430 103 145 for more information

### Carer Support Group

When: Thursday, 6 March 2025  
Where: Rushworth Community House  
Time: 2pm - 4pm  
New members welcome  
Phone 5851 8026 for more information

### Women's Health Clinic

When: Wednesday, 21 May 2025  
Where: Waranga Health  
Time: 2pm - 5pm  
Cost: Free  
By appointment only  
Phone 5851 8000 to make an appointment.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Skin Cancer Information Session

When: Friday, 28 March 2025  
Where: Murchison Men's Shed  
Time: 9.30am  
Cost: Free event  
Guest Speaker: Dr Matthew Wong, GV Skin & Specialist Centre  
Morning tea provided  
RSVP to Michele on 5851 8026

### Aged Care Services Expo

When: Thursday, 11 April 2025  
Where: Rushworth Shire Hall  
Time: 10.30am - 2.30pm  
Cost: Free event  
This event is being held to raise awareness of the aged care services available in our community.  
All community members welcome.

## WARANGA HEALTH - COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE PHONE (03) 5851 8000 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON:

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Country Hearing Care  
District Nursing

Exercise Physiologist  
Podiatry  
QUIT Educator

Women's Health / Sexual Health  
Nurse

Waranga Campus Rushworth | P: (03) 5851 8000

E: [waranga.admin@gvhealth.org.au](mailto:waranga.admin@gvhealth.org.au) | [www.gvhealth.org.au](http://www.gvhealth.org.au)



You can keep up to date with what's happening at Waranga Health on Facebook. Like our page at [facebook.com/warangahealth](https://www.facebook.com/warangahealth)





# Clean up Rushworth on Clean Up Australia Day

Are you sick of seeing piles of rubbish in the bush and on the roadside every time you're out and about? On Sunday the 2 March, the Rushworth Wildflower Hunt committee will once again be cleaning up some rubbish on the roadsides and in the bush around Rushworth.

The activity, instigated by 'Clean Up Australia Day', will be facilitated by the group in response to the perpetual 'litter bug' problem in the area.

The clean-up will take place on Rushworth roadsides and the surrounding bush, removing rubbish from areas where it has been dumped. Hopefully the activity will encourage responsible behavior in the future and more respect for our town and its beautiful natural environment.

If you would like to give a helping hand the group will meet in front of the Moto Finish Cafe at 10 am on Sunday 2 March. The clean-up should only take two hours at the most.

Participants will be provided with all safety equipment necessary such as gloves and a high visibility vest for the task but should bring their own water bottle and wear sturdy shoes and appropriate clothing for the weather.

Afterwards lunch will be provided at the Moto Finish Café.

Contact Nick Buzza on 0423 658 245 for further details.



## The problems of illegal rubbish dumping

One of the most common causes for outrage in our pages and on local social media sites are the images of rubbish dumped in the bush surrounding our towns.

As well as being unsightly, illegal rubbish dumping is a growing environmental problem with serious consequences. The practice not only damages natural ecosystems but also poses risks to both wildlife and human health.

While rubbish dumping in public spaces is totally unacceptable, and many of the keyboard warriors call for naming and shaming the offenders, there is an occasional response that questions the rules and charges around the disposal of rubbish and the services available to the public.

Recently the Shire Hall Management Committee was required to clear out the 'stables' at the rear of the building to prepare for renovation work to be carried out by the Shire. Many years of accumulated contents had to be sorted and, a trailer load of random items was designated as best destined for the tip. Needless to say, an obliging volunteer was surprised (and not pleased) to be faced with a \$90 charge, Shire tip vouchers not being accepted as the load was deemed 'not recyclable'.

As many recyclable items are actually free to drop off at our Resource Recovery Centres, we thought it might be timely to make clear just what the voucher system covers, and how the charges are assessed.

### Campaspe tip vouchers

Vouchers can only be used for recyclable and recoverable materials that are not listed as free for disposal. **Without a voucher** these recyclable items can be disposed of for a fee. These include:

- garden organics (\$22 per m3)
- refrigerators and air conditioners (\$17 degassing charge)
- mattresses (\$20 - \$25)
- clean fill soil (\$23 m3 at Echuca)
- concrete, bricks and tiles (at Echuca and Mt Scobie)
- gas bottles (up to 9 kg empty, LPG only - \$7)

### Non recyclable

All other items deemed not recyclable/recoverable are **NOT** covered by vouchers and will attract a General Waste fee of \$50 per m3.

## Dumped rubbish problems

### Pollution

Dumped waste, including plastics, chemicals, and electronic waste, releases harmful toxins into the soil and waterways. These pollutants can contaminate drinking water sources and harm plant life, disrupting the delicate balance of the ecosystem. Over time, the accumulation of waste leads to long-term environmental degradation, which affects both plants and animals.

### Wildlife impact

Animals often mistake rubbish for food or become trapped in discarded materials such as plastic bags and fishing lines. Ingesting toxic substances can lead to serious health issues or even death. Sharp objects and broken glass can also cause injuries to animals, reducing their chances of survival.

### Human health and safety

Decomposing waste attracts pests such as rats and mosquitoes, which can spread diseases. Additionally, hazardous materials like asbestos or chemicals can pose significant health threats if they contaminate the air or water supply. The presence of dumped rubbish can also increase the risk of bushfires, especially when flammable materials are involved.

### Visual pollution

Rubbish in forests, parks, and bushland not only affects the recreational experience for visitors but can also impact tourism and local economies that depend on clean, green spaces.

**Volunteers always most welcome**  
**at the**  
**Waranga News**  
**Contact 5856 1120**  
**or [wnews@iinet.net.au](mailto:wnews@iinet.net.au)**

# Stanhope Community Market

2ND MARCH

**Fruit & Veg**  
**Arts & Crafts**  
**Books**  
**Jams & Preserves**  
**Garage Sale Items**  
**Jewellery, Plants & more**

**Item till 1pm**  
**BBQ**  
**Music**

**Birdwood Ave**  
**Stanhope**  
**1st Sunday of each month**

**ALL WELCOME**

For More Information  
Ph: 93 58572844 or  
Stanhope Community Market Facebook page

STANHOPE COMMUNITY MARKET  
A SOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

# Jayne Dicketts honoured for service to community health and nursing

Jayne Dicketts, who grew up in Stanhope, was honored with the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) as part of the recent Australia Day honours. The award recognized her outstanding contribution and dedication to her field.

Jayne’s extensive service to community health and to nursing, which includes ongoing volunteering roles with St John Ambulance and Australian Red Cross, led to her being one of the dedicated Australians who were recognised in the Australia Day 2025 Honours List.

On top of her clinical work, Jayne, an Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF Vic Branch) member, is also a Job Representative within her workplace.

Taking on that role early last year she has used the opportunity to provide information, support and advice to her colleagues, giving them confidence and allowing them to “feel seen and heard”.

After working within the Hospital in the Home (HITH) service for two decades, Jayne

is currently completing a Master’s degree in wound care and plans to soon shift into tackling Australia’s hidden chronic wound epidemic through early intervention. Her aim is to improve education out there and access to services, especially for people living in rural and remote regions.

Jayne considers the OAM great recognition for the broader nursing and midwifery professions and the difference one can make to people’s lives.

Proud mother Christine Dicketts is no stranger to community service herself, being an active contributor to Stanhope life and wellbeing for many years - undoubtedly something has rubbed off on her talented daughter!



Jayne Louise Dicketts OAM.

The citation covered her extensive contribution to nursing and the community health including:

- St John Ambulance, Moreland Division
- Volunteer Divisional Manager, since 2010.
- Volunteer First Responder, since 2005.
- Australian Red Cross
- Lifeblood, 100 donation milestone, 2023.
- Emergency Services Volunteer, since 2021.
- Nursing
- Registered Nurse, Hospital in the Home, Austin Health, since 2004.
- Member and Job Representative, Victorian Branch, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation, current.
- Health - Other
- Member & Credentialed Wound Professional, Wounds Australia, current.
- Awards and Recognition include:
- Prince Henry’s Affiliates Scholarship, Australian Nurses Memorial Centre, 2024.
- National Emergency Medal and clasps, 2009 Black Saturday Bushfires, and Bushfires 2019-20.
- St John Ambulance Service Medal, and 15 years service clasp, 2020.
- The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem, admitted Member, 2015.
- St John Ambulance Bronze Commendation, Fire deployment, 2019-2020
- Queensland Flood and Cyclone Citation 2010-2011.

## Seeking Vagarini in Tatura

In mid-January Tatura Museum was host to Conventry Films from Sydney. The company is in the process of making a documentary on Cesare Vagarini.

Cesare Vagarini, is a famous Italian artist who, during WW2, was interned in 1941 in Palestine and sent to Australia on the Queen Elizabeth, along with his wife Marie.

They landed in Sydney and were brought down to Camp 3 at Rushworth where they stayed until released in 1945.

With the help of the Franciscans they went to Waverley NSW and began a monumental work in the church. Only three of the seven paintings he was doing were finished before WW2 ended and he and Marie were repatriated back to Italy.

After returning to Italy he went back to the Holy Land where he finished his commission for the Franciscans.

Whilst interned at Camp 3, Cesare painted many depictions of camp life, especially the living quarters that was their home for many years.

The documentary also covers the townships of Tatura and Murchison, Camps 1 and 3 and the Ossario at Murchison. John Gribben, on behalf of the Museum and Shepparton Council, gave a comprehensive dialogue on the history of the Camps, the Ossario, Tatura and Murchison. Also present at the Ossario was the Italian Consular General of Sydney, Gianluca Rubagotti, who laid a wreath in honour of those Italians that are buried at the Ossario.

Filming was done in Italy and in Australia at the Ossario, Camp 1, Camp 3, the townships of Tatura and Murchison and at Tatura Museum and includes some local people and several internees who were children in the camps.



One of Cesare Vagarini’s hut paintings.



John Gribben, being interviewed at Tatura Museum.

The paintings of Cesare Vagarini are on display at the Museum and will be for a while. There are also several prints of the work he has done at the Mary Immaculate Church in Waverley NSW.

*Sue Schmitke*  
**Tatura Irrigation and Wartime Camps Museum**

## Songs at the Silos

The Rotary Club of Rochester will host a musical evening at the Rochester Silos on Saturday 8 March 2025.

Artists from Opera Australia will perform as well as local talent, Evie Scoble. It is a free event, running between 6 pm and 8.30 pm. BYO chairs and picnic rugs. Alcohol-free, smoke-free and pet free. Coffee and drinks on sale. Food available by Rochester and Bendigo Rotary Clubs from about 5.50 pm.

The artists will be performing many songs from ‘the Shows’.



# New look for Stanhope Community Market

## Exciting changes and new format announced

The Stanhope Community Garage Sale is evolving, bringing fresh changes to its monthly market. From now on, the event will be held on the first Sunday of each month and will be known as the Stanhope Community Market.

The inaugural market under this new format will take place on Sunday, 2 March.

Visitors can look forward to a great variety of stalls and more vendors will be welcome to offer items such as fresh fruit and vegetables, plants, arts and crafts, books, jams and preserves, jewellery and garage sale items.

## Exciting Activities

The market promises more than just shopping. Attendees can enjoy live music, a community barbecue, and delicious offerings from the Stanhope Café, including coffee, wonderful food, and a roast meal.

This revitalized market is the initiative of the Stanhope & District Development Committee, supported by the local community.

To book a stall or for more information, call 5857 2866 or visit the Stanhope Community Market Facebook page.



A new date and format on the agenda for Stanhope's Community Market.

# Draft Campaspe library strategy open for public comment

Campaspe Shire Council has released the draft 2025-2030 Campaspe Library Service Strategic Plan which is now open for public comment.

The strategy, developed following community consultation in 2024, outlines Council's vision for the future of library services in the region. It aims to enhance community engagement, improve access to resources, and support lifelong learning.

Strategic goals and priority actions for the service are summed up in four words – read, belong, access, and grow – aiming to increase community literacy, foster connections, improve access to resources, and expand the impact of libraries by engaging with new audiences of all ages and abilities.

Campaspe Shire Mayor, Cr Daniel Mackrell encourages everyone to review the draft strategy and provide their input.

"This is the first time we have renewed the strategy for the library for several years, so the renewed draft strategy marks a significant step in our commitment to fostering a vibrant, informed, and connected Campaspe community.

"Our libraries have evolved to meet residents' changing needs, embracing new technologies and expanding services. This plan builds on our legacy of innovation and inclusivity, outlining the Council's vision for the next five years." Cr Mackrell said.



The revamped Rushworth library has become a popular venue, with librarian Renee on hand to offer service with a smile.

You can read the draft strategy online or in person at any of the library depots and branches. Visit [www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/](http://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/) now open to read and provide your feedback. Submissions close 11.59pm, Sunday, 23 March.



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Have your say !

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

### Speed limits on Rushworth roads

Last week I called the Campaspe Shire Council to discuss the speed limits on the roads in Rushworth. My call was prompted by my concern that our speed limits seem to be higher than those in other towns in Campaspe Shire and nearby towns, and in my view, some limits should be reduced.

Apparently Campaspe Shire will review Rushworth speed limits later this year. At the moment the Council is finishing a review of Kyabram roads so this is a timely opportunity for the Rushworth community to discuss what changes should be made here. Recommendations will be considered by Council and then presented to Vic Roads who we hope will listen to the concerns raised by the community.

The main throughfare through Rushworth from east to west (Moora Rd/Station St) is set as a 60kph zone which is faster than other main roads in Campaspe Shire towns. This road has four main intersections with T intersections from Stanhope Rd, Tatura Rd, Old Tatura Rd and the intersection with High Street. The curve of the section of the road between Old Tatura Rd and Tatura Rd is of particular concern because of reduced visibility at the T junctions. The key intersection with High Street where vehicles must turn slowly, often with heavy trucks following close behind, would be safer with a lower speed limit. Added to this is the flagged crossing for school children and the businesses along Moora Rd including Rushworth Hardware and the Rushworth Hotel which make a good case for change.

The busy highway roads in Elmore and Rochester slow to 50 kph while the roads through Murchison, which carry much of the same truck traffic that goes through Rushworth, must slow to 40 kph. It's time for a community discussion on the speed limits on all the roads in Rushworth.

Greg Buzza  
Rushworth

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What do you think?

Contributed by Graeme Hanigan

Here is the second “what do you think?” which I hope you find as enjoyably confronting as the first, and a rewarding challenge in that it helps you towards better thinking.

#### Are we rational?

We like to think we are rational, and that our beliefs are the result of following evidence to a logical conclusion but we would be wrong! Evaluating evidence takes time and energy, and our brains are lazy.

It's easier to believe what we hear, than to question it. In reality, most of our beliefs are simply a product of socialization, trust, geography, and emotion. And once a belief is formed, we don't tend to change our minds.

#### We want explanations

We look for patterns: Our brains have evolved to look for patterns and are constantly trying to find order in a chaotic world, to connect dots in a way that hopefully makes sense but can also connect dots that make no sense, such as these faces in random objects. This is called Pareidolia.

#### How did our brains evolve to do this?

This is one way it may have happened; had our ancestors perceived a predator in the blue garbage bin and ran away, they survived regardless of whether it was a predator or not and so passed on their genes. If our ancestor failed to perceive a real predator in the blue garbage bin, didn't run away and was consequently eaten, they didn't survive to pass on their genes.

So the genetics, giving the ability to imagine things that may or may not be real, has become dominant.

Things don't happen for a reason, we find reason in things that happen.

Our brains seek more than order, they seek meaning and purpose. Our belief in intentional forces likely evolved along with our pattern recognition...like the predator in the bush you assume is going to eat you.

For example, the child who asks “why?” often assumes there's a reason or purpose. Why are there lakes? So we can swim in them!

Why do birds exist? To sing us pretty songs!



We see this in adults, as well. For example, a cyclone or a volcano erupting was punishment and required a sacrifice to appease the gods. Wearing lucky underpants or performing a ritual is common with sports people, in the belief that it will help them win the game.

Belief in the supernatural is likely due to agentivity, the superstitious tendency to believe invisible supernatural agents control the world. Because the natural world is complex and out of our control, we perceive it is the work of ghosts, demons, gods and witches.

#### Believing is our default setting

We are inundated with information, all day and every day. It would simply be too exhausting to question every single thing, so as a rule, we don't, and instead rely on a variety of short-cuts to determine what's true.

The more a belief is aligned with our current world view the more likely we are to accept it as true: After all, why question something you already “know” is true, but is it? How strong is your epistemology?

This tendency to search for and select information that supports what we already believe, called cherry picking or confirmation bias, is what makes us prone to falling for “fake news”.

#### The Take Home Message

Our brains are belief engines.

It would take too much time and energy to demand evidence for all of our beliefs, so we instead rely on short-cuts to help us choose what we believe is true.

Once we've formed beliefs, we search for evidence to justify it, often overlooking evidence that contradicts what we believe is true. Because we feel we've arrived at our belief by logically evaluating evidence, we're less open to changing our minds.

If we want to align our beliefs with the truth, we should first question how we came to the belief in the first place. Remember Socrates “the unexamined life is not worth living”, it is good advice!

I hope you've enjoyed this article on thinking, more of which you can find at <https://thinkingispower.com/> or wait for the next edition of Waranga News. Melanie can be contacted at [trecekking@gmail.com](mailto:trecekking@gmail.com)

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# Dhurringile Estate opened

**Open Day at Dhurringile Estate on Saturday 8 February was a great success!**

Corrections Victoria arranged for hundreds of members of the public to tour the mansion and grounds. The staff did a wonderful job in preparing the property and conducting the tours. Feedback from those returning from the tours expressed appreciation both for the period features in the mansion such as the stained-glass windows, and for the infrastructure on the site related to the function of the Prison. Murchison and Tatura Historical Societies set up displays in the reception room telling the history of the various uses the Estate has had and these created a great deal of interest. The star of the day though was Lance, the ‘sniffer’ dog and his handler, who demonstrated how Lance would inspect the mail and visitors, looking for contraband!

Helen Newton, Jack and Knowla Lowry’s daughter, who grew up on the farm surrounding Dhurringile Mansion, told us intriguing stories when prisoners of war were housed there and also about the boys from the Rural Training Farm who loved to come rabbiting on the Lowry farm. Jack lived beside the mansion for 37 years and experienced the four very different lives of Dhurringile Estate; a family-owned pastoral property, a Prisoner of War Camp, then a Rural Training Farm and lastly H M Dhurringile Prison that ceased operation in August last year.

Helen Holmes, daughter of Colin Tutchell, Superintendent and Farm Manager when it was a Rural Training Farm, explained the content of an ABC documentary film made in the 1960’s. Young boys who were in Welfare Homes in Scotland were brought out by the Presbyterian Church from 1948 to 1964 and

**(Below) Dhurringile 1940.**  
(Image AWM - copyright expired)



provided training in agriculture, with the intention of them securing a better future. Helen is featured in the film as a little girl, helping alongside the young boys, feeding the cattle. The interior of the mansion is also shown in this film.

We were well fed by a Merrigum Lions BBQ and coffee was excellent from Tatura Coffee Cart. A really great day – many thanks to the prison staff, retired prison officers and volunteers for making the day run smoothly and allowing hundreds of people to see this outstanding heritage listed place.

Let’s hope a new use will be found for Dhurringile Estate that will allow access to the public in the future.

*Contributed by Kay Ball  
Murchison & District Historical Society*



**Dhurringile mansion.** (Photo by Helen Newton)



**Stained glass window on the stairway.** (Photo by Warwick Finlay 2012)



**Some of the restored features.**  
(Photo by Helen Newton)



**Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns**



**Around Rushworth**

**Mega Consultation!**

As we reported in our last edition, Campaspe Shire Council is sending out 8000 invitations to randomly selected residents inviting them to contribute feedback to guide the process of formulating a Community Vision for the next fifteen years and also the Council Plan 2025 - 2029.

As part of the community consultation a Citizens Panel of forty people representative of the community will be formed - this panel is to be chosen through a lottery conducted by external consultants. This panel will convene on 21-23 March in Echuca and make recommendations about what should happen in their community.

Although the selected 8000 are being advised to consider it their 'golden ticket' to have their say, Mayor Cr Mackrell says "we still want hear from you" if you didn't receive an invitation.

Residents can complete an anonymous online survey which is open until 10 March.  
[www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/futurecampaspe](http://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/futurecampaspe)

As one of the most common complaints over the years is the lack of consultation for decisions made about our town by the Echuca-based Council, this time they can certainly say "don't say you weren't asked!"

**Victorian Wool Delegation on India trip**

Six members of the Colbinabbin community have recently returned from an incredible Victorian Wool Delegation trip to India led by wool merchants Fox and Lillie. The nine day adventure included visits to Mumbai, Chandigarh and Delhi with many highlights and new friendships formed with the other thirty-two travellers.



No trip to India could pass without a visit to the iconic Taj Mahal. (L-R) Jess McArdle, Claire Lowe, Annette and Tait Hamilton, Anne and Ray McEvoy.

**Dianne and Ian Micheel make Gold**

For many readers our long-running '50 Years Ago' page is no longer about events in long ago 'history', but a record of their own life events. Over our recent editions we have read of Dianne Perry and Ian Micheel's engagement, and then there was a report of Dianne's kitchen tea. So of course, being '50 years Ago', it's now time for Golden Wedding celebrations!



Dianne and Ian Micheel, pictured in front of Dianne's parents, Don and Florence Perry. Also shown are her siblings (l-r) Graeme (Ginger), Ethel, Les, twin brother David (Pluto), Helen and Brian.

**Police Beat**

**Greetings and welcome to your local police report for the Rushworth Police Service Area, for the period of 16/01/25 to 12/02/25.**

The following is a list of reported incidents. Any information in relation to these incidents 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.

- An attempted burglary occurred at a church in Muskerry between 26/01/25 and 08/02/25. Offenders have used an axe or similar on the large wooden doors around the church. No entry was gained but all doors were significantly damaged.
- A burglary occurred at a High Street Rushworth business between 3.00 pm on 09/02/25 and 7.00 am on 10/02/25. A lock was cut to the main door of a shed to gain

entry. Offenders stole Milwaukee tools valued at approximately \$1200.

- Local members responded to a motor vehicle collision on the Northern Highway in Creek View on 12/02/25. The offending driver failed to give way at the intersection with Touhey Road. The 69-year-old male driver from Muskerry East was found to also be drink driving. His driver's licence was immediately suspended, and he will face the Echuca Magistrates Court at a later date.
- Local members attended three family violence incidents and one reportable fire during this period.

That is our list of reported incidents. It is clearly an improvement from previous months, which is positive. Can I just remind

everyone to remain vigilant at home, and not to leave valuables lying around. It would also be great if we all locked our doors at home when out and about. I recently attended local properties and found front doors wide open but no one home.

We are now back to full strength at the station after a recent deployment to the fires in the Grampians. You can expect to see us roaming the streets a bit more often than usual.

Well that about wraps up another police report. Please stay safe when out on the roads. Until we chat again.

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



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

## Murch Neighbours Day - Splash and Paint Pool Party

“Neighbours Day” will be held at Murchison Swimming Pool in Stevenson Street Murchison on Sunday 2nd March.

Hosted by Murchison Neighbourhood House, the event is open to residents and visitors to town - everyone is invited along to a Splash and Paint Pool Party.

The whole family can enjoy a free sausage sizzle and refreshments as well as splashing on the inflatables or getting creative with Outdoor Art.

So come along and enjoy the fun on 2nd March from 10:30am - 12:30pm.



*Got some news?  
Spread it around.  
wnews@iinet.net.au*

## Murchison Junior Fire Brigade

Murchison Fire Brigade Juniors (age range 11-15 years) meets on the first Sunday of the month between 1-2 pm.

Members have a great time learning about pump operations, hose relays, communications by radio, map reading, camping and canoeing, to mention a few of many.

The Junior Leaders place a great emphasis on team building and increasing the social confidence of the members by mixing a lot of fun and adventure into the program. Murchison is one of the very few brigades in the Shepparton catchment to have a Junior section and is highly regarded by the CFA District Head Office. If you have a child interested in this program, or would like to find out more about it and what it has to offer please contact our Junior Leaders Bec 0408262339 or Sharon 0438262172 for further information.



## Brigade Encouragement Award for Bill Beard

Firefighter Bill Beard has been presented with Murchison Brigade's 'Encouragement Award' for his contribution of service over the previous twelve months.

This month another household member was welcomed to the Brigade as Bill's Daughter Makenzie (Kenz) has signed up as a volunteer firefighter with CFA Murchison



**Proud father Bill and daughter Kenz.**  
and has already commenced her training. Kenz, also a member of SES, recognizes that volunteerism is the backbone of rural communities and is willing to commit. Welcome Kenz, we know you will enjoy the ride!

## Worried about the bills coming in - or working on your carbon footprint?

How energy-efficient is your home? Goulburn Valley Libraries can help Murchison and Tatura residents reduce energy usage and make your home more energy efficient.

The library service has Energy Efficiency Kits for loan that will help identify which appliances are using the most electricity, where you are losing heat (or cool at this time of the year) and other energy related activities in the home, allowing you to save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Each kit contains equipment such as a ProTech Professional Non-contact Thermometer and a Power-Mate Lite energy measuring device.

You can borrow one of these kits from the Tatura Library or search Home energy roaming efficiency kit on the GV Libraries catalogue – place a hold

and the Mobile Library will deliver it to you at Murchison. The kits must be returned to the location from where they were borrowed.

The kits are the size of a large briefcase. While they are very portable, they can only be returned during library opening hours as they do not fit through the external return chutes. Energy kits are available with the support and assistance of Greater Shepparton City Council.

All equipment is easy to use, but if you are having trouble working it out, or would like to borrow a kit you can chat to a staff member at the library or call on 1300 374 765.

If you would like more



**Kerrie and Julie with the energy kit.**

information about any items, events or services provided by Goulburn Valley Libraries, check out the website [www.gvlibraries.com.au](http://www.gvlibraries.com.au).

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NEWS FROM THE  
Op-Shop AND FOODBANK  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY RUSHWORTH COMMUNITY SUPPORT INC.

Well folks, this is going to be extremely annoying for me as I had made meticulous notes in a special notebook – and now I can’t find it. I am not the tidiest person but I have checked all the places I am likely to put it (desk, coffee table, etc) and the unlikely places (freezer, fridge, etc) and the rotten goblins have taken it away. So – hopefully I will remember most of our news.

Food Bank safety

The majority of safety measures implemented in the Food Bank last year have now been completed so our volunteers are very happy that they and their customers feel more secure.

Jenny said that a lot of people have been bringing in fresh, excess produce from their gardens which is very welcome; nothing like fresh fruit and veggies to keep us healthy. Frances has become the ‘heat tester’ for any capsicums and chillies that arrive. While I was there she tested one batch of chillies that, judging by the colour of her face, were VERY hot! I can assure you a note was put in front of them to warn people.

Jenny also wanted to thank other community members who are bringing in non-perishable items to put on the shelves. We are a very caring community.

Christine and Morris were pottering at the wonderful Food Bank garden, tidying

up weeds, picking fresh herbs and tying up tomatoes. This little garden is a wonderful asset, not only is it pretty but useful.

Op Shop improvements

Have you noticed all the improvements around The Little Green Shed? Hugh has been working really hard to paint fences, put in garden beds with succulents and even has a shaded area under the tree with table and chairs where you can sit and chat. The Shed looks much more inviting now and inside has some wonderful bits of furniture, pictures, electrical goods, camping equipment and much more. Well worth a visit.

In the Op Shop, because we will soon be coming to the end of summer (really!) all summer dresses will come down to \$5 (unless specially marked), and jeans, shorts and swimwear to \$3. Children’s clothes are \$1 an item. Children’s and adult books are five for \$1. We have a lot of games and puzzles – all reduced down to \$2 each unless brand new.

Which reminds me, although it has nothing to do with the Op Shop, some of us would like aquarobic exercise classes to be held at the Rushworth swimming pool next season. If you are interested please put your name down on the list at the swimming pool. The pool will only be open another few weeks so we need to implement this now.

Now, where was I? Oh yes . . . volunteers!

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

WANTED – VOLUNTEERS  
The Op Shop desperately needs :  
More volunteers to help with various tasks.  
Hours and days are negotiable  
We are a great bunch of people caring  
For our community

(You don’t have to be mad to work here but it helps!)

If you have a few hours to spare once a week or fortnight, please ask at the Op Shop and you would be made more than welcome.

The Op Shop now has gift certificates you can purchase for friends you know love op-shopping. You don’t have to spend it all at once and can be used at the Op Shop and The Little Green Shed.

I nearly forgot to remind you that out the front of the Op Shop there are two racks of clothing which are \$1 per item, real bargains. We also have other special bargains out the front. How is that, an Op Shop that not only has bargains inside but double bargains outside!

Hopefully, I have remembered everything that is important. I shall now go and chase up those naughty goblins and give them a severe talking to – give me back my book!

Until next time may you have a full belly and a happy smile.

Heather Wellington

They could have danced all night

As I went past the shop one night  
I heard some noise and saw a light.  
I crept around to the dark back door  
And heard the noises even more.

Some taps, a thump and then a clatter  
My goodness me, what was the matter.  
Through the door I quietly sneaked  
And into the shop I took a peek.

Our shoes lined up to face each other  
From children’s shoes to shoes for mother.  
“One, two, three,” I heard a call  
And the shoes they danced at the.  
Great Shoe Ball.




A five-mouse band played flutes and fiddles  
Accompanied by  
laughs and giggles.  
“Bow to your partner,  
two steps in,  
All tap heels and form  
a ring”.

The shoes they danced and danced so fast  
The older shoes they couldn’t last  
But fell out of the circle against the wall  
And with chattering tongues discussed  
it all.

“Oh, look at her – heels much too high”  
“I once danced like her,” an old boot  
sighed.  
A dainty sandal flittered past  
And diamante sparkles cast.

It was time to go, I crept away.  
I expected they’d dance ‘til break of day,  
Then dance back to their place of rest.  
A Great Shoe Ball – well, who’d have  
guessed!

Heather







Colbo Tit Bits

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A baby Barlow

Congratulations to Hugh and Pru Barlow on the latest addition to their family tree: Greta.

Funeral

The funeral of Neil Lund will be held at the Colbinabbin Uniting Church on Monday 24 February at 11am.

Refreshments will be provided afterwards. Anyone willing to help with the clean up and pack up would be appreciated . . maybe about 2.30pm. Ring Robyn 0407 054 795, if you can lend a hand.

It’s all actions ‘go’

You’ve probably noticed there are things on the move around the Colbo hall and playground. New public toilets are underway at the lane end of the playground and the hall will be getting some major renovations that will involve shifting the library books and emptying the cupboards in the supper room. All the parquetry flooring will be relaid.

The anniversaries celebrated again



(L-R) Clem Furphy, Marg Hoelter, John Avar, Cate Furphy, John Kennedy, Glen Avar, Donald and Rhonda Risstrom, Clive Hoelter and Pat Kennedy. The group continues to celebrate wedding anniversaries and birthdays thirty-two years on. This year was a special anniversary for Clive and Margaret Hoelter - their Diamond (60 years).

Swimming and safety at Colbo PS



Above: Lorelai Wilkinson, Lilly Reeves and Pippa Knight watch while Fraser Weppner demonstrates he knows how to do a safety jump into the pool.

Left: Max and Finn Barlow prove two ‘motors’ make your kickboard go faster!

Muster Dogs

I think most people around Colbo tune in for ‘Muster Dogs’ on ABC TV Sunday nights. . . now made even more interesting by the fact that farmer/trainer Jack Kennedy is the son of CCH’s top pastrycook, Clare.

Stall holders for Market Day

Colbinabbin Primary School is holding its annual Market Day on 30 March and is looking for expressions of interest for stall holders. If interested please contact the Colbinabbin PS on 5432 9330 for further details.

U17 netballers wanted

The Colbinabbin Football and Netball Club is seeking more U17s netballers to join their team for seasons 2025. Contact Carlie Ryan for more info on 0417 351 918.

Strength and balance

Colbinabbin’s Strength and Balance classes will be held at the sports pavilion at the Recreation Reserve from March to June (during renovations at the Colbinabbin Hall).

Colbo Diary

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

FEBRUARY

Mon 24 Neil Lund’s funeral 11am

MARCH

Sun 30 Colbo PS Market Day


Cemetery Trust

Mowing Roster (lawn section only)

February - Andrew Branson  
March - Geoff Weppner

LIBRARY

Wed 12 Feb Pauline Wilson  
Wed 19 Feb Janice Tait



FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER

Feb 23 Paul Tait, Oliver Rathjen  
March 2 Leo McEvoy, Tim Hill

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**

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**[admin@rushcomhouse.org.au](mailto:admin@rushcomhouse.org.au)**

Website:

**[www.rushcomhouse.org.au](http://www.rushcomhouse.org.au)**

Facebook:

**Rushworth Community-House**

Office Hours:

**Mon, Tues Thurs : 9.00am to 3.00pm**

**Wed, Fri : 9.00am to 1.00pm**



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Government services.**

## Help us keep Rushworth's Container Deposit Scheme alive and healthy

**Rushworth's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) is growing in popularity, with a huge number of containers being exchanged for cold, hard cash every week.**

The CDS - which has really taken Rushworth by storm - is conducted by volunteers who manage this valuable recycling initiative on behalf of the Community House.

Each week, dozens of people call into the Horne Street Community Hub and surrender their bottles and cans to our volunteers in exchange for cash or a bank deposit.

The process is simple, and allows aluminium cans, glass stubbies and "long-necks", and single-serve PET plastic drink containers to be recycled and processed for future reuse.

## Help needed

The Container Deposit Scheme is wholly dependent on its volunteers to keep going. Indeed, without its volunteers, the program would simply cease to operate.

At the moment the number of CDS volunteers is at a rock bottom level, and new volunteers are urgently needed to keep the scheme going.

So if you have some spare time on one or more mornings each week, please consider becoming a CDS volunteer. If you're shy or a little uncertain, why not join up with a friend or two and make each day at the Community Hub a social occasion. This is a great opportunity to make a real contribution to Rushworth, so please be in it - just call 5856 1295 for details.

# A huge "Thank You" to our own Rushworth Community Bank

As we reported last edition, a major termite infestation was uncovered at the Community House when staff returned from their Christmas/New Year break in mid-January. Termites had eaten out sections of the kitchen floor and had penetrated other wooden structures within the room.

The kitchen was gutted down to the underfloor ironbark stumps and bearers, all of which were wholly intact.

Pest Exterminator Rob Ralph then treated the kitchen, before new wiring, plumbing and yellow-tongue flooring were installed.

Further kitchen activity was put on hold pending a decision by the Community House Committee of Management about the type of benches, cupboards and other fittings to be installed in the room and who was to supply and fit these items.

The Committee also had to choose the type and supplier of the new kitchen flooring surface, important to the look and feel of the refurbished room.

## But wait ... there's more!

With the kitchen on hold, it was time to check the adjacent extension that served as the Manager's office. Removal of a panel from the northern wall again revealed active termites, and further interior demolition showed massive damage to the floor, wall joists and other structures in the room.



Fortunately, the cantilever roof over the office had not been attacked by the termites. However, the entire office structure below the ceiling had to be replaced.

Using an acroprop to support the ceiling, locals Dave Francis (*shown above removing the office window*) and Jamie Beckinsale removed the old office walls and reconstructed them using termite-resistant structural timbers and weatherboard cladding.

The rebuilt office is now structurally better than ever and only awaits some finishing touches to the exterior and plaster lining on the interior walls. (*photo at right*).

Costs associated with the Community House office rebuild and kitchen refit due to termite damage have risen substantially, amounting to many thousands of dollars.

After years of careful financial management, the House had reserves that could cover some - but not all - of the likely financial outlay.

Help was definitely needed!

## Rushworth Community Bank to the rescue ....

The House submitted a grant request to Rushworth and District Financial Services, the governing body of our Community Bank, and was delighted (*and relieved!*) to receive a grant of \$12,000 to help with the fit-out of the kitchen and associated works.

Local cabinet maker Peter Knobel was chosen to design, supply and fit the new interior for the Community House kitchen.

This is a major undertaking, and the House's Committee of Management was especially keen to support another local contractor who is widely respected for the high quality and durability of his work.

The generous grant from Rushworth Community Bank will go a long way toward completing the kitchen replacement and finally allowing the House to bid farewell to the lengthy drama caused by the invasion of millimetres-long crawling creatures with voracious appetites.





# Arts & Tourism

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

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## Lots to see on the Campaspe Studio Art Trail

Saturday and Sunday 22, 23 February is when you can take a tour around the shire to see twenty seven artists' studios and meet the makers. Ranging from Gunbower in the northwest to Rushworth in the southeast and including eight other towns along the way.



There will be lots of paintings as well as leatherwork, fibre art, rug making, textile art, ceramics and sculptural collage. So set aside some time for a road trip or just pop in to the ones closest to you.

In Rushworth there will be Angie Russi's Ceramic Studio and also three artists, Kerrie Raglus, Heather Wellington and Gillian Schoenborn in the Rushworth Community Space (the old Senior Citizens Rooms), Cathy Branson at 'Donore' Colbinabbin and Edie May in Corop.

### Look for the signs at each location

You can see the full map that was in the last edition of the Waranga News or go to [www.castrail.art](http://www.castrail.art) for more information.



This sign will appear outside each studio.

(Far left) Textile art by Gillian Schoenborn.

(Left) Angie Russi's ceramics will be well worth a visit.

## What's on at Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

### A Textile Artist's Odyssey

An exhibition of Textile Art by Michael Hammer 3 March 17 May

Michael's focus is on creating images which interpret nature and people in abstract, surreal or impressionist forms rather than pictorial or geometric images. His inspiration comes from observing the world around him and from his imagination.



### Extremities

by Splinter Contemporary Artists



by Sue Reid

At the end of a surface comes a point where it drops away. The extremity, the furthest point.

In landscape painting this may be the horizon line or the edge of an abyss.

It can also be thought of as a state of mind, a feeling of being at the end of the tether or a need to express extreme behaviour.

Splinter Artists explore the concept of Extremities and, as always, many interpretations are possible.

### The Perfect Mix

Work by local artists- · Elly Trigwell, Lisa Wilkinson, Deb Emanuelli, Heidi Falson, Giselle Bolotin, Maree Santilla, Adam Witchell and John Stevens

This group of artists all live and work around or near Echuca, they have created a perfect mix of works to admire and for sale.



by Elly Trigwell

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





## Avocados

When avocados first started appearing on menus and in the supermarkets, they were thought of as ‘yuppy’ food. You know: eating at café lunches while sipping your cappuccino. But, these days they appear on family shopping lists just as a staple.

I have to admit that I’ve never really noted the difference between the two varieties most often on offer. But now, let me share my new-found knowledge with you.

The variety most seen in supermarkets are the familiar dark green rough-skinned Hass avocado. They’re ideal for mashing,



blending and spreading, with a creamy texture great for dips and smoothies.

Shepard avocados have smooth, green skins that stay green even when they are fully ripe.



They are round to slightly oblong in shape and have a slightly milder and sweeter taste. They hold their shape well when cut which makes them ideal for slicing and dicing for adding to a salad.

At one stage, we were warned about the high fat content (59% fat) of avocados but now we are told that the fat is monounsaturated (healthy) fat that actually helps to reduce cholesterol and improves heart health! Eat and enjoy and feel healthy as well.

### Suggestions for use

1) Spread a piece of toast with Vegemite, top with sliced (or squashed) avocado. Sprinkle with pepper and eat. You could add a fried or poached egg on top to make it more of a meal.

2) For a dip: Mash an avocado with 1/4



## Ants

Ants are Nature’s little scavengers. They dismantle all manner of seeds, insects and dead animals, taking them back to their nests as food. Without ants we would have much bigger weed and insect problems in our gardens. Ants are wonderful.... until they are not.

When you cannot peg out a load of washing in bare feet without having to do the ‘ant dance’, and when the dog’s twitching in it’s sleep not because he is dreaming, when the bees have to run the gauntlet when entering or leaving their hive, or when you discover them indoors, having somehow gotten into the jar of jam (even though its lid is screwed on). When these things (and more) start happening, ants stop being so wonderful and become pests which prevent you from enjoying your garden.

It is important to remember that most ant species around Rushworth do not create any great problems. Leave them alone and they will leave you alone. If you move a rock that has an ant nest under it of course the ants will be unhappy and attack you. The legendary bull ants with their excruciating bites generally are not found in gardens. Bed ants (also called meat ants) are much more of a problem. They are quite aggressive and range over long distances from their large nests. They also establish satellite colonies which rapidly grow into nests. There is a species of small black ant that go searching for water, often finding its way inside. There is another smaller black ant that loves to come inside where it helps itself to anything sweet.

Where possible it is more effective to take preventative measures. For example, I have my bee hive up off the ground with ant-caps under it. My worm farm is also impossible for ants to get to. Do not put meaty food scraps into compost. A barrier spray across doorways and across ant trails also works for a while before it needs to be repeated.

Eradicating an ant nest can be very difficult because you need to kill the queen, usually deep

within the nest. If you do not kill the queen, the colony will quickly recover. My mother would walk around the farmyard with a kettle pouring hot water down all the ant holes she could find. It was not very effective. As much as I dislike it, poisoning the ants is much more effective.

For small ants that are coming indoors Ant Rid works well. I put a small amount on a scrap of aluminium foil (so it easily accessed by the ants) and put it near where the ants are inside. They quickly discover it and lap it up. They go back to the nest where they feed it to ant larvae before dying. The poisoned ants are also eaten. The queen will also be fed the poison and die.

You can also follow marauding ants back to their nest. Once located it can be sprinkled with ant dust or granules. The ant dust works best on small holes and granules work better on large holes. Check the holes every few weeks and retreat as necessary. You may win the battle but you will not win the war. Eradicate an ant nest and it is only a matter of time before a new colony of ants will resettle the vacant niche.

White ants (termites) are a big problem around Rushworth. They are best left to an exterminator to deal with. They will quickly attack struggling shrubs and trees. Don’t leave softwoods on the ground or use them in landscaping unless they are treated with CCA (the wood will have a green tinge).

Some ants in the garden will protect aphids and scale insects with which they have a symbiotic relationship. Treat with white oil and after the aphids or scale dies, the ants will move on.

Keeping ants in your garden under control with a pet echidna is a great idea but it’s illegal.

*The Zen Gardener*



cup plain Greek yoghurt, a squeeze of lemon or lime juice, salt and pepper. For an extra interest stir through some chopped cashews.

3) Slice or dice an avocado, sprinkle with your choice of dressing or lemon juice (stops it discolouring) and add at the last minute to whatever green salad you’re making. Toss gently once you’ve added the avocado as it can tend to break up.

*Glen*



**Delicious, nutritious from midday to lunch on - and even for tea or nibbles.**

## Handy Hints

- from Lyn Rumble

*Hi there,*

*Repurposing or re-using everyday items that maybe you hadn’t thought of - is what I like to do. Some of the things covered here will possibly be using items completely differently than you’re used to. During the past years I’ve managed to find some pretty useful everyday things to help out in one way or another – so hope you get some benefits from these tips I’m sharing this issue!*

*Lyn*

**\* Perfect Pastry Pie Crust** – if you’re making a flan or pie and don’t want the filling to leak out from a crack or tear in the bottom sheet of pastry try this: brush the base and sides of the pastry with lightly-beaten egg-white; this should give you a light seal to the pastry. Add your filling and top sheet of pastry if required and back as normal.

**\* Dissolving adhesive** – when you need to get rid of adhesive sticky on jars – try putting on neat eucalyptus oil. Now this hint I have given you before – but I have found that if you brush the neat eucy oil with a small paint brush onto the stubborn adhesive, then leave for 5-10 minutes, it comes off easily with a paper towel. If some still remains, give another go but a bit more liberal with the oil. Hope that helps with stubborn gunk!

**\* Hard to screw in nails** – in addition to drilling a pilot hole in the timber with a drill-try dipping the screw into a bar of soap and giving it a good soap coating. This will help with completing the task.

**\* Bought a packet of hard cheese you don’t like?** Don’t throw it out – just grate it and put in a freezer bag and store in the freezer. When making Italian spaghetti, pizza, or cheese scones etc, just add the frozen cheese to your dish and you would never know any difference to other cheeses when cooked or baked.

**\* Do you have saucepans that have glass lids?** If you do then you’d notice they get grotty under the lid around the edges. Found a solution – soak the lid in very hot soapy water for at least an hour – then get an old toothbrush (denture double headed one the best) and gently scrub under the lid pushing the fine bristles under the lip to remove debris. Works a treat!



# Health and Wellbeing

## Students deliver ‘good news’ to residents at Warramunda

Four Kyabram students have combined modern technology with an “old school” method of delivering news in a community partnership that is expected to become a regular feature at Warramunda Village.



Kyabram P-12 College students Ronin, Jonno, Kaitlyn and Lily spent a hour delivering news from the latest edition of Warramunda Village’s Waggles Newsletter to residents of the Saunders and Rockman Street wings before delivering a third session in the main dining room of the village.

The students spent an hour as “newsreaders”, reading directly from the recently produced digital edition of the village’s February Waggles newsletter.

As part of the Kyabram P-12 College Community Connections program the students read directly from the pages of the newsletter while the recently created digital edition of the newsletter was cast onto large screens behind them.

Warramunda Village CEO said the initiative had been the brainchild of the leisure and activities team and had quickly gained support from College Community Connections Co-ordinator Janine Kreymborg and College Principal Marina Walsh.

“I know the residents were really appreciative of the efforts of the students and having seen them read the news first hand I think it is something we would love to continue.

“Waggles is now produced in digital form to allow us to share news from the village with family and friends who are not able to secure a hard copy version of the newsletter.

“It has been received very well, but not all our residents are ‘tech savvy’ and having the students read to them while the digital edition is enlarged on our screens was a great way to show our residents the benefits of having the new platform available to deliver the news,” he said.

All year nine students, Ronin, Jonno,

Kaitlyn and Lily, rotated through a range of stories including a 100th and 102nd birthday, the story of Resident of the Month Mavis Grummitt, and an update of the renovations which are now happening at the village.

They spent time in the Saunders Street and Rockman Wings, before completing their session in the main dining room before residents had their lunch.

Mrs Kreymborg said the opportunity to practice public speaking in a format which had a direct benefit to the residents - providing them with the latest newsletter articles - was an exciting way to partner with Warramunda.

“We are excited about continuing this partnership with the village and expanding the number of students who are given the opportunity to mix with some of our oldest, knowledgeable residents,” she said.

Warramunda is fortunate to have a number of Community Connections in place that allows its leisure and activities team to provide residents with a number of different experiences.

Champion footballer Mick Lovison has recently taken on responsibility for delivering fortnightly men’s bus trips and the village is currently negotiating with Goulburn Valley Water to have the group visit the Donyak Moira Fishing Ponds at Merrigum.

“I know the activities team are always looking to expand on our activities program and things like this partnership with Kyabram

P-12 College are a wonderful way to do that,” CEO John Clark said.

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# Cyril Evans - Cricket, Bowls, Fire Brigade and family

Long-time Stanhope resident Cyril Evans passed away at Kyabram Hospital on 4 December. He was 85. A graveside service was held at the Kyabram cemetery on Thursday 12 December and the large crowd which attended, estimated at over 300, was indicative of the regard in which he was held. Alma Limbrick was the celebrant and the eulogy was delivered by Cyril's eldest son, Michael. The tribute which follows is based on his comments

\*\*\*\*\*  
Cyril Robert Evans was born in Maffra on 22 June 1939 to parents Eileen Maude and George Bertram Evans. He was the second eldest of four children which included three sisters: older sister Shirley and younger sisters Valerie and Beverley. Sadly, Beverley passed away in 2022.

George was employed by the butter factory in Bayles so Cyril's early years were spent in Gippsland. In 1952 the family moved to Stanhope when George accepted a position at the local butter factory. Cyril attended Rushworth Higher Elementary School and in his final year he represented the school at both cricket and football.

At the age of fifteen Cyril left school and started work in the spare parts department of Stanhope Motors. He remained there for forty-eight years - a rare occurrence these days - and made many lifelong friends.

In 1956 Cyril had the honour of running a mile carrying the Olympic torch as it travelled through the Goulburn Valley prior to the Melbourne Olympics.

When he was twenty-one, Cyril met Kyabram girl Anne Hayes and they were married at St. Augustine's in Kyabram in 1964. They moved into their residence in Steele Street, Stanhope which remains the family home to this day. Additions to the family were Caroline (1968), Michael (1970) and Matthew (1973). Cyril loved his children very much, following and supporting them in everything they did.

Cyril was particularly fond of sport whether playing or supporting his children and, more recently, his grandchildren. His promising football career was cut short when he was involved in a serious car accident at the age of twenty. However, as a teenager his cricketing skills were honed under the

guidance of Goulburn Valley cricket legend Bert Cochrane and Cyril went on to play over 200 games for the Stanhope Cricket Club. This included an A Grade premiership.

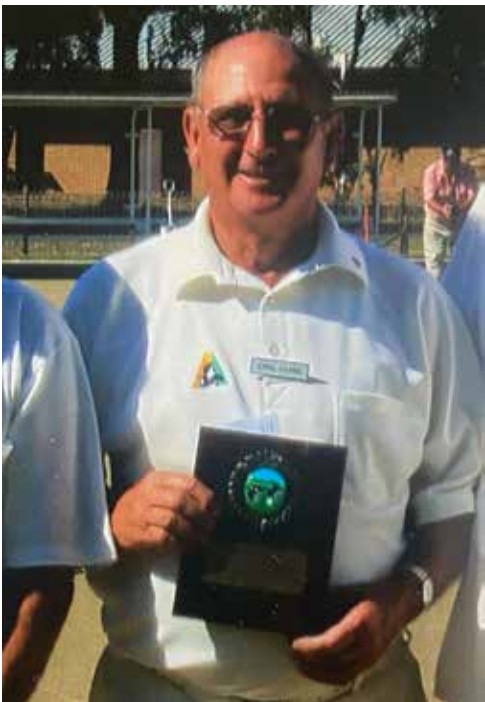
Following his retirement from cricket Cyril found a new passion: playing lawn bowls. The family regarded the Stanhope Bowls Club as his second home; it was where he spent many hours playing pennant and tournaments and thereby extended his list of lifelong friends. Cyril was awarded life membership of the Bowls Club; an honour of which he and the family were very proud.

Another life membership was awarded in 1993, this time by the Stanhope Fire Brigade. His thirty-five years of membership included twelve years when he filled the role of Secretary.

While Cyril's talents were evident in various capacities, they were sadly lacking when the kitchen was involved. When Anne was working afternoon shifts at the cannery, Cyril was assigned the task of preparing the evening meal. Although no instances of broken teeth were recorded, the recollection of those rock-hard potatoes, assigned the nickname 'Cannery Spuds', still draws groans from family members.

The funeral service concluded with a rendition of the Richmond theme song; Cyril was a passionate Tiger fan. Equally passionate was his dislike of arch-rival Collingwood. Although eldest son Michael was brain washed to support Richmond, the other two members were given the choice to follow who they wanted, as long as it was not Collingwood. On one occasion when Richmond had a significant win over Collingwood, Cyril and his brother-in-law (Len Armstrong) scoured the local roads looking for dead magpies. These were placed on the front lawn of Bill MacQueen, a Collingwood die-hard. Bill no doubt had his revenge the following year when the results were somewhat different.

Cyril will be greatly missed by the local community and particularly by his family. He loved his wife Anne very much and adored his children. He was also a loving father-in-law to Brett (deceased), Jacqui and Kim as well as an adored Pa to Declan (and Ruby), Georgia, Reeve, Serana and Aaron and Great Pa to Lakyn and Arlee.





# ON THE BRINK *by Neil Laurie*

Looking at endangered or extinct flora and fauna.

## Not extinct after all

There have been a number of species that were thought to have become extinct rediscovered. Mostly they are small species that can be easily missed in their natural environments. They show just how tenacious and resilient some species are. Their rediscovery also offers a second chance for us to save them from really going extinct. Here are some of these rediscovered second chance species.

One of the earliest and perhaps the most famous example is that of the coelacanth (*Latimeria chalumnae*), a primitive fish with lobed fins, more akin to lung fish and tetrapods than modern fish. Coelacanths were thought to have become extinct around 66 million years ago. In 1938 fishermen dredged up a living coelacanth in their nets. Another species has since been found off Indonesia. They are a living fossil, representative of the early fish that eventually evolved into us.

The Lord Howe Island stick insect (*Dryococelus australis*) is a large stick insect once so common on Lord Howe Island that the locals used them for fishing bait. In 1918 following a shipwreck black rats became established on the island. By 1920 they had eaten all the stick insects (and decimated other species) and the stick insects were thought to have become extinct. In 1964, a team of climbers scaling Ball's Pyramid, a breath-taking sea stack 23 kilometres off Lord Howe Island found a dead stick insect. Subsequent expeditions to this difficult location failed to find live specimens. In 2001 an expedition finally discovered a small population of 24 insects 100 metres above

sea level. In 2003 two breeding pairs were collected for two captive breeding programs. The Melbourne Zoo program was most successful and led to breeding programs at other zoos around the world. It is hoped to reintroduce the stick insects to Lord Howe Island once the rats are eradicated.

Perhaps the cutest rediscovered species is the mountain pygmy possum (*Burramys parvis*), a mouse-sized possum found in the alpine scree slopes and boulder fields of southeastern Australia. Its diet is broad but a favourite food is the bogong moth. The females live at a slightly higher altitude than the males. They hibernate during the coldest months. It was only known as a fossil until 1966 when a living possum was discovered at the Mount Hotham ski resort. Since then, the possum has been discovered in three more isolated, genetically distinct populations. Providing the scree and boulders are not interfered with the possums can live on the ski fields, however, roads are so daunting for the possums they will not cross them. Roads effectively split and separate populations and territories. They particularly affect the breeding of the possums; the roads can separate the males from the females. This was resolved by building 'love tunnels' under the roads. The possum populations are dwindling. Captive breeding has begun and a conservation plan instigated. Due to the higher frequency of dry years, there has been a dramatic drop in the number of bogong moths which in turn impacts on the pygmy possums.

The night parrot (*Pezoporus occidentalis*) is a central Australian ground-dwelling

nocturnal parrot which spends the day inside 'tunnels' in spinifex grass. It is very rare and very shy and elusive. It is easiest to detect it by listening for its calls. With no sightings between 1912 and 1979 it was presumed to be extinct. Since 1979 there have been sporadic sightings. The introduction of indigenous rangers has greatly helped in locating this elusive parrot.

This next story could be made into a movie! The giant neon pink Mt Kaputar slug (*Triboniophorus sp. Nov. 'Kaputar'*) is only found on top of an extinct volcano, Mt Kaputar, in central New South Wales. The extinct volcano supports a remnant 'island in the sky' of sub-tropical rainforest in which this unique slug evolved. After a fire tore through the park in 2019, a drought year, it was feared that the slugs were wiped out. After several wet la Nina years they were rediscovered, having made good use of the wetter conditions to breed up.

These are just a few of the rediscovered extinct species; there are many more. However, it must be remembered that of all the extinct species very, very few are rediscovered. For most species extinction is extinction.....for ever.



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# Fifty years ago in our district....

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



**Apology** Readers will have noted a glitch on this page in the edition of 6 February. Some words appeared in isolation within the reference to the tragic loss of three members of Stanhope's Elford family early in 1975. The words belonged in a full sentence to read: "Son Gary Elford was also very badly injured". I appreciate the understanding in my subsequent chat with Gary's sister Christine that sometimes in printing, these things happen.

## Schools were in, in February 1975

The annual resumption of school came with the usual keen interest, and the vital question as always had nothing to do with teaching. "How many of the new teachers will be any good at football?"

## Shire

The Shire health inspector and Housing Commission inspectors had condemned several houses in Murchison and Rushworth as unfit for human habitation. Nobody wanted to serve the notices to evict people. This all arose in a statewide blitz after fatalities in a big fire at Inglewood, where several old homes had been assessed, too late, to have been fire-traps.

## Crime

Shepparton C.I.B. investigated a home burglary at Rushworth after removal of a fly-wire window screen. Detectives charged an unemployed Rushworth youth who was placed on probation for two years by the court.

## Coroner's Court

Rushworth Court sat before the Coroner who reviewed the death by drowning of Robert Kilgour Woods of Kyabram, whose body had been spotted by schoolboy Adrian Weston in the Waranga-Mallee channel late in 1974. The Coroner returned an open finding, unable to declare whether the death was a result of a fall into the water.

## Schools

New High School Headmaster Mr Ernest Jones, advised of total 1975 enrolments at 218, with 42 new students in Form One (Year Seven), including three sets of twins. (*Does anyone remember their names?*) Form 6 (Year 12) began with a record twenty students, but five were to find other opportunities during the year.

At Rushworth Primary, sixteen children had enrolled in preps, the same number as Murchison Primary, where Headmaster Mr Seymour welcomed Miss Braund and Miss Farrugia.

Rushworth Primary's new teacher was Mr John Bianco from Bogong Primary. The combined grades 4 and 5 had 29 students, nineteen of them girls. The year had started

badly for the grades 3 and 4 composite class. "Jamie C. has a black eye. Reg got stung by a bee."

House Captains elected were Wendy Raglus and Greg Hitchcock (Murray), Gaye Sullivan and Richard Bell (Goulburn), Wendy Hawking and Craig Beck (Campaspe). The vice-captains were Sherry Nurse and Lex Jongerden (Murray), Christine Walley and Stephen Crosbie (Goulburn), Theresa Jones and Darren Clarke (Campaspe). (*In the 1960s there had been a fourth House, Ovens, if memory serves.*)

Before you ask, the Houses at the High School in the 1960s were Goulburn (yellow sports clothes), Waranga (red), Rodney (blue) and Moora (green). The first three were names of district shires all now gone, while the city of Moora was a worthy choice of name.

High School teachers just commencing included Mr David Lee (Maths), Mr Terry Hatters, Mr Tony Ford (Commerce), Mrs Bernadette Williams (English), Mrs Terry Truscott (Science and Maths) and Mrs Barbara Carey (home Economics).

## Community

Funds raised by Stanhope Mardi Gras went to local swimming pool and to recreation reserve, with \$900 for each.

Rushworth-Colbo Apex Club held its 100th dinner meeting at Stanhope Hotel Motel. With 21 members when it was established, the club had done many projects including annual Christmas Dinners for Senior Citizens Club members, bottle collecting, bushfire relief, fishing competitions, and more.

Rushworth CWA had led the Australia Day recognition with Miss Olive Sprunt speaking of her days teaching at the "Black School" at Burrumboot, when nearby Corop had quite a shopping strip.

Cyril Kelly's Foodland store at Colbo had closed, replaced by the Colbinabbin Bargain Centre, a furniture store operated by Steve and Jane Vasjuta. Hard to imagine now, but true back then.

## Personal

The passing of Mrs Maude McIntosh at the Aged Care Home in Kyabram left descendants in the Francis, Geisler and Shaw families. She was also a great grandmother of Kylie Lockwood.

Dianne Perry's kitchen tea was held at the fire station. Gifts for Dianne were preferred to be in "autumn tonings". The couple married in February (see photo page 8).

Ric and Lynda Duke thanked district fire brigades which had protected their home from a fire a few weeks earlier. H. and G.W. Jongerden did likewise.

A case of pears (second grade) could be purchased for \$1 from a Stanhope orchard. Dudley and Bert "Banjo" Patterson I believe. I may have picked some of them while on

Uni vacation, working with Frank "Meggsy" Hageman.

## Sport

In B-grade cricket, Stanhope's Cyril Evans took 6 wickets for 34 runs in Rushworth's 112, who had Ian Williams with 55 runs and Bill Cruz the younger on 32. In reply Stanhope reached 4-117 thanks mainly to George Gemmill's 43 and Merv Crombie's 19. For Rushworth Charles Potter took 2/13 and the report had M. Potter 2/34, but it must have been Peter or Donald.

Rushworth A-graders made just 132 runs against Kyabram Methodists, veteran Graeme Johansen getting 35, Alan Mee 26 and Frank Crute, a Darwin evacuee, 15. It was more than enough for the Methodist men who made 83, bowled out by unsympathetic Rushworth Methodists John Raglus 5/18, Geoff Hawking 2/18 and brother Trevor 1/37. (If any reader knows how former High School teacher Alan Mee can be contacted, I would be pleased to learn.)

Rushworth B-graders dismissed Merrigum for 122, then made 158. Bill Cruz again led the way with a hard-hitting 49 runs, Mr Les Hoyling adding 43, and "the old reliable" Les Morgan unbeaten on 28.

Rushworth Under-15 team were too good for Merrigum, dismissed first for 56, then for 43, as Rushworth made 156 runs. Stars were Gary Hitchcock and Peter Schade with a 43-run partnership, Paul Gleeson taking 3/3 and Craig Beck 3/5 in the rare outright win in junior cricket.

Captain of Rushworth 3 team in junior tennis was Simon Bolden, leading Bill Fraser, Ian Raglus, Lyn-Maree Pearce, Rosanne Heily and Kathy McArdle. The club held its junior championships, Judy Meagher defeating her sister Wendy 6-5, 6-1, Stephen Barlow over Chris Geisler 6-3, 6-4.

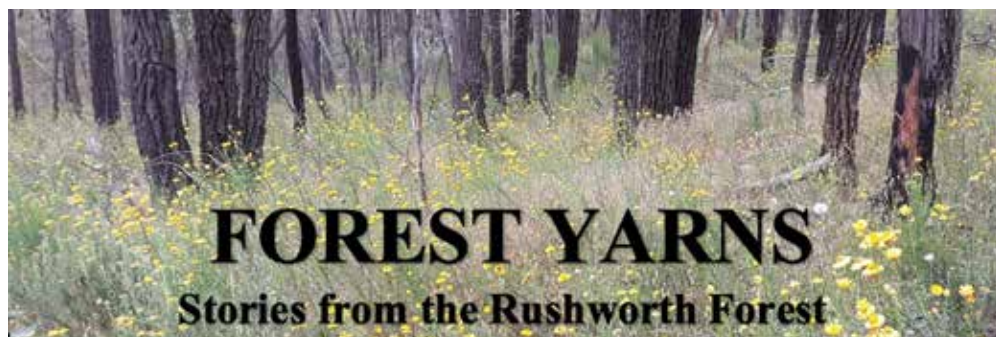
Rushworth 1 in A-Grade senior tennis collected 92 games to wallop Byrneside with just 37. John "Tacky" Borger, Glen Rathjen, Bill and Herb Barlow, Beryl Home, Nan Jessup, Ann Brown and Cheryl Hawking had a good day on the court. (Three Colbo people here; no competition tennis played there in 1975.)

## Football

The adjourned annual meeting of Rushworth Football Club resumed, and elected Don Perry to succeed Eddie Gleeson as club president. Tom Moylan became senior vice-president, Les Morgan the junior vice-president and Matt Kennedy secretary. Player representatives on the new committee were John Lambden and Denis Ogden. High-leaping Mick O'Sullivan was appointed as playing coach.

But how many teams would line up in April? Tooborac? Heathcote? Watch this space.





## Political action by sleeper hewers

Although sleeper hewers mostly worked independently in the forest, they acted co-operatively to achieve some of their aims. Their work was under threat with the appointment of Victoria's first Conservator of Forests, George Perrin in 1888. Perrin was convinced that sleeper hewing was a wasteful method of getting sleepers and left forests more susceptible to bushfires. Sleeper hewers contended that there was minimal wastage. There were running battles over the twelve years that Perrin was in office until he died in 1900.

There was still plenty of demand coming from the Victorian Railways, a factor that favoured the local sleeper hewers. Commissioners of the VR maintained that hewn sleepers were more durable than those from sawmills and could generally be obtained more cheaply. Some sawmillers supported the views of Mr Perrin because they could see that they might obtain great economic benefits going forward.

## Visit by parliamentarians

In 1895 a parliamentary delegation (including the Minister of Lands, Mr Best) visited Rushworth to look into the question of milling vs hewing sleepers.<sup>1</sup> There was a possibility that the government might shut the forest to sleeper hewers. The delegation met with a deputation including forest workers, contractors, municipal leaders and local businesspeople.

There was clear disagreement with Perrin's view that there was more timber wastage with hewn sleepers. The forest workers also maintained that there were still plenty of trees in the forest suitable for the production of sleepers.

The delegation was told that at the time, 250 men were employed in the forest sleeper hewing. Closure of the forests to sleeper hewers would result in substantial unemployment and hardship in local communities. Ultimately, sleeper hewing was allowed to continue.

## Union action

In 1908, there was a meeting of sleeper hewers and other bushmen in Rushworth for the purpose of setting up a union.<sup>2</sup> There was general discontent about a number of issues and a deputation was appointed to make approaches to the Conservator of Forests and the Victorian Railways commissioners. The major issue was the lack of access to many areas of the forest where the hewers could do their work. They also sought an increase of

1/- (10c) per sleeper in the amount that the railways paid them.

"Passing day" was the name given to the day when inspectors would be present at the local stations. As noted in the previous story, the inspectors would raise the ire of the sleeper cutters if they knocked back some of the proffered sleepers. One of the complaints was the inconsistency shown between various inspectors. The hewers wanted to see a more uniform system of passing.

Mr J Dooley represented the local sleeper hewers in the subsequent deputation to the Minister of Forests, Mr McLeod. Ultimately, some new areas were made available, but with significant restrictions on the number of licences issued.

## Visit by the minister

In early October 1925, a bombshell was dropped. The forest was temporarily closed down to sleeper hewing. In late October 1925, the Minister of Forests, Mr H F Richardson, visited Rushworth and met a deputation of sleeper hewers (Wilson, Pettifer and Bredon sic) and other timber cutters from Rushworth, Heathcote and areas in between such as Bailieston and Costerfield. After the discussions, there was a tour of the forest to illustrate some of the points being made by the forest workers.

Representatives of the railways who were present stated that 25% of the department's current needs were met by sleeper hewers in what was then often called the Moormbool Forest.<sup>2</sup> (Two of the parishes down near Graytown, in the central part of the forest, are called Moormbool West and East)

It was claimed that at one time the forest supported 300 sleeper hewers, but at the time of the Minister's visit, there were only 35. One reason for this was the restrictions placed on access to large areas of the forest. As a result of this, most of the suitable trees had already been cut out of areas the forest over a period of more than 40 years.<sup>3</sup> The hewers unsuccessfully petitioned for the railways to accept sleepers with rounded edges so they could harvest smaller trees.

At the time, the State Government was grappling with the dual needs of maintaining employment in the forest areas as well as conservation of areas for future use. Although sleeper hewing was subsequently allowed to continue into the future, it was on a much-reduced basis compared to pre-1925.

References: 1 *McIvor Times* 31/5/1895; 2 *Bendigo Advertiser* 26/8/1908; 3 *The Argus* 23/10/1925 p17; 3 *Geelong Advertiser* 26/10/1925;

## A Name from the Past

### Recalling "Pop" Broadwood

A popular figure around Rushworth in the 1960s and early 1970s was elderly Henry Broadwood. He died just on 50 years ago and had lived a most interesting life. Marian Amery (nee Colliver), and locals Margaret Watson (nee Colliver) and Robbie Colliver are three of his grandchildren.

An obituary was published in the Rushworth Chronicle of 27 February, 1975.

"The death of Mr Henry Broadwood occurred at Numurkah Hospital on January the 28th, in his 91st year. He was a member of a pioneer family who pioneered the district now known as Mt. Eccles National Park, near Macarthur, Victoria.

"Pop Broadie" as he was known to most, was the grandson of [the founder] the Broadwood Piano Company in England. He was the third youngest member of a family of twelve.

Mr Broadwood was born at Mt Eccles, where he spent the early years of his life, but later travelled all over Victoria and spent several years driving bullock teams on King Island, near Tasmania. Still on King Island today is a pine plantation which he planted and bears the name 'Broadwood Pines'.

He married Margaret Allen at Ballarat in 1906. His wife predeceased him in March 1963 at the age of 79 years. They had five children, Joseph, William, Jim, Charles (dec.) and Margaret (Mrs G. Colliver). In addition there are nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

"Pop Broadie" spent his later years in Rushworth where he took an active interest in football and cricket. Even during the last couple of years, he was still very keen to know about the activities of these two clubs. He was also a life member of the Richmond Football Club.

He was a very likeable man who had a good sense of humour, especially when it came to telling stories.

A large crowd of mourners attended the funeral. The service was held at the Church of England and later the cortege moved to the Rushworth cemetery.

Coffin bearers were George Colliver (son-in-law), Barry Adams (grandson-in-law), Barney Hamilton who had a lifelong connection with Mr Broadwood and also Jack Hawkins, a close friend over the last 30 years.

Rev. McDougall conducted the service at the church and at the graveside."

It would be interesting to know the fate of Broadwood Pines on King Island. Assuming the trees were planted for the timber industry, I expect the plantation is long gone. Henry's legacy may well live on in a number of house frames!

Alan McLean



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# P-12 Presentation Night 2024 wrap up

The College had a fabulous evening celebrating the success of their students of 2024 at their College Presentation Night, which they shared snippets of in the final edition of the Waranga News.

In this edition the College would like to acknowledge our wonderful supporters of various awards. The awards, and the monetary value donated goes a long way to easing the financial pressures some our students experience.

In no order the College would like to thank the following individuals or groups for their ongoing support of the College and its students.

Rushworth Community Support Inc. support three Year 11 students with \$800.00 each to support them over the final two years of their VCE studies. This year the worthy recipients, were Matilda B, Chloe J and Tamikah C.

It is through the community’s support of our local Op Shop that Rushworth Community Support Inc. can support not only our college but lots of other organisations in Rushworth.

Rushworth & District Community Bank support two great scholarships, one to a Year 5 student for \$150.00, and the other scholarship to a Year 10 student for \$250.00. The College have been very grateful for the support the local bank has given to us since it opened.

Danny Barlow at Dawes Vary Riordan is a long-time supporter of the College, sponsoring the Dawes Vary Riordan Legal prize for a Year 12 student.

The Stewart family, who sponsor the Grace Semmens medal have been doing so for a very long time, 90 years in fact!

And of course, it would be remiss not to mention the long-standing support former community groups such as the Lions club and local CWA branch gave to them in the past.

This is not only a good opportunity to say a big thank you to those who continue to support them into the future, but perhaps also put a call out to any other local groups who might like to consider sponsoring an award or scholarship in 2025.

If you are interested in discussing this further, please do not hesitate to contact Peter Bovell or Kerrie Raglus at the College on 5856 1230.

### School Assemblies up and running

College Captains, Millie and Ella conducted the first assembly for 2025 last week.

Thanks to Angus for reading the Acknowledgement of Country.

Mr. Bovell welcomed students and staff back and introduced new staff to students.

Mr Hunt presented Declan and Will with some vouchers after their success at the Interschool clay target shoot last year.

Ms Bromley introduced the new revised RUSH point system for 2025. It has been great to see the response to the new point system and watching students do their best at all aspects of their learning.

Assemblies will be run regularly on Monday mornings at 9am. The next one is on Monday 24 February and families are welcome to attend.

### Welcome to the College

The college would like to warmly welcome our new staff, students and families to our college community.

They have had over thirty new students start with them in 2025 which is fantastic.

Welcome to Madison S, Kobe. E, Audrey P, Amelia P, Jasmine V, Jack McG, Jayden V, Charlie O’D, Kaylee E, Rihanna A, Mylee A, Willow B, Lily J, Albie D, Ariya D, Shanae M-F, Amelia A, Ruby G, Logan H, Pippa L, Heath O, Charlii R, Ethan S-M, Stella b, Samuel B, Peyton D, Jacob D, Claire H, Aeris H, Lexie K, Annabel McR, Zara S, Kayley S-H, Amber McA, Indi F.

### New staff to the College include:

Mrs Kristen Le Glassick – Acting Assistant Principal for Term 1.

Ms Imogen Handley-Kurzke – Maths Science Classroom Teacher

*Kerrie Raglus  
Community Engagement*



Rushworth Community Support Inc’s generosity has ensured these three students can concentrate on their VCE studies and not worry about financial issues.



(Below) Mr Craig Hunt presents Will and Declan with vouchers after a successful day at clay target shooting last year.



Rushworth & District Community Bank support a Year 5 and Year 10 student each year. In 2025 the recipients are Godfree Freeman (above) & Haylee Marshall (below) pictured with Board director, Cate Fraser.





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# Murchison Preschool hits the ground running!

During the first weeks they have been focussing on Finger Gym and Squiggle Kids, both of these programs aim to improve hand strength, fine and gross motor skills, and to develop the pre-writing skills necessary for school readiness. At the start of the term their educators were lucky to take part in training organised by Goulburn Region Preschool Association and facilitated by Squiggle Kids. Through this they learnt about the importance of collaborative drawing and the ways in which pre-writing skills are developed.

They have continued to embed the use of AUSLAN within our program and have begun aligning our approach with Murchison Primary School to ensure a smooth transition for our learners in 2026. They have been exploring the signs for colours, as well as continuing to learn the alphabet and letters of their names.

To extend on knowledge of colours they have been exploring “Magic” Primary Colours. They now know that there are three special colours and that when we mix them together they make other colours! We have been having a lot of fun learning this and testing our hypothesis around colour mixing.

In addition to the above, learners have taken on some special roles to assist in caring for and respecting our learning environments such as gardening and cleaning.

If you would like to get involved in their learning please reach out at [murchison@grpsa.com.au](mailto:murchison@grpsa.com.au)



## Rochester Secondary College Art Club spreads kindness

**Rochester Secondary College Art Club spreads kindness through bookmarks in honour of Random Acts of Kindness Day**

In celebration of Random Acts of Kindness Day, students from the weekly Art Club at Rochester Secondary College are spreading kindness throughout their local community by creating watercolour bookmarks, each featuring a thoughtful quote that highlights the power of kindness.

In the lead-up to February 17th, Random Acts of Kindness Day, the bookmarks will be available at the Campaspe Library branches in Rochester, Lockington, and Colbinabbin, as well as the Goldfields Libraries, Elmore Library Agency. These bookmarks will be distributed to library visitors.

Abby, a Year 9 student from Rochester Secondary College, shared that “kindness is free,” capturing the spirit of the project.

“We have many library patrons who appreciate arts and crafts, and these bookmarks are a big hit because they’re not only creative but also personal,” said Natalie Lonsdale, Librarian at the Rochester Branch.

Elise Wright, at the Elmore Library Agency, added, “The idea of spreading positivity through the students’ artwork is truly inspiring.”

“At Rochester Secondary College, we encourage our students to embrace kindness in all they do,” said Mitchell Bright, Assistant Principal. “This project is a wonderful way for them to share their creativity while making a positive impact in the community.”

Principal Matthew Koutroubas added, “Kindness is the foundation of a strong school community, and we encourage all of our students to display kindness at every opportunity.”

The students’ handmade bookmarks are a reminder of how creativity, compassion, and a small act of kindness can come together to brighten someone’s day and inspire kindness within the community as we celebrate Random Acts of Kindness Day.



**Year 7 student Ava holds a watercolour painting she created, which will be divided into several pieces and transformed into bookmarks that will be handed out in celebration of Random Acts of Kindness Day.**



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**St Mary’s Catholic Education Sandhurst 2025 theme**

**‘Pilgrims of Hope’**

Welcome to what promises to be a wonderful, faith-filled year! In 2025, Catholic Education Sandhurst embraces the theme “Pilgrims of Hope,” as declared by Pope Francis. This theme invites us to journey together with faith, optimism, and a shared commitment to bringing hope to our communities.

Throughout the year, we will explore what it means to be Pilgrims of Hope, deepening our understanding of faith, service, and gratitude in our daily lives. We look forward to sharing this journey with our students, families, and the wider school community. This journey began in late 2024 when all students at St Mary’s took part in a special activity, expressing their commitment to this theme by creating individualised hearts. These hearts have come together to form a beautiful welcome display in our front office, symbolising our shared hope and unity as a school community.

May this year be filled with learning, growth, and the joy of walking together in faith!

**Baby congratulations!**

Congratulations to Prue and family on the birth of ‘Greta May’ - 14 January 2025.

The school wishes them all the best with their new addition.

Congratulations to Mr Ryan and his family on the birth of ‘Sullivan Vance’ - 3.92kg.

The school wishes them all the happiness with their new family addition.

**Student SRC**

On Friday, the first Student SRC session for the year was held. The Grade 6 students lead each class for this session and have shown great leadership in discussing and sharing school information.

**Foundations - great start to 2024**

The Foundation students have made a fantastic start to their time at St Mary’s, enjoying both classroom learning and playtime with their friends in the school yard. They have settled into classroom learning well and are quickly adapting to the routines and expectations in the classroom.

They will continue to have the ‘rest’ days until Wednesday 5 March.

**My Future Academy - Ainslee**

St Mary’s had its first My Future Academy session with Ainslee on Tuesday. All classes had a great time and are looking forward to their sessions each fortnight.

**Beginning of school year Mass and BBQ**

Join the school on Friday 21 February, for its Welcome Mass and BBQ. This special event is a wonderful opportunity for the school community to come together, celebrate the start of a new school year, and warmly welcome our new students and families.

Fr Adi Indra, the supervising Priest, will be officiating the Mass.

Mass will begin at 12.30pm in St Mary’s

Church, with the BBQ following over at school. Everyone is welcome to come along – parents, grandparents, friends and community members.

**Magnify Sandhurst update**

Magnify Sandhurst is a new evidence-based learning and teaching program introduced in Week 1 across all 51 Catholic schools in the Sandhurst Diocese. Designed to support each student’s individual needs, strengths, and goals, the program focuses on improving literacy and numeracy, fostering positive classroom environments, and integrating Catholic values into daily learning. With a strong commitment to improving student outcomes, Magnify Sandhurst ensures every learner is supported and challenged. Guided by the mantra “Every Student, Every Teacher, Every School, Every Day,” this program aims to create meaningful and lasting educational growth.

**Grade 1/2**

What an incredible beginning to the year for Grade 1/2! Each student is demonstrating fantastic independence and learning stamina as they embrace new challenges with enthusiasm each day.

A highlight has been the engaging, hands-on learning experiences in structured, low-variance Maths lessons. These activities are thoughtfully designed to reinforce key concepts and provide students with a strong foundation in their learning. It has been wonderful to see students transitioning smoothly into small group work and rotations, making the most of these collaborative learning opportunities.





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# St Mary’s School welcomes students back to school

## Grade 3/4

There were a great few weeks settling into new classes and beginning the Magnify program.

In the first week of school, students enjoyed playing games like Uno, Spot It and Bananagram. Students enjoyed making characters that represent their interests and who they are as a person. They all turned out great!

This term the class will be reading the novel Matilda by Roald Dahl. As a class they have been enjoying listening and reading along as well as doing activities connected to Matilda.

## Grade 5/6

The school is thrilled to welcome families to an exciting year of learning in the 5/6 classroom. Students have settled in smoothly and have already shown great enthusiasm and engagement in their learning.

This year, teachers will continue to support students in developing independence, critical thinking and personal growth. A key focus will also be on fostering meaningful friendships and encouraging respectful, responsible behaviour to create a positive and supportive learning environment.

Last week, the class gathered with Mrs Brook and the 3/4 class to play a Basketball Hoops Maths game. It was great to see and hear the younger students having a great time playing and learning with their peers.

## Enrolments

St. Mary’s School Rushworth welcomes enrolments year-round!

St Mary’s warmly invites you to visit the school, and meet our dedicated staff. Come and experience the wonderful opportunities we provide firsthand. St. Mary’s aims to nurture every child in a supportive and inspiring environment where they can thrive. Join the welcoming school community, where a love for learning, creativity and respect is at the heart of everything done.

How to enrol: Contact the office on 5856 1347, email at [admin@smrushworth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@smrushworth.catholic.edu.au) or come into the School Office and be provided with an enrolment pack.

*Katherine Jamieson*



Grade 3 and 4 students enjoyed playing Uno, Spot It and Bananagram in the first week of school.



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# Caritas Australia launches The Long Walk for Water

This year Caritas Australia’s annual fundraiser during the Season of Lent has expanded to give the community even more ways to unite against poverty through online fundraising pages and new activities.

Each year, 1,700 schools and 1,200 parishes across Australia take part through school and parish events that remain at the heart of Project Compassion. This year new fundraising options are on offer through a simple digital sign-up form enabling schools, parishes, individuals, groups and organisations to set up live and shareable fundraising pages.

For the first time a new challenge suited to individuals has been added:

- **The Long Walk for Water:** A new self-defined 40-day walking challenge that you can take on as an individual or as a team. The first five hundred people to register for The Long Walk for Water will also receive a free T-shirt as a reward for fundraising.

Parishes, schools, group or organisations can also register for the following activities:

- **The Big Water Walk:** This one-day event sees schools complete a walking challenge of their own design. Parishes can host a Big Walk for Water but should call the Project Compassion team for support.
- **Host a Lent event:** Get together with your friends, family, workplace, school or parish to set up a pancake Tuesday, games night or disco or anything else you might enjoy.
- **Give it up for Lent:** Unite as a parish,

school, family, workplace or as friends, and commit to giving something up. This could be coffee, sugary snacks or Netflix - whatever feels challenging to you.

than ever to do so. Rest assured though that in-person community events and our iconic Project Compassion boxes are a mainstay that these digital offerings are designed to complement.”

“We are also proud of The Long Walk for Water. Many walking challenges aren’t very inclusive, focusing heavily on distances covered when not everyone has the time or the physical ability to do that. With The Long Walk for Water, you or your team can decide what your challenge looks like, then simply commit to that for forty days.”

## How to register:

### As a school:

Each Catholic school is searchable on the Project Compassion schools sign-up page, enabling you to set up a school fundraising dashboard under which teachers can create teams. More information on how to easily set up students can be found in the FAQs.

### As a parish:

Each Catholic parish is searchable on the Project Compassion parish sign-up page so a parish representative can easily set up a parish fundraising dashboard under which the parish representative can create teams. More information can be found in the FAQs.

As an individual, group, or organisation:

You can easily register as an individual – from there one of your group or organisation can set up a team that the rest of you can join. More information can be found in the FAQs.



Leanne Langdon, Community Fundraising Manager at Caritas Australia said, “Project Compassion is over sixty years old but it continues to move with the times. Those who want to fundraise online and share their efforts on social media will find it easier

## District Church Times and Contacts

### Anglican

- St Paul’s, Rushworth: 0419 512 632
  - 9.30am 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month - Communion
  - 9.30am 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of month - Lay led service
- Christ Church, Murchison: Rev Richard Pennington: 0405879554
  - 11am service every Sunday
- St Matthews, Stanhope: 0419 855 964 (Church Warden)
- St John’s, Colbinabbin: 0428 329 344 (Mick Clayton)

### Presbyterian

- St Andrew’s, Rushworth: Sunday 9am: Minister Kalpan Vasa 0477 241 042 or Elder Gary Dunstan 5856 1332.
- St Andrew’s, Stanhope: 5831 6494 (Rev Kyung Rae Ee)

### Catholic

St Mary’s Parish. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays: Cornella 9am; Stanhope 10.30am. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays: Rushworth 9am; Murchison 10.30am. 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: One Parish Mass - Rushworth. Contact a team member on the parish mobile phone: 0459 898 925. Sunday Mass continues online from St Kilian’s Sundays 10am.

### Shine Church, Stanhope

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

### Generations Church, Tatura

5824 3240 (Pastor Jeremy Burr)

### Salvation Army: 5852 3875

### Uniting Church

Waranga Uniting Churches – Rushworth, Colbinabbin, Murchison and Tatura. Service Times: Weekly at 9.30am (with the ‘room’ open for a chat at 9am)

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

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

You are welcome to join us in person or from your lounge room via Zoom. The link for the Zoom service can be found on our website [warangaunitingchurches.net.au](http://warangaunitingchurches.net.au) or can be emailed to you each week.

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



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

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**When trying harder fails:  
Lessons from the bowling green**  
**I was off to a great start. It was a hot summer afternoon on the bowling green, and I was playing pennant bowls, feeling quietly confident. My first few ends had gone well—I was reading the green accurately, judging the weight of my bowls and placing them close to the jack. Then, something changed.**

A few bowls drifted wider than I expected. My weight control faltered, leaving some shots frustratingly short. I began second-guessing my line, overcorrecting and misjudging the turn of the bias. My first impulse was the natural one: try harder. I tensed up, gripped the bowl more firmly, concentrated with extra intensity. But the more I strained, the worse it got. My delivery became stiff, my weight control erratic, and the easy rhythm of earlier ends disappeared.

It's a feeling that any bowler—or indeed, anyone in any pursuit—knows well. When performance starts to slip, our instinct is often to push harder, to force things back on track. But in a sport like lawn bowls, where precision and control are key, brute effort is not the answer. In fact, it's the problem.

**The limits of trying harder**

In some sports, 'try harder' is excellent advice. If you're running a sprint, lifting weights, playing football or some other physically demanding game, increasing effort can directly translate to better results. But in sports that require finesse—like lawn bowls or golf—excess effort leads to tension, and tension disrupts technique.

The same is true in many areas of life. Whether it's problem-solving, relationships, leadership or even creativity, sometimes pushing harder doesn't get us where we want to go. Instead of improving, we become

more rigid, less adaptable and ultimately less effective.

**The right kind of effort**

The key in bowls—and in life—is knowing when to engage effort and when to release it. Instead of tensing up and forcing every delivery, the best approach is often to step back, breathe, and return to a state of focused relaxation. In bowls, this means trusting the natural rhythm of your delivery, being present to the feel of the bowl in your hand and letting go of the desperate need to control every variable.

This lesson extends far beyond the bowling green. Consider:

- **Creative work** – A writer struggling with writer's block often finds that forcing words onto the page doesn't help. Instead, taking a walk, reading something inspiring or even sleeping on it can allow fresh ideas to emerge naturally.
- **Leadership and decision-making** – A farmer trying to bring his son or daughter into the business may instinctively want to control every decision, ensuring things are done the 'right' way. But if he tries too hard to impose his methods, he risks stifling their initiative and enthusiasm. The best approach is often to provide guidance and encouragement while allowing them to develop their own confidence, experience and way of doing things. True leadership isn't about holding on too tightly; it's about knowing when to let go and trust the next generation.
- **Relationships** – When tensions rise, the instinct to push harder—to argue more forcefully, to fix things immediately—often backfires. Sometimes, a moment of pause, a deep breath and a willingness to listen do far more to resolve conflict than sheer effort.

**From striving to flow**

This balance between effort and ease is often described as 'flow.' It's that state where skill and challenge meet, where we are fully present, deeply engaged and everything seems to come naturally. Athletes experience

it, musicians describe it and even in everyday tasks, we recognize those moments when we are so immersed that time seems to disappear.

Flow isn't achieved by trying harder; it comes from trust, presence, and awareness. In bowls this means letting the body remember what it knows. In life it means cultivating patience, stepping back when necessary and allowing solutions to emerge rather than forcing them.

**The deeper lesson: faith and surrender**

This lesson also runs deep in matters of faith and spirituality. Many religious traditions emphasize that true peace, wisdom and growth don't come through sheer willpower alone, but through trust, surrender and openness. The harder we try to force spiritual insight the more elusive it becomes.

Jesus' words in Matthew 11:28 come to mind: *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."* Faith isn't about striving harder to be good, to understand everything, or to fix all that is wrong. It's about trust—trusting that grace is bigger than our efforts, that love meets us where we are and that sometimes, letting go is the most faithful thing we can do.

**The lesson from the green**

By the end of my game, I had recognized my mistake. Trying harder had only made things worse. When I finally took a deep breath, loosened my grip and stopped overthinking each shot, my bowls started finding their mark again.

The lesson is simple but important: not all improvement comes from increased effort. Sometimes, the key to success is not striving harder, but learning when to relax, refocus and trust in what we already know.

And that's a lesson worth carrying beyond the green.

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

*Brian Spencer, Minister  
Waranga Uniting Churches*

**Ceasefire enables seventy-six Caritas trucks to enter Gaza**

**In the two weeks following the ceasefire in Gaza, seventy-six Caritas trucks crossed the border carrying vital supplies.**

These goods - including food, bedding and shelter supplies - will support twelve relief distribution points, four offices, and four warehouses in Deir al-Balah, Khan Younis, and Gaza City.

Included in the relief efforts is the delivery of 8,000 winter clothing kits, all supported

by funds from the Caritas Australia Gaza Emergency Appeal. This is crucial amid harsh winter conditions including strong winds and heavy rain, which has caused flooding and damage to shelters.

Adding to the complexity is the mass movement of people, as they seek to return to their own neighborhoods and get some respite from the overcrowded conditions in the south."

In the week following the ceasefire, more than 423,297 people - close to a quarter of the total population - are estimated to have moved to northern Gaza, many of whom were displaced from their homes in the area in October 2023. Partners are bolstering operations in the north to support this alongside the continued assessment of needs in the south.

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Elva Moody is our Rushworth Representative  
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**119 Albion Street, Kyabram 3620**  
**Phone: 5852 1061 Mobile: 0409 935 375**



# WARANGA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

## DEATH

**LUND Neil S: 22.10.1942 - 01.02.2025**

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Neil.  
Dearly loved father of Jonathan (dec), Paul, Sharon and Samantha. Treasured Grandpop and Great Grandpop.  
Relatives, friends and the community of Colbinabbin are respectfully invited to attend his funeral service at the Uniting Church, Colbinabbin on 24 February 2025 commencing at 11am. Followed by a private cremation.  
After the Service, guests are then invited to join us for refreshments at the Colbinabbin Hall.

Kyabram & District Funerals  
119 Albion Street Kyabram  
Phone 0358521061  
www.kyabramfunerals.com.au

## THANK YOU

I would like to thank all the wonderful District Nurses for all their wonderful help and care during my time of need. Also to the nurses and doctors' care and service at the Kyabram outpatients.

Mavis

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Rushworth RSL Sub-Branch

#### AGM/General Meeting

The next Meeting of the RSL  
is to be held on  
**Friday 21 February 2025**  
**commencing at 10 am**  
at the "Cottage" 1 Murchison Road.  
**All members are requested to attend as this is our AGM.**  
All new and prospective members welcome.  
Apologies to Secretary on either:  
58567231 (Home)  
0408 664 607 (Mobile).

## WANTED TO RENT

### LOOKING TO RENT

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

### Rushworth Community House

#### Annual General Meeting



**Wednesday 12 March at 7pm.**

A light super will be provided.  
Please contact us on 5856 1295 to advise if attending, to assist with catering.

### Puzzle solutions from last edition

N	O	W	A	D	A	Y	S		B	E	T	A
E			N		S		T		E			G
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B			M		D		R		R			S
N	E	G	A	T	I	V	E		I	S	L	E
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B	R	A	D			M	I	S	C	H	I	E

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

### Kids Trivia answers

1. Mount Everest 2. Hedwig 3. Mars  
4. A donkey! 5. Seven 6. France 7. Seven  
8. Uranus 9. Hands 10. Indian Ocean  
11. Mosquito 12. Calf



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DISTRICT INFORMATION BOARD

WHAT’S ON AROUND THE TOWNS

FEBRUARY

Sat/Sun 22/23	Campaspe Artists Studio Trail 10 - 4
------------------	--------------------------------------

MARCH

Sun 2	Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am
Sun 2	“Neighbours Day” at Murchison Swimming Pool 10:30am - 12:30pm
Wed 12	Free BBQ - Murchison Neighbourhood House - 11am - 1pm
Sat 15	Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm

APRIL

Sun 6	Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am
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 9.30am at McEwen Place
- Stanhope Community Garden: Wednesdays 8.30 to 9.30am
- 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: Wednesdays 9am - 11am
- Rushworth Museum: every Saturday 10am-12 noon, 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11am - 1pm
- Rushworth & District Community Bank Board: meets 1st Tuesday monthly, at 6pm
- Rushworth Events Inc: meets bi-monthly, third Wednesday at 7pm
- Rushworth 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 st, Rushworth, Thursdays 7pm
- Stanhope: Chris’s exercises at Seniors: Mondays 10.45am
- Rushworth: Chris’s exercises at Rushworth Community House Mondays 1 - 2pm
- Colbinabbin: Chris’s exercises at Colbinabbin Hall Mondays 3.30 - 4.30pm

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 Health .....5851 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 - 6 MARCH

Display Ads: Friday, 28 February

Classified: Monday, 3 March

wnews@iinet.net.au

Waranga News



MEMBER 2025

A Voluntary Community Newspaper

Printed by Maxam Printing, Shepparton

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[www.campaspe.vic.gov.au](http://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au)

## Project Update

A new toilet block with three ambulant unisex toilet cubicles and one accessible unisex cubicle is being built in Mitchell Street, Colbinabbin. Two 20,000 litre tanks are in place, and the filling and compacting process is under way. Next steps are the removal of the spoil, followed by installation of the concrete slab.



### Coming Up

**Council meeting** | 6pm Tuesday, 18 March 2025 | Echuca Civic Centre  
Meetings can be streamed live: [www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/livestreaming](http://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/livestreaming)

## Immunisation Sessions

**By appointment only.** Register at [campaspe.vic.gov.au/immunisations](http://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.

### Monday, 24 February

• 9:20 – 9:50am | Tongala Shire Hall

### Monday, 24 February

• 11:40 – 11:50am | Stanhope Community Health Centre

### Tuesday, 4 March

• 5.30 – 6.30pm | Kyabram Senior Citizens Centre

### Thursday, 6 March

• 9:20 – 9:50am | 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 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.

## Employment

### #campaspecareers

- Duty Supervisor - Pools
- Early Childhood Educator (Casual)
- Group Fitness Instructor
- Learn to Swim Teacher
- Manager Community Safety

**For all positions currently open and application details, visit Council's website or call 1300 666 535.**

## Now Open

For all open projects and applications, visit [campaspe.vic.gov.au/nowopen](http://campaspe.vic.gov.au/nowopen)



### Ripple Fest 2025: Pumphouse Artist in Residency Program - Expressions of Interest

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. Applications close 28 February.

### 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. Council encourages individuals from diverse backgrounds and experiences to submit their EOI by 28 February.

### 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 and endeavours. Application forms are available from any Campaspe Library or by emailing [libraries@campaspe.vic.gov.au](mailto:libraries@campaspe.vic.gov.au). Applications close 28 February.

### Community Vision 2040 & Council Plan 2025-29 Survey

This survey is part the community consultation to update the Community Vision, and the Council Plan for 2025-2029, guiding how Council supports the community over the next four years. Your feedback about what you think Council needs to focus on and prioritise will guide Council's future actions. Survey closes 10 March.

### Draft 2025-30 Campaspe Library Service Strategic Plan

The draft 2025-2030 Campaspe Library Service Strategic Plan is now open for public comment.  
We encourage everyone to review the draft strategy and provide their input by 16 March.

## Community Transport Drivers wanted!

Join our team of volunteer drivers in Campaspe Shire and help us make direct, positive impact every day! With demand increasing, we are seeking new volunteer drivers to join our Kyabram area team.  
Have you ever thought about how hard it would be to make it to appointments or receive medical treatment without being able to drive? Our service allows you to provide a trusted link to regional/city health specialists for local people. While you are supporting locals to stay in good health, you will drive a beautiful new car, meet new people, and maybe even hear a life story or two! If you feel you would enjoy this role, we would love you to apply to be a part of our service!  
As a volunteer driver, your tasks will include:

Providing safe, reliable transport to out-of-town medical appointments; operating the supplied vehicle in a safe and efficient manner at all times, complying with Council policy and procedures; and providing a friendly and supportive environment to empower our regional residents to keep accessing the best healthcare in Victoria no matter where they live. If you would love to hit the road with us, apply today!



To apply:  
Phone Narelle Betts, Community Transport Officer on 1300 666 535 or email [shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au](mailto:shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au)

# Readers' Corner

- interesting things to know  
and do!

## Book it in

Sometimes in our book club we feel as though we have had a run of challenging and rather depressing reads. It's an unfortunate fact that some of the best books being written are about the darker aspects of society – especially by those many award-winning Irish writers who seem to so often expose the darker sides of life as they tap into themes of despair, suffering and injustice. These are stories we shouldn't avoid, we need to hear ... but sometimes we definitely need to lighten up the menu a bit!

### Life Keeps Me Dancing by Eileen Kramer

In March last year our book club read *Life Keeps Me Dancing*, an uplifting memoir that explores the truly remarkable life journey of the author, from her early experiences as a dancer in Australia to her reflections on aging and the joy of movement. The writing is filled with grace, wit and a deep appreciation for the transformative power of dance.

Born in 1914, Eileen Kramer's narrative journey covers her time as an original member of Australia's famous Bodenwieser Ballet, her mural painting in Karachi, posing as an artist's muse in Paris, and encounters with an extraordinary range of legendary figures from the world of arts and entertainment. The book interweaves her personal experiences with broader reflections on life and the challenges that come with growing older. She offers readers an intimate glimpse into her world, both the triumphs and the obstacles, while also highlighting the joy she finds in dancing throughout her life.

Eileen returned to Australia at the age of 99, but her creative energy was not diminished. She continued to choreograph and even took centre stage in dance productions, as well as collaborating with others to produce a series of short films and music videos that showcased her talent.

What stands out in *Life Keeps Me Dancing* is the author's ability to convey the sheer joy and liberation that movement brought, and that remained undiminished with age. It offers inspiration to those who may feel constrained by age or circumstance. Her resilience and dedication to her craft are truly motivating, making this memoir not only a celebration of dance but also an uplifting message about living life fully at every stage.

Eileen Kramer died on 15 November 2024 - a week after her 110th birthday.

Would you like to nominate a book you think should be reviewed? Or perhaps pen a short review yourself of something you enjoyed (or didn't!) ? Contact us: [wnews@iinet.net.au](mailto:wnews@iinet.net.au)

## KIDS' QUIZ

1. What is the tallest mountain in the world?
2. What is the name of Harry Potter's pet owl?
3. Which planet is known as the Red Planet?
4. What type of animal is Shrek's best friend, Donkey?
5. How many continents are there on Earth?
6. In which country would you find the Eiffel Tower?
7. How many colours are in a rainbow?
8. Which is the only planet in the solar system that spins on its side?
9. Which part of the body has the most bones?
10. Which ocean borders Australia to the west?
11. What animal has killed the most humans?
12. What is a baby elephant called?

Answers on page 26

## Sudoku and Crossword puzzle

### HOW TO PLAY

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

Remember no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.

### ACROSS

1. Brothel manageress
7. Caper
8. Long poems
10. Persecution
12. Young horse
14. Collar fastener
16. Twofold
17. Merged
20. Untouched
23. Soccer star, ... Beckham
24. Flowed out (from)
25. Crisp fruit

### DOWN

1. Timidly
2. Curved entrance
3. Largest continent
4. Stop briefly
5. Lovers' saint
6. Fondled
9. Sorrowfully
11. Indian prince
13. Non-commissioned officer (1,1,1)
15. Receded
16. Drenches
18. Dilly-dally
19. Edible organs
21. Male & female (college) (2-2)
22. Soggy

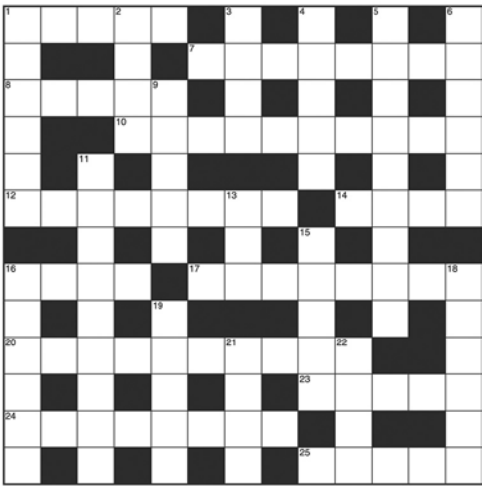
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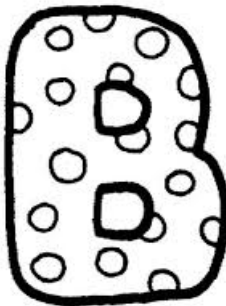
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### Crossword No: 46



Solutions will appear in the next edition.

## Bisforboomerang



Letter B



A boomerang is a throwing stick, traditionally made of wood and usually associated with our Australian Aborigines for hunting. However

An example of Aboriginal dot painting. ancient boomerangs have also been discovered in Egypt, the Americas and Eurasia. Returning boomerangs (that come back to the thrower) are used mostly for fun and recreation, but are also used to decoy birds of prey, or thrown above long grass to frighten game birds into flight. Of course, some boomerangs are just decorations to hang on your wall. You need to get a genuine boomerang and there's no guarantee it will come back (especially if you haven't been taught the skill of how to do that!)



# FRRR Strengthening Rural Communities

## — Small & Vital Grants

The Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) provides grants to support communities across rural, regional, and remote Australia. These grants aim to strengthen local initiatives, build resilience, and address unique challenges faced by these communities.

FRRR offers a variety of funding programs, including Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC), which provides small grants for grassroots projects.

Grants up to \$10,000 are available for a broad range of community-led initiatives that directly and clearly benefit local communities, strengthen local people, places and climate solutions, and with a preference for smaller communities (populations under 15,000).

Eligible applicants typically include local not-for-profits, community groups, and local governments. Funding can support projects related to infrastructure, mental health, economic development, environmental sustainability, and social cohesion.

Applicants must demonstrate a clear community benefit, strong project planning, and alignment with FRRR’s funding priorities.

Grant amounts and application deadlines vary depending on the program. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis and assessed quarterly. Round 24 is now open and will close on 27 March 2025.

To apply, organisations should review the specific guidelines for each grant program on the FRRR website, prepare a detailed application, and provide necessary supporting documents.

FRRR grants play a vital role in empowering rural and regional communities,

fostering long-term growth, and enhancing local well-being. For more information, visit [www.frrr.org.au](http://www.frrr.org.au).

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# Colbo Sports Report

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## Elmore wins Annual Finn Rathjen tournament

Rushworth and District Community Bank were once again major sponsors for the annual Finn Rathjen Tournament held at Colbinabbin on Sunday 9 February.

Congratulations go to Elmore Bowls Club for taking out the win and to Colbinabbin who were runners-up.



Rhonda Risstrom presented the winners' cheque to the Elmore team on behalf of the Rushworth and District Community Bank.  
(Above) Rhonda with Elmore team K Wills, W Billett, N Dobell and G Williams  
(Left) Runners-up team from Colbinabbin, R McEvoy, B McArdle, M McArdle and B Cuttriss with Rhonda.

## Colbinabbin Tennis Club has a new President

The Colbinabbin Tennis club recently held a morning tea to mark the end of the season and recognise Slab Ryan for his many years of work to the club.

Christopher 'Slab' Ryan has been a player since his junior years and played and won many senior grand finals. He also stepped up as President many years ago and with his dedication to the tennis club, especially the social side, the club has kept running.

This year, Heather Woodman took over the reins as President. There are currently two junior teams, and no senior teams. However, behind the scenes, there are strong rumours that there may be a Colbo senior's tennis team in 2025-26 season with Slab rallying the locals during Friday evening drinks at the hotel, like any good past president should do!

### Raffle

The Colbinabbin Tennis club raffle is also on now. Go into the draw to win a box of six local Proseccos . Tickets \$5 each or three for \$10 available at West's or from parents of junior tennis players.



Slab congratulates Heather on her new role.

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# Rabbit Control Workshop

Tuesday 10am  
February 25, 2025

In this workshop you will hear from Jaye Caldwell, Biosecurity Officer with Ag Victoria, on how to plan and implement a rabbit control program on your property.

Topics covered include:

- Impacts of rabbits, community obligations, compliance considerations
- Rabbit control techniques – how, when and why of baiting/ripping/fumigation
- Planning a control program on your property
- The importance of community collaboration

Registrations essential. Please register at:  
<https://www.trybooking.com/CYWZJ>

Where	When	Cost
Bamawm Extension Fire Station 917 Echuca West School Rd, Echuca West	Tuesday, February 25, 2025 10am to 1pm	Free to Landcare Members \$10 non members

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0411 214 751 or [dan@gmln.com.au](mailto:dan@gmln.com.au)





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# Tatfest 2025



## Sunday 2 March - 10am to 4pm

### Mactier Gardens, Hogan Street, Tatura

A festival for the whole family with meals, sweets, drinks, activities for the young, entertainment for all, demonstrations and market stalls.

**Entry, activities and entertainment are all FREE**

You can buy meals and drinks & items from the market stalls.

Meals, sweets and drinks include Lions BBQ, & Filipino, Malaysian, Indian & American cuisines, twisted vegetables on sticks, Ice cream, Gelato, Fairy Floss, pancakes, coffee, soft drinks.

Entertainment includes the Wildings Singers, Rushworth band, Kyabram Bush Poets, dancers, singers.....

Activities include Face painting, Bouncing castle, pedal cars, tiny tails, train rides, gyroscope, slot cars, activities in the park...

Market stalls

Demonstrations and training from CFA, SES, and Ambulance Victoria

A major demonstration from CFA, SES and Ambulance Victoria working together – not to be missed

**No dogs other than assistance dogs**