

WARANGA NEWS

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staffed by volunteers

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Rushworth alive with the sound of music



Rushworth Shire Hall was the perfect setting for a relaxing evening of musical cabaret-style entertainment, a glass of wine and a tasty supper.

Last Saturday evening over one hundred residents of Rushworth and surrounding districts were treated to a splendid concert in the Rushworth Shire Hall presented by "Opera in the Country." The group of seven young singers and musicians, were all graduates of the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, the Victorian College of Arts and the University of Melbourne. They presented a varied and delightful programme of operatic crossover focusing on cabaret songs by Kurt Weill, Edith Piaf and Henry Mancini and other artists.

"Opera in the Country" is the creation of Charlotte Goode from Kyabram who, when she moved to Melbourne to further her musical studies, realised that there was an opportunity to bring classical and approachable repertoire to rural towns with her fellow students and the programme has been a great success.

The hall was set up as close to cabaret style as the Shire Hall team could manage,

and at the interval the audience was served a delicious light dinner of soup and pasta by The Red Knights, the local fire-fighting motor-cycle group who support numerous local charities and who donated the excess food to the food bank.

The evening ended with a great supper provided by Opera in the Country.

A resounding thank you to Charlotte (soprano), Lily (soprano), Olive (mezzo-soprano), Digby (baritone), Matthew (baritone-tenor), Charlotte (double bass) and Alexandra (piano), and to the Opera in the Country organization, the Red Knights, to the Shire Hall Committee, to the people of Rushworth and district and to some lovely and lively ladies who dressed for the occasion.

(Pictured in their finery are Claire Campbell, Heather Wellington, Marcie Martin, Margaret Raglus and Marg Watson)



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

Have your say! Readers are invited to contribute their letters, opinion pieces and ideas to these pages.

Heritage listing for Balaclava mine?

The Balaclava mine at Whroo is under consideration for special registration by Heritage Victoria. The open-cut mine is the most visible sign left from the district's golden age over 150 years ago.

Mr Stephen Avery, Executive Director of Heritage Victoria, has submitted a recommendation to the Heritage Council of Victoria that the Balaclava Hill Mine Precinct, located at Reedy Lake Road, Whroo, is of State-level cultural heritage significance.

Mr Avery further recommends that the mine and the area immediately adjacent to it should be included in the Victorian Heritage Register in the categories of Registered Place and Registered Archaeological Place.

The public announcement by Heritage Victoria includes an invitation for any member of the public to make comment with a closing date of 22 July, 2025. Details may be found at:

<https://heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/decisions>

<https://assets.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/assets/ED-Rec-Balaclava-Include.pdf>

The mine is a popular tourist attraction, and has been the subject of a huge amount of discussion since the mine's peak period

between 1860 and 1880, when John Lewis was the key player, together with various business partners.

The tunnel into the base of the mine, was once used to move gold-bearing material for crushing, in carriages on a small rail track, in the search for the elusive treasure. The tunnel has been closed, re-opened and currently closed in my lifetime. Public safety was cited as the key concern, prompting the closures.

Fifty years ago, in 1975, there was a proposal to create tourist interest in Whroo and district by re-creating working mining activity at the mine, on a smaller scale to the village created at Sovereign Hill, Ballarat. Waranga Shire Council took an interest but projected costs quickly saw the proposal set aside.

The mine sits within the boundaries of the Shire of Campaspe, and Parks Victoria is responsible for the location within the forest.

I will be supporting the Heritage Victoria proposal, with the opportunity to create new and important oversight of what happens at and near the mine in future.

**Alan McLean
Queenscliff**

Drought grants officially open - but more needs to be done

Drought support grants are now officially open for applications in our region, but for many farmers, the support on offer simply won't be enough to get them through.

One of the Government's key measures – the \$5,000 On-Farm Infrastructure Grant – is now available, but it falls short of what's truly needed.

A \$5,000 grant won't save a farm on the edge.

We need serious, large-scale solutions to match the scale of this disaster. The current crisis calls for a long-term plan, not another small, one-off payment.

The grants offer between \$1,000 and \$5,000 (excluding GST) on a matched dollar-for-dollar basis. For example, if you spend \$2,500 on approved works, you may be reimbursed for half.

Eligible projects include practical infrastructure upgrades such as stock containment areas, water reticulation, irrigation improvements, fodder and grain storage, re-fencing, and feed systems.

To apply, you must be actively working in a primary production business in an eligible area, have had an ABN since 30 September 2024, contribute labour to the business, and earn either most of your income or at least \$75,000 annually from farming.

Applications are made through Rural Finance. Once approved, you will have three months to complete the work, after which you must submit receipts to be reimbursed.

I've recently sent out a detailed update on how to apply, what support is available, and who to contact.

If you would like a copy, please email me at Annabelle.cleeland@parliament.vic.gov.au – I'm more than happy to share it.

**Annabelle Cleeland MP
Euroa**

About the Balaclava . . .

The Balaclava Mine, located in Whroo, holds a significant place in our local gold rush history. In October 1854, sailors John Thomas Lewis and James Meek Nickinson discovered a gold nugget on top of Balaclava Hill. (It happened to have coincided in timing with the Battle of Balaklava during the Crimean War, and so led to the mine being named "Balaclava" in its honour.)

The mine commenced operations in 1855, employing over 100 men in its first year and yielding a profit of £15,000. By 1859, the Balaclava Hill Quartz Mining Company was producing £6,000 annually. The mine was renowned for its rich gold-bearing quartz veins, with some veins measuring up to 15 cm in width.

By 1881, the number of miners in the Rushworth area had dwindled to 150, and mining activities at the Balaclava Mine

ceased in the 1920s. The site continued to be worked intermittently, with the last known mining activity occurring in the 1960s when the Mines Department filled in the main shaft.

Today, the Balaclava Mine is part of the Whroo Historic Reserve and serves as a tourist attraction. Visitors can explore the area via walking tracks and lookout points that offer views of the extensive open-cut mine.

Many local residents would remember the adventure of climbing down the steps and walking through the tunnel at the base of the mine. However, access to the open cut was eventually prohibited for safety reasons. The site is also a part of the Whroo Historic Trail, which includes remnants of the gold rush era such as mining shafts, tunnels, cyanide vats, puddle machine and building foundations.



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Proudly supporting the local community

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

New Waste Facilities Levy included in 2025/26 Campaspe Budget

At its meeting on 17 June, Campaspe Shire Council adopted its 2025/26 Budget including fees and charges alongside the 2025–2029 Revenue and Rating Plan. It includes a new Waste Facilities Levy to be implemented in the 2025–26 financial year.

The \$94 per property fee will apply to all eligible ratepayers across the municipality. The levy aims to fund the operation of eight resource recovery centres and the rehabilitation of twelve closed landfills.

The new charge will appear as a separate line item on rates notices. Previously covered by kerbside bin charges, these costs are now separated to improve transparency and ensure all properties contribute— regardless of whether they receive a kerbside bin service. Since all properties can access recovery centres and share responsibility for legacy landfill sites, it is proposed that the levy creates a fairer system for the whole community.

To offset the introduction of the levy, the council is reducing kerbside waste collection charges. For instance, the fee for residential food and garden waste bin collection will decrease by \$66, from \$175 to \$109. However, with a 30% increase in the state government’s EPA waste levy, the overall cost of waste services will rise for all ratepayers.

The introduction of the Waste Facilities Levy follows community consultations, including a round table discussion with thirteen geographically representative residents. Council reports that the community was supportive of the new levy, which separates public asset charges from user-pay services like kerbside collection.

Budget summary

Council has committed \$195.4 million over the next four years to capital works, beginning with \$42.82 million in 2025-26. This includes significant investment in roads, recreation, and community infrastructure, such as:

- \$15.85 million for roads infrastructure renewal and upgrades.
- \$14.53 million for the redevelopment of Victoria Park, Echuca.
- \$2.96 million for the Wilf Cox Pavilion upgrade in Kyabram.
- \$1.74 million for continued implementation of the Echuca Holiday Park master plan.
- \$1.08 million for kerb and channel drainage works.
- \$1 million for Shire-wide building renewals.

Council is also investing in the future of people and places, with operational funding allocated to:

- \$500,000 for the Rochester recreation reserve facility detailed design.
- \$135,000 for Waranga Rail Trail signage.
- \$100,000 each for the Bridge-to-Bridge design, a new people strategy and gender equality action plan, and the implementation of the Economic Development and Tourism Strategy.
- \$80,000 for urban design along the Northern Highway in Echuca.
- \$70,000 for precinct structure planning review.

- \$50,000 to implement the Emissions Reduction Action Plan.

The 2025-29 Revenue and Rating Plan outlines how Council will collect revenue over the next four years and includes detailed methodologies for rating different property types and outlines payment options, rebates, and debt recovery processes.

Community feedback

Campaspe Shire Mayor Cr Daniel Mackrell said the adopted documents reflect Council’s commitment to fairness, sustainability and service delivery, shaped by valuable community feedback received throughout via in-person community forums and online feedback.

“These conversations helped Council better understand community expectations and have directly influenced the structure of this year’s budget as well as the updated Revenue and Rating Plan” he said.

“We’re grateful for the community’s engagement in shaping a budget that supports both immediate needs and long-term priorities.” “These documents balance the need for responsible financial management with the delivery of vital infrastructure and services that support the wellbeing and prosperity of our Shire,” Cr Mackrell said.

The adopted documents are now available on Council’s website at <https://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/Our-council/Documents/Budget-fees-charges>



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Valé Lynette Eyleene McLean

6.3.1953 - 23.5.25

Written by loving brother Jeff Perry.

Sis, we are all gathered here today to say our goodbyes and to reflect upon the life of a wonderful wonderful person, Lynette Eyleene McLean or Lynny as she was affectionately called be her husband Alan or Sis by her siblings or Mum or Grandma by her own family.

Sis was born at Rushworth on the sixth of March 1953 the forth of six children to Jeff and Vera Perry more affectionately known as Chief and MaMa.

My first memories of Sis was of a baby with lots of pink things ribbons bows and all things tizzy. She was a bit of a cutie As us boys Robert, Jeffrey, James and very young Ross all grew a little older we soon realised that when a girl enters the predominantly male Perry lineage, she tends to be treated a bit special.

Think along these lines, Sis, her own bedroom, boys, four jammed into one room, Sis, beautiful pink wallpaper, boys, Masonite walls, Sis, big shiny new mirror, boys, Masonite walls. Sis, a stylish white timber bed with a quality bouncy mattress, boys, old hospital type beds with saggy boomerang shaped floppy mattresses.

We boys thought there was a bit of favouritism, mainly from Dad. A few years on we boys sort of worked out that Sis actually was special. We could see calmness, fairness, wisdom, a no fuss attitude and other inherent traits that would be lifelong such as her unselfish manner.

After leaving school she worked in the family business as bookkeeper, sign writer and general gopher, she added a bit of polish to an otherwise commercial looking butcher shop.

She enjoyed sport and was good at it with her favourites being netball, tennis, table tennis, swimming, youth club and was a member of the marching girls. She was also a member of the younger set, a group who organised dances and charity fundraisers as well as being an entrant in the Miss Australia quest.

It was at school that she became part of a wonderful and enduring friendship group. Four young girls, Lynette, Pauline, Val and Robyn, they grew up together knocked around together and had lots of fun.

When they were in their mid teens, they tongue in cheek, self named their group, "The mole patrol". Of course the name stuck, as did their Modus Operandi. Which was basically good people having fun and supporting one another, even after 60 years. I can picture the four girls all tarted up on Sunday arvo with a competition to see, who had the shortest mini skirt and the longest boots with the highest heels.

It was 1974 when a dashing, handsome young fellow hit our town. He was a snappy dresser with long flowing hair, a trendy moustache and a flashy red, noisy, hotted up Holden, enter one, Alan McLean. Attention girls!

It wasn't long before Sis and Alan had become very friendly. The plot thickens here, it turns that Alan was also a very good footballer and Sis's dad Chief was the president of our football club and he declared we couldn't afford to lose this guy to Colbinabbin.

But short story, Chief finished up signing his footballer and along the way gained a son in law. It was definitely a win win. Sis and Alan married in December 75 and lived in Rushworth for a short time. At this stage Alan was keen to take the first step at becoming an independent small

business owner, gaining experience his home town of Warracknabeal presented an ideal opportunity.

So with the full support of Lynny they moved to, what would become their forever home town. Frequent trips back and forth to Rushworth maintained her strong bond with her parents, family and friends. Sis loved the family gatherings at Perry's Place, the dinners, outdoor fires and cook ups, with four generations providing the entertainment.

In 1977 Lynny gave birth to Nathan followed by Amber and Tiffany. When the kids reached school age Sis returned to the workforce, enjoying many years at Woodbine helping, guiding, teaching her regular clients. She loved her work and they loved her, once again with those same values shining bright.

Life was busy now, the business was flourishing, kids have grown up, more weddings and grand kids start arriving, this heralds in a new era for "Grandma" and she just loved her role as a sort of a "soft family matriarch".

Let's touch on what Sis loved. She loved the fatty crunchy tail on a barbecued loin chop and the first crusty slice of a roast and the well done roast spuds of course, all in the fingers with a generous dusting of salt. She loved cooking, with the pav roll her signature dish, she loved to travel, she loved her garden, she loved dressing a bit quirky, but above all she loved her family, her husband, her children and her grandchildren and as we all know, this very powerful emotion was returned in spades.

It was about 25 years ago that Sis was first diagnosed with breast cancer, she had a second relapse then a third and recently a fourth. Never one to complain, it was usually, I'm alright. During her long battle it was those same values that never wavered, with that stoic no fuss attitude, her smile and humour shining bright, right till the very end.

Written by Loving Husband Alan.

Wow, I don't think I have ever had a harder job to do in my 71 years of life. I know that this is the fourth time that this insidious disease has redirected our lives, but the end result, which is the reason we are here today, was not my thought this time. It never crossed our minds.

25 years of our 50-year marriage, we have had to put up with this bastard called Cancer. But for 25 years we also lived a marvellous life, and it is pretty hard to accept that this love, this partnership, this friendship that is better than any best mate can offer, has now ceased.

All that I have now is memories, along with a massive number of shoes, handbags and clothes. Lynette's taste in her buys is exceptional. I couldn't count the number of times she was asked about a particular bag she purchased in Switzerland. People would ask "where did you get that, it is beautiful". When she would respond with Lucerne in Switzerland, I think it changed their mind about travelling to get one.

In late 1974 when I was working in the Bank, I was moved from Horsham, Bank of New South Wales to a little town the other side of Bendigo known as Colbinabbin. The town adjoins a larger town known as Rushworth. A month after arriving, I had a get together at the "Bottom Pub" with Kevin Thewlis and Marc Barry who were school mates. Afterward, we decided to have a seat on the house fence next door, as you could imagine, we were in no sober state.

However, as I was sitting there, there was a sight coming towards me, the most beautiful sight I had ever seen... a beautiful Afghan dog and the girl leading, well she was pretty good too. No seriously, this girl was absolutely amazing. Me in my reasonable drunken state, who happened to be sitting on her family's front fence tried to make conversation, but needless to say, I wasn't too successful.

Not one to give up, after work the next day I found out her name and pursued her. Within six months, we were engaged and another six months later on the sixth of December 1975 we married.

Our son Nathan came along in June 77 and Amber joined in the May of 1978. We had two children inside 11 months, therefore things were challenging. But with the wonderful mothering by Lynette, nothing was a bother. We then welcomed Tiffany in December 1985 (40 this year) and our family was complete.

We enjoyed many years of seeing the family grow together as Nathan, Amber and Tiffany grew up, created friendships, found their own partners and created their families, providing us with our seven beautiful grandchildren, Miles, Cole, Fionn, Tylah, Rex, Judd and our only granddaughter Sylvie.

As years went on, we started taking trips, firstly within Australia such as most of the capital cities, the east coast regularly, Queensland numerous times, Tasmania and then expanded to New Zealand, which we visited three times.

In 2019 we took on a big one with Slim and Pauline. Travelling to Scotland for two weeks on a self-drive holiday to discover my ancestry. Then to Liverpool, London and surrounds for another ten days.

From there we jumped on the Eurostar to France doing the battle fields, Paris and all the highlights, for a holiday that lasted five weeks. Numerous fun times that Slim, Pauline and ourselves often still talk about now. Not long after, COVID set in putting a stop to leaving our own homes let alone more overseas holidays. When the COVID pandemic ended, we lined up again for a trip to Switzerland, which was always one of Lynette's dream trip destinations and may I say, I am glad she had this dream. It was magnificent. On a guided bus tour with friendly people from several countries, we covered numerous areas such as Lucerne, Zurich, Grindelwald, Zermatt, Bern, Montreux, Geneva and St Moritz. This was followed by a self-drive around Ireland for two weeks which was also amazing. My wife Lynette was such a strong woman.

While in Zurich Switzerland, we were at a restaurant on our last night when she turned to me and said "Alan, I am going to get up and make a speech". She then proceeded to get everyone's attention and gave a speech for around seven to eight minutes to thank everyone for providing a fabulous trip for her. She explained that she had cancer in 2000, 2016, 2020 (at that stage, later again in 2024/2025) and that it was terminal. How much guts does it take to do that. And here I was, a blubbing bloody sook at our table. I just can't believe how well she handled her illness over the last 25 years. Brave, beautiful lady who was the rock in my life. As I said, if you can and you want to, do it while you can.

At this point I would now like to thank people that are going to miss Lynette,



perhaps not as much as I and our family will, but miss her friendship, her caring nature, her desire to make everyone's lives a little better in any way she could. My own brothers Gary, Keith and the two Julie's. The whole Perry crew of which there are numerous, mainly her brothers Slim, Jim and Ross and certainly not forgetting her sisters in law Pauline, Elizabeth and Angelique.

Also her sister-in-law Ronda, whom she also classed as a sister. Auntie Betty (the matriarch) will miss her visits. Denise and Terry (my, how Denise will miss the afternoon tea at the footy most Saturdays). Ray and Leora who have been there to help for many years and provided a wonderful friendship.

My best mate Kevin Clyne and Greta, who also have been there for our 50 years of marriage. Also Casey who has had many marvellous times, including a trip to Darwin.

Robyn who has been a life long friend from the original Rushworth days will miss her immensely as well. Robyn who was one of what they called themselves, the Mole Patrol, along with Pauline, Val and my darling wife. Boy they could tell a few stories. Woodbine was a special place for Lynette. She worked there from 05/05/1995 to the 09/11/2015 (20 years). Her three clients Shane, Kerryn and Cheryl whom she loved as family.

Even after ceasing work there, she still continued to treat them like family making numerous visits to see them. Shane and Cheryl have both passed away with Lynette actually speaking in loving words at Shane's funeral for five minutes and no notes.

God she was tough. Lynette passed away at 2.30am on Friday the 23rd May 2025 with myself, Nathan, Amber and Tiffany by her side. On the Saturday, three of our grandchildren Rex, Judd and Sylvie were all playing football at Huntly. Rex kicked five goals and got awarded best on ground. Judd kicked three goals and Sylvie kicking one.

On the following Saturday, Rex was playing his 50th game for Huntley, and was sitting on 47 goals for the season. I suggested that he could aim for his 50th goal and do this for Grandma. Subsequently, Rex kicked his 50th goal, and in fact kicked six goals 10 points in his 50th game.

At home here in Warracknabeal Tylah also played in the under 17's football and received an award. It was great news to combat the sadness in my life. It was also known that four Football/Netball clubs wore black armbands in memory of Lynette, being the Warrack Eagles, Huntly, Rushworth and Colbinabbin. A beautiful gesture. I will miss you immensely my darling, one day we will meet again and our beautiful partnership will continue. Until then, I will try to keep strong.

Love you now and always.

Anniversary of the sinking of the ship Montevideo Maru

July 1 this year marked the 83rd anniversary of the loss of the Montevideo Maru, a ship transporting Australian Prisoners of War, which was sadly sunk by friendly fire in 1942.

An American submarine torpedoed this Japanese ship, as there were no markings to indicate it was transporting over 1,000 Australian prisoners of war. All on board drowned and so it is recorded as Australia's worst maritime disaster.

The location of the wreckage, off the coast of the Philippines, was only found two years ago. It is lying deeper under the sea than the wreck of the Titanic and although the position is now known, the wreck will be left undisturbed.

Stanhope has an impressive mural in their town of the Montevideo Maru, and interpretive signage telling the story and details of locals whose lives were lost that day.

Murchison men also lost their lives due to this tragedy. One was Henry Anthony Gregory, who had been working as a County Court Judge in New Guinea for about twenty years. His wife Amy only knew of his certain fate after the war ended when records revealed he had been on the Montevideo Maru. Henry Gregory was the nephew of E J Gregory, prominent citizen of Murchison and proprietor of Gregory's Bridge Hotel. His wife Amy, was E J's daughter.

Another member of the Gregory family was on the ill-fated Montevideo Maru. Norman Gregory, a gunner in the Army and only 23 years of age, also lost his life that day in 1942. Norman was the grandson of E J Gregory and youngest brother of well-known



Stanhope mural of Montevideo Maru painted by Tim Bowtell

Murchison identity, Keith Gregory.

Recent information from the Crawford family has revealed that the life of another person connected to Murchison was lost on the Montevideo Maru. Allen Pattinson married Connie Crawford who grew up on the Andrew Crawford family farm on River Road, North Murchison. They had only married in 1941. Allen was in the AIF in Rabaul when taken prisoner and when he lost his life, Connie was left a widow at 35 with a very young son.

The sadness surrounding the sinking of the Montevideo Maru touched many Goulburn Valley people. It is worth a drive to Stanhope to have a look at the mural and read the well-presented information on the panels located across the road from the mural to find out more about this part of Australian War history.

*Kay Ball, President,
Murchison & District
Historical Society*

Seniors Program Grants open

Campaspe Shire Council's Seniors Program Grants aim to increase health, wellbeing and social connection among senior members of the community through the funding of concepts that not only promote positive ageing but are also inclusive and accessible.

Campaspe Shire Council's Mayor Cr Daniel Mackrell welcomed the opening of the grants program for 2025-26 and said he hoped the grants would help foster social connection and participation among the senior members of the Campaspe community.

Funding of up to \$1000 is available for eligible projects, events or activities to help senior community members to stay engaged, share wisdom or learn new skills.

The program is an opportunity for not-for-profit community groups, organisations and clubs to fund a seniors-focused event, program or activity. Proposed events could be part of Seniors Week celebrations in October, which will have the theme "Connect. Create. Celebrate".

Applications must be submitted using the Seniors Program Grants application form and can be handwritten or entered online via the Now Open section on Council's website at www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/NowOpen.

Applications close 3 August 2025.

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NEWS FROM THE OP-SHOP AND FOODBANK

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Always lots of bargains to find in store

Hello again! After my last week’s poem about struggling with pumpkins a couple of people have given advice. If I cut said pumpkin into quarters and then bake for a while in the oven it will soften and the flesh can be easily removed without removing fingers at the same time. So I’m passing this tip on to you.

If you are planning to go to the snow we have some snow clothes in the Op Shop at the moment. A beautiful set of Rip Curl snow dungarees for only \$50. They look brand new to me and I think they are a M size. We also have other trousers and jackets that would be great for a hike up the mountains. And let’s face it you wouldn’t be able to hire clothes for that price.

For P-12 College students who are attending the School Formal at the end of August we have quite a number of men’s suits that would be very suitable (ha ha, just realized I made a funny!). Again, the cost of buying from us would probably work out cheaper than hiring suits AND you have the suit for future occasions. We also have some lovely evening dresses for the girls so come in and have a look.

Esther and Janice have been working hard out the back and have now re-stocked our linen, all neatly packaged and labelled. Come and check out what we have in the linen department before you head to Spotlight. While we are in that corner of the shop we have loads of craft materials; tapestries, wool, embroideries, sewing and knitting implements and books and patterns.



Nihon Hammond organ \$50

Our games and puzzles will be on sale for \$3 over the next fortnight. So with games, puzzles, books and crafts who minds staying indoors over the cold weather.

Sam asked me to put a request that only CLEAN and USEABLE items be donated to the shop. I guess the guideline would be if you would buy it in the condition it’s in. We don’t have laundry or mending services, nor an electrician. The majority of things are fine but we have had a few bags lately that have had to be discarded.

Leaving the shop and going over to the Little Green Shed they have a Nihon Hammond organ for \$50. There is so much advice about learning new things to keep your brain going, wouldn’t you like to learn to play one of these? I am tempted but our house is small and crowded so I can’t fit it in. Two lovely writing desks are also for sale, one of them is \$100 and I think the other is less.

Lots of furniture in the shed and also lots of pictures and prints, in fact it’s a veritable Aladin’s Cave and you need to spend a bit of time hunting through everything.

To finish, some of us from the Op Shop went to the ‘Opera in the Country’ evening at the Shire Hall. We decided to glam it up, tiaras and all, and Margaret Raglus and I perfected our royal wave for the event. I think we imparted some suitable gravitas to the occasion – NOT!

May you have full bellies and a happy smile until next time,

Heather



Writing desk \$100 and a wall print

A WINTER HOLIDAY

A winter break with son no. 2.
Seemed an ideal thing to do.
So off we went, just he and I
Up to Marysville for things to try.
The first day was a day of fun
Waterfall, walks and tea and buns.
The next day he said “Let’s try snow”
So up the mountain we did go.
The snow it sparkled all around
In dips and valleys, trees and mounds.
We booked a lesson, hired skis
And pretty soon I’m on my knees
With stupid crossed planks on my feet
And soggy clothes and boots that leak!
My son he has a lovely time
And glides away yelling “This is fine”!
Day no. 3 dawns bright and sunny
I thought he was being funny.
“Let’s go horse riding, Mum” he said
“Really?” I answered from snug in bed.
But being a good Mum off we go.
At least we wouldn’t be in snow!
Now, horses and I do not mix
On me they like to play their tricks.
They either gallop or stand stock still
Which makes me look like a stupid dill!
My son’s on a horse and up the track
“Wait for me” I yell at his galloping back.
So I joggle and jig and bump and swear
The pain on my bum is hard to bear.
My son though, has a thrilling ride
So, “Wasn’t that great” I cheerfully lied.
Day no. 4 – I cannot move
My body’s on strike, my brain is too.
I feel muscles, bruises and I’m terribly stiff
My legs and arms I can barely lift.
A quiet day as it’s our last –
To be honest, I can’t move fast.
Next day a drive while we head for home
Next winter, remind me not to roam!

Heather

Opening times

Rushworth Food Bank:

Mon, Wed and Fri
10am-12pm

#9 Op-Shop:

Mon, Wed and Fri - 9am - 2pm
Sat 9am to 12pm

Little Green Shed:

Mon and Fri
9.30am - 2pm
Sat 9.30am to 12pm

Rushworth Museum News

by Nick Buzza

Rushworth Court House assessment complete

Last year the Rushworth Historical Society was successful in obtaining a grant from the Campaspe Shire Council to undertake a heritage assessment of the Rushworth Court House precinct. This grant involved hiring a heritage specialist to conduct a site inspection and prepare an existing condition and future recommendations report for the repair of the former Rushworth Court House, police stables and portable lock-up. It involved a heritage specialist visiting the site and undertaking a visual inspection of the building and preparing reference sketch plans and a condition report of all defects, complete with location, photographs, description of what is occurring, repair recommendations, priority and estimated cost. This report has now been completed and is now available on the Rushworth Museum website for public viewing. The report will enable the Rushworth Court House committee to determine a priority of works needed to start the revitalisation process and apply for funding to pay for the works.

This process is being done in conjunction with the Rushworth Community House who are currently the committee of management of the Rushworth Court House precinct and who helped with an extra \$1000 to have this assessment completed in addition to the funding received from the Campaspe Shire Council.

The Rushworth Historical Society, Rushworth Court House committee and the Rushworth Community House would like to thank the Campaspe Shire Council for their financial support for the rejuvenation of this important community asset.

Old cemetery sign funding grant successful

The Rushworth Historical Society has been successful in obtaining a grant from the Rushworth Community Bank to erect a sign at the Old Rushworth Cemetery. This sign will be similar to the information sign erected at the Whroo cemetery and will inform visitors and bushwalkers finding Rushworth's original burial ground (1853-1861) located in the Rushworth State Forest just off the Rushworth Whroo road as to the heritage aspects of the location, together with a listing of known Rushworth deaths from



One area in need of attention at the Rushworth Court House.



Tim and Will Le Deux offloading the wagon at the museum.



Old Rushworth town and WW2 Camp water pumps.

1853 -1861. The sign and the information contained on it will be designed by local researcher and historian Alan McLean who has completed a significant amount of work trying to determine who may be buried at the old Rushworth Cemetery from old newspaper articles and other sources as there are no official records as such.

The Rushworth Historical Society would like to thank the Rushworth Community Bank for their financial support for this project which will be an additional historical asset to Rushworth.

Le Deux wagon donated to museum

A new exhibit is now on display at the rear of the Rushworth Museum. The Le Deux family, one of the pioneering families from Whroo, has kindly donated a horse drawn wagon from their farm to replace a now removed dilapidated wagon. The wagon is of particular importance to Rushworth as it was made here in Rushworth as indicated by the Anderson maker's mark who many may know was a well-known cartwright and funeral director in Rushworth who operated from and resided at the building now used by the Rushworth Community House.

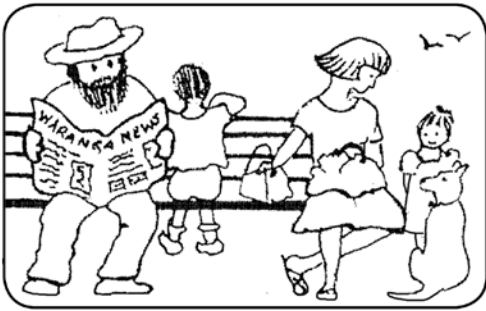
The Rushworth Historical Society would

like to thank the Le Deux family for donating this historical exhibit to the museum.

Old Rushworth water pumps exhibit now complete

Next to the wagon shed next to the museum is a display of two old water pumps. The blue water pump once supplied water to Rushworth from a pump shed next to the Waranga Western Channel on Stanhope road. It was kindly donated and moved to the museum by GV Water. The other pump supplied water to one of the Rushworth WW2 internment camps and was situated in a shed next to the number nine Channel on McEwen Road. Although donated to the museum by GMW it was up to museum members to move it to the museum from the dilapidated shed which was about to fall into the channel. Members were able to move half of this water pump to the museum but as the other half was too big and too heavy this had to remain. Luckily Brett Peterson with his earth moving equipment came to the rescue and was able to pick up the remaining piece of the pump and place it with its other half. Both pumps are now complete as historical exhibits next to the wagon shed at the start of the Waranga Rail Trail.

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



Around Rushworth

Garden Lovers Club

Rushworth Garden Lovers will be back at the Rushworth Community Space for the next meeting on Thursday 17 July. The rooms have been refurbished so we're looking forward to its new look.

It is time for another white elephant auction, so please bring something to sell.

If you have a gardening problem maybe someone can solve it for you; this month we are talking about growing strawberries.

The meeting is at 1.30pm.

Members who have not paid their membership, put \$10 in an envelope with your name on it and bring it to the meeting please. New members welcome.

Competitions: Best flower and vegetables, (we like to see what others can grow) and bring afternoon tea please.

Ethel

Re-Grow Rushworth - a new group in town

A new group in Rushworth called Re-Grow Rushworth, whose motto is 'Creating community and neighbourhood centred events for the youth and beyond', is building on the growth of the Rushworth Christmas decorations.

For the past six years Lyn Rumble and Heather Wellington, with the help of their elves, have grown the Christmas decorations into what they are today. They are extremely happy to hand over that task to Robbie Wilson who, with his band of younger helpers, want to expand from Christmas decorations to include Halloween and Easter activities for the community of Rushworth and surrounding towns.

Robbie is an ex-teacher and, as such, is very focused on providing more interactive events with the younger community. The group consists of mainly young mums. Vice President of the group is Kelly Ross and other members are Christine, Jess, Mel, Courtney, Sarah and Claire who are on the committee and others who have volunteered to be hands-on assistants. They have some great ideas for the town and welcome any additional people or ideas. Some of the ideas they have are to include Colbinabbin and Murchison in all the plans, a Halloween treasure hunt, men's breakfast and adding extra children's activities to the Easter Festival.

Re-Grow Rushworth is under the umbrella of Rushworth Events Inc. for insurance and legal purposes. This worked well for



Robbie Wilson is leading Re-Grow Rushworth.

the previous group so Rushworth Events is happy to continue the arrangement with Re-Grow Rushworth and encourage this dynamic group.

If you would like to join this group or contribute in kind or financially please contact Robbie on 0490 491 432 or Kelly Ross on 0432 491 178 or in the shop.

Red Knights provide welcome repast for opera event

Rushworth's CFA/Motorcyclists Red Knights have been gaining a reputation for their catering credentials over the past few months. On Saturday evening they added to their list of achievements, catering for the large audience at Opera in the Country at Rushworth Shire Hall.

Led by chef Colin Consiglio, the team provided a nourishing winter meal of soup (two varieties!) and pasta.

Together with the Shire Hall team (the waiters) they managed to serve up a delicious meal at interval, ensuring the audience was well-nourished and ready for the second half of the very impressive musical performance.



Leftovers (after feeding 100!) packed up ready to go to the Food Bank.



The busy kitchen - cooks and servers at work.

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

Rushworth benefits from Rushworth P-12 project

Rushworth Field and Game are pleased with their partnership with the Rushworth P-12 and their HOPE project. Conservation officer Graeme Wall said initially we were sceptical of the benefits of the program but that has now gone and has been replaced with a weekly thought of how to challenge

the students. They have been working on converting a previous covered barbeque area to a storage shed. Under the guidance of Charlie Cerchi from Field and Game and Grant Mitchell the student's coordinator, steady progress has been achieved.

This week there was another challenge from Field and Game to assist with some remedial work on the vandalised ceiling in the Rushworth Public Park toilets. Rushworth Field and Game members and volunteers and students have been also erecting various nesting boxes along the recently opened Rail Trail.

Rushworth Public Park trust Chairman Peter Raglus said we appreciate all our volunteers who do a lot of work to benefit users of the Park and would like to thank the students and coordinator. Funding is an ongoing issue for the Park and we must never underestimate the amount of volunteer work done by the various clubs and community members.



Seniors gather for free coffee

The senior members of our community usually get together at the MotoFinish Café every week for a meal and fellowship. This has been taking place for a number of years now, ever since the official club folded.

Last Wednesday 2 July the group were treated to a coffee paid for by the Rushworth and District Community Bank.

There was also a guest speaker, Colin Consiglio, Community Engagement Officer of the Rushworth CFA giving some valuable tips on how to stay safe at home.






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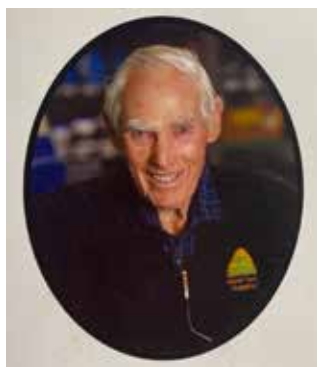
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Robert Rex West 9.11.1938 – 16.6.2025

Excerpts of the eulogy as presented at the funeral by Bob and Margery's four children: Robert, Anne, Heather and Bill.



Our Dad, was born on 9 November 1938, at the Elmore Hospital, to Charles and Heather West. Both had come from Bacchus Marsh; Heather was a nurse, and Charlie

his brothers Frank and Geoff, as well as various mates. The trips were to places on the Darling River as high up as Wilcannia and Pooncarie, which, back then, were quite long trips in his old blue holden ute.

One particular story that stands from the 50s, is when he went on a fishing trip with Jim Phelan and Maurice Ryan. They had not been in Wilcannia for more than a couple of hours, with the cars half unpacked, when the fisheries inspector arrive for a chat - and had a couple of words of advice.

1. The green cord with 3-way swivels, droppers and multiple hooks is called a cross line it's illegal I'll take it in exchange for this fine.

2. What are you doing here anyway? The river's in flood, you can't catch anything here. You need to get downstream of the flood waters.

Sheepishly they graciously accepted the fine, took the free advice, packed up and headed for south of Bourke. However, they may have stopped at Bourke for fuel, green cord, 3-way swivels and hooks.

Yes, Dad had an understanding of the rules and an understanding of what was needed to catch a fish. It started with cross lines, and there may or may not have been a drum net go in the channel each May and out each September, may or may not have been gill nets set in the Nine Mile, Connelly's and the Siphons from time to time.

So, a twist of irony came for the early school leaver in 1966, when a smart young teacher by the name of Margery Hewitt came to Colbinabbin. One night, during a local ball, the quiet lad managed to secure her heart. They were married in 1970, and us four children followed. In October 1973 he began trading in partnership with Mum, and in 1976, they joined the Combined Rural Traders buying group, known as CRT. This helped expand the business into agricultural and veterinary chemicals so they could cater for the needs of local farmers. After sixty years, the business was transferred to Bill, and it continues to operate under CRT today.

Our early family life was, in many ways a replica of Dad's family life. We grew up leading a very simple, uncomplicated life in the arms of loving parents. The river was our only family holiday destination. Dad would not take us anywhere else. Occasionally, it was to the Menindee Lakes or somewhere along the Murray River, but our most frequent destination was Monaro station at Pooncarie.

For all the adventures, having trouble with the cars wasn't uncommon. We all know about the time he took Mum fishing in the channel only to see stuff floating past that looked like it was from the back of their ute. Headed back to find no ute. Apparently, cars back then didn't have hand brakes. The Colbo community came to rescue with many leading a hand to find it. I believe it was Trevor Branson who found it and dived down and hooked the tow rope on.

Dad was always a fit and healthy man but this story goes back to when I was a teenager and Dad had to go into Bendigo for a routine X-ray. After the X-ray, the doctor comes out and starts filling in the paperwork, and without lifting an eyebrow says to Dad - "Well Mr West I see you like your game". This stumped and puzzled Dad - like he should know this doctor. How the hell does he know I like a rabbit in the slow cooker, or a quail in a stew, or even a wood duck in a camp oven. This got the better of Dad and he asked the doctor if they've met. "How do you know I like my game?" The

doctor's response was simple - "No Mr West we have never met, it's in your X-ray, your stomach is riddled with lead pellets".

It would be remiss not touch on Dad's involvement within the local community. The connections and the far-reaching impact he had are hard to sum up in this short time. He was an active member of the Colbinabbin Anglican Church since the late 1950's and took on various roles. He started playing footy with the Colbinabbin Football Club in the 1950's and served as Secretary/Treasurer for a combined total of 23 years. He became a Life Member in 1992. Around the same time (1955), he joined the Colbinabbin Rural Fire Brigade and assumed many positions. Again he became a Life member in 2013.

He was secretary and caretaker of the Colbinabbin Waterworks Trust until it became part of the Waranga Water Board. From 1966 onwards he was a member of the National Party. In 1967 he joined the Jubilee Lodge in Rushworth and served in many positions over his 57 years. In the mid 1950's he joined the Colbinabbin Gun Club, and assumed the role of secretary and treasurer for over 58 years. He was honoured with a life membership in 2020. He was a member of the Management Committee for Colbinabbin Town Recreation Reserve from 1967 onwards and held the position of Treasurer and/or Chairman, or for a total of 23 years. He was a member of the Memorial Centre Committee from 1968 and the Colbinabbin Cemetery Trust Committee from 1970. In 1972 he was appointment as a Commissioner for Taking Affidavits, and subsequently served as a Justice of the Peace from 1999. There were also other organisations he was part of for smaller periods of time, such as serving on the local Primary School Council.

Dad was an active and voluntary member who enjoyed the friendships formed as he served in these roles. He was always content to help others, never caring for recognition or reward. He remained strongly connected to his family despite the hours of commitments. If you add up the years of service conservatively, it spans some 370 years, which is an amazing achievement.

For the majority of these groups, Dad was still active up until the last eighteen months when his health began to deteriorate, and he needed to take a step back. At this time, we would like to thank Dad's mate, Geoff Weppner who generously took Dad fishing when he could no longer go on his own.

In November last year, after his 86th birthday, Dad took up residency at Waranga Aged Care in Rushworth. The adjustment was not easy, but many of the nursing staff knew Dad and could talk all things hardware or fishing to him which helped immensely. They also kept him occupied with many gadgets. In true Dad style, our visits were often characterised by him joining a piece of pipe to an elbow or a tee. Whilst a far cry from his backyard shed at home, Dad engaged with these things, and his strong hands kept tinkering until his final days. We are appreciative to all the family and friends who visited Dad whilst he was in Waranga Aged Care.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the wonderful, dedicated staff in Rushworth, especially for their care and attentiveness to us as a family in Dad's final few days. We love him beyond measure and his legacy will continue to live on with us.

was a WWI serviceman who was given a soldier settlement block at Burrumboot near the Cornella Creek, north of Colbinabbin. The family lived there for a while before moving into Colbinabbin. Dad was the fifth child, coming after John, Geoffrey, Frank and Margaret. Younger brother Alan followed.

The family had a wonderful, happy childhood. Dad's father was an excellent horseman, shooter and fisherman. The latter two traits were passed onto the boys. From an early age, his mother would let Frank and Geoff take Dad out fishing and shooting; he was quite small but she had firm trust in the older siblings and would always say "be sure you look after that little boy". As kids they spent many hours fishing by the creek and were taught from an early age to identify the various birdlife that lived there. Dad was synonymous with the land and nature's rhythms. Shooting was not done for sport. Times were tough for the family, so all game caught or shot finished up on the table and eaten.

Dad attended Colbinabbin Primary School then went to Rushworth Higher Elementary school. He got there each day using Floods Bus service - no school buses in those days. He considered this a perfect arrangement as Floods bus didn't get into Rushworth until well after 9am and had to depart by 3pm meaning he didn't need to stay at school for a full day!

Dad left school when he was fourteen. He was thrilled to bits. He chucked his hat in the air with great vigour when he got off the bus for the last time, sensing the freedom that lay before him.

His first job was rabbit trapping. He headed north with Ernie Vincent for extended periods of time trapping rabbits. He then started working in the grocer's shop in Colbo owned by Potters. He proved to be a good, reliable worker, so Mr Pearce who owned the hardware store over the road would often call on him to come and help him out. Dad took over running the shop in 1959 when the Pearce family moved to Bendigo. In 1964 Mr Pearce wanted to sell the shop and Dad had the opportunity to buy the business. Financially he had nothing behind him. His parents were unable to help, so he approached the bank. The bank refused to help. At this time two local families saw great potential in Dad: Joe and Sarah Darrigan lent Dad the money required to buy the business and Jack and Jean Branson lent him money to purchase stock. He began trading as RR West. Dad paid his debts back and was forever grateful for the opportunity he'd been given, and this element of grace became instilled in him. Over the course of his time in business there were many times he was able to reciprocate by helping customers who needed extra time to pay their bills without anyone ever knowing.

Shooting, fishing, and football were the love of his life. There were numerous trips up north with



Colbo Tit Bits

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Hall is looking great

The Colbinabbin Memorial Hall is open again and the parquetry floor and the new toilets look really good. Everything was spic and span for dear Bob's funeral.

Thanks to all who helped with the catering at the hall for the West family.

The hall renovations being complete means that the Library Depot is open and functioning again

Looking for volunteers

The Elmore Field days catering committee are looking for volunteers to fill shifts at this year's event. Shifts range between 3.5 – 8.5 hrs and run from 2 October 2025 to 10 October 2025. Funds in the past have been used by kinder, silo art, hall, cemetery, Colbo Store, football netball club and many others. Between \$2500 – \$4000 is raised each year. If you can help please contact Jacki Brown.

Scrabble 'n' Soup

A game of Scrabble, a bowl of soup and a catch-up. 10.30am 2nd & 4th Tuesdays @ CCH. Book in 5432 9230.

Who remembers the old Colbo Hall?



(Above) The old Colbinabbin hall was demolished on 26 May 1966. John Avarad shows the finial that was found in the general clean up preparing for the recent renovations at the current hall. Does anyone remember the finial being part of the old weatherboard hall? It's currently at the Men's Shed where the debate is whether it should be 'restored' for historical reasons. Ring John 0458 505 597 if you can remember its story.

There are Morgans, Morgans - everywhere!



Great to have Colbo residents return to help with the recent draw for Joker Poker at CCH. (L-R) Jenny Van Haandel (Brown) and Pauline O'Kane (Morgan) photographed with Ned Morgan who didn't win - again!



Toot Morgan (right) was winner of last week's home game Community Volunteer Award for services to the Thirds, umpiring and everything he does for the junior footballers. With Toot is Hugh Barlow and MaryAnne Dawson (Morgan).

Opening of time capsule

It's time for the opening of the time capsule which was buried in the Colbo playground to coincide with the Olympic Torch Relay which came through the town on 27 July 2000.

There will be a free barbecue at 12.30pm with the opening of the capsule about 1pm.

Now's the time to think what YOU might like to add to the capsule for the next opening in twenty-five years! Ring Jen Hayes (0437 068 440) if you want to know more.

LIBRARY

Wed 16 July Janice Tait
Wed 23 July Lynn Rathjen



FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER

July 13 Paul Tait, Oliver Rathjen
July 20 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.

Cemetery Trust

Mowing Roster (lawn section only)
July - Ramon Rathjen

Colbo Diary

Coffee and Cake - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 10.15am @ CCH
Colbo Community Shed - Thursdays BYO BBQ lunch
Colbo Pub Choir - 5pm Tuesdays at CCH
New Parents' Group - 1st & 3rd Thursdays 9am @ CCH
Scrabble & Soup - 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 10.30am @ CCH

JULY

Sat 12 Miss Colbinabbin (CFNC)
Sun 27 Time capsule opening & BBQ

SEPTEMBER

Sat 13 Grand final (CFNC)





Rushworth

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



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Passing of Mrs Toni Moller

It is with great sadness that Rushworth Community House acknowledges the recent passing of one of our treasured volunteers, Mrs Toni Moller.

Toni graced our reception desk for many years, helping people with her gentle kindness, world of experience and endless supply of tales about her beloved Jack Russell terriers.

Prior to moving to Rushworth, Toni was an active community member at Pantom Hill, about 30 kilometres northeast of Melbourne.

She was a hands-on fire fighter with the Pantom Hill Fire Brigade, and one of - if not the first - female bushfire fighters to fight blazes from the back of a tanker.

Toni was also the first female member of the Brigade's Management Team, a real honour during the 1980s and 1990s.

Farewell Toni, and thank you for all your community service. You will be sadly missed.



Vale Toni Moller - may she rest in peace

Successful “*Biggest Morning Tea*”



Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea is a national effort whose aim is to help finance the various support, research and cancer prevention activities of Australia’s national Cancer Council. Recently, Rushworth Community House hosted a Biggest Morning Tea with a great deal of help from students from our local P-12 College.

Around twenty students and members of the community attended the morning tea, which raised more than \$100 for the Cancer Council.

Some of the students used the school’s portable espresso machine to create and serve multiple coffee styles, while others prepared delicious food for the assembled guests.

The Community House is pleased to partner with our College to expand student skills and help them in their future endeavours.



Brods, Ella and Grace (above) took care of the coffee preparation and service with great skill while Phil and Michael (right) did a sterling job with the food.



A good chance to thank our bank



Representatives from Rushworth and District Financial Services were among the guests at the Biggest Morning Tea, where House Manager Anita Pirie (left) welcomed Bank Manager Alek Stokes and Customer Relationship Officer Jahnae Parrish to the new kitchen at the Community House. A generous donation from the bank enabled the House to complete its post-termite renovation with minimal delay and equally minimal impact to the community.

Arts & Tourism

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

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Brett Whiteley: Inside the Studio opens at SAM



Brett Whiteley: Inside the Studio opened last week with Wendy Whiteley giving the opening address to 220 guests. This is the final stage of the national tour and Shepparton is rewarded with this special exhibition of an Australian icon due to other major regional galleries being closed for renovation. Entry is free but patrons still need to book to see it until 5 Oct.

Margaret McDonald - *Connected but Different* at Ky



Two of the many extraordinary quilts by Margaret McDonald that can be seen at Ky Town Hall Gallery.



Margaret McDonald has been designing and making quilts for over 30 years. The geometry of repeat patterns with a strong graphic design is most appealing to her design 'eye'. Most of the works on display at Kyabram have been made since 2018 and they are a feast of colour and design.

90th State Creative
Arts Exhibition
CWA

Friday 8 and Saturday 9 August
at
Kyabram Town Hall
Gallery

Kyabram Town Hall Gallery Exhibitions

WHAT'S ON IN JULY

- MARAGRET MCDONALD – Connected But Differnt
 - RAYMOND HILL– Plein Air Artist
 - LEE & DELLA NELSON – Contemporary Art
 - BREAKING THE SURFACE- Splinter Contemporary artists.
- Open 10-4 daily except Sunday
5852 1546 or 0490 371 641
www.kyabramtownhall.com.au

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



Another confession

Since I wrote my ‘reveal all’ Cooks Column and confessed that I now have condescended to use carrots in my stir-fries, I’m quickly becoming a convert to frozen stir-fry vegetables.

It’s certainly quick, doing away with the preparation of whatever vegetable you’re using and I find I have less waste (no more finding mouldy bags of something in the vegie drawer of the fridge).

Most of the early Chinese in Melbourne came from Southern China and so those first Chinese cafés used Cantonese-style cooking. It was only later that the northern Chinese arrived with their Szechuan-style recipes which used chilli, different spices and their tongue-numbing Szechuan pepper.

One of my daughters has started using frozen vegetables and enthused about the Szechuan-style pork and green bean dish that she’d cooked using frozen beans. I thought you might like to try it.



Out with the dead, in with the new

It was a terrible summer and autumn for plants with most gardeners reporting fatalities of well-established plants. With the cooler weather and some rain, we are finally starting to get our gardens back into shape. An important part of this is disposing of the dead and replacing them with new plants.

It is important to work out why the plants died. If you simply replace them with more of the same you may be running the risk of them also dying. While they may have obviously died from the dry seasons you need to look a little closer.

Was the plant drought tolerant? The days of planting whatever we want have gone. The climate is drier and some plants that once did well in Rushworth may now be struggling. There are many drought-tolerant plants in the nurseries. Often, they will have a greyish foliage but ask for help from the salesperson or read the labels. Think of it as future-proofing your garden.

Did the plant require watering or more frequent watering? It is easy to miss a day or so of watering the garden, especially over the festive season. A watering system on a timer can prevent this from happening next summer. Manual timers are quite cheap and easy to use, but you do need to turn them on. A fully automatic system is much more expensive and more difficult to program. If you factor in the cost of replacing dead plants, the price of an automatic system is not so bad after all.

Is your watering system (if you have one) working effectively? It only takes an unnoticed blocked or mis-directed nozzle to deprive a plant of water. They do need to be checked regularly. It is much quicker to check the system than it is to buy and plant replacements. Rather than using the thin polythene pipe and elbows use a regular garden hose. It can snake around easily to cover all plants and can also be re-routed as necessary. Sprays and drippers are inserted using the tool used for the polythene or a drill can be used.

Was the dead plant out-competed? Even in

Pork and charred green beans

Ingredients

- 250gm pork mince
- 2 heaped cups of frozen green beans
- 1/2 onion finely chopped
- 1 tspn chopped garlic
- 1 tspn chopped green ginger
- peanut oil for cooking

For the sauce - mix together:

- 1 tbspn dark soya sauce
- 1 tbspn sherry
- 1 tspn sugar
- 1 1/2 tspn chilli garlic sauce

Method

Usually I stress that stir frying vegetables are done quickly and only until they are JUST cooked, retaining their freshness and crunch. For this recipe, the trick is to actually quickly char the beans in a very hot wok, then remove them before they go limp.

Stir fry the onion, garlic and ginger for a minute or two, then add minced pork, breaking it up as you go and continue stir-frying over a hot flame until it’s cooked - should only take a few minutes.

Add the mixed sauce and continue cooking, then add the charred beans for another minute. That’s it! Serve with some plain boiled rice.

Glen



Pork and charred green beans.

(We’re still learning how to use frozen vegetables. For this recipe you might defrost the beans and pat dry with paper towel to get them to char properly).

Handy Hints

- from Lyn Rumble

Repurposing or re-using everyday items - or quick and easy solutions to general household issues that maybe you hadn’t thought of - is what I like to do. This issue is a little bit of all sorts – laundry, house painting and smells!. Hope these hints come in handy for you in your everyday quest to save money, repurpose things or perhaps just think outside the box a bit to help you in everyday home life!

Lyn

*** Lemon juice wonders – it makes a great bleach in the laundry!** Use 1 cup of lemon juice in ½ bucket of water and soak the cottons. A soapy solution with lemon juice added is also an effective way to whiten cotton fabrics!

*** The smell of a newly painted room can be overpowering!** - Try putting a peeled onion in a bucket of water in the room, shutting the door and leave overnight, or if it’s somewhere close to the kitchen, put a few drops of household ammonia in a saucepan of water and leave this to simmer on the stove for an hour or so.

*** Don’t bother buying pillow protectors any more – you just need a couple more older pillow cases!** Over the actual pillow, slip one older type pillowcase on the pillow first, then the proper pillowcase on top. If you’re a bit short on pillowcases to do this for all the pillows in the house, some can easily be found at the local Op Shop – who usually have plenty to spare just for the change in your pocket.

*** If you just happen to have a spare room that doesn’t get used much- they tend to get very stuffy, but if you every now and again when you peel an orange for a snack, put the peel in a dish and leave in the spare room for several hours, it should make the room smell nice and fresh again.**

*** Do your picture frames keep hanging crooked?** Just get a couple of pieces of Blutac and place a lump under each corner and then press to the wall – the Blutac will keep your picture frame in place again until you move it!

The Zen Gardener

Health and Wellbeing

Check today for a healthier tomorrow

In National Diabetes Week (13 – 19 July), Diabetes Victoria is encouraging people to schedule a health check today, for a healthier tomorrow.

For people living with diabetes, regular health checks for eyes, feet, blood pressure and kidneys can reduce the risk of long-term complications. For people at risk of type 2 diabetes, Diabetes Victoria recommends the AUSDRISK tool or a chat with your doctor.

If you have a relative with type 1 diabetes, you can access the national Type1 Screen program for an antibody test to determine your risk of developing type 1.

Many factors affect a person’s risk of developing type 2 diabetes, and not all can be changed, including age, cultural background and family history.

The AUSDRISK quiz takes only five minutes and will determine your risk of developing type 2 diabetes in the next five years.



New Mental Health facility in Shepparton

Shepparton’s Mental Health and Wellbeing Local has opened at 151-155 Maude Street, offering free, walk-in support for adults.

The facility, part of a broader expansion of such services in Victoria, provides a welcoming space for individuals needing mental health support without requiring a referral or Medicare card.

For more information on Mental Health and Wellbeing Locals, visit betterhealth.vic.gov.au/mhwlocal.

A new approach to maternal child health and immunisation services in Campaspe

Campaspe Shire Council has reassessed its delivery of health and wellbeing services to local families and is planning a transition to a new model for Maternal and Child Health (MCH) and Immunisation Services.

Following extensive community and staff consultation, Council has committed to supporting young families to access essential pre- and post-natal care through external health services.

The new model involves delivery of the MCH service through the State Government and transitioning of the Immunisation service to an external provider. Council says this arrangement ensures the highest standards of care, clinical governance and professional support to nurses.

The Victorian Government will undertake its own assessment and announce a new MCH provider. Until a transition occurs Council will continue to deliver services to ensure a seamless transition.

Mayor Daniel Mackrell noted that Council’s priority is to ensure that families in Campaspe Shire have continuity of access to high-quality,

sustainable care.

“Once the state government makes the decision, Council staff will work closely with the new provider to ensure any change is well managed through a partnership approach to protect the interests of all.

“By transitioning to external providers, we can better manage the complexities and risks associated with delivering these vital services,” he said.

Immunisation services

Similarly, Council will undertake a procurement process for the delivery of Immunisation services into the future, recognising that high clinical standards, accreditation and risk oversight are more appropriately managed by specialised providers. Council has endorsed officers to begin the formal process to appoint a suitable external provider.

Dry July kicks off

Dry July kicks off this month, and the campaign is inviting Australians to be part of a major national milestone: helping raise \$100 million to support people affected by cancer.

Since 2008, more than 377,000 Australians have gone dry for the month of July. Their efforts have helped fund vital services provided by 40 cancer organisations across the country - from wellness programs and specialist nurses to transport, accommodation and therapy during treatment

This year, with over 15,000 Australians expected to be diagnosed with cancer in July alone, the need for support continues to grow.



look good feel better
FACING CANCER WITH CONFIDENCE

Workshop

Join us for a **FREE**
Look Good Feel Better workshop.
In just over two hours we'll offer you skincare, make-up and headwear tips and tricks to help you face your cancer with confidence.

Registration is essential.
Scan the QR code below, call 1800 650 960 or visit lgfb.org.au to register for this upcoming workshop:



Waranga Health
Rushworth

10.00am-12.30pm

21st July 2025



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Lawrence Nguyen (Proprietor)

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

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All about wildlife

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

Management of wetlands in doubt

I was saddened to hear that the Cafe and Hub at Lake Makoon at Winton Wetlands is closing due to the Winton Wetland Committee disbanding due to difficulties with funding. It is in the hands of DEECA until it is decided how and even if the area will be continued to be managed as a significant environmental wetland area.

My understanding is that initial government funding given years ago to provide infrastructure and continual upkeep and management of the area has run out and the government has declined the committee further funding to continue management. Other funding possibilities fell through and now here we are with the future of a really important wetland area up in the air.

People are quick to complain about how our National Parks and State Forests are managed. As in all endeavours in this day and age, everything costs money. Government money is put into unsustainable and damaging practices such as fuel reduction burns which

actually increase the fuel load and dry out the bushland floor, not to mention the damage to biodiversity of both native plants and animals. Sadly, governments are reluctant to offer more funding to assist in the management of such an important environmental asset.

Millions of dollars can be spent on endangered species programs yet protection and enhancement of habitat on the ground seems to be often left to volunteer and non-profit organisations.

This is the world we live in, where environmental protection is seen as a bad business deal.

I remember being invited to take part in the opening of Winton Wetlands as the area it has become today. I gave an environmental talk about the local raptors in the area and the turnout of people on the day was amazing. The prospect of the environmental work being put into Winton Wetlands was exciting and a huge thing for the area of Benalla. My heart breaks at the thought of all the hard



work over the years being lost if wrong decisions are made from here onwards by our governing body.

Winton Wetlands is a special place to me. It supports bird life, reptiles and amphibians that are becoming harder and harder to find due to habitat degradation and loss.

I always find something exciting when I am out there and it's a wonderful place to explore. It's also a very peaceful place to spend time in nature.

I wish I could be confident that the outcome will be in the favour of upholding and continuing to enhance and protect the Wetland's unique environment. Sadly, past experiences with areas such as these and our conservation regulator's history of mismanagement of significant environmental sites does not leave me feeling reassured.

If you have not visited Winton Wetland, I suggest you take time to go and have a look. It's a massive area of different habitat types and you may see some of the many creatures who are unaware that the future of their home and survival is dictated by money and whether those in power see the value in ensuring it remains the place I love.



Nurture Nature at Murchison

Learn how to nurture nature together this school holidays!

Bring your morning tea, enjoy a picnic under the trees, and learn about critters of all sizes during a fun two-hour program of FREE environmental education activities.

This event is proudly brought to you by RiverConnect, Goulburn Murray Landcare Network and Bohollow EnviroEd as part of the Activities in the Park program.

WHEN: Tuesday, 15 July, 9:30am - 11:30am

WHERE: Murchison Public Park and Gardens Reserve

Feisty marsupial lives a short, fast life

The Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority is highlighting the importance of tree hollows for wildlife in its 2025 Year of the Tree Hollow community awareness campaign. This month they are featuring one of the Goulburn Broken catchment's carnivorous marsupials, the feisty brush-tailed phascogale (*Phascogale tapoatafa*).

Goulburn Broken CMA project officer, Janice Mentiplay-Smith, said the Brush-tailed Phascogale was nocturnal and primarily arboreal, meaning it relies on healthy, connected forests and woodlands so it can travel through the treetops to search for nectar, insects, spiders, centipedes and bird eggs.

"As a hollow-dependent species, the brush-tailed

phascogale will use several tree hollows in which to nest and shelter during the day, demonstrating how important tree hollow habitat is in our environment," Ms Mentiplay-Smith said.

"The use of several hollows by the one animal is possibly a predator evasion tactic but means the demand for nest hollows is further exacerbated.

For injured wildlife contact Kirsty at Bohollow on: 0447 636 953

ON THE BRINK *by Neil Laurie*

Looking at endangered or extinct flora and fauna.

Island life

Islands are like an evolutionary petri dishes. Strange things happen to the resident species. Large species morph into small species and small species morph into large species in a process known as Foster's rule. Some of the results are surprising.

On an island where there are no large predators and food resources are limited there is no advantage in being large. A large species will quickly downsize itself to be the optimum size for the island in a process called insular dwarfism. This process actually speeds up as the animals get smaller because they grow to breeding age quicker.

The last woolly mammoths died out due to climate change and inbreeding about 4,000 years ago on Wrangel Island, to the north of Siberian Russia. They were at the lower end of the size range of mammoths, showing that insular dwarfism had started. If it had continued, they may have evolved to the size of the pygmy mammoth of the Channel Islands, off California. The pygmy mammoth stood around two metres tall (around 17% the size of its mainland ancestor).

In 2004 the remains of early humans were discovered on the small Indonesian island of Flores. The remains were very small and were initially thought to be genetic anomalies before it was realised they represented a new species of humans, subsequently named *Homo floresiensis* (Flores Man or Hobbit). It is thought that Flores Man arrived on the island 1.27-1 million years ago. It is not known if they were a pygmy group that migrated to the island or if they became pygmies due to

insular dwarfism. Either way they were the perfect size for the island and only became extinct around 50,000 years ago.

Foster's rule can work in the opposite direction: a process known as insular gigantism. On an island that has no large animals, small animals can evolve into much larger species because being small ceases to be such a big advantage. The best-known example of this is the dodo, a huge extinct flightless pigeon that evolved on the Island of Mauritius. On nearby Madagascar the elephant bird became the biggest bird to ever exist. Where there are no apex predators, a predator animal will evolve into a large, dominant predator. The Komodo dragon from the Indonesian island of Komodo was once a goanna-sized monitor lizard. It has evolved to be up to about three metres in length.

Charles Darwin was particularly interested in island species, especially those of the Galapagos Islands, an isolated archipelago in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Each island has quite different habitats to its neighbours. Darwin noticed differences in the islands' finches and tortoises and realised they must have each evolved from common ancestors to suit the different ecosystems. These observations led Darwin to develop his theory of evolution.

The problem for island species is that they live in a closed eco-system where there is no escape should something go wrong, and many island species have little fear of predators. It may only take one introduced species to upset the whole ecosystem. In many cases this species was *Homo sapiens* (or a species they brought with them).

Brush-tailed Phascogale the largest known mammal to die after its first and last breeding season," she said.

"The female raises her five to eight young from mid-June to early August, firstly within their pouch - a fold of skin on her belly rather than a true pouch - for seven weeks and then within the nest until the joeys are five months old. A female will sometimes raise two litters in her lifetime. She typically dies before turning two".

(from https://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au/news_events/feisty-marsupial-lives-a-short-fast-life.html)

Read more about the Brush-tailed Phascogale and other mammal species of the Goulburn Broken catchment in The Mammal Book, a 58-page booklet featuring beautiful photos and informative text: The Mammal Book - GB CMA - Goulburn Broken CMA

Birds of a Feather

Eastern spinebill

Winter is a good time of year to keep a lookout for the eastern spinebill. This bird is a very small honeyeater about 15cm in size with a long curved bill which gives the bird its name. When describing a bird in a field guide, a bird is measured from the tip of its bill to the tip of its tail. As the spinebill has a long bill in its measured length, this means that it has quite a small body compared with other honeyeaters of similar length. The eastern spinebill is found all along the east coast of Australia in dry sclerophyll forests such as the local box-ironbark country. There is also a western spinebill which is found only in WA. The two species of spinebill would have had a common ancestor before a change in climate created the desert which divided the two populations.

Like all honeyeaters the eastern spinebill feeds on the nectar of flowering plants. In the Rushworth bush it is attracted to flowering gums, mistletoe, correas and particularly to the mountain grevillea (*Grevillia alpina*). This grevillea is found throughout the Rushworth gold fields often in big spreads and seems to be a favorite of the spinebill when it flowers in early spring at a time when these birds are nesting. Honeyeaters cannot live on nectar alone and so they feed on insects and small invertebrates to complement the energy giving nectar.

In town the spinebill has a wider range of flowers to choose from. It can be seen feeding on a range of introduced species of garden flowers and citrus as well as common natives such as callistemons and banksias. Being a small honeyeater the spinebill has to compete with other larger honeyeaters which often chase it around the garden, however the spinebill is very quick and agile, moving very fast from flower to flower. Often hovering and showing the white in its fanned tail, its long curved bill allows it to feed on some flowers that other honeyeaters find difficult to get at such as eremophilas and coreas which have flowers with long tubed corollas.

The eastern spinebill is quite beautiful with its black, brown and white plumage. The male has a black head, while the female has a similar pattern but is a little duller in colour with a grey-olive head. If you keep a look out for a small, quick bird flitting from flower to flower you may be rewarded with seeing this delightful little honeyeater.

The Rushy Birder



Feisty marsupial lives a short, fast life (cont from page 16)

"Fortunately, where natural hollows no longer exist, the Brush-tailed Phascogale readily uses artificial nest boxes, however nest boxes should not be seen as a solution to the tree hollow problem. Preserving large old trees and standing dead trees is the first priority."

Ms Mentiplay-Smith said this important habitat was often removed for firewood, spelling disaster for the animals that rely on it for shelter and protection from predators - It's therefore important that firewood collection is undertaken at designated areas to ensure valuable habitat is not degraded or destroyed.

"The Brush-tailed Phascogale leads a short, fast life. After mating in late autumn to early winter, the male perishes. As he is around just one-year-old, this makes the

Fifty years ago in our district....

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



High drama at the hospital in July 1975

The Committee of Management of Waranga Memorial Hospital (all members named) published a notice "to advise that the decisions made to terminate the tenancy of Dr. G. Tai were unanimous, after full discussions and after advice from the Hospitals and Charities Commission". It had been considered that the doctor's demands associated with his practice and hospital admissions were excessive.

There was already optimism that a new doctor was interested to take up the appointment.

Long-awaited announcements indicated contracts signed to build new police station, new cell block and new residence at Rushworth. All up, \$102,000 was to be provided. Tradesmen were appointed from Bunbartha and Eaglehawk.

Josef Szathmary and Keith Smith of Merrigum gave notice of intention to seek a lease of about a square mile immediately to the north-west of the Balaclava mine. They sought a lease for fifteen years, planning to expend up to \$10,000 on "sinking and driving", so shaft mining.

1974 had been a very wet year across the district, but 1975 rainfall was only six inches to end of June at Rushworth, against average yearly figure of twenty inches.

Community

Father Michael Morley returned to Rushworth to conduct Mass at St Mary's church. He was presented with a silver serviette ring by Herb Barlow senior, on behalf of the congregation.

President of Stanhope Lions, Ross Murray, presented Waranga Shire President Cr. Bill Jacobson with a straw broom, to symbolise Lions involvement in national project to Keep Australia Beautiful.

Stanhope Guides Sherrie Gemmill, Shirley Brisbane, Mary Ann Bell, Karen Young and Debbie Lavery were busy sewing on uniform badges for activities like firefighter, accident prevention, hostess and camping.

Colbo Pub had installed a "colour" TV. Had a brown cabinet, with cream surrounding a screen which displayed in black and white!

The AGM of Rushworth Youth Club called parents to meet in the RSL Hall, then sitting on what we know as Hilders' Block.

A Senior Citizens meeting had an attendance of 29 members. Senior Citizens euchre party prize went to Mrs Amy Jones. (Would euchre parties work today?)

Schools

Grades 3 and 4 at Rushworth Primary

took off their shoes and Mr Ross measured the student heights, before making a graph of these measurements.

Gaye Sullivan of Grade 6 reported on a class wheelbarrow rubbish collection, while walking to the recreation reserve, "picking up two trailer loads of rubbish". Michelle Borger showed the class a home-grown carrot weighing three kilograms.

At the High School a picnic area of log tables, seating, barbecues and lawns was planned, using \$2510 grant, plus \$100 of school funds. (Sounds high. My guess is \$250 grant.)

Football

The paper's editor Peter Davidson labelled Colbo as certainties for the flag in early July! He encouraged the flag-makers to prepare green and gold material. (Even in a five-team competition he was sticking his pen out! Colbo had lost one game, to Rushworth, and Rushworth had only lost two.)

He may have been basing his tip on Colbo beating Mounts by 137 points, 23-19 to 3-7. Wayne Egan was out of touch, only getting six goals, Brian Ellis with four, and named as best with Macs, McEvoy, McTaggart, McMurtrie, McCubbery, Abbott and Rodda.

Rushworth may have forced a re-think, going down by just one point to Colbo after leading by 21 points at the last change. On a wet day, 7-15 was enough to defeat 8-8, with four Colbo goals in the final quarter. Brendan and Paul Tuohey were given as best, with McCormick, and Lambden, Horne and Betson named for the Tigers.

Rushworth's kicking for goal was "shocking" against Elmore. Half-time 7-14 to 2-7, and at the final siren 12-26 to 6-9. Alec Horne only got four, Bill Barlow two, with singles to Noel Lloyd, Rob Betson, John Bianco, Mick O'Sullivan, Maurice Clarke and Glen Heily (but I would have wanted to know who kicked the 26 points!) Mark Mackinder, John Lambden and Rob Raglus were shown as best players.

In the Seconds, Barry Thompson in the centre and John Raglus at centre half-forward were praised, along with Ian Cruz, Malcolm McLean, Wayne Hageman, Denis Ogden and Ken Risstrom.

Leading goal-kicker in KDL Seniors was Wayne Leppard of Merrigum, in the Seconds Brian Cresswell (Girgarre), and in the Thirds Russ Morgan, ahead of Laurie Casey and G. Halls (all of Girgarre).

Murchison 13-14 flogged Tallygaroopna 5-13, with Geoff Wall best afield until leaving the field injured in the third quarter. Praised was the umpire, former TV Ringside boxer Hilary Connally. Murchison Seconds "lacked

interest" going under to Tally.

Still no luck for Stanhope in GV footy, down 6-11 to Kyabram's 20-14.

Golf

Nearest the pin at Murchison golf was Lee Pinner, better known for his football, playing with footy teammate Frank Hogan. Playing the next week in the Murch men's tournament, Ross Coyle of Rushworth was nearest the pin, Gordon McMaster winning an A-grade 9-hole scratch event. Ladies champion was Jan Dunlop.

Rushworth's annual tournament occupied Friday and Saturday. Jack Laurie and Bob Barlow won a four-ball event, on a countback from Les Muir and Graham Bolden. Ivor Thompson and Jean Branson won the Mixed Canadian, while Ralph Barlow completed 27 holes in 134.

Jean also won the scratch event in the Associates tournament, from Glenda Prior of Valley View.

The Crosgrove Cup final went to Graham Spence and Reg McIntosh, edging out Les Muir and Alan Curnick 3 and 1. Juniors Noel Perry and Jim McIntosh did well in an event for stableford points.

Other sport

The same Ralph Barlow's flying greyhound Sidanna scored another win at the Olympic Park track. The next week it was entered at Sandown Park.

A-grade netball ladder was headed by Mounts on 44, with Rushworth, Colbo and Heathcote way behind on 24 points. In B-grade Mounts were on top narrowly over Colbo. Unfortunately there were no reports of goal scorers or best players.

Rushing to Whroo, 1853 to 1880



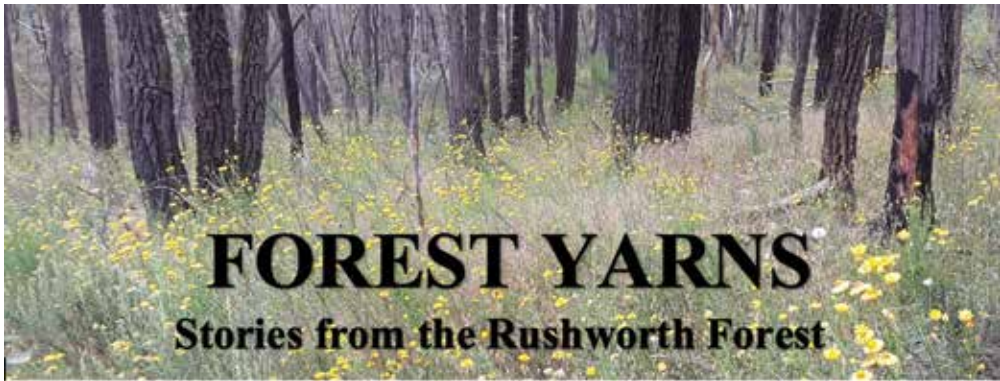
\$25

Alan McLean

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Books available:

Waranga News office and General Store Rushworth



Mills At Erwen Station

When the railway line was extended to Colbinabbin in 1914, wood mills were opened up at stations on the line. The station at Moora was known as the Erwen station, just up Geodetic Rd North from the present day settlement of Moora. There were mills there, as well as at Wanalta and Colbinabbin stations.

Perhaps the best known of the sawmillers at Erwen station were the Curtis family. The Curtis family had its origins in Kent, England. Progenitor of this branch of the family, Peter Curtis came out to Tasmania as a free immigrant in 1842. He was listed on the shipping record as a seventeen year old farm servant. He later moved to Victoria where he was married in 1852. Two of his grandsons, who were born in the inner suburbs of Melbourne, came up to Rushworth around 1900.

Curtis Family

In 1903, the Curtis boys bought the woodmill of Henry Campbell at the Rushworth railway station. Campbell had been operating the mill there since 1892, one of the earliest millers to do so.

The Curtis family began sawmilling operations at Erwen station late in the First World War. In 1917, the Hicks Bros, who were from Broadford, sold their mill at the station and “two paddocks of wood” to Edwin William (Will) Curtis. Will was politically active in gaining a 200m extension to the siding at Erwen in the same year.

As well as the mill at Erwen, members of the Curtis family had a mill at the Rushworth railway station. Both Will and his brother Albert Ernest “Ern” Curtis both held permits for wood mills there at various times. They

also operated their business/es at Wanalta and Colbinabbin stations.

The Curtis Bros were apparently in partnership for 21 years (1903-24), before mutually dissolving the partnership and each continuing to operate in the timber industry in their own right. Earlier, they had also run wood mills at Youanmite and Yabba North, small settlements north of Shepparton, as the land was being cleared for closer settlement. They supplied their brother Walter, who was a wood merchant in Northcote.

Ern Curtis

Ern married Ruby Lester in 1914, but they did not have any children. Apart from his business interests he was very much involved in the Jubilee (Masonic) Lodge and the Ancient Order of Foresters. He also attended St Paul’s Church of England, where he was a vestryman.

As a result of his efforts for the Annual Wood Day, he was awarded a Life Governorship of Mooroopna Hospital – equivalent to a Life Membership of a community organisation today.

His funeral was reputedly “one of the largest seen in the town”² and after the church service at St Paul’s, proceeded down High Street then up to the cemetery. The coffin bearers were several of Ern’s fellow vestrymen – T J Coyle, J L Ralph, E F Lyndon and J C Smith, as well as W Laurie and W B Heily.

Will Curtis

Will and his wife Lucy Florence (nee Muhlhan) were the parents of some of the boys who excelled in the great Rushworth football teams of the 1930s, particularly Gordon and Chas. The Muhlhan family ran the Rushworth Chronicle for many years.



Florence and Walter Curtis at their mill

Like his brother, Will was active in the lodge and St Paul’s Church of England, as well as other community organisations like the Rushworth Waterworks Trust, sporting clubs, the reception committee for the 1928 Back-To, the Rushworth Woodcutters’ Association and the picture theatre (at the Shire Hall).

He was also appointed a JP, which meant he sometimes sat as a magistrate or coroner. Amongst his other business interests, he was a director of the Rushworth Printing Coy Ltd until late in life. He was very interested in the Annual Wood Day and for a time was the president of the Mooroopna Hospital Wood Day Committee. Like Ern, he received Life Governorship of the hospital because of his work for this committee.

Will and Lucy had seven children – six boys and a girl. They had moved to Melbourne in the late 1930s but retained a strong interest in Rushworth and district. Sadly, one of their sons, Stanley Noel Curtis, was killed in World War 2 when serving in the RAAF as a tail gunner in a Wellington bomber.

At the time of his own death, Will was still actively involved in the timber milling game as well as successfully farming around 1800 acres of land.

References: 1 Cerchi, Samantha, summary from Waranga Shire rate books 1891-1904; 2 Rushworth Chronicle 6.4.1934; Other – Ancestry, Victoria BDM websites

A Name from the Past James Howard, State Rivers man

The surname Howard continues in this district with many descendants of James Howard, who arrived at Rushworth in about 1914. One of his sons was Vic “Wizard” Howard, a man whose name will be forever associated with The Wizard traction engine. Vic’s own children will never have met their grandfather James. He had died before any of them were born.

A little of the life and death of James

Howard was told in the Rushworth Chronicle of 27 March, 1936.

“We regret to record the death of Mr James Howard, which occurred suddenly on Sunday last, at his home in Rushworth, at the age of 76 years.

Deceased was conversing with his son, Jim, a few minutes before 5:30 p.m., and had just lit a cigarette, when he collapsed and died from heart failure.

Mr. Howard was born in Port Fairy and married Miss Tooley, of Euroa 32 years ago. They came to Rushworth about 22 years ago, Mr. Howard being in the employ of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission.

He and his family are well and favourably known locally and many friends will sympathise with the widow and family in their loss.

Besides a widow, he leaves a family of nine sons and daughters, viz., Ivy (Mrs. Mitchell, Wagga, NSW), Jim (Rushworth), Elsie (Mrs. Connors, Wodonga), Jack (Rushworth), Victor (Rushworth), Dorothy (Young, NSW), Nellie (Nathalia), Eric and Lorna.

The remains were interred in Rushworth cemetery on Tuesday, the Rev. Father Tehan performing the last rites.”

Alan McLean

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

St Mary’s School - Celebrating Community, Culture and Learning

It has been a memorable week at St Mary’s Primary School, filled with milestones that speak to the heart of our community.

Angela Fiske-Kealy

Honouring Yorta Yorta culture in NAIDOC Week

We were privileged to welcome Bryce, a proud Yorta Yorta man, who spoke passionately about his culture, Country and family heritage.

Joined by Neil, from Catholic Education Sandhurst, Bryce shared artefacts and stories that traced his people’s history and highlighted the importance of reconnecting lost narratives.

A moving moment came when Bryce read his own Acknowledgement of Country in Yorta Yorta language, witnessed by his family. His presentation offered our students a living lesson in respect, resilience and cultural pride. Thank you, Bryce, for your generous storytelling.



Learning Expo Showcases Student Achievement



As the term draws to a close, every classroom has been a hive of activity preparing for our end-of-term Learning Expo. Families toured vibrant displays featuring Literacy, Numeracy, Religious Education, Inquiry and STEAM projects, evidence of an eleven-week term packed with discovery. From stop-motion films to habitat dioramas, the students’ work captured both creativity and hard-earned skills. We are grateful to the many parents, grandparents and carers who came to celebrate their children’s successes.



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

St Mary's - Sharing kindness through community giving

At St Mary's, community is at the heart of who we are. We were honoured to welcome Maree from the St Vincent de Paul Society as our students presented food donations thoughtfully gathered by our school community. These gifts are a reflection of the care, compassion, and generosity that our students and families show for others, especially those in need.

To mark this special occasion, our students shared three short prayers, each offering words of thanks, hope, and blessings for the individuals and families who will receive these items, and for those, like Maree, who dedicate their time to delivering them with love. It was a powerful reminder that small acts of kindness can have a big impact and that through giving, we grow stronger together.



A fond farewell to Kate Stewart

We bid farewell to Kate, a much-loved member of staff who is moving on to broaden her work in community support. For many years, Kate's gift for building relationships has enriched our students' engagement and growth.

At a whole-school assembly, children and colleagues alike shared stories of how her

kindness and quiet determination opened doors to learning. The celebration ended with a relaxed lunch of hot chips, to celebrate the MacqLit and MiniLit Sage groups achievements and Kate's contribution to the students' progress. Kate leaves with our deepest gratitude and every good wish for the next chapter.



Thank-you to the Parents and Friends community

None of these experiences would be possible without the tireless support of our Parent and Friends group. Your fundraising, whether through hot-lunch days, pie drives or the ever-popular chocolate boxes, directly funds exceptional resources for our learners. Your generosity is the backbone of our school, and we thank you sincerely.



Wishing Everyone a Safe Holiday

After a busy and rewarding term, we wish all St Mary's families a restful break. Stay warm, stay safe, and keep an eye out for the many exciting events already planned for next term. Together, we continue to make St Mary's a place where community, culture and learning flourish.

*Ange Fiske-Kealy
F/1/2 Classroom Teacher
Leader of Teaching and Learning*

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

Remembering the Montevideo Maru Tragedy at Stanhope Primary

I was very proud to have represented our school at last Tuesday’s memorial service of the Montevideo Maru tragedy and felt extra proud of our four Student Leaders who attended with me.

If you haven’t already, I encourage you to go down to McEwen Place in Stanhope to view the mural painted by Tim Bowtell and read the storyboards that relate the story of this maritime disaster which affected so many families in our local communities of those who served.

It was an honour to have our students recognised during the memorial service and the importance of them knowing our history as the future storytellers. I would like to congratulate the Stanhope RSL on what was a very moving and historic day. Our Student Leaders made the following comments as part of their reflection on the service

*Fiona Wallace,
Principal.*

Students report:

We attended the RSL in Stanhope to hear about the Montevideo Maru - the Japanese ship that sank deeper than the Titanic.

We heard about how most ladies and gentleman had family or friends on that ship and how they didn’t want to believe that a tragic incident had affected their family.

We sang the National Anthem, observed a one-minute silence and even showed our respects by putting a poppy into a tin.

Mr. Gemmill and Mr. Chapman had shared their stories with us and showed us a new story board. We were shown how they made the beautiful artwork and the legend around it. They explained about how the ship was found in 2023 and they told us we are the future in this town.

I hope in the future we get a chance to carry on the stories that we were told on July 1st and if there is another day like this I hope students will go to show respect and to carry on this past with us.

Xyla

It was interesting learning about Montevideo Maru. I learned 1053 Australians died from the American’s torpedos. They made a new story board in town. It is deeper than the Titanic. Montevideo Maru is approximately 13,123 feet.

Cass



On Tuesday we learnt about the Montevideo Maru and that it was a Japanese ship that held prisoners and was sunk from three torpedos in 1943 from the Americans. About 1,200 people were on that ship and no-one survived. It was an interesting experience going down to the memorial service. I would like to thank Mr Phil Chapman and Mr George Gemmill.

The ship has been found but is still over four thousand metres deep.

Cooper

On Tuesday Xyla, Cooper, Cass and I all walked down to the town hall. It was a memorable time. They had people from ancestors that were on the Montevideo Maru. They also made a new plaque, which is exciting. We learned so much from this experience.

Bonni

Winter 2025 school holiday program
Campaspe Libraries are welcoming families back for the Winter School Holiday Program, running until Friday, 18 July 2025. With a wide range of free and low-cost activities across the shire, there’s something for every child to enjoy these holidays.

Don’t miss the opportunity to paint and decorate your own guitar for entry into the Winter Blues Festival competition. Four sessions will be held at Echuca Library on Wednesday, 9 July, with a \$5 entry fee. All proceeds raised will support the Winter Blues event.

Another highlight of the holiday program is the special performance by CJ’s Puppets, taking place at both Kyabram and Echuca Libraries on Thursday, 17 July.

The Winter School Holiday Program offers a fun-filled mix of creative crafts, live entertainment, video games, and family-friendly sessions for children of all ages across Campaspe Shire.

Bookings are essential as places are limited and can be made online at www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/SchoolHolidays or by phoning 5481 2400.

School Holiday Program includes:
Rushworth Library
Monday, 7 July at 10:30am – Jigsaw Coasters (B)
Tuesday, 8 July at 10:30am – Silly Heads (B)
Thursday, 10 July at 10:30am – Family Movie (B)
Thursday, 10 July from 1:00pm – 4:00pm – Lego & Games
Monday, 14 July at 1:00pm – Stocking Monsters (B)
Tuesday, 15 July at 10:30am – Message Boards (B)
Thursday, 17 July at 10:30am – Family Movie (B)
Thursday, 17 July at 1:00 – 4:00pm – Lego & Games

Stanhope Library & Business Centre
Wednesday, 9 July at 10:30am – Message Boards (B, 5+)

B = Bookings essential
Children need to be accompanied by an adult or carer during all activities.

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

Colbo 5 and 6 off to the snow!

Last week, Colbinabbin PS grade 5 and 6 students travelled to Greta South to attend the Department of Education’s own 15 Mile Creek Camp.

This camp was focused around leadership strengths, challenges and strategies in children of this age bracket.

As well as a highly focused and educational experience, our students were also able to spend the day at the snow at Mt Buffalo- a first for some students.



Oliver gives mountain biking a go.



Grade 5 and 6 students on a hike in the mountains.



Isabelle Hill and Pippa Knight.



Corban Safstrom rock climbing.



Vinnie Ryan and Isabelle Hill have a go at building an igloo.



National NAIDOC (National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee) Week celebrations are held across Australia in the first week of July each year (Sunday to Sunday), to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth.

The 2025 theme, “*The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy*,” celebrates not only the achievements of the past but the bright future ahead, empowered by the strength of our young leaders, the vision of our communities, and the legacy of our ancestors.

The NAIDOC journey began as a movement for recognition and rights, sparked by Indigenous communities who saw a future built on justice and equality. It has grown into a powerful national celebration. Guided by the wisdom of our Elders and the groundwork laid by our forebears, each NAIDOC Week reinforces our vision for an Australia where Indigenous voices are not only heard but lead the way.

YCW Centenary much to celebrate

The YCW Centenary Mass on 13 July at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo will celebrate a movement that empowered generations of young people to live their faith boldly in the world.

The Young Christian Workers movement (YCW) played a vital role in shaping the lives of working-class youth in the Sandhurst Diocese during a time when formal education and social supports were limited, especially in country towns. For many young people who left school early to enter the workforce, YCW was a source of community, faith formation, leadership development, practical support and, of course, friendship.

“The person YCW catered for probably doesn’t exist in Australia today,” said a local parishioner who was a member of YCW in the 60s. “When I was a young, most people in the Diocese left school and went to work. Country people didn’t have the opportunity to go to university, especially working-class people. The YCW catered for us older teenagers, 17,18,19, who had left school and gone into the workforce. The YCW supported us through education, formation opportunities and helped form us at a time in our lives when we were stepping into adulthood and, not much later, the responsibilities of marriage and families.”

Reflecting on how times have changed and especially for youth, the parishioner noted: “People like us don’t exist now. Young people are so much more educated, but I’m not sure they are more content or fulfilled,”



she suggested. Organisers of the Mass are delighted with the response they have received from former members who will attend the Mass and the luncheon which will follow. “They know that YCW is a legacy worth remembering,” said the parishioner. “It transformed my faith from that of a childish schoolgirl into an adult faith that has been with me my whole life.”

No doubt many others have similar experiences and will show up on the day to reminisce about old times, catch up with old friends and honour the legacy of members before them.

The Mass provides a way to honour the commitment, sacrifices and achievements of the YCW community in our Diocese, many of whom helped build the faith communities and towns of our region.

All are welcome to join us for the Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral and the meal which will follow at Golden Square Hotel. Organisers ask that you please advise them of your intention to join the Mass or attend the lunch.

Mass to celebrate 100 years since Pope Pius XI blessed YCW in 1925.

11am Sunday 13 July 2025 at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo.

Lunch: Golden Square Hotel, Bendigo
RSVP: To join the lunch at Golden Square Hotel, it would be helpful if you could RSVP to:- Margaret Watson on 0423 022 08 or Trisha Blanks on 0402 248 095.

District Church Times and Contacts

Anglican

- St Paul’s, Rushworth: 0419 512 632
- 9.30am 2nd Sunday of month - lay led service
- 9.30am 4th Sunday of month - Communion
- Christ Church, Murchison: Rev Andre du Plooy 0458 155 930
- 10.30 am Thursdays Holy Eucharist
- 11am service every Sunday
- St Matthews, Stanhope: 0419 855 964 (Church Warden)
- St John’s, Colbinabbin: 0428 329 344 (Mick Clayton)

Presbyterian

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

Catholic

St Mary’s Parish. 1st and 3rd Sundays: Cornella 9am; Stanhope 10.30am. 2nd and 4th Sundays: Rushworth 9am; Murchison 10.30am.
5th Sunday: One Parish Mass - Rushworth 10.30am followed by a cuppa in the parish house. Contact a team member on the parish mobile phone: 0459 898 925. .

Shine Church, Stanhope

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

Living Waters Rushworth:

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

Generations Church, Tatura

5824 3240 (Pastor Jeremy Burr)

Salvation Army: 5852 3875

Uniting Church

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

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

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

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

AN EVENING PRAYER FOR CHILDREN



Help us, God, to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do, in work or play,
To grow more loving every day. AMEN

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Work with the willing

There's a saying that I've come to appreciate more and more. It's "Work with the willing." It sounds almost too simple. But I think it might be one of the wisest pieces of advice I've ever received.

We waste so much energy trying to get everyone on board, especially in groups we're involved with. We pitch an idea. We tweak it. We wait for consensus. We re-pitch it. We agonise over the one or two people who don't get it, or don't want to be part of it, or who seem set on resisting change.

But the truth is, not everyone needs to come on board in the beginning. Sometimes, all you need is a few willing people - and the courage to begin.

This truth came back to me recently while I was reflecting on one of the Gospel stories where Jesus sends seventy followers to prepare the way in the towns and villages ahead of him. Jesus tells his followers to travel light. No bag. No spare shoes. No fuss. He urges them to accept whatever hospitality is offered. If people receive them, great. Stay, eat, bless. If they don't welcome them, move on, shaking the dust from your feet as they do so.

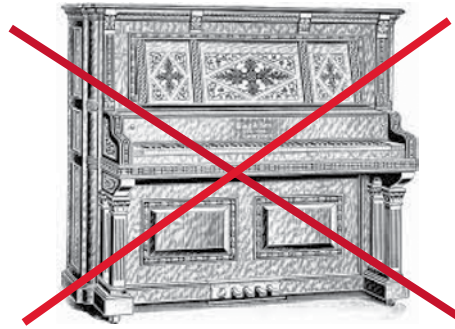
Jesus doesn't say to his followers, "Win them over." He doesn't say, "Make your case again." He doesn't say, "Wait until the conditions are right." He says: "Go. Look for people of peace. Work with the willing."

"Work with the willing." is a remarkably freeing message, but also, a challenging one, because, if you're like me, you probably take rejection a little too personally. Most of us do. Whether it's someone brushing off an idea we've put forward, making us feel we're not being heard, or it's not being invited to something, it hurts. We want people to say yes. We want them to see the value of what we're offering.

The longer I live, the more I see how important it is to let go of rejection quickly, and instead pour energy into the people who

are open to us and willing and ready to act. That's where movement happens. That's where change begins. It's also where hope lives.

Don't pack the piano



I was reminded of this again when revisiting the tragic tale of Burke and Wills; the explorers who set out in 1860 to cross the continent from south to north. It's a story of incredible ambition, tragic decisions, and an almost comical failure to travel light.

You might already know the gist of the story: the expedition was lavishly funded. They packed over 20 tonnes of equipment. Among the items were crates of food, a cedar dining table, chairs, a Chinese gong, tonnes of firewood, and believe it or not, a piano.

They were heading into the unknown, yes; but with so much stuff that weighed them down, slowed them down, and ultimately contributed to their downfall.

They also refused to listen to the Aboriginal people who knew the land, its seasons, its food and water sources.

In the end Burke and Wills perished, surrounded by help they didn't trust and food they didn't recognise.

The only explorer to survive the return journey was John King who accepted help from the Yandruwandha people who nursed him, fed him, and sheltered him until he was rescued.

There's a powerful lesson in this. Sometimes, our pride, our need for control, our over-preparedness, or our unwillingness to trust others can destroy us; or at least wear us out.

Of course, not all of us are literal explorers. But we all face uncertain journeys.

There are the obvious ones:

- a new job
- a move to a new town
- a health diagnosis
- moving into Aged Care
- the death of a loved one.

But there are also more subtle journeys:

- changing who we think we are
- adjusting our expectations
- learning to live with a limitation
- facing our own mortality with a little more grace.

In each of these examples the temptation is to overpack.

We carry guilt, fear, the need to get everything right, old arguments, "what if" scenarios, even the voices of people who've long since moved on.

The goal isn't to carry everything.

It's to travel well.

And to trust that if we are open we will be met with help, with kindness, with grace.

So, What are you carrying?

Maybe that's the real question.

Not, "What's your next great adventure?"

But, "What are you carrying around that you don't need anymore?"

And also, "Who are the open and willing people around you?"

"Where can you stop striving for universal agreement and just start walking with those who are ready?"

You don't need a piano.

You don't need every answer.

You don't need everyone to say yes.

You just need enough room in your hands and heart to receive what's waiting on the road ahead.

And if we're wrong, if it's not the right time or we end up in an unwelcoming place, Jesus says:

Don't be discouraged. Shake the dust off your feet. Move on.

There are willing people up the road.

That's the gospel, and it's good news.

*Brian Spencer, Minister
Waranga Uniting Churches*



Sandhurst Pilgrimages in the Jubilee Year 2025

Bishop Shane has nominated five pilgrimage sites in the Sandhurst Diocese and invites people to embark on a journey of reconciliation and renewal to one or more of these holy places in 2025.

The five sites are: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo, the Wahgunya Mass tree, Grave of Rev Dr Henry Backhaus, Bendigo, Grave of Rev George Devitt Galen at Wangaratta and St Mary of the Cross Mackillop indigenous garden and history trail at Numurkah. Plans for a St Mary's Parish pilgrimage are in the pipeline.

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Phone: 5852 1061 Mobile: 0409 935 375

WARANGA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

WEST, Bob.

Margery, Robert, Anne, Heather, Bill and their families, wish to extend their deepest gratitude to the local community for their overwhelming support and kindness during this difficult time. The flowers, food, gestures, cards and prayers have been a great source of strength. We are deeply grateful for all the support received in Bob's memory. Your generosity and compassion will always be remembered. Please accept our personal and heartfelt thanks.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of
CRABTREE, Ryan James (Jiffy):
18/7/1980 - 15/7/2015
and his dad
CRABTREE, Denis Charles:
27/1/1945 - 20/9/2022

It's hard to believe 10 years has gone by since we lost our precious son.
Both Ryan and Denis are missed so much by their heart broken family.



Solutions from last edition

5	6	7	3	1	4	9	8	2
9	3	4	2	5	8	1	6	7
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DISTRICT INFORMATION BOARD

WHAT'S ON AROUND THE TOWNS

JULY

Thur 10	Rushworth Library - 10.30am - Family Movie - booking required
Thur 10	Rushworth Library - 1.00pm - 4pm - Lego and Games
Sat 12	RFNC Annual Ball 6pm Shire Hall
Mon 14	Rushworth Library - 1.00pm - Stocking Monsters - booking required
Tues 15	Rushworth Library - 10.30am - Message Boards - booking required
Thur 17	Rushworth Library - 10:30am - Family Movie - booking required
Thur 17	Rushworth Library - 1.00pm - 4pm - Lego and Games
Sat 19	Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm
Sun 20	RAD Felting workshop for Landcare 10am - 2pm

Meetings & Activities - around the district

- Alcoholics Anonymous(AA) meetings, 14 High st, Rushworth, Thursdays 7pm
- Colbinabbin Library: Wednesdays
- Colbinabbin Community Shed: most Thursdays (old Shire Depot), 10am
- Colbinabbin: Chris's exercises at Colbinabbin Hall Mondays 3.30 - 4.30pm
- Colbinabbin Pub Choir 5pm Tuesday's at the Colbo Pub. No experience or talent necessary! Call Julie 0408602841.
- Ladies Coffee and Cake - 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month 10.15am Colbo pub
- Carers and Bubs Catch up - 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month 9am Colbo pub
- Soup and Scrabble - 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, 10.30am starts 8 July. \$10, bookings 54329230 Colbo pub.
- Friends of the Hostel: Third Monday at 1.30pm monthly
- Murchison Mens Shed: Wednesdays 10am – 3pm
- Murchison CFA: Meeting 1st Monday 8pm - training on 3rd Monday 6.30pm
- Murchison Community Garden: Wednesdays 9am - 11am
- Rushworth CFA: Tuesday nights
- Rushworth SES training: Wednesday evenings at 7pm
- 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 9.30am to 12.30pm
- Rushworth Band practice: 7.30pm every Monday night
- Rushworth Market: 3rd Saturday of month - 8.30am to 1pm
- Rushworth ART Depot (RAD) - every Market day - Sat 10am -1pm
- Rushworth Museum: every Saturday 10am-12 noon, 1st and 4th Sunday 11am - 1pm
- Rushworth & District Community Bank Board: meets 1st Tuesday monthly, at 6pm
- Rushworth Events Inc: meets bi-monthly, third Wednesday at 7pm
- Rushworth Community Walking Group: Thur 8 - 9am meet at front of Waranga Health
- Rushworth: Chris's exercises at Rushworth Community House Mondays 1 - 2pm
- Rushworth Garden Lovers Club meet 3rd Thursday Month 1.30pm at old Senior Citizen's building
- Stanhope Walking Group: Tuesdays at 9.30am at McEwen Place
- Stanhope Community Garden: Wednesdays 8.30am to 9.30am
- Stanhope Mens Shed: Mon - Wed - Fri 9am - 12 noon
- Stanhope: Chris's exercises at Seniors: Mondays 10.45am
- Stanhope Community Market 1st Sunday of month from 8am

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

LOCAL SERVICE PHONE NUMBERS

POLICE or FIRE.....Emergency.....000
Non-emergency 13 1444

AMBULANCE.....Emergency.....000
Non-emergency...13 3009

SES: (storm & flood).....13 2500

DOCTORS:
Murchison Medical Centre.....5826 2575
Rushworth Medical Centre..... 5856 1329
Stanhope Telecare Medical Centre
4800 5291
Waranga Medical Centre..... 5851 8400

HEALTH:
Stanhope Health.....5857 0451
Waranga Health5851 8000
Nurse on call..... 1300 606 024

HELP:
Lifeline.....13 1114
Kids Helpline.....1800 551 800

POLICE:
Rushworth.....5856 1000
Murchison.....5826 2222
Colbinabbin.....5856 1000

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WARANGA NEWS OFFICE.....5856 1120

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Project update

Works to upgrade the Colbinabbin Memorial Hall have been completed and include new toilets, a refurbished kitchen, new carpet in the library, and a much-needed rejuvenation of the parquet flooring in the main hall.



Coming Up

Council meeting | 6pm Tuesday, 15 July 2025 | Echuca Civic Centre
Meetings can be streamed live: www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/livestreaming

Immunisation Sessions

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

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

Wednesday, 16 July

- 9.00 – 10:30am | Kyabram Senior Citizens' Centre

Thursday, 17 July

- 10.00 – 10:30am | Gunbower Primary School
- 11.30 – 12 noon | Lockington Bush Nursing Centre
- 5.30 – 6:30pm | Echuca Library

Monday, 28 July

- 9.00 – 10:30am | Tongala Shire Hall
- 11.30am – 12 noon | Rushworth Service Centre

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

Employment

#campaspecareers

- Application Support Officer (closes 13 July)
- Early Childhood Educators (various)
- Information Technology Support Officer (closes 13 July)
- Plant and Fleet Coordinator (closes 13 July)
- Tourism Support Officer (closes 15 July)
- Festival and Events Co-ordinator (closes 20 July)
- Waste Contracts and Compliance Officer, (closes 27 July)

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

Zero Tolerance Policy

Campaspe Shire Council's Zero Tolerance Policy and Statement were endorsed at the Council meeting held on 17 June.

The purpose of the policy is to promote a safe, respectful and productive environment for all Council employees, contractors, volunteers and Councillors. It outlines Council's stance on unreasonable and unacceptable behaviours and actions, and the promotion of a 'zero tolerance' culture. You can read the statement on Council's website.

Now Open

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

Youth Action Group (YAG)

Young people are invited to join Council's Youth Action Group (YAG). YAG members provide a youth perspective on our key plans and strategies, direct youth funding towards desired programs, activities and events, and brief community groups, businesses and Council on issues that significantly impact young people in Campaspe Shire.

To be eligible for Youth Action Group membership, you must be a resident of Campaspe Shire aged between 12 and 25 years old. If you are under 18 years, you will require parent/guardian permission.

Seniors Program Grants

Seniors Program Grants provide financial support of up to \$1,000 per grant to deliver events, programs or activities that promote positive ageing and support the health and wellbeing of Campaspe Shire's older residents. If you need assistance to apply, please contact Council's Development Coordinator. Applications close on Sunday, 3 August.

Expressions of Interest for Youth Fest

Council is seeking Expressions of Interest from service providers, community groups and local businesses to take part in Youth Fest 2025 in Echuca on 5 September. Youth Fest will be a fun and engaging event designed to showcase what our local community has to offer young people.

Help support our young people – submit your EOI today! EOIs close Friday, 1 August at 5pm.



Rochester Aquatic Facility

Council has committed \$5M funding towards the design and development of a new aquatic facility in Rochester. Three design options have been prepared, and we now invite the community to be involved in the consultation to help inform Council's decision on the project's next steps. Survey closes Wednesday, 23 July 2025.

Jaycee Park Kyabram

The community is invited to have a say in the development of the Jaycee Park, Kyabram masterplan. Come along to consultation sessions at the Jaycee Park play space:

1pm – 3pm on Wednesday, 16 July; or
10am – 12 noon on Saturday, 19 July.

You can also have your say via an online survey. Stay up-to-date on this project via www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/jayceepark

Kindergarten registrations

Kindergarten registrations are open for 2026. Children are eligible to attend kindergarten in 2026 if they turn three or four before 30 April 2026.

For registration help, email kinder@campaspe.vic.gov.au or call the team on 1300 666 535.



Check out the school holiday fun at Rushworth Library!



- Family Movie, Thursday, 10 July, 10.30am.
- Lego and Games, Thursday, 10 July, 1pm to 4pm.
- Stocking Monsters, Monday, 14 July, 1pm.
- Message Boards, Tuesday, 15 July, 10.30am.
- Family Movie, Thursday, 17 July, 10.30am.
- Lego and Games, Thursday, 17 July, 1pm to 4pm.

Please note: Bookings are necessary for most sessions. For these and other local libraries' sessions, please visit www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/library

Readers' Corner

- interesting things to know and do!

BOOK IT IN

Something a little different this week from the Bookster.
A prayer published by the Thomas Moore Centre.

Old Nun's Prayer

Lord, you know better than I know myself
that I am growing older and one day will be old.
Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must
say something on every subject and on every occasion.
Release me from craving to
straighten out everybodys affairs.
Make me thoughtful but not moody;
helpful but not bossy.
With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all;
but you know, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.
Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details,
give me wings to get to the point.
Seal my lips on my aches and pains,
they are increasing and love of rehearsing them
is becoming sweeter as the years go by.
I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others pains,
but help me to endure them with patience.
I dare not ask for improved memory,
but for growing humility and a lessening cocksureness
when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others.
Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally
I may be mistaken.
Keep me reasonably sweet;
I do not want to be a saint, some of them are so hard to live with,
but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.
Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places
and talent in unexpected people,
and give me O Lord the grace to tell them so. AMEN.

Anonymous – 17th century.
Found in an old English Church

KIDS' QUIZ

1. What wizarding school does Harry Potter attend?
2. What video game features characters like Mario and Luigi?
3. What superhero is known as the "Caped Crusader"?
4. What kind of animal is Sonic in the video games?
5. What famous ship hit an iceberg in 1912?
6. Who wrote the play Romeo and Juliet?
7. What is the square root of 81?
8. How many continents are there?
- (Answers below)

Did you know? . . . The oldest English word is 'town'.
This is one of the oldest words in the English language that is still in use. The first dictionary took note of this in 1755.

1. Hogwarts 2. Super Mario 3. Batman 4. Hedgehog 5. Titanic 6. William Shakespeare 7. 9 8. 7

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.

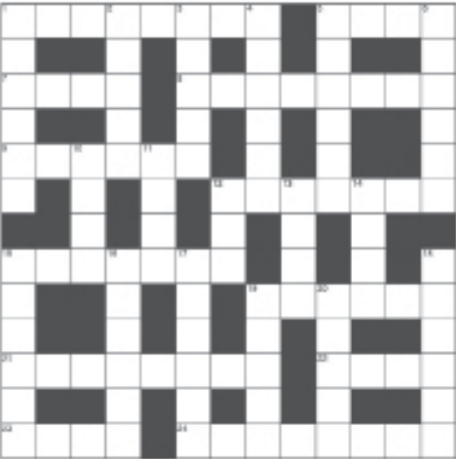
- Across
1. Unselfish
5. Volcanic matter
7. Shapeless mass
8. Suddenly
9. Turns inside-out
12. Hefty
15. Munich is there
19. Wounded by blade
21. Satisfactory
22. Traditional wisdom
23. Potato
24. Feedback

- Down
1. Chalice
2. Fire fragment
3. Australian gems
4. Walk confidently
5. Bounding along
6. Nevertheless
10. Jug
11. Brass instrument
12. How come?
13. Holy picture
14. Bad mood
15. Feels about
16. Failed to hit
17. Top position, ... one
18. Hold fast (to)
19. Preserves
20. Eskimo building

Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

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

Crossword No: 55



Solutions will appear in the next edition.



L is for Lion

. . . and Lizard,
Lighthouse, Lipstick, Leaf,
Lamp, Lollypop, Log, Ladder,
Laundry and Lemons

I know a good recipe
for home-made cordial that uses
lemons and oranges. It's delicious
and has no preservatives or
artificial colouring like the ones
you buy at the supermarket.
You'll need some help but I bet
you and your family will love it.

50-50 CORDIAL: 3 oranges, 3
lemons, 1.6kg sugar, 14g tartaric acid, 14g citric acid, 2 litres boiling
water. Method: Put sugar and acids into large mixing bowl, add
the juice and the grated rind from the fruit (I use an old-fashioned
marmalade shredder). Pour boiling water over and stir till all sugar
is dissolved. Decant into bottles and store in fridge. It's a great drink
for summertime. Leprechaun is an L word, too. He's a creature



Leprechaun



Rushworth SES new Road Crash Rescue members

The Rushworth SES unit has two new Road Crash Rescue (RCR) members who are now fully qualified to attend car/train/bus/air accidents within our Loddon Mallee Region.

SES members have to undergo and pass a ‘fit for role’ training exercise to enable them to attend these and other ongoing courses.

The two members, Mickey McPherson and Tracey Maney, completed their ‘fit for role’ before attending an arduous four-day course to qualify as RCR members.

RCR members not only use heavy ‘jaws of life’ equipment to extricate patients safely from

an accident scene, but other complicated equipment on which they are trained.

If you are interested in joining the unit and trying one or more of our training courses, come along to 4 Barlow Avenue, Rushworth, on a Wednesday night at 7pm and speak to a member. We are a very friendly group!

You may also see us at the Saturday REHF Market selling sausages or outside the Chemist selling a trailer load of wood to raise money for extra equipment needed.

Mickey and Tracey after their training.



Emergency Dashboard to help prepare community

Campaspe Shire Council has launched a new Emergency Dashboard, a centralised online hub designed to provide real-time, reliable information to residents before, during and after emergency events.

The dashboard brings together critical updates from emergency services, weather warnings, road closures, relief centre locations, and community alerts in one easy-to-navigate platform. It is designed to strengthen community resilience and improve access to timely, accurate information during emergencies.

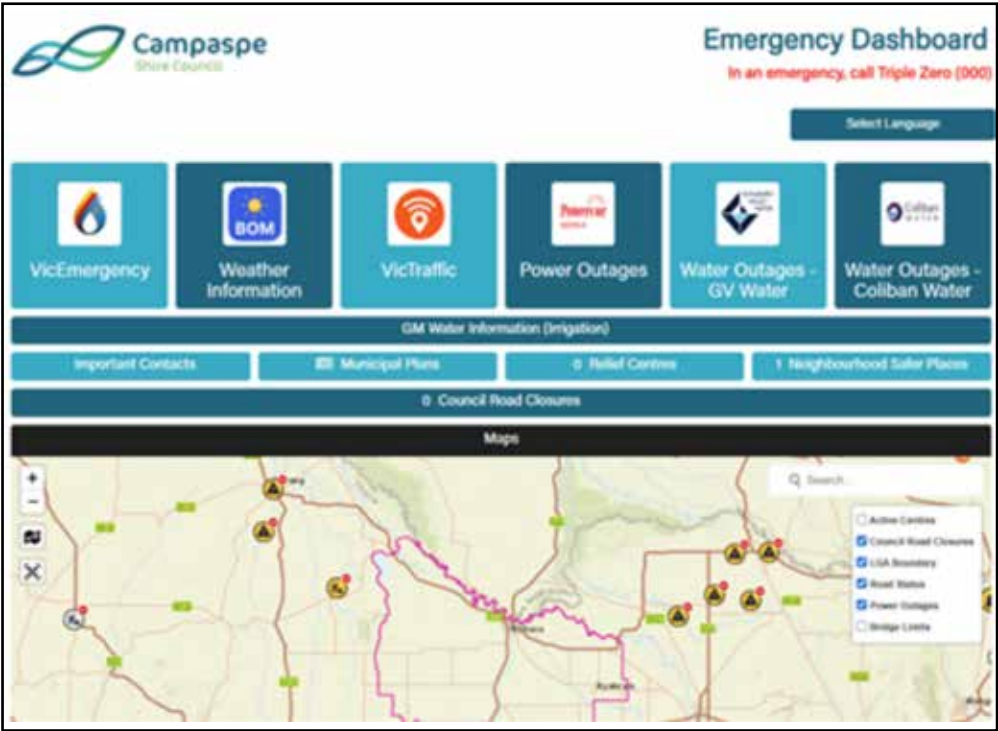
Campaspe Shire Mayor, Cr Daniel Mackrell said the dashboard was developed in response to lessons learned from recent flood events and community feedback highlighting the need for a trusted, localised source of emergency information.

“We know that during emergencies, people want clear, consistent and local information. This dashboard ensures our community can access the latest updates from trusted sources, all in one place.

“We’re proud to be leading the way in emergency preparedness for our community, as one of the few Victorian local governments to implement this type of tool,” Cr Mackrell said.

The dashboard is mobile-friendly and integrates feeds from VicEmergency, the Bureau of Meteorology, VicTraffic, power and water providers and local emergency services. It also includes links to various social media feeds, emergency radio stations, fire danger ratings and preparedness resources such as the First 72 Hours Emergency Plan.

The initiative builds on the work outlined in the Campaspe Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2024-2027 which emphasises the importance of coordinated communication and community readiness. It also supports the goals of the Municipal Recovery Committee, which includes representatives from across the region working together to improve emergency



planning and build resilience.

“This is about empowering our community with the tools they need to stay safe and informed. We encourage everyone to bookmark the dashboard and share it with neighbours, friends and family,” said the

mayor.

The Emergency Dashboard is now live and can be accessed via Council’s website at <https://emergency.campaspe.vic.gov.au/>

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Wed - Fri

MEAT DELIVERIES:
Fri order by 3pm Thu

Celebration coming up for Rushworth Football/Netball Club



The Rushworth Football and Netball Club has developed a fine tradition of recognising past successes and Saturday 9 August will be the next opportunity, during and after home matches against Girgarre.

All former players are invited, with special guests being the footballers who broke a long premiership drought in 1965, the club's first season in the Heathcote District League, taking the flags in both Seniors and Reserves. It is interesting to note how many times the seniors were runners-up over the years. (See the statistics right.)

60 year reunion

The seventeen living players are being invited to the very rare sporting event, a sixty-year reunion, with a special lunch in the pavilion, starting at noon.

Sharing of memories of the great season in 1965 will follow, with an appropriate photo planned.

20 years netball premiership

The special day will also recognise twenty years since the excitement of the 2005 Netball premiership in the Kyabram District league. All players from that season will be warmly welcomed.

Goods and Services Auction

After play has finished for the day the Club plans a Silent Auction, the presentation of Incentive Awards, and a Goods and Services Auction, all in the pavilion.

This should be a top day for former club stars, present players, and families.

Club secretary Crystal Pateman is the key person for details, via 0481 386981. The Club's facebook page will be another source of information.

Football - Premierships

Seniors

G V Football Netball League (Wednesday competition)

1930 - Rushworth: d Murchison: by 3 points[5][6][7]
 1931 - Rushworth: 11.16 - 82 def Mooroopna: 9.14 - 68[8]
 1932 - Rushworth: 10.18 - 78 def Mooroopna: 4.11 - 35[9]
 1933 - Rushworth: 11.10 - 76 def Shepparton: 10.7 - 67[10]
 1935 - Rushworth: 12. 9 - 81 def Shepparton: 7.8 - 50[11]

Tatura Football Club Knockout Carnival

1937 - Rushworth: 3.7 - 25 def GV Football Association: 2.1 - 13[12]

Heathcote District Football League

1965 - Rushworth: 13.14 - 92 def Mt. Pleasant: 8.4 - 52
 1969 - Rushworth: 12.89 - 81 def Elmore: 10.14 - 74
 1977 - Rushworth: 18. 2 - 110 def Colbinabbin: 14.17 - 101

Kyabram & District Football League

2004 - Rushworth: def Lancaster: by 30 points

Football - Runners-up

Seniors

G V Football Netball League (Wednesday competition)

1929 - Shepparton: 17.13 - 115 def Rushworth: 11.14 - 80[14]
 1934 - Shepparton: 11.19 - 85 def Rushworth: 7.14 - 56[15]
 1937 - Mooroopna: 12.14 - 86 def Rushworth: 8.10 -64[16]
 1939 - Nagambie: 10.10 - 70 def Rushworth: 9.11 - 65[17]
 1940 - Benalla: 15.16 - 106 def Rushworth: 11.16 - 82[18]

Heathcote District Football League

1973 - Tooborac: 21.21 - 147 def Rushworth: 8.7 - 55
 1975 - Colbinabbin: 12.15 - 87 def Rushworth: 10.13 - 73

Kyabram District Football League

1999 - Nagambie: 24.5 - 149 def Rushworth: 10.6 - 66

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Colbo Sports Report

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CFNC - Black armbands for a stalwart Life Member

The club paid tribute to Life Member and community stalwart Bob West. His 40-odd years of dedicated service to the club did not go unrecognised and black arm bands were worn in support of Bob and his family who are still involved in the club today.

Round 11: Colbo v Heathcote Football - Seniors

Colbo 14.8. 83 def Heathcote 6.13. 49

Jasper McArdle played his first senior outing since doing his knee a couple of years ago. Another young debutant from the thirds, Charlie McLean, played the first of many senior games and did not disappoint. Charlie snagged his first goal on the run up the clubrooms' end.

The Hoppers were too strong in a mediocre game, winning by 34 points.

Goal kickers: Brandyn Grenfell 4, Alex Carr 3, Nick Knight 3, Dom Monteleone 2, Nathan Basile 1, Charlie McLean 1

Best on ground: Isaac Carracher, Dean Smith, Nathan Basile, Brandyn Grenfell, Toby Howlett, Jude Ryan

Reserves

Colbo 14.16. 100 def Heathcote 7.7. 49

The seconds scored their first ton of the year with a solid performance giving the boys a 51-point win.

Goal kickers: Jimmy McMurtrie 4, Evan McAuley 3, Stephen Tuohey 3, Nicholas Palmer 2, Joseph Fiske-Kealy 1, Tyler Howlett 1

Best on ground: Jimmy McMurtrie, Samuel Coughlin, Hadleigh Sirett, Tyler Howlett, Harrison Lewis, Joseph Fiske-Kealy

Under 18s

Colbo 1.0. 6 lt Heathcote 13.19. 97

The scoreboard tells one story, but the match was far from a blowout. The development of these young fellas is through the roof and they are getting better every week.

Goal kickers: Jaxon Kelly

Best on ground: Jaxon Kelly, Jackson Morgan, Elliot Ryan, Jacobi Kramer, Will Patrick, Zade Charles

Netball - A Grade

Colbinabbin 73 def Heathcote 38

Heathcote came out firing in the first and didn't

relent the whole game, providing some tight contests. Heathcote always provides a hearty battle, yet the Colbo girls stuck it out to take the win.

Best on court: Kasey Conder and Elle Palmer

A Reserve

No game due to no Heathcote A Res team.

B Grade

Colbinabbin 35 lt Heathcote 37

This week in B Grade, the defenders stole the show pulling off intercepts and snagging rebounds left, right and centre. Unfortunately, they were pipped at the post, going down in the final quarter.

Best on court: Megan Fuller

B Reserve

Colbinabbin 32 t Heathcote 45

Best on court: Stella Martin

Under 17s

Colbinabbin 13 lt Heathcote 48

The girls did a great job against Heathcote this week. Thanks Heathcote for a good game.

Best on court: Abbey Ryan

Under 15s

Colbinabbin 37 def Heathcote 24

The team scored a strong win over Heathcote in a sunny, fast-paced game that was as exciting as it was hard-fought.

Under 13s

Colbinabbin 33 def Heathcote 19

It was a challenging game. Despite Heathcote's pressure, the team worked hard and came away with a strong win.

Best on court: Lucinda Ryan and Ivie Borger

Under 11s

The U11s braved the frost and hit the court ready to fire this week! Pip, Lil K, Abbie, Arlie, Indi and Fred all had a turn in goals, with each pairing adapting beautifully and showing great teamwork and movement in the ring.

Best on court: Arlie

CFNC Valued Volunteer Award

Sponsored by Colbinabbin Country Hotel

This week's award went to none other than local legend (just ask him) Toot Morgan.

Like many of the Colbo locals, there's not much this man won't do to help out around the club. This year he's helping out coaching the thirds and a regular umpire of the Reserves. Despite needing his back rubbed down every week, he's more than happy to pull on the boots and help out when needed. Always at training, always at the game, always happy to say g'day and have a chat.

Thanks for all you do Toot!



Nicole McEvoy – 100 games

Nicole racked up the majority of her CFNC games in her previous stint as a Colbo netballer.

Being a Colbo local, Nicole began her netball career as all young hoppers do, playing netball in 1996 and continuing through the junior ranks until she hit the senior competition where she played for several years before settling in Melbourne.

During this time she snagged an A Reserve Best and Fairest. Here's hoping her return to the club may also come with a premiership.

Nicki is an absolute team person and on her return to Colbo in 2025

has slotted in seamlessly.

Voted by her team mates to the Vice Captain position in A Reserve, her enthusiasm and support of everyone is infectious. Willing to play whatever role she is asked, she makes everyone around her better.

A talented player, respected by everyone and a dream to coach.

Recently badged as a C Grade umpire Nicki's contribution to the club continues, always willing to go above and beyond for her coaches, her teammates and the club. Congratulations Nicki on 100 games and we are so glad to have you back at Colbo in 2025!



Past Players and Reunions

Round 17 vs Huntly

9 August 2025

Seniors - 1975 - Reserves - 2015

A Grade - 1985 and 2015

A Reserve - 1995 and 2015

C Grade - 2005



PROPERTY OF COLBO COUNTRY HOTEL
BACK: Paul Tunney, T. Johnson, W. Egan, Brian Ellis, Bill Johnson,
John McEvoy,
CENTRE: Van Mulder, D. McCormick, Alan Hammond, Scott McCubbery,
Van Rens, Brendan Tunney, M. Lundberg
FRONT: S. McTaggart, L. Goss, Shilong Brown, Frank Stewart, I. Abbott,
Ken Wilson

Emma Milne – 200 games

Emma played her 200th club netball game for Colbinabbin this week.

Emma has played for the club for many years. She has played in finals across various grades, has been a premiership player and has a long list of club awards.

She is a versatile player who can play across all areas of the netball court. She is a fantastic goaler as well as a smart, skilful midcourter and is a great positive team contributor. Emma is also currently, and has been over many years, a wonderful contributor to the club including in umpiring and coaching roles.

Congratulations on 200 games Emma!



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CFNC - Great win to the seniors netball and footy

Round 12: Colbo v LBU

Football - Seniors

Colbinabbin 12.11. 83 def LBU 4.12. 36

The first half was anyone's game as the scoring was very even and Colbo took a 9-point lead into the main break, LBU's inaccurate kicking definitely playing a part in how the scoreboard presented.

After half time though, it was all Colbo for the remainder of the game, with LBU only managing four points in the third quarter, and a scoreless last quarter. Colbo weren't able to pile on the goals and run away with a blowout margin but did enough to take the game away from LBU. Colbo ended up 47-point winners.

Goal kickers: Brandyn Grenfell 4, Nick Knight 4, Nathan Basile 1, Alex Carr 1, Isaac Carracher 1, Charlie Ryan 1

Best on ground: Dean Smith, Nathan Basile, Isaac Carracher, Daniel Hill, Alex Carr, Dominic Monteleone

Reserves

Colbinabbin 6.4. 40 lt LBU 9.6. 60

It was a messy display from both sides given the conditions got worse as the game went on. There was plenty of fumbles, dropped marks, missed tackles, missed goals, missed handballs and plenty of ordinary stuff going on. It was end to end footy with not much scoring to worry about, but LBU always seemed to have the upper hand. Every time the Colby boys got within arm's reach of the Catters they just helped themselves to another goal or two.

Unfortunately, the boys just ran out of puff and couldn't turn all the effort into a result, going down by 20 points.

Goal kickers: Stephen Tuohey 2, Samuel Coughlin 1, Evan McAuley 1, Jimmy McMurtrie 1, Elijah Wallace 1.

Best on ground: Jasper McArdle, Nicholas Palmer, Elijah Wallace, Harrison Lewis, Joseph Fiske- Kealy, Will Brown.

Under 18s

Colbinabbin 0.1. 1 lt LBU 17.19. 121

Our little tackers were always going to have a hard time getting the job done. They continue to do the little things well every single week, and coach Charlie is getting these boys in great shape and educating them very well, we're sure we'll have plenty to look forward to in the future.

Best on ground: Henry O'Callaghan, Jake Munro, Zade Charles, Cooper Richardson, Jackson Morgan, Henry McFadzean.

Netball - A Grade

Colbinabbin 81 def LBU 37

LBU are always fierce competitors, yet Colbo were able to pull away with the win. Let's hope the next game is a fraction louder and Chels doesn't have to ask again if the girls know each other's names or not!

Best on court: Chelsea Imanisani

A Reserve

Colbinabbin 46 def LBU 45

A Reserve team were chasing redemption from their round three loss against the cats. Not often looking at the scoreboard during the game, with about three minutes to go, the Cats fought hard, and were what seemed to be four goals up. However the official scoreboard showed Colbo winning by just one goal.

Best on court: Mikayla Palmer and Aggie Minne

B Grade

Colbinabbin 44 lost to LBU 45

The sun was shining on a beautiful winters day as Locky's very accurate shooters took an early lead. Colbo gained some traction with great positioning from their goalers to be two goals behind at the quarter break.

With tight teamwork from all the Megans in defence and great encouragement from the coaches bench, Colbo fought back to be three goals up at half time.

It was a tightly contested third quarter with the mid court working hard and strong defensive hands up all over the court. Locky regained a small lead, going into the final break. It was game on for the last quarter, with the lead see-sawing between the two teams. Locky just scraped through with a one goal win in a well contested game. Megan Leask made a great impact on her first game for Colbo this season, earning best on!

Best on court: Megan Leask

B Reserve

Colbinabbin 35 lt LBU 58

B Reserve came out strong with lots of great ball movements down the court and defensive pressure throughout the game. After the first quarter break, LBU took the lead and didn't look back.

Best on court: Demi Taylor

Under 17s

Colbinabbin 10 lt LBU 67

Tough game against LBU this week. Some of our girls tried out some new positions.

Best on court: Lynette Mountjoy and Mackenzie Fayle

Under 15s

Colbinabbin 13 lt LBU 68

Colbo knew it would be a tough game given LBU are a strong team. The score didn't reflect how back and forth the game was at times, Colbo had lots of opportunities to score but weren't able to convert, whilst LBU made the most of all their chances.

Best on court: Audrey McFadzean, Evie Riordan and Ella Patrick

Under 13s

Colbinabbin 22 lt LBU 23

This week, the U13's faced off against ladder leaders LBU in what was always going to be a tough contest. LBU took the early lead. The match remained evenly contested through the second and third quarters. Heading into the final break, the Hoppers were six goals down. With positive talk, renewed energy and determination they pulled together eventually going down by just one goal.

Best on court: Whole team!

Morghan Hughes – 100 games

Morghan's career began in 2018 when she first came to Colbo and she's never looked back since. A rapidly progressing career saw her starting in B Reserve where she won the B and F in 2018, B Grade the next year where she also won the B and F in 2021 after a few years off due to Covid. She then went on to settle into A Reserve in 2022 and has been part of the team ever since, taking home the Players Award for the past three years as well as Best in Finals for 2025. Morghan is one of the most incredible club people you could ever come across. If a job needs doing, she will always be the first to put her hand up and just gets things done with no fuss. She is our social media guru and is often courtside taking photos. Morghan is our current A Reserve Captain and an incredibly motivating part of any team she is in. Positive, selfless and always wanting to get better. She is the teammate players want to play with and coaches love working with her. Morgs will always try to implement feedback provided and always gets around her teammates – an absolute superstar on and off the court and we are so grateful to have you.

Congratulations on 100 games Morgs!

Bowlers brave the winter in Rushworth

We had mixed weather on Thursday 26 June. The day was sunny until lunch then the clouds rolled in, turning things a wee bit chilly.

We had two three-game winners with 'Wheelies' team from Hill Top the runners-up on 44 points.

The winners for the day were Greg Chandler, Vinnie Hourigan, Chris Oliver and Janet Robertson with 48 points.

Maybe they had the home ground advantage, although I did witness some excellent bowls from this team.

Jean Sprague

Winners for the day (L-R) were Greg Chandler, Chris Oliver, Janet Robertson and Vinnie Hourigan,



RFNC - Shepp East too strong but Tigers topple Violet Town

28 June - Rushworth vs Shepp East Netball - 11/U

Rushworth 14 It Shepp East 18
13/U

Rushworth 16 It Shepp East 17
The Under 13s came close to beating the top team but fell short by a goal.

- 1st incentive: Pippa
- 2nd incentive: Ruby
- 3rd incentive: Sophie.

15/U
Rushworth 40 def Shepp East 30

It was a big game this week against the top team. The team dropped off in the second half but well done team on the win. Thanks Zanna for stepping up to play with us.

- Best on court: Byron Chapman
- 2nd best: Billie Johnstone
- 3rd best: Willow Bertram

17/U
Rushworth 38 It Shepp East 41

The girls had a tough game against Shepparton East. They held strong and played well across all four quarters, showing determination and teamwork throughout. Despite their efforts, the team unfortunately came away with a 3-goal loss.

- 1st incentive: Makayla
- 2nd incentive: Keileigh
- 3rd incentive: Matilda,
- Lolly award: Emily.

C Res
Rushworth 13 It Shepp East 65

After a week off due to a forfeit with injuries galore, the girls found themselves players who jumped on board and joined the crew. They all gelled for the first time and there were great sets of play with lots of positive energy.

- Incentives: Christine, Kyrarah and Sahara.

C Grade
Rushworth 26 It Shepp East 69

The girls showed great teamwork, resilience, and encouragement.

- Best on court: Jessica McLean, Madalen Knight and Anita Barlow

B Grade
Rushworth 26 It Shepp East 58

B Grade played a strong game against the top of the leader board and made them work hard for every goal.

- 1st incentive: Grace Barlow
- 2nd incentive: Christie
- 3rd incentives: Katta

A Grade
Rushworth 28 It Shepp East 54

Top team this week and we were totally outplayed.

- Best on court: Lilly Waasdorp
- 2nd best: Ruby Oliver
- 3rd best: Kasey Barlow



Football - U/10s

The boys travelled to Longwood and came up against a tough opponent and fought out the match

right until the end.

Thirds
Rushworth 29 It Shepp East 133

The boys were caught napping in the first quarter, however in the second quarter the boys brought more effort and intent and really got into the contest. The second half didn't go as planned and Shepp East had a comfortable win.

- Best players: Flynn Clarke, Will Duke, Jimmy Edwards, Angus Maher, Cooper Gleeson and Michael Ndisa

Reserves
Rushworth 47 It Shepp East 70

Hayden Gray back for his first game was a live wire early along with newcomer Nick Collin's. The lads fought hard all day but unfortunately couldn't get the win.

- Best players: N Collins, D Kelsey, J Risstrom, H Gray and F Clarke

Seniors
Rushworth 36 It Shepp East 66

The first half didn't quite go to plan, with Shepp East having the better of the boys and the Eagles went into the long break with a 25 point lead. The second half began with better ball movement and better opportunities to hit the scoreboard. In the end though the Eagles proved to be too good.

- Best players: Nico McKinley, Ryan Raglus, Ryan Beale, Nick Oaten, Liam Adlington and Cooper Horsfall.



Josh Newtons 100 games

What a legend . In simple terms he's the kind of bloke you want to play with every week. Unbelievable clubmen and better bloke . Well done 'legend'!

5 July - Rushworth vs Violet Town Netball - 11/U

Rushworth 4 It Violet Town 23

The girls all tried their best against a strong team.

- Best on court: Zoe Perry
- 2nd incentive: Indi Lockwood
- 3rd incentive: Sienna Gleason

13/U
Rushworth 22 def Violet Town 5

After a slow start, the Under 13s were back on the winners list with a comfortable win over Violet Town. The defence was excellent all down the court and the positive energy from all of the girls was constant throughout the game.

- 1st incentive: Gypsy
- 2nd incentive: Mia
- 3rd incentive: Lucy

15/U
Rushworth U15s had a forfeit by Violet Town so received four points.

17/U
Rushworth 35 drew Violet Town 35

The girls started off slow but clawed their way back from 10 goals behind to draw.

- Incentives: Zahley, Millie and Chloe and the chocolate went to Zahley.

C Reserve
Rushworth 15 It Violet Town 21

It was a close competitive game, despite 5 goal loss, the girls managed to close the 7 goal gap in the first to even at three quarter time.

- Incentives: Eliza, Britt and Tyra.

C Grade
Rushworth 29 It Violet Town 49

C Grade played a great game. The girls pushed themselves and showed great team work and dedication

- Incentives: Anita Barlow, Bella Odwyer and Shannon Bell

B Grade
Rushworth 22 It Violet Town 31

B Grade had a stellar game and continue to develop week in and week out.

- 1st incentive: Ella Cooney
- 2nd incentive: Crystal Pateman
- 3rd incentive: Beth Parker

A Grade
Rushworth 49 def Violet Town 24

- Best on court: Kasey Barlow
- 2nd best: Ruby Oliver
- 3rd best: Mikaela Hanson

Kasey stepped in to fill a hole and played a blinder. The girls had fun and are happy with the win.

Football - Thirds
Rushworth 78 def Violet Town 60

This was a must win for the boys, and they started solidly in the first half and were able to go into half time leading by 24 points. However the boys went to sleep in the third quarter and allowed VT back into the game, so they had to dig deep in the last, and despite kicking more points then goals, were able to hang on and win by 18 point.

- Best players: Addison Godsmark, Corey Cogler, Micheal Ndisa, Cody Brown, Shannon Scorse and Tighe Clarke.

Reserves
Rushworth 125 def Violet Town 23

Low on numbers for the first time in awhile but the boys came out full of spirit and hope, with a ripping four quarter effort to come away with a huge win.

- Best players: Nick Collins, Daniel Kelsey, Will Robertshaw, Josh Newton, Craig Bowyer and Matt Caton

Seniors
Rushworth 122 def Violet Town 58

Rushy lost Brett Anderson in the warm up. Captain Liam Francis hit the scoreboard with the first two goals. U18's captain Tighe Clarke made an immediate impact across half forward and the boys went into half time with a 32 point lead.

The boys were able to maintain the thirst for the contest and continue to build on our first half lead and win by 64 points.

- Best players: Jac Barrett, Ethan Arnold, Tommy Stevens, Nick Oaten, Drew Clarke and Tighe Clarke.

Photos by Alek Stokes




Opera in the Country . . . a night to remember



Photos by Sophie Ainsworth.



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