

The Yea Chronicle

PO Box 5, Alexandra Vic. 3714

With which is incorporated The Yea Telegraph, The Yea Telephone and Upper Goulburn Advocate

Ph: (03) 5772 1002; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Your community newspaper since 1885 Wednesday, February 5, 2025 \$2.00 inc. GST

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INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION

Alister takes over the reins



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New principal for Sacred Heart



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Alex Scott weaner and store sale



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Weekend sport



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Yea's new 2025 prep students starting their school journey. -S

Ruckus at the Yea service station

ON Saturday, February 1, at 11.09am, police were called to an incident at the service station in Yea.

It's understood that an offender had allegedly stolen from a property in Euroa, and was filling up with petrol in Yea, when an altercation took place. During the altercation, the alleged offender had his vehicle window smashed and keys removed to prevent him leaving. At one point, the alleged offender appears to have waved a blade at the people, who wantd their property returned.

Police arrested the alleged offender, a 33 year old male from Melbourne. A quantity of drugs was found in the vehicle.

He was charged and bailed for drug trafficking and theft offences. It's understood that the man was already on bail at the time.

Melba Highway closure for landslip repairs

THE Department of Transport and Planning have advised that they will be repairing two landslips on the Melba Highway in Dixon's Creek between February 17 and the end of March. A road closure will be required to ensure the safety of workers on the site.

The closed section of the Melba will be between Healesville-Kinglake Road and north of Hutts Lane.

There will be a brief re-opening during the works, on the Labour Day long weekend. During this intermission, the road will open on the afternoon of

Friday, March 7 and close again at 7am on Tuesday, March 11.

Access to properties and businesses along the Melba Highway to the south of the Healesville-Kinglake intersection will be maintained from Yarra Glen. No access will be permitted through the work site on the Melba Highway from the Healesville-Kinglake Road intersection.

Detour signage will be in place, advising motorists to detour via Healesville-Kinglake Road and Healesville-Yarra Glen Road. Drivers

can expect an additional 30 minutes or more of travel time. Separate detours will be in place for semi-trailers, and rigid truck and trailer combinations.

Vehicles may also detour via the Goulburn Valley Highway to the Hume Freeway.

Businesses along the Melba Highway and surrounding areas will remain open and trading as usual. If travelling to the area to support local businesses, plan ahead and factor in any additional travel time.

ALISTER Tait became president of the Yea Race Club at the club's AGM in September last year, after five years of helping around the club with no official role.

"It's been really good. We started the picnic season off, we had rain the day before, which is a bit daunting. It didn't impede the track or anything, so it was a great day for the industry to kick off," Alister said.

Alister grew up in Bonnie Doon before moving to Yea at the age of 14. He started out as an apprentice at the butcher's shop, staying in the town for some five years before heading back Bonnie Doon and Mansfield way.

"I met Lyndal when I was at the butcher's shop, she was a local Yea girl. And then I met Lyndal at the horse races after some years and not seeing her for some time, we had a couple of drinks and caught up, and then the rest is history, as they say," Alister said.

“Lyndal’s been a committee member in the past, and now she’s the coordinator of fashions on the field and involved with the club in a capacity as well. She’s there as my

He moved on from butchering, now working in the civil construction industry

as an operator for a plumbing company alongside being president of the Yea Race Club. He has also held roles in Murrindindi Shire Council and VicRoads.



Alister Tait, the president of the Yea Race Club since September 2024. -S

“My grandfather was a trainer, Dad’s grandfather, he’s passed away now, Dad is still a horse trainer, so the passion for racehorses, I was born into it,” he said.

Originally, he was planning to undertake an apprenticeship as a jockey after riding in Mansfield when younger. But this dream was interrupted by him growing a bit too tall for the role. His passion for the industry remains despite this, and the love of horses also exists in his two children.

"It didn't take off, I didn't go down that path. We've been in it all our life, we're still in it. We've still got the horses, and quite passionate about the industry," he said.

"I've got two kids, Darby and Bridie. Darby is the oldest one, but Bridie has her own pony now because she's into horses. Darby is quite passionate about horses as well, every time he gets a chance to head up to Mum and Dad's place he'll play with the horses and help Dad."

When asked about what he plans for the future of the Yea Race Club, it was clear that Alister has a number of goals and things that he wants to accomplish. These include bringing more young people into the race club committee, locking in more sponsors, new tables and chairs at the track, and bridging the gap between the horse racing industry and the crowd by doing more trainer and jockey interviews at the track on race day.

He also wants to move the Yea Cup meeting back to its original date.

"Ideally, I'd like to move our cup meeting back to the Australia Day long weekend. It was the date we had quite some years ago, and it got transferred due to reasons to do with Country Racing," Alister said.

"It'd be nice to coincide with the Yea Rotary Art Show, and there's always a lot of people in town so it's a good time. Get it back to our traditional date, there's a lot of families that come home for a long weekend if they know there's major events on."

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5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital
5736 0400

In an emergency dial
000

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The Yea Chronicle

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Hours: 9am-5pm Monday-Friday

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NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHERS

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Weekly Weather

February 5 - February 11, 2025

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

DAY	LOW	HIGH	
Wednesday	16	32	
Thursday	20	36	
Friday	16	32	
Saturday	16	31	
Sunday	17	31	
Monday	17	33	
Tuesday	18	33	

Yea

DAY	LOW	HIGH	
Wednesday	15	30	
Thursday	20	36	
Friday	16	32	
Saturday	16	30	
Sunday	17	31	
Monday	18	33	
Tuesday	18	34	






ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

can be submitted via email to
editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au or
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au
or by mail to Alexandra Newspapers
PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714.

Letters **must be 300 words or less.** We will not publish defamatory letters, or content which is offensive, threatening or containing personal attacks. Submitted letters may be edited before going to print.

All letters must contain writers name, address and contact number. (not necessarily for publication). Letters without these details supplied cannot not be published. Deadline for Letters to the Editor is 9am Monday.



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Standard
The Age Chronicle

River Heights for the Goulburn Catchment				
Station Name	Time	Height	Tendency	Flood Class
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	9.00am Mon	2.04	steady	below minor
Rubicon River at Rubicon	9.00am Mon	0.41	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	6.44am Mon	0.48	steady	below minor
Home Creek at Yarck	8.49am Mon	0.10	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	8.19am Mon	0.40	steady	below minor
Yea River at Yea GV Water PS	9.21am Mon	0.16	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	9.00am Mon	3.96	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	9.00am Mon	0.32	steady	below minor
King Parrot Ck at Kerrisdale	8.00am Mon	0.07	steady	
Goulburn River at Trawool	9.00am Mon	1.66	steady	below minor
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	9.00am Mon	0.01	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Seymour	9.00am Mon	1.91	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	9.42am Mon	0.90	falling	
**ISSUED AT 9.46AM ON MONDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2025				

DISTRICT RAINFALL	
Alexandra	4mm
Buxton.....	N/Amm
Eildon (AWS).....	0.6mm
Flowerdale.....	10mm
Jamieson.....	4mm
Kinglake.....	3mm
Lake Eildon.....	0.4mm
Mansfield.....	N/Amm
Taggerty	1mm
Yarck	3mm
Yea.....	0.8mm
Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday	
LAKE EILDON	
Height above sea level this week.....	282.81m
Capacity as at 9am Monday.....	77.3%
Metres below full supply.....	6.09m
Daily inflow	500ML
Release.....	5000ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....	52%

The Yea Chronicle

DEADLINES

Real Estate	Thursday 5pm
Trades & Services	Thursday noon
Early General News	Thursday 5pm
Classifieds	Monday noon
Editorial	Monday 9am
Sports Editorial	Monday 10am
Letters to the Editor	Monday 9am
Thumbs up/down	Monday 10am

If you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact the office on

5772 1002 or

reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

We thank you for your continued support

Flowerdale Community Houses big ideas with Food Relief Grant

IN last week's edition, we had the privilege to interview Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House on their recent grant from the Victorian Governments Community Food Relief Program Local Grants. This week, Flowerdale Community House (FCH) Coordinator Rebekah Grant spoke to this masthead about receiving the grant and what exciting things will be happening at the house as a result.

Rebekah explained, "We have big plans. We actually have applied for a multilevel program into this grant and applied to be able to do a lunch and dinner for community. We have a lunch group on Thursday, and we have applied so that we can provide a lunch and a takeaway dinner. We already have around 25 people in our lunch group.

"It's a cost-of-living measure, it's a healthy choice measure for community that we can provide.... Meals are prepared by a volunteer and a staff member if they need help. We purchase the food, and he cooks the recipes and then people come along and pay their \$5 and get a meal on the day. So now a dinner as well. They won't need to pay extra for the

dinner that's why we have the grant to support them, so for this year it won't be extra. And then consider all things after this year.

"We do find people come for the social aspect for sure, they also come because they haven't had veggies. So I mean it's important for us to provide something healthy. This means they are getting two veggies or a meat meal they may or may not have had. We have quite a few over 50 and 60s here and it's so important that their nutrition options are met and its good."

Another exciting project is the Pantry Cook Program for the youth.

Rebekah explained, "We run a youth group in the school holidays and one of the days each holidays there will be a kid's cooking program where we can teach them some basics how to make a meal of pantry staples and bit and pieces, it's really exciting. That program can help them teach others and support themselves if parents are out and about...."

Not only will the grant go towards purchasing food for the youth program and community lunches, they have also

been awarded money to purchase a new double oven, a dishwasher, an urn, and a new microwave.

"It's great, last year we had 92 people come for Christmas lunch. That's a lot of dishwashing. It's all covered in the grant, its absolutely brilliant for the long term and the implementing these programs for the community.

Another service that the house has is a pantry with mostly packaged food and this includes a wonderful partnership with Yea community house where they receive fresh fruit and vegetables from them.

"It's really awesome of them," Rebekah said.

"Food security and the cost of living has blown out so heavily we are having more and more people come in needing that little bit of extra assistance. We have a table where you can take whatever you want and it's consistently being restocked because people are struggling.

"Foodbank doesn't give out the food for free that's a cost to the houses to purchase that, we are very grateful for this grant as

up until now we were using the house funds and donations that came in to purchase that food for community so this is really good... we are very proud we can deliver these things to the community."

Local strike teams help at Grampians fire

ON Thursday, January 30, the District 12 long haul strike team (1202) was deployed to help out in western Victoria. They were heading towards the Grampians, where a fire has been burning since December, started by a lightning strike.

The following day, the strike team were deployed to the Grampians operations area with a composite crew on Yarch Tanker comprising crew leader Isaac from Buxton, driver Max from Taggerty, and crew members Chloe from Alexandra and Rob and Mitch from Beveridge. They were joined by the Marysville forward command vehicle (FCV), driven by Ron from Marysville, and STL Adam from Acheron. The other vehicles making up ST1202 were Hilldene Tanker, Glenburn Tanker, Limestone Ultralight, and the D12 Ultralight out of Highlands.

On Saturday, the weather got warmer and the strike team worked with Forest Fire Management Victoria crews to try to stop the fire jumping containment lines. All the crews did some amazing work pulling up multiple spot overs in very hot and tough conditions.

After a tough day on Sunday, District 12 Strike Team 1202 changed over with the second rotation crews, with the first rotation crews returning home.

Road safety around schools

THE Victorian school year resumed last week, with more than a million students expected to walk through school gates in 2025.

The return to the classroom serves as an important reminder for all road users, not just parents and carers, to be alert for children when driving and understand the road rules around school zones.

According to the Transport Accident Commission (TAC), around seven children aged zero to 15 die each year on Victorian roads.

RACV General Manager Mobility Julia Hunter encourages everyone to do their part to make school zones safe.

"School zones are crucial areas where road safety must always be top of mind," Ms Hunter said.

"Children are at risk around roads because they are less visible, and have a reduced ability to judge time, speed and distance.

"RACV is encouraging parents and carers to plan ahead, and where possible, consider parking further away from the school, as congestion increases the likelihood of collisions.

"Consider walking or riding with your children to school while demonstrating safe behaviours. This includes using children's crossings or zebra crossings, meeting children on the same side of the road, and being bicycle safe.

"Children aged 12 and under, as well as accompanying adults, are allowed to ride on the footpath in Victoria. All children and adults riding on the footpath must still wear a helmet.

"Parents may think that providing their child with an e-scooter may help with the school commute and congestion, however these are in fact illegal for children under 16 to use on our roads and footpaths."

Some school speed zones are permanent and in effect 24/7, while other school speed zones are only operational during certain hours and days. These time-based school speed zones are usually in effect between 8 to 9.30am and 2.30 to 4pm weekdays during Victorian school terms (excluding public holidays).

School speed zones are usually reduced to 40 kilometres per hour on roads where the regular speed limit is less than 80 kilometres per hour. Where the regular speed limit is

More protected actions for FFMV

ADDITIONAL protected actions have come into effect since December 13, 2024 for Australian Workers Union (AWU) members employed by Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMV) as they continue to follow on with Protected Industrial Action campaign.

The following new actions are now in place: A ban on the use of all tools and equipment used in the cleaning and maintenance and restocking of toilets; ban on collecting, cleaning, emptying and removing rubbish, rubbish bins and pits; a ban on felling trees to be used as firewood; bans on the performance of work in locations that aren't adorned with placards, posters, banner or flags about or related to the bargaining; bans on operating and entering vehicles that are not adorned with slogans and messages about or related to enterprise bargaining, however employees will not refuse to operate or enter a vehicle that is not adorned when the vehicle to required to respond to an emergency.

There is a ban on the following tools and equipment: brush cutters, Deutcher line trimmers, whipper snippers, spray

trailers and spray units, ride on mowers and push mowers, slashers, flail mowers, slasher decks and wing decks, reach arms, scythes and fern hooks, nap sacks, green climbers, chippers and mechanical mulching and equipment.

It's important to note that all the mentioned actions have eligibilities to perform these tasks. This depends on whether the members are getting paid an emergency support or field allowance, or if this works falls within the Joint Fuel Management Plan (JFMP)

These new actions are additional to the preexisting actions that were introduced on November 28, 2024, they include a ban on taking meal breaks anywhere other than work centres or other suitable amenities, a ban on recording information on log books, interruptions of work to communicate with the public about the campaign, ban on sending emails that do not feature slogans about the related enterprise bargaining, and a ban responding to DEECA requests to report or record whether employees will or are engaging in protected action.

80 kilometres per hour or more, the school speed zone usually reduces the limit to 60 kilometres per hour.

RACV has the following advice for drivers during school pick-up and drop-offs:

Stay alert: Be patient, aware, and exercise caution when driving through school zones. There will be a lot of excited children walking and riding around roads, car parks and driveways, especially during the busy pick-up and drop-off times.

Observe speed limits: Keep a keen eye out for change of speed limits and reduce your speed before entering school speed zones.

Reduce distraction: Ensure that mobile devices and other distractions are out of reach or turned off while driving.

Be mindful of school buses: Give way to a bus moving into the traffic and be careful of children exiting and entering buses.

Consider parking further away: Park your car a few blocks away and walk to encourage a more active lifestyle, while helping to alleviate congestion.

Consider turning your engine off: Don't idle your engine as you wait. Studies from around the world suggest idling engines in traffic and around schools are detrimental to children's health.

Use children's crossings or zebra crossings: Look out for the bright orange 'children crossing' flags. Whenever those flags are displayed, road users must stop for any pedestrians waiting to cross. This applies regardless of whether a crossing supervisor is present. Remain stopped until the crossing is clear and do not block crossings.

For more information on road safety around schools visit racv.com.au



THUMBS DOWN: To the motorists with their arm hanging outside the driver's window, casually holding a lit cigarette while driving. In this very high fire danger period, are you certifiable?

THUMBS UP: To the Yea Chronicle for publishing the Taungurung statement regarding January 26. Truth telling is so important for us as a community and country to move forward.

Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down is a reader's contribution section of Alexandra Newspapers. Send your Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down to editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au

Contributions will be edited and/or published at the Editor's discretion. We request that this section not be used as a slander attack on persons, businesses or property

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COMMUNITY DIARY

Local Radio Frequency

UGFM 88.9	Yea / Highlands
UGFM 98.9	Flowerdale / Hazeldene
UGFM 94.5	Kinglake Ranges

WEEKLY

Thu	Town Club, RSL Hall, 6-8pm. Ph 5797 2179
Sun	AA Anglican Church, Alexandra 7pm PH 0402 428 086
Sun	Alanon Recovery, start 5.30pm. Ph Sheila 0402 428 086

MONTHLY

1 st Mon	St Luke's Seniors, St Lukes Hall, Ph Jenny 0407 972 099
1 st Thu	Yea Hospital/Rosebank Aux 2pm. Ph 5797 3057
2 nd Sat	Alex Repair Café 1-3pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801
2 nd Wed	Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
2 nd Thu	Yea Garden Club Yea RSL Hall 1.30pm Ph 0439 870 315
4 th Wed	Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
4 th Thu	Yea CWA Yea RSL Hall, 1.30pm Ph 0400 424 888
Last Fri	Yea-Kinglake RSL, 11.30am RSL Hall, Ph 5796 9353



For a \$5 annual fee for one line, your club or organisation's regular meeting dates will be listed each week. Not only is this a reminder to your regular members but also a good source of what groups are available in the community, when they meet and a contact phone number.

Church Services

ST PETER'S MEMORIAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

Cnr Bald Spur/Whittlesea Kinglake Rds,
Sunday Services, 8.30am Communion.
Minister: Rev. Ruwan Palapathwala
0458 113 099

ST LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF YEA

Sunday Service time 11am
Prayerful Reflection - held each Tuesday,
10am to 11am - all welcome
Father Mario Hendricks
Ph: 0435 953 777

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ALEXANDRA AND YEA

Parish Priest, Father Jose Mathew
0459 402 547
St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm
Immaculate Conception Parish
Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am
Sacred Heart Yea, Sunday 10.45am

CATHOLIC PARISH OF KINGLAKE

Fr Martin Ashe, Parish Priest
Ph 9717 6482
St Mary's Kinglake: Sunday 8.30am

SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, YEA

Station Street Yea
Sunday Service 11.15am
Colin Whiteway
Ph 0457 340 525

UNITING CHURCH

1st and 3rd Sundays 9am, 1050 Main Road,
Kinglake West. 9716 2330

Out&About

THE items in Out and About are sourced from our advertising and news stories. *Out and About* is not a free community listing diary. Not all items can be included and are placed at the discretion of *Alexandra Newspapers*.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHRIS WALSH OF ALEXANDRA FOR BEING THE WINNER OF TWO GOLD TICKETS TO OPERA ON THE PONDAGE. HAVE A GREAT NIGHT.

Thank you to Eildon Events for providing the tickets.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Free skin checks for the farming community at Yea Sale Yards.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

This Way North and Tuckshop ladies will be playing at Fawcett Hall, Doors open at 6pm, music from 6.30. BYO picnic, drinks, lawn chairs. Bookings essential trybooking.com/cxnvh

Alexandra Museum and steam train rides. From 10am-3.30pm. 7 Station Street, Alexandra.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Marysville Market is on again. From 9am-1pm. All your favourite stalls, cakes, sewing notions, pottery, hand crafts and more.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Alexandra Pastoral and Agricultural Association will hold its AGM at 7pm in the secretaries office/caravan park office at 17 William Street. All interested parties are welcome and they actively encourage new members. For more information email the secretary at pna.alexandra@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Council is starting a project to address housing shortages for key workers in the Eildon

community. Community members are invited to share their perspectives on the design of the modular housing by completing a survey at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/kwh or join council at local pop up events in Eildon for a chat. The first being, Eildon Bowls Club from 5.30-7.30pm.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

The Alexandra Football Netball ladies committee AGM will be held at the club rooms at 6pm. Everyone is welcome. All enquiries to Kath Hedger on 0438 520 382.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Council is starting a project to address housing shortages for key workers in the Eildon community. Community members are invited to share their perspectives on the design of the modular housing by completing a survey at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/kwh or join council at local pop up events in Eildon for a chat. The second being, Eildon Visitor Information Centre from 2-3pm. The last chance is Eildon Grocer from 4-5pm.

Trawool, Valentine's Day, Exclusive wine dinner by Grave Goose in Turbine restaurant. Limited seats available, Books essential 5792 1444 or trawoolestate.com.au.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Opera @ Eildon. Book your tickets now trybooking.com/CVOSP.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

All things business in Kinglake. Council and Business Victoria are kickstarting 2025 with a great free event for businesses and entrepreneurs, commencing with breakfast from 7.30am, an interactive workshop and access to free business advisory services. Kinglake Pub, to register visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/smallbusiness

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Attention Yea and surrounds. Council are taking a deeper dive into your aspirations and

big ideas for the communities future. Enjoy a light meal, chat, connect and share ideas with other community members, councillors and council officers. Your feedback will help shape the new council plan. Yea Council Chamber, 6-8pm. Register at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/councilplan.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Trawool, Drag Trivia. A more glamorous take on your traditional pub trivia. Grab your team mates and get to Trawool for this outrageous evening of run and trivia. Bookings essential 5792 1444 or trawoolestate.com.au.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Long Lazy Summer Lunch at Holmesglen at Eildon. Bookings essential noon – 4pm Delight in a beautiful summer lunch, featuring fresh local produce, live music and free flowing bubbles. 5774 2631. eildon@holmesglen.edu.au

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Attention Alexandra, Eildon, Marysville and surrounds. Council are taking a deeper dive into your aspirations and big ideas for the communities future. Enjoy a light meal, chat, connect and share ideas with other community members, councillors and council officers. Your feedback will help shape the new council plan. Marysville Community Centre, noon-2pm. Register at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/councilplan.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Attention Alexandra, Eildon, Marysville and surrounds. Council are taking a deeper dive into your aspirations and big ideas for the communities future. Enjoy a light meal, chat, connect and share ideas with other community members, councillors and council officers. Your feedback will help shape the new council plan. Alexandra Shire Hall, noon-2pm. Register at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/councilplan.

Melanoma diagnoses in Victoria on the rise

CANCER Council Victoria's SunSmart program is reminding Victorians to stay vigilant about sun protection this summer, as data shows melanoma diagnoses are on the rise, with people living in regional areas and men more likely to be diagnosed.

According to Cancer Council Victoria's annual Victorian Cancer Registry (VCR), 3182 Victorians (1860 males and 1320 females) were diagnosed with melanoma in 2023, up from 2884 new cases in 2022.

1205 of these new cases came out of regional Victoria, where people are 54 per cent more likely to be diagnosed with melanoma than Victorians living in major cities.

Head of SunSmart at Cancer Council Victoria, Emma Glassenbury, said exposure to the sun's UV radiation accounts for most melanoma, the deadliest skin cancer, capable of spreading to vital organs like the brain, lungs and liver.

"The good news is melanoma is one of the most preventable cancers, yet it remains the fifth most common in Victoria, accounting for six per cent of all new cancer diagnoses in 2023.

"We think the Victorian rise in reported melanoma detection may be partially explained by growing and aging population in Victoria and fewer cases during COVID-19, so we are seeing larger numbers of melanoma now with a 10 per cent rise in cases between 2022-2023."

Ms Glassenbury said that while numbers reported by VCR were compelling, they were just the "tip of the iceberg," and did not capture the 164,737 treatments for other forms of skin cancer in Victoria in 2023.

"While less deadly than melanoma, treatment of basal cell carcinomas and squamous cell carcinomas often still involve confronting surgical procedures and place a significant financial burden on the Victorian health system," explained Ms Glassenbury.

The latest VCR report showed the rate of melanoma among Victorians aged 25-49 has declined by 52 per cent since 1997, coinciding with a generation of Victorians who grew up with iconic SunSmart 'slip slop slap' messaging from the 1980s, now expanded to include *slide* (on sunglasses) and *seek* (shade).

"It's encouraging to see skin cancer prevention through the SunSmart program

listed as a priority in the Victorian Government's *Victorian Cancer Plan*.

"Government funding for programs and campaigns that promote sun safety and early skin cancer detection, especially for priority populations, is a vital and important investment that saves lives and reduces the eventual costs on the health system," Ms Glassenbury concluded.

Acting Minister for Health Ingrid Stitt is urging Victorians to take the risk of sun damage seriously when outdoors this summer by remaining vigilant of UV levels and using sun protection to reduce their chances of being diagnosed melanoma or other skin cancers.

"Australia has some of the highest UV levels in the world and all it takes is 11 minutes outdoors without sun protection to cause damage to our skin.

"Whether at the beach, working outdoors or spending time in the garden, Victorians should protect themselves by covering up, wearing a wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses and sunscreen, and seeking shade," she said.

Visit sunsmart.com.au to learn more or download the SunSmart Global UV App.



The fire ground at Whanregarwen. -S

Fires sparked by lightning

ON the evening of Monday, January 27, Victoria experienced a very hot day with temperatures of around 40 degrees. In the early evening, two storm fronts hit, dramatically lowering the temperatures in Murrindindi Shire, but unfortunately the storms brought lightning with them.

Lightning strikes started a number of fires in the area, many of which were quickly dealt with by the CFA.

The more notable fires were in the Switzerland Range near Highlands, attended quickly by multiple CFA units as well as local farm units. More fires were found and extinguished while they attended. The fire burnt one hectare.

A grass and scrub fire also started at around the same time on Whanregarwen Road. Acheron, Whanregarwen, Alexandra, Molesworth and Yarck CFA units attended.

At all of the fires, crews did an amazing job to pull the fires up fast in windy conditions.



CFA members extinguishing the fire at Whanregarwen. -S

Record stocking helping threatened fish

THE Victorian Government is bolstering fish stocks in 11 waterways across regional Victoria, helping to improve the populations of threatened fish species.

Minister for Outdoor Recreation and Environment Steve Dimopoulos announced the successful stocking of a record 141,000 trout cod and nearly 100,000 Macquarie perch into 11 waterways backed by a \$15 million investment into expanding fish hatcheries.

“Record stocking of trout cod is another important step towards the recovery of this threatened species, which was once common in Victoria’s northeast rivers,” Mr Dimopoulos said.

“Our investment into growing our hatcheries is paying dividends and will mean more fish in our rivers and lakes across the state.”

Five waters shared in the 141,000 trout cod fingerlings, which is nearly triple the previous best of 51,000 fingerlings in 2001. Among them were the Campaspe and Kiewa rivers, where trout cod have been absent for decades, along with Corryong Creek, and the Goulburn and King rivers.

The Kiewa River, in Victoria’s northeast, is the big winner this year with 30,000 trout cod and 30,000 Macquarie perch stocked.

Macquarie perch were once abundant in northern rivers but declined significantly and have been extinct in the Kiewa River since 1939.

Their recovery has been prioritised through stocking, habitat restoration, monitoring and dedicated research.

The VFA’s Snobs Creek team and partners are pursuing the holy grail of ‘Cracking the Code’ to breed Macquarie perch in captivity, reducing the need to source fish from the wild every breeding season.

In a first for the program, male Macquarie perch that were bred at Snobs Creek in 2019 and 2020 have now been used to fertilise eggs from wild females, to produce some of this season’s fingerlings.

Other waters to share in the Macquarie perch fingerlings stocked recently include Cudgewa and Hughes creeks, the Broken, Buffalo, Goulburn, Ovens and King rivers, and Lake Dartmouth.

For the full list of stocked waters and fish numbers, visit vfa.vic.gov.au/fishrecovery

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HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW FIRE?

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



Haines urges housing supply boost

INDEPENDENT Federal Member for Indi Dr Helen Haines MP has launced the year with her first policy announcement to boost housing supply in Indi and regional Australia.

Dr Haines MP is setting in motion her vision for a \$2 billion *Regional Housing Infrastructure Fund*, and continuing to lead the national debate on housing infrastructure policy and said her plan would deliver more homes for regional Australians.

“An affordable and secure home sets people up to thrive and build their lives,” Dr Haines said.

“The current housing crisis is making life hard for too many people, holding back the growth of our region and affecting essential service delivery.”

Dr Haines said the fund would build the paths, poles and power that must go in before new homes can be built.

“We have the land and the vision, but we need to properly invest in the infrastructure to develop our towns and regional cities.

“Consecutive governments have failed to acknowledge that regional councils and smaller towns struggle to increase their housing supply because of critical infrastructure like sewerage, water and power.

“The economies of scale that work in the cities apply differently in the country, but governments keep ignoring this problem.

“I’m unashamedly ambitious for regions like ours and cannot accept the drip feeding of funding when there are regions desperate for help with basic infrastructure like water connections. It is literally stunting our growth.

“More than a third of people live in regional, rural or remote Australia and it is beyond time we had a dedicated fund that gives us a fair share of regional housing. My plan will unlock new housing supply and deliver regional Australia their fair share.”

Pointing to the levels of housing stress in Indi, Dr Haines said enabling infrastructure for new builds was key to reducing stress and addressing workforce shortages across Indi.

“In Indi, more than 40 per cent of renters experience rental stress and more than 60 per cent of homeowners are finding it hard to pay the mortgage and juggle their bills.

“For an entire generation of Australians, the prospect of home ownership, or even finding a secure rental, feels out of reach and unattainable, and this is keenly felt in regional areas. Parents are worried about the financial security for their children in the future.

“We’re losing tens of millions off our local economy each year because there’s nowhere for new workers moving to the regions to live. It’s impacting essential services, like nursing, teaching, and aged care.

The *Regional Housing Infrastructure Fund* proposed by Dr Haines builds on sustained advocacy by Dr Haines in this last term of Parliament.

Dr Haines has met with the Prime Minister, the former and current Housing Ministers and the Infrastructure Minister to make the case for investment in enabling infrastructure. In 2023, Dr Haines introduced legislation to guarantee dedicated funding for enabling infrastructure in regional, rural and remote Australia.

In 2024, Dr Haines introduced an updated ‘*Fair Share for Regional Housing Bill*’ to make it clear that regional Australia needs a fair share and to centre government action at local governments and community.

Dr Haines has achieved success in amending the government’s housing legislation to ensure there is a regional voice at the table.

The government announced the \$500 million Housing Support Program to fund enabling infrastructure just weeks after Dr Haines met with the Prime Minister.

The Opposition recently announced it would set aside 30 per cent of its housing fund for regional communities, adopting the policy Dr Haines has long advocated for.

“I’ve taken legislation to the Parliament in the last year to enable local governments, who don’t have the rate base or resources of their city counterparts, to access the funding they need.

“We’ve got funding coming through, but I want to see a bigger, long-term vision for ensuring we have housing security and affordability in regional Australia,” Dr Haines said.

Regional roads fatal statistics too high

THE Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) says Victorians are paying for years of roads neglect with their lives as regional Victoria’s road toll soars more 156 per cent compared to the same time last year.

VFF President Brett Hosking said the state of regional Victoria’s roads is a major contributing factor to the tragic toll and has called on the governments to urgently fix the issue.

“The tragic reality is you’re more than three times likely to lose your life when driving on country roads when compared to driving in the city.”

“Rural Victorian roads have sadly claimed 23 lives this year, representing a 156 per cent increase on the same time last year. These aren’t just statistics, it’s our friends, family and loved ones.

“Enough is enough. Genuine questions must be asked about as to what contributing factors are behind the accidents and there’s

no doubt the state of country roads is a huge factor,” Mr Hosking said.

Mr Hosking has called on all levels of government to urgently address major funding shortfalls to rectify our country roads.

“Over the past year, government spending on resurfacing and resealing roads has dropped by a whopping 81 per cent. That only condemns our roads to ruin and sadly that’s now a reality.

“Drivers are expected to maintain road worthy cars. It’s time for cars to drive car worthy roads to ensure drivers aren’t playing a daily game of roads roulette.

“With a federal election looming, there’s no better time for our leaders to commit to genuinely fixing this mess.

“We’re calling on all levels of government to urgently address the state of our crumbling regional roads for the sake of our safety,” Mr Hosking said.

New Principal for Sacred Heart Primary School

SACRED Heart Primary School in Yea has a newly appointed Principal, Mrs Amy Leahy.

This is Amy’s first appointment as Principal after being in a deputy role for six years. Her most recent appointment was at a school in Craigieburn where she worked for the last 11 years. Amy has mainly taught in Melbourne, however she did a stint in Perth during COVID-19.

Amy grew up in the country in Bridgewater near Bendigo. Amy and her husband built their home in Wandong and have been living in the area for about 14 years with their three children.

Amy said, “I have worked mostly in Melbourne but felt the call to come back to a country community. When the opportunity came to apply for Sacred Heart, this was something I really wanted. I had been a deputy for about six years prior to that and through taking some acting roles last year when my previous principal moved on. I thought, this is what I am meant to be doing now.

“I did actually really want it. I wanted to move back to a country community after working in the suburbs for a long time. I just really felt that call and being a country person, I love it. Already I can tell how much passion there is from people who work here and live here. There is lots of love and passion at Sacred Heart.

“I’m excited about really getting to know the community and connecting with families. For me, even as a principal, it’s all about the kids, so I think building relationships with the people of the Sacred

Heart community and within the township of Yea is important. I’m excited to help grow the community, and to hopefully build. I want to invite more people in, even if they are just curious, to come and have a look. I really want to meet as many people as possible,” Amy said.

Amy knows a bit about Yea but is excited to learn more.

“I know Yea a little bit, I have two older boys, and they play football in the same league. Yea has been a competitor against Broadford. Don’t hold it against us. I am excited to get to know people and for people to get to know me, and build that trust with the community.”

At the time of writing Amy was on day two in her principal role at Sacred Heart Primary. She said, “I am excited to be Principal at Sacred Heart, which was established by the Josephite order in 1923. It is personally special to me as I began my teaching career 20 years ago in a Josephite school in Melbourne.

“The strong connection to Mary Mackillop is important as I can see her vision of providing quality education and care for children of the country evident in the teachers, staff, and community of Sacred Heart. It is my vision to continue and help this to grow.

“I firmly believe in the capacity of children and to provide them opportunities to grow to be curious and active global citizens. I truly am looking forward to building relationships with each of our children at Sacred Heart, their families and the wider community.



Sacred Heart’s new principal Mrs Amy Leahy. -S

“The beginning of the year was exciting with our community gathering for a smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country by Auntie Angela of the Taungurung. This opportunity to gather as a whole school was a wonderful moment of hospitality and inclusion.

“We are currently planning open days and school tours in the coming weeks. I look forward to welcoming people who would like to visit our wonderful learning community.”

People can follow the events at the school on Facebook and Instagram, or to find out more information or contact the school at any time on 5797 2723.

A fair share of regional housing

My plan for a \$2 billion Regional Housing Infrastructure Fund will support communities with critical infrastructure needed to boost housing supplies.



Helen Haines MP

INDEPENDENT FEDERAL MEMBER FOR INDİ

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MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL NEWS



COMMUNITY AWARDS NOMINATIONS OPEN

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Murrindindi Shire Community Awards. These awards honour local volunteers for their exceptional community spirit and willingness to help others.

Our four Award categories are:

- Volunteer of the Year
- Senior Volunteer of the Year
- Young Volunteer of the Year
- Community Group or Initiative of the Year

Nominations close on Sunday 24 March. Criteria and nomination forms are available at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/2025Awards

You can also pick up a nomination form at our Library and Customer Service Centres, and the Mobile Library.

The 2025 Award winners will be announced and acknowledged at a volunteer appreciation event held during National Volunteer Week (19-25 May 2025).

GOULBURN MURRAY SOLAR SAVERS

Council is holding pop-up information sessions to let our community know how the Goulburn Murray Solar Savers Program works, and how it can help you save.

Alexandra FoodWorks: 19 February, 11.00 am - 1.00 pm

Eildon Grocer: 19 February, 2.00 - 4.00 pm

Marysville Grocer: 26 February, 3.00 - 5.00 pm

Yea FoodWorks: 27 February, 3.00 - 5.00 pm

Kinglake FoodWorks: 6 March, 2.00 - 4.00 pm

There will more sessions over the coming months, so keep an eye out for one near you.

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM KICKS OFF

Council's Capacity Building Program includes tailored training, mentoring, and networking events aimed at equipping participants with practical skills and knowledge. By strengthening the capacity of individuals and organisations, the Program seeks to build on the foundations of our connected and resilient community.

Find out more and register your interest in the program at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/capacity-building

'ALL THINGS BUSINESS' IN KINGLAKE

Council and Business Victoria are kickstarting 2025 with 'All Things Business' in Kinglake.

This is a fabulous opportunity for new and existing Murrindindi Shire based businesses and entrepreneurs, commencing with a business breakfast, leading into an interactive workshop and access to free business advisory services - all on the same day, in the same location.

- Tuesday 18 February, commencing from 7.30 am
- Kinglake Pub, Lawson Room
- 28 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd, Kinglake

Learn more and register on our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/smallbusiness

JOIN OUR BIG CONVERSATION

Enjoy a light meal while you chat, connect, and share your BIG ideas with other community members, Councillors and Council officers. Your feedback will help shape our new Council Plan.

Come along and join the big conversation in:

Yea: 20 February, 6.00 - 8.00 pm

Marysville: 24 February, 12 noon - 2.00 pm

Alexandra: 25 February, 12 noon - 2.00 pm

Kinglake: 4 March, 6.00 - 8.00 pm

For more information and to register, visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/councilplan

RV REST STOP TRIAL FOR MARYSVILLE

Marysville is on the road to becoming 'RV Friendly' with the launch of a 12-month Recreational Vehicle (RV) Rest Stop Trial that commenced Saturday 1 February 2025.

Located in the Gallipoli Park Precinct near the existing dump point, the site offers six free spaces for fully self-contained RVs. Visitors are encouraged to provide feedback on the trial.

For more information about the trial or to provide feedback, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/marysvillerv or call Council on 5772 0333.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

Council is hosting FREE emergency preparedness training in Flowerdale, Glenburn and Toolangi, as part of the LEAPing into Resilience Project. Visit our website to register, or call Council on 5772 0333.

Chainsaw Operation: Two-day course

Friday 7 and Saturday 8 February, 9.00 am - 5.00 pm
Flowerdale Community House, 36 Silver Creek Rd
murrindindi.vic.gov.au/chainsawtraining

First 72 Hours Workshop: Glenburn

Monday 10 February, 6.00 - 8.30 pm
Glenburn Community Hall, 3876 Melba Hwy
murrindindi.vic.gov.au/72hoursglenburn

First 72 Hours Workshop: Toolangi-Castella

Tuesday 11 February, 6.00 - 8.30 pm,
Toolangi Castella Community House, 1715 Healesville-Kinglake Rd
murrindindi.vic.gov.au/72hourstoolangi

COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2025

Council meetings are a good way for the community to see how local decision-making takes place and to observe Council's democratic processes. Meetings are also live-streamed via Facebook and our website.

For more information and a list of meeting dates for 2025, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/councilmeetings

STAY INFORMED

To stay up to date with the latest Council news, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/news or follow us on Facebook.

GET IN TOUCH

customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request
5772 0333

Cat management strategy out now

THE Victorian Government is improving the health and wellbeing of domestic cats and protecting our unique native wildlife with the launch of the state's first cat management strategy.

Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence and Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos last week launched the 10-year cat management strategy which will improve responsible ownership and education programs and increase desexing rates.

"We know how much Victorians love their pet cats. This strategy will help promote responsible cat ownership, while also protecting our environment and native wildlife from cats," Ms Spence said.

"This is Victoria's first ever cat management strategy, designed to improve the welfare of our domestic cat population while reducing the burden on rescue shelters and finding wild cats a new safe home."

Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos said the strategy will help safeguard native wildlife while also helping cats.

"Developed with expert advice, this strategy will help better safeguard our native wildlife while helping more cats to find a new loving home," he said.

Consultation on the draft strategy took place in March and April of 2024, and a summary and the full consultation report are available on Engage Victoria, at engage.vic.gov.au/cat-management-strategy

The strategy also addresses the challenges of unowned and semi-owned cats, which make up most of the cat intake at shelters. It will look at ways to promote full and responsible ownership of these cats and target programs to capture, desex and rehome.

It is shaped by a set of guiding principles that act as a framework for the strategy's implementation. These principles include that cats deserve caring and responsible owners, empowering communities, embracing diverse perspectives, progress over perfection and safeguarding biodiversity.

Feral cat management is another key focus. The strategy will improve information

sharing between councils with successful cat management strategies and deliver more flexible registration options.

Importantly, the strategy recognises that cat management is a shared responsibility between councils, the state government, community members, and animal welfare organisations.

Cats are much loved companions and family members, but growing cat populations bring challenges. These include a threat to native wildlife and an increasing demand on councils and shelters.

Victoria is home to more than 227,000 registered cats, along with a significant number of unregistered, unowned or feral cats in Victoria.

The cat management strategy includes a timeline for implementation.

In the short term, over the next one to three years, the focus is on promoting cat welfare and responsible cat ownership, investing in affordable desexing, expanding cat containment, improving cat adoption

decisions, supporting integrated feral cat programs, supporting research into feral cat control, improving information sharing, and reviewing cat management framework.

The medium term, or the next four to six years, will be a lighter load. Desexing efforts will be ramped up, with more support for innovative trials and programs. Other implementations include providing cat containment support to councils with curfews, reducing the number of cats in shelters, and on the street and in rural areas, and encouraging early desexing by aligning registration and desexing age.

The long term, seven to 10 years, will provide more flexible registration options to encourage desexing, adoption, and cat registration.

To read the cat management strategy in full, visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals



Let's eat, it's our treat

Keppel Cafe Marysville has a variety of options

THE Keppel Café in Marysville has been operating for almost five years, providing quality food to the town's citizens and visitors.

It is open seven days a week, with varied opening hours. Monday to Friday the café is open from 8.30am to 3pm, and on the weekend it is open from 8am to 3.30pm. These hours can change during peak periods though, including school holidays and long weekends.

Owner Weiren spoke about how the café operates and what it presents to customers.

"Throughout our journey in Marysville we've had a lot of support from the community, even through the lockdowns and during COVID-19 times. Even until today as well," he said.

"We also have Marysville Gourmet Pie. We have Keppel Café, we have a produce store in the middle, and Marysville Gourmet Pie at the same time.

"We run a very small team, so in Keppel Café we only have two chefs and four part-time front of house staff. It does take a lot

of work from everyone, especially in this economic situation.

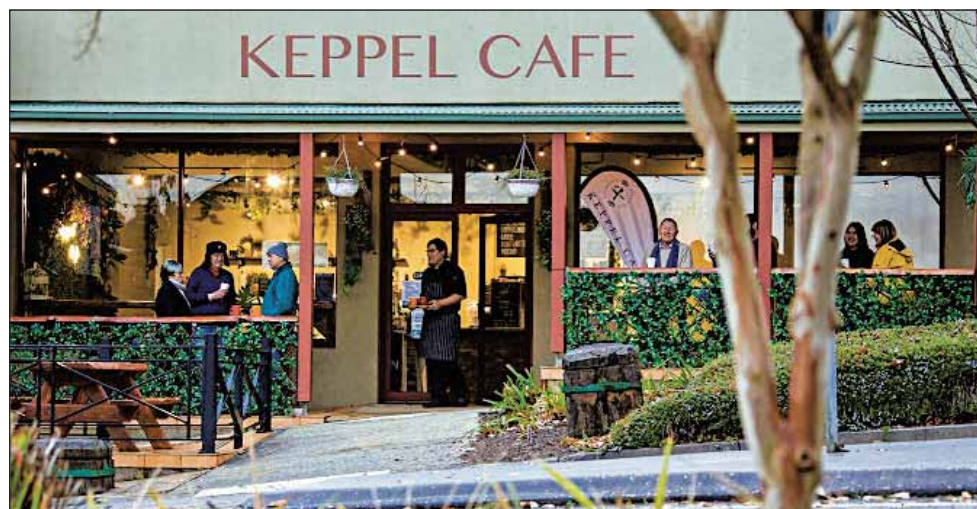
"We run seven days, so we have a lot of stuff that is made in-house. We have gelato and desserts at the same time. We are really hands-on with everything."

The Keppel Café varies with the seasons, meaning that there is often new cuisine to experience.

"Our menu changes seasonally, so every three months we change our menu. The core menu, which is the breakfast, the brunch, the burger, those are the few items that are always on the menu," Weiren said.

"The other stuff you can change every three months just to keep things fresh, and keep our staff motivated at the same time and the locals have different choices.

"Especially in wintertime and summertime, we'll have those types of meals. Wintertime is good for something more hearty, more filling, more warm, where in summer it's something more refreshing.



"I'm from Malaysia, and I've worked in Malaysia and Singapore as well. Internationally wise we do French to Italian to Middle Eastern to Asian to Indian, for all these different cuisines we are able to do. Every menu we have we always have one or two Asian dishes, just to accommodate as many people as possible.

"We also do dietary as well, so gluten free, dairy free, vegetarian, and vegan. The only thing we're not doing is celiac."

Catering and events are within Keppel Café's range of expertise as well.

"People like the Murrindindi Shire Council, the Australian Tarmac Rally, the marathon,

the bicycle events and all sorts. We've even done weddings before as well. Whatever we can do we will do," Weiren said.

Asked about where the café is heading in the future, Weiren talked about how they are always looking to improve.

"We hope to improve ourselves more on events and catering, that's where we can still move forward as much as possible. And currently we're doing some whole selling of our pies, we do some wholesale to another business down the line. That's where we intend to expand in wholesale, to go out from the town to grant more sales," he concluded.




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For your chance to win a \$50 meal, returns this voucher by noon, Thursday, February 20.

Alexandra Newspapers, PO Box 5, Alexandra, 3714

Photocopies will not be accepted.

One entry per household.

Winner will be notified by phone and published in the first edition of the month.

T&C: Only venues advertised in this feature are eligible to be chosen. Winner will be contacted by phone and name published in next edition of the feature. Voucher is not redeemable for cash. To be used for one purchase only. Multiple vouchers cannot be saved and used together. Staff or family of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter. Original form must be returned.

Keep your recycling loose.

By putting your recycling in the bin loose and not in a bag, it can be turned into new things like park benches and tables.

A small act makes a big impact.

Find out how at murrindindi.vic.gov.au



Update on the Kayigai Trail at the Yea Wetlands

MURRINDINDI Shire Council has said that the work on the Kayigai Trail is progressing well. All surveying work is complete, and the gravel trail has been laid down.

At the northern end, posts have been driven into the ground, and about 70 metres of boardwalk has been constructed, providing a glimpse of the final look.

Council expects the Kayigai Trail, boardwalk and the four viewing platforms to be finished by the end of February.

The Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre Inc has been successful in receiving funding from the Victorian Government's *Regional Tourism Investment Fund* to complete the Kayigai Trail Project and has engaged council to manage and oversee the construction of the trail.



Use it or loose it in Murrindindi Shire

MURRINDINDI Shire Council is encouraging residents to keep their recycling loose, not in plastic bags, so more materials can be properly processed and turned into new products.

This initiative supports a statewide goal to divert 80 per cent of waste from landfill by 2030 and create a more sustainable future for our community.

This campaign coincides with the changes to the recycling system across Victoria. In Murrindindi Shire, this involves the introduction of glass recycling and food and organics recycling in July 2025.

Currently, 16 per cent of Victorians mistakenly place their recycling in plastic bags before putting it in their kerbside bin. Bagged recycling is one of the biggest contaminants at sorting facilities, preventing clean materials from being recycled. As a result, bagged recycling often ends up in landfill.

Recycling correctly is simple. Place items like paper, cardboard, cans, and bottles directly into your recycling bin, never in bags. Ensure recyclables are clean and dry before placing them in the bin. Check council's guidelines to see what can and cannot be recycled.

For more information on what you can and cannot recycle in Murrindindi Shire, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/yellow-lid or give council a call on 5772 0333.

This campaign is funded by Sustainability Victoria's *Circular Economy Household Education Fund*, on behalf of the Victoria State Government.

Murrindindi Shire Council's Sustainability and Assets Portfolio Councillor Sue Carpenter emphasised the importance of this initiative, "By keeping your recyclables loose in your yellow bin, you help ensure that more materials are diverted from landfill and turned into new products, contributing to a more sustainable future. Instead of using plastic or paper bags, try using a large tub to collect recycling loose.

"In July this year, we'll be introducing two new recycling services to your kerbside collection: separate glass recycling and food and garden organics recycling, to complement our existing mixed recycling service. Council will be rolling out a comprehensive education campaign to help residents make the most of these new services and use them correctly. Together, small acts like recycling correctly can make a big difference to our environment and community."

The shire's venue hire costs

MURRINDINDI Shire Council manages several venues in townships across Murrindindi Shire. Community groups, businesses and individuals are encouraged to hire these venues for public or private functions such as meetings, seminars, exhibitions, weddings, and celebrations.

There are different hire rates for commercial use (ticketed events, or events where the organiser is looking to make a profit) and non-commercial use (private events such as weddings or non-profit events run by community groups).

When asked about increases in venue hire costs, council responded, "Each financial year, council reviews venue hire fees as part of its annual budget process, aiming to balance affordability for residents and community groups with fairness. In some cases, hire fees did not fully cover the cost of operating and maintaining these venues. As not all communities have easy access to council-managed facilities, ongoing ratepayer subsidies for venue users are not equitable. The recent fee adjustments and increases seek to create a fairer and more financially responsible approach to venue hire across the shire.

"Over the five years prior to last year's budget, prices were reduced for some venues in an attempt to promote greater use of these facilities. In this time venue hire has not increased significantly and in the 2024/25 Annual Budget consultation, council proposed increasing the venue hire fees to more accurately reflect the rising cost of management for these facilities. Last year, most venues had a 2.8 per cent fee increase. Some venues had larger increases to account for several years of subsidised pricing, and to take some of the pressure off council's limited rate revenue.

"Venue costs include utilities, insurance, staffing, maintenance, and improvements to keep the venues safe and accessible for everyone. By adjusting user hire fees, we aim to ensure our venues remain viable and continue to serve the community effectively without placing an unnecessary additional burden on all ratepayers.

"We understand that price increases impact local community groups who use our venues. We encourage groups to contact council, as events that provide a community benefit can apply for reduced or even free venue hire. There are often options available to support you, including our *Grants and Sponsorships Program*. Visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/grants to find out more."

To learn more about venue hire, including which venues are available and the pricing structure, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/venuesforhire



PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
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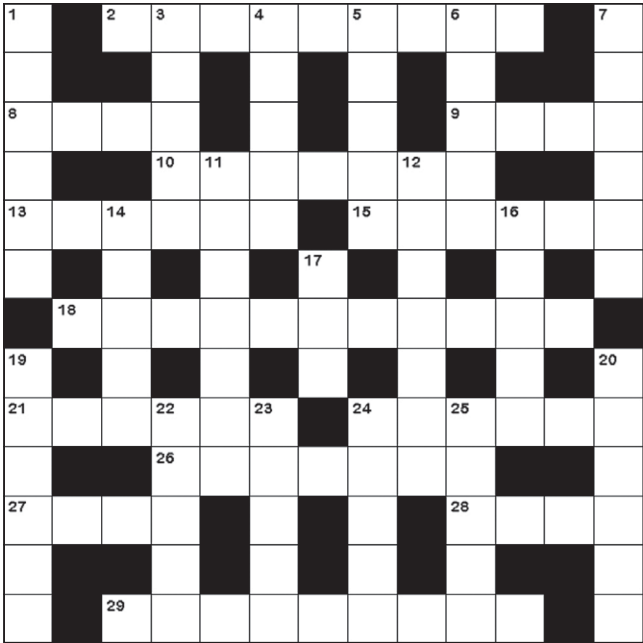
Crossword

ACROSS

- 2. Having a pleasant taste like that of sugar.
- 8. A group of three performers.
- 9. Very dark black.
- 10. Relating to the sense of touch.
- 13. The least number of items.
- 15. A toy to entertain a baby.
- 18. The father of your father or mother.
- 21. Stood waiting in a line.
- 24. At the back of a ship.
- 26. A machine that prints documents.
- 27. As Soon As Possible.
- 28. Using speech rather than writing.
- 29. Marched in a demonstration.

DOWN

- 1. Give information or notice to.
- 3. Communicated by letter.
- 4. A formal pronouncement.
- 5. The lowest point.
- 6. A mixture of rain and snow.
- 7. Light teasing repartee.
- 11. Widely separated into parts or pieces.
- 12. Sugar that occurs only in milk.
- 14. Not as well as yesterday.



- 16. The topic on which a person speaks.
- 17. Not turned on.
- 19. Sudden violent winds.
- 20. A bracelet worn around the ankle.
- 22. The part of a shoe above the sole.
- 23. A human finger or toe.
- 24. A collection of maps in book form.
- 25. A treasure found hidden.

Word Search

F G S H A E A F J S E G I C V
U D S F R V R G K U P N R X W
S A U M B R L I N G U I N E X
I C C Z O X M I G O G V I E D
L H G G R B K S N A L N M T P
L E Y U I Y E A T O I O T N O
I N D J O J D O I L R H T Q Y
W I H C C O N G L Q J A U T F
Q C P G G I I E O A I W C K I
J C E F O U T N I K O O P A D
R U D P J R X C V D D Y S Q M
U T Y E O E B P A N T D P I W
Q T M T D A G X R Q A Q U S N
C E I T T E H G A P S J Q Y J
N F R F L Y W A B M D Y O Z A

Types of Pasta

AGNOLOTTI	MACARONI
ARBORIO	PENNE
FETTUCCHINE	RAVIOLI
FUSILLI	RIGATONI
GNOCCHI	SPAGHETTI
LINGUINE	TORTELLINI

Cryptogram

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
				4				

J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R

S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
6	18						

E 16 4 S 9 13 10 19 6 4 12 1

E 4 8 4 19 9 13 7 4 E 4 12 6 4

S 24 6 E 11 12 19 4 11 23 9

T 18 11 E 26 4 7

Math Square

	-		÷		-3
+		+		-	
	÷		+	9	11
×		×		×	
4	×		-		23
25		29		-43	

Fill in the missing numbers.

The missing values are the whole numbers between 1 and 9.
Each number is only used once.
Each row is a math equation.
Each column is a math equation.
Remember that multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.

Sudoku

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

Difficulty: Hard

Fill in the boxes using the numbers 1 to 9.
Every row and column and every group of 9 boxes inside the thicker lines must contain each number and letter only once.



The annual list of popular baby names reveals that Oliver and Isla were the most popular baby names in 2024. -Vyacheslav Argenberg

Isla and Oliver the top names in Victoria for 2024

ISLA has been crowned the most popular baby name for girls for the first time in Victoria, while Oliver has nabbed an 11 year winning streak as the most popular boys' name.

Minister for Government Services Natalie Hutchins recently visited the Royal Women's Hospital to release the Registry of Births, Deaths, and Marriages Victoria lists of the top 100 popular baby names for boys and girls in 2024.

"Congratulations to all the new Islas and Olivers who topped the name charts for 2024," Ms Hutchins said.

"Naming little ones is a wonderful moment for parents, but settling on the name is not always an easy decision.

"We're making sure registrations are as easy and smooth as possible for parents, so they can enjoy time with the newest member of their family."

Isla came in ahead of Charlotte, Amelia and Mia, taking the prime spot for the first time since it entered the top 100 most popular baby names in 2008.

Oliver has reserved the top seat since 2014, followed by Noah and Henry for two consecutive years.

In the top 10 list for boys, Theodore jumped from spot 14 to four, while Muhammad and Xavier made the top 20 instead of Alexander and Sebastian.

Among girls, Lily took position number 10 in place of Ava, while Ruby and Mila entered the top 20 at the expense of Willow and Zoe.

Oliver is competing to break the all-time record for most popular boys' name, but will need to stay on top for another 13 years. John holds the longest running top baby name for boys, clocking an impressive 23 years from 1929 to 1951.

Some of the less common girls names in the top 100 were Riley, Claire and Clara, while Isaiah, Elias, Bodhi and Maverick were the biggest sliders among the boys.

In 2024, 79,239 births were registered in Victoria, including 389 Islas and 570 Olivers.

Parents are encouraged within the first 60 days to register their baby's name and can do so easily online with the Registry of Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

The top 10 boy names in 2024 were: first Oliver; second Noah; third Henry; fourth Leo; Fifth Theodore; sixth Luca; seventh Charlie; eighth Jack; ninth Archie; 10th Levi.

Top 10 girl names in 2024 were: first Isla; second Charlotte; third Amelia; fourth Mia; fifth Hazel; sixth Olivia; seventh Matilda; eighth Grace; ninth Ella; 10th Lily.

For the full list of popular baby names visit bdm.vic.gov.au/names

Make sure your child's Asthma Action Plan is ready for school

AS the new school year is here Asthma Australia is urging parents to update their child's *Asthma Action Plan*. Just like packing a school hat, this simple step helps ensure your child's asthma is well-managed and helps teachers, coaches, and caregivers know exactly what to do if a flare-up occurs. The simple steps include booking an asthma review, updating your child's Asthma Action Plan, checking and updating medicines, and connecting with the school.

Kate Miranda, CEO of Asthma Australia said, "Sending your child back to school without an updated written Asthma Action Plan is just like sending them to play in the sun without a hat on. They are exposed. It's one of those small but important steps to keep them protected, whether it's from the sun's rays or unexpected asthma flare-ups.

"The asthma burden on kids is significant. Forty two per cent of Australians aged 0 to 14 years with asthma had to take time off school in 2014/15 due to their asthma. About 26,500 children under 15 visited an ED for asthma in 2021/22. Making sure that our kids start the school year on the front foot is clearly important.

"So, as you tick off the back to school checklist: hats, uniforms, lunchboxes; add an asthma refresh to the mix and book an appointment with your child's doctor to update their Asthma Action Plan today," Kate said.

An Asthma Action Plan is a personalised guide created by your doctor to manage your child's asthma. It's like an instruction manual for asthma that outlines how to handle flare-ups, monitor symptoms, and provide appropriate treatment. Regardless of how mild your child's asthma may seem, everyone with asthma should have one.

"The goal of the Asthma Action Plan is to prevent and control asthma symptoms. Even if you know what to do when your child's asthma flares up, it's invaluable to have clear, written instructions from your doctor, especially in an emergency situation," Kate explained.

The plan covers four key areas: How to look after your child's asthma daily, instructions for everyday asthma management; what to do if asthma starts to flare up: steps to take if symptoms worsen; what to do if asthma becomes severe: emergency actions if the flare-up becomes serious and what to do in an asthma emergency: Instructions for life-threatening asthma attacks.

Asthma Australia offers both colour and black-and-white versions of the Asthma Action Plan, suitable for both children and adults, and accepted by schools and childcare facilities across Australia.

Visit Asthma Australia's website to download an *Asthma Action Plan* template and access additional resources for managing asthma.



Alex Scott and Staff weaner and store sale

by Bailey Dixon

LAST Friday saw the Alex Scott and Staff Weaner and Store Sale take place at the Yea Saleyards, with around 1360 cattle yarded. These included a number of bulls, and some cows in calf.

Steers took priority in the foremost lanes, with the top steer weighing in at 574.2kg and selling for \$1830, or some 319c/kg. This is down from the top steer pen just a week earlier, which made 455c/kg.

The top heifer pen fetched \$1650 per head with a weight of 525.6kg, some 314c/kg, up from the week before, when the top heifer pen made 301c/kg.

These prices were just slightly below the average price per head for the day, with 324c/kg and \$1114 the average. This price was with an average weight of 343.4kg. Last week the average price per head equalled out to 393c/kg.

These prices demonstrate a drop in price from previous sales throughout the month of January.

In the more unusual cattle for the day, the top price per head for bulls was \$2500, and cows in calf fetched \$1720 as the top dollar.

After a very busy January, the Elders and Nutrien store sale will take place on February 7 at 9.30am, before there is a break until March.



Alex Scott and Staff ran the sale last Friday in Yea. -BD

STOCK REPORT 31 JANUARY 2025				
Alex Scott & Staff Weaner & Store Sale	Total Yarding	Steers	Heifers	Cows/Calves, Bulls, Bullocks
Number of head	1,361			
Average \$ per head	\$1,114			
Average weight per head	343.4kg			
Top price per head		\$1,830	\$1,650	\$2,500 bulls \$1,720 cows in calf
Top weight		574.2kg	525.6kg	
Turnover	\$1.49 million			



Bergamin Pastoral from Willow Grove took out the Yea Community Bank best presented pen of steers. Pictured are John Bergamin and Ben Cumming. -BD



The laneway was decently packed for a warm January Friday. -BD

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T&C: Professional photographers are ineligible to enter. Staff or associated family members of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter. Photos must be taken within the Murrindindi Shire

Tips for packing school lunchboxes

WITH children heading back to school last week, school lunchboxes are once again at the forefront of parents' minds.

How to balance making the lunchbox nutritional and healthy while keeping children interested is a challenge.

The Victorian Government Department of Health recommends picking one option from each of the five core food groups to create a school lunchbox.

These five groups include: fruit; vegetables, legumes and beans; milk, yoghurt, cheese and alternatives; lean meats and poultry, fish, eggs, tofu, nuts and seeds, legumes and beans; and grains.

They also stress making sure that children have access to water while at school.

To keep children interested, the Cancer Council have some further suggestions when choosing how to pack and what to pack in a school lunchbox.

It is suggested that parents add colour to the lunchbox, in order to grab children's attention. This could include orange carrot sticks or bright green celery sticks.

Allowing your child to help choose what should go in their lunchbox can go a long way to keeping them excited about the foods they eat. It will also help alleviate stress, because as they get older, they can progress to packing their own lunch.



How healthy is your child's lunchbox? -Hay Kranen

Leftovers are your friend and should be made use of. Cooking a little bit extra the night before school can make lunchboxes easier to pack.

The Cancer Council also have a bunch of simple recipes on their website that can help in preparing school lunchboxes. This can be found at healthymadetasty.com.au

It also pays to be mindful of pre-packaged snacks, which have the potential to include added sugars, artificial flavours and colours and

preservatives. This can affect the nutritional and energy requirements of children.

Organisation is key, which means that if you can pack the school lunchbox the night before, you can save yourself time during the busy school morning. You can also prepare healthy snacks in bulk, if you are sure they won't expire before they have the chance to be eaten.

A little bit of effort with the school lunchbox can go a long way to keeping children healthy and energetic.

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

CROSSWORD

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F	E	W	E	S	T	R	A	T	T	L
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MATH SQUARES

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+		+		-	
6	÷	3	+	9	11
x		x		x	
4	x	7	-	5	23
25		29		-43	

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The Alexandra Standard and The Yea Chronicle are printed by North East Media, Wangaratta.

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BEREAVEMENT THANKS

THANK you to friends for calls, cards and contact following Dick's death. Special thanks to Brooke and to Yarrck CWA ladies for catering. So much appreciated. Wendy and the Nicholls family.

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MEETINGS



The Alexandra Football Netball Club Ladies Committee AGM will be held at the club rooms at 6pm on Thursday, February 13, 2025. Everyone welcome. Any queries please contact Kath Hedger on 0438 520 382.

ALEXANDRA PASTORAL AND AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
AGM on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 7pm in the secretaries office/caravan park office at 17 William Street, Alexandra. All interested parties are welcome and we actively encourage new members who look to promote agriculture/horticulture within our area. For more information, please contact the secretary at pna.alexandra@gmail.com.

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The rescued calf. -S

Calf rescued from mineshaft

ON Saturday, February 1, the CFA responded to reports of a calf down a mineshaft at around 8.57am on Wrights Road in Yarrck.

A CFA unit from Oscar One Emergency Response Mine Rescue Brigade attended the scene.

Upon arrival, crews found one calf which had fallen around 20 metres down an abandoned mineshaft.

The entrance to the shaft was blocked by a stump, which had to be removed prior to personnel entering.

Using a rope system, CFA personnel safely extricated the calf, which was

uninjured, and handed it into the care of its owner.

The rescue operation took roughly three hours.

The incident was deemed under control at 11.47am and declared safe at 1.48pm.



A large amount of effort was put into rescuing the calf from the mine shaft. -S

Fire safety meeting in Yarck

A COMMUNITY Fire Safety meeting, held in Yarck on Thursday, January 30, attracted over 30 local residents who were keen to learn many aspects of keeping their family safe through the fire season.

Trained CFA presenter Mary Anne Egan shared life saving advice on making a written fire plan, preparing an evacuation pack and keeping informed on current warnings.

A Guide to Survival and Property Preparation brochures were distributed on the night.

If you missed out and would like a copy, call in to the Yarck Fire Station on a Tuesday night at around 6.30pm.



The community engagement day at Yarck. - S

People in hot cars don't mix

AMBULANCE Victoria (AV) is reminding the community that hot cars can be life threatening, as call-outs for people trapped in parked vehicles remain alarmingly high.

This summer, AV paramedics have already responded to more than 230 reports of people locked in cars, highlighting the ongoing danger as temperatures soared across the state.

From December 1, 2023 to November 30 2024, paramedics were called to a total of 1211 cases.

AV Director Regional and Clinical Operations Steve Doyle said although the data suggests cases have reduced over the last 12 months, the number of call-outs during hot weather is deeply concerning.

"We are urging Victorians to never leave kids or elderly people in parked cars, even on mild days," Steve said.

"The temperature inside a vehicle can double and become deadly within minutes.

"It is particularly dangerous for children to be left inside vehicles, as a child's body temperature rises three to five times faster than an adult."

Thankfully, of the 1211 call-outs over the past year, paramedics treated 134 patients at the scene, and only one patient required transport to hospital.

Steve emphasised this is no time for complacency.

"We're asking parents and carers to always take children and elderly people with them whenever they get out of the car," Steve said.

"We know that children can often become accidentally locked in cars, and encourage parents and carers to make sure keys are kept with them and to be alert while loading family members in and out of vehicles.

"Accidents happen, and if someone does get locked in a vehicle, call Triple Zero (000)."

Triple Zero Victoria Executive Director Emergency Communications Services Michael Fawcett said between December



Never leave your children alone in a car, especially on a hot day. -Joe Shlabotnik

to February each year, the emergency call-taking and dispatch service receives an average of more than 480 calls from people reporting children left in hot cars.

"Don't hesitate to call Triple Zero (000) if you see a child in a car on a warm day because temperatures can become dangerously high very quickly."

Steve said high temperatures increase the risk of serious heat related illnesses, such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

Tragically, heat stroke is fatal in up to 80 per cent of cases, yet it is entirely preventable.

"Most at risk of heat stroke are elderly people, young children, and those with medical conditions; however, heat and heat-related illnesses can affect anybody, especially if you're not prepared or haven't taken preventative action," Steve said.

"Heat stroke is a life-threatening emergency. If you or someone else is experiencing symptoms such as confusion, seizures, collapsing, or loss of consciousness, call Triple Zero (000) immediately.

"To reduce the risk of heat-related illnesses, stay hydrated by drinking water throughout the day, wear a hat and sunscreen, and avoid being outside during the hottest time of the day, if possible."

Paramedics are also urging Victorians to be alert around water as crowds continue to flock to pools, beaches and inland waterways to escape the heat.

Steve said it is important Victorians take steps to keep themselves and loved ones safe.

"Read the signs around waterways and beaches to familiarise yourself with the dangers, and remember that drownings can occur in familiar locations," he said.

"Be alert whether you're planning to enter the water or not, and always keep watch on children in and around the water.

"Never swim alone, let people know where you're going and don't swim after drinking alcohol."

This summer, if you need urgent healthcare, but it's not life-threatening, you can help to save paramedics for emergencies by seeking free help in three ways: Walk into an Urgent Care Clinic, video call with Virtual Emergency Care 24/7 or phone 1300 606 024 for Nurse-on-Call 24/7. Learn more at urgentcare.vic.gov.au. If you are in a life-threatening situation and need emergency care, call Triple Zero (000) or visit your nearest emergency department.

GMW survey on water based recreation

GOULBURN Murray Water (GMW) is calling for responses to a survey about on-water recreation as part of its Recreational Area Management Plans.

The survey includes Lake Eildon and is open until March 30. GMW are keen to hear about why this place matters to you, what you use them for and what value they provide.

If you're one of the many who spends time on the water with your loved ones at any of these places, it's well worth responding.

The survey came about from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) developing the *Water (Recreational Area) Regulations 2023*, which apply to recreational areas that are registered and managed by water corporations.

These areas are determined recreational areas under the *Water Act 1989* and apply to 40 of Victoria's water storages.

They provide for the control, management, and use of recreational areas, and help protect water quality, water corporation facilities, Aboriginal cultural heritage, and environmental values.

The new regulations require water corporations to develop Recreational Area Management Plans (RAMPs) for the recreational areas they manage, hence the call for feedback.

You can fill in the survey before March 30. To get involved, head to tinyurl.com/3mbxbuy7

Winners of Monday Triples at Yea Bowls Club for the month of January



Winners of Monday Triples for January 13, Barb Tanner, Barry Moore and Howard Geldard. -S



Winners of Monday Triples for January 20, Howard Geldard, Dick Dashwood and Neil Rieschick. -S



Winners of Monday Triples for January 27 Viv Cavanagh, Michael Barrott and Jeff Green. -S

Helping women into sport

THE Victorian Government is supporting more women and girls to get involved in the sports they love with more funds for sporting clubs and organisations to encourage and foster female participation.

Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes announced applications are open for the 2024-25 *Change Our Game Community Activation Grants Program*.

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

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

Through the Fair Access Policy Roadmap, which has seen all Victorian councils and Alpine Resorts Victoria adopt local gender equitable access policies and the Community Activation Grants Program, the Victorian Government is helping achieve more equitable access and increase the number of women and girls actively taking part in sport.

Since 2018, the government has invested more than \$2.9 million in funding to 580 community sport and

recreation clubs as part of the \$18.8 million investment in the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation and *Change Our Game* initiative.

Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes said, "The Change Our Game Community Activation Grants program is a fantastic opportunity for our community sport and active recreation clubs to showcase the important roles women and girls play and deserve. I encourage all eligible organisations to consider applying."

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

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

Merton cricketers take on Benalla

MERTON cricketers travelled to the beautiful Benalla Rose Gardens oval to take on last year's premier's on a well prepared turf wicket and quick outfield.

Merton won the toss and batted making 104 all out in the 33rd over. Luke Berriman 23 top scoring in the top order with most batters getting a start but none going on to make a decent score.

Merton at 9/73 looked done until Noah Whittall played his best innings to date making 20 valuable runs with support from Rohan Berriman. The pair put on 31 runs for the last wicket giving the Merton bowlers something to bowl at. Lee Pollard 4/14 and S McLeod 3/18 gave the Merton batters limited opportunities to score.

Benalla with the score slowly ticking along looked in control lead by Pollard again among the runs with 30 the home side passed Merton's total in the 26th over four wickets down.

Harry Craddock 2/16 the best bowler with James Benton and Rohan Berriman the other wicket takers. The task doesn't get any easier for Merton when they take on the in-form Milawa at Milawa next Saturday.

The Chronicle Sport

Sports Editorial: sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au



Alan Pell and Ladies B Grade runner up Cindy Armstrong. -S



Men's B Grade winner Jono Ness -S



Ladies B Grade winner Sharon Grogan. -S

Competition Galore for Yea Golfers

by Alan Pell

Round Six of the Gender Challenge

THE Gender Challenge is going strong with only 50 points separating the two teams. The weather although not hot, is dry and breezy. Greens, tees and most fairways are holding up well, but could do with some rain shortly. The stroke event was won by Chris Keogh (36) with a fine nett 68 followed by Vicky Butler (42) second with nett 69. Third with nett 70 was Penny Britton (30) with Mick Sheather (24) and Judi Newman (38) next on countback from five people on nett 71. The boys won the nett team average – 74.6 to 76.0.

Nearest the pins on the 10th were Russ Wealands for the men and Meryl Connell for the ladies. Putting was won by Neil Peterson with 27 putts and Sharon Grogan with 30 for the ladies. John Renehan again won the club award. Total points after round six are Men 280 to the Ladies 230.

Yea Murrindindi Masters

THE Murrindindi Masters attracted 114 players from Yea, Alexandra, Eildon, and Marysville to 'Royal Yea' last Saturday. Proudly sponsored by the Reddrop family (FoodWorks), the event held on Saturday was the third round of the tournament. Next month will be the final round conducted at Marysville Golf Club.

Conditions were excellent for golf considering the lack of rain in the last few weeks. Yea Golf Club had many volunteers who contributed to running such a successful day. From course preparation, registration, catering and on course services it took some coordination and Yea's event manager Vicki Clements did an outstanding job.

Yea had several winners on the day who all received FoodWorks vouchers. Men's Mini Masters Winner (best mens score) was Terry Chaplin with 41 points on countback from Jono Ness who won Mens B Grade Winner plus a nearest the pin (14th). Kevin Coghlan won the Men's C Grade with 38 points. Yea's Sharon Grogan won the Ladies B Grade with 38 points from Cindy Armstrong on countback runner-up.



Cathie from FoodWorks and Terry Chaplin. -S



Alan Pell and Men's C grade winner Kev Coghlan. -S