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'There is some evidence that the CEO himself may have struggled with the boundaries between the roles of politician and administrator'

YOU NEED TO STEP AWAY: CEO TOLD

Whittlesea Council boss Craig Lloyd made daily calls about Mayor McLindon

Concerns for the welfare of $400,000-a-year **Whittlesea Council** Chief Executive Officer **Craig Lloyd** were expressed by officials following his dispute with **Cr Aidan McLindon.**

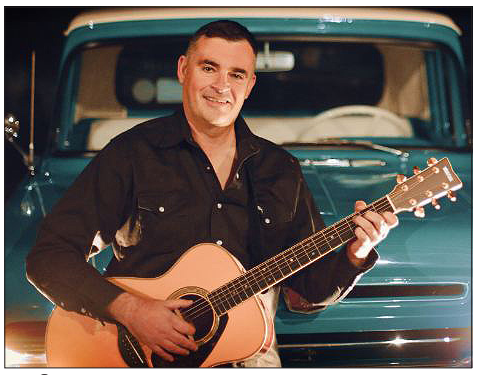
An official report into **Whittlesea Council** says that at one stage, **Mr Lloyd** was contacting the **Local Government Inspectorate** on a daily basis about matters linked to **Cr McLindon.**

Mr Lloyd was told by a government official to step away and take leave. **Mr Lloyd,** apparently, did not follow the advice.

The **Commission of Inquiry,** conducted by **Prue Digby** and **Jim Gifford,** says **Mr Lloyd** sent "numerous emails" and had "numerous conversations" with officials at the **Inspectorate, Local Government Victoria** and the **Local Government Minister's** office.

The report said there were 14 complaints about **Cr McLindon,** "mostly lodged by the CEO".

The report says that it understood that **Mr Lloyd** also made a report to **IBAC** (the **Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission**).



● Craig Lloyd: continues to juggle commitments as the $400,000 CEO for Whittlesea Council, and as a part-time country music entertainer

"We heard evidence from the Local Government Inspectorate that the CEO was in daily phone contact with them about his concerns, to the point where they developed concerns about the CEO's welfare: 'I've spent a lot of time on the phone with the CEO, certainly in the lead-up to Councillor McLindon being suspended, probably on a daily basis about the issues there ... I spoke to Craig many times saying, 'You need to step away. You need to take leave'. And I think other people did too."

- Evidence to the Commission of Inquiry into Whittlesea Council. Those to give evidence were Michael Stefanovic, Chief Municipal Inspector and head of the Local Government Inspectorate, and David Walker, Manager Investigations, Local Government Inspectorate

Warnings

Commissionefrs **Digby** and **Clifford** said: "There is some evidence that the CEO himself may have struggled with the boundaries between the roles of politician and administrators.

Municipal Monitor **Peita Duncan** says that she had warnings for **Mr Lloyd:** "**Ms Duncan** stated in her evidence that the administrators had given advice to the CEO about this during the **Council's** period of administration.

"She said, in the context of relationships with local MPs: 'That wasn't our concern, I think it was more, "**Craig**, don't try to play the game in the politics, because you're not in it and you'll end up getting burnt because it's not your job, plus politics is politics" as we all know here, and, "You could be used here as a pawn in some sort of game."

The report refers to "shortcomings' of **Mr Lloyd** and others.

Broke down

"While the **Commission** has serious concerns about the conduct of **Mr McLindon** when he was Mayor, there were also shortcomings in the performances of the **Councillors**, the **CEO** and **Administration**, and the **Deputy Mayor** that contributed to the problems at the **Whittlesea City Council**," the report said.

"The relationship between the CEO and **Mr McLindon** broke down very early after the election, and has been a factor in the events that have subsequently unfolded," the report said.

"We found that, initially, the CEO's response to **Mr McLindon's** poor performance of his roles as Councillor and Mayor was professional, upholding the demarcation of their roles.

"However, we also found that the CEO was very quick to escalate what he considered were breaches of the ***Local Government Act 2020*** or ***Model Councillor Code of Conduct*** to integrity agencies rather than try to resolve them internally and this may have exacerbated rather than calmed internal tensions.

Conflict

"The relationship between the CEO and **Mr McLindon** was beset by tension, conflict and a lack of mutual trust from the outset which impacted the health and wellbeing of both parties.

"They both may have benefited from the engagement of an independent mediator or support person to address their emerging relationship breakdown.

● Turn To Page 6

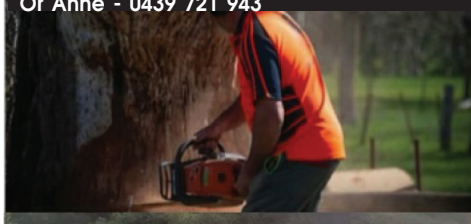
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Local Briefs

$2.5m Wollert win

A **Wollert** woman has revealed her $2.5 million **Tattslotto** windfall will one day become the ultimate treat for her beloved westie, ensuring her four-legged family member enjoysed a life of luxury.

She held one of the eight Division One winning entries nationally, drawn Saturday November 1, and took home a total prize of $2,554,585.80.

While working from home, the winning woman had unknowingly missed several calls from lottery officials attempting to notify her of her newly-minted multi-millionaire status.

"Oh my god. What did you just say? I've won $2.5 million? Wait! I need to write this down.

"I had absolutely no idea that I had won. I usually receive an email if it's a winner and I've been busy working from home so I haven't had time to check my ticket.

"I'm turning 70 soon, and I think it's time to finally finish work. I'm currently telling my dog that we've won Lotto. He's going to have the biggest inheritance. Oh wow. This is the best phone call ever. Thank you."

Community bus

Resideents can have their say on the future of the **Mansfield Community Bus** which provides accessible and affordable transport for residents to get to the town centre for shopping, appointments or to grab a coffee with friends.

Mansfield Mayor **Cr Steve Rabie** said the bus is a vital service for many residents and community feedback will help make the service better for everyone.

"As our **Shire** grows, we need to make sure our services grow with it. This review is all about ensuring the community bus runs in a way that best meets the needs of our community," **Cr Rabie** said.

"Whether you use the bus every week or have never used it but think you might, we want to hear your ideas. Your feedback is essential to help us shape this service for the future."

The current service provides a home pick-up and return trip to **Erril St** in **Mansfield** every Thursday for $6. The **Council** also funds additional trips to key community events like the **High Country Festival, Christmas Carols** and **ANZAC Day**.

Feedback is welcome on all aspects of the service, including the days and times of operation, the 2.5-hour stopover time in town, the drop-off location and which special events the bus should service.

Engagement is open until November 28 at **https://engage.mansfield.vic.gov.au/community-bus**



● Former Whittlesea pharmacists Bill and Helen Scott pictured with McEwen MHR Rob Mitchell after Helen was named a Life Member of the The Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

McLEISH PRESSURES FOR ACHERON BRIDGE

Eildon MLA **Cindy McLeish** has spoken in **Parliament** about the need for **State Government** funds to build a new dual-lane **Breakaway Bridge** at **Acheron.**

"Locals and emergency services have had to tolerate a 17-kilometre detour. It's a 30-kilometre detour for those heading to farmland across the other side of the river."

Ms McLeish directly urged the **Minister for Natural Disaster Recovery** to provide **Murrindindi Council** with the requested funding to build a dual-lane bridge, which has been advised to be the only compliant and resilient solution for this location.

"The **Murrindindi Shire Council** have been working with agencies to reinstate the bridge to meet contemporary **Australian** road and bridge design standards.

"**Acheron** has been split in half and severed from the surrounding communities for too long. It is imperative this connection is repaired.

"I urge the government to look at this very seriously and quickly so that the reconstruction can take place in the coming 12 months," **Ms McLeish** said.



● Cindy McLeish, Eildon MLA

Stop Press

Hospital merger via the back door?

Yea resident Jan Beer has criticised the two-week public consultation period regarding Alexandra District Hospital's 'voluntary amalgamation into the 'East Metro & Murrindindi' local health network.

"Eastern Health and Alexandra District Hospital, along with St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne and Yea & District Memorial Hospital, have been grouped into the new "East Metro & Murrindindi" network. This is a large network as Eastern Health comprises:

- Angliss Hospital (Upper Ferntree Gully)
- Box Hill Hospital (Box Hill)
- Healesville Hospital and Yarra Valley Health (Healesville)
- Maroondah Hospital (Ringwood East)
- Peter James Centre (Burwood East)
- Wantirna Health (Wantirna)
- Yarra Ranges Health (Lilydale)

"It appears if the Allan Government found they could not implement their forced mergers via the front door, they are only too willing to attempt to do so by the back door," Mrs Beer said on Sunday night (Nov. 9).

"Barely 15 months ago our local communities gathered approximately 4000 signatures on a petition stating that we did not want amalgamation, wished to remain independent and retain our own local boards.

"It seems Alexandra District CEO and Board were not listening to the community and believe they have all changed their minds, as they are now calling for 'voluntary amalgamation', which I assume means that the community would now want ADH to become integrated or consolidated as one entity with Eastern Health."

Mrs Beer asked if the local hospital board loses its autonomy

"What will be the impacts on Yea and District Memorial Hospital? " Mrs Beer queried.

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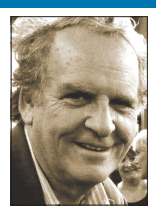
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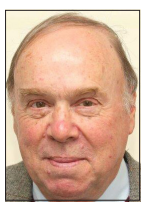
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Cover Story

CEO's 'shortcomings'

● From Page One

"The **Commission** is conscious of the difficulties that are likely to arise in the relationship between the **CEO** and **Mr McLindon** when **Mr McLindon** returns from suspension and that this will require particular attention.

"The **CEO** was proactive in taking measures and actions to ensure that the organisation was responding appropriately to health and safety issues.

Vulnerable

"In attempting to shield the organisation from the impacts of **Mr McLindon's** behaviour, the **CEO** may have left himself vulnerable to impacts on his own health and wellbeing.

"The **Commission** has made recommendations to deal with difficulties that are likely to arise when **Mr McLindon** returns from suspension in October 2025.

"This includes requiring that **Mr McLindon** undertake further training, and that a **Municipal Monitor** be appointed to provide support to the **CEO**, the Councillors and **Mr McLindon** to develop effective working relationships, and to assist **Mr McLindon** in avoiding any behaviours that may create risks to health and safety.

"The **CEO** is appointed for no more than 5fiver years at a time on a performance based contract and can be reappointed for further terms.

"The **CEO** is responsible for managing the organisational structure for the **Council** and for employing all other **Council** staff.

"The **CEO** is responsible for ensuring that the **Council** is provided with policy advice, that **Council** decisions are implemented as well as the day-to-day management of **Council's** service delivery and operations.

Support

"The **CEO** is also responsible for supporting the Mayor in the performance of their role.

The **Commissiom** report by **Ms Digby** and **Mr Clifford** said:

"While there was no specific induction session aimed at considering the qualities of a Mayor, the **CEO** said that he had spoken during one of the induction sessions about the kinds of strengths and characteristics that Councillors would need to think about in terms of what a Mayor should bring to the role.49

"Only two Councillors recalled the **CEO** providing some guidance. One of these Councillors recalled the **CEO** suggesting only that the Council group think about someone with experience, while the other Councillor gave evidence that the **CEO** had outlined the ability to act collegiately, provide leadership, understand boundaries and work as a united team as important philosophies to consider

Suspended

"On March 18, 2025, the **Council** also voted to write to the Minister asking that **Mr McLindon** be suspended, with that letter referencing the Councillors' concerns regarding the impact of **Mr McLindon's** behaviours on the **CEO's** health and wellbeing.

"The view of many of the Councillors was that they had a responsibility, or duty of care, for the health, safety and wellbeing of the **CEO**



● Craig Lloyd, Whittlesea CEO

and that the way in which they could acquit their responsibility was to call for **Mr McLindon's** suspension.

"[Councillors] should have also organised **appropriate external supports for the CEO and Mr McLindon** to assist them in managing their relationship."

There was a need for Councillors to have private meeting time where **Mr Lloyd** was not involved, the **Commission** report said.

Problems

"It is critically important that the Councillors hold regular Councillor only sessions and not just Councillor and CEO only sessions.

"Both the **CEO** and **Mr McLindon** told us that the relationship between the Mayor and the **CEO** started to become problematic almost from the time **Mr McLindon** was elected as Mayor..

"The **CEO** reported that **Mr McLindon** was pushing for resources to be provided to himself and other Councillors.

"The **CEO** advised us that **Mr McLindon** raised the availability of a Mayoral car multiple times, as well as asking why Councillors did not have offices.

"The **CEO** advised **Mr McLindon** that the previous **Council** under administration had resolved to not have a Mayoral car, and it required a resolution of **Council** to fund.

"We heard from another Councillor that the Mayor of the previously elected **Council** did have a Mayoral car.

'Take CEO down'

"**Mr McLindon** reported that he felt the **CEO** had not discharged his obligations under the ***LG Act i***n supporting him as Mayor in the performance of his role, and stated that the **CEO** was 'out to get me'.

"We also heard evidence that **Mr McLindon** had told one Councillor that he would 'do everything possible to take the CEO down', including through the media.

"**Mr McLindon** did not recall making this statement, stating in a submission to the **Commission** that he never said these words and that there is no evidence to support this allegation.

"The **Commission** notes that this evidence was provided to us by a member of **Council** staff who did not themselves witness this statement being made, and had only been informed by the Councillor who did."

Local Photo Flashback



● Trains on the Hurstbridge line, 1967. Photo: Alan Smith. Colourised.

● The next print issue of *The Local Paper* is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 26. Deadline for advertising bookings and content is 4pm Thursday, November 20. Phone 1800 231 311.

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Mitchell Shire comprises Beveridge, Broadford, Kilmore, Puckapunyal, Seymour, Tallarook, Tooborac, Trawool, Wallan, Wandong and Heathcote Junction. Mitchell Shire is home to more than 49,216 people, living in approximately 16,321 homes.

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Whittlesea Post readership area comprises Arthurs Creek, Beveridge, Donnybrook, Doreen, Eden Park, Hazel Glen, Humevale, Kinglake West, Memda, South Morang, Whittlesea, Wollert, Woodstock, Yan Yean. The City of Whittlesea is home to more than 197,491 people, living in approximately 71,014 homes.

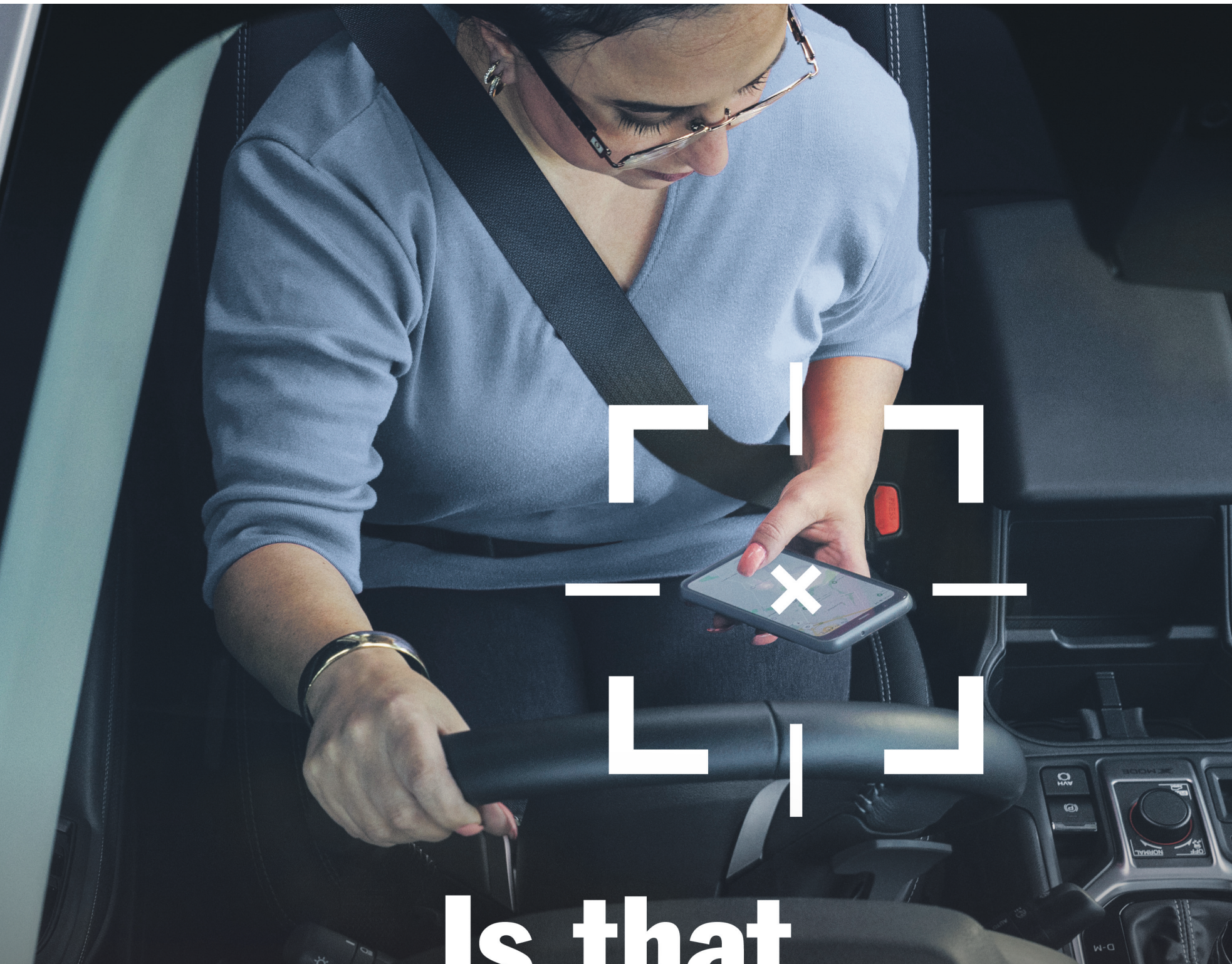
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TAC VICTORIA State Government

Birrell dumps on 'Net Zero'



● Sam Birrell, Nicholls MHR

The **Nationals Party** dumping of the **'Net Zero'** emissions aim has been endorsed by **Nicholls** MHR **Sam Birrell.**

"The **Nationals** decision to back Australians first with cheaper electricity, secure jobs and lower emissions is an important step forward for our region," said a media statement from **Mr Birrell's** office.

"Across the **Nicholls** electorate people rely on affordable and reliable energy, their jobs depend on it.

"Businesses, farmers, manufacturers, food processors and households are already hurting from soaring energy costs.

"What the **Nationals** want is an all-technology approach, to deliver the lowest possible energy prices for **Australian** households and businesses, while maintaining reliability and lowering emissions.

"We can't afford the cost of **Labor's** reckless **Net Zero** plan, and we can't afford to risk sending industry and jobs in **Nicholls** offshore.

"We need to bring common sense back to solving climate change. We can continue to reduce emissions and address climate change, and we must.

"But electricity prices are up by 39 per cent, gas prices are up by 46 per cent, real wages have dropped back to 2011 levels, and 7000 manufacturing jobs have been lost.

"The **Nationals** have adopted a Cheaper, Better, Fairer energy and climate plan that will address climate change and reduction in emissions while protecting our economy and jobs.

"Our plan is fairer because we will reduce emissions in line with comparable nations, not ahead of them. We will ensure that costs are distributed fairly, not concentrated on regional **Australia**.

"**Australia's** attempts to move to a grid dominated by wind and solar are pushing energy and other inputs up and making us globally uncompetitive.

"**Labor's** net zero has failed. We have a plan which is cheaper, better and fairer," said the media release from **Mr Birrell.**

'Environment reforms overdue'

Indi MHR **Helen Haines** proposed key amendments to new environmental laws being debated in **Parliament**.

Dr Haines welcomed the re-introduction of reforms to **Australia's** environment laws as long overdue, but stressed the need for greater transparency and meaningful community consultation to be embedded in the legislation.

"These reforms are the most significant changes to **Australia's** environment laws in 25 years," **Dr Haines** said.

"Our laws must protect nature, give clarity to industry, and provide a clear path for community input and impact to be considered.

"These new laws move us forward in parts, but give substantial discretionary powers to the minister and fall well short in ensuring genuine community consultation.

Dr Haines welcomed the inclusion of bioregional mapping in the reforms but said it was imperative that environmental considerations extended to high value agricultural land and drinking water catchments, and would propose amendments to strengthen requirements on developers.

Local News

WHITTLESEA 1991 CASE: HUSBAND FACES COURT MURDER CHARGE



● Melinda Freeman

Craig Freeman, 63, appeared in **Melbourne Magistrates Court** via video link last Wednesday (Nov. 5) after he was charged over his wife **Melinda Freeman's** death.

Mrs Freeman was 26 when she was found dead in the couple's **Whittlesea** home on October 4, 1991.

Mr Freeman was arrested in **Greensborough** and subsequently interviewed by police.

He was charged with murder and he faced **Melbourne Magistrates' Court**.

Melinda was located dead about 11.30pm inside her **Yea Rd** home in **Whittlesea**. The 26-year-old had been fatally assaulted.

Over the past three decades, police and **Melinda's** family have made a number of public appeals for information in relation to her death.

In February 2022, police announced a $1M reward in relation to the case.

Prosecutors did not outline the allegations against **Mr Freeman** during his brief court appearance.

The 63-year-old only spoke to confirm he could hear the magistrate from the police cells. He did not apply for bail. The next **Court** hearing is scheduled for March.

His lawyer **Paul Galbally** told the court it was his client's first time in custody and he would need to see a nurse because he previously suffered a stroke.

Mr Freeman had previously claimed he found his wife's body lying on the landing on the top storey of the house.

$1200 grants for local groups



● Cr Jodi Adams

Murrindindi Council has announced the five recipients of its new community wellbeing initiative: **Runt on the Road,** funded through **Agriculture Victoria's Look Over the Farm Gate Grant Program**:

- **Toolangi Castella Community House**
- **Taggerty Hall**
- **Highlands Community Hall**
- **Fawcett Hall and Mechanics Institute**
- **Glenburn Hall**

Each group will receive a $1200 grant.

Following a showing of the movie ***Runt*** for **R U OK Day**, **Murrindindi Council** invited small hall committees to express their interest in hosting a community-led event focused on connection, storytelling and mental health awareness.

"The response was enthusiastic, with five committees selected to receive funding," said a **Murrindindi Council** representative.

"Farming communities across the Shire continue to face significant climate challenges, from storms, floods and drought.

"Community connection and access to health resources is vital to support positive physical and mental health outcomes. These events provide an opportunity to bring community together and make the most of our local halls."

""Our small communities know the power of coming together and we're proud to support them through these events and continue important conversations about wellbeing," **Council's Community Wellbeing** Portfolio Councillor **Jodi Adams** said.

"The **Runt on the Road** initiative is a great way to connect people through food, films and stories, promoting positive mental health."

Local News

Bushfire work

Nillumbik Council is asking that residents prepare well for the bushfire season.

"We all have a part to play in keeping our community safe," said **Nillumbik** Mayor Cr **John Dumaresq**. "Preparing your property early, clearing gutters, trimming trees and bushes and planning ahead, helps protect not just your home, but your neighbours and our whole community."

APC

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METROTUNNEL

Metro Tunnel opens early December

With construction now complete, get ready to explore five new stations and enjoy direct train access for the first time to Melbourne's major hospitals, universities and St Kilda Road.

To celebrate, enjoy free public transport across Victoria every weekend in December and January.

With more services arriving in February, the new Metro Tunnel gives you more ways to move.

more ways to move

Find out more at **bigbuild.vic.gov.au**

VICTORIA'S BIG BUILD

VICTORIA State Government

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

Where to pick up your free copy of The Local Paper

- **ALEXANDRA.** Alexandra Newsagency. 82-84 Grant St.
- **ALEXANDRA.** Corner Hotel. 65 Grant St.
- **ALEXANDRA.** Endeavour Alexandra (BP). 10 Downey St.
- **ALEXANDRA.** Foodworks. 102 Grant St.
- **ALEXANDRA.** Mount Pleasant Hotel. 90 Grant St.
- **ALEXANDRA.** Nutrien Harcourts. 56 Grant St.
- **ALEXANDRA.** Shamrock Hotel. 80 Grant St.
- **ALEXANDRA.** Simpson's Fuel (Caltex). 25 Aitken St.
- **ALEXANDRA.** Totally Trout. 42 Downey St.
- **BUXTON.** Blue Igloo Roadhouse. 2200 Maroondah Hwy.
- **BUXTON.** Buxton Hotel. 2192 Maroondah Hwy.
- **BUXTON.** Shell Buxton. 2093 Maroondah Hwy.
- **DIAMOND CREEK.** Diamond Creek Newsagency. Shop 62a Main Rd, Diamond Creek Plaza.
- **DOREEN.** Doreen General Store. 920 Yan Yean Rd.
- **EILDON.** Foodworks. 18 Main St.
- **ELTHAM.** Eltham Newsagency. 2/963 Main Rd.
- **EPPING.** APCO Service Station. Cnr McDonalds Rd and High St.
- **EPPING.** Epping RSL. Harvest Home Rd.
- **FLOWERDALE.** Flowerdale Community House. 36 Silver Creek Rd.
- **FLOWERDALE.** Flowerdale Hotel. 3325 Whittlesea-Yea Rd.
- **FLOWERDALE.** Hazeldene General Store. 6 Curlings Rd.
- **GLENBURN.** Glenburn Roadhouse. 3883 Melba Hwy.
- **HURSTBRIDGE.** Hurstbridge Newsagency. 900 Main Hustbridge Rd.
- **KANGAROO GROUND.** Kangaroo Ground General Store. 280 Eltham-Yarra Glen Rd.
- **KINGLAKE.** Cafe. Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd.
- **KINGLAKE.** Foodworks. 12 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd.
- **KINGLAKE.** Kinglake Pub. 28 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd.
- **KINGLAKE.** United Service Station. 2 Glenburn-Kinglake Rd.
- **LAURIMAR.** Laurimar Newsagency. 95 Hazel Glen Dr.
- **MANSFIELD.** Foodworks. 119 High St.
- **MARYSVILLE.** Foodworks. 40A Darwin St.
- **MERNDA.** Mernda Villages Post Office. 50 Mernda Village Dr.
- **MOLESWORTH.** Molesworth Store. 4353 Goulburn Valley Hwy.
- **NARBETHONG.** Black Spur Inn. 436 Maroondah Hwy.
- **NARBETHONG.** Black Spur Roadhouse. 264 Maroondah Hwy.
- **PANTON HILL.** Panton Hill General Store. 586 Kangaroo Ground-St Andrews Rd.
- **PANTON HILL.** Panton Hill Hotel. 633 Kangaroo Ground-St Andrews Rd.
- **PHEASANT CREEK.** Flying Tarts Cafe. 888 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd.
- **PHEASANT CREEK.** Pheasant Creek Store. 884 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd.
- **RESEARCH.** Research Post Office. 1546 Main Rd.
- **SMITHS GULLY.** Smiths Gully General Store. 914 Kangaroo Ground-St Andrews Rd.
- **SOUTH MORANG.** Milk Bar. 15 Gorge Rd.
- **ST ANDREWS.** St Andrews General Store. 10 Caledonia St.
- **ST ANDREWS.** St Andrews Hotel. 79 Burns St.
- **STRATH CREEK.** Strath Creek Post Office. 8 Glover Rd.
- **TAGGERTY.** Taggerty General Store. 26 Taggerty-Thornton Rd.
- **THORNTON.** 4 Ways Diner. 1369 Taggerty-Thornton Rd.
- **THORNTON.** Rubicon Hotel. 1362 Taggerty-Thornton Rd.
- **THORNTON.** Thornton General Store. 1365 Taggerty-Thornton Rd.
- **WATTLE GLEN.** Peppers Paddock General Store. 13 Kangaroo Ground-Wattle Glen Rd.
- **WHITTLESEA.** Champions IGA Supermarket. 2/16 Church St.
- **WHITTLESEA.** El Azar Milk Bar. 13 Church St.
- **WHITTLESEA.** Royal Mail Hotel. 29 Beech St.
- **WHITTLESEA.** Whittlesea Bowls Club. 101 Church St.
- **WHITTLESEA.** Whittlesea Court House. 74 Church St.
- **WHITTLESEA.** Whittlesea NewsXpress. 45 Church St.
- **WOLLERT.** Wollert General Store. 491 Epping Rd.
- **YARCK.** Buck's Country Bakehouse. 6585 Maroondah Hwy.
- **YARCK.** Giddy Goat Cafe. 6606 Maroondah Hwy.
- **YARCK.** Yarck Hotel. Maroondah Hwy.
- **YEA.** Amble Inn Cafe. 24 High St.
- **YEA.** Country Club Hotel. 18 High St.
- **YEA.** Endeavour Petroleum (BP). 31 High St.
- **YEA.** Foodworks. 10 High St.
- **YEA.** Giddy Coat Cafe. 94 High St.
- **YEA.** Grand Central Hotel. 64 High St.
- **YEA.** Marmalades. 20 High St.
- **YEA.** Mint and Jam. 46 High St.
- **YEA.** Nutrien Harcourts. 52 High St.
- **YEA.** Peppercorn Hotel. 21 Station St.
- **YEA.** Provender Bakery. 56 High St.
- **YEA.** Rendezvous In Yea. 10 High St.
- **YEA.** Royal Mail Hotel. 88 High St.
- **YEA.** Yea Bakery. 44 High St.
- **YEA.** Yea Newsagency. 74 High St.
- **YEA.** Yea Take-Away. 68 High St.

Lilydale and Yarra Valley Express Edition

- **COLDSTREAM.** Coldstream Post Office/Newsagency. The Lodge Shopping Centre. 670-672 Maroondah Hwy.
- **CROYDON NORTH.** Croydon North Newsagency. 5 Exeter Rd.
- **HEALESVILLE.** BP. 66 Maroondah Hwy.
- **HEALESVILLE.** Coles Express. 123 Maroondah Hwy.
- **HEALESVILLE.** Grand Hotel. 270 Maroondah Hwy.
- **HEALESVILLE.** Healesville Newsagency. 195 Maroondah Hwy.
- **HEALESVILLE.** Tobacco Station/Tatts. Shop 11, Healesville Walk.
- **LAUNCHING PLACE.** Launching Place General Store. 2200 Warburton Hwy.
- **LAUNCHING PLACE.** Home Hotel. 2170 Warburton Hwy.
- **LILYDALE.** Lilydale Newsagency. 237 Main St.
- **MILLGROVE.** Licensed Grocery. 3043 Warburton Hwy.
- **MOUNT EVELYN.** Mount Evelyn Newsagency. 1A Wray Cres.
- **RINGWOOD.** Burnt Bridge Newsagency. 434 Maroondah Hwy.
- **SEVILLE.** Wooworths Seville. 568 Warburton Hwy.
- **WANDIN.** Wandin Newsagency. 18/2 Union Rd.
- **WARBURTON.** Bakery. 3415 Warburton Hwy.
- **WARRANDYTE.** Grand Hotel. 140 Yarra St.
- **WARRANDYTE.** Quinton's Supa IGA Supermarket. 1/402 Warrandyte Rd.
- **WARRANDYTE.** Warrandyte Newsagency/Post Office. 100 Melbourne Hill Rd.
- **WESBURN.** Hotel. 2882 Warburton Hwy.
- **WONGA PARK.** IGA Xpress. 70 Jumping Creek Rd.
- **WOORI YALLOCK.** Hillcrest Little Store. 1745 Warburton Hwy.
- **WOORI YALLOCK.** Woori Yallock Newsagency. Shop 4,1585 Warburton Hwy.
- **YARRA GLEN.** IGA Supermarket. 1/38 Bell St.
- **YARRA GLEN.** Yarra Glen Newsagency. 32 Bell St.
- **YARRA JUNCTION.** Yarra Junction Newsagency. 2454 Warburton Hwy.

Mitchell Shire Edition

- **BEVERIDGE.** Beveridge Post Office. Lot 1 Old Hume Hwy.
- **BROADFORD.** Broadford Corner Store. 89 High St.
- **BROADFORD.** Broadford Hotel. 100 High St.
- **BROADFORD.** Broadford Newsagency. 67 High St.
- **BROADFORD.** Broadford Post Office. 123 High St.
- **BROADFORD.** Broadford Service Station. 165 High St.
- **BROADFORD.** Commercial Hotel. 31 High St.
- **BROADFORD.** High Street Bakery. 67A High St.
- **BROADFORD.** IGA Supermarket. 65 High St.
- **BROADFORD.** Stuty's Bakehouse. 91-93 High St.
- **DONNYBROOK.** Donnybrook Hotel. 825 Donnybrook Rd.
- **DONNYBROOK.** Donnybrook Post Office. 810 Donnybrook Rd.
- **KILMORE.** BP. 102 Sydney St.
- **KILMORE.** Kemp's Bakery. 65 Sydney St.
- **KILMORE.** Kilmore Bakery. 54 Sydney St.
- **KILMORE.** Kilmore Newsagency. 41 Sydney St.
- **KILMORE.** Red Lion Hotel. 29-31 Sydney St.
- **KILMORE.** Royal Oak Hotel. 29-31 Sydney St.
- **KILMORE.** United Service Station. 127-145 Powlett St.
- **SEYMOUR.** IGA O'Keefe's. 10/115 Anzac Ave.
- **SEYMOUR.** Liberty Seymour. 37-39 Emily St.
- **SEYMOUR.** Seymour NewsXpress. 66 Station St.
- **SEYMOUR.** Seymour South Post and Lotto. 75 Anzac Ave.
- **SEYMOUR.** Prince of Wales Hotel. 48 Emily St.
- **SEYMOUR.** Royal Hotel. 26 Emily St.
- **SEYMOUR.** Terminus Hotel. 26 Station St.
- **SEYMOUR.** Top Shop. Cnr Anzac Ave and Delatite Rd.
- **TALLAROOK.** Tallarook General Store. 36 Main Rd.
- **TALLAROOK.** Tallarook Hotel. 15 Main Rd.
- **TRAWOOL.** Trawool Estate/ Hotel. 8150 Goulburn Valley Hwy.
- **WALLAN.** United Service Station. 11-14 High St.
- **WALLAN.** Wallan News and Lotto. Shop 6, 55 High St.
- **WALLAN EAST.** New Rattlers Inn. Station St.
- **WANDONG.** Caltex Star Mart. 3272 Epping-Kilmore Rd.
- **WANDONG.** Dundee's Fish and Cips. 3272 Epping-Kilmore Rd.
- **WANDONG.** IGA Supermarket. 3272 Epping-Kilmore Rd.
- **WANDONG.** Wandong Post News and Tatts. 3272 Epping-Kilmore Rd.
- **WANDONG.** Kemp's Wandong Bakery. 372 Epping-Kilmore Rd.
- **WANDONG.** Magpie and Stump Hotel. 3313 Epping-Kilmore Rd.

Court Lists

Seymour Magistrates' Court
Criminal Case Listings
Thursday, November 13

Akram, Saher
Allied Tech Consulting Pty Ltd
Ammar, Muhammad
Arora, Daksh
Bourke, Joel
Bult, Daniel
Cassidy, Jason David
Chapman, Mitchell Peter
Chung, Aaron Lesley
Collins, Kyle
Dennerley, Darcy Robert
Dries, Jason
Ettia, Joseph Manfred
Fisher, Chloe
Fisher, Stephen
Formosa, Jye Peter
Gravell, Trevor
Hall, Ben James
Harvey, Bianca
Jones, Dion
King, Johnny
Lambert, Ryan
Marshall, Thomas
Mason, Melissa
Mcclure, Malcolm John
Mclapin, Suart William
Nelson, Ricky
Orchard, Tristan
Pearce, Samuel David
Prescott, Skye
Sanderson, Matthew
Scott, Amanda Joyce
Shah, Muhammad Qasim
Sheridan, Matthew
Singh, Lovepreet
Tennant, Steven
Walley, Adrian
Winiata, Harmony
Woods, Jesse
Wright, Hailey

Friday, November 14

Andrew, John Savva
Greenova Pty Ltd
Heath, Gareth
Hopkins, Connah
Hore, Andrew William
Humm, Lachlan
Nodzio, Jai Clinton
Stojceski, Alexander
Wade, Matthew

Wednesday, November 19

Barclay, Charles
Caton, Janelle Louise
Darden, Adrienne Elizabeth
Farrell, Darren Charles
Malkoun, Elie
Martin, Thyler
Nelson, Kiera
O'connor, Colleen Norma
Raponi, Shadrath
Sandars, Charlotte
Simonoski, Robert
Swanwick, Belinda
Whyte, Paul Robert

Mansfield Magistrates' Court
Wednesday, November 12

Abdo, Fouad
Al Enazi, Saleh
Alee, Jacob
Aliu, Erjan
Anstee, Riley
Barron, Craig
Bennett, Adrienne
Bowden, Sarah
Bradley, Paul Gregory
Brook, Denham
Chalmers, Robyn
Christie, Blair
Farnan, Jayne
Galanis, Andreas Christou
Geldart, Elizabeth
Grant, Cameron
Guilfoyle, Jacob Daniel
Halprin, Rebekah
Hanson, Shane Michael
Hargrave, Turi Tiaki
Heard, David
Khan, Awais Ahmad
Murphy, Ben
Naoum, Fadi Michel
Nedic, Milan
Pereira, Felizberto
Pranav, Pranav
Rhodes, Matthew Mcallister
Spizzo, Leon
Stillman, Aaron
Trika, Jeffrie
Van Der Hoeven, Jackson
Vincent, James
Wagenknecht, Kaylah-Jane
Warren, Kylie

● **Maintenance works will take place this month on Daisyburn Rd between Glenaroua and Hildene. The project will include culvert reconstruction and resheeting works to improve road drainage, surface quality and long-term durability.**

Local News

Mayor on the air



● **Whittlesea Mayor Cr Martin Taylor with Raf Epstein on ABC Radio Melbourne**

City of Whittlesea Mayor **Cr Martin Taylor** joined **Raf Epstein** on **ABC Melbourne Mornings** for the **Meet the Mayor** segment.

"We spoke openly, directly and honestly about the major issues impacting the **City of Whittlesea**," said **Cr Taylor.**

"We discussed a wide range of topics including the **Wollert** waste to energy incinerator proposal, housing supply, affordable housing access, population growth, council approvals and planning permits, construction impacts, dust and contamination concerns, the need for better access roads, road condition and congestion issues, green waste, e waste, illegal rubbish dumping, and the significant pressure rapid growth places on community amenity and liveability," **Cr Taylor** said.

"We also spoke about the importance of continued advocacy and lobbying at both **State** and **Federal** levels, and our work and united strength through the **Northern Councils Alliance**. Nothing was off the table.

"Thank you to every resident who listened live, called in, sent a question or engaged with today's discussion. Your voice matters, and your involvement strengthens my work as Mayor of the great **City of Whittlesea**," **Cr Taylor** said.

Lower Park denied

Follwing its decision not to allow a a proposed lease agreement with **Indara Corporation Pty Ltd** for a telecommunications tower for part of **Eltham Lower Park**, **Nillumbik Council** has reaffirmed its commitment to addressing telecommunications blackspots in the **Eltham** area.

"**Council** has invited **Indara** to explore alternative sites either within **Eltham Lower Park** or nearby that better balance connectivity needs with environmental protection," said a **Council** represenrtative.

"Depending on the nature of any new proposal, **Council** may undertake a further round of community consultation."

Planning proposal

The **City of Whittlesea** is seeking to update its existing **Heritage Overlay** provisions to improve decision-making and streamline planning permit processes.

The proposed amendment aims to update the information and details for a number of sites already included in the **Heritage Overlay**.

Whittlesea Councillors resolved to request authorisation from the **Minister for Planning** to prepare and exhibit the proposed **Planning Scheme Amendment C280wsea**.

"If the **Minister for Planning** approves **Council's** request to exhibit the proposed amendment, affected property owners and occupiers will be contacted to provide feedback during a comprehensive community consultation process," a **City of Whittlesea** representative said.

DC Pool re-opens

Works at the **Diamond Creek Swimming Pool** are complete and the pool has now been re-opened for the summer season.

hanks to $1.5 million from the **Federal Government's Investing in our Communities Program** and $807,000 from **Nillumbik Council**, improvements include:

- A rejuvenated toddlers' play pool area
- Refurbished change rooms
- A new accessible barbecue
- Upgraded walkways to ensure accessible paths to all areas
- Swimming club room improvements.

The plant room will be upgraded in 2026 when the pool is closed for winter.

SEYMOUR DISTRICT CRICKET: ROUND 4 SCORES

■ **A-Grade.** One-Day. Puckapunyal Senior Mixed A 2/315 v Avenel Senior Men A 5/176. At Puckapunyal Cricket Ground - Oval #1.

Tallarook A Grade 2/131 v Yea Tigers A Grade 9/129. At Tallarook Recreation Reserve

Seymour 8/159 v Alexandra A Grade 8/157. At Chittick Park (East)

Bye: Pyalong A Grade.

■ **B-Grade.** One-Day. Avenel Senior Men B 8/116 v Puckapunyal Senior Mixed B 8/117, at Avenel Recreation Reserve.

Yea Tigers B Grade v Tallarook B Grade, at Yea Recreation Reserve.

Alexandra B Grade 9/205 v Seymour Senior Mixed B 10/95, at Leckie Park.

Bye: Pyalong B Grade

★

A-Grade

Puckapunyal 2/315 v Avenel 5/176

Avenel won the toss and elected to bowl.

Puckapunyal - 1st Innings

Henry Long, b Jamison Black 1
Charlers Davoies, not out 218
Nicholas Bennetts, b Wartren Dowley 65
Joel Baker, not out 8
Madison Albers, did not bat
Lachlan Deeble, did not bat
Ciaran Founatain, did not bat
Danny Fountain, did not bat
Thomas Loft, did not bat
Fill-in, did not bat
James Voogt, did not bat
Extras (12WD, 7NB, 3LB, 1B, 0P) 23
Total ..... 2/315 (45 overs)

Fall of Wickets: 1-1 Henry Long, 2-257 Nicholas Bennetts.

Bowling (O-MM-R-W): Christian Papi 9-0-79-0, Jamison Black 7-1-33-1, Travis Stefanos 9-0-82-0, Fill-in 9-0-42-0, Warren Dowley 5-0-31-1, Fill-in 4-0-15-0, Fill-in 1-0-17-0, Fill-in 1-0-12-0.

Avenel - 1st Innings

Travis Stefabnos, not out 75
Warren Dowley, lbw Ciaran Founatain 0
Fill-in, b Ciaran Founatain 10
Fill-in, c? b Madison Albers 12
Christian Papi, c Madsion Albers, b James Voogt 26
Fill-in, lbw James Voogt 2
Fill-in, not out 30
Jamison Black, did not bat
Hudson Black, did not bat
Thomas Byers, did not bat
Oliver Valladares, did not bat
Extras (17WD, 4NB, 0LB, 0B, 0P) 21
Total ..... 5/178 (45 overs)

Fall of Wickets: 1-9 Warren Dowley, 2-24 Player, 3-43 Player, 4-98 Christian Papi, 5-104 Player.

Bowling: Madison Albers 6-0-21-1, Ciaran Founatain 9-1-35-2, Danny Fountain 9-1-28-0, Lachlan Deeble 4-2-4-0, Fill-in 2-0-14-0, Thomas Loft 2-0-3-0, James Voogt 3-0-10-2, Charles Davies 4-2-14-0, Joel Baker 3-0-32-0, Nichlolas Bennetts 3-0-15-0.

★

Tallarook 2/131 v Yea 9/129

Yea Tigers won the toss and elected to bat.

Yea Tigers - Innings

Jake Fish, v Andrew Dundon, b Blake Munari-O'Dwyer 0
Nathan Beattie, b Lachlan Watts 1
Jack Christie, b Mitch Itter, b Xavier Arandt 24
Andrew Butterworth, c Andrew Dundon, b Xavier Arandt 2
Edison Waghorn, c Xavier Arandt, b Blake Munari-O'Dwyer 39
Fill-in, lbw Matthew Archibald 2
Thomas White, c Samuel Manchester, b Kalon Winnell 1
James Simpson, c Xavier Arandt, b Samuel Manchester 9
Austen Ross, c Xavier Arandt, b Matthew Archibald 17
Will Da,lton, not out 16
Dylan Thompswon, not out 5
Extras (13WD, 0NB, 0LB, 0B, 0P) 13
Total ..... 9/129 (45 overs)

Fall of Wickets: 1-0 Jake Fish, 2-4 Nathan Beattie, 3-27 Jack Christie, 4-34 Andrew Butterworth, 5-37 Player, 6-55 Thomas White, 7-79 James Simpsdon, 8-95 Edison Waghorn, 9-116 Austen Ross.

Bowling: Blake Munari-O'Dwyer 9-2-18-2, Lachaln Watts 9-3-17-1, Xavier Arandt 8-1-24-2, Matthew Archibald 8-1-24-2. Kalon Winnell 6-0-20-1, Samuel Manchester 5-0-26-1.

Tallarook - Innings

Joshua Rudge, c Austen Ross, b Andrew Butterworth 37
Mitch Itter, c James Simpson, b Andrew Butterworth 42
Lachlan Watts, not out 38
Leigh Irving,. not out 4
Xavier Arandt, did not bat
Matthew Archibald, did not bat
Andrew Dundon, did not bat
Samuel Manchester, did not bat
Hamish Melville, did not bat
Blake Munari-O'Dwyer, did not bat
Kalon Winnell, did not bat
Extras (9WD, 1NB, 0LB, 0B, 0P) 10
Total ..... 2/131 (35.1 overs)

Fall of Wickets: 1-84 Mitch Itter, 2-117 Joshua Rudge

Realism in training

■ Trainees from the **Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering** embraced the first iteration of their transformed biannual field training exercise in October.

Commanding Officer ASEME Lieutenant Colonel Hans Hamilton said the more efficient, scenario-based exercise would see more soldiers in the field, increase realism in training, and initiate a mutually beneficial relationship with the School of **Armour's Close Target Reconnaissance Wing**.

Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton said the change was based on the **Chief of Army's** direction – be ready to "fight tonight".

"This field exercise is different," he said. "Instead of micro-activities, we're capitalising on the time available. So, they [soldiers] march in, they conduct a seven- to eight-day activity instead of doing discrete stands, which is very disruptive and doesn't allow a 'pattern of life'.

"This activity also allows some superimposition with the **School of Armour** – to get some training value while we're in the field and actually feed that intelligence material to us to inform the OC's [officer commanding] approach to the activity."

Junior Cricket

Under 13

Saturday, November 8: Pucka U13 Mixed v Yea Tigers U13 Mixed, at Puckapunyal Cricket Ground. Pyalong U13 v Alexandra U13 Mixed, at Pyalong Recreation Reserve.

Wednesday, November 12: Tallarook U13 v Seymour U13 Mixed, at Tallarook Recreation Reserve

Weekend Bowls

Division 3

Shepparton Golf 86, 14 d East Shepparton 56, 2. Mooroopna Golf 86, 14 d Eildon 58, 4. Shepparton Park 61, 2 d Euroa 77, 16. Rushworth 98,m 16 d Alexandra 62, 2.

Division 4

Tatura Hill Top 96, 18 d Dookie 60, 0. Shepparton Park 90, 15 d Seymour 63, 3. Merrigum 78, 14 d Tallygaroopna 69, 4. East Shepparton 62, 2 d by Yea 91, 16.

Division 5

Nagambie 62, 12 d Seymour VRI 53, 4. Ruishworth 52, 2 d by Tatura Hill Top 66, 14. Euroa 55, 3 d by Shepparton Park 62, 13. Murchison 61, 14 d Violet Town 47, 2. Colbinabbin 102, 16 d Alexandra 31, 0.

At Steel's Creek

■ The **Garden Club** continues to thrive, with regular propagation sessions at the centre and monthly visits to various gardens or nurseries, mainly in the local area.

The membership remains fairly steady at around 50 members. The club did have an active **Facebook** page which was recently deleted, presumably during Facebook's update.

The **Garden Club** organised a **Big Morning Tea**, with all funds raised supporting cancer services. It also recently had its very successful annual plant fair.

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'COMEDY FOR A CAUSE' AT YARRA JUNCTION

Some of the best comedians from the **Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne International Comedy Festivals**, are being organised to appear this saturday (Nov. 15) support of **Upper Yarra SES - Comedy For A Cause** fundraiser at **Warburton Golf Club** in **Dammans Rd**.

Tickets are available for $45 per person for the two-hour event, with showtime at 7.30pm.

Comedy For A Cause was founded as a fundraiser for non-profit organisations in 2013 by **Mat Wakefield,** weho has announced an expansion to the North Island of **New Zealand** and **California.**



● Mat Wakefield, Comedy For a Cause Founder

Pre-season training starts

Avenel Football-Netball Club commences netball pre-seaon training at 6.15pm toight (Wed., Nov. 12). Juniors are welcome.

Leanne Lou Jones says that the **Avenel Swans** netball training will be hled at the **Avenel Rec. Reservem** and that intending players can contact her, or or **Georgia Velt** or **Nichole Hanson** for more info.

Tarsha to head coaching

Tarsha Neal will be Head Coach for **A-Grade** and **B-Grade** netballers at **Woori Yallock** for 2026.

Kayla Trusses has been appointed to be **C-Grade** and **D-Grade** coach.

Kayla has played more than 15 seasons in **South Australia**, representing clubs in the **Mid SE** and **KNT Leagues** with **Robe** and **Kingston.**

Since moving to **Victoria**, she's continued to make her mark with time in the **SEFNL, LYVNA**, and **EFNL** competitions, playing for clubs such as **Bentleigh, McKinnon, Chirnside Park, Kilsyth** and the **Eastern Rebels.**

She's also no stranger to the whistle, with umpiring experience in **LYVNA, EFNL** and **Outer East**.

Trivia Night at Flowerdale

Flowerdale Kindergarten and **Primary School** will hold a **trivia Night** from 6.30pm on Friday, December 5, at the **Flowerdale Hotel.**

Tockets are available at $15 per person, with suggested team numbers at a maximum of 10. Organisers promise great prizes.

Lift The Lid

The 5.8-km **Kinglake Ranges Lift The Lid Walk** will start at 9m this Sunday (Nov. 16), starting at the **Kinglake Community Centre,** 1 Extons Rd. Entry fee is $30.

Supported by the **Rotary Club of Kinglake Ranges,** the fundraiser is billed as 'to walk and talk for mental health'.

Shirts and caps will be available on the day, and there will be a guest speaker from **Australian Rotary Health.**

LOCAL PEOPLE



● Professor Angela Yang, Associate Dean of RMIT University, met with Whittlesea Mayor Cr Martin Taylor, as part of the Northern Health WellAhead Open Day at the University of the New Age campus in Epping. "Events like this remind us that strong mental health begins with prevention, participation, and creating inclusive spaces where everyone feels valued and supported," said Cr Taylor.

Show n Shine at Kinglake

The **Kinglake Ranges Show N Shine** event will be held this Sunday (Nov. 16) at the **Community Centre,** Extons Rd.

There will be classic bikes and cars, 4x4 vehicles, and dirt bikes.

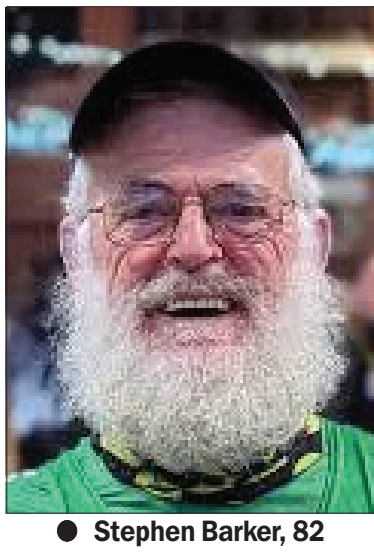
Live music will be provided by **Baysy Howlers** and the **sammy Owens Blues Band.**

There will be food, coffee ans stalls. Entry free for **Show n Shine** is $10.

Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in the **cardboard Box Rally** starting at 11.45am.

Marathon Man

Whittlesea's Marathon Man, **Stephen Barker**, successfully completed the **Melbourne Marathon** - also being his 100th marathon. first marathon was is in 1982 in **Melbourne.** He has since run the **Melbourne Marathon** 38 times.



● Stephen Barker, 82

What Local People Are Doing

Kilmore

Top job

Nicole Wilson has been appointed as Manager of the **Kilmore Rotary Op Shop.**

"**Nicky** had often relieved the Manager's position in the past and for the last two months, acted as our interim Manager until an official appointment had been made by **Rotary,"** said a **Club** representative.

Murrindindi

Tree goes

The tree at **Murrindindi Hub** and **Murrindindi CFA** has been removed due to mistletoe growth.

There was only two branches with natural growth.

A request had been submitted to **Murrindindi Council** so they would inspect the tree for removal.

Wandong

Vale Helen

Wandong Fire Brigade is mourning the passing of **Helen McMahon**, former Secretary 2002 - 2021, aged 88.

She joined in 1998, and holding the role of secretary for over 19 years. **Helen** was the head chef and organiser for the bus shopping tours and the **Wandong Country Music** festival. She packed thousands of lolly bags for Santa over the years, and fed hundreds of volunteers across Black Saturday.



● New name boards have been installed at station sites on the Great Victorian Rail Trail at Cheviot, Molesworth, Cathkin, Homewood, and Yarck. produced by the Friends of the Goulburn Valley Rail Trail, the project made possible through the support of the Murrindindi Shire Council. Volunteer labour and Council contractors Trevor (Trevor Carns Contracting) and Brad (Dindi Diggers).

Whittlesea

Old organ

A **Wurlitzer** organ sourced by the late **Clive Smith** has been restored to its former glory, and commissioned at the **Whittlesea Masonic Lodge No. 256**.

John Cantrill, a 'Past Grand Lodge Organist' was on hand to give the **Wurlitzer** a test run at its **Yea Rd** home, thanks to **Haydn Gregson's** efforts.

The old **Hammond C3** organ will now be gifted back to the **Ivalda Masonic Temple** at **Darebin.**

Yea

This Sat.

The **Reddrops Foodworks Yea Stakes Day** is due to be held this Saturday (Nov. 15) by **Yea Racing.**

The first meeting for the season - the **Spring Spectacular** - was held in October.

There were free kids activities- face painting, pony rides and game. A shuttle bus to and from the **Yea** topwnship ferried passengers

One visitor had come from **Queensland** to attend the picnic meeting.

Diamond Ck

New look

The **Di Pietro** family has given a facelift to its 'Wine Cellars and Providore' business in **Chute St, Diamond Creek.**

Formerly trading as **Nillumbik Cellars** and **the Vines Cafe,** the expanded frontage has received a stylish refurbishment.

Albert De Pietro and wife **Angela** took over what was a grocery business 50 years ago in February 1975.

Their children **Daniel** and **Vanessa** are actively involved in the business.

Buxton

150th

The **Buxton Primary School** 150th Anniversary celebrations will be held from 12 Noon-4pm on Saturday, November 22.

Hurstbridge

In recess

Hurstbridge Landcare will enter a 12-month recess commencing on November 17.

"The **Committee** have decided to place the group in recess rather than closing it altogether as this will allow for easy revival of the group should anyone be interested," said **Dr Sue Rosenhain**, President, and **David Mitchell** Treasurer and Secretary.

Nillumbik Landcare Facilitator **Scott Allen** will monitor interest during this time.



● Euroa MLA Annabelle Cleeland officiated at the re-opening of the Seymour Historical Society headquaters,. She is pictured with Geoff Halpin, President. Ms Cleland said: "Three years ago, when the floods swept through the region, we all saw the devastation - homes ruined, businesses closed, lives turned upside down. But what many people might not have realised was the damage done to something less visible, yet just as precious: our stories. The Seymour & District Historical Society was hit hard. Photographs, letters, maps, and priceless pieces of our history were damaged or destroyed. Fridges, computers, and equipment - many bought through years of community fundraising - were gone."

Nillumbik

Run for the Firies

Eltham MLA **Vicki Ward** has congratulated and thanked the hundreds of people who participated in the **Run for the Firies** event.

"It's an incredible show of support for **Kangaroo Ground CFA** and **Research CFA** for all the support they give in helping keep our community safe.

"Thanks to everyone who helped organise and those who helped in the day, including Lions Club of Eltham," **Ms Ward** said.



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Local Briefs

At Badger Creek

An annual event, the **Badger Creek Hall** community garagr sale takes place from 9am-1pm this Saturday (Nov. 15).

Organisers say there will be loads of treasure and trash - come & get a bargain. Proceeds will help maintain the 100-year old hall.

To book a stall either inside the hall under cover or outside in car park (car boot style), please phone **Kathy** on 5962 3639.

Beveridge progress

Construction is progressing at **Beveridge Village**, a new retail precinct by developer **Oreana**, on the corner of **Lithgow St** and **Mallaig Drive**.

The childcare building frame is now going up and the first concrete slabs for retail spaces are being poured.

Beveridge Village will feature 14 new shops and a childcare facility, including a small supermarket, barber and laundromat, giving residents more options closer to home. The developer is aiming to have the site open in the second quarter of 2026.

Plan underway

A draft **Local Emergency Action Plan** has been developed by the **Kirwans Bridge Steering Group** — and now they're inviting community feedback.

Following a community meeting held in May, the **Steering Group** has compiled local insights into a draft LEAP, now available for public review on **Strathbogie Shire's** engagement website.

People with suggestions for improving emergency preparedness are encouraged to share their comments online to help finalise the plan.

"This important document aims to raise awareness of emergency risks in the **Kirwans Bridge** area and outlines practical actions to strengthen community resilience and recovery," said a **Strathbogie Shire** representative.

Resilience Project Officer **Fiona Feldtmann** said the draft reflects the valuable contributions made by residents during the community meeting.

"This is the sixth **LEAP** developed by **Council**, and I'm incredibly proud of the communities who've taken the lead in creating their plans," **Ms Feldtmann** said.

"Local input is what makes these plans truly effective. In any emergency—whether fire, flood, or storm—having a community-driven plan in place is vital. The **Kirwans Bridge** community should be commended for their proactive approach and commitment to resilience."

The draft **LEAP** is available for comment until 5pm, Friday, November 28.

Slashing starts

Roadside slashing across **Mitchell Shire** will begin in late November, with **Council** crews preparing to reduce long grass and vegetation along key routes in preparation for the fire danger period.

"The annual program is an important part of **Council's** fire prevention efforts, helping to manage fuel loads and improve visibility for motorists," said a **Mitchell Shire** representative.

Children's Week

Local families came together at the **Uniting Church** in **Mansfield** on October 22 for a fun filled morning to celebrate **Children's Week**.

Children's Week is held across **Victoria** in October each year, celebrating the talents, achievements, and rights of children.

This year's theme, "Everyone Should Know Children's Rights," inspired a range of hands-on activities that encouraged learning, play and wellbeing.

Families enjoyed a morning tea and took part in activities that explored children's rights, active play, healthy eating and understanding emotions.

The event also offered an opportunity for children to meet some of the friendly community helpers who keep **Mansfield** safe — including members of the **Victorian Police** and **Mansfield's** own **State Emergency Service**.

Children also received a copy of ***The Invisible String***, a picture book for all ages that reflects this year's **Children's Week** theme.

Local News

Bin is no place for batteries

Murrindindi Shire Council is urging residents to dispose of household batteries safely after two fires have occurred at the **Alexandra Landfill**.

"The landfill fires, which were caused by the incorrect disposal of batteries, have put the safety of staff, property and the environment at serious risk," said a **Council** representative.

"When batteries are mixed in with general rubbish or recycling, they can be compacted in our kerbside collection trucks or at landfill sites, where they may spark against other materials and ignite fires," **Murrindindi Shire Council** Sustainability and Assets portfolio Councillor **Sue Carpenter** said.

Murrindindi Council is reminding residents never to place any type of battery in kerbside bins, Resource Recovery Centre waste bays, or landfill.

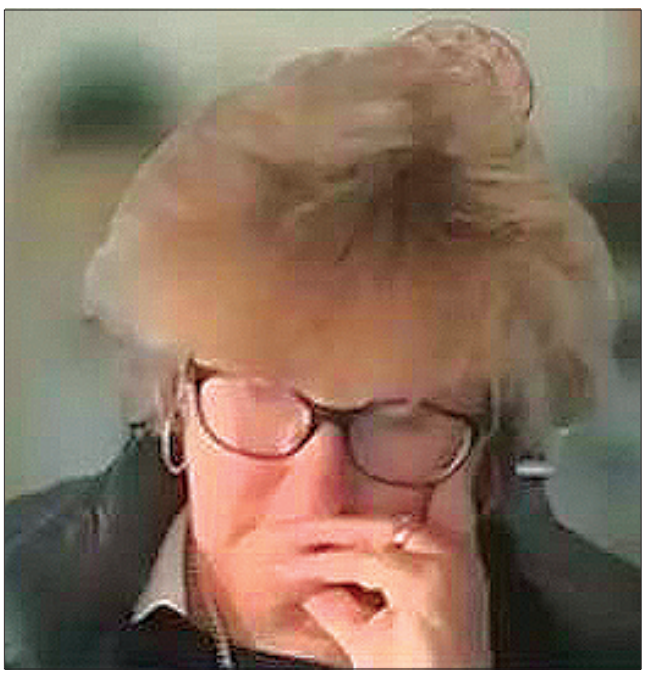
Instead, batteries can be recycled safely and for free in specially marked battery disposal containers at **Council's Resource Recovery Centres** in **Alexandra, Yea, Marysville** and **Kinglake**, or at participating **FoodWorks** supermarkets across the **Shire**.

"To make batteries safe for recycling, cover the terminals with sticky tape before dropping them off at a local RRC or supermarket," the **Shire** representative said. "Battery fires can start small but spread quickly, putting our staff, emergency services and facilities at risk," **Cr Carpenter** said.



● Cr Sue Carpenter

'High Country Thing'



● Cr Sandice McAulay attended the October 22 Murrindindi Council meeting via computer.

Tourism North-East has launched their new 'It's my **High-Country** thing' social media led marketing campaign, **Cr Sandice McAulay** has told **Murrindindi Shire Council.**

"The campaign highlights how to make the most out of a visit to **Victoria's High Country**, by creating instructional videos with our local tourism partners that guide viewers through their '**High Country Thing**'," **Cr McAulay** said.

"**TNE** are inviting all of the local tourism operators and businesses to join in and leverage this social media-led campaign by creating your own social and web content, as well as collaborating and engaging with the **@seehighcountry** social channels.

"They have created an Industry Toolkit to show you how easy it is to get involved and help visitors feel like 'a local' by sharing your **High Country Thing**," **Cr McAulay** said.

Wallan ramps due by 2027

Mitchell Shire Council has welcomed the awarding of the construction contract for the **Watson Street Interchange Upgrade** in **Wallan**, better known locally as the **Wallan** ramps.

Australian owned and operated company **Winslow** will deliver the project, marking a major milestone for the upgrade that will provide additional connections from **Wallan** to the **Hume Fwy** and **Melbourne.**

Early works will begin later this year, with crews already on site carrying out investigations and establishing the site compound ahead of major construction starting in early 2026.

The project will deliver new freeway ramps and upgraded connections to make it easier for motorists to enter and exit the **Hume Fwy**, while new traffic signals on both sides of the interchange will improve safety and traffic flow.

The upgrade will support around 1100 jobs, supporting **Victoria's** construction industry and creating local employment opportunities.

"Once complete, the new interchange will make it safer and easier for drivers travelling in and out of Wallan – improving access for up to 30,000 journeys every day and reducing congestion on local roads," the representative said

This progress follows years of sustained advocacy from **Mitchell Shire Council** to both **State** and **Federal Governments**.



● Wallan ramps

Local Briefs

Yea Golf Club



● Paul Heyen

Despite ominous skies, the weather held off and players enjoyed fine conditions for the second round of the **A.H. Smith Trophy** on Saturday (Nov. 8).

A total of 24 men and 3 ladies took part in what proved to be a closely contested event.

In the Stableford competition, **Jack Kenny** (33) produced a strong round to take top honours with 39 points.

Jim Redmond (25) finished runner-up on 36 points, while **Nick Wilcox** (25) claimed third place with 35 points, ahead of **Greg Clements** (18), also on 35, and **Mick Spagnolo** (8), who secured fifth with 34 points on countback from **Rick Wills** and **Chris Dunne. Di Elliott** was the best of the ladies with 29 points.

Nearest the Pin on the 11th went to **Jobe Dunne**, while **Rob O'Halloran** collected the Club Award.

Across the two rounds of the **A.H. Smith Trophy, Paul Heyen** emerged victorious with a total of 70 points, finishing just ahead of **Brian Simmons** and **Rick Wills**, who both tallied 68 points.

Wednesday's golf saw **BrianSimmons/Anthony La Grutta** with an outstanding 380 points win the Pair 22 – Stableford event.

Second were **Mick Spagnolo/Jim Redmond** with 315 points.

Individual winner was **Anthony La Grutta** with 40 points. **Rob Gill/Russ Wealands** took out the Club Award.

Alan Pell

Festive spirit

Yarra Ranges Council is encouraging local businesses to get into the festive spirit, set up their best **Christmas** window displays, and enter its annual competition.

The annual Christmas Window Competition will be open for online entries until Sunday, November 23.

Following the entry period, local people will be able to vote for their favourites from November 25 to December 10.

Yarra Ranges Mayor, **Cr Jim Child**, said the competition was a great way to start the festive season.

"We've been running the **Christmas** window competition for a few years now, and we're always so impressed with the creativity and commitment of our local businesses," **Cr Child** said.

"This event helps to showcase fantastic displays to community members right across our 55 townships, encourages some friendly competition, and encourages locals and visitors alike to shop local this **Christmas**.

"I'm looking forward to seeing this year's entries and visiting a few of the competing shops ahead of **Christmas**."

Businesses can sign up to the competition at **Shaping Yarra Ranges** until Sunday November 23, using the business or store name as a title. Entries should have a photograph and a short description of the display, including any inspiration or themes.

Yellingbo concerns

The **State Government's** proposal to expand the **Yellingbo Landscape Conservation Area**, renamed Liwik Barring, by an additional 230 hectares conservation has sparked significant concern among local stakeholders.

"The proposed additions to Liwik Barring Landscape Conservation Area - two new nature conservation areas, three streamside "natural features" areas, and an extension to an existing zone – is a rushed move to fill the gaps left in the original planning process," said **Cindy McLeish** MLA.

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Latest News

Posted, boasted



A hoon who took to social media to boast that he had got away with doing a burnout in front of police has had his car impounded.

Westgate Highway Patrol attended a car meet in **Braybrook**. The 19-year-old driver was allegedly mid-skid on **Cranwell St** when he spotted officers.

The **Point Cook** man was issued with a defect notice therefore he could no longer drive his lowered **Toyota Supra**.

Officers organised a tow truck to impound the vehicle however due to modifications, it was unable to be loaded onto the truck.

The driver thought that was the end of the matter and quickly logged onto social media to inform his fellow car enthusiasts that he had bested police.

Not to be deterred, officers issued a surrender notice to the driver.

The teen will now have to pay to have his vehicle returned after 28 days and will also have to fork out to have the illegal modifications removed from his vehicle.

He is expected to be charged on summons with improper use of motor vehicle, exceed permitted dimensions (vehicle being too low) and using a vehicle not complying with registration standards.

Westgate Highway Patrol Sgt Johan Wisewould said: "It is extremely dangerous to perform burnouts, particularly around crowds of people where there could be disastrous consequences if you lose control," he said.

"While there were some challenges with impounding this vehicle, nothing will stop us from ensuring this illegally modified vehicle is taken off our roads.

"We will not allow this behaviour to go unpunished and this driver will soon be facing the courts," **Sgt Wisewould** said.

Erratic driving

A man has been arrested following a pursuit and erratic driving in the state's south-east on thursday morning (Nov. 6).

Police received numerous calls for a silver hatchback with no number plates driving erratically in the **Moe, Trafalgar** and **Drouin** areas from about 8.30am.

The **Holden Astra** was spotted on **Bennett St** in **Moe** before travelling along the **Princes Hwy** towards **Trafalgar.**

Officers made attempts to intercept the vehicle in **Trafalgar** and **Warragul** before the vehicle allegedly took off at high speed.

The **Police Air Wing** followed the vehicle from above, before the vehicle collided with a bus on **Albert St** in **Warragul**. There were no injuries.

The vehicle was then dumped in a nearby park and the driver fled on foot.

He was later located by officers in the backyard of an **Albert St** residence and arrested.

The 38-year-old **Morwell** man was expected to be interviewed.

Affray arrests

Fawkner Divisional Response Unit officers have arrested three men following an alleged affray and stabbing in **Broadmeadows** last month.

Emergency services were called to **Central Grove, Broadmeadows**, after a boy was located with a stab wound about 5pm on Friday, October 24.



Top award for media star Carrie Bickmore

Carrie Bickmore has been named as Victorian Australian of the Year. She has been recognised for her work to raise money and further research into brain cancer, which caused her husband Greg's death in 2010.

COMPANY FINED OVER LONG SERVICE LEAVE

A **Morwell** based sheet metal fabricating company has been convicted and fined $12,000 after pleading guilty to criminal offences under **Victoria's** long service leave laws.

Wage Inspectorate Victoria began investigating **Romlik Pty Ltd** after being contacted by a former apprentice who had not been paid their long service leave entitlement.

The former employee had worked continuously with the business for over eight years and had not taken any long service leave.

They believed the business was making regular contributions to a long service leave fund and that they would be paid long service leave benefits from this scheme.

The former employee made repeated requests for payment of their entitlement after leaving the business however was not paid.

After receiving a report from the former employee, **Wage Inspectorate Victoria** commenced an investigation. Despite repeated opportunities to do so, the business failed to meet its commitments and pay what it owed.

The **Inspectorate** subsequently filed charges against the business in May.

The company, on October 31, pled guilty to:

- failing to pay in full an employee's long-service leave entitlement when their employment ended
- failing to comply with a notice to produce issued by the **Wage Inspectorate**

Counsel for the **Inspectorate, Ms Tien Tran**, submitted that a conviction should be recorded, given: the serious nature of the offence; the victim being a vulnerable former employee who commenced work as an apprentice on low wages; and the failure to be paid an entitlement owed despite the company's awareness of its obligation to pay.

Ms Tran's submitted that a clear message needed to be sent to other employers, whether in small businesses or large corporates, of the importance of careful compliance with the ***Long Service Leave Act 2018***.



Magistrate Ann Collins imposed a fine of $8000 on charge one, and $4000 on charge two. The company was also ordered to pay the outstanding long service leave entitlement with interest (over $8700). A coniction was imposed.

But for the plea of guilty, the **Magistrate** said they would have convicted and fined the accused $15,000 and $6,000 respectively.

Robert Hortle, Commissioner of **Wage Inspectorate Victoria**, said: "Apprentices are generally young and work for low wages – making them some of the most vulnerable workers in **Victoria**.

"After almost eight years of loyal service the former apprentice had earned their long service leave entitlement.

"My message to employers is simple, keep good records and plan to pay your staff their entitlements – it will be cheaper for you in the long run," **Mr Hortle** said.

The **Long Service Leave Act 2018** is a **Victorian** law that provides long service leave for employees who have worked continuously with one employer for at least seven years. It applies to work that is:

- full time
- part time
- casual
- seasonal
- fixed term.

Latest News

Labs dismantled

Detectives from the **Clandestine Laboratory Squad** have extradited the alleged ringleader of an organised crime drug syndicate from the **Northern Territory** as part of a three-year investigation into the illicit drug trade.

The 55-year-old man was arrested on Tuesday (Nov. 4), before he was extradited back to **Melbourne** on Thursday afternoon.

He was interviewed and subsequently charged with traffick large commercial quantity MDMA and conspiracy to traffick large commercial quantity methylamphetamine.

The man was to appear at **Melbourne Magistrates' Court** on Friday (Nov. 7)

Police will allege the man became aware of the investigation into the syndicate, fleeing the jurisdiction in August before he was located in the **Northern Territory** under a false name.

Investigators will allege the syndicate, directed by a ringleader, was importing precursor chemicals and then manufacturing, trafficking and distributing the large commercial quantities of methylamphetamine, P2P and MDMA throughout the country.

Over the course of three years, investigators charged seven people, seized multi million dollars' worth of drugs, executed approximately 15 search warrants and dismantled three large scale clandestine laboratories.

The initial shipment, detected by the **Australian Border Force** in November 2022, was disguised as a chemical imported to make perfume in **Melbourne**.

Those charged include:

- A 46-year-old **Coburg North** man. An account located in the man's name containing $5M was frozen.
- A 54-year-old **Pascoe Vale** man.
- A 45-year-old man from **Queensland** .
- A 37-year-old **Maribyrnong** man .
- A 45-year-old **Newport** man.
- A 27-year-old **Monegeetta** man.

Police located an industrial sized clandestine laboratory, seven secured firearms, a gel blaster, an unsecured loaded shotgun, ammunition, nun-chukkas, two Samurai swords, three imitation handguns and further assorted knives and swords, cash and varying quantities of drugs inside the address.

Thirteen previously stolen **Holden** vehicles were also located worth in excess of $1M, suspected of being part of a car rebirthing ring.

Seizures included over 40 tonnes of precursor chemicals which would have produced close to 20 tonnes of methyl-amphetamine with an estimated street value of over $2.5 billion dollars' worth of methyl-amphetamine.

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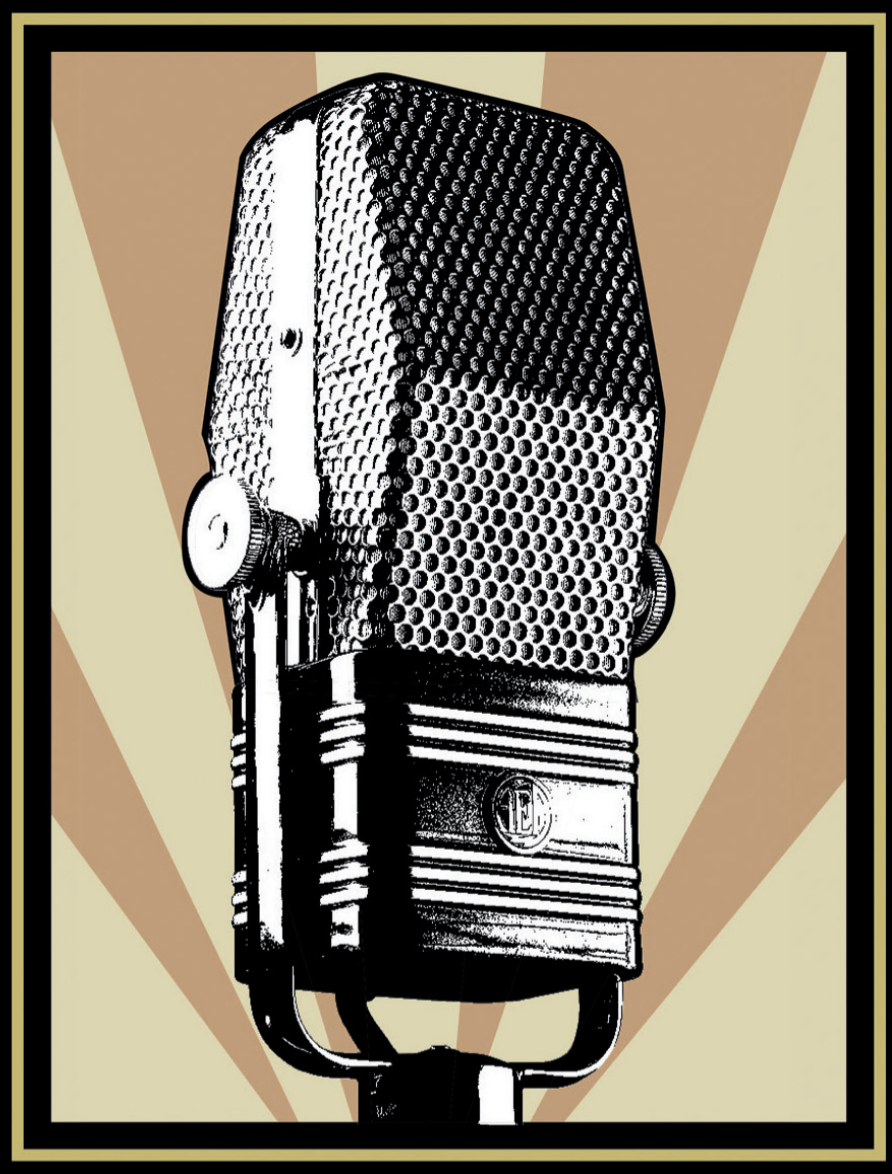
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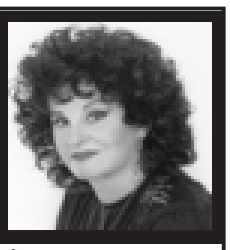
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More music – less talk

Your Stars

with Kerry Kulkens

Presented by Sarah Kulkens, Australia's Trusted Psychic Family



ARIES (March 21 - April 20)
Lucky Colour: White
Lucky Day: Monday
Racing Numbers: 1, 3, 2, 5
Lotto Numbers: 1, 12, 15, 26, 34, 45
You may need to reorganise your daily routine for the future. Emotions could get out of hand, and relying on some people in the long term may be challenging.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 20)
Lucky Colour: Blue
Lucky Day: Wednesday
Racing Numbers: 5, 6, 2, 1
Lotto Numbers: 5, 12, 24, 40, 33, 39
Romantic affairs could evolve into a relationship that surprises you. Avoid imposing your opinions on others—gentle persuasion will yield better results.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21)
Lucky Colour: Violet
Lucky Day: Thursday
Racing Numbers: 9, 8, 5, 4
Lotto Numbers: 9, 15, 8, 7, 44, 40
Carefully consider your words to avoid misunderstandings. Focus on planning for your future, particularly in health and dental care.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)
Lucky Colour: Yellow
Lucky Day: Tuesday
Racing Numbers: 5, 6, 5, 1
Lotto Numbers: 5, 12, 26, 36, 30, 22
Career surprises may arise, and something you've been anticipating will finally happen. Stay calm in all situations, even when emotions run high.

LEO (July 23 - August 22)
Lucky Colour: Cream
Lucky Day: Monday
Racing Numbers: 8, 6, 2, 1
Lotto Numbers: 8, 12, 29, 24, 40, 11
Someone close may need space but struggle to communicate. Avoid jumping to conclusions; seek facts before making decisions.

VIRGO (August 23 - September 23)
Lucky Colour: Blue
Lucky Day: Wednesday
Racing Numbers: 8, 6, 2, 1
Lotto Numbers: 8, 12, 26, 34, 40, 22
Unexpected tasks may keep you busy, and someone new could enter your life. Make time for fun—balance work with leisure for overall well-being.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23)
Lucky Colour: Pink
Lucky Day: Friday
Racing Numbers: 8, 3, 2, 1
Lotto Numbers: 8, 12, 26, 34, 45, 44
Carefully consider travel plans as they may impact your future. Increased social engagements could leave you feeling drained, so conserve your energy.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22)
Lucky Colour: Orange
Lucky Day: Tuesday
Racing Numbers: 1, 3, 2, 5
Lotto Numbers: 1, 12, 26, 25, 20, 22
Avoid making important decisions for now, as your judgement may be clouded. Ensure loved ones feel included while you focus on new career opportunities.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 20)
Lucky Colour: Silver
Lucky Day: Monday
Racing Numbers: 1, 3, 2, 1
Lotto Numbers: 1, 12, 15, 9, 22, 27
This is a hectic period socially, with personal relationship issues demanding attention. Rewards for past efforts may take time to arrive, so stay persistent.

CAPRICORN (December 21 - January 19)
Lucky Colour: Cream
Lucky Day: Sunday
Racing Numbers: 5, 6, 2, 3
Lotto Numbers: 2, 13, 26, 36, 38, 7
Channel your energy into career pursuits and seize opportunities as they arise. Improvements in romance and your social life are likely.

AQUARIUS (January 20 - February 19)
Lucky Colour: Green
Lucky Day: Saturday
Racing Numbers: 2, 3, 6, 5
Lotto Numbers: 2, 13, 25, 24, 21, 11
Career and business ambitions are on track, with no obstacles in sight. Someone from a distance could offer insights that alter your perspective on someone close.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20)
Lucky Colour: Fawn
Lucky Day: Wednesday
Racing Numbers: 5, 6, 2, 3
Lotto Numbers: 1, 12, 15, 26, 36, 3
Trust your instincts during this time—they could lead to success. Collaborative efforts with loved ones will produce better results than going it alone.

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Fire season worries

Sir,

As we head into possibly another significant fire season with far below soil moisture levels and drought conditions in much of the state, it is worth noting how the **Emergency Management** structure and the **State Government** are approaching the situation.

Emergency Management is the body charged with planning and responsibility for preparing and mitigating potential disaster situations.

The **State Government** is responsible for keeping **Victorians** safe and has overall charge through their decision making and budgetary processes.

Currently the **Country Fire Authority** is down approximately 7000 **CFA** members since **Black Saturday** in 2009.

The age demographic of the current membership is extremely concerning and morale is low in many quarters.

The current **CFA** fire tanker fleet is a huge concern. Approximately 240 **CFA** tankers are over 30 years of age and an even larger number are in the 25-30 year age range.

To anyone committing themselves to a major fire this is a very frightening situation. These trucks are not expected to sit on a suburban street during a fire.

To add further to these woes we have a fire management structure that is hamstrung by regulations has extremely limited community input and thus virtually ignores the problems.

In addition we have a **State Government** that has shown distain and contempt for the vast majority of **CFA** members in rural and regional **Victoria** through their '**Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund**'. The Tax.!

I call on all rural and regional **Victorians** to make their views known to metropolitan **Melbourne** and our politicians.

This legislation was passed by more than one political party.

Your voice can actually make a big difference.

Whether a sign, a post, a letter or personal contact, tell politicians and our fellow **Victorians** to 'Scrap the Tax'.

Politicians have a responsibly to protect and treat all **Victorians** equally.

Bill Chisholm,
Tooborac

Council concern

Sir,

We should all be concerned about **Boroondara Council's 'Greenways Plan'** ('Green pathways to walk, run and ride'," ***The Local Paper - Eastern Suburbs Edition*** (Oct. 25).

The **Council** plan, to attract bike riding into local parks, will make these spaces much less attractive for the many residents who seek out parkland each day for quiet relaxation and walking exercise.

Cycling, whether high speed or not, through parkland is unnerving and potentially hazardous for walkers, and especially older people and those with a disability.

It is also a severe impediment for the many residents who walk their dog once or twice a day, for fear of an accident.

Observer Mailbag



Short letters (no more than 200 words) on local subjects are invited from readers.

Email to: editor@Melbourne Observer.com.au

Letters must be short and may be edited. All letters to be considered for publication must have a name, street address and phone number so their authenticity can be checked. An email address is not sufficient.

We do need more people cycling. However, the **Council** would be much better advised to attend to the 400 kilometres of local roads in the municipality, and for which they are solely responsible, to make them safe for cyclists – and to leave our parks alone to continue to function as parks, not as transport corridors.

Ian Hundley
Stephen St,
Balwyn North

Men in women's jail

Sir,

I call on the **Minister for Corrections** to immediately end the practice of placing male offenders in women's prisons.

Minister, why are you housing biological males convicted of sexually assaulting women and girls in women's prisons?

You have an obligation to keep every inmate safe.

Allowing male offenders into women's prisons is not conducive to a safe place for female inmates, many of whom have suffered traumatisation and abuse at the hands of men.

This ideological approach disgracefully prioritises the asserted gender identity of male offenders, over the fundamental sex-based rights of vulnerable women who are entitled to privacy and a non-threatening environment.

I reference media reports of **Freedom of Information** documents:

The ***Herald Sun*** has reported that **FOI** documents show six biological males who transitioned while behind bars between 2003 and 2023 were transferred to a women's prison.

Is there a limit on the number of biological males you would transfer to women's prisons, or will this **Government** transfer every man who transitions while behind bars, regardless of the offence committed, into a women's facility?

Women behind bars deserve safe, sex-based spaces, not ideological experiments.

Corrections policy must prioritise risk, biology, and victim safety, with rigorous case management and transparent oversight.

Enough is enough. Protect women in custody. End the transfers. Put safety and common sense first.

Bev McArthur MP
Member for Western Victoria Region

Call from Salvos

Sir,

The **Salvation Army Emergency Services** are encouraging **Australians** to be alert and prepare for the upcoming summer season, as the risk of natural disasters increases heading into the warmer months.

The **Bureau of Meteorology** has released the outlook for this year's **High Risk Weather Season** (October to April), showing increased risk of bushfire in parts of **Western Australia, South Australia** and **Victoria,** increased risk of extreme heat in far northern **Australia** and increased risk of flooding across eastern **Australia**.

Severe weather events can happen at any time during the year, but the highest likelihood of extreme disasters like flooding, tropical cyclones, heatwaves and bushfires to occur is between October and April.

The **Salvos** have seen this impact first hand, as we have supported individuals, families and communities for the last 130 years who have been impacted by natural disasters.

This is why we are encouraging **Aussies** to get themselves and their homes ready.

We don't want people to be alarmed, but to be prepared for the potential risks that this season can bring.

There are really practical ways you can prepare; make an emergency 'go bag' with key personal documents, ensure you have a few days supplies like food, water and even cash on hand, in case a disaster affects access to key services, and much more.

The **SAES** teams have a long and credible history supporting **Aussies** during national disasters, both with meals and practical support when disasters strike as well as long-term emotional and financial support as communities recover and rebuild.

This has included supporting people during **Cyclone Tracy** over 50 years ago, and more recently the 2019 **Black Summer** bushfires, the 2022 **Queensland** and **New South Wales** floods, and countless others.

Daryl Crowden, Head of The Salvation Army Emergency Services

Pages From The Past



70 Years Ago

From Our Files ● Nov. 1955



● *The Argus*. Sat., Nov. 12, 1955

Rebel takes on Calwell

■ **Mr. J. M. Mullen**, present **Labor** anti-**Communist** M.H.R. for **Gellibrand**, will nominate against **Mr. Calwell**, Federal Opposition deputy leader, at the **Federal election**.

Mr. Mullens said last night that he had decided to oppose **Mr. Calwell**, in the **Melbourne** seat, "in an endeavor to clarify the real issues in the present conflict in the **Labor** movement."

Pullover kills boy

■ A four-year-old boy was hanged by his pullover in **Maidstone** yesterday.

Douglas Wickson, of **Montgomery st., Maidstone,** who was playing at a neighbor's home, climbed a 5ft. paling fence.

He is believed to have fallen off the fence, which hooked his pullover. He was found gasping for breath. He was rushed to **Footscray District Hospital**, but was dead on arrival.

Dishwasher's pay

■ Who wants a job as catering expert for the 1956 **Olympic Games** at dishwasher's wages? The job is there to be snapped up by anyone who wants it, and it çârries the title of "Executive Officer, Catering and Housing, **Olympic Organising Committee**."

I quote from thc classified section of ***The Argus***, calling for applications: "**Olympic Organising Committee, Housing and Catering Department**, requires executive officer for period to December, 1956.

"Must have enthusiasm, initiative and drive. Ability to plan in detail essential."

Postbox on roof

By KEN MOSES

A post box on the summit of **Mt. Kosciusko**, 7308ft. above sea level, will open on December 23 for a two-month trial. The manager of the chalet will clear the box each week. Mail will be post marked: "The summit, **Mt. Kosciusko, New South Wales**, the roof of **Australia**."

Wrong moment

■ Fireman **Charles Wright**, 25, of **Hamilton, N.S.W.**, chose the wrong moment to learn from the footplate of his locomotive near **Maitland** today, to unhook a water bag.

The train rounded a bend and as the space between the locomotive and the tender closed, up, his head and shoulders were pammed until the train completed the turn.

Statewide

GREATER GEELONG

Bollards to stay

Little Malop Street's pedestrian-friendly laneway culture will continue with automated bollards set to stay.

"Safety and opportunity were key to council's decision to make the automated bollards at **Dennys Place** a permanent feature of the vibrant central **Geelong** precinct after they were first installed in 2023," said a **Council** representative.

"This allows for more outdoor dining, pop-up events and economic activity between **Moorabool St** and **Shorts Place**, just as it was used recently by the **Tastes of Winter Festival** and **ROAM**."

WANGARATTA

App-only parking

Wangaratta CBD's app-only parking payment system is set to stay.

"Paid parking is not new to Wangaratta; it has been in place for decades. A user-pays system helps cover some of the costs of providing and maintaining sufficient parking in the CBD," said a **Council** statemdent.

Irene Grant, Mayor, said: "While **CBD**-wide free parking may seem appealing, it's important to consider the broader impact.

"Without this revenue, we'd be forced to consider other options to fill this income gap. Either increase rates, reduce services, or introduce levies across the CBD."

The **Council's** most recent change to paid parking was adopted at the February meeting, with the removal of physical parking meters. As a result, the **EasyPark** app, which has been available since 2019, is now the primary method for paid parking in the **CBD**.

WONTHAGGI

$1m for Post Office

Bass Coast Shire Council has awarded the contract for the refurbishment of **Wonthaggi's** heritage-listed **Old Post Office** to local builder **TS Constructions Pty Ltd**.

The $1.01 million project will restore and preserve one of **Wonthaggi's** most significant heritage landmarks.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST CLAIM UNFOUNDED: SHIRE

Mansfield Council says that a claim there had been a conflict of interest relating to a decision about a local stone extraction business is baseless.

"An unfounded suggestion of conflicts of interest surrounding **Council's** recent decision to approve a local stone extraction operation has been met with extreme disappointment by **Mansfield Shire Council**, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor," said a **Council** statement.

"Operating with integrity is of the utmost importance to **Mansfield Shire Council** as an organisation and the five councillors who make up **Mansfield Shire Council** each possess a genuine personal commitment to serving their community.

"Furthermore, our **Councillor Code of Conduct** is in place to help **Council** achieve the highest standards of governance."

Mansfield Mayor **Cr Steve Rabie** says that he is personally saddened to see an unfounded allegation of conflicts of interest within **Council.**

"Careless and baseless accusations such as these can tarnish otherwise unimpeachable reputations," **Cr Rabie** said.

"I have served **Mansfield Shire Council** with integrity for the last five years, spanning two council terms.

"Serving my community is an honour and a responsibility I do not take lightly."



● Cr Steve Rabie

Mansfield Shire Council Deputy Mayor **James Tehan** was similarly disappointed by what he described as a factless statement.

"The suggestion that I had an undisclosed conflict of interest is an unfounded lie," he said.

"It's very unfortunate when a member of our community decides to play the man rather than the ball when a decision goes against them."

A **Council** statement said: "It can categorically be said that there is no conflict of interest regarding **Council's** decision to issue a planning permit for the stone extraction operation at **422 O'Halloran Road, Bridge Creek**.

"Similarities have been drawn between the approved **Bridge Creek** operation and an operation that **Council** declined to issue a planning permit for at **138 Hearns Road**, with a suggestion that the two cases show a lack of consistency in **Council's** decision-making process.

"While there are similarities, there is also a notable difference. The operation at **138 Hearns Road** would have impacted the **Alpine Approach** ... while the operation at **422 O'Halloran Road** does not."



Across Victoria

POREPUNKAH

Grants welcome

Alpine Shire Council has welcomed the announcement of the **Alpine Shire Business Support Program** from the **State Government** to support businesses in **Porepunkah** and surrounding areas. The **Program** supports eligible businesses to apply for grants of $5000.

BAW BAW

No to batteries

"**Council** and community have united in deep concern over several large-scale solar and battery storage system proposals that threaten high-quality agricultural land across Baw Baw Shire," said a local municipal representative.

"There are two proposals for **Battery Energy Storage System** projects in **Baw Baw Shire** currently being assessed by the **Victorian Government**, one in **Shady Creek** and another at **Yarragon North**. Neither of these locations sit within the **Victorian Government's** proposed **Gippsland Renewable Energy Zone**."

BENALLA

Milestone PR

The **Rural City of Benalla** has distributed a media release celebrating a milestone in the local career of municpal Chief Executive Officer Peter Keane's ... his six-month anniversary in the role.

The **Council** published a 270-word statemnt recognising "a period of strong leadership, strategic progress, and deepened community engagement".

YARRIAMBIACK

Animal limits

The **Warracknabeal**-based **Yarriambiack Council** has set limits to the number of animals that be kept on township properties: two dogs, three cats, 12 hen fowls, nil roosters, 20 pigeons, 20 caged birds, four rodents and rabbits. No horses, donkeys, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs,nakes, bees, other animals and birds are allowed.

Suburban Report

MELBOURNEWIDE

Firearms seized

Detectives from the **Illicit Firearms Squad** have charged a man and seized two handguns, ammunition, and drugs of dependence after warrants were executed as part of an ongoing investigation.

Detectives executed search warrants at properties in **Cranbourne, Thornbury** and **Rowville** and seized a number of items, including:

- two x 3D printed handguns with additional slides and magazines
- firearm parts
- ammunition
- a large quantity of cash
- collection of fraudulent identification documentation
- methylamphetamine and 1,4 butanediol
- a number of electronic devices.

The 39-year-old **Cranbourne** man was charged with possess/dispose of a traffickable quantity of firearms, manufacture firearms, theft of firearms, prohibited person possess firearms, obtain property by deception, handle stolen goods, possess drug of dependence and possess proceeds of crime.

He was remanded to appear at **Dandenong Magistrates' Court**.

The introduction of the **Illicit Firearms Squad** in 2020 and the **VIPER Taskforce** in 2022 has enhanced **Victoria Police's** ability to combat illegal firearms-related offending, particularly concerning serious and organised crime.

Detective Acting Inspector Amanda Cohen, Illicit Firearms Squad, said: "**Victoria Police** remains committed to removing dangerous weapons from the wrong hands.

"Over the past few years, we have continued to see people importing illicit firearms and privately manufacturing firearms. These weapons can be deadly, and they are illegal for a reason.

"We will continue to target those involved in this type of offending and reduce firearm related crime."

Anyone with information about illicit firearms is urged to contact **Crime Stoppers** on 1800 333 000 or make a confidential report at **www.crimestoppersvic.com.au**

OPERATION FURLONG: POLICE GO DISTANCE

More than 6600 offences were detected by **Victoria Police** during **Operation Furlong** over the **Melbourne Cup** long weekend.

The statewide road policing operation saw police targeting high-risk driving behaviour over five days, with a particular focus on speeding and impaired drivers.

One in every 465 drivers who were breath tested were caught over the legal alcohol limit, with 234 drink driving offences detected from 108,910 preliminary breath tests.

A further 135 drug driving offences were detected from 3079 roadside drug tests – a strike rate of one in every 22 drivers testing positive to drugs.

The majority of offences detected were for speeding, with 79 per cent of drivers caught speeding between 10-kmh and 25-kmh over the speed limit.

Police also caught 459 unauthorised drivers, using automatic number plate recognition technology to detect disqualified, suspended and unlicenced drivers illegally using the roads.

The total 6617 offences detected during **Operation Furlong** included:

- 2900 speeding offences
- 594 unregistered vehicles
- 459 disqualified/suspended and unlicenced drivers
- 365 disobey signs/signals
- 238 vehicle impoundments
- 234 drink driving offences from 108,910 preliminary breath tests
- 223 mobile phone offences
- 135 drug driving offences from 3079 roadside drug tests
- 108 seatbelt offences



There were two lives lost on **Victorian** roads over the weekend, including a male on a mobility scooter who was hit by a car in **Malvern East**, and a male motorcyclist who collided with a car in **Roxburgh Park**, both on Sunday, November 2.

November recorded the highest number of lives lost in 2024, with 35 fatalities in 30 days.

Police will continue to conduct local road policing enforcement in high-risk areas, particularly on major roads to regional areas and around holiday hotspots.

There will also be significant roadside alcohol and drug testing blitzes conducted on major freeways in Melbourne leading into December.

Operation Furlong ran from 12.01am on Friday October 31 until 11.59pm on Tuesday, November 4.

Road Policing Assistant Commissioner, Glenn Weir, said: "Time and time again, we continue to detect far too many people disregarding the road rules and taking unnecessary risks on our roads.

"The number of people detected for impaired driving over the last five days is particularly concerning – these are people who have made a choice to drive knowing they have alcohol or drugs in their system.

"Don't try and guess if you're right to drive or under the limit – just don't do it. We need people to separate driving from alcohol and drugs," **Asst Commissioner Weir** said.

Statewide

KANGAROO FLAT

Teen arrested

Bendigo Crime Investigation Unit detectives have arrested a teen after a serious assault in **Bendigo** on Sunday, November 2.

Emergency services were called to reports of a man found injured in a shopping centre car park on **High St** about 6.15pm.

The 44-year-old **Elphinstone** man was taken to hospital with serious injuries.

It is alleged the victim was assaulted by a group of youths before they fled the scene.

A 16-year-old boy was arrested nearby.

He was interviewed by investigators and released pending further investigation.

Detectives are working to determine the identity of the other alleged offenders involved.

The investigation into the circumstances surrounding the incident remains ongoing.

ELPHINSTONE

High range driver

Castlemaine officers detected a high range drink driver in **Elphinstone** on Saturday night, November 1.

Officers received a number of reports of a white ute driving erratically along the **Calder Hwy** around 7pm.

Officers were quickly on the case and intercepted a ute in **Elphinstone** and spoke to the driver, a 37-year-old man from **Sunbury**.

He underwent a preliminary breath test and returned to the station for an evidentiary test where he returned an alleged reading of 0.253.

His licence was immediately suspended and the car impounded for 30 days with $1874 in costs.

He is expected to be charged on summons with drink driving related offences.

EAST MALVERN

Scooter rider dies

Police are investigating the circumstances surrounding a fatal collision which occurred in Malvern East on Sunday afternoon, November 2. Investigators have been told a man on a mobility scooter was crossing **Warrigal Rd** when he was hit by a car.

Local Theatre

Shows

Williamstown Little Theatre: Jeeves and Wooster in 'Perfect Nonsense' (by The Goodale Brothers and PG Wodehouse) Until November 22 at 2-4 Albert St., Williamstown. Director: Keith Hutton. Bookings: wlt.org.au

Beaumaris Theatre: Blackaddder II (Based on the original BBC Television Series created by Richard Curtis, Rowan Atkinson, Ben Elton and John Lloyd and adapted for the stage by Dan Bellis and Harrison Ewart-Dart) Until November 22 at Beaumaris Theatre, 82 Wells Rd., Beaumaris. Directors: Dan Bellis and Harrison Ewart-Dart. Bookings: beaumaristheatre.com.au

Williamstown Musical Theatre Company: Cruel Intentions Until November 22 at Altona City Theatre, 115 Civic Pde., Altona. Director: Stuart Dodge; Musical Director: Jem Sherwill; Choreographer: Gabriele Pagano. Bookings: wmtc.org.au

The Good Life (by Jeremy Sams) Until November 22 at Brighton Theatre, Carpenter St., Brighton. Director: Joanne Gabriel. Bookings: brightontheatrecompany.com.au

Powderkeg Players: November (by David Mamet) Until November 22 at St Albans Senior Citizens Centre, Cnr William and Alfrieda Sts., St Albans. Director: Lee Cook. Bookings: 0407 802 165.

Trek Musicals: A Coo-ee to Marie: Marie Narelle, Australia's Queen of Irish Song (written and directed by Darren Rosenfeld and Michael Try) All performances at 2pm. November 15 at Living Faith, Greensborough; November 22 at Diamond Creek Uniting Church; November 23 at Ormond Uniting Church. Musical Director: Graham Ford. Tickets: Trybooking. $25/$20 or at the door.

Peridot Theatre Company: Talking Heads (by Alan Bennett) November 13 – 23 at the South Oakleigh Bowling Club, 1216 North Rd., Oakleigh South. Directors: Bob Bramble, Steven McPhail, and Eleni Rogers. 1 Playwright, 3 Monologues, 3 Actors, 3 Directors. Bookings: peridot.com.au

Mordialloc Theatre Company: Birthday Candles (by Noah Haidle) November 13 - 22 at the Shirley Burke Theatre, Parkdale. Director: Helen Ellis. Bookings: mordialloctheatre.com.au/ or 9556 4440.

The 1812 Theatre: Rhinestone Rex and Miss Monica, November 13 – December 6 at The 1812 Theatre, 3 Rose St., Upper Ferntree Gully. Director: Chris and Libby Procter. Bookings: 1812theatre.com.au 9758 3964.

Strathmore Theatrical Arts Group (STAG) The Beauty Queen of Leenane (by Martin McDonagh) November 13 – 22 at the Strathmore Community Theatre, Loeman St., Strathmore. Director: Matthew Freeman. Bookings: stagtheatre.org

Heidelberg Theatre Company: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee November 14-29 at 36 Turnham Ave., Rosanna. Director: Tim Scott. Bookings: htc.org.au

Frankston Theatre Group: The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate's Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of 'A Christmas Carol: A Comedy (by David McGillivray and Walter Zerlin) November 14 – 30 at the Mt Eliza Community Hall, 90 – 100 Canadian Bay Rd., Mt Eliza. Director: Robert Lister. Bookings: trybooking.com/events/landing/1374274

Synchronicity Performing Arts: A Sherlock Carol – Premiere Production (by Mark Shanahan) November 20 – 29 at The Engine Room, View St., Bendigo. Bookings: synchronicity.org.au

Lilydale Athenaeum Theatre Company: Sister Amnesia's Country Western Nunsense Jamboree (book, lyrics and music by Dan Goggin) November 20 – December 6 at the Lilydale Mechanics' Institute, Castella St., Lilydale. Director: Alan Burrows. Bookings: lilydaleatc.com

Warrandyte Theatre Company: The Famous Warrandyte Follies November 21 – December 6 at the Warrandyte Mechanics' Institute, 180 Yarra St., Warrandyte. Director: Adrian R,ice. Bookings: tba

Eltham Little Theatre: Whodunnit (by Anthony Shaffer) November 21 – December 6 at the Eltham Performing Arts Centre, 1603 Main Rd., Research. Director: Peter T Nathan. Bookings: elthamlittletheatre.org.au/

Essendon Theatre Company: Significant Other (by Joshua Harmon) November 27 – December 6 at the Bradshaw Street Community Hall, Bradshaw Street, Essendon. Director: George Benca. Bookings: essendontheatrecompany.com.au

The Basin Theatre Group: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (by CS Lewis, adapted by Glen Robbins) November 27 – December 7 at The Basin Theatre, Doongalla Rd., The Basin. Director: Jason Triggs. Bookings: 0494 065 006.

Cheryl Threadgold

Entertainment

Hair, love-rock musical

Opening with the iconic ***Aquarius, Hair***, the "tribal love-rock musical," encourages its audience to turn on, tune in, and drop out alongside its hippies as they fight the system.

The 1960s counterculture aimed to create a new society, and ***Hair's*** loose plot and over 30 songs reflect issues like sexual identity, racism, drug taking and the **Vietnam War**.

Act One introduces various characters through short vignettes interwoven with songs and comedy.

Energetic and enthusiastic, the ensemble cast remains onstage for most of the show.

Maxwell Simon, as the free-spirited **Berger,** sets the flower-power tone with **Donna** followed by **Hashish.**

Standouts include **Clay Darius** as **Hud** confronting civil rights in ***Aint Got No***. **Giorgia Kennedy's 'Frank Mills'** is also a highlight.

Other notable performers are **Rosie Meader's Jeanie, Zahrah Andrews' Dionne, Larissa Teale's Angela,** and **Linden Trescott's** backflip.

Act Two unmasks the darker side of the 1960s. **As Claude, Alex Cooper's** heartfelt ***Where Do I Go?*** reflects his existential crisis, torn between burning his draft card and fighting.

Kaspa's weird and wonderful, slo-mo, psychedelic acid-trip projections, along with **Harrison Cope's** wild lighting effects, mirror **Claude's** anxiety about being drafted to fight in **Vietnam**.



● **Australian cast of *Hair*. Photo: Ben Fon**

A scene where a giant stars-and-stripes flag spreads across the stage as backdrop to the war with projected scenes of fighting echoes the recent speech by **American** 'Secretary of War' **Pete Hegseth** to military leaders.

This juxtaposition adds a poignancy to the numbers ***What a Piece of Work is Man*** and ***Good Morning Starshine***.

The original production of ***Hair*** shocked audiences, not just with its nude scene but also with its anti-war message.

It feels like a fitting revival in 2025 when the world is still grappling with war and its consequences.

Performance Season: Until November 30

Venue: Athenaeum Theatre, Collins St., Melbourne

Bookings: ticketmaster.com.au

Review by Kathryn Keeble

More Shows

OSMaD: Come From Away. December 4 – 13 at the Geoffrey McComas Theatre, Scotch College Campus, 1 Morrison St., Hawthorn. Director: Daragh Wills; Music Director: David Barr. Bookings: osmad.com.au

Heidelberg Theatre Company Youth: The Tale of Pinocchio (by Ryan Purdey, Erich Fordham) December 5 – 13 at 36 Turnham Ave., Rosanna. Directed by Ryan Purdey and Sean Tessari. Bookings: htc.org.au

Auditions

Beaumaris Theatre: Chalkface (by Ange Betzein) Tuesday, November 11, 7.30pm-9.30pm at Beaumaris Theatre, 82 Wells Rd., Beaumaris. Director: Samantha Stone. Audition bookings: beaumaristheatre.com.au

The Mount Players: The Cemetery Club (by Ivan Menchall) November 12 7pm-9.30pm at the Mountview Theatre, 56 Smith St., Mt Macedon. Director: George Benca. Audition bookings: themountplayers.com or 0419 329052.

Heidelberg Theatre Company: Love, Loss and What I Wore (by Nora Ephron and Delia Ephron based on the book by Ilene Beckerman) November 16, 17 at 7pm at 36 Turnham Ave., Rosanna. Director: Catherine Christensen. Audition bookings: hi.cathy@optusnet.com.au

Brighton Theatre Company: Baby. Audition dates November 16, 17 at 7.30pm; Callbacks (if required) November 23 at 7.30pm at Brighton Theatre, Carpenter St., Brighton. Director: Alan Burrows. By appointment only. Email aburrow1@bigpond.net.au Show information: brightontheatre.com.au

Phoenix Theatre Company: Once Upon a One More Time November 14 – 16 at 105 Leeds St., East Doncaster. Director/choreographer: Renee Maloney; Musical Director: Amy Cuming. Audition bookings: trybooking.com/events/landing/1492184

Peridot Theatre Company: A Night on the Tiles (by Suzanne Hoswley) November 24 and 26 at 7pm at Fleigner Hall, Cnr Highland and Turnbull Avenues, Oakleigh East. Director: Samsara Dunstan. Audition bookings/enquiries; samsaradunston@gmail.com, or 0412 415 159.

Malvern Theatre Company: The Visit (by Friedrich Dürrenmatt) November 23 and 24 at 6.30om at 29 Burke Rd., Malvern East. Director: Andrew Ferguson. Audition bookings: Andrew Ferguson apferguson@bigpond.com

Torquay Theatre Troupe: The Gift (by Joanna Murray Smith) November 29 at 11am; November 30 at 2pm at the Shoestring Playhouse at The MAC, 77 Beach Rd., Torquay. Director: Natasha Boyd. Audition bookings (by appointment only): ttt.org.au/auditions

Cheryl Threadgold

Christmas Carol

The **Marriner Group** presents the return of Charles Dickens' ***A Christmas Carol*** to **Melbourne's Comedy Theatre** from November 27 for a five-week season.

On a winter **Christmas Eve**, the cold-hearted miser, **Ebenezer Scrooge is** visited by four ghosts.

Transported to worlds past, present and future, he witnesses what a lifetime of greed and fear could lead to and sees with fresh eyes the possibility of joy and kindness.

Can **Ebenezer** be saved before it's too late? The iconic role of **Ebenezer Scrooge** will be played by award-winning **Australian** stage and screen actor **Lachy Hulme**.

Theatregoers of all ages are welcome to attend and enjoy this moving story, and carols including ***Joy to the World, Silent Night*** and ***It Came Upon the Midnight Clear.***

Celebrated by audiences around the world, **The Old Vic's** production of ***A Christmas Carol*** is conceived and directed by **Matthew Warchus** (***Groundhog Day, Matilda the Musical***) and adapted for the stage by playwright **Jack Thorne** (***Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, Enola Holmes***).

Performance Season: From November 27 (5 weeks)

Venue: Comedy Theatre, Melbourne

Bookings: Ticketek

Cheryl Threadgold

At Opera House

Eddie Izzard brings her acclaimed one-person performance of ***The Tragedy of Hamlet*** to the Sydney Opera House **in June 2026, following** sold-out seasons in the **US** and **UK**.

Observations

Carmen



● **Danielle de Niese**

Fancy a show that oozes with passion, romance and danger?

Then **Opera Australia's** upcoming production of **Bizet's** classic ***Carmen*** is for you.

Starring **Australian** soprano **Danielle de Niese** in a triumphant return to her home city from her usual performance venues which include the famous **Met** in **New York**.

De Niese will be playing the feisty title role in a new production of ***Carmen*** at the **Regent Theatre**.

Carmen is a passionate and tragic opera, and this new production raises thought-provoking questions about power, gender, violence and class.

The role of **Carmen** herself is regarded as one of opera's most demanding roles, and **de Niese's** talents are given full rein in her portrayal of this doomed femme fatale.

Born to **Sri Lankan** parents in **Melbourne, de Niese** began performing at the age of nine when she became the youngest contestant ever to win **Young Talent Time**.

At 16 she won an **Emmy** for presenting on TV program ***L.A. Kids*** and debuted at the **Metropolitan Opera** aged 19. She has since made her mark with innumerable internationally acclaimed performances across the world.

The cast of ***Carmen*** includes **Mexican Spanish** tenor **Abraham Bretón** in his **Melbourne** debut as **Don José**, sharing the role with **Diego Torre.**

Opera Australia principal mezzo **Sian Sharp** shares the role of **Carmen** with **de Niese**, both singers showcasing **Carmen's** flirtation with rebellion and danger.

The ensemble cast includes **Luke Gabbedy, Jennifer Black, Jane Ede, Angela Hogan, Richard Anderson, Phillip Rhodes, Alexander Hargreaves, Nathan Lay, Ruth Strutt** and **Virgilio Marino**.

The production is a first for **Melbourne Theatre Company** artistic director **Anne-Louise Sarks**, who has created a contemporary, visually interesting director to ***Carmen.***

See ***Carmen*** at the **Regent Theatre** from November 15 to 25, and bookings are through opera.org.au

Julie Houghton

The Choral

The opening selection of this year's **British Film Festival** is ***The Choral*** written by **Alan Bennett** and directed by **Nicholas Hytner**. Set in 1916 as the impact of **World War I** starts to erode **English** communities, a local **Yorkshire** choral society appoints maestro **Dr Guthrie (Ralph Fiennes)**, who has reluctantly returned from **Germany**, to conduct their upcoming concert. **Elgar's** oratorio, ***The Dream of Gerontius*** is the default work given **German** composers are now taboo.

Bennett has accentuated the comic in this work with reference to the naivety of the time; the rising influence of the **Salvation Army**, the hidden world of homosexuality, the rivalry between the **Church of England** and the **Catholics**, and the need to continue traditions like the choral society despite foreign works now being suspect.

What is missing is the central dramatic core around which all this would revolve. It's almost as if we have a glimpse of the social landscape of the day without settling on any one person's dramatic transformation. The oratorio in question is also not widely known, providing limited emotional atmosphere as one might expect from a soundtrack given it only features toward the end of the film.

The importance of the evening, however, cannot be ignored. ***The Choral*** is but one of the many feature works representative of the **British** oeuvre. Other titles highlight the depth and breadth of what the **UK** has to offer; **Hamnet** looks into **Shakespeare's** domestic life. ***Borrowed Time*** touches on **Lennon's** last 10 years. **Emma Thompson** features in ***Dead of Winter***. We even glimpse at the life of **John Cleese** in a documentary of his latest performance tour. There are retrospectives of great films of the past and a look at **Hitchcock's** legacy. The **British** film industry is vital and engaging and the festival has something for everyone. You have until December 7 to avail yourself of all that is on offer.

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Reviewed by David McLean

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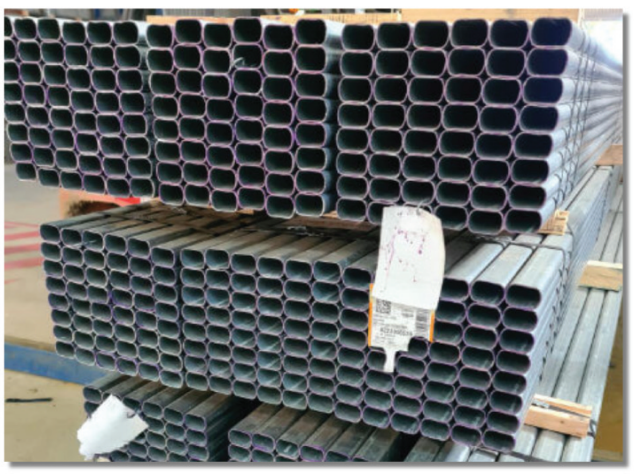
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Melbourne Observer

Entertainment

AS YOU LIKE IT

Following the sold-out success of ***Othello*** at **fortyfivedownstairs**, **Melbourne Shakespeare Company** presents a reimagining of **Shakespeare's** comedy, ***As You Like It***.

This will be a new musical adaptation with pop hits, slapstick shenanigans and 'more decadence than a **Versailles** tea party.

When **Rosalind** gets kicked out of her uncle's court, she escapes to the **Forest of Arden** with her cousin **Ceila** and discovers a world where love, laughter and liberation run wild. Cue mistaken identities, swooning lovers and a forest full of fools.

Annabelle Tudor returns to **Melbourne Shakespeare Company** to direct ***As You Like It***, bringing with her a rich background that spans the **Melbourne** and **Australian Shakespeare** companies and the original **Australian** cast of ***Puffs***.

Having played **Rosalind** in **Melbourne Shakespeare Company's** original 2020 production, **Annabelle** now steps behind the scenes to reimagine the play as a pastel fever dream inspired by **Sofia Coppola's Marie Antoinette** - "a world where freedom meets restraint, and glitter meets grass stains".

"This enduring story celebrates so many elements of what it means to be human - women's friendship, exploration of identity, philosophy and the transformative power of love," says **Annabelle Tudor.**

"We explore these themes against the backdrop of a playful, high-camp world where freedom reigns, and so does Madonna,"

A queer celebration of individuality, identity and the joy of letting yourself run a little wild.

With musical direction by **Tim Bland**, the production is described as suitable for **Shakespeare** lovers and first-timers alike, a summer spectacle that invites audiences to pack a picnic, bring their people and revel in a night of romance, revelry and ridiculousness.'

Season Dates: December 5-21 at 7pm (Wed. - Sun.), 3pm (Sat.-Sun.)

Duration: 90 minutes, no interval

Opening Night: Friday December 5 at 7pm

Venue: St Kilda Botanical Gardens

Tickets: melbourneshakespeare.com.au

Cheryl Threadgold



● *As You Like It* cast. Photo: Nick Robertson

MPAC 2026

Monash University Performing Arts Centres has unveiled its 2026 program delivering performing arts experiences across music, dance, and cultural programming.

The diverse season features contemporary and classical performances, iconic tributes, immersive festivals, and community-focused events.

Audiences can look forward to fresh versions of **MPAC** favourites including **Family Fiesta, Big Jazz Day Out**, and **Live at the Counts**, alongside new works.

"I'm very excited about what's ahead - 2026 is going to be a huge year for us," says **Paul Grabowsky**, Executive Director, **MPAC**.

"We'll be presenting three festival events: **Big Jazz Day Out**, the return of our much-loved **Family Fiesta**, and a new **First Nations** festival called ***Kindred People***, an important addition that reflects our ongoing commitment to putting **First Nations** first in our performing arts agenda - all this and much much more to experience at **MPAC**."

Monash University Performing Arts Centres is the public performing arts and cultural arm of **Monash University. MPAC** venues are vital to the cultural life of the University, and act as a window to **Melbourne's** south east community, welcoming hundreds of thousands of visitors to the university each year.

MPAC seeks to connect, challenge and excite its audiences through the commissioning of unique works, along with curating a program that brings the best of local, national and international performing artists to its stages.

MPAC is home to five venues, located at the **Monash University Clayton** and **Peninsula** campuses; the 561-seat **Alexander Theatre**, 130-seat **David Li Sound Gallery**, 150-seat jazz club **The Count's**; with weekly gigs and restaurant and bar, plus the 1598-seat **Robert Blackwood Hall** and 426-seat **George Jenkins Theatre**.

For the full 2026 **MPAC** program and highlights, visit **monash.edu/mpac**

Cheryl Threadgold

Opera Up Late

Opera, often seen as a conservative elitist art form, was given a hilarious bawdy extreme makeover when **Opera Australia's** show ***Opera Up Late*** had its **Melbourne** debut at the **Regent Theatre**.

Originally created for the **World Pride** event held in **Sydney** in 2023, the show was a cabaret-style evening of songs and entertainment made up of several re-imagined arias from classical opera along with musical theatre pieces and pop songs, all spun from a queer viewpoint.

Master of ceremonies for the night was the wonderful comedian and cabaret artist **Reuben Kaye**.

Kaye was masterly in overseeing proceedings, ever ready with a bit ing quip or double entendre or two.

Joining him from **Opera Australia** were the talented trio of soprano **Emma Matthews**, mezzo soprano **Angela Hogan** and tenor **Tomas Dalton**.

Musical accompaniment was provided by **Simon Bruckard** on piano, with **Shanon D Whitlock** playing piano when **Kaye** sang. For several numbers they were joined by two dancers, **Clayton Church** and **Nicholas Jachno**.

The highly entertaining program involved humorous skits taking the mickey out of opera interspersed with superb singing. In an all-too-brief evening there were several highlights.

There was a running joke throughout the show of **Matthews**, tongue tucked firmly into her cheek, being something of a diva too big for her britches.

Hogan did a moving sorrowful rendition of ***I'm Kissing You*** from ***Romeo + Juliet***, sung to an ardent sinuous dance piece choreographed and performed by **Church** and **Jachno**.

Then as a finale, **Kaye, Matthews, Hogan** and **Dalton** sang a rousing passionate version of the gay anthem ***Over The Rainbow*** from ***The Wizard of Oz***.

Artfully shaping the evening were director **Shaun Rennie** and musical director **Simon Bruckard**.

While always having an eye on the entertainment factor, the two wisely struck a satisfying balance between outrageously risqué camp humour and more genteel moments which gave pause for reflection and allowed performers and songs alike to shine.

A night to remember.

Venue: Regent Theatre, 191 Collins St, Melbourne

Review by Peter Murphy



● Emma Matthews in *Opera Up Late*. Photo: Cameron Grant

Rourke's Reviews

If I Had Legs I'd Kick You

(MA). 113 minutes. Opens in selected cinemas November 13.

Rose Byrne gives a career best performance in this intense, searing and growingly overwhelming drama that sees a mother suffering a major mental breakdown.

Byrne plays **Linda**, a working mother who is dealing with the mysterious, eating disorder-based illness of her young daughter, who needs a machine and tube to eat.

Her husband is away for an extended period on business, which isn't a help when their bedroom ceiling partially collapses, revealing a rather unsettling looking hole.

Needing to stay in a seedy hotel, **Linda** feels like she is sinking into darkness, with seemingly no-one to help her, no matter how much she screams for it.

This includes her psychiatrist colleague (a fascinatingly cast **Conan O'Brien**).

As things get worse, Linda feels she is going to fall into the psychological abyss, where people don't understand the strain and stress that is consuming her.

It is hard to believe this is the directorial debut of **Mary Bronstein**.

Also scripting, there is consumate, provocative confidence on display here, with Bronstein prepared to go to the places required to deliver her message, making a decided point that this is not an isolated issue when it comes to mothers who are constantly under extreme pressure.

She also brilliantly frames **Linda's** interaction with her child, who is partially or completely kept offscreen (it is an approach that reminded me of **Fernando Meirelles's** work in the criminally under-appreciated 2008 film, ***Blindness***).

Byrne is absolutely astonishing, and should receive attention at next year's Oscars. If I Had Legs I'd Kick You is extraordinary viewing, one that will keep audiences uncomfortable throughout, and is brave film-making at its best.

RATING - ****½

Relay

(M). 112 minutes. Now available to rent or buy on selected digital platforms.

Relay is a bizarre viewing experience. Most viewers should be suitably engrossed for quite a while, before it stumbles in ways that are both frustrating and baffling.

Riz Ahmed stars as **Ash**, a secretive, introverted **New Yorker** who specialises in brokering deals between frightened employees and ruthless companies.

Using the ***Relay*** phone service, where an operator will read out conversations being typed by the caller, **Ash** is able to provide reliable assistance and protection at a substantial cost to both sides.

His latest client is **Sarah (Lily James)**, who has been unfairly dismissed for bringing worrying results to her employer regarding a genetically modified grain that is insect-repellent.

The grain has horrific side effects, so **Sarah** has taken those results to hand over to authorities.

But after multiple corporate threats, **Sarah** wants to hand the report back, and is eventually put in contact with **Ash**, who will help her like he has with previous potential whistleblowers.

As **Ash** begins to plan out this latest negotiation, things don't go to plan. ***Relay*** begins very well.

Ash's insular life is nicely established (the character's lack of dialogue is similar to the one played by **Charles Bronson** in ***The Mechanic***), and the conspiracy plot is tightly constructed, using its particular connective device to intriguing effect (though one starts to wonder at what point do the operators think a crime is possibly being committed, and the opening sequence is certainly influenced by **Mr. Robot**).

The distanced relationship between **Ash** and **Sarah** is also effectively executed. Unfortunately, about an hour in, tropes, cliches and contrivances suddenly flood Justin **Piasecki's** debut feature film screenplay, like a damn bursting.

The growing attraction between **Ash** and **Sarah**, people **Ash** happens to know, and a change to make things more visceral, sees ***Relay*** go off the rails startlingly quick.

A concert sequence sees the film attempt to go into Hitchcock territory, followed by a car chase/fight sequence that is reminiscent of a B grade **Jason Statham** action flick.

And this is before we get to the twist, which makes no sense whatsoever. It feels like a twist for the sake of having one, and undercuts the intelligent build up that has come before.

This then allows for its biggest contrivance. Despite the growingly substandard script, performances remain pretty good.

Ahmed is quietly convincing, while **James** is credibly vulnerable. A big surprise is a strong turn from **Aussie** actor **Sam Worthington**, who is having a good time playing the main heavy.

David Mackenzie, who helmed the excellent ***Young Adam*** (2003) and ***Hell Or High Water*** (2016), as well as the underrated ***Perfect Sense*** (2011), presents everything in a measured, stylish fashion, responding fully to the smart writing during the first half.

Even **Mackenzie's** skill as a filmmaker can't hide the script's subsequent failings and flaws. Technically, the film is very slick indeed. ***Relay*** is watchable, and worth a look, but the viewer has to be prepared for the cliff it suddenly falls off, spoiling what was looking to be a strong tribute to 70's thrillers.

RATING - **½

Aaron Rourke

● **MUMA (Monash University Museum of Art) is celebrating its 50-year anniversary. It was established in 1975 as the Exhibition Gallery at the University's Clayton campus.**

● **Award-winning Australian writer, filmmaker and explorer Damien Lay has released his long-awaited book *Of Air and Men* (Busy Bird Publishing) about the life of famed aviator Charles Kingsford Smith, the first person to circumnavigate the globe and one of the greatest long-distance flyers in history.**

● **Helen Garner is the 2025 winner of the Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction for *How to End a Story: Collected Diaries*.**





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Local History

Moves for rail to Toolangi, Glenburn

Proposals for a railway to **Toolangi** and **Glenburn,** witha branch line to **Kinglake**, were canvassed in the late 1800s.

The Age, in December 1898, reported: "A deputation representing the **Yea** and **Eltham shires**, introduced by **Mr. E. H. Cameron, M.L.A.**, waited upon the **Minister of Railways** on Wednesday, and mooted an extension of railway between **Yarra Glen** and **Toolangi**, a distance of a littleover 11 miles,

"**Mr. Balfour, M.L.C.**, and **Mr. Mc'Kenzie, M.L.A.**, accompanied the deputation, and supported the request that an officer should he sent to inspect the country with the view of reporting to the **Railway Standing Committee**.

"The construction of the line was advocated on the grounds ttht a very extensive forest of the finest hardwood timber would be tapped; that the districts of **Kinglake** and **Glenburn** would be served, and many thousands of acres of good agricultural land opened up; and that a narrow gauge line, which could be built for less than £2,000 a mile, would be a reimunerative undertaking.

"**Messrs J. Quinlan** (president of **Yea shire**), **P. de Castella, H. Rintel**, and **G. Knott** spoke on behalf of the deputation.

"The Minister, in reply, said he had visited the district, and had been very favourably impressed with its timber resources. Ths land also was well adapted for agriculture, but from what he could ascertain at the time of his visit, the population was by no means such as was likely to make the proposed railway remunerative.

"He could promise, however, that during the **Parliamentary** recess he would send up an officer, and if his report was of an encouraging nature he (the Minister) would have much pleasure in sending it on to the **Railways Standing Connmittee** for consideration.

"The matter of gradients might be a difficulty, the rise in some parts being very steep, and if a line were eventually constructed, it would almost certainly have to be on the narrow gauge system."

The Healesville Guardian and Yarra Glen Guardian, on September 29, 1899, reported: "An estimate for the construction of the railway from **Yarra Glen** to **Toolangi** has at last been prepared by the **Department**, but as the **Minister** considers it too high, the matter has been referred back to the officers for a reduced estimate, on the completion of which the line will be introduced to the **House**.

"No doubt the **Kinglake** residents will now bestir themselves in the right direction, as their only chance of obtaining railway communication is via **Toolangi**.

"A deputation of interested sawmillers will shortly wait on the **Minister** to further urge the speedy construction of the line."

A month later, on October 20, the **Guardian** reported: "A meeting of the **Yea River Railway League** took place .at **Toolangi House** last Saturday, and in spite of the bad weather prevailing was well attended.

"A long discussion. on the want of funds necessary for future agitation took place, and it was decided to make a levy of 10s. per member.

"The prospect of a branch line to **Kinglake** was also discussed, and



● A narrow gauge railway, similar to Puffing Billy, was proposed to run to Toolangi. Photo: Aussie Destination Tours

an unanimous decision was arrived at on the subject. Other routine business was transacted, and the meeting closed."

The November 14 **Guardian** said: "A meeting of the **Yea River Railway League** was held' here on Saturday last, at which there was a large attendance, and **Mr. D. Underwood** occupied the chair.

"After a long discussion, in which many took part, the threatened rupture was healed and peace once more reigned in all its glory.

"The treasurer having tendered his resignation, **Mr. A. Rose** was elected to the vacancy, and it was decided to make a call of 10s. per member.

"Assistance from **Kinglake** is shortly expected, as their only hope of obtaining railway communication is via **Toolangi**.

"Up to the present they have indeed been harking up the wrong tree, but now that they have had their eyes opened I suppose they will acknowledge their mistake of long ago.

"A large amount of correspondence was read, and a vote of thanks te rminated the meeting."

One year later, in the Spring of 1900, the **Guardian** was publishing a similar report:

"Railway matters is about the only subject spoken of now, and since the prospect of this line being constructed has somewhat brightened, even the croakers are beginning to admit that there is a chance of railway communication soon being established between this place and an existing line.

"For where the starting point shall be is the question that the **Minister** will ask the **House** to refer to the **Standing Committee**, and I have no doubt but what that will be a vexed question to settle.

"Were the **Healesville** people to interest themselves (if they are capable of such an effort), I believe they. could make their township the starting point, for it is said that a good gradient can be got all the way, and the department would back them up.

"But apart from the claims of this line, a great effort will be made to bring it from the other side so as to serve **Kinglake**, where an agitation has been going on for some time; and as many here are indifferent as to where it comes from,

"I would advise your people to bestir themselves if they think the terminus is worth having.

"A meeting of the **railway league** Saturday afternoon next, when some important business is to be discussed."

On May 4, 1900, the **Guardian** noted:"A meeting of the **Yea River Railway League** was held here on Saturday last, a fair num ber of members being present.

"It was decided to invite the **Ministers of Railways** and **Lands**, with certain nembers of **Parliament**, to pay a visit to the forest, the date for which to be left in the hands of **Mr. McKenzie, M.L.A.**

"The subject of the starting point for the proposed line was discussed, but no thing definite was done, it being the general feeling that nothing should yet be decided on in the matter.

"Several accounts were passed for payment, and after other business of a routine character had been put through, a vote of thanks to the chairman, **Mr. J. Downie,** closed the meeting."

On October 2, the **Guardian** said: "At a meeting of the **Yea River Railway League**, held here on Saturday last, it was decided to ask the **Minister**, through **Mr. McKenzie, M.P.**, to include **Healesville** in the places to be suggested to the **Standing Committee** front which this line should commence.

"With that place to start from it is considered that the department would strongly support the construction of a broad gauge line."

In the same week, the **Guardian** wrote: "A question that should 'engage the attention of the public men of **Healesville** and district is the one of railway communication to the **Toolangi** district.

"The people in that locality have for a number of years past been agitating for. railway commnunication. with, existing lines.

"Some time since we advocated the line starting from **Healesville** but the local business people would not move in the matter in fact those agitating for the line were against **Healesville** beiig the starting point, and the matter was allowed to drop out of sight for a while.

"Now, however, the **Yea River Railway League** (which has been working hard to secure the line) has decided. to ask the **Minister,** though their representa tive, **Mr. Mc Kenzie, M.L.A.**, to include **Healesville** in the places to be suggested to the **Railway Standing Committee** from which this line should start.

"It is considered that a good gradient can be got for the line from **Healesville**, and that the **Minister** would favor it.

"Now that the **railway league** have thought it advisable to have **Healesville** included in the probable places from which the line should start, our public men should wake themselves up to the necessities of the occasion, and assist the **league** in question, in placing before the **Minister** the advantages to be gained by taking the line from this town.

"Amongst the expenditure scheduled for railways we notice. that. £2000 is set down for station improvements. at **Healesville**.

"This looks as if the, new station building will be constructed in the near future."

The December 14, 1900 issue of **The Guardian** reported:

"A deputation from the **Yea River Railway League** will wait on the (Minster) for the purpose of urging upon him the advisability of construct ing a line of railway to **Toolangi** from some existing line.

"The **league** in question have been working indefatigably for some years to secure rail way communication to the district named, but have not met with the success their labours deserve.

"In view of the approaching deputation to the **Minister**, delegates from the **league** propose visiting **Healesville**, on a date yet to be fixed, for the purpose of putting. the claims of this line before t he residents, with the object of eliciting support in favor of its construction.

"It is proposed to make an attempt to have the line constructed from **Healesville**, if a suitable grade can be procured, which has been stated is probable, and the residents of this town should do all in their power to help the settlers in the **Toolangi** district to secure the much-needed boon of railway communicatidn.

"It has been stated that the construction of the line from **Healesville** would take a lot of tourists and others that now take a sojourn.here up the new line to **Toolangi**, and thus result in a loss to **Healesville**.

"We think not, but on the other hand consider the line would be a great benefit to our township, as by the opening up of that country it would be the means of adding to the business of. **Healesville**, which at the present has only a very limited amount of trade.

"The **Toolangi** trade, very little of which at present finds its way to **Healesville**, would all be brought here by the construction of the line, and would more than ,compenate for any loss that may be sustained by visitors going up the new line who, would otherwise take, their holiday in **Healesville**.

"We. hope that when the delegates visit **Healesville** they will meet with the success they so earnestly desire."

On January 2, 1901, the **Guardian** newspaper recorded:

"A large deputation form the **Yea River Railway League**, accompanied by **Mr. Knox M.L.C.**, and **Messrs. McKenzie, Maloney, Prendergast and Findley, Ms.L.A.**, waited on the **Minister of Railways** on Thursday last to bring the matter of the projected line to **Toolangi** under his notice.

"**Mr. McKenzie** introduced the deputation, in his usual able manner and was folowed by **Mr. Rintel**, the secretary of the **league**, who gave the **Minister** a large amount of information on the subject and reminded him of the promises made by the two former Ministers of Railways. **Messrs. Rowe, Underwood** and others. followed, and then **Messrs. Maloney and Findley** informed the **Minister** of what they had seen in the district,. and announced; their intention of strongly supporting the line

"When before the **House**, the **Minister**, in reply, thanked the deputation for the information given to him, and, while not giving any definite promise, assured those prebent that were the facts as stated correct he would certainly bring the matter. before the **House** at its next session. and ask that body to refer the line to the **Standing Committee,** and in the meantime he would pay a visit to the district and make himself acquainted with all the facts.

"Thanks were accorded to the **Minister** and the deputation withdrew."

Little was then heard of the **Toolangi** railway.

In 1903, there was a railway strike, and the **Guardian** told of alternative arrangements being made, particularly in regard to mail deliveries:

"A three days a week coach has been arranged for the **Healesville** district, coaches to run on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from the **G.P.O.** at 6 a.m., serving the following places: **Blackburn, Tarrawarra, Warburton,Tunstall,Healesville, Matlock, Mitcham,Marysville, Launching Place, Ringwood, Narbethong, Beenak, Croydon. Alexandra, Seville, Mooroolbark, Jamieson, Woori Yallock, Lillydale, Mansfield, Wandin South, Coldstream, Gaffney's Ck, Yarra Junction, Yering, Kevington, Taggerty, Yarra Glen, Ten Mile, Acheron, Kinglake, Brixton, Fern Tree Gully, Steel's Ck, Wood's Point.**

"The return journeys to **Melbourne** will be made on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

"When the first coach from **Marysville** arrived in **Bourke Street** with a load of passengers and mails it was received with loud cheers by a crowd of spectators."

On May 14, 1908, an advertisement appeared in **The Yea Chronicle** inviting the original members of the **Yea River Railway League** to meet at the **Yea Shire Hall** with the purpose of amalgamating the **Yea** and **Toolangi Leagues.**

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SCAN ME

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Enrolment applications are now open for Grade 4 and 5 students.

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Marian College Sunshine West

MarianCollegesw

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Places To Go

12-PAGE LIFTOUT

What's On

Sweet!

Sweetness has become the signature flavor of **Jiashi County, China**. A travel campaign is promoting the region's plum and melon sectors in the rich area of the **Kashgar Prefecture**.

Wildlife

Samara Karoo Reserve is one of Africa's most compelling examples of ecological restoration. Tucked away in the vast, sun-soaked heart of **South Africa's Great Karoo** lies a reserve where wildlife is not only protected — it is being brought back to life. **Samara's** impact stretches far beyond its 27,000 hectares. **Aussie** travellers can contact **Where Wild Things Roam**.

Access

Dubai Airports has enlisted **Paralympian Jessica Smith**, alongside Emirati disability rights expert **Fatma Al Jassim**, and Team **AngelWolf** as advisors to help make **Dubai International** the world's most accessible aairport.

82 FLOORS ABOVE DUBAI

Ciel Dubai Marina, Vignette Collection by **IHG** will this week transcend new heights as the world's tallest hotel with the highest infinity pool.

Spanning 82 floors and soaring to a height of 377 metres, **Ciel Dubai Marina**, is described as an architectural masterpiece.

Openining on Saturday (Nov. 15), publicists say it offers a new luxury hospitality experience defined by award-winning design, high-end guest experiences, exceptional facilities and stunning views.

Ciel Dubai Marina has been designed by award-winning architect **Norr**, featuring an elegant "eye of the needle" shape.

The hotel will comprise 1004 luxuriously designed rooms and suites, all with floor-to-ceiling glass windows showcasing panoramic views of **Palm Jumeirah**, the **Arabian Gulf**, and **Dubai's** skyline.

The hotel offers direct access to **Dubai Marina's** world-class dining, shopping and attractions.



● **Ciel Dubai Marina soars above the heart of Dubai Marina.**



What's On

$9.99 bus

FlixBus s introducing its first **Australian** routes, connecting **Melbourne, Canberra** and **Sydney** from November 20. To mark the launch, fares will start at just **$9.99** until the end of November.

For women

Vibrant Women Homestay is a newly launched platform which connects female travellers with vetted female hosts who offer spare rooms within their own homes. The platform says it the rising demand for safe, affordable travel for women and the growing strain of the housing crisis

Meatstock

Meatstock, Australia's one-of-a-kind music and barbecue festival, is coming to the rolling hills of **Lardner Park, Warragul (Vic.)**, in 2026. The u weekend of "BBQ, Bands, and Bedlam" will take place on Friday-Saturday, , April 17-18. There will be on-site camping available.





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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2025

Jess Webb joins Rural Aid board

Rural Aid has announced the appointment of **Jess Webb** to its Board of Directors.

Ms Webb brings extensive experience in agribusiness, governance, and rural community development, further strengthening **Rural Aid's** commitment to supporting **Australian** farming communities.

Ms Webb has served on several for-purpose and non-profit boards, including **Beef Australia**, where she is Vice-Chair, and **The Armidale School Foundation**, where she contributes to fundraising and strategic growth initiatives.

With a background in communications and strategy in agribusiness, and hands-on experience operating an **Angus** beef cattle enterprise in the **New England** region, **Ms Webb** has a deep understanding of the issues facing rural and regional **Australia**.



New Rural Aid Director Jess Webb, with husband, Hamish, and children Angus, Willa and Walter

Bush Telegraph

Preventing Bird flu

Victoria is ramping up its biosecurity defences against H5N1 bird flu, with new federal support to boost emergency preparedness and rapid response capabilities.

As part of a $100 million national biosecurity package, the **Federal Government** is investing $1.7 million in equipping **Victoria** with testing technology and specialised field response tools.

Land unlocked

The **State Government** is unlocking industrial land across **Victoria**. Planning is underway to unlock key sites in **Merrifield North, Derrimut Fields, Altona North** and **Hastings**, along with regional employment precincts in **Ballarat, Bendigo, Parwan** and **Avalon**.

Access 'coercion'

Farmers in the path of the controversial **VNI West Transmission Project** are set to be steamrolled following the issuing of Section 93 notices to landholders along the proposed **VNI West** transmission project route, effectively granting compulsory access to private land, says the **Victorian Farmers Federation.**

VFF President **Brett Hosking** said the timing and manner of this move is deplorable and demonstrates a complete lack of respect for farmers' rights and businesses.

"Forcing access to farms at one of the busiest times of year, at the height of harvest, a time when biosecurity and protection of the crop is paramount shows just how out of touch this process has become."

Whiparound

Touring grants

Colin Brooks, Minister for Creative Industries, has announced the opening of applications for the **Touring Victoria** grant program which provides between $10,000 and $150,000 for **Victorian** artists and creative organisations to take their events to regional and outer-metropolitan **Victoria**, reaching new audiences and building professional networks.

Aircraft deployed

Victoria has strengthened its bushfire preparedness by deploying firefighting aircraft ahead of schedule to key parts of the state. **State Government** officials met crews and viewed the firefighting aircraft which are now at **Ballarat**.

A total of 15 regional aircraft will start their service period early in key locations including **Ballarat, Stawell** and **Ovens Valley**. These aircraft can be moved across the state according to risk.

Mounting ramp

The **Hepburn Shire Council** received a grant to construct an accessible equestrian mounting ramp at the **Glenlyon Recreation Reserve**.

The recently completed ramp assists horse riders of all abilities to participate in the local pony club, adult riding club and Riding for the **Disabled Association of Australia** activities.

Applications for the next round of grants from the **Tiny Towns Fund** are now open.

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AUSSIE FARMING FACTS YOU MAY NOT KNOW

Agriculture uses more than half of Australia's annual water consumption – but the industry resourceful with water use.

Irrigation systems cover 5% of tiled agricultural land and produce 30% of all harvest. The Australi try uses 50-70% of Australia's annual water consumption. About 8 million megalitres of water ar production annually.

Still, Australian farmers are experts at water management. Australian cotton and grain growers water efficiency by about 50% in the past three decades. Cotton has improved water efficiency by to 100%.

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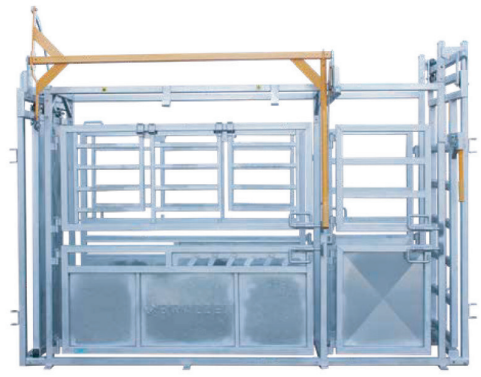
ian agriculture indus-
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CATTLE



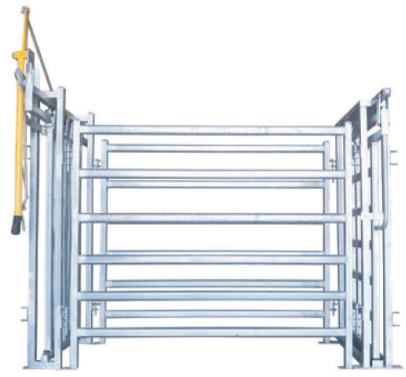
Head Bale



Standard Crush



2 Way Race Gate



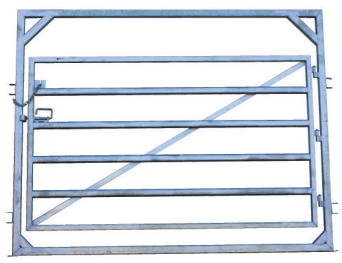
Hobby Crush



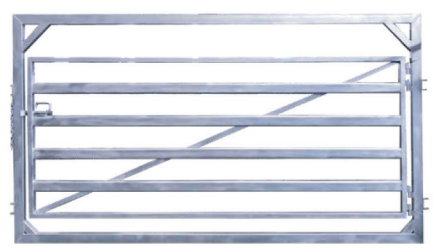
Blind Force Yard



Sliding Cattle Gate



Standard 3.0 Gate



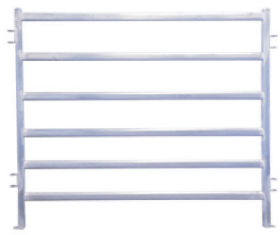
Premium 4.2 Gate



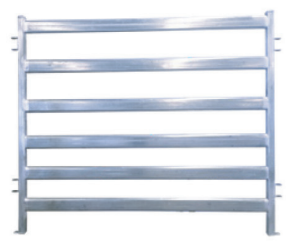
Man Panel Gate



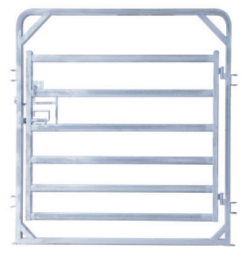
Budget Cattle Gate



Standard Cattle Gate



Premium Cattle Gate



Standard 2.1 Gate

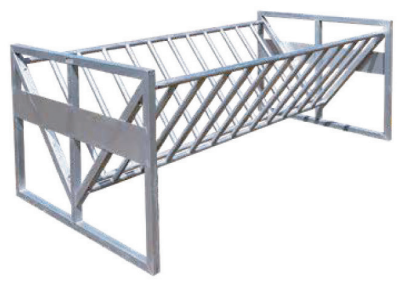
Joke of the Day...

I am the kind of guy that likes to tease his house plants by watering them with ice cubes.

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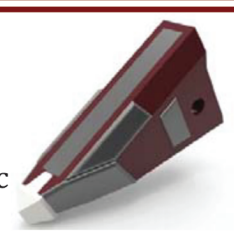
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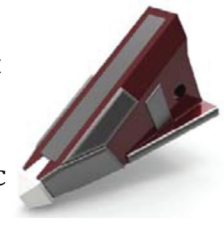
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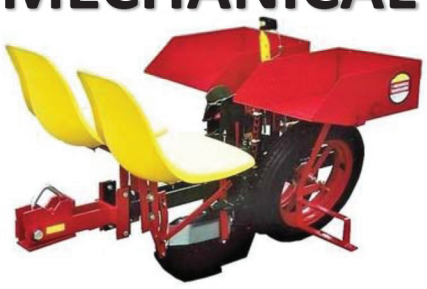
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Revamp for Bayside Geelong Hotel

A new chapter has begun for **Choice Hotels' Bayside Geelong Hotel and Apartments**, an **Ascend Collection Hotel**, unveiling the first stage of a multi-million-dollar redevelopment of their waterfront property.

The transformation of the circa 1962 property, originally known as **Hamilton Hume Motor Inn** and more recently **Quality Hotel Bayside Geelong**, re-emerges as a 4.5-star, 110-room boutique hotel, delivering a new level of luxury and sophistication to the region's accommodation offering.

The project is already making a significant economic impact, generating approximately 300 construction jobs and creating 75 operational roles.

Once complete in late 2026, the hotel will feature a striking new façade and a fine-dining restaurant with sweeping views of **Corio Bay.**

Stage one is now complete and has seen 60 per cent of the original structure demolished to make way for:

- a new lobby and guest arrival space
- **Franca's Ristorante**, an all-day Italian-inspired dining venu
- 79 newly built guest rooms with premium finishes and thoughtful design
- seven flexible meeting and event spaces
- a fitness centre, sauna, and indoor lap pool with accessibility hoist.



● The pool at the Bayside Geelong Hotel

Kevin Robe, General Manager, **Bayside Geelong Hotel and Apartments**, said the redevelopment is about more than just bricks and mortar.

"We're creating a hotel that reflects the spirit of **Geelong** – its history, its people, and its future.

"From the architecture and interiors to the smallest design details, we've drawn inspiration from our stunning bayfront location, the region's wool and textile heritage, and its Indigenous roots," he said.

"We're proud to offer a contemporary, inclusive, and welcoming space for travellers from across Victoria, interstate and overseas – whether they're here for business, leisure, or one of the region's many iconic events."

Inclusivity and accessibility have been a key focus in the refurbishment plans, with 10 accessible rooms, including seven twin share options ideal for families, carers, and guests travelling together.

Sustainability is also front and centre, with the hotel incorporating energy and water-saving technology, including a 100kW solar array, Energy Recovery Ventilation in guest rooms and common areas, double-glazed windows and smart LED lighting controls throughout.



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We're the Buller family

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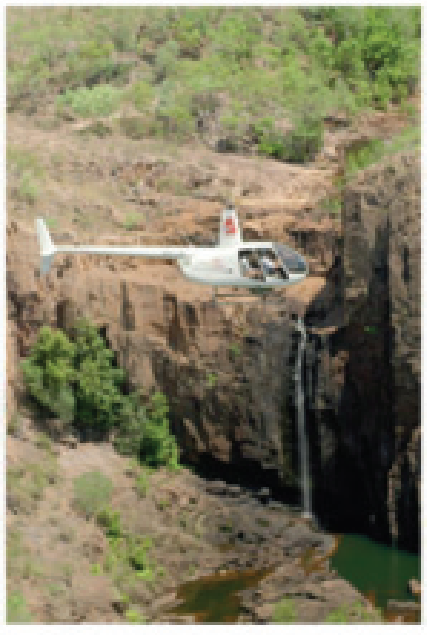
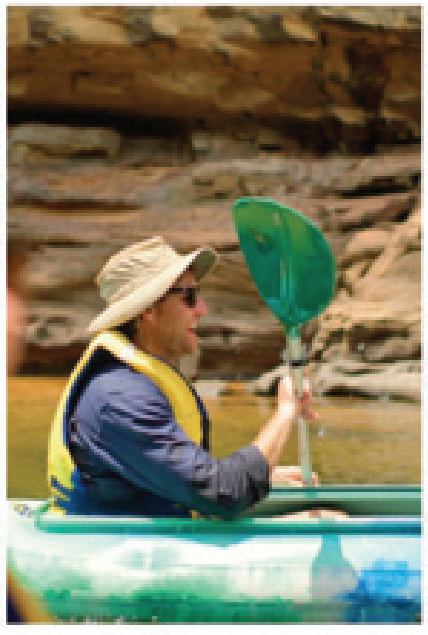
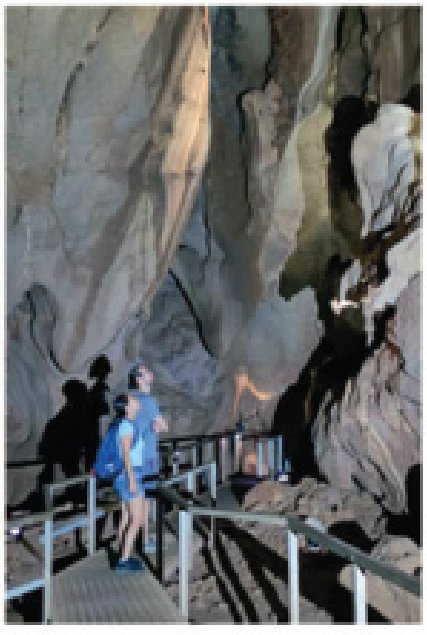
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DEPARTS 7 DECEMBER 2025 | 8 DAYS | $4,175

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Caravans, Camping

Crusader launches new brand

Crusader Caravans has unveiled a new second brand, **Dreamhaven**, created to offer **Australians** greater access to high-quality, locally made caravans at an affordable price.

Dreamhaven combines **Crusader's** decades of award-winning experience with practical design and quality full composite construction.

Each caravan is built to deliver comfort, style and durability at a price that competes directly with imported models.

Crusader Caravans Founder and CEO **Serge Valentino** said the new brand was born from a clear gap in the market.

"We saw a real opportunity to create **Aussie**-made caravans that are both high-quality and affordable. The **Dreamhaven** range reflects our belief that caravanning should be simple, practical and accessible by more **Australians**," **Mr Valentino** said.

"**Dreamhaven** delivers a simple range of high-quality full composite caravans, created for buyers seeking a straightforward and well-priced option. We're talking darn good caravans at a darn good price."

With models starting from just $250 per week or $68,990 RRP*, the **Dreamhaven** range offers an entry point for outdoor adventurers who might have previously relied on tents, cabins, camper trailers or older caravans.

The new product range features five layouts, with on-road and off-road versions available, for a total of 10 individual models. The range caters to all sectors of the market from solo travellers and couples, right through to families.

Decades of industry know-how ensures the caravans offer everything needed; all housed in a high-quality build.

The **Tourline** series (On road) offers all the essentials for comfortable highway cruising and comforts for the perfect getaway. The Series X (Off road) offers upgraded rugged features for tackling challenging tracks, including independent suspension, without breaking the bank.

Places To Go

Family holidays

Ultimate Family Holidays: Australia is described by publishers **Hardie Grant** as a must-have guide, packed with travel inspiration, featuring 65 experiences from around the country.

The publication is organised in useful themes including: staycations, walks and wilderness, culture and curiosity, holiday parks and farm stays, wildlife encounters, swim spots, thrill-seeker adventures, epic stays and just for fun.

Author **Catherine Best** suggests that readers check out an array of kid-friendly options at bucket-list destinations including **Uluru, Rottnest Island/Wadjemup, Cairns** and **Sydney**.

"Ditch the schoolbooks and learn by immersion at cultural highlights like the **Dinosaur Trail** in outback **Queensland**, or simply enjoy a gardenful of fun at **Gnomesville** in **Western Australia**.

"Whatever your family's holiday fancy ***Ultimate Family Holidays: Australia*** has got you covered, and also includes helpful hints on where to sleep, eat and visit - including budget-friendly options."

Catherine Best is an award-winning travel journalist, magazine editor and storyteller who has been writing professionally for more than 25 years.

She started her career as a news reporter, when journalism seemed like a logical outlet for someone destined to write, but soon discovered there was more beauty and joy in travel writing than being part of the 24/7 news' cycle.

It's in nature – climbing mountains, scuba diving and camping in the outback – where **Catherine** finds her greatest inspiration and connection to place.

Sharing in her passion for wild places are her three kids and husband, who are her favourite travelling companions. When not off on an adventure, you will find **Catherine** at home in **Melbourne** with her three musketeers, consoling the labradoodle, who is too often left behind, and planning the next mods on her family caravan.



● ***Ultimate Family Holidays*** **by Catherine Best**

Catherine's first book, ***Ultimate Caravan Trips: Australia***, was published by **Hardie Grant** in 2022.

Boost for Xiqing

Yangliuqing Ancient Town in **Xiqing District**, north **China's Tianjin**, saw a surging influx of visitors, according to the publicity department of **Xiqing District**.

The exquisitely carved courtyard residences of the **Ming** and **Qing** dynasties, vividly rendered New Year paintings, and the winding ancient canal wove together into a living tapestry of folk culture.

Exploring Qld

Savannahlander

For the third year running, **Cocky Guides**, the not-for-profit accessible tour operator and partner of **Sensory Tourism Australia**, has returned to **Queensland's Gulf Savannah** region aboard **The Savannahlander**, one of **Australia's** most iconic rail journeys.

This season, a group of blind and low-vision travellers have been exploring highlights such as **Chillagoe Caves, Cobbold Gorge** and the **Undara Lava Tubes**.

Along the way, they're also contributing to the local economy and building connections with communities in **Almaden, Chillagoe, Mount Surprise** and **Forsayth**.

James 'Buck' McFarlane, Director and Co-founder of **Sensory Tourism Australia**, said: "While we could visit this region by bus, The **Savannahlander** team enriches the journey with storytelling, trackside whistle stops and their close ties to the communities they serve.

"For our travellers, who rely on senses beyond sight, this makes the experience far more personal and meaningful."

Traveller **Graham Coulton** agrees: "This is my second time on **The Savannahlander**, and both trips have been completely different depending on the attractions and accommodation chosen.

"As a low-vision traveller, I find the train incredibly accessible. Last year I touched **Cobbold Gorge**; this year I'm excited to explore more of the **Lava Tubes** at **Undara Volcanic National Park** and soak up the atmosphere of true bush hospitality."

While recent uncertainty around required infrastructure works cast doubt over the future of **The Savannahlander**, the **Queensland Government** has confirmed its support for this much-loved rail journey as it celebrates its 30th season.

Sensory Tourism Australia delivers supported travel year-round across **Australia's** gateway cities, including **Sydney, Melbourne** and **Cairns**, and is seeking regional tourism organisations and local government partners to help grow inclusive tourism experiences.



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OLDER PEOPLE HAVE RIGHT TO DECIDE

The new rights-based ***Aged Care Act***, which commenced on November 1, affords older **Australians** with greater independence and autonomy, says the **Older Persons Advocacy Network**.

"The overhaul of the ***Act*** is long overdue generational reform, with demand for aged care projected to grow dramatically due to Australia's ageing population," said a represebntative for the **Network.**

"A new ***Aged Care Act***, framed in rights of the older person, was the number one recommendation of the **Royal Commission into Quality and Safety in Aged Care's** final report 4½ years ago.

"The ***Act*** reinforces that older people have the right to make their own decisions, with appropriate support if they need it.

"For registered supporters, the new regime also introduces clear responsibilities and consequences, ensuring that the autonomy and voice of the older person is respected in all decisions about their care and life."

Older Persons Advocacy Network CEO **Craig Gear** said the hallmark of the new ***Act*** is a Statement of Rights.

"This is an exciting new chapter for the sector, older **Australians**, carers and providers," **Mr Gear** said.

"At its core is the recognition that older people remain at the centre of their care, supported by those they trust - whether that's a family member, friend, advocate or provider.

"This is a transformational shift in power dynamics, and it is imperative that older people are empowered to make informed decisions that benefit them."

Along with the new Act comes strengthened quality standards and greater protections for older people receiving aged care.

It also sees the commencement of the **Support at Home Program** which has higher levels of support, more packages and benefits such as restorative care pathways.

There is also an end-of-life pathway to support people who choose to die at home.

"Like with most significant reforms, there will probably be teething issues, as the changes have yet to be tested," **Mr Gear** said.



● Greg Gear, CEO

Senior Service

Retirement living more affordable



● Karen Cook and her late husband Paul moved into retirement living in Queensland.

New research shows retirement living is becoming a more affordable option, due to soaring house prices and rents. It also frees p much needed housing for the wider community.

Stewart Brown's latest ***Retirement Living Performance Survey Report*** shows the median entry costs for a two-bedroom retirement living unit is equivalent to just 53 per cent of the median house price in the surrounding suburb, rising to 66 per cent for three-bedroom units.

The lower entry cost allows retirees to stay in the same community, close to family and friends, while freeing up equity from their homes to boost savings and reduce financial stress.

When then-62-year-old **Karen Cook** moved into her retirement village at **Victoria Point** 7½-years ago, she wasn't planning an early retirement - she was looking for a lifeline for her husband, **Paul**.

"He'd become quite reclusive because of his **Parkinson's** [disease]," says the 62-year-old. "There's lots of activities here, and I thought it might give him some life again."

Karen was still working part-time when they decided to leave the **Gold Coast**, where they had lived for 36 years, and downsize.

"We just said, okay, this is what we need to do. I got onto **Airtasker**, got the house ready, and we were here within 12 weeks. I'm a bit of a goer - a doer, so I just put my mind to it," she says.

She encourages those in a similar position to start sooner rather than later.

"They think, 'I can't possibly downsize I've got all the kids' schoolbooks and tools in the garage'. But then it becomes overwhelming. I tell people: don't wait until you can't manage," she says.

Now 69, **Karen's** two-bedroom ground-floor unit sits among leafy gardens just a short walk from the bay, where **Paul** used to cast a line and watch the water.

When he passed away, **Karen** briefly considered moving back to the **Gold Coast** or joining her daughter in **Sydney**.

But the reality of soaring house prices and the comfort of community kept her put. "You can close the door, lock the unit and off you go. You know it's pretty safe. People keep an eye out for you," she says.

Ageing Australia CEO **Tom Symondson** said the results add to findings from last year's **Catalyst Research Report** showing people in retirement living consistently report higher rates of happiness and wellbeing than all older **Australians**. Those in a Retirement Community scored significantly higher on the **Catalyst Wellness Index** (77.5) compared with the average for all older **Australians** (71.3).

Celebrating local Seniors



● High Tea in the Hills

The 2025 **Cardinia Shire Seniors Festival** was said to be a resounding success, "bringing together the ommunity in a vibrant celebration of life, connection, and creativity", according to tghe local **Council.**

Throughout last month, a record 1000 seniors across the **Shire** participated in more than 30 events, all designed to elebrate the contributions of our older residents.

The events included the enchanting, guided bush walks in **Gembrook** to the d high tea events, and the festival showcased a diverse range of activities that fostered connections among attendees.

Senior Moments

$75m request

Community Health First, representing **Victoria's** 22 independent registered community health services, has released its **2026–27 Victorian Budget Submission**, calling for a strategic investment of $75 million per year to unlock better health outcomes, reduce hospital demand and improve health equity across the state.

Pay goes up

Many aged care workers across **Australia** are receiving a long overdue boost to their pay packets, following the success of the **Health Services Union's** landmark aged care work value case.

A personal care worker will now earn $34.60 an hour. This is the final stage of wage increases stemming from the aged care work value case, which was lodged by the **Health Services Union** in the **Fair Work Commission** in November 2020.

Since the increases began in 2023, a personal care worker's pay is now up from $23.20 an hour – an extra $433 per week.

One-in-seven

One-in-seven **Australian** women risk being diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime, with 58 people diagnosed daily

Over 10,000 working-age Australian women diagnosed in 2022 will lose an estimated $1.4 billion in wages over the next decade, says **Breast Cancer Trials.**

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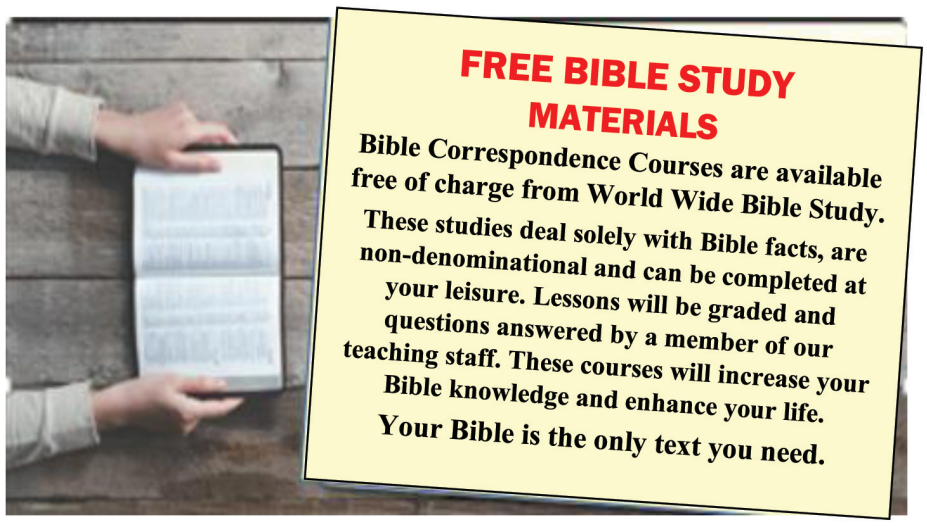
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It was once announced that the devil was going out of business and would offer all his tools for sale to whoever would pay his price.

On the night of the sale, they were all attractively displayed. Malice, Hatred, Lust, Envy, and all the other implements of evil were spread out, each marked with its price.

Apart from the rest lay a harmless looking wedge-shaped tool, much worn and higher in price than any of the others. Someone asked the devil what it was. "That's Discouragement," he replied. "Why do you have it priced so high?"

"Because," the devil said, "It is the most useful tool I own. With it, I can pry open and get inside a man's conscience when I could not get near him with any of the others. Once inside I can use him in whatever way suits me best. It is so worn because I use it with nearly everyone. Very few people know that it belongs to me."

The devil's price for Discouragement was so high that it was never sold. He still owns it and is still using it.

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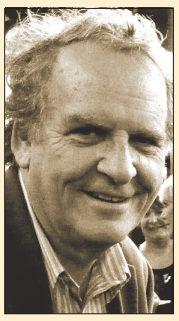
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Melbourne Observer



Whatever Happened To ... Darryl Stewart

By Kevin Trask of 3AW and 96.5 Inner FM

Darryl Stewart began his singing career as a tenor in the chorus of **J C Williamson's** production of ***Oklahoma*** in **Sydney**.

In 1950 he moved to **Melbourne** to appear in ***Song of Norway*** and met his long-time friend **John Newman** who was also in the cast.

Darryl appeared on the radio show ***The P & A Parade*** and tied with **Max Blake** in the grand final at the **Melbourne Town Hall.**

Darryl began singing as a soloist and sang at **Chequers Night Club** in **Sydney** where he was noticed by **Les Welch** from **Festival Records**.

In 1955 **Les Welch** invited **Darryl** to record the song titled ***A Man Called Peter.***

He was accompanied by **Wilbur Kentwell** on the organ and trumpeter **Dick McNally.**

Darryl accepted a fee of £15 at the time and the hit record went on to sell 100,000 copies. That decision cost him a lot of money.

During a trip to the **USA** in 1958 he was invited to sing ***Mother Machree*** on the **Ed Sullivan** Television Show for a **St Patrick's Day** special.

He worked in the **USA** for five years and was also a guest on ***The Jack Parr Show***.

Darryl became a regular member of **Bobby Limb's *Sound of Music*** in 1962. He worked with **Dawn Lake, Bill Newman** (brother of **John Newman**), **Rosalind Keene** and **Frank Ward**.

In 1968 **Barry Crocker** and **Bobby Limb** swapped channels – **Bobby** went to **Channel 10** and **Darryl Stewart** went with him.

Barry took over ***Sound of Music*** on **Channel 9** and **Bill Newman** stayed with **Barry.**

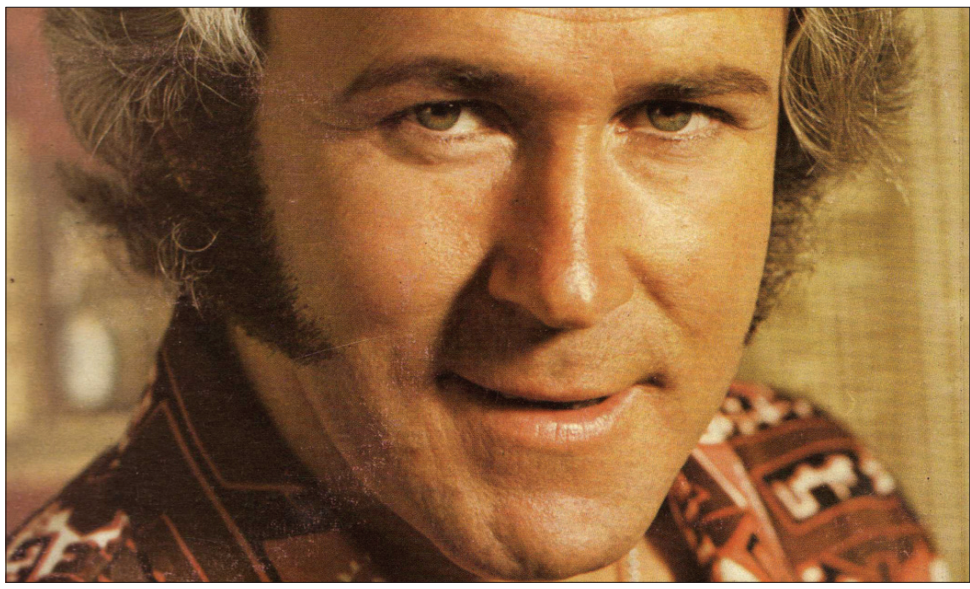
In fact, it was **Bill's** brother **John Newman** who was responsible for **Barry Crocker** becoming a professional performer in 1956.

Darryl recorded many successful albums over the years on the **Festival** label including a collection of **Mother's Day** songs – ***Darryl Stewart sings ... for Mother.***

In the late seventies **Darryl** appeared on ***The Saturday Show*** on **ABC** television where he worked with **Michael Cole, Jane Scali, Bartholomew John, Julie McKenna** and many others.

He sang on many **Australian** television shows.

Darryl toured with **Bob Hope** and other famous entertainers during his career. He performed for many years at **Dracula's Theatre Restaurant** on the **Gold Coast** working for his old friend **John Newman**.



● Darryl Stewart

In later years **Darryl** did concerts with **Bill Newman** from the television show ***Sound of Music***.

I saw **Darryl** perform at the **Melbourne Town Hall** in the 1990s and he sang opposite **Rosalind Keene**. It was wonderful to see them both onstage.

Sadly, **Darryl Stewart** passed away about 12 years ago. He is remembered for his beautiful singing voice.

Kevin Trask

Kevin can be heard on 3AW - The Time Tunnel - Remember When - Sundays at 10.10pm with Simon Owens and Andrew McLaren. And on 96.5 FM That's Entertainment - Sundays at 12 Noon. www.innerfm.org.au

WOMEN: CUSTODIANS OF KNOWLEDGE

Frama and Health, Women's Knowledge of Plants – Sofie Dieu

For generations, women have been the custodians of ancestral knowledge about plants, passing it down through food, healing practices and during life transition's' rituals. Many of these plants are vital health allies these as they support women's reproductive health , easing hormonal cycles, siding digestion, and promoting restful sleep.

Through storytelling, art, and textile, this project provides a platform for women to reclaim and share their heritage - fostering wellbeing, intergenerational connection, and a more inclusive understanding of healing traditions.

Exhibition closes January 10. Venue: G2

★

How Far the Light Reaches – Janck Lee

Titled after Sabrina Imbler's book of the same name, his work explores the themes of resilience, survival, care and identity through a gender and diversity lens.

It draws parallel between human minds' essential link to the animal world as well as the gradual evolution pf subjective experience, intelligence and consciousness.

The work employs RDV AuBastian deep sea technology, thermal imaging and night vision footage to reveal elements that are typically imprescriptible to the naked eyes.

It descends into **Australian** waters, m exploring the northern depth of the **Great Barrier Reef, The Ningaloo Canyons** in the **Southern Oceans** and the rock pools of **Bass Strait.**

Exhibition closes January 19. Venue: The Bridge, Moorabbin.

★

Then We Keep Living – Chris Siu

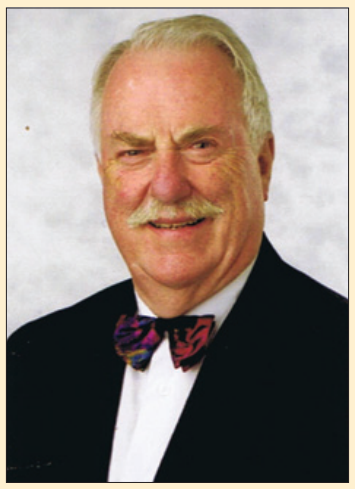
Is a two-phase photographic project by **Chris Siu** that traces socio-political upheavals in **Hong Kong** and the ensuing diaspora in **Australia**.

Shot on part during the 2019-2020 pro-democracy protests and continued after **Siu's** relocation amid a wave of exodus, the work seeks to unpack personal and collective trauma, diasporic experience, and the artist's shifting relationship with a disappearing homeland.

Exhibition opens November 6 and closes January 19.

Kingston Art Gallery
979 Nepean Hwy, Moorabbin

The Arts



with Peter Kemp

Stone Soup

Stone Soup – Hany Armanious

The **University of Melbourne's Buxton Contemporary** has announced **Harry Armaniouis: Stone Soup** a major solo exhibition in partnership with the **Henry Moore Institute, United Kingdom.**

Opening November 21, and running until April 14, the exhibition will showcase more than 80 works, including a significant new commission.

This exhibition is part of a series st **Buxton Contemporary** that focuses on artists from the **Buxton Collection** and follows the 2024 presentation of **Stone Soup** at the **Henry Moore Institute** in **Leeds.**

Hany Armanious is one if **Australia's** most acclaimed artists.

He is celebrated for his inventive and often playful approach to sculpture, inviting audiences to experiment ordinary objects new. Drawing from the everyday, he recasts found objects in resin at a 1:1 scale, with meticulous attention to colour, textile and form, while allowing subtle imperfections to remain visible.

His practice captures the creative energy of seeing and making, laying are the fundamental decisions and processes of creating and presenting art, while reflecting on the jy of encountering things as if fir the very first time.

Buxton Contemporary
University of Melbourne
Cnr Southbank Boulevard & Dodds St, Southbank

Candid

I Only Talk to God When I Want Something. – Richard Lewer

Richard Lewer is a critically acclaimed multi-disciplinary artist working across painting, drawing and animation to explore everyday experiences, infusing them with his distinctive wit and observant humour.

Through his highly autobiographical practice, **Lewer** examines universal and often confronting subjects including crime, religion, health, and grief.

His candid and authentic reflection-often presented with humour and honesty-resonate deeply with audiences who find their own lives and experiences mirrored in his works/

Exhibition opens November 15 and closes March 1.

Geelong Gallery
55 Little Malop St, Geelong

Peter Kemp

Retro book

Retro Australia, published by New Holland, is a visual journey through **Australian** life from the 1950s to the 1970s with a collection of rare and some never-before-seen images.

The unique collection of over 600 images showcases **Australia's** landscape and captures the essence of who we were, what we did, how we looked and how we enjoyed our leisure time during a period of great optimism and even greater change.

Featuring every state and territory, each chapter of ***Retro Australia*** explores beautiful beaches and coastlines, the big cities, modes of transport, and the suburban and bush lifestyles.

Retro Australia showcases landmarks, some of which still stand today, and provides a retrospective insight into architecture and transport from cars to public transport including trams, buses, trucks, and trains.

The vintage photography transports readers back in time and showcases the **Aussie** life from classic fashion and charming homes to bustling fairs, the **Easter** Show, and sun-soaked beaches including **Bondi, Burleigh Heads** and **Coogee**.

OK. With John O'Keefe

Flashback to 1876

Youngest jockey to ever win in a **Melbourne Cup** was way back in 1876 when **Peter St Albans** was aged almost 12 years of age. **Peter** was aboard **Briseis**, a brown filly who went onto win numerous capital city races.. Some say **Briseis** was the greatest mare ever foaled in **Australia**. A certain mystery surrounds jockey **Peter St Albans**, or was his surname really **Bowden**? The fact that is probably accurate is that **Peter** wagged school to ride in the **Melbourne Cup** and he continued as a jockey until injury forced his retirement , aged 19.

From lost to legendary

I well remember the episode of **ABC's *Australia Story*** concerning the story how **Valerie,** the dachshund who went AWL for 500 days on **Kangaroo Island**. Amazing stuff, and just a solo holiday stroll for **Valerie**. To ensure the 500-day adventure won't be repeated **Life 360** has signed the loveable dog to be their furry brand ambassador to always wear their tracking collar. Make sure your pooch is wearing a **Life 360** monitor.

Howe low can thieves go?

Thieves in **Mildura** are the pits. One day a mobile outdoor sign was wheeled into place on a high traffic area, overnight the sign was vandalized and all four wheels stolen, lights and electrical connections stripped, and for good measure licence plates removed. To make matters worse the outdoor billboard was asking motor cyclists to take care on the road.

Ropck world's sad loss

Followers of the local rock scene of the seventies will remember the **Dragons**, particularly their regular appearances on ***Countdown***. **Robert Taylor** was lead guitarist who made the move from **New Zealand** to settle in **Australia** where their fame saw the all-boy band admitted to the **ARIA Hall of Fame** in 2008. **Robert** passed November 4, rock on **Robert**.

Gift keeps on coming

As history confirms, **Agatha Christie** was a prolific author and her murder mystery script ***Mousetrap*** became the world's longest running stage show and is still running in **London's West End**. When it commenced in 1952 the generous **Agatha** signed a agreement that all profits from ***Mousetrap*** were to go to a fund to pay for school fees, and petty expenses for her grandson, **Mathew Pritchard**. Terms of agreement were for the period the play entertained audiences. That was 73 years ago, and ***Mousetrap*** still entertains to packed houses.

Nice little earner

Once co-host of ***Today*** brekkie show, then ***The Project***, then court appearances, **Lisa Wilkinson** is married to bandana wearing wartime author **Peter Fitzsimons**. This power couple of the **Sydney** scene know a thing or two about real estate in the Coathanger state. In 1998 they purchased a rather large property in **Cremorne** for $2.95 million. Property was resold last month for $23 million.

Chat GTP for numbers

A **Michigan (USA)** couple decided to purchase a **Powerball** ticket and used **Chat GTP** to select the numbers. Much to their delight the couple won $100,000. We understand this is second time Chat **GTP** has delivered winning numbers in other lotteries.

John O'Keefe

RIKKIE-LEE TYRRELL MP

MEMBER FOR NORTHERN VICTORIA REGION

My job is to help you with all State Government issues so please reach out to me via phone or email. Alternatively, feel free to drop into my office for a chat. I am here to help better our community, so let's do this together.



/RLTyrrellMLC

tyrrellrikkielee

@Rikkie-LeeTyrrellMLC

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Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra

The 42nd Sir Bernard Heinze Memorial Concert

G. F. HANDEL

Messiah

RMP's 2025 world-record-breaking 246th performance



Royal Melbourne Philharmonic presents Handel's *Messiah* for the world-record 246th time since 1853. The most-loved of all oratorios, *Messiah* is famous for its spectacular arias, powerful choruses and surging climaxes (including the magnificent *Hallelujah!* and *Amen* choruses).

The RMP's annual performance of this masterpiece is a much-anticipated highlight of Melbourne's concert calendar. Featuring over 120 talented and passionate musicians from the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra, and a superb cast of soloists, RMP Chief Conductor Andrew Wailes again directs this iconic work in the grand setting of Melbourne Town Hall.

Andrew Wailes *conductor*
Sara Macliver *soprano*
Fiona Campbell *mezzo-soprano*
Kyle Stegall *tenor*
David Greco *baritone*

Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra

SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER 5pm

Melbourne Town Hall

Bookings: www.rmp.org.au

RMP Royal Melbourne Philharmonic

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Melbourne Observer

Melbourne Observer Lovatts Crossword No 18

Across

1. Blizzard
6. Wattle tree
11. Villain
15. Dried grass piles
20. Exclamation of pain
21. Genuine thing, the real ...
22. Numerous
23. Underground molten rock
25. Relaxation art (1'2,3)
26. Coral organisms
27. Dinners or lunches
29. Venice canal boat
32. Singer, ... Diamond
34. Famous British school
36. Type of spanner
39. Condemns to hell
41. Harnessed (oxen)
43. Rubs with emery
46. ... of Troy
48. Beneath
49. Dad
51. Hooter
52. Co-venture
55. Coarse file
56. Acorn bearers
59. Kills
61. Sit for portrait
62. Once again
63. Screw
64. Ripens
67. Halfway through pregnancy
68. Fortified wine
70. Culmination
71. Actress, ... Loren
72. Nag
73. Naked
74. Renovate (ship)
75. Rose-shaped award
77. Stop! (nautical)
78. Survives
79. Style
82. Mob
86. Jelly/sponge dessert
87. Eye lustfully
89. Belief in the supernatural
92. Pond plant
94. Capture
96. News
98. Floating log platform
100. Live coal
101. Computer input
103. Princess Royal
105. Resided
106. Press
108. Burn
111. Commoner
112. Very lazy (4,4)
114. Amaze
116. Spy, ... Hari
119. Bullets
120. German WWII fascist
121. Anticipated touchdown (1,1,1)
123. Freezes, ... over
124. As far as (2,2)
125. Omits (6,3)
126. New York borough
127. Blackberry shrub
130. The masses, ... polloi
131. Dawn to dusk
135. Alternate, every ...
138. Calf-length skirt
139. US astronaut, ... Shepard
141. Acute remorse
144. Unchanged, the ...
146. Cheerio!
147. Unfasten
148. Male swan
149. Young sheep
150. Uncle Sam (1,1,1)
151. Type of saxophone
152. Print with raised design
153. Taj Mahal city
155. Closing
157. Part of eye
158. Method
160. Braid
161. More ancient
162. Up to the time of
163. Overly cute
165. Less frequent
166. Snake, ... constrictor
167. Rowing aid

Across

168. Guitar sound
169. Servant
171. Accessory
172. Female title
175. In vain, to no ...
176. Light sleeps
179. Arid US state
180. Schoolgirl
182. Prison
184. Opens door to (4,2)
185. Balmy
186. Crooner, ... King Cole
188. Quiet
189. Pod vegetable
190. Dull
191. Snow-runner
193. Betting chances
194. Jogs
196. Match before final
197. Unreliable
198. Revolving tray, lazy ...
200. Modesty
205. AFL great, ... Barassi
207. Angrily
210. Impetuous
211. Concealing
212. Stupefy
213. Trading centre
214. Banned pesticide (1,1,1)
216. Irish sweater style
218. Actual
219. Ellipse
220. Repaints (vehicle)
224. Moodier
227. Depend
229. Space flight organisation
230. Tethers
231. Latin American dance
232. Nipple
233. Aware of
235. Prophetic signs
237. Go up
239. Printing error
241. Type of orange
244. Child's toy (2-2)
246. Pet's neck band (3,6)
249. Please reply (1,1,1,1)
252. Stingier
254. Former English cricket captain, ... Hussain
256. Outrageous
258. Arrange
259. Fuss, song & ...
260. Introducing in stages, ... in
263. Rest on knees
264. Outcome
265. Rot (of leather)
267. Paltry
270. Niece & ...
271. Avoided
272. Entertainer
273. Additional items
274. Welsh vegetables
277. Witnessed
279. Carpenter's spike
281. More rational
284. Hurry
286. Sum owed
288. Absorbed
292. Whisky ingredient
294. Kiss & cuddle
295. Fire remains
298. Smallest
300. Nominated
301. Mention, ... to
303. Monastery superior
306. Decorative shrub pot
308. Encounter
309. Concludes
311. Pink-eyed rabbits
314. Last Greek letter
315. Ketchup, ... sauce
316. Powerful
317. Fruit mash
318. After that
319. Deserve
320. Mafia, ... Nostra
321. Treats with drugs
322. Rewrite on keyboard
323. Unhappier
324. Muscle toning therapists

Down

1. Cosy
2. Furnace
3. Polynesian island group
4. Heart or lung
5. Complain
6. Movement
7. Blackboard marker
8. Drumming insects
9. Amongst
10. Fuel energy rating
11. Go around
12. Playful water mammal
13. Propel
14. Christian festival
15. Sacred song
16. Long (for)
17. Try out (food)
18. Cudgel
19. Obscene material
24. Charity offerings
28. Youths
30. Milky gem
31. June 6, 1944 (1-3)
33. Eagle nests
35. Equal (2,1,3)
37. Raven
38. Deer
40. Yelling
42. Geological division
44. Positive electrodes
45. Least moist
47. Fencing blades
48. Great disturbance
49. Prepared mentally, ... up
50. Sports ground buildings
53. Wed again
54. Impedes
57. Rescued by plane
58. Examines closely
60. Brighter
63. Temper fit
65. Hatchets
66. Settee
68. Cry weakly
69. Corrode
76. Outstanding
79. Fellows
80. Not anybody (2-3)
81. Lodge firmly
83. Boundary
84. Media tycoon, press ...
85. Pixie
88. Disadvantage
90. Team
91. Tiny amount
93. Skin irritation
95. Paradise garden
97. Flourish of trumpets
99. Friends star, Jennifer ...
100. Periods
102. Degrade
104. Kinder
107. From Italy's capital
109. Rectify
110. Arabian prince
111. Ode
113. Glancing
115. Summer footwear
117. Cousin's mother
118. Nuclear explosive, ... bomb
121. Morally sound
122. Friendly
127. Chest
128. Gave weapons to
129. Childbirth contractions (6,5)
132. In unison (3,8)
133. Relative by marriage (2-3)
134. Call up (feelings)
135. Vigilant
136. Magician's cry (3,6)
137. Idealists
138. Rissoles
140. Of course
141. Document summaries
142. Blameless

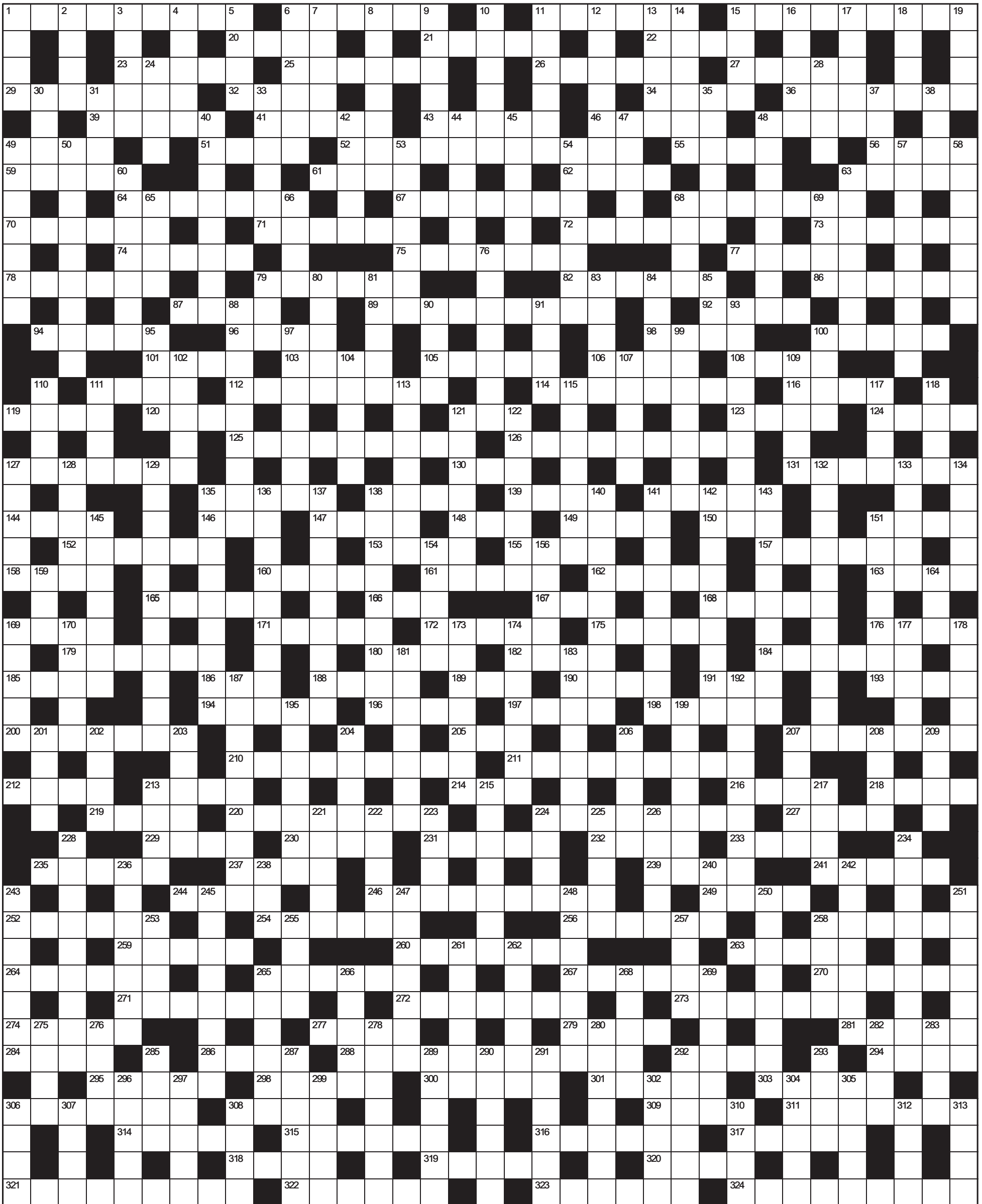
Down

143. Tent cover
145. Corrected (text)
151. Former IOC president, Juan ... Samaranch
154. Wanders
156. Fragrance
159. Reproductive cells
164. Sixth sense (1,1,1)
169. Imitative performer
170. Wood surface design
173. Hoped (to)
174. Versus
177. South American mountains
178. Effeminate
181. Facility
183. Commissioned soldier
187. Random
192. Hopping marsupials
195. Office workers
199. Usefulness
201. Chooses
202. Weather feature, El ...
203. Milan opera house, La ...
204. Bright signal light
206. Seductress, ... fatale
207. Map
208. Nimble
209. Executive jet
213. Car race city, Le ...
215. Small plums
217. Advertising sign
221. Jetties
222. Incidental comment
223. Complacent
224. Soccer net
225. Policy reversal (1-4)
226. Courtyard
228. Ambassadors' residences
234. Loud-hailer
236. Hypodermic syringes
238. Charged particle
240. Enquire intrusively
242. Showy flowers
243. Poetic name for Ireland, ... Isle
245. Apple groves
247. Parentless kids
248. Boost
250. Blood feud
251. Mesh
253. Rodents
255. Copied
257. Former Italian money unit
258. Fix
261. Respiratory ailment
262. Shoe lining
265. Rounded stone
266. Brainwaves
268. Put up with
269. The Queen's third son
275. Sitcom, My Name Is ...
276. Ruler, Genghis ...
278. Tidal river mouth
280. Carbonated
282. Opposed to
283. Resound
285. Throat-clearing noise
287. Wobble
289. Wage
290. Polluted
291. Assumes (attitude)
292. Guru
293. Ready, willing & ...
296. Impassive person
297. Upright
299. Make reparation
302. Wooden barrier
304. Farm sheds
305. Overly fat
306. Prudish
307. Elderly
308. Rugs
310. Luncheon meat
312. Bobs head
313. Timber cutters

Melbourne Observer

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MEGA CROSSWORD No 18



Melbourne Observer

Crossroads



By Rob Foenander
info@robfomusic.com.au

Wipeouts

■ Enjoy ***The Sounds of Summer*** with **The Wipeouts**, performing **Beachboys** and surf instrumental songs to **Beatles, Easybeats, The Kinks, Monkees, Rolling Stones, The Loved Ones** and everything else that makes the 1960s so groovy, says their media release. Sunday November 30 at 3pm, **Hampton RSL**. Entrance $10

Blues Festival

■ **St Kilda** will come alive with the blues from February 27 to March 1. The festival is a free, venue-based event showcasing the best of local talent with a mix of international acts. Taking place throughout **St Kilda,** this festival brings together over 20 iconic venues and features 45+ bands performing across three unforgettable days.

Christmas Carols

■ **Black Rock House** presents its 33rd annual family-friendly **Christmas Carols** night on Wednesday, December 3. **Haley Davis** and band along with local school choirs will perform and a visit from **Santa** is also part of the evenings program. 30-36 Ebden Ave, **Black Rock**. Enquiries at **friendsofblackrockhouse@gmail.com**

- Rob Foenander

2026 planner

■ **Dementia Australia's** biggest annual fundraiser returns to **Melbourne** to raise much-needed funds to support people living with dementia, their families and carers. On Sunday May 17, walkers, runners and joggers will set off from **Pelican Lawn at Albert Park, Melbourne** to raise money.

THE TALENTED MR RIPLEY

■ A stylish and masterful **Sydney Theatre Company** adaptation of **Patricia Highsmith's** psychological thriller novel, ***The Talented Mr Ripley***, is having a **Melbourne** season at the **Playhouse**.

The noir plot sees the central character, **Tom Ripley** (played by **Will McDonald**), a small-time conman in **New York**, approached by the wealthy **Herbert Greenleaf (Andrew McFarlane).**

Greenleaf pays him to travel to **Italy** to convince his son, the dilettante **Dickie (Roman Delo)**, to return home.

Upon arrival in **Italy**, however, **Ripley's** good samaritan turns into something quite different when, consumed by greed, envy and passion, he becomes homicidal.

Adapted by renowned **Australian** playwright **Joanna Murray-Smith**, the play consists of multiple scenes in a variety of locations.

Suspense is carefully built as **Ripley** exploits his situation in **Italy** in a devious and devastating way.

Intriguingly, on numerous occasions **Murray-Smith** has the character confide his thoughts and feelings to the audience, an interior monologue made exterior.

The action and language, while predominantly naturalistic, becomes melodramatic at times to powerful effect.

Joining **McDonald, McFarlane** and **Delo** on stage are **Claude Scott-Mitchell** (playing **Marge Sherwood**), **Faisal Hamza (Freddie Miles)** and **Johnny Nasser (Inspector Rolverini)**.

All give excellent performances, their characters skilfully portrayed with an assured confidence.

However, front and centre is **McDonald's** magnificent performance as the antihero **Ripley**.

He is near pitch perfect in portraying **Ripley** as, in turns, a devious manipulator and a tormented soul.

He creates a moral dilemma for the audience as one almost feels sympathy for a ruthless murderer.

Integral to the production's success is the gifted creative team behind it.

Led by the exceptional and accomplished **Sarah Goodes** as director, the team does outstanding work in bringing the play to life using a stylised minimalist design.

Almost every scene is visually arresting and accompanied by an atmospheric soundscape with smooth artfully choreographed scene changes.

By any measure, ***The Talented Mr Ripley*** is a ravishing suspenseful telling of this classic story.

Venue: Playhouse, Arts Centre Melbourne, 100 St Kilda Rd

Dates and times: Until November 23 at various times

Duration: 2 hours

Tickets: $45-149

Bookings: artscentremelbourne.com.au/

Review by Peter Murphy



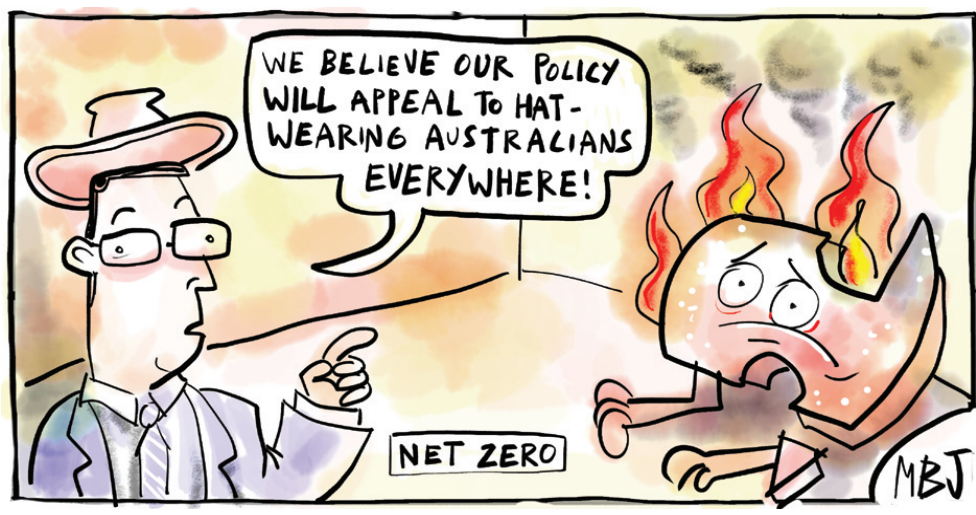
● ***The Talented Mr Ripley*** **cast: Will McDonald, Andrew McFarlane, Claude Scott-Mitchell, Faisal Hamza and Johnny Nasser (absent from photo is Roman Delo)**
Photo: Daniel Boud

● **The Rural Press Club of Victoria this week hosted Victorian Liberal Party leader Brad Battin and Victorian National Party leader Danny O'Brien.**

Crossword Solution No 18

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

Observations
with Matt Bissett-Johnson



Melbourne Showbiz Memories
from the Melbourne Observer Photo Files



● **Roy Lyons. 1954. Photo: Laurie Richards Studio. Colourised.**



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MANY WASHOUTS IN WEEKEND CRICKET

Premier

Men's Premier Firsts. Round 4. Two Days. Sats., Nov. 8 and 15. Richmond 1st XI v Carlton 1st XI. St Kilda 1st XI v Casey South Melbourne 1st XI. Footscray 1st XI v Northcote 1st XI. Kingston Hawthorn 1st XI v Camberwell Magpies 1st XI. Prahran 1st XI v Essendon 1st XI. Geelong 1st XI v Melbourne 1st XI. Melbourne University 1st XI v Dandenong 1st XI. Ringwood 1st XI v Fitzroy Doncaster 1st XI. Greenvale Kangaroos 1st XI v Frankston Peninsula 1st XI.

Seconds. Carlton 2nd XI v Richmond 2nd XI. Casey South Melbourne 2nd XI v St Kilda 2nd XI. Northcote 2nd XI v Footscray 2nd XI. Camberwell Magpies 2nd XI v Kingston Hawthorn 2nd XI. Essendon 2nd XI v Prahran 2nd XI. Melbourne 2nd XI v Geelong 2nd XI. Dandenong 2nd XI v Melbourne University 2nd XI. Fitzroy Doncaster 2nd XI v Ringwood 2nd XI. Frankston Peninsula 2nd XI v Greenvale Kangaroos 2nd XI.

Thirds. Richmond 3rd XI v Carlton 3rd XI. St Kilda 3rd XI v Casey South Melbourne 3rd XI. Footscray 3rd XI v Northcote 3rd XI. Kingston Hawthorn 3rd XI v Camberwell Magpies 3rd XI. Prahran 3rd XI v Essendon 3rd XI. Geelong 3rd XI v Melbourne 3rd XI. Melbourne University 3rd XI v Dandenong 3rd XI. Ringwood 3rd XI v Fitzroy Doncaster 3rd XI. Greenvale Kangaroos 3rd XI v Frankston Peninsula 3rd XI.

Fourths. Carlton 4th XI v Richmond 4th XI. Casey South Melbourne 4th XI v St Kilda 4th XI. Northcote 4th XI v Footscray 4th XI. Camberwell Magpies 4th XI v Kingston Hawthorn 4th XI. Melbourne 4th XI v Geelong 4th XI. Dandenong 4th XI v Melbourne University 4th XI. Fitzroy Doncaster 4th XI v Ringwood 4th XI. Frankston Peninsula 4th XI v Greenvale Kangaroos 4th XI. Essendon 4th XI v Prahran 4th XI.

Sub-District

East-West 1st XI. Round 4. One-Day. Balwyn 1st XI v Taylors Lakes 1st XI. Box Hill 1st XI v Altona 1st XI. Croydon 1st XI v Williamstown 1st XI. Donvale 1st XI v Melton 1st XI. Mt Waverley 1st XI v Werribee 1st XI. Hoppers Crossing 1st XI v Noble Park 1st XI. Spotswood 1st XI v Bayswater 1st XI. Yarraville 1st XI v Endeavour Hills 1st XI

East-West 2nd XI. Taylors Lakes 2nd XI v Balwyn 2nd XI. Altona 2nd XI v Box Hill 2nd XI. Williamstown 2nd XI v Croydon 2nd XI. Melton 2nd XI v Donvale 2nd XI. Werribee 2nd XI v Mt Waverley 2nd XI. Noble Park 2nd XI v Hoppers Crossing 2nd XI. Bayswater 2nd XI v Spotswood 2nd XI. Endeavour Hills 2nd XI v Yarraville 2nd XI.

North-South 1st XI. Coburg 1st XI v Moorabbin 1st XI. Ivanhoe 1st XI v Port Melbourne 1st XI. Kew 1st XI v Oakleigh 1st XI. Plenty Valley 1st XI v Caulfield 1st XI. Brighton 1st XI v Brunswick 1st XI. Elsternwick 1st XI v Strathmore 1st XI. Malvern 1st XI v Preston 1st XI. Ormond 1st XI v St Bernard's OC 1st XI.

North-South 2nd XI. Port Melbourne 2nd XI v Ivanhoe 2nd XI. Oakleigh 2nd XI v Kew 2nd XI. Caulfield 2nd XI v Plenty Valley 2nd XI. Brunswick 2nd XI v Brighton 2nd XI. Strathmore 2nd XI v Elsternwick 2nd XI. Preston 2nd XI v Malvern 2nd XI. St Bernard's OC 2nd XI v Ormond 2nd XI. Moorabbin 2nd XI v Coburg 2nd XI.

North-West 3rd XI. Division 1. Brunswick 3rd XI v Hoppers Crossing 3rd XI, cancelled. Plenty Valley 3rd XI v St Bernard's OC 3rd XI, cancelled. Preston 3rd XI v Taylors Lakes 3rd XI, cancelled. Werribee 3rd XI v Melton 3rd XI, cancelled.

North-West 3rd XI. Division 2. Altona 3rd XI v Coburg 3rd XI, cancelled. Kew 3rd XI v Williamstown 3rd XI, cancelled. Yarraville 3rd XI v Strathmore 3rd XI, cancelled. Ivanhoe 3rd XI v Spotswood 3rd XI, cancelled.

North-West 4th XI. Division 1. Hoppers Crossing 4th XI v Brunswick 4th XI, cancelled. St Bernard's OC 4th XI v Plenty Valley 4th XI, cancelled. Taylors Lakes 4th XI v Preston 4th XI, cancelled. Melton 4th XI v Werribee 4th XI, cancelled.

North-West 4th XI. Division 2. Cancelled: Coburg 4th XI v Altona 4th XI. Spotswood 4th XI v Ivanhoe 4th XI. Williamstown 4th XI v Kew 4th XI. Strathmore 4th XI v Yarraville 4th XI

South-East 3rd XI. Division 1. Cancelled: Caulfield 3rd XI v Bayswater 3rd XI. Mt Waverley 3rd XI v Elsternwick 3rd XI. Oakleigh 3rd XI v Malvern 3rd XI. Sunday, November 9: Croydon 3rd XI v Balwyn 3rd XI, cancelled.

South-East 3rd XI. Division 2. Cancelled: Brighton 3rd XI v Ormond 3rd XI. Donvale 3rd XI v Noble Park 3rd XI. Endeavour Hills 3rd XI v Box Hill 3rd XI. Port Melbourne 3rd XI v Moorabbin 3rd XI.

South-East 4th XI. Division 1. Cancelled: Balwyn 4th XI v Croydon 4th XI. Elsternwick 4th XI v Mt Waverley 4th XI. Malvern 4th XI v Oakleigh 4th XI. Sunday, November 9: Bayswater 4th XI v Caulfield 4th XI.

South-East 4th XI. Division 2. Ormond 4th XI v Brighton 4th XI. Noble Park 4th XI v Donvale 4th XI. Box Hill 4th XI v Endeavour Hills 4th XI. Moorabbin 4th XI v Port Melbourne 4th XI.

Diamond Valley

Barclay Shield. Bundoora United 1st XI v Heidelberg 1st XI. Diamond Creek 1st XI v Bundoora 1st XI. Macleod 1st XI v Riverside 1st XI. North Eltham Wanderers 1st XI v Epping 1st XI. Rosanna 1st XI v Rosebank 1st XI.

Money Shield. Plenty 1st XI v Greensborough 1st XI. Eltham 1st XI v Banyule 1st XI. Mernda 1st XI v Bundoora Park 1st XI. Lower Plenty 1st XI v Research Eltham Collegians 1st XI. Lalor Stars 1st XI v Montmorency 1st XI.

Mash Shield. Hurstbridge 1st XI v South Morang 1st XI. Lower Eltham 1st XI v Rivergum 1st XI. Panton Hill 1st XI v Keon Park CC 1st XI. Thomastown United 1st XI v Dennis 1st XI. Old Ivanhoe Grammarians CC 1st XI v Mill Park 1st XI. Laurimar 1st XI v Thomastown 1st XI

B-Grade. Banyule 2nd XI v Diamond Creek 2nd XI. Heidelberg 2nd XI v Plenty 2nd XI. Research Eltham Collegians 2nd XI v North Eltham Wanderers 2nd XI. Riverside 2nd XI v Mernda 2nd XI. Montmorency 2nd XI v Rosanna 2nd XI

C-Grade. Bundoora 2nd XI v Eltham 2nd XI. Greensborough 2nd XI v Bundoora United 2nd XI. South Morang 2nd XI v Lower Plenty 2nd XI. Riverside 3rd XI v Macleod 2nd XI. Rivergum 2nd XI v Lalor Stars 2nd XI

D-Grade. North Eltham Wanderers 3rd XI v Lower Plenty 3rd XI. Mill Park 2nd XI v Panton Hill 2nd XI./ Montmorency 3rd XI v Diamond Creek 3rd XI. Bundoora Park 2nd XI v Old Ivanhoe Grammarians CC 2nd XI. Rosebank 2nd v Hurstbridge 2nd XI. Keon Park CC 2nd XI v Laurimar 2nd XI.

Eastern

Dunstan Shield. Old Carey 1st XI v Mont Albert 1st XI. East Doncaster 1st XI v East Malvern Tooronga 1st XI. Bulleen 1st XI v Edinburgh 1st XI. North Balwyn 1st XI v Glen Iris 1st XI.

Wright Shield. Richmond City 1st XI v Marcellin OC 1st XI. Surrey Hills 1st XI v Canterbury 1st XI. Ashburton Willows 1st XI v Heathmont 1st XI. Mulgrave 1st XI v Deepdene Bears 1st XI.

A Turf. Boronia 1st XI v Balwyn Saints 1st XI. Hawthorn Boroondara 1st XI v Old Carey 2nd XI. Burwood 1st XI v Mazenod OC 1st XI. Mont Albert 2nd XI v Ashwood 1st XI

B Turf. Heathmont 2nd XI v East Doncaster 2nd XI. Canterbury 2nd XI v North Balwyn 2nd XI. Deepdene Bears 2nd XI v Bulleen 2nd XI. Richmond Union 1st XI v St. Kevins Old Boys 1st XI

C Turf. La Trobe University 1st XI v Boronia 2nd XI. East Malvern Tooronga 2nd XI v Hawthorn Boroondara 2nd XI. Glen Iris 2nd XI v Burwood 2nd XI. Edinburgh 2nd XI v Mulgrave 2nd XI.

D Turf. Ashwood 2nd XI v Ashburton Willows 2nd XI. Mazenod OC 2nd XI v Richmond City 2nd XI. Marcellin OC 2nd XI v Surrey Hills 2nd XI. Old Carey 3rd XI v Mont Albert 3rd XI

E Turf. Deepdene Bears 3rd XI v Heathmont 3rd XI. Balwyn Saints 2nd XI v La Trobe University 2nd XI. East Malvern Tooronga 3rd XI v Hawthorn Boroondara 3rd XI. Edinburgh 3rd XI v Surrey Hills 3rd XI. Marcellin OC 3rd XI v Richmond Union 2nd XI

F Turf. Surrey Hills 4th XI v East Malvern Tooronga 4th XI. Bulleen 3rd XI v St. Kevins Old Boys 2nd XI. Hawthorn Boroondara 4th XI v East Doncaster 3rd XI. Sunday, November 9: Mont Albert 4th XI v Richmond City 3rd XI. Bye: Heathmont 4th XI

MacGibbon Shield. West Ivanhoe United 1st XI v Deepdene Uniting 1st XI. STC South Camberwell 1st XI v Trinity Willison 1st XI. Glen Waverley 1st XI v Holy Trinity 1st XI. Burwood Unt. Canterbury 1st XI v Clifton Hill 1st XI

Burt Shield. Clifton Hill 2nd XI v Glen Waverley 2nd XI. Holy Trinity 2nd XI v Burwood Unt. Canterbury 2nd XI. St. Paul's Oakleigh District 1st XI v Toorak Prahran 1st XI. Trinity Willison 2nd XI v North Alphington 1st XI

Morn. Peninsula

Provincial Firsts. Mornington 1sts v Dromana 1sts. Langwarrin 1sts v Red Hill 1sts. Baden Powell 1sts v Sorrento 1sts. Pines 1sts v Heatherhill 1sts

Peninsula Firsts. Balnarring 1sts v Somerville 1sts. Long Island 1sts v Seaford CC 1sts. Mt Eliza 1sts v Moorooduc 1sts. Old Peninsula 1sts v Rosebud 1sts.

District Firsts. Rye 1sts v Crib Point 1sts. Carrum Downs 1sts v Flinders 1sts. Main Ridge 1sts v Boneo 1sts. Seaford Tigers 1sts v Carrum CC 1sts.

Sub-District Firsts. Tyabb 1sts v Mt Martha 1sts. Tootgarook 1sts v Frankston YCW 1st. Ballam Park 1sts v Pearcedale 1sts. Skye 1sts v Baxter 1sts. Bye: Delacombe Park 1sts.

North Metro

Jika Shield. Fiji Victorian CC 1st XI v Preston Baseballers CC 1st XI. Camrea Stingrays CC 1st XI v Donath CC 1st XI. Northern Socials CC 1st XI v Olympic Colts CC 1st XI.

Jack Quick Shield. Cameron CC 1st XI v Fiji Victorian CC 2nd XI. Bellfield Bulls CC 1st XI v West Preston CC 1st XI. Reservoir Cobras CC 1st XI v Strathewen Cougars CC 1stXI

Jack Kelly Shield. Preston Baseballers CC 2nd XI v Royal Park Reds 3rd XI. Ivanhoe Mavericks CC 1st XI v Fairfield CC 1st XI. West Preston CC 2nd XI v Preston YCW District 1st XI

B-Grade. Fiji Victorian CC 3rd XI v Wollert Rhinos CC 1st XI. West Preston CC 3rd XI v Northern Socials CC 2s XI. Fairfield CC 2nd XI v Bellfield Bulls CC 2nd XI

C-Grade. Royal Park Reds 4th XI v Camrea Stingrays CC 2nd XI. Olympic Colts CC 2nd XI v Fiji Victorian CC 4th XI. Preston Baseballers CC 3rd XI v Bellfield Bulls CC 3rd XI Bellfield Bulls CC 4th XI v Reservoir Cobras CC 2nd XI

DODC. Camrea Stingrays CC OD v Kinglake CC OD. Preston YCW District OD v Cameron CC OD. Bye: Donath CC OD.

Ringwood District

Lindsay Trollope Shield. One-Day. Norwood 1XI v Lilydale 1XI. Croydon Ranges 1XI v North Ringwood 1XI. South Croydon 1XI v Ainslie Park 1XI. Montrose 1XI v St Andrews 1XI.

Bill Wilkins Cup. Wantirna South 1XI v Warranwood 1XI. Vermont 1XI v Kilsyth 1XI. Wonga Park 1XI v East Ringwood 1XI. Bayswater Park 1XI v Mt Evelyn 1XI. Heatherdale 1XI v Mooroolbark 1XI

Stuart Newey Plate. Templeton 1XI v Seville Burras 1XI. Warrandyte 1XI v Heathwood 1XI. Chirnside Park 1XI v South Warrandyte 1XI. Yarra Junction 1XI v Healesville 1XI

Steve Pascoe Shield. Croydon North 1XI v Montrose 2XI. Ainslie Park 2XI v South Croydon 2XI. North Ringwood 2XI v Warrandyte 2XI. East Ringwood 2XI v Norwood 2XI

Pat Meehan Shield. Kilsyth 2XI v Lusatia Park 1XI. Warranwood 2XI v Wonga Park 2XI. Eastfield 1XI v Croydon Ranges 2XI. Lilydale 2XI v Templeton 2XI

Ian Spencer Shield. St Andrews 2XI v Vermont 2XI. South Warrandyte 2XI v Wantirna South 2XI. Heathwood 2XI v Coldstream 1XI. East Ringwood 3XI v Chirnside Park 2XI. Mooroolbark 2XI v Heatherdale 2XI

David Beatty Shield. North Ringwood 3XI v Bayswater Park 2XI. Norwood 3XI v Wandin 1XI. Mt Evelyn 2XI v Montrose 3XI. Seville Burras 2XI vYarra Glen 1XI

Don Smith Shield. Wonga Park 3XI v Warrandyte 3XI. Ainslie Park 3XI v Hoddles Creek 1XI. St Andrews 3XI v Croydon Ranges 3XI. Warranwood 3XI v Kilsyth 3XI

John Springett Shield. Healesville 2XI v Yarra Junction 2XI. Montrose 4XI v Eastfield 2XI. Chirnside Park 3XI v Lilydale 3XI. Lusatia Park 2XI v Croydon North 2XI

A-Grade. Heatherdale 3XI v Powelltown 1XI. South Croydon 3XI v St Andrews 4XI. Mooroolbark 3XI v Norwood 4XI. Wantirna South 3XI v Wonga Park 4XI

B-Grade. Kilsyth 4XI v Heathwood 3XI. Warrandyte 4XI v Mooroolbark 4XI. South Warrandyte 3XI v Mt Evelyn 3XI. Coldstream 2XI v Templeton 3XI

C-Grade. Wantirna 1XI v East Ringwood 4XI. Croydon Ranges 4XI v Chirnside Park 4XI. St Andrews 5XI v Warrandyte 5XI. Healesville 3XI v North Ringwood 4XI

D-Grade. Croydon Ranges 5XI v Warranwood 4XI. Lilydale 4XI v Norwood 5XI. Wandin 2XI v Heatherdale 4XI./ Yarra Junction 3XI v Mooroolbark 5XI.

South-East

Longmuir Shield. Two Days. Sats., Nov. 8 and 15. East Sandringham 1 v Kingston Heath 1. Washington Park 1 v Brighton Union 1. West Bentleigh 1 v Bentleigh Uniting 1

Western

A-Grade. Two Days. Sats., Nov. 8 and 15. Tarneit Central 4th XI v Altona Sports 1st XI. Truganina Strikers CC Yellow 1st XI v Manor Lakes 2nd XI. West Point Titans 2nd XI v Williams Landing SC 1st XI.

Regional Briefs

Bundled branches

Households in the **Yarra Ranges** will be able to put out bundled branches for collection in late November, as part of their bushfire season preparation.

From mid-November, properties in the **Yarra Ranges** will have a scheduled bundled branches collection, where up to three cubic metres of branches can be collected free of charge.

Branches must be tied with non-plastic string, with no more than 20 bundles of branches. Each limb or log should be no longer than 1.5 metres, and no wider than 200mm (20cm). This is to ensure they can be mulched effectively.

Yarra Ranges Mayor, **Cr Jim Child**, said the bundled branches collection was an easy way for properties to get rid of limbs, sticks and branches that pose a risk in a bushfire.

Sewer upgrade

Yarra Valley Water will soon begin sewer upgrade works in **Wallan** to improve the reliability of their network and increase capacity for the area's growing community.

The project involves:

- building a new permanent sewer pump station near **Mittagong Creek**, and
- installing a sewer pipeline from the new pump station to **Butler Court, Wallan**.

The works will be delivered in stages.

Part A includes tunnelling under **Watson Street** and installing new pipes along the road reserve and private properties to **Butler Court.**

Hwy Works begin

Contractors have commenced work on repairing wire rope barriers on the **Goulburn Valley Hwy** between **Yea-Molesworth-Yarck.**

The necessary works have featured in latest issues of ***The Local Paper - Regional Edition.***

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Local Football

WHO WILL BE IN TEAM OF THE CENTURY?

The **Glen Iris Football Club** 'Team of our 20th Century' will be announced at a celebration to be held at 12 Noon on Friday, November 28, at the **Caulfield Glasshouse**, 31 Station St, **Caulfield**.

Two of the organisers, **Steve Lee** and **Debra Lee,** say: "The **Glen Iris Football Club**, established in 1925 and active until 1987, played a significant role in the sporting and social fabric of our local community.

"Across its proud history, the club secured premierships in the 1930s, 1940s,1950s, 1960s and in 1979, with many players going on to achieve distinction in the **VFL** and **VFA**.

"To celebrate this legacy, the Committee has researched and named the club's 'Team of our Century', recognising outstanding players dating back to the 1930s.

Among them are:

Jack Furniss (1930s), **Jack Sambell** (1920s-30s), and **David Kirby** (1960s) – who all went on to play at **Melbourne Football Club (VFL)**.

Alan Joyce – who played with **Glen Iris** in the 1960s then he played 49 games at **Hawthorn** before coaching two premierships in the **VFL** at **Hawthorn**. Also coached **Footscray** and interstate.

Paddy Walsh (1950s) – 4 time best and fairest winner at **Glen Iris** and **Prahran**, was named captain of the **Prahran Football Club** team of the century



● Glen Iris Football Club. 1949. Colourised.

People of local identity:

Paul Little is an **Australian** businessman and philanthropist. **Little** served as the managing director of **Toll Holdings** and was the former **Essendon Football Club** president. Played footy for **Glen Iris** as did his brother **David Little**

Noel Jones: a prominent **Glen Iris** identity who started up **Noel Jones Real Estate** in 1976 on the corner **High St** and **Malvern Rd** by 1983 he had opened three offices. There are now many **Noel Jones Real Estate** offices across **Melbourne** a viable business today. He was also **Glen Iris Club** secretary.

Neil McPherson: in 1986 he founded his own company **McPherson Real Estate Pty Ltd** with offices in **Camberwell** and **Glen Iris.** He played for the club, served on the committee, and president for three years including their last premiership year in 1979, and was awarded a Life Membership. Well respected public speaker on the subject both within the real estate industry and outside. **Neil** also had a racehorse in 70s its racing name was **Siri Nelg** which was **Glen Iris** backwards.

"Rumour has it that **Jack Furness** missed out in playing In the **Melbourne Football Club** premiership in 1940, after he was said to be in the **Australian Air Force** 'brig '(jail) for doing a low fly over of his parents' home in **Glen Iris**. He was a member of the 1939 **Melbourne** premiership side.

"The clubrooms at **Eric Raven Reserve** remain a hub of local history, and the **Committee** has gone to great lengths to preserve and celebrate this heritage, ensuring that the **Glen Iris Football Club's** story continues to inspire new generations."

★

Early timeline:

1932 - Eastern Suburban FL: Glen Iris was a founding club.

1933-35 - Eastern Suburban FL: Glen Iris participated.

1936-40 - Eastern Suburban FL B- Grade : Glen Iris participated.

1941 - Eastern Suburban FL A Grade : Glen Iris participated.

1945 (Eastern Suburban FL A Grade) - A Grade West - Grand Final: Glen Iris 13.16 (94) defeated Burnley 11.15 (81). Championship Final - Glen Iris 11.13 (79) defeated Box Hill 11.11 (77).

1946 - Eastern Suburban FL A Grade West Grand Final : East Hawthorn 13.15 (93) defeated Glen Iris 8.10 (58).

1947-49 - Eastern Suburban FL A Grade West : Glen Iris participated.

1950 - Eastern Suburban FL B-Grade : Glen Iris participated.

1951 - Eastern Suburban FL B-Grade Grand Final : Glen Iris 10.11 (71) defeated Glen Orme 9.9 (63).

Harness Racing

TRIPS TO SWAN HILL AND KAIKOURA

Friday October 31 was Swan Hill Pacers and Trotters Cup night on a lightning fast track with the $15,000 3SH Swan Hill Pacing Cup over the short trip of 2240 metres once again going to the powerful Emma Stewart/Clayton Tonkin (Cardigan) stable, giving them their fifth cup victory when lightly raced 3Y0 American Ideal-Manwarra Hatrick colt Tuivasa upstaged his older rivals to land the season's feature.

Driven by Mark Pitt, Tuivasa at start number seven was trapped three wide from gate six as Julie Douglas' ex-Kiwi Hes No Romeo first up in Oz exploded away from gate four to lead with reinswoman Ellen Tormey electing to take a trail on Tuivasa who had little trouble extending forward and assuming control.

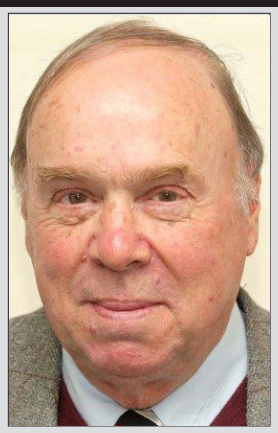
Given an easy time, Tuivasa shaken up on the final bend defied all challengers to record a 3.4 metre margin over rank outsider and polemarker Miki Sing (four pegs) weaving between runners approaching the home turn before using the sprint lane, with Curyo Gentleman (gate three second line) after going forward wide in the last lap third 2.1 metres back. The mile rate 1-55.6 after a lead time of 45.5 seconds and quarters of 30.9, 30, 27.9 and 26.9. The stable's previous winners were Restrepo (2013), Guaranteed (2014), Our Millianaire and Like A Wildfire (2024).

On a great program supplemented by the $12,000 Yabby Dam Farms Swan Hill Trotters Cup again over 2240 metres which was taken out by Bolinda trainer Brent Lilley with another former Kiwi in El Conqueror while also snaring the quinella when Maestro finished second.

In a most interesting race, El Conqueror (Tristan Larsen) pinged the tapes from the pole with Maestro (barrier three) immediately coming off his back for young New Zealander 22 year old Oliver Kite to crtoss, before handing the lead back to El Conqueror with the pair dictating terms, Connies President (barrier two) was three pegs being trailed by S-A visitor Gorgy Girl with another Adelaide hope Madame Kelly (10m) one/one and Tictok (20m) at the tail.

With the tempo hotting up in the last lap, El Conqueror driven cleverly couldn't be caught, reaching the wire by 1.9 metres in advance of Maestro, with Tictok (one/two – three wide home turn) third 3.2 metres back third in a last half of 56.9 – quarter 28.1. The mile rate 2-04.6.

Local Woorinen part-owner/trainer Joe Costa has been enjoying a profitable season and 4Y0 Always B Miki-Live In Abby mare My Bella was victorious in the 2240 metre Beck Legal Battlers In The Bush Maiden Pace. With Ellen Torney in the sulky, My Bella at start seven teen broke through for her first success by leading throughout from gate three, accounting for polemarker The Golden Hook by a neck which trailed from the pole after using the sprint lane. Ima Tiggy Tiger (gate four second line) also used the sprint lane on turning from five back the markers for third 5.3 metres away. The mile rate 2-01.7.



Harness Racing

with Len Baker

len-baker@bigpond.com

The 3SH Morning Rush Pace Final over 1750 metres saw Mildura trainer Andrew Vozlic combine with Ellen Tormey aboard 8Y0 Hes Watching-Jaz Tanner gelding Calf Pen successful. Enjoying a cushy passage three pegs from inside the second line, Calf Pen ran on best out wide on turning to register a 2 metre margin over the pacemaker Keayang Santiago (gate four) and polemarker Ronzel Micky which used the sprint lane off the back of the leader finishing 3.3 metres back. The mile rate 1-55.7.

Great Western trainer Peter Manning used the services of leading reinsman James Herbertson to capture the Mixx FM Pace over the sprint trip of 1750 metres in a sizzling mile rate of 1-52.3. Going forward three wide from gate five on the back of The Sportz Star (gate four) which after being wide obtained a one/one trail momentarily, Wild Bull pressed forward to take over for the last lap leaving The Sportz Star exposed chasing gamely before dropping to the back of Wild Bull approaching the final bend. Racing clear on turning, Wild Bull careered away to record an easy 16.1 metre victory over The Sportz Star which was gallant in defeat even though the margin was large. Triple Rock Saint (gate two second line – one/four) ran on late out wide for third 2.8 metres away.

Peter Manning was to make it a double after Petrock-Torque Lively 5Y0 gelding Hes All Torque scored in the 1750 metre Central Murray Live Pace. Going forward to race exposed from outside the front line as Hoorah Philtra (gate three) led for Jack Laugher, daughter/reinswoman Kerryn Manning sent Hes All Torque clear on straightening to score a 1.7 metre victory over the pacemaker who offered no resistance, returning a 1-53.3 mile rate. Polemarker Steel The Moment was third a neck away after trailing Hoorah Philtra and never gaining a clear run in the straight.

The Mixx FM The Morning Crew Pace over 2240 metres went the way of 8Y0 Shadow Play – Imachicitoo gelding Rojenbye giving Andrew Vozlic a double on the night. Settling three pegs from gate five, Rojenbye (gate five) driven by Alby Ashwood was able to extricate from three pegs tunning into the final bend and when eased wide on straightening, produced an electrifying burst of speed to record a half neck margin over a death-seating Maxy Bomber which circled the field from the extreme draw to sit parked mid-race, Lester (gate three) after leading was third a metre back. The mile rate 1-58.7.

Charlton trainer Tori Hutchins has 6Y0 Guaranteed-Celestial Diamond gelding Celestial Zodiac racing in great heart, chalking up his 15th victory (47 placings) in 91 outings when taking the 1750 metre Peter Walsh MP Member For Murray Plains Pace Final. Driven by Jordan Leedham, Celestial Zodiac (gate two second line) settled three back in the moving line as Leonard (gate four) led.

Snookered as both Sporting Rage (gate three) and We Deal In Diamonds (gate four second line) trailing ran past him in the last lap, Celestial Zodiac after angling wide on the home turn motored to the wire out wide to gain the day by a two metre margin from Joe Costa's Serene Rock (gate three second line) which had followed him throughout. Owen The Saints (four pegs from the extreme draw) used the sprint line for third a head away in a tremendous finish for a terrific night's racing.

Swan Hill will race again on Tuesday December 16.

Spectacular

I have just experienced one of the great trotting days in the world – the two day Kaikoura Cup meeting held at Kaikoura, north east of Christchurch prior to the Melbourne Cup.

Kaikoura is approximately 180 kilometres from Christchurch heading in the direction of the Picton Inter Island ferry terminal, Blenheim and Nelson the Island's sunshine capital which takes around two and a half hours on a most picturesque drive and these two days of racing on the Sunday and Monday have to be seen to be believed. There are many accommodation places available for visitors.

Kaikoura famous for whale spotting attracts many visitors throughout the year, while this two day fixture has massive crowds on both days at the South Bay race course overlooking the Pacific Ocean, where from many vantage points on course it appears that the horses and drivers are racing on the ocean surface making it so spectacular.

Monday is Kaikoura Cup Day and this year it was Auckland co-trainers Barry Purdon and Scott Phelan taking the $100,00 2400 metre feature with a horse by the name of Merlin driven by stable reinsman Zachary Butcher.

A prolific winning 5Y0 stallion by Art Major from Imaginary Bet who has a great record, Merlin began safely from barrier six before being shuffled back through the field mid-race to be one/three as Akuta from Mark Purdon's

Matamata stable began safely from barrier four to cross American Me (barrier three and Rocky May) to lead shortly after.

With no speed on, Scott Phelan set Sooner The Better (barrier two), a stablemate of Merlin forward from the one/one with around 1500 metres to travel in an effort to catch the leader napping, but failed leaving him parked for the remainder of the race,

Going forward three wide from one/three racing for the bell, Merlin sprinted swiftly to join Akuta in the back straight with the pair turning almost together as Akuta tried to kick away.

Moving on terms in the straight, Merlin was too strong over the concluding stages to register a half length margin, with Mo'unga (barrier seven – one/one – one/two) after following Merlin into the race on the home turn third three lengths away and Sooner The Better fourth.

The mile rate 1-57.2 (last half 58 – quarter 28.8) in a thrilling finale.

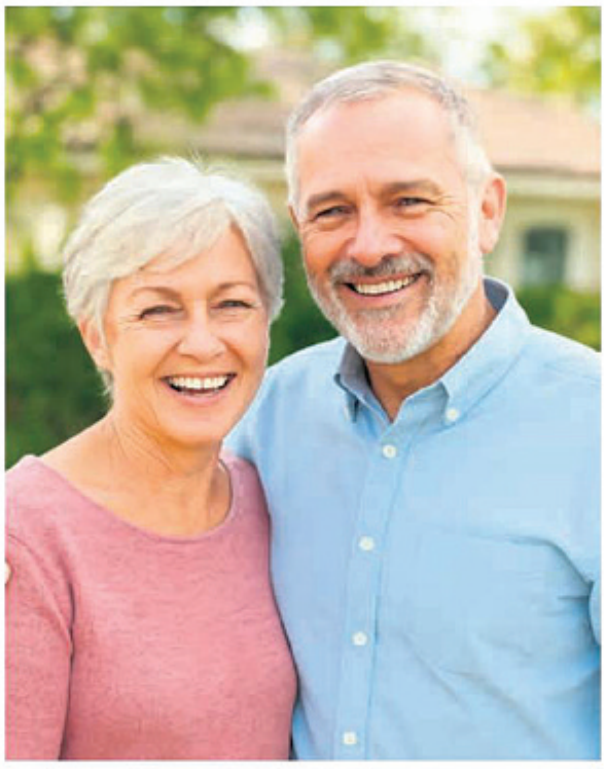
Do yourself a favour and go to www.harnessracingnewzealand.co.nz – racing – results and watch the race.

Len Baker

Sulky Snippets

WIMMERA VILLAGE

It's time to start enjoying your retirement years!







We have settled into Village life in 8 months. We enjoy privacy and planned social club activities. We appreciate the on-site facilities. Eg. Community centre where we were able to have a family birthday party for 14 members.

A tool shed and village garden. The produce from the garden is shared freely in the community centre. We've valued the speedy response and consideration of our unit maintenance of enhancement requests.

Shirley & Barry

Now available – three brand new homes ready for you to move in!

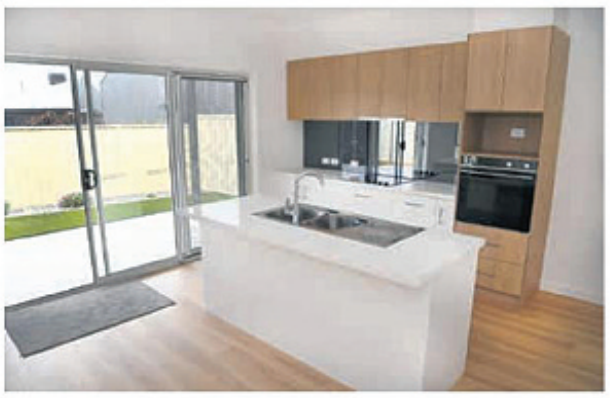


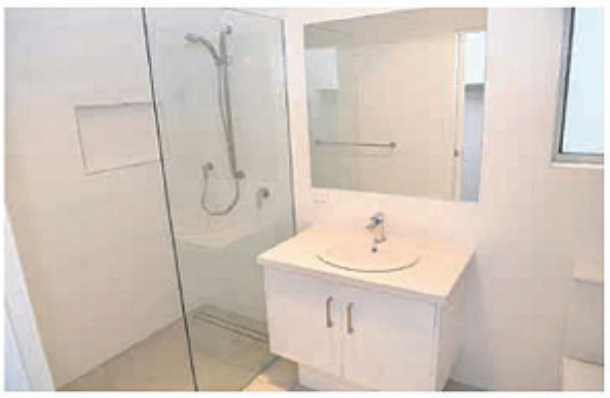
- 2 extra large bedrooms - master with ensuite & walk-in robe
- 2nd bathroom with laundry
- Open living with kitchen including dishwasher, dining and lounge with a study nook.
- Living area opens up to an alfresco area with a neat garden & large garden shed.
- In our village you will also find a community centre, community garden, work shed, pool/ games room, gym and caravan parking.



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Come and join our friendly community of over-55s! Experience a maintenance-free lifestyle with comfort, connection & peace of mind!



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Contact Kara – Manager, phone: (03) 5382 6403
Email: wimmera@auscare.com
Address: 8 Dumesny Street, Horsham

Kara
Wimmera Village Manager

Observer Health

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2025

In The Pink

Plants for pain

Up to 8 in 10 women experience period pain, and nearly half report PMS symptoms.

Professional netballer, Goal Attack **Kiera Austin,** 28, from Melbourne, will this week pivot from the court to front a national conversation about menstrual health, sharing how its symptoms can affect focus, energy, and performance.

She will discuss the potential of evidence-based, plant-based alternatives to traditional pain-relief medicines for millions of women and girls.

Disease control

Public health groups say they are delighted that legislation to create an **Australian Centre for Disease Control** – which they say is the most important piece of public health infrastructure in generations – has having passed the **Senate** and can start next year.

"Thanks to the many people who've put in hard work and long nights, showing it's a long way to the top to get a Centre for Disease Control," said **Adj Prof Terry Slevin**, CEO, **Public Health Association of Australia**.

Mental health

Safe Work Australia has revealed a sharp increase in work-related mental health claims between 2023 and 2024, now making up 12 per cent of all serious workplace claims.

NEW RESTRICTIONS ON INDEPENDENT NURSES

New telehealth rules will restrict nurse practitioners' ability to deliver high-quality healthcare, according to **Australian College of Nursing** Chief Nursing Officer, **Frances Rice**.

This will be a loss to **Australians**, particularly in remote and regional areas.

Patients of independent nurse practitioners will now be required to have had at least one face-to-face appointment within the prior 12 months to be able to claim a **Medicare** rebate for a telehealth appointment.

"In a health system desperately short of clinicians, independent nurse practitioners are a hugely valuable asset that we should be encouraging and supporting," **Ms Rice** said.

"We need to be using each and every health professional's skills and expertise to their full extent.

"Yet at every turn, nurse practitioners have to fight tooth and nail to be able to deliver care within a system that is often hostile to them.

"The telehealth rules are just the latest example of this."

While general practitioners are exempt from the new 'one-in-twelve' rule if they are registered with the **MyMedicare** system, independent nurse practitioners are excluded from registering with **MyMedicare**.



● Frances Rice

The Pulse

Cancer fight

A new clinical trial will investigate an accelerated, less burdensome treatment to improve quality of life for people with brain cancer, supported with $1.49 million in funding from the **Medical Research Future Fund**.

A **Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research**-led team of clinicians and researchers will collaborate on the trial, focused on glioblastoma – a highly aggressive and lethal brain cancer with an average survival time of 12 to 18 months.

Vitamin D down

Many **Australian** parents are unknowingly running on empty. Iron and vitamin D deficiencies are quietly affecting parents' energy, mood and focus – often mistaken for the usual exhaustion that comes with raising kids.

Nearly a quarter (24 per cent) of **Australian** adults are vitamin D deficient, while around two million **Australians** are low in iron, says **Touch Biotechnology.**

Women's wellbeing

Almost 50 per cent of women in midlife surveyed in a **Monash University**-led study had poor sexual wellbeing, including a doubling of the likelihood of desire and arousal dysfunction in early peri-menopausal women from premenopause. The study was published in in ***The Lancet Obstetrics, Gynaecology, & Women's Health.***

NOTICE TO PATIENTS OF
Mount Waverley Clinic
Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)
Health Records Act 2001 (Vic)

Matthew Rubinfeld Medical Pty Ltd (ACN 126822106), which operates a medical centre business in Victoria trading as Mt Waverley Clinic (**Business**), is pleased to announce that it has entered into an agreement to sell the **Business** to Bupa Health Centres Pty Ltd (**Bupa Medical**) (ACN 601 714 738), expected to be effective from 1 December 2025.

Patient health records (other than any records which patients direct Bupa Medical to deal with as outlined below) will be transferred to Bupa Medical, who will maintain and manage those records on an ongoing basis in accordance with accepted medical records management practices. If we hold health records of yours and you would prefer that we transfer your health information to another health service provider, or to you, please contact Bupa Medical on the contact details below as soon as possible.

Contact details:
Bupa Medical, 33 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, VIC, 3000
Email: bm.transition@bupa.com.au

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LOCAL NEWSPAPERS ACROSS MELBOURNE

Whether you need your message to reach one suburb, or all Melbourne suburbs and beyond, *The Local Paper* has digital and print solutions for you. *The Local Paper's* Melbourne Press Network publishes localised editions for 40 local government areas including:

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- **East.** Boroondara (north), Knox-Sherbrooke, Manningham, Maroondah, Monash, Whitehorse.
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- **South-East.** Cardinia, Casey, Frankston, Greater Dandenong, Mornington Peninsula (inc. Southern Peninsula and Western Port).
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Enviromental, Eco-Friendly, Natural or Green Funeral?

"I found 3 beautiful men who walked a wonderful line between caring and compassionate."

– Mrs P Anderson

Tribute Funeral Services

The answer to this question, to be environmentally friendly or 'green' to one person, is different to another.

The Great Debate - Burial or Cremation.

These are the choices that confront us after we die, and that final decision is based on the personal beliefs or wishes of the person, religious beliefs or cultural traditions, cost, or just convenience.

We are all aware today, of the environment, and the impact that we are placing upon it in our everyday lives, and more people are now looking at the impact that they will have when they die.

There are a number of factors to consider on "how green or eco friendly" a funeral service can be. Coffin or casket and the materials that it is made from, solid timber, honeycombe cardboard, or willow/wicker, the mortuary care of the person for the funeral service with embalming, the type of chemicals, low impact, natural or none at all. These factors all need to be weighed up.

Cremation

The average adult in a coffin, will generate about 160kg of CO_2, along with other greenhouse gases.

Burial

The average adult in a coffin, will generate about 40kg of CO_2 for the burial in a cemetery, however over time, with the cost of maintenance and upkeep to the grave and cemetery grounds will see a total footprint of about 178kg of CO_2.

Cremations are about 10% greener, than a Burial. Some choices can be made which can reduce this footprint ever further.

Embalming/Mortuary Care

Embalming is a process that stabilizes the body from deteriorating, and makes the person safe for funeral staff and family to touch during a viewing or the funeral service. Chemicals are now available made from natural compounds, which have a reduced environmental impact as they brake down over time with a cremation or burial. No embalming can be requested.



WOVEN BASKET

Natural Burial

A natural burial, is where a select number of public cemeteries have set aside a portion of the cemetery which has not been developed, a grass or bushland environment. The grave is dug for one person only and does not mix the surface and subsoils, with space between the graves to plant local native plants and trees to mark the grave site.





NATURAL PINE TIMBER, CALICO LINING, BEES WAX SEALED



HEMP AND COTTON SHROUD



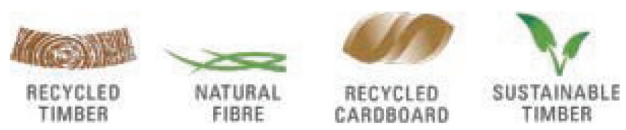
100% ECO CARDBOARD WITH BIO DEGRADABLE HANDLES



RETURN TO SENDER SEAFARER ECO PINE

Natural burial cemeteries require that environmentally friendly embalming or no embalming is carried out, and biodegradable coffins, such as eco pine, cardboard, shroud or wicker coffins be used.

The carbon footprint is minimized with this type of funeral service to 1/3rd of a cremation, about 53kg of CO_2, and can be offset by the planting of local and native trees on the grave site. There are several cemeteries around outer Melbourne who specialise in natural burials, Bunurong Memorial Park, Healesville Lilydale Memorial Park, and Carlsruhe Cemeteries.



Tribute Funeral Services

The staff at Tribute Funeral Services can provide advice on all aspects of an environmentally friendly green funeral service. For you or your loved one, a funeral service which not only reflects a concern for the environment, but for those they leave behind, and celebrates a life lived.

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ONLINE EDITION DATES - 2025

Go directly to **www.LocalPaper.com.au** or **www.MelbourneObserver.com.au** to read digital editions (exact replicas of print editions), free. Online edition dates in 2025 are: Feb. 5, Feb. 12, Feb. 19, Feb. 26, Mar. 5, Mar. 12, Mar. 19, Mar. 26, Apr. 2, Apr. 9, Apr. 16, Apr. 30, May 7, May 14, May 21, May 28, Jun. 4, Jun. 11, Jun. 28, Jun. 25, Jul. 2, Jul. 9, Jul. 16, Jul. 23, Jul., 30, Aug. 6, Aug. 13, Aug. 10, Aug. 27, Sep. 3, Sep. 10, Sep. 17, Sep. 24, Oct. 1, Oct. 8, Oct. 15, Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Nov. 12, Nov. 19, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, Dec. 10. Lodge ads by 4pm Friday prior to publication.

PRINT EDITION DATES - 2025

'Hard copies' available free through a network of outlets across Melbourne, Mornington Peninsula and selected country areas. Print edition dates in 2025 are: Feb. 5, Feb. 19, Mar. 5, Mar. 19, Apr. 2, Apr. 16, Apr. 30, May 14, May 28, Jun. 11, Jun. 25, Jul. 9, Jul. 23, Aug. 6, Aug. 20, Sep. 3, Sep. 17, Oct. 1, Oct. 15, Oct. 29, Nov. 12, Nov. 26, Dec. 10. Lodge your ads by 4pm Friday prior to publication.

PRINT EDITION AREAS

Eastern Suburbs Edition. Boroondara (north), Knox-Sherbrooke, Manningham, Maroondah, Monash, Whitehorse.
Lilydale and Yarra Valley Edition. Healesville, Lilydale, Mount Evelyn, Warburton.
Mitchell Strathbogie Edition. Avenel, Beveridge, Broadford, Euroa, Kilmore, Nagambie, Seymour, Wallan, Wandong-Heathcote Junction.
North-West Edition. Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Hume, Maribymong, Melton, Merri-bek, Moonee Valley. Moorabool, Wyndham
Northern Suburbs Edition. Banyule, Darebin (north - Preston-Reservoir), Darebin (south - Northcote, Thornbury), Nillumbik (urban), Whittlesea (urban).
Regional Edition. Mansfield, Murrindindi (Alexandra, Kinglake, Yea), Nilllumbik (rural), Whittlesea (rural).
Southern Cross Weekly Edition. Bayside, Boroondara (south), Glen Eira, Kingston, Melbourne, Port Phillip, Stonnington, Yarra.
South-East. Cardinia, Casey, Frankston, Greater Dandenong, Mornington Peninsula.

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Free non-commercial classified advertising is available for individual readers, selling iitems. Your ad can be up to 40 words. This service is available at the sole discretion of the Editor. Ads will appear for up to 4 weeks. Free ads are not available to businesses or organisations. Deadline: 4pm Fridays prior to Print Edition. You can lodge your Free Ad by:
• **WEB:** www.AdvertiseFree.com.au
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SOME ADVERTISING RULES

• All car advertisers must supply registration or Vehicle Identification Numbers. By law, we are unable to publish listings without those details.
• Any person or business advertising to sell or give away a dog, cat, puppy or kitten in Victoria must be enrolled on the Pet Exchange Register to obtain a source number, and must include this source number along with each animal's microchip number in all advertisements.
• Advertisers should be honest in their dealings. Claims should be true, accurate and based on reasonable grounds.

FREE non-commercial classified advertising is available for individual readers, selling iitems. Your ad can be up to 40 words. This service is available at the sole discretion of the Editor. Ads will appear for up to 4 weeks. Free ads are not available to businesses or organisations. Deadline: 4pm Fridays prior to Print Edition. You can lodge your Free Ad by:
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ALUMINIUM PUNT 4 metre, with all required safety equipment with relocatable folding seats plus 77.5hp Mercury outboard motor. GC. $1600. Seymour. 0410 032 064. NN-QQ

ANGLE GRINDER. XUL with cutting disc. 10mm impact, drill Xui. EC. $10. Mt Martha. 5973 4163. TT-XX

ANTIQUE FRIDGE. Norge Round Top. GC. $30. Seymour. 0422 204 977. TT-XX

BARBIE Dolls and barbie Dresses. GC. 10 for $250. Surrey Hills. 0410 626 110, 4pm-10pm. RR-W

BATHROOM TILES. To cover 270sq m. EC. $60. Ferntree Gully. 9758 3950. HH-LL

BBQ. Gas. 5-Burner. Wheels. New ignition assembly. Full gas bottle. EC. $100. Pascoe Vale. 04129 138 356. RR-W

BBQ. Red Centre. 45cm round. Large cast iron plate trivet for boiling. Also hose and wind shield. New, still in box. $45. Bittern. 0459 558 055 RR-W

BED. 3-seater and two seater. Red, vinyl. Dark wood trims. VGC. $300. Cranbourne, 0401 898 413. HH-LL

BED. Electric. King Size. High low. Head comes up to sitting position. Legs raise, bed tilts. 12 months old. No longer needed. Top quality mattress. EC. $3500. Yea. 0409 944 982. LL-OO

BICYCLE PUMP. Steel floor, pump active. Includes gauge to check correct pressure. EC. Paid $15, sell $5. Mt Martha. 5973 4163. TT-XX

BICYCLE SEAT. Black, Endzone Extragel. Paid $20, sell $10. Mt Martha. 5973 4163. TT-XX

BIKE. Lady's. Purple. Make: Huffey Friction. Complete with helmet and pump and basket. VGC. $120. Pakenham. 5940 5018. LL-OO

BOOKS. Collection of Mary Grant vintage books. Mostly VGC with dust jackets. Offers welcome. Research. 9437 1253. JJ-NN

BOOSTER SEAT. Mothers hoice. Convertible. 6 months to 8 years. VGC. $40. Whittlesea. 0494 380 264. HH-LL

BRICKS. 500. Clean, as new $400. 100 face bricks, $120. New. Bittern. 0419 582 437. PP-TT

BRICKLAYERS TUBE & CLIP SCAFFOLDING TUBES clips swivels joiners putlog clips base plates sole boards Oregon planks. Genuine offers only enquires welcome GC. $6000. Crib Point. 0419 935 807 PP-TT

CARAVAN CRUSADER. 17ft 1998 pop top, full annexe. reg July 26. double bed. new mattress. 3 way fridge. Gas cook top and grill. Tows well. GC. $9000. Toolangoi. 0448 438 790. TT-XX

CARAVAN. Millard Grand Champion 17 FT Air/ con 3 way fridge microwave gas cook top double bed plus two smaller singles full annex with floor van cover Pop Top 1170 kg registered many extras. GC. $12,750. Flowerdale. 0411 577 050 PP-TT

CHEST FREEZER. Haier. Three months old. $150. Reservoir. 0491 083 248. NN-QQ

CHILD'S Old Style Two-Seater School Desk. Steel frame, hardwood seat and desktop GC. $40. Yea. 0409 109 887. NN-QQ

CIRCULAR SAW. Skilsaw. 7¼" 184mm 2 1/8 HP. Lightweight. Powerful high torque motopr. textured front and rear handles. GC. $30. Mt Martha. 5973 4163. TT-XX

CLOTH FOOTBALL MASCOT. Footscray Bulldogs. 39cm tall. VGC. $65. Pick-up: Glenroy. 9306 7628 LL-OO

CRICKET MEMORABILIA. 19 books. Bradman Calendar 1908-2001. Plus 'Argus' Magazines 1950, 1951 x 2. GC. Box Hill South. 9890 7904. PP-TT

DOLL HOUSE. Three level wood house with wood furniture, carpets, accessories, two families, baby dog, cat, plates, cups. Made of ceramics. $130. Bundoora. 9467 8990 TT-XX

DRILL DRIVER. Ozito. 10mm, 28 ow, micro speed control, still in box. EC. $10. Mt Martha. 5973 4163. TT-XX

DISHWASHER. Norj. 13.7 litres per wash. Large. 2' wide, 2.9high. Not connected. New. Bought for $720. Sell $360. Alexandra. 0409 470 107. NN-QQ

ELECTRIC DRILL. Ryobi. 240V. 50Hz. 600w. With case. EC. $20. Mt Martha. 5973 4163. TT-XX

ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR. 'Pride Go Mobility Chair'. Hardly used. EC. $1400. Viewbank. John, 0418 583 120. LL-OO

ENCYCLOPEDIA. Complete set A-Z. GC. $60 ONO. Frankston. 9789 9634. HH-LL

FISHER PAYKEL Fridge Freezer. 8 months old. New. Cost $870, sell $400. Keysborough. Joe, 0402 385 692. HH-LL

FOOTBALL CAPS. Footscray. New. Pick up Glenroy or ost extra cost. $15 each. Glenroy. 9306 7628 LL-OO

FOOTWEAR. Navy woven leather. Diana ferrari. Sandal size 9, worn once. EC. $50. Ferntree Gully. 9758 3950. HH-LL



FORDSON Major Tractor. Comes with slasher, grader blade and harrow. GC. $7000 negotiable. Wonga Park. 0449 028 209. TT-XX

FRIDGE. Palsonic. Upright. 4'8" x 1.9". GC. $30. Seymour. 0422 204 977. TT-XX

GARDEN HOSE. 30 metres long. Good quality, heavy duty. GC. Paid $80, sell $20. Mt Martha. 5973 4163. TT-XX

GOLF CLUBS. Gents (13), Ladies (13).. And 200+ balls. GC. $400. Doncaster. 0409 414 417. NN-QQ

GRIDDLE. Cast iron. 33cm x 21cm. Very clean. As new. Pascoe Vale. 04129 138 356. RR-W

LAND. Expansive acreage ideal for farming or livestock. Secure paddocks, peaceful setting, close to amenities. Option to lease land only or house and land together. Suitable for genuine agricultural use. GC. $420/month for the land only. Land and house, $1500/month. Balnarring Beach. 0434189 449 PP-TT

LAWN MOWER. Ozito. Corded. With catcher. lightweight. Paid $149 at Bunnings. Sell $60. Mt Martha 5973 4163. JJ-NN

MATT BLATT egg chair on steel base. $130. Malvern East. 0419 685 666 PP-TT

MOBILITY SCOOTERS (2). Deceased estate. S840 (yellow). With battery, lights and all extras. EC. $1400. East Travel Elite, small and collapsable. Folds up easily buy very heavy. $500. Taylors Hill (Melton). Contact Len, 0401 679 745. TT-XX

MOBILITY SCOOTER. Mobility Scooter. Invacare Pegasus Metro- VGC Large 45km Range- Swivel Seat, Digital Dash, 10kph- Rear Bag, Shopping Basket, Spare Key & Charger. Too Many Features to List. Under Warranty, Can Deliver Free if Required. VGC. $1800. Moorabbin. 0401 980 969. PP-TT

MOTOR HOME.. With two solar panels for lights and air con. Double bed, gas cooker. Holden Rodeo 1998 rego till Feb. 24, 2026. Tour atlas inc. new battery and x bars. History of work completed. 1LB-2CN. VGC. $19,000 ONO. Alexandra. 0409 470 107. LL-OO

PARTS for Ford AUIIV8. Secondhand. Struts. New parts: ball joints, 2 boxes of parts. VGC. $1000. Seymour 0419 881 573. NQ

PIANOLA ROLLS. Around 50 rolls in all. Many older tunes. GC. $75. Malvern East. 0419 685 666. LL-OO

PHANTOM COMIC Collection. 1360. Continuous, No 692-1976. Also No 552 and 548. Replicas: 20 of between Nos 16-34. Doubles: 38. Phantom's World, 8x. Sell full collection only. Best reasonable offer. Ferntree Gully. 9758 8990. RR-W

PLUMBING FITTINGS. New. Box, 100m, sew/SW E/Boxes. Box: 100mm, 500mm, elbows, as new. New. $35. yea. 5750 2615. HH-LL

PRESSURE WASHER. Karcher. Good working order. little used, complete with operating instructions. Purchaser to collect. GC. $55. Doreen. 9717 3485. HH-LL

QUEEN COVER SET. Laura Ashley, cotton. Size: 220cm x 240cm with 2 pillowcases. Pale blue with thin white stripes. Never used. EC. $25. Ashburton. 9885 2203. TT-XX

RECORDS. Capital./ 78rpm Les Paul and Mary Ford, 14 records. Also 2 records, 33rpm. GC. 78 rpm - $50. 33 rpm - $15. Box Hill. 9890 7904. TT-XX

REFERENCE BOOK. Holden Commodore 1978. 42cm x 29cm. $85. Glenroy. 9306 7628 LL-OO

RIDE-ON Deutscher 280 Honda 390 motor run fine seal on shaft leaks, heaps of parts including new seat, new cutting plate body part dismantled, everything is there. GC. $500 or offer. yarck. 0414 718 812. NN-QQ

ROLLER DOOR Electric motor. 4 Doors brand. Near new Model 4DR1 v4 with remotes. Still has new stickers on it. EC. $100. Whittlesea. 0419 002 507. LL-OO

ROTARY CLOTHES LINE. Mk 2. Cost, $349. Sell $140. Doncaster. 0409 414 417. NN-QQ

RUG. Onkaparinga Squatter. Woollen. Tartan pattern. Red, purple, brown. 152 x 182cm. EC. $25. Ashburton. 9885 2203. TT-XX

SAWS. 5 vintage hand saws for woodwork. FC. $12. Also frame for manual sharpening included. GC. $12. Ashburton. 9885 2203. TT-XX

STATUES. Two garden vintage statues. 1: Greek lady, 66cm. 2: Bashful child, 59cm. 1 x buddha, 43cm, also baby deer snd four plaques. one tortoise, various designs. 10 peices. VGC. $300 ONO. Bittern. 0459 558 055. JJ-NN

TEDDY BEARS. Eight collectables. Also Pluck A Duck, Buzzy Bee, Disney's Goofy, Donald Duck and ET. $95. Bundoora. 9467 8990. TT-XX

TRESTLE TABLE. Lifetime. 4 foot. Bi-fold blow mould. EC. $25. mt Martha. 5973 4163. TT-XX

TWO-PERSON SAW. $90. Mill Park. 9436 8935. HH-LL

WHEELBARROW. $75. Mill Park. 9436 8935. HH-LL

WROUGHT IRON. Singer Sewing Machine Base. Marble top. Suiit gartden. Black. Needs painting. FC. $25. Surrey Hills. 0410 626 110. TT-XX

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FOR SALE



SAMPLE Free Photo Ad available in *The Local Paper* to private sellers.

PUBLIC NOTICES

GOD'S CHURCH invites faithful followwees of Christ to attend the New Testament local Passover night service. Alfredton, Ballarat. To secure your seat, 0419 327 366. N-P

THE SOUTH EAST CRCKET ASSOCIATION requires Umpuires. Full Training provided. Local competition. Women/girls most welcome. Payment up to $200 per day. Please reach out to Steve Jasek 0436 482 783 or Andrew Collison 0411 862 617. TT

WANTED

ANZ Bank 2010 Tiger Money Boxes. GC. $40. Mill Park. 9436 8935. HH-LL

RING PULLS off all aluminium cans and any quantity to assist towards people who need prosthetics and wheel chairs and walking frames. Genuine collector. Victoria wide. Ararat. 0458 339 871.

WANTED. Independent Support Provider for NDIS participant in Acheron, near Alexandra. Participant is 20yo male - living independently - loves outdoors,, nushwalks, fishing. Suit experienced male SP, contractor, registered, NDIS screening, refrences. Flexible hours. Immediate start. 0412 224 464. HH-LL

WHAT'S ON

***COMMUNITY GROUPS** can advertise their upcoming events in The Local Paper, without advertising charges. Go to the **What's On - Free Ad Form section** at the **www.LocalPaper.com.au** website*

Saturday, November 15. 10am-1pm. Annual Resident Fete. Berwick Brae Resident Fete at the village, 670-690 :Princes Hwy, Berwick. Stall, devonshire tea, sausage sizzle, raffles, entertainment. Proceeds towards charoty groups. $1-$6. Phone 8780 5300. adminberwickbraegardens @mecwarecare.org.au TT

Friday, December 8. 10am. Victoria Disability Sport abnd Recreation Festival 2025. People of all abilities can explore and experience accessable and inclusive sport and recreation at this annual Festoival. Attendees can join in hands-on activities, watch a thrilling wheelcahir rugby match, enjoy DJ entertainment, and meet world champion athletes. Free. At The Crown Promenade, 3 Whiteman St, Southbank. Phone 8652 9722. dsr.org.au/vdsr-festival TT-XX

PUBLIC NOTICES

PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE AN EXISTING MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION AT ROWVILLE

1. Telstra is proposing to upgrade an existing mobile phone base station at 1101 Wellington Road, Rowville VIC 3178 via the co-location of new Telstra facilities. RFNSA: 3156025.
2. The proposed co-location will comprise nine (9) new panel antennas (measuring <2.8m long) using new mounts on the proposed triangular headframe 22.4m above ground level on the existing 25m high Indara monopole, the installation of three (3) new outdoor units within the existing fenced compound, along with associated ancillary works and the installation of auxiliary equipment.
3. In accordance with Section 7 of the Industry Code C564:2025 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment, we invite you to make comments about the proposal.
4. Please direct comments to Planning Consultant (on behalf of Telstra) at planning.vic@servicestream.com.au, 0477 962 725 or by post to: Service Stream (Wireless) - Level 11, 2 Wentworth Street, Parramatta, NSW 2150 by **5pm Wednesday 26th November 2025.**

For more information about the proposal, scan the QR Code or visit http://www.rfnsa.com.au/3156025

Service Stream Ltd A.B.N. 46 072 369 870
Telstra Ltd A.C.N. 086 174 781

PUBLIC NOTICES

PROPOSAL TO INSTALL A MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION ON THE EXISTING MONPOLE AT COCOROC VIC 3030

1. Telstra is proposing to install a mobile phone base station on the existing 26m Monopole at LITTLE RIVER ROAD, COCOROC VIC 3030, Lot 1 on TP117617
2. In summary, this upgrade will comprise of:
   - Installing (6) 4G/5G Panel Antennas on a new headframe on the top of the existing Indara Monopole
   - Installing ancillary equipment
   - Installation of a Telstra Equipment Shelter
3. We invite you to provide your feedback or request further information by contacting us at: Emily Wardlaw on behalf of Telstra, 0422 685 472, PO BOX 586, Elsternwick VIC 3185, consultation@acquirecomm.com.au. We will accept submissions until **5pm on Thursday 27th of November 2025.**
4. For more information, please visit www.rfnsa.com.au/3211004

Telstra Limited A.C.N 086 174 781
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OPTUS vodafone

PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE AN EXISTING MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION AT MELBOURNE

1. Optus and Vodafone are proposing to upgrade an existing mobile phone base station at 2 Swanston Street, Melbourne VIC 3000.

2. The proposed upgrade will consist of:
   - Replacement of the existing shroud with a new shroud with a slightly larger diameter;
   - Replacement of two (2) existing shared Optus/Vodafone panel antennas with two (2) new shared Optus/Vodafone panel antennas (each not more than 2.8m in length);
   - Installation, relocation and removal of ancillary equipment, including sixteen (16) new Remote Radio Units (RRUs), a GPS antenna, mounts, feeders, cabling, combiners, and other associated equipment; and
   - Internal works within the existing outdoor units.

3. In accordance with Section 7 of the Industry Code C564:2025 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment, we invite you to make comments about the proposal.

Please direct comments to Vanessa Wan at 0447 240 015 or via email at Optus.submissions@servicestream.com.au or via post at Level 3, Tower B, Zenith Centre, 821 Pacific Highway, Chatswood NSW 2067 by **5pm, Thursday 27 November 2025.**

For more information about the proposal, scan the QR Code or visits www.rfnsa.com.au/3000062.

OPTUS

PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE AN EXISTING MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION AT MICKLEHAM

1. Optus is proposing to upgrade an existing mobile phone base station at 1327 Hume Fwy, Mickleham VIC 3064.

2. The proposed upgrade will consist of:
   - Replacement of one (1) existing panel antennas with one (1) new panel antennas (each not more than 2.8m in length);
   - Installation, relocation and removal of ancillary equipment, including two (2) new Remote Radio Units (RRUs), a GPS antenna, mounts, feeders, cabling, combiners, and other associated equipment; and
   - Internal works within the existing equipment shelter.

3. In accordance with Section 7 of the Industry Code C564:2025 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment, we invite you to make comments about the proposal.

4. Please direct comments to Vanessa Wan at 0447 240 015 or via email at Optus.submissions@servicestream.com.au or via post at Level 3, Tower B, Zenith Centre, 821 Pacific Highway, Chatswood NSW 2067 by **5pm, Thursday 27 November 2025.**

For more information about the proposal, scan the QR Code or visit www.rfnsa.com.au/3064002.

News Extra

Intense blaze

Fire Rescue Victoria responded at 9.42pm on Saturday (Nov. 8) to an incident on **Patterson St, Ringwood East**, after callers to Triple Zero (000) reported a house fire.

Firefighters arrived within four minutes to find a single storey brick building well alight.

Due to the intensity of the fire, firefighters were initially unable to enter the home to conduct a search. The house was reported to be inhabited by squatters.

A search later confirmed no persons inside the building. No injuries have been reported.

The fire was declared under control at 10.17pm.

Cause of the fire had not been determined, but has been deemed suspicious, said a **fire Rescue Victoria** representative.

Station plans

Gabrielle Williams, Minister for Transport Infrastructure, on Sunday (Nov. 9) unveiled the **Boronia Railway Station** designs, which feature a striking new station forecourt canopy inspired by nearby **Dandenong Ranges** flora and an expanded concourse to improve connections across the rail line.

A new landscaped plaza between the station and **Dorset Rd** will create more green space and seating, while also providing a new community meeting place and simplifying pedestrian movement between the station and **Boronia's** shopping precinct.

The station concourse will be widened, with the ticket office relocated to the **Erica Avenue** entry and the protective services office moved to the **Lupton Way** entrance – boosting safety through improved visibility across the plaza and station area.

Accessibility will be enhanced with an upgraded pick-up and drop-off zone on **Lupton Way**, better footpaths to both station entrances, and more bike hoops and improved cycling connections.

Melton fire

Fire Rescue Victoria respondedat 5.42am Saturday (Nov. 8) to an incident on **Coburns Rd, Melton**, after callers to Triple Zero (000) reported a house fire.

Crews arrived on scene within five minutes to find a single storey home fully involved in fire and threatening to spread to adjoining homes.

Firefighters established firefighting hose lines to protect adjoining residences.

Crews entered the building and contained the blaze. There were no injuries.

NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR A PLANNING PERMIT

APPLICATION DETAILS
Application reference number:
P25/1054
The Land affected by the application is located at:
3 KELBURN COURT SOMERS
LOT 28 LP 85188 VOL 8826 FOL 810
The application is for a permit to:
DEVELOPMENT OF A DOUBLE STOREY DWELLING AND FENCING, VEGETATION REMOVAL AND VARIATION OF ARESTRICTIVE COVENANT TO VARY PERMITTED MATERIALS
A permit is required under the following clauses of the planning scheme:

Planning Scheme Clause:	Matters for which a permit is required
Clause 42.01-2 (ESO20)	Construct a building or construct or carry out works.
Clause 42.01-2 (ESO20)	Remove, destroy or lop any vegetation, including dead vegetation.
Clause 42.02-2 (VPO1)	Remove, destroy or lop any vegetation specified in the schedule to this overlay.
Clause 42.03-2 (SLO2)	Construct a building or construct or carry out works.
Clause 42.03-2 (SLO2)	Remove destroy or lop any vegetation.
Clause 42.03-2 (SLO4)	Construct a building or construct or carry out works.
Clause 42.03-2 (SLO4)	Remove destroy or lop any vegetation.
Clause 43.02-1 (DDO3)	Construct a building or construct or carry out works.
Clause 43.02-1 (DDO3)	Construct a fence specified in the schedule to this overlay.
Clause 52.02	Create, vary or remove an easement or restriction.

Applicant name:
TOM ROBERTSON ARCHITECTS
The Responsible Authority will not decide on the application before:
26 NOVEMBER 2025
How can I find out more? You may look at the application and any documents that support the application free of charge at: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au
You may also call (03) 5950 1010 to arrange a time to look at the application and any documents that support the application at the office of the responsible authority, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council. This can be done during office hours and is free of charge.
Privacy Notification: *The personal information provided in an objection is collected for planning purposes in accordance with the Planning & Environment Act 1987 (the Act). The public may view an objection in accordance with Section 57 of the Act whilst the planning application is current*

The Local Paper

OPTUS vodafone

PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE AN EXISTING MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION AT TEMPLESTOWE

1. Optus and Vodafone are proposing to upgrade an existing mobile phone base station at 177 Templestowe Road, Templestowe Lower VIC 3107 (16~A\PP2264).

2. The proposed upgrade will consist of:
   - Replacement of three (3) existing Optus/Vodafone shared panel antennas with three (3) new Optus/Vodafone shared panel antennas (each not more than 2.8m in length);
   - Installation, relocation and removal of ancillary equipment, including GPS antennas, Mast Head Amplifiers (MHAs), mounts, feeders, cabling, combiners, and other associated equipment; and
   - Internal works within the existing equipment shelter.

3. In accordance with Section 7 of the Industry Code C564:2025 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment, we invite you to make comments about the proposal.

Please direct comments to Vanessa Wan at 0447 240 015 or via email at Optus.submissions@servicestream.com.au or via post at Level 3, Tower B, Zenith Centre, 821 Pacific Highway, Chatswood NSW 2067 by **5pm, Thursday 27 November 2025**.

For more information about the proposal, scan the QR Code or visits www.rfnsa.com.au/3105003.

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Key features

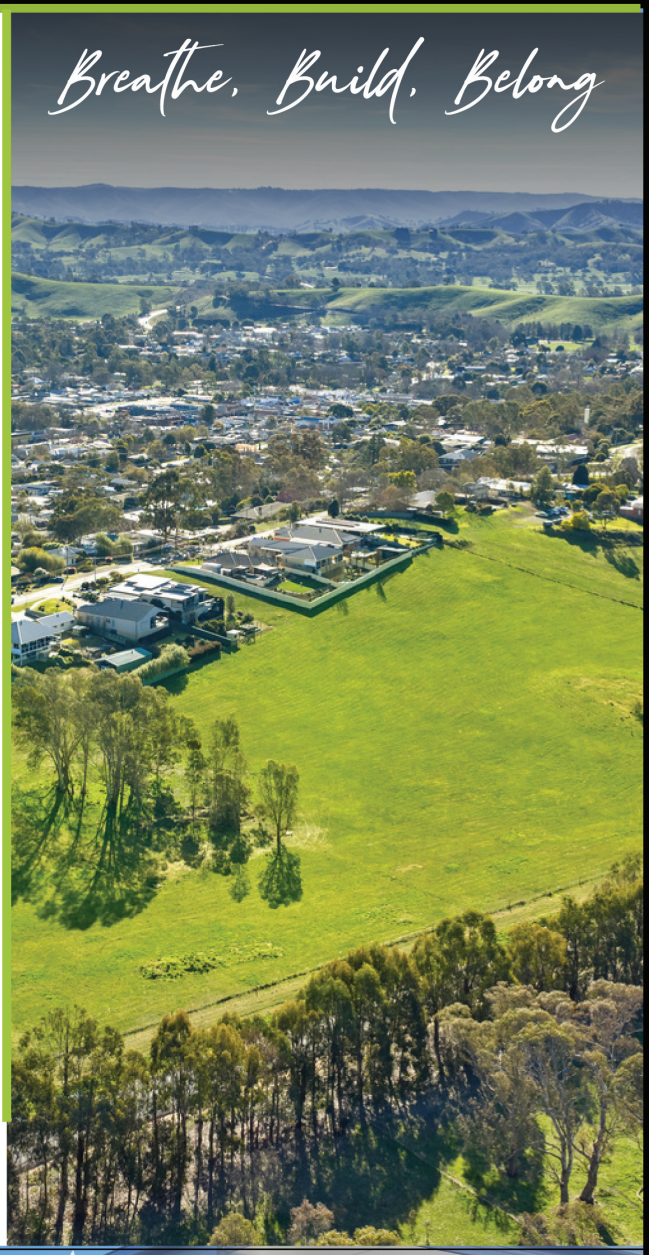
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- The chef-inspired kitchen is a masterpiece of design and functionality, flooded with natural light from grand picture windows.
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- Solar panels, a double lock-up garage and a substantial three-bay barn with automated roller doors & a concrete floor. This exceptional estate promises a lifestyle of tranquillity, space, and privacy - a rare sanctuary where every detail has been considered to deliver comfort & elegance.

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Belinda Hocking
M 0418 115 574



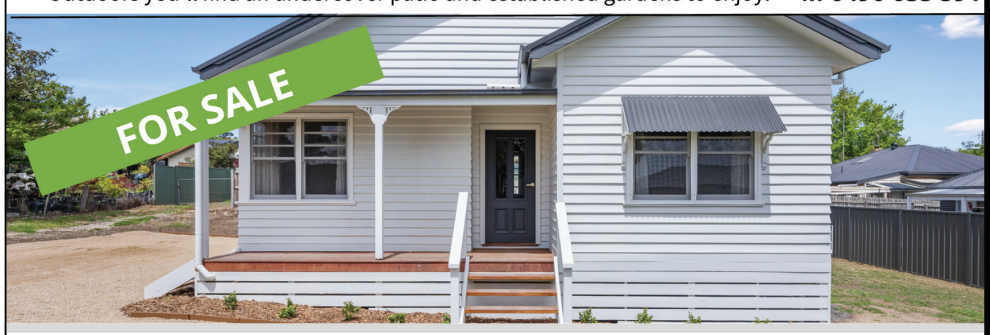
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Charming, Light & Bright Timber Home!

- Set on a 544sqm low maintenance block, is this beautifully renovated 3-bedroom timber home with spacious living.
- Freshly painted interior, new carpet, and a stylish new bathroom.
- Re-stumped, re-wired and a new roof added.
- There are two toilets (one in the laundry).
- In a fantastic location, in walking distance to the main street. Ideal for retirees, professionals or downsizers seeking comfort, style & simplicity.

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