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The Buloke Times

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For the Shire of Buloke, and the districts of Birchip, Charlton, Donald, St. Arnaud, Watchem and Wycheproof

Eighteen-Year Partnership at Charlton Kindergarten: Exceptional Educators

In almost all cases, you will find that the people who are successful at life were once helped by someone in their past – someone who cared about them and wanted them to flourish.

Many past and present Charlton Kindergarten students will recognise educators, Sharon McLean and Deb Whykes, as their “special someone”, who’ve helped to shape their foundations for life.

Sharon and Deb were given a fitting farewell luncheon, surrounded by parents, guardians, colleagues and students past and present, as they both closed a chapter on their 18-year teaching partnership at the kindergarten last Tuesday.

The event organisers ensured that the room was festive and colourful. The ceiling was filled with balloons and the tables were

filled with delicious party finger food. It was made to be all about the children – just as Sharon and Deb would have wanted.

The formalities were kept succinct, a testament to Sharon and Deb’s gracious natures and professionalism, as all the while their gaze was fixed on retaining the full attention of the kindergarten’s

• *Right: Sharon McLean (left) and Deb Whykes closed a chapter in their 18-year teaching partnership on Tuesday, celebrating their retirement as educators at the Charlton Kindergarten with a great big kids’ party.*

• Continued on page 2.



Get Ready for Friday’s Finale

Donald Chamber of Commerce and Industry’s \$10,000 “Donald is Alive with th Sound of Music” shopping promotion will reach its climax on Friday, when Woods Street will take on a festive season atmosphere, and winners will be drawn, at 7 p.m..

Nine winners will share in the \$10,000 prizepool, with a major prize of \$5,000.

And through the generosity of 72 businesses servicing Donald and district there will also be numerous voucher prize packs to be won.

It is local business’s way of saying “thank you for supporting us, in the lead up to Christmas, and also during what has again been a challenging year.”

Chamber president, Kez Duncan, invites all town and district residents to congregate in Donald for the draw, and also to take one of the last opportunities to finish off Christmas shopping, prior to Sunday’s eagerly anticipated arrival of Santa Claus.

“It will be a big party night in Woods Street, kicking off around 4 o’clock with live entertainment, including a jumping castle, face painting, Pedal Go Karts, Pony Paradise,” said Kez.

“Woods Street will be closed to through traffic from 3 p.m., to ensure the safety of those enjoying the special activities.

“And for the littlies, there will be a pop up playgroup, between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m., to help take the pressure off Mums and Dads, who may have other important things to focus on, like ticking off all the items on their Christmas gift list.”

Music

To help create a relaxed party mood in Woods Street, live music will be provided by local legend, Leo “Weed” Tellefson, and Mikala McNeil.

And adding to the variety of food available from local businesses, the popular Donald Lions Club barbecue will be in operation.

There will also be a prawn spinning wheel, with prizes that are just the shot for a delicious seafood snack on Christmas day.

\$10,000 Up for Grabs

As previously mentioned, the major prize for the first entry ticket drawn on Friday will be a \$5,000 shopping voucher (to be spent at any of the participating businesses).

There will also be prize vouchers of \$2,000 for second, \$1,000 for third, \$500 for fourth and fifth, \$250 for sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth.

And then there are numerous valuable vouchers and other goodies making up prize packs, that will certainly add a dash of Christmas cheer to the winners’ festive season.

• Continued on page 2.



Spreading the Christmas Sale Message

Love Shack Giftware’s Stacey Morris employed a different means of promoting her Christmas sale by engaging 7-year-old Kurtis Grant (left) and 9-year-old nephew Arden Morris as mobile sandwich board carriers last Saturday morning.

Kurtis and Arden patrolled Woods Street, letting all and sundry know that there were bargains to be had, together with a discount, if the purchaser used the special codes, printed on their respective boards.

Friday’s “Times”

Friday’s issue of the “Times” will be the last for the year. It could also be the biggest.

To enable pre-Christmas mail and delivery deadlines to be met, advertisers and others wishing to book space are asked to lodge their copy at Donald

or Birchip offices by 5 p.m. today (Tuesday), December 20.

To ensure sporting results are included, they can be sent by email to buloket@inet.net.au.

Your co-operation would be greatly appreciated.

The Name of Marion

That is the name which was used at the christening of the mother of all members of the "Times" editorial panel, though she was better known to friends as Maysie.

It was also the name chosen by one member for his second daughter, who is now Marion Kossowska.

Moreover, it is the name of the wife of a former partner in the "Buloke Times", Brian Bayles.

All this has nothing to do with the ACT Writers' Centre's choice of their new name, which has been changed to a simple: "Marion".

The chairman of the board says that, in doing so, the board is tipping the hat to "the creative forces" that have influenced the region, the prominent Canberra authoress Marion Halligan, and the architect-artist, Marion Mahony Griffin.

The Buloke Times

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2022

The latter person was the wife of Walter Burley Griffin, who helped her husband design Canberra, as well as the Capitol Theatre in Melbourne and Melbourne University's Newman College (the alma mater of the Donald dentist, Con Whelan).

The ACT news sheet, "City News", sees no good reason for the change of name. Its music critic, with tongue in cheek, writes that it could be the start of something which would really put the city on the map.

For instance, other organisations could benefit in the same way as the Writers' Centre has done. The National Film and Sound Archive could be reborn as

"Snowy", after the long-time ignored Snowy Barker. And the National Gallery could be renamed "Betty", after the director Betty Churcher.

The arts editor politely suggested that the wider community would have difficulty in Googling the name when looking for writers' support services.

The cartoonist said that the renaming reflects the idea of the ACT as arts centre of Australia. The ACT is going for "bonkers surrealism with a pinch of dada". Like all good surrealism, "it makes no sense at all".

The paper has a passing shot at the name change. It points out that the best-known Western film actor, John Wayne, appears in the birth record as Marion Robert Morrison, his original given name. He was not known for writing anything.

The new sheet ends by issuing invitation: to anyone who has one word to describe the government of the Australian Capital Territory.



• Left to right, Zachariah Clapham, Elijah Mansibang, Sophie Burke, Libby Griffiths.

St. Mary's School Celebrates 2022

St. Mary's School, Donald, celebrated the 2022 school year with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Gerry Prunty, on Monday, December 12.

Students gathered to sing carols to a packed church prior to the Mass commencing.

The F-Grade 2 students opened the Mass with a song and dance routine to the song "Celebration". These students had investigated this concept during fourth term and it was a brilliant way for the celebrations to begin!

The Graduation Class of 2022 — Sophie Burke,

Zachariah Clapham, Elijah Mansibang and Libby Griffiths — gave farewell speeches reflecting on their years at St. Mary's School. They also shared a powerpoint presentation of memories from their time at the school.

Awards presented to the Graduation Class off 2022 were as follows:

Pat Lambert Award for Academic Achievement in The Arts: Zachariah Clapham

MLA Award for Academic Achievement in Literature — Sophie Burke.

MLA Award for Academic Achievement in Mathematics: Libby Griffiths.

MLA Award for Academic Achievement in Overall Improvement: Elijah Mansibang.

Sisters of the Mission Award for Excellence in Religious Education: Sophie Burke.

Exceptional Educators

• Continued from page 1. current cohort of 18 bright-eyed youngsters.

These youngsters, like those before them, will come to realise that the fun activities Sharon and Deb created, held much more meaning.

Learning how to hold and use information in their minds for short periods of time, shift attention between completing tasks, self-control and to maintain attention despite distractions, are all essential executive function skills needed to cultivate talents, pursue

dreams, and prepare for the future.

Sharon acknowledged the considerable support provided by the community during her 37-year tenure and Deb's 18-year tenure.

They expressed their gratitude to those who have worked alongside them, taking up committee roles, giving their time to fundraise, ensuring that the services and facilities were always of a high standard.

The children arose in an orderly fashion, under the

watchful eyes of the kindergarten's new educators to present Sharon and Deb with thoughtful gifts, including a photobook containing highlights of their years of service at the kindergarten.

Sharon and Deb welcomed the positive influence the new educators, Trudi Van De Wetering and Bree McPhee, would bring to the community; however, admitted it would be difficult to part company with "the 3s 4s and 5s". They will miss them the most.

Get Ready for Friday's Finale

• Continued from page 1.

Enter Now

• It's not too late to get your entries in for the big draw.

Each time you shop at any of the participating businesses listed on this page, you become eligible to receive an entry voucher if your purchase is over \$20 and up to \$100. If the value if over \$100 and up to \$200,

you will receive two entry coupons, and so on.

All you need to do is write your name and contact details in the space provided and lodge the completed entry in one of the collection bins, located at Weir's IGA, Donald Newsagency, Johnno's Diner, Mensland and Donald Hardware, by 12 noon on Friday, and after that time in the bin to be located in the mall.

DONALD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY PRESENT

DONALD IS ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF CHRISTMAS

SHOP IN DONALD MOUNT JEFFCOTT

2022 CHRISTMAS SHOPPING PROMOTION

BE A WINNER AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES

1G Building
All About Jean
Ag Plus Grain Services Pty Ltd
Artie's Home Maintenance
Ask for Art
Australian Eatwell
BB Harvesting Pty Ltd
Bev's Baubles
Buloke Firearms
Bullock's Head Tavern
Buloke Tag & Test
Buloke Hire
Buloke Plumbing Pty Ltd
"Buloke Times"
DCIRS Community Care
D'Luxe Body & Beauty
Donald & District Community Bank
Donald Auto Electrical
Donald Bakery
Donald Hardware
Donald Hotel/Mels Shiniess & Rusties
Donald Mechanical & Tyre Service
Donald Motor Cycles
Donald Motor Lodge
Donald Newsagency
Donald Pharmacy
Donald Plumbing & Air Conditioning
Donald Post Office
Donald Riverside Motel

Donald Steel
Donald Timber Yard
Donald's Family Butcher
Dunstan Engineering
Elders Insurance
Elite Contender 24/7 Gym
Gav's Cleaning
Gilchrist & Co Pty Ltd
GJR Computers
Goldy's Patch
Green and Gold Photography
Harberger Equipment
Hardingham's Plumbing & Electrical
Hogan Builders & Cabinet Makers
Jasper & Co
JH Penfold
Johnno's Diner
Kell's Funerals
Kooka's Country Cookies
Krahe's Pest Control
Leigh Nunn Building
Liston Newton Advisory
Look First Op Shop
Love Shack Giftware/Love Your Travels
Mensland
Mel & Co Cookies
Michaels of Donald
Mount Jeffcott Hotel
North West Real Estate

Novalea Designs
Nutrien Harcourts Real Estate
Peaco
Platter and Play
Revtoy Transport/Signs R Us
S & R Beauty Salon/Sweet Treats
SA Coffee and Co
Shearing Shak
Spuds Café
Stuchbery and Daughter Consultancy
The Clothes Bin
Weirs IGA
Woods St Cafe

Shop in Donald to win a share of \$10,000

Prize Distribution	
1 st - \$5,000	6 th - \$250
2 nd - \$2,000	7 th - \$250
3 rd - \$1000	8 th - \$250
4 th - \$500	9 th - \$250
5 th - \$500	Voucher Packs

Purchases \$20 & Over equates to One Entry Ticket, Drawn Friday 23rd 7pm, Donald Mall

Charlton Probiants Head to Maldon

In late November, 20 travelled to Castlemaine and boarded the steam train and travelled to Maldon via Muckleford, where part of the film "The Dress Maker" was filmed.

Arriving in Maldon, Probiants went to the Maldon Hotel for lunch, which was enjoyed by all. After spending time window shopping or some shopping, Probus members had a really friendly day, thanks to friendly bus driver, Ross.

Christmas Lunch

December 2022 was The Probus Club of Charlton Christmas Lunch at East Charlton Hotel.

The club inducted Bev Mullholland as a new member, and hopes she enjoys her time in Probus.

December birthday anniversaries: Patricia Saunders, Kim Wishart, Sue Walsh, who received birthday wishes from all Charlton Probiants.

The Christmas hat winners were, men, Greg Barnard, ladies, Marg Byrne.

A lovely meal, a few draws in the raffle and some songs from Greg was an enjoyable way to spend the day. And as members went their own ways, they wished every one best wishes for a great Christmas and happy New Year.



• Charlton Probus members on the Castlemaine Station platform, ready to board.



• December birthdays, left to right, Patricia Saunders, Kim Wishart and Sue Walsh.



• Greg Barnard (man's hat winner) and Jenny Barnard.

Christmas Message from Jade Benham

I swear when I went to bed last night it was Easter, and I've woken up this morning and it's almost Christmas. Where on earth has 2022 gone?

Oh that's right, it's been swallowed up by two elections, a couple of covid isolations, rain, hail, floods, snow on the alps in December and all of the day-to-day activities we try to fit into our lives.

While it has been a challenging time for those who have had to close businesses due to floods, and those who've lost crops due to hail, the year ahead is looking bright, albeit, not very hot.

Christmas should be a time to rest, relax and recharge, but this Christmas will be challenging for a lot of you. Our mental health and wellbeing can certainly be tested at this time of year and I encourage you to use the services available to you should you feel the need.

Rural healthcare and roads will be my top priorities in the year ahead, as will being out in the community to talk directly to you to ensure I am

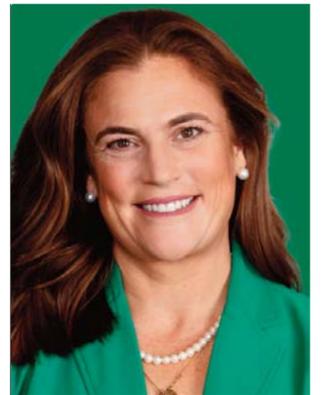
giving our community a voice in Victorian Parliament.

I'll never be far away and encourage you to use our listening posts, market stalls and events to come and have a chat in the new year.

For now, stay safe; the roads and the rivers are dangerous places at the moment, so take care and have a magical festive season with those you love most.

Jade Benham,

The Nationals Member for Mildura



• Jade Benham

Meet Santa at Wycheproof Park

Wycheproof Lions invite everybody to come to the Centenary Park on Christmas Eve for Santa in the Park.

Wycheproof Lions have been running this family

event for over 50 years. They are pleased to announce that because of the generous sponsorship they have received from the Buloke Shire and Excell Farms this year, there will be no charge for the sausage sizzle. So come along, bring your family, bring your children to meet Santa and enjoy a free meal.

In addition to the usual Christmas stocking lucky ticket, there will be 14 lucky people who will win \$50 vouchers to local businesses.



• Bev Mullholland (left), Sue Walsh (sponsor) and president Sandra Patton.

The Buloke Times

Coloured Photographs

Copies of "Times" photos can be purchased from our office/s.

Photos not published may also be available.

Call in to our offices, McCulloch Street, Donald, phone 5497 1222; or Cummming Avenue, Birchip, phone 5492 2735.

"Times" Classifieds

Phone Donald 5497 1222, Birchip 5492 2735 Email admin@buloketimes.com

Deadlines:— **Tuesday's Issue:** Classified advertisements (single column), 10 a.m. Monday. Display advertisements (2 or more columns), 3 p.m. Friday prior. **Friday's Issue:** Classified advertisements (single column), 10 a.m. Thursday. Display advertisements (2 or more columns), 3 p.m. Wednesday prior.

DEATH MURRAY.— Peter John "Teddy"

27/07/1957 - 15/12/2022

Much loved partner to Marie and family.

Cherished son of Bern and Leonie (both dec.). Loved brother of Des (dec.) & Butts, Kev & Virginia, Coll & Keith, Nev & Jo, Yvonne & Robert, Kath, Bernie, Shane & Louise, Julie & Darren.

Adored "Uncle Teddy" to his 23 nieces and nephews and 27 great nieces and nephews.

Reunited with mum and dad.

Rest easy now Ted.

FUNERAL MURRAY.—

A Funeral Mass for the Repose of the Soul of Peter John Murray, will be held at St. Patrick's Catholic Church Kerang, on Thursday, December 22, 2022 commencing at 2 p.m.

Burial to follow at the Kerang Lawn Cemetery.

To view a livestream of this service see

www.adamsfunerals.com.au



Printed and published for the proprietors by Robin Letts, at the office of "The Buloke Times", 6 McCulloch Street, Donald.

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

We would like to sincerely thank everyone for their condolences, cards, warm wishes and support on the passing of our dear wife, mother and nan.

Special thanks to the staff at the Birchip Hospital, Dr. Owa, and Ballarat Oncology for your wonderful care shown to Margaret.

—David Nichols and family



Christmas Crib Services

Parish of Charlton-Donald
Anglican Diocese of
Bendigo

You are invited to our Christmas Crib Service which will include the Nativity story and Christmas Carols.

Thursday, December 22
St Paul's, Birchip 4 p.m.
St George's, Donald
6.30 p.m.

Friday, December 23
St Martin's, Charlton
4 p.m.
Holy Trinity, Wedderburn
6.30 p.m.

All Welcome

*Reverend Judi Bird
0435 593 359*

FOR SALE

3 Male Beagle Puppies

Microchipped - 956 0000
1334 2586, 956 0000 1334
1035, 956 0000 1334 7384,
RB Dog ID - RB110265.

Puppies come with all papers, microchipped, 1st vaccination, wormed, etc., and booklet of instructions.

Ready to go to their forever homes around January 5, 2023. Ph. 0438 131 939.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE

LIONS CLUB OF BIRCHIP PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

The Birchip Lions Club will be running a photographic exhibition in March 2023, the theme will be "Wildlife - Flora and Fauna"

Further details will be advised early in the new year.

Look First Op. Shop

68 Woods St, Donald
Christmas Gifts

Clothes, toys, jewellery,
knick knacks

Christmas Trees

Gift vouchers

Used Furniture

Displayed in Bev's Baubles

Art Deco table

Magnificent Doll's House

Check Our Facebook page

WYCHEPROOF LIONS SANTA IN THE PARK

Christmas Eve

Free sausage sizzle
for all. BYO drinks.
Christmas stocking
+ 14 gift voucher
lucky tickets.

Sponsored by Wycheproof
Lions, Buloke Shire Council
and Excell Farms

Donald 2000 Presents

BBQ & Opening of Scilley's Island Bridge

Thursday, December 22

6 p.m. @ Woods St entrance

~ With special guests ~

For further information contact Daryl Warren
0427 194 422



Dine-in, Takeaway
& Home Delivery

SPECIALS

Phone orders 5497 1410

DID YOU KNOW? The Donald Hotel sells everything from stocking stuffers to Christmas gifts and more! *Why not pop in and have a look?*
126 Woods St, Donald Ph. 5497 1410

BIRCHIP MEDICAL CLINIC

26-28 DUNCAN STREET BIRCHIP, VIC 3483

Dr Daniel Owa of the Birchip Medical Practice wishes to advise that the Birchip Medical Practice will be closed from **Friday, December 23, 2022 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.**

Patients will require enough scripts to cover them during this period. If scripts are needed, please make an appointment with Dr Owa prior to **Thursday, December 22, 2022.** Patients who require INRs will need to make an appointment to organise these tests at the EWHS Birchip Campus.

The following arrangements have been made;

EMERGENCIES;

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL 000

URGENT MEDICAL ISSUES:

EWHS Birchip Campus (03) 5477 7100

Dr Daniel and the staff of the Birchip Medical Practice would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy and prosperous New Year.

bendigobank.com.au



Do in a friend
If you know someone celebrating a birthday, or wedding anniversary or some other special occasion, let us know and we'll let the world know!

- Dec. 23, Brian Downes
- Dec. 25, Keith Adcock
- Dec. 25, Marty Burchell
- Dec. 25, Emma Burke
- Dec. 25, Jayke Fisher
- Dec. 26, Gail Frankling
- Dec. 28, Mitzi Black
- Dec. 28, Julian Smith
- Dec. 31, Kate Clark
- Dec. 31, Stacey Dunstan
- Dec. 31, Bronwyn McLoughlan
- Jan. 1, Max Sands

- Jan. 18, Goff Letts
- Jan. 23, Pamela Barber
- Jan. 23, Con Nieuwboer

- Jan. 3, Teagan Anderson
- Jan. 3, Keiarah Brooks
- Jan. 5, Piper Smith
- Jan. 14, Tayla Wyllie

Darrell Lea Fine Chocolates **JOHN SANDS**

If you know someone celebrating a special anniversary, let us know at
Donald Newsagency & Emporium
For all your Greeting Cards, Wraps, Ribbons and Stationery needs.
37 Woods Street, Donald. Phone 54971510.

DONALD

PRIMARY SCHOOL

DONALD PRIMARY SCHOOL is advertising a **full time teacher position for 2022-23.**

Interested teachers can apply using [Recruitment Online](#) or ring the Principal Gavin Young at school on 54 971 581 for further information.

**Kooka's
Country
Cookies**

**Management and
Clerical Position**

Please forward letter of application with your resume to: admin@kookas.com.au

**BULOKE
SHIRE COUNCIL**

**Notice of an Application
for a Planning Permit**

The land affected by the application is located at **74-76 Campbell Street, Birchip & 11 Hillgrove Street, Birchip.**

The application is for a permit for a **subdivision of land (boundary realignment and consolidation).**

The application reference number is **PA22007.**

You may look at the application and any documents that support the application on the **Buloke Shire Council** website or by making contact with the office of the Responsible Authority, **Buloke Shire Office, Wycheproof.**

This can be done during office hours and is free of charge. Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions to the Responsible Authority.

An objection must be sent to the Responsible Authority in writing, include the objectors name and contact details, include reasons for the objection, and state how the objector would be affected. An objection form is available on the Planning and Building page of the Buloke Shire Council website.

The Responsible Authority will not decide on the application before **5 January 2023.**

If you object the Responsible Authority will tell you its decision.

Wayne O'Toole
CEO Buloke Shire Council

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Have Both, Shop in Your Own Town!*

“Times” Classifieds

REX THEATRE
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boxoffice@rextheatre.org.au
rextheatre.org.au

COMING ATTRACTIONS

JANUARY MOVIES

**BLACK PANTHER:
WAKANDA FOREVER**
M 161 mins | Action | Adventure



Sat 7 Jan 8pm
Sun 8 Jan 2pm
Tue 10 Jan 8pm

STRANGE WORLD
PG 102 mins | Action | Family



Sat 14 Jan 8pm
Sun 15 Jan 2pm
Tue 17 Jan 8pm



Notice of an Application for a Planning Permit

The land affected by the application is located at **41 High Street, Wycheproof.**

The application is for a permit for an **extension to a dwelling in a Heritage Overlay.**

The application reference number is **PA22006.**

You may look at the application and any documents that support the application on the **Buloke Shire Council** website or by making contact with the office of the Responsible Authority, **Buloke Shire Office, Wycheproof.**

This can be done during office hours and is free of charge. Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions to the Responsible Authority.

An objection must be sent to the Responsible Authority in writing, include the objectors name and contact details, include reasons for the objection, and state how the objector would be affected. An objection form is available on the Planning and Building page of the Buloke Shire Council website.

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If you object the Responsible Authority will tell you its decision.

Wayne O'Toole
CEO Buloke Shire Council



Contract No. C116 – 2022/2023 WYCHEPROOF LIBRARY UPGRADE

The Buloke Shire Council invites tenders from suitably experienced and qualified companies to provide construction works associated with the **redevelopment and extension of the Wycheproof Resource Centre for the addition of new multi-purpose library space**, works including but not limited to: Obtain a building permit for the works, demolition, framing, brick laying, fit out, tiling, flooring, cabinetry, electrical, plumbing.

A pre-tender meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 11 a.m. AEDT at 280 Broadway, Wycheproof VIC 3527. Attendance by prospective tenderers at the pre-tender meeting is recommended.

Copies of the tender documents are available for downloading from Council's e-Procurement portal at <https://portal.tenderlink.com/bulokeshire>.

Tenders must be submitted via Council's e-Procurement portal which may be found at <https://portal.tenderlink.com/bulokeshire> with **uploads to be completed prior to the close of tenders at 2 p.m. AEDT Wednesday, February 1, 2023.** Tenderers are solely responsible for ensuring that they allow sufficient time for their submission to upload before the tender closing time. Faxed or emailed tender submissions or tender submissions submitted by post and late tenders will not be accepted.

Council advise that the lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

Wayne O'Toole
CEO Buloke Shire Council

Wycheproof Probus Celebrates 20 Years

Wycheproof Probus celebrated its Christmas and 20th anniversary at the Royal Mail Hotel.

The day commenced with a welcome from vice-president Martin Duke to all in attendance and acknowledgement of the visiting Probus groups from Donald, Charlton, Kara Kara, St. Arnuaud and Ouyen, along with special guests Marjorie and Peter Nicholls.

Peter Nicholls was called upon as the inaugural president to say a few words, and recounted the early history of the group's foundation and the pride in which it has developed over those twenty years.

Congratulatory messages were read out from various clubs, and the Probus South Pacific Inc. forwarded a certificate honouring the occasion, which was presented to president Russell Bedggood.

Prior to the meal, Eleanor Pollard offered thanks and grace for what members were to receive.

The main course was a wonderful meal prepared by Terry Mathieson, and guests had no complaints about portion size.

The atmosphere and spirit was enhanced with Christmas songs by Michael Buble in the background and lucky door tickets. Plum pudding or Pavlova were offered as dessert; however, no three-

penny pieces were found in the plum pud.

After a most satisfying meal Russell Bedggood was called upon to present twenty year pins to Rob Grylls, Lyn Grylls, Wendy Hutcheon, Clare Keane, Diane McNaughton,

Eddie Molloy and Eleanor Pollard. He thanked them for the important contribution they had given to the community and Probus over the past twenty years.

Marie Harrison has once again produced a perfectly

decorated cake, with the Probus logo to celebrate the occasion.

The afternoon was a complete success, and all who attended went away in fine spirits and with a piece of Marie's cake.



• Current president Russell Bedggood with the inaugural President Peter Nicholls.



• Inaugural members, Eddie Molloy, current president Russell Bedggood, Diane McNaughton, Clare Keane, Eleanor Pollard, Wendy Hutcheon, Lyn Grylls and Rob Grylls (front).

Bill Ower Real Estate

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Keep Abreast with Local Happenings!

Don't forget Your Local Newspaper



Available from all district newsagents, or direct from the "Times" Offices, Donald or Birchip; or ring the Donald office (5497 1222) to arrange email or postal delivery.

Merry Christmas

As 2022 draws to a close, it's a good time to reflect and celebrate our achievements. I am continually humbled by the passion and generosity of our community. I want to thank everyone for their contributions to Buloke. It has been a particularly busy twelve months with a range of major projects and events. Our recent flooding event in October has tested our resolve again, and as we move into the New Year we will walk beside you through the recovery process. This Christmas, I encourage you to show kindness to family, friends and the wider community. Reach out and give to the less fortunate if you are able.

Mayor Cr Alan Getley



Colouring Bright Futures

Council has partnered with East Wimmera Health Service to release a summer holiday drawing and colouring activity book for primary aged children. The book contains ideas to draw, innovate and to explore colour. The books are part of Council's flood recovery and wellbeing response and encourage children to imagine their bright futures in Buloke Shire. Each page is also designed to be gifted to someone they care about. Pictured L-R: St Mary's Primary, Sea Lake, School Captains Zander Wight and Coby Wight with Principal Catherine Nunn.



Roadside Slashing

Council's 909km roadside slashing program is on track to wind-up ahead of Christmas. A little over 102km of roadside was yet to be completed at close of business, last Wednesday. This includes some areas where water has pooled due to localised rainfall and flooding, or where roads are closed and cannot be accessed. Council's works team will return to complete these areas when they can be accessed.

Australia Day Eve

Buloke Shire Council is hosting an Australia Day Eve event to celebrate our community. The 2023 event will be held at Watchem, and will feature:

- Citizenship Ceremony
- Presentation of Council's Australia Day Awards
- Presentation of Buloke's Best Lawn and Best Before and After Yard Maintenance Photo Competition Winners
- Representative speaker
- A community dinner, incorporating finger food for casual dining will be provided free-of-charge to the community.

Location: Watchem Hall 280 Belvilles Rd, Watchem
Date: 25 January 2022
Time: 5:30pm- 9:00pm

Support For Farmers

A range of support measures are available for flood-affected primary producers. Information about these measures can be found at agriculture.vic.gov.au/floods.

Flood Recovery Hotline: Victorians affected by the floods can call 1800 560 760 for help with navigating support, clean-up, finding somewhere to stay, mental health and wellbeing support. The recovery hotline is open from 7.30 am – 7.30 pm every day. Press 9 for an interpreter. For more information visit vic.gov.au/2022-flood-recovery.

- **\$75,000 Flood Recovery Grant:** eligible directly affected primary producers may apply for up to \$75,000 to help with the costs of clean-up and recovery. To apply, visit ruralfinance.com.au or call 1800 260 425.
- **\$15,000 Flood Recovery Transport Support:** eligible directly affected primary producers may apply for up to \$15,000 to support 50 per cent of costs for the transport of emergency fodder or stock drinking water, and the movement of livestock for agistment, sale, or slaughter. To apply, visit ruralfinance.com.au or call 1800 260 425.
- **Flood Recovery Concessional Loan:** eligible directly affected primary producers may apply for concessional loans of up to \$250,000 to restore or replace damaged assets, and meet general expenses incurred while the clean-up is underway. To apply, visit ruralfinance.com.au or call 1800 260 425.
- **\$25,000 Rural Landholder Grant:** if you do not meet the eligibility requirements for the \$75,000 Flood Recovery Grant, but operate a smaller scale Primary Production Enterprise, you may be eligible for a Rural Landholder Grant. To apply, visit ruralfinance.com.au or call 1800 260 425.
- **Rural Financial Counselling Service:** the Rural Financial Counselling Service offers free and independent financial information, options, decision making support and referral services to farmers and small, related rural businesses who are in, or at risk of, financial hardship. A rural financial counsellor can assist farmers to understand, and apply for, government support. Call 1300 771 741.



Wooroonook Amenities

The amenities block at Wooroonook Lake will remain closed awaiting further advice from external assessors on any restoration works required. An inspection was undertaken after the septic system's power heads became submerged when the site flooded in October. The power supply was isolated, however the system may still need to be replaced.

Berriwillock's NYE Pool Fun

Council's newly acquired pool 'Inflatables' were a huge success at their recent launch party at the Donald Pool. They include an obstacle course, inflatable volleyball and basketball. They will travel onto the Berriwillock Pool to ensure some splashing good fun on New Year's Eve, Saturday 31 December 2022. Children under the age of 10-years will need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Schools, community groups and businesses are invited to inquire about accessing the 'inflatables' during their pool bookings. They are free to hire. Council's Aquatic Team will endeavour to make them accessible when requested, however will be dependent on suitable weather and lifeguard availability.

Buloke's Amazing 'Inflatables' tour continues in 2023:

- 7 January – Sea Lake
- 14 January – Birchip
- 21 January – Watchem
- 28 January – Wycheproof
- 4 February – Charlton

Notice of Christmas Service Arrangements

Customer Service

Please note that Council will be closed from 12:00 noon on Friday 23 December 2022 until 8:30am Tuesday 3 January 2023.

Emergency and Maintenance Works

For emergencies, please call 1300 520 520 and follow the prompts for the service response required..

Swimming Pools

Swimming pools at Berriwillock, Birchip, Donald, Sea Lake, Watchem and Wycheproof will operate every day except for being CLOSED on Christmas Day. Charlton pool remains closed at this time, awaiting replacement plant parts. The extended school holiday pool opening times (2pm-7pm every day) will commence on Wednesday 21 December 2022.

Maternal and Child Health Service

All Council Maternal and Child Health Centres will be CLOSED from close of business, at 12:00 noon Friday 23 December 2022, reopening on Tuesday 3 January 2023. During January, only bookings for Key Age and Stages visit of 8 weeks and younger will be taken, taking into account staff shortages due to holidays. (MCH advice is also available via the 24 Hour Maternal and Child Health Line on 132 229.

Commonwealth Home Support Program/Vic HACC PYP

Normal services will be unavailable between Sunday 25 December 2022 and Monday 2 January 2023. Arrangements can be made for services deemed urgent by calling Marg Pollington on 0407 328 472 during normal office hours.

Meals On Wheels

Meals On Wheels delivery service will be available as normal.

Libraries

Buloke's Library Service will be CLOSED from 12:00 noon Friday 23 December 2022 until Monday 9 January 2023. Allowances will be made for borrowings that fall due over this period. Reduced hours of operation may occur during this period. Please call 1300 520 520 or visit the Council's website www.buloke.vic.gov.au/libraries for updates.

Kerbside Collection and Landfill

For all kerbside and recycle collections please ensure bins are out the night before collection and accessible to the garbage truck. Services are as follows:

Friday 23 December 2022

Normal garbage service for the townships of Donald and Corack Rural

All Landfills and Transfer Stations Open

Sunday 25 December 2022 (Christmas Day)

All Landfills and Transfer Stations CLOSED

Monday 26 December 2022 (Boxing Day)

Normal garbage service for Charlton, Watchem and Birchip.

All Landfills and Transfer Stations CLOSED

Tuesday 27 December 2022

Normal recycling service for Charlton, Watchem and Birchip

Donald Landfill Open

Friday 30th December 2022

Normal garbage service for the townships of Donald and Corack Rural

All Landfills and Transfer Stations open

Sunday 1st January 2023 (New Year's Day)

All Landfills and Transfer Stations CLOSED

Employment Opportunities

Council is an equal opportunity employer. Our roles are non-gender specific, and Council encourages all suitably qualified applicants to apply. Council is currently recruiting for:

Maternal Child and Health Nurse

Council is seeking a highly motivated and enthusiastic Maternal and Child Health Nurse to provide high quality services to young families in Buloke Shire.

→ Applications close: 1:00pm Monday 9 January 2023

Library Officer

Council is seeking a highly motivated and enthusiastic person to take on the role of Library Officer. This role will assist in the delivery of efficient and effective library service within the Shire.

→ Applications close: 5:00pm Friday 20 January 2023

Lifeguards – Expression of Interest

We have re-opened the Expression of Interest for Lifeguard training and casual work, just in case you were looking for a cool job, by the pool like this, with free Lifeguard and First Aid training for all suitable applicants.

→ EOI close 9:00am Tuesday 31 January 2023
Visit www.buloke.vic.gov.au/employment or call Human Resources on 1300 520 520 for full details about this exciting role.



• Year 12 Class of 2022: Darby Fitzpatrick, Patrick Sait, Abby Sanderson, Abby Thompson, Jackson Zagame, Lucinda Holmes-Brown, Amy Campbell, Maddison Fitzpatrick, Mason Heenan, Patrick Soulsby.

Presentation Time for Charlton College

Charlton College conducted its presentation evening at the Rex Theatre on Wednesday, December 14, with one of the highlights being the presentation of dux of the college for 2022 to Abby Thompson.

Among those assisting principal Jamie Daff with the presentations were School Council president, Troy Heenan, and Charlton Neighbourhood House representative, Kaylene Cossar.

Awards were presented as follows:

10-12 All Rounder: Abby Thompson (donor, Rotary).

Charlton College Positive Behaviour 10-12: Lucinda Holmes-Brown (Parents' Club).

Pre Driver Education: Ebony Start (Charlton Lions Club).

Vocational Pathway award: Charlotte Stewart (LLEN).

Oscar Bourke award: Elliott Fitzpatrick (Bourke Family).

9/10 Improvement: Crystal Rose Murray (OASIS).

F-3 All Rounder: Molly Riley (Starts Buslines).

4-6 All Rounder: Samuel Cossar (Charlton Lions Club).

7-9 All Rounder: Elise Fitzpatrick (Buloke Shire).

Numeracy Encouragement F-2: Noah Fenlon (Charlton College Parents' Club).

Numeracy Encouragement 3-6: Shalmain Drummond (Charlton College Parents' Club).

Numeracy Encouragement 7-9: Annie Olive (Charlton College Parents' Club).

Charlton College Positive Behaviour F-6: Cody Jenkyn (Parents' Club).

Charlton College Positive Behaviour 7-9: Tully Bourke (Parents' Club).

Dylan McNeil: Stella Nicolson (Eliza Harrison).

7/8 Improvement: Maggie Riley (OASIS).

Year 6 Encouragement: Erin Blair (Joan Supple).

7-10 Technology and Design: Poppy Fitzpatrick (Charlton Lions Club).



• Kaylene Cossar (Charlton Neighbourhood House) and Abby Thompson (Charlton Dux).



• School Council president, Troy Heenan and school captains, Lucinda Holmes-Brown and Jackson Zagame.

OWSR Works Towards More Women in Sport

The Office for Women in Sport and Recreation (OWSR) is working hard to increase the number of women and girls participating in sport and active recreation, from grassroots through to senior leadership roles.

Through OWSR's Change Our Game Community Activation Grants Program, local groups like the Birchip Neighbourhood House, which are involved in the sport and active recreation sector, are being encouraged to challenge gender stereotypes and help women and girls fully participate.

The Birchip Neighbourhood House received funding to help upskill female community mentors so they can facilitate a range of physical recreation classes (land and water based) to increase access to alternative participation options for rural women and girls.

Demi Foott has been completing a Certificate 4 in fitness and in addition to the theory components she has been completing her practical sessions under the guidance and support of mentor Brenda Doran.

Maddie Sinclair is also upgrading her skills so she can deliver water based exercise classes, and in coming months she will facilitate some practical classes at the Birchip Pool under Brenda's supervision.

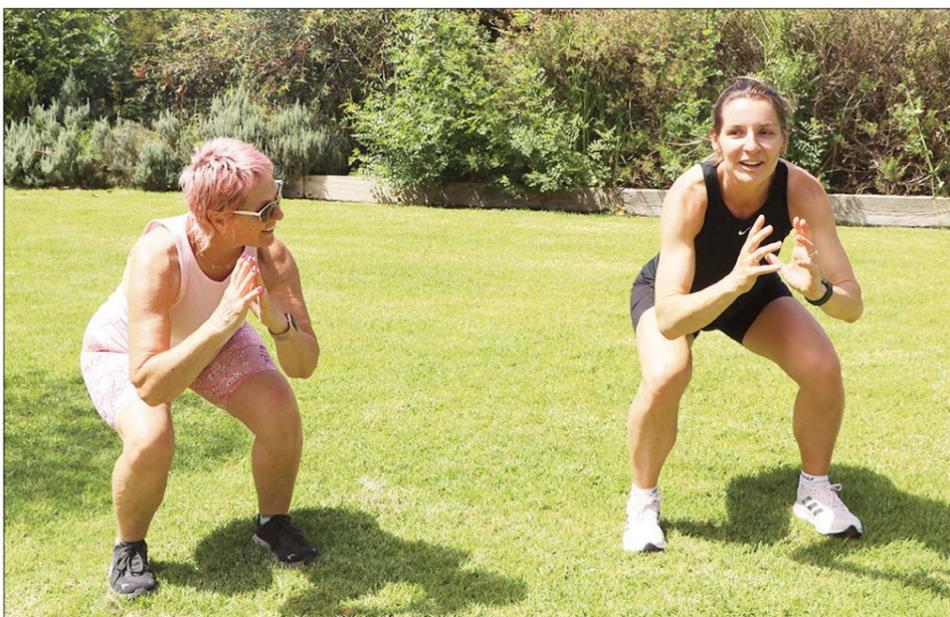
It is wonderful to have Brenda to act as a mentor to these young women and be so willing to share her skills and experience. Brenda has been proactive in advocating for a succession plan to continue to ensure that local woman and girls have access to a range of options to be physically active.

In 2023, Stacey Hamilton will be pursuing further training opportunities to be able to facilitate a swim squad for community members who are interested in lap swimming and improving their swimming techniques. This will be advertised through the Birchip Neighbourhood House

networks once it has been finalised.

Simone Christie, manager of the Birchip Neighbourhood House, said, "These females are respected by their peers, looked up to by the younger girls and admired for their commitment to being physically and mentally healthy, and they will be great role models for young girls and young mums."

In 2023, these women and the Birchip Neighbourhood house will organise and facilitate a program of new, diverse and inclusive low-cost activities, and advertise, promote and attract teenage girls, mums and women to participate.



• Brenda Doran mentoring Demi Donnellon in preparation for an upcoming session.

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Birchip P-12 School Speech Night

The Birchip Public Hall was packed to capacity for the 42nd. annual Birchip P-12 School speech night.

Those who gathered witnessed the distribution of book and monetary prizes to the members of its school community who gained excellent academic and vocational results, or excelled in sporting, cultural, leadership or community pursuits.

Mr Andrew Sayle began proceedings by welcoming people to the hall and introducing the Early Year's coordinator, Belinda Randall.

The grade six class was presented to the audience individually and the Dux of grade six was revealed to be Michael Darby.

The achievement Awards acknowledge students who, in the eyes of their teachers, put concerted effort and focus into their learning. They display organisational abilities, application to tasks and take on feedback to improve their outcomes.

The Achievement award winners this year were: Prep, Kailey Poyner; Grade 1, Zayvier Sagers; Grade 2, Denley Tyler; Grade 3, Grace McAuliffe; Grade 4, Indya-Rose Atkinson; Grade 5, Toby Field; Grade 6, Cassie Tynan; Year 7, Anthony Darby and Year 8 Kirah Mitchell.

At Years 9 and 10 students received Endeavour Awards. At Year 9 Kayla Rodda was recognised by her teachers for her efforts with her studies, and at Year 10 the award went to

Clarice Bennett, who balanced VET studies, Spanish through the School of Languages, and her other classes.

The Harry Rickard Memorial Encouragement Award went to one of the students who successfully combined Vocational Education and Training and VCE studies as well as being active within the community. This student was Ella Walsh.

Most Prestigious

The most prestigious academic awards are the Dux of year levels. To be Dux in the year levels below year 12, a student must obtain an average mark over 80% across all subjects studied for the year. The Dux award winners were: Year 7 Lana Angel; Year 8 Cameron Belleville; Year 9 Tylah Haslam; Year 10 Elliott Bidstrup and at Year 11 Erika Payne.

The Dux of the school with an ATAR of 92.5 was Alexandra Randall. Alexandra worked extremely hard to earn this excellent ranking amongst all VCE students.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics or STEM continues to be a focus from the Department of Education in schools. With this in mind, two science awards were presented. The CWA Bev Horton Award for excellence in Middle Years Science was awarded to Gabrielle O'Donnell and the Birchip Landcare

Junior Science Award went to Jackson Goss.

New Awards

Two new awards were introduced this year. These were the Middle Years Humanities Award and the Emerging Talent award. The Humanities award went to Zali Angel for her outstanding work in Geography and History.

The emerging talent award was reintroduced by staff to highlight a student who demonstrated a passion and high level of achievement in a select field. The student the staff chose was Blake Lee. Blake was selected for his work as editor on the school magazine, his work in English with podcasts and his winning entry in the ABC Heywire competition.

The Richmond Mathematics Prize was awarded to Hudson McCredden. Hudson received this prize for displaying a deep interest in Mathematics which was highlighted by his distinction in the Maths Challenge Australia. This result placed him in the top 30% of students Australia wide.

The Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship offered by Melbourne University for high achieving Year 10 students was presented to Hudson McCredden. Hudson joins a long line of students from the school who have benefited



• Principal Andrew Sayle, with Birchip P-12's dux of 2022, Alexandra Randall.



• Dux students: Back row, left to right, Michael Darby, Lana Angel, Cameron Belleville. Front: Erika Payne, Elliott Bidstrup, Tylah Haslam.



• Left to right, Taina Brooks, Alexandra Randall, Bridie and Erika Payne, VCE Academic Award winners.



• Back row, left to right, Alexandra Randall, (ADF Future Innovators Award), Tadhg Lowry, (Long Tan Leadership and Secondary Citizenship Award), Patrick Sheahan, (Richmond-Gourlay All-rounder Award), Jenna Angel, (Long Tan Leadership Award), Willow Ryan, (Primary Citizenship Award) Esther Bourke, (Primary Arts Award), Elliott Bidstrup, (Secondary Arts Award) and ADF future Innovators Award).

from the VCE preparation, revision classes and the opportunity to receive money towards their accommodation costs at selected Halls of Residence.

Mr Russell Christie introduced the class of 2022, who received VCE and VCAL Certificates from Principal, Mr Andrew Sayle.

Cr. Graeme Milne, Representing the Buloke Shire, presented books to the VCE and VCAL Academic award win-

ners. To win an academic award for a Unit 3 and 4 subject, students must receive a study score of at least 35. Book prizes went to Alexandra Randall for Mathematics, English, and Humanities.

Erika Payne received the award for her results in Psychology. Taina Brooks received an award for her performance in Hospitality, and Bridie Reid's results in Agriculture and Horticulture enabled her to receive an academic award also.

The VCAL award was again sponsored by the family of Rowan Tierney. Rowan was a staunch advocate for the VCAL students that he taught before his untimely passing. This award went to a student striving hard to achieve excellent individual results and was an active team member during all tasks. The VCAL award was given to Sophie Kemp.

A former student, Sally Conheady (Ryan), instigated a scholarship to encourage students to pursue their further study options.

In Sally's own words: "I am in a position to give back to a community that helped me achieve my goals, and I'm pretty sure that without their support I wouldn't have."

The Sally Conheady Further Education Award went to Gemma Woods and Asher Whitehand.

Contribution

The Birchip P-12 School, "Buloke Times" and David and Valerie Lee continue to recognise the contribution the late Janet Lee made to the community through her tireless work, with her reporting on local events and issues over an extended period. This award was won by Alexandra Randall for sustained interest and excellence in English and Literature over her education thus far.

Another former student, Carrie Richmond, and her husband Jono Gourlay, sponsor the Year 12 All Rounder Award. The winner of this award for 2022 was Patrick Sheahan. Patrick was involved with the Birchip-Watchem Football Club as a player and volunteer with the junior body. Patrick ran water and messages as a runner in the juniors and he helped with Auskick and under-14 training sessions. Within the school, Patrick was Public Relations Officer for the Student Board and heavily involved in organising activities. Patrick represented the school at inter-school level and beyond in athletics. Patrick received an early offer to osteopathy at Victoria University due to his community and school involvement.

Vocational Education and
• Continued on page 9.

— the Year's Achievers Recognised



• *Achievement and Endeavour Award winners: Back row, left to right, Toby Field, Cassie Tynan, Anthony Darby, Kirah Mitchell, Kayla Rodda, Clarice Bennett. Front: Kailey Poyner, Zayvier Saggars, Denley Tyler, Grace, Indya-Rose Atkinson.*

• **Continued from page 8.**

Training continues to offer students the opportunity to receive Nationally Accredited training in vocational courses. Students can receive this training at Birchip P-12 School's Hospitality or Engineering centre, or can travel to Horsham for other courses. Students were presented with their certificates by the Principal, Andrew Sayle.

The annual VET award went to Bridie Reid for her ex-

cellence in Engineering.

Principal's Address

In his Principal's address Andrew reflected on the year that was. He emphasised the importance of resilience and being able to successfully adapt to difficult or challenging experiences.

Andrew thanked the school community for its support and especially the staff for their continued professionalism and altruism towards the students of Birchip P-12 School. Andrew spoke of the problems

confronting education, especially in small schools. He underlined the fact that attracting and retaining staff is and will be a problem for the near future. We, as a community, need to do everything possible to attract and retain teachers.

Andrew concluded by wishing all a safe, healthy and happy Christmas and New Year.

Tim McClelland then presented the School Council and Principal's report for the year, thanking Andrew for his lead-



• *Back row, left to right, Zali Angel (Middle Years Humanities Award), Gabrielle O'Donnell (Middle Years Science Award), Ella Walsh (Harry Rickard Award winner), Alexandra Randall (Janet Lee Literature Prize). Front: Blake Lee (Emerging Talent Award), Jackson Goss (Junior Science Award) and Hudson McCredden (Richmond prize for Middle Years Mathematics).*

ership through these uncertain times. Tim entertained the crowd with a story of human potential and how it can be reached. This segue enabled him to discuss how Birchip P-12 School continues to offer a wide range of subjects to students whilst schools around us are having to limit subjects offered due to various reasons. He mentioned that a number of new families became part of the Birchip P-12 School family in 2022 and "through

this increase in diversity, there is beauty and there is strength".

Tim concluded by wishing the graduating class and departing students and staff all the best for the future.

Arts and Sports

The Birchip P-12 School's Parent Body sponsors the Arts Awards. These awards are presented to students who have displayed talent, interest and involvement in the Arts including creative writing, drama, food, art, graphics, music and craft.

Brooke Morris, president of the Parent body, presented awards to Esther Bourke from the junior section and Elliott Bidstrup in the secondary section of the school, for their excellence in the arts.

The sporting achievements of the students in swimming, cross country running and athletic pursuits were recognised through the Lions Club Sports Awards. The individual sporting champions were, in Grade 5 and 6, Asha Lee and Willow Ryan. The 12 and 13 year champions were Beau Haslam and Cameron Belleville. Eva Coffey and Jeswin Daniel were the 14-year-old champions. Suitably inscribed medallions also went to Sassia Coffey and Harry Cook in the 15-year age group, and Jenna Angel and Connor Lee for the 16-year-old group. In the upper age groups of 17 years and 18 to 20 years, medallions were presented to Bridie Reid and Tate Knight, as well as Sam O'Donnell, Hannah Cook and Ella Hogan.

The overall winner of the intra-school sporting competition for 2022 was Young House.

Citizenship

The primary and secondary Citizenship Awards are two of the highest awards Birchip P-12 School offers its students. These awards are presented to students who, in the opinion of staff, have contributed to the overall welfare of the school community.

Willow Ryan was the winner of the Primary Citizenship Award Sponsored by the SES Birchip branch. This was presented by Raylene Taylor from Birchip SES. Willow earned this award through typifying our

school values. Willow always aimed high, showed respect to all members of the school community, displayed integrity in that he always does the right thing even when no one is looking, he valued diversity and displayed great resilience to overcome problems encountered when completing tasks. Willow was described as a natural leader and is a kind and friendly student who is always inclusive of others and puts other needs before his own. Although he was not a representative on the junior SRC executive, he always stepped in and worked hard to ensure all events ran smoothly.

The winner of the Secondary Citizenship Award made outstanding contributions to the community. Tadhg Lowry was again the recipient of this award. Tadhg is an active participant in a number of organisations at school and in the community. He was one of the first to ask if he could be of assistance in any way. He constantly displayed and encouraged others to display the school values. Tadhg volunteered for breakfast club, and instigated a Friday play time with the Primary students.

Despite a serious injury Tadhg continued to be involved with the Birchip-Watchem Football Club, he assisted at Auskick and took over the running of this when the key organisers were absent for an extended period.

ADF Awards

The Australian Defence Force again sponsored the Long Tan Leadership Awards. The students were identified through a clear set of criteria, encompassing leadership, teamwork, values, problem solving, resourcefulness, communication, co-operation and community involvement. The Year 10 winner was Jenna Angel and at the Year 12 level Tadhg Lowry was identified as best displaying the characteristics listed above.

The ADF also sponsored the Science Innovators Awards. These went to Elliott Bidstrup and Alexandra Randall.

Responsibility

Mr Sayle identified and thanked the students who held positions of responsibility

• **Continued on page 10.**



• *Grade 6 graduates: Back row, left to right, Willow Ryan, Hannah, Tyren, Hugo Warne, Toby, Jackson Goss, Esther Bourke, Asha Lee, Anieka Boyle. Front: Rose Comer, Jack, Cassie Tynan, Mia Sharp, Michael Darby, Taio Atkinson, Lauren Baker.*



• *Year 12 VCE and VCAL graduates: Back row, left to right, Brodie McCredden, Ella Hogan, Gemma Woods, Petria Frank. Middle row: Hannah Cook, Charlotte McCredden, Tadhg Lowry, Will Hogan, Patrick Sheahan, Alexandra Randall, Ryan Hampton. Front: Sam O'Donnell, Cameron Darby, Asher Whitehand.*

Birchip P-12 School Speech Night



• Sally Conheady Further Education Scholarship winners, left to right, Gemma Woods, and Asher Whitehand, and Kwong Lee Dow winner Hudson McCredden



• VET and VCAL Award winners Bridie Reid, Sophie Kemp and Gabby Sanford.

• Continued from page 9.

during the 2022 school year. He thanked the bus captains, Junior SRC and their office bearers, as well as student board members and those elected to positions of responsibility. The House Captains for Fraser and Young sporting houses were recognised for their contributions to sport organisation also.

The last two speakers were Tadhg Lowry and Hannah Cook, who carried out their last speech of their School Captaincy. In a thoughtful and eloquent manner, they thanked fellow students, staff, parents and work places for providing the student body with opportunity.

Have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

One Hundred Years Ago

From the "Birchip Advertiser", December 20, 1922.

Local and General

An Enquiry Board sat at the Birchip Shire Hall. Yesterday, re McCardell's estate at Morton Plains for soldier Settlement, and the following recommendations were made: Lot 1 A. R. Watson; 2 L. G. Green; 4 W. E. Logan; 5 R. N. Ronalds; 7 F. A. Baddock. Lots 3 and 6 were not applied for.

*

Mr. J. J. Wilson, proprietor of the Railway Café, wishes to announce that he has made many improvements on his premises for the coming Christmas. One improvement

of note is that he has installed an up-to-date soda fountain which enables him to produce a cool drink to the satisfaction of his customers.

A large variety of drinks are also in stock to choose from. An extensive range of stationary is in stock, confectionary and many books by our best authors of the day. He desires to thank all patronage and hopes to have the same in future as in the past.

*

At the last meeting of the Birchip Shire Council it was decided to prevent motorists

from travelling at a greater speed than 12 miles an hour through the Birchip Streets. Car owners are also cautioned not to leave their cars standing on the west side of Cumming Avenue. Of late the west side has been more or less blocked with cars on Saturday afternoons and has caused much inconvenience.

Car owners should show consideration to others wishing to do business at establishments on that side of the Avenue. Women travelling in buggies are the ones who suffer most from the thoughtfulness.

"Times" Crossword

QUICK PUZZLE NO. 8044 - SOLUTIONS

Across - 1, Tranquilliser. 8, Polka. 9, Imperil. 10, Unwary. 11, Entice. 12, Agile. 14, Agree. 18, Relate. 20, Bikini. 23, Grenada. 24, Trill. 25, Container ship.
Down - 1, Typhus. 2, Allow. 3, Quarrel. 4, Ibis. 5, Lupin. 6, Sardine. 7, Roller. 13, Galleon. 15, Glitter. 16, Tragic. 17, Phillip. 19, Tiara. 21, Irish. 22, Dam.

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Growers Need to Plan Seed Saving Strategy

Fungal diseases have hit grain crops across southern Australia hard this season, so growers need to plan their harvest to help them retain high-quality seed suitable for sowing next season.

Disease-affected seed is less likely to germinate, results in less vigorous seedlings and can carry and spread disease into the new crop. Harvesting the healthiest part of the paddock first for retained seed and cleaning grain are tactics growers can use to avoid retaining poor quality seed affected by extreme weather and disease.

Dr. Joshua Fanning, Research Leader — Plant Pathology, Agriculture Victoria, says pulses including lentils and faba beans have been severely affected by Botrytis, Ascochyta blight and Sclerotinia this year in some areas.

“There will be some crop failures, however growers will still have grain to harvest that may be suitable for re-

taining as seed,” says Dr. Fanning.

“Growers will know which paddocks or areas of their paddocks that are least disease-affected and should harvest these areas first for retaining seed.”

This strategy ensures the best seed is removed early to prevent its further deterioration. It also keeps equipment clean to limit the potential of contamination with poor grain quality.

Dr. Tara Garrard, Research Scientist – Cereal Pathology, South Australian Research and Development Institute, endorses this approach and further encourages growers to inspect the heads of their cereal crops before harvest.

“Get into the paddock and look for shrivelling or sprout-

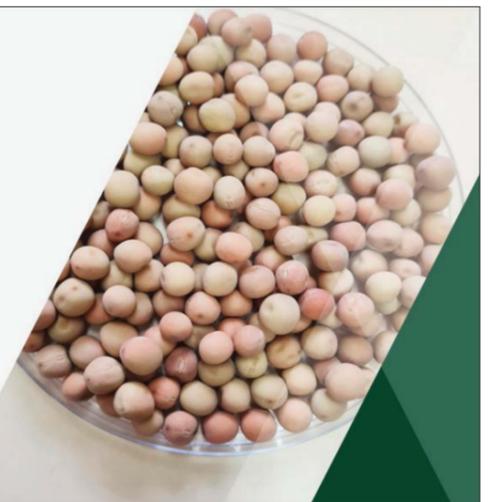


ing of the grain in the heads or any discolouration,” says Dr. Garrard.

She adds that stripe rust, powdery mildew, Septoria tritici blotch and Fusarium crown rot have all been a problem this year due to the exceptionally wet conditions during the grain-filling period.

Cereal stem diseases occurring this season including crown rot and take-all have caused white heads, and field fungi growing on the outside of the head has affected seed viability and vigour in some regions.

Seed saving starts at harvest



“Growers can clean their seed to remove screenings, and if one batch of seed is severely discoloured, use seed from another block,” says Dr. Garrard.

Both Dr. Garrard and Dr. Fanning recommend growers test the disease status, germination and vigour of their seed, before deciding to sow it next season.

“Don’t leave seed testing too late,” says Dr. Fanning.

“Seed testing can take 4-6 weeks, so growers need to

send their samples in by January or February to make sure they get the results in time to update their sowing plans.”

Growers can send seed samples to their state’s testing facilities at Agriculture Victoria and the South Australian Research and Development Institute.

Seed germination tests can be done at home too, and it is possible to observe the vigour and presence of early disease in seedlings when grown in pots.

If the quality of retained seed is inadequate, growers can look to purchase seed or sow seed saved from the previous year where it is available.

“Growers can also consider treating seed before sowing if they are concerned about carrying over disease,” says Dr. Garrard.

For more information see the GRDC Retaining Seed fact sheet.



Keeping Seasonal Workforce Safe

Are you employing workers from the Pacific Islands, or do you know someone who is?

Our state’s seasonal workforce is vital for harvest, and we want to keep everyone safe and operational during this busy time.

Seasonal workers can face unique risks on farms, so Victoria’s Pacific Island community has worked with us to create straightforward safety resources.

The videos, posters, and guides can help with induction and training, and are available in five languages: Bislama, Fijian, Tongan, Samoan, English.

View the resources and share the link to help keep seasonal workers safe.

Jon Van Popering oversees all Australian operations at Seeka Australia, including nine orchards and two post-harvest facilities scattered

through the Bunbartha area, just north of Shepparton.

Seeka employs a seasonal workforce from a diverse range of backgrounds and nationalities.

Jon approaches induction and training as if all staff are

brand new, even if they’ve worked on other farms.

This means everyone receives thorough and consistent information.

Watch the video to hear our Q&A with John, or visit our website for more tips.



Go to the link below to join our mailing list



Sign Up for Flood Recovery Newsletter

Agriculture Victoria is providing regular updates on upcoming events.

Past webinar recordings,

resources and support available to flood affected Victorians via our flood recovery, events and resources newsletter.

To sign up go to <https://confirmsubscription.com/h/r/90A0B880C6C966352540EF23F30FEDED>

Japanese encephalitis

Flood waters have increased the risk of Japanese encephalitis for animal health.



Animal Health’s Increased Risk

Flooding and heavy rainfall have increased the risk of a range of mosquito-borne diseases in Victoria, including Japanese encephalitis (JE).

JE can cause illness in susceptible animal species including horses and pigs.

In pigs, the most common clinical signs are mummified and stillborn or weak piglets

while horses usually show no signs of illness but can present with fever, jaundice, lethargy, neurological signs and anorexia.

For mosquito control advice visit the Farm Biosecurity website.

For more information about protecting yourself from JE, please follow the Victorian Department of Health, or visit its website.

Looking After Your Feet, Naturally

During the festive season our lives tend to become extremely busy with all the rushing around — shopping and catching up with friends and family — leaving feet tired and sore.

So, at the end of a busy day, most people put their feet up and relax. Yet there is nothing more soothing and relaxing than to put your feet down and soak them in an invigorating footbath. Why? Because tired feet make a tired-looking face — so whether they need reviving from work, sport or other activities, make some time to give your feet the attention they deserve.

Both herbs and essential oils are excellent for reviving those tired feet and can be done by simply soaking them in a soothing foot bath. For a comforting and soothing foot bath add a tablespoon of washing soda crystals and a tablespoon

or two of dried herbs or handfuls of fresh herbs to a large bowl of boiling water. Choose herbs such as rosemary, comfrey, chamomile, lavender, calendula, yarrow, mint, pine needles, sage or scented geranium leaves (pelargonium) — any or all of them. It is less messy to pack the herbs loosely in a thin muslin bag, tied with a piece of ribbon, and then immerse it in the water.

Cover the bowl and allow the herbs to steep for 30 minutes, then remove the herbs and bring the liquid to boil in a stainless steel or enamel pan. Return the herbal water to the bowl, allow it to cool until it feels comfortable, and then

soak your feet. After 10 minutes revive your feet with a quick dip into a basin of cold water, and then back again to the foot bath, then continue doing this as long as the hot water stays hot, then finish off with a cold dip.

A tablespoon of sea salt can be added to the water and is comforting to tired and sore feet. Finish off by massaging your feet with a soothing herbal lotion — blend together six drops of rosemary oil, 15 millilitres of almond oil and 5 millilitres of avocado oil in a small, amber-coloured glass bottle and store in a cool, dark cupboard until needed.

If your feet have been neglected or you suffer from

specific foot problems, try these natural remedies:

- For dry skin on the feet, wash with a mixture of one tablespoon of bran and three tablespoons of strong chamomile tea. Rinse, wipe dry and then moisturise with the “soothing herbal lotion”.
- To soften extra hard skin around the soles of the feet or the backs of the heels, mix up equal quantities of olive oil and apple cider vinegar and massage into the hard skin. Keep rubbing until the excess oil is absorbed.
- If you suffer from foot odour and excessive perspiration check to see that your diet contains sufficient silica — good foods are barley, garlic,



onion, parsley, lettuce and celery. Bathe your feet in a bowl of hot water containing a few drops of lemongrass oil, then apply a lotion made by mixing together 18 drops lemongrass oil and 30 millilitres of soya oil. Store the lotion in an airtight, amber glass bottle for future use.

This festive season, why not relax from a busy schedule and pamper your feet with a little natural care? You'll be glad that you did!

Visit Alan on the Web - www.itssonatural.com



• Alan Hayes

YOUR THREE-DAY TV GUIDE

Tuesday

ABC TV (2) 6.00 News. 9.00 News. 10.00 One Plus One. 10.30 Dream Gardens. 11.00 Restoration Australia. 12.00 News. 1.00 Shetland. 2.00 Call The Midwife. 3.00 Gardening Aust. 3.55 Long Lost Family. 4.45 Back Roads. 5.10 QI. 5.40 Hard Quiz. 6.10 Grand Designs NZ. 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Brush With Fame. 8.30 Love On The Spectrum. 9.30 Christmas Cabaret. 10.25 Summer Love. 11.00 Our Dementia Choir. 12.00 The Detectives. 12.55 Late Programs.

ABC TV PLUS (22) 6.00 Kids' Programs. 5.35 Do, Re & Mi. 6.05 Ben And Holly. 6.25 Ben And Holly. 7.30 Spicks And Specks. 8.00 Would I Lie To You? 8.30 Adam Hills: The Last Leg. 9.15 Staged. 9.40 Upstart Crow. 10.10 Friday Night Dinner. 10.35 Fleabag. 11.05 Everything's Gonna Be Okay. 11.25 This Time With Alan Partridge. Final. 12.00 Back. 12.25 Black Comedy. 12.55 Whose Line Is It Anyway? 1.35 Live At The Apollo. 2.25 Close. 5.10 Dot. 5.35 Kids' Programs.

NITV (34) 6.00 Morning Programs. 1.25 Always Was Always Will Be. 2.00 Shortland St. 2.30 The Cook Up. 3.00 Bushwhacked! 3.25 Little J And Big Cuz. 3.40 Red Dirt Riders. 4.10 Grace Beside Me. 4.35 Spartakus And The Sun Beneath The Sea. 5.00 Our Stories. 5.30 Indian Country Today News. 6.00 Bamay. 6.40 Great Blue Wild. 7.30 Off Country. 8.00 The Beach. 8.30 The Last Land: Gespegewagi. 9.00 Hunting Aotearoa. 9.30 Atlanta. 10.00 Late Programs.

SBS (3) 6.00 Morning Programs. 10.00 Paul O'Grady's Little Heroes. 11.00 Barkley Manor. 12.00 BBC News At Ten. 12.30 ABC World News Tonight With David Muir. 1.00 PBS News. 2.00 Railway Vietnam. 2.30 The Cook Up. 3.00 Jeopardy! 3.30 Ethnic Business Awards. 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.30 Who Do You Think You Are? 8.35 Whitney Houston & Bobbi Kristina. 10.10 SBS News. 10.40 Cheyenne & Lola. 11.55 Unit One. 4.20 Bamay. 5.00 Late Programs.

SBS VLND (31) 6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish. 2.45 Unknown Amazon. 3.40 ABC World News Tonight With David Muir. 4.10 PBS News. 5.05 Takeshi's Castle. 5.35 Joy Of Painting. 6.05 Country Music. 7.10 Jeopardy! 7.40 8 Out Of 10 Cats. 8.30 Billy Connolly: Made In Scotland. 9.30 Forbidden History. Return. 10.25 Why Does Everyone Hate The English? 11.20 Hoarders. 1.00 MOVIE: Hannibal. (2001) 3.25 Late Programs.

SBS MOVIES (32) 6.00 Little Nicolas On Holiday. (2014, French) 7.50 Stolen Kisses. (1968, French) 9.30 The Movie Show. 10.00 The Weasel's Tale. (2019, Spanish) 12.20 Days Of The Bagnold Summer. (2019) 2.00 An Ideal Husband. (1999) 3.50 Passione. (2010) 5.30 Of Love & Lies. (2019) 7.30 Husbands And Wives. (1992) Woody Allen. 9.30 Jonsson Gang. (2020, Finnish) Henrik Dorsin. 11.50 The Fisher King. (1991) 2.20 Late Programs. 5.50 Of Love & Lies. (2019)

SEVEN (6) 6.00 Morning Programs. 1.20 Test Cricket: The Lunch Break. 2.00 Cricket. First Test. Australia v South Africa. Day 4. Afternoon session. 4.00 Test Cricket: Tea Break. 4.20 Cricket. First Test. Australia v South Africa. Day 4. Late afternoon session. 6.00 News. 7.00 Cricket. Big Bash League. Game 9. Adelaide Strikers v Sydney Thunder. 11.00 Chicago Fire. 12.00 Late Programs.

7TWO (62) 6.00 Morning Programs. 8.00 Harry's Practice. 8.30 Million Dollar Minute. 9.30 NBC Today. 12.00 Emmerdale. 12.30 Coronation Street. 1.00 Escape To The Country. 2.00 Travel And Eat With Dan & Steph. 2.30 Million Dollar Minute. 3.30 Medical Emergency. 4.00 Animal Rescue. 4.30 Better Homes. 5.30 Escape To The Country. 6.30 Bargain Hunt. 7.30 Call The Midwife. 8.45 Miniseries: Bancroft. 10.45 Air Crash Investigation: Special Report. 11.45 Late Programs.

7MATE (64) 6.00 Morning Programs. 11.00 American Restoration. 11.30 Pawn Stars. 12.00 American Pickers: Best Of. 1.00 Pawn Stars Sth Africa. 1.30 Pawn Stars UK. 2.00 Down East Dicker. 3.00 Billy The Exterminator. 3.30 Irish Pickers. 4.30 Aussie Lobster Men. 5.30 American Restoration. 6.00 Cricket. First Test. Australia v South Africa. Day 4. Late afternoon session. 7.00 Pawn Stars. 7.30 Outback Truckers. 9.30 Aussie Salvage Squad. 10.30 Train Trucers. 11.30 Late Programs.

NINE (8) 6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra Summer. 11.30 Morning News. 12.00 MOVIE: Fixing Up Christmas. (2021) 1.45 Talking Honey. 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 Afternoon News. 4.30 Hot Seat. 5.30 News. 6.00 Nine News. 7.00 A Current Affair. 7.30 Travel Guides. 8.30 MOVIE: Bad Moms 2. (2017) 10.35 La Brea. 11.25 Law & Order: Organized Crime. 12.15 Tipping Point. 1.10 Hello SA. 1.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 News. 5.30 Today.

9GEM (81) 6.00 TV Shop. 7.00 Creflo. 7.30 TV Shop. 9.30 Newstyle Direct. 10.00 TV Shop. 10.30 Pointless. 11.30 My Favorite Martian. 12.00 Days Of Our Lives. 12.55 The Young And The Restless. 1.50 GB Sewing Bee. Return. 3.10 Antiques Roadshow. 3.40 MOVIE: The Constant Husband. (1955) 5.30 Murder. She Wrote. 6.30 Antiques Roadshow. 7.30 New Tricks. 8.40 MOVIE: The World Is Not Enough. (1999) Pierce Brosnan. 11.15 Snapped. 12.15 Antiques Roadshow. 12.45 Late Programs.

9GO! (82) 6.00 Morning Programs. 9.00 Gigantosaurus. 9.30 Gus, The Itsy Bitsy Knight. 10.00 Ninjago. 10.30 Pokémon Journeys. 11.00 Tom And Jerry. 11.30 Yu-Gi-Oh! Sevens. 12.00 Inside Phuket Airport. 1.00 The Bionic Woman. 2.00 Full House. 3.00 The Nanny. 3.30 3rd Rock. 4.00 That '70s Show. 4.30 Raymond. 5.30 The Nanny. 6.00 3rd Rock. 6.30 That '70s Show. 7.00 Young Sheldon. 7.30 Botched. 8.30 Love Island Australia. Final. 9.45 MOVIE: Night School. (2018) 12.00 Late Programs.

TEN (5) 6.00 The Talk. 7.00 Ent. Tonight. 7.30 Judge Judy. 8.00 10 News First: Breakfast. 8.30 Studio 10. 12.00 Dr Phil. 1.00 Jamie's Easy Christmas Countdown. 2.00 Ent. Tonight. 2.30 GCBC. 3.00 Judge Judy. 3.30 Freshly Picked. 4.00 Farm To Fork. 4.30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day. 5.00 News. 6.30 The Project. 7.30 Ambulance Australia. 8.30 NCIS. 9.30 MOVIE: Mission: Impossible II. (2000) Tom Cruise. 12.00 The Project. 1.00 Stephen Colbert. 2.00 Late Programs.

10 BOLD (53) 6.00 Shopping. 7.30 Infomercials. 8.00 Healthy Homes Aust. 8.30 Australia By Design: Innovations. 9.00 I Fish. 9.30 Reel Action. 10.00 The Love Boat. 11.00 ST: Next Gen. 12.00 MacGyver. 2.00 Diagnosis Murder. 3.00 Bondi Rescue. 3.30 The Love Boat. 4.30 ST: Next Gen. 5.30 MacGyver. 7.30 NCIS. 8.30 Bull. 10.20 48 Hours. 12.15 Shopping. 12.45 Infomercials. 1.15 Shopping. 2.15 The Code. 3.10 ST: Next Gen. 4.05 MacGyver.

10 PEACH (52) 6.00 Stephen Colbert. 7.00 Seinfeld. 8.30 Basketball. NBL. Round 11. South East Melbourne Phoenix v Sydney Kings. Replay. 10.30 Becker. 11.30 Frasier. 12.30 King Of Queens. 1.30 Seinfeld. 3.00 King Of Queens. 4.00 Becker. 5.00 Frasier. 6.00 Friends. 6.30 The Big Bang Theory. 9.30 Morn. 11.10 Frasier. 12.00 Shopping. 12.30 Infomercials. 1.30 Stephen Colbert. 2.30 James Corden. 3.30 King Of Queens. 4.30 Shopping.

ABC TV (2) 6.00 News. 9.00 News. 10.00 The Great Acceleration. 11.00 Australia Remastered. Final. 12.00 News. 1.00 Christmas Cabaret. 2.00 Call The Midwife. 3.00 Gardening Aust. 3.55 Long Lost Family. 4.45 Back Roads. 5.10 QI. 5.45 Hard Quiz. 6.10 Grand Designs NZ. 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 Mad As Hell Does Hard Quiz. 8.35 The Yearly With Charlie Pickering. 9.35 Would I Lie To You At Christmas? 10.05 Adam Hills: The Last Leg. 10.45 Death In Paradise. 11.45 Late Programs.

ABC TV PLUS (22) 6.00 Kids' Programs. 5.35 Do, Re & Mi. 6.05 Ben And Holly. 6.25 Oncton Animals. 6.50 PJ Masks. 7.30 Brush With Fame. 8.00 Brian Johnson's A Life On The Road. 8.45 Queen: Days Of Our Lives. 9.50 Science Of Drugs With Richard Roxburgh. 10.45 Pilgrimage: The Road To The Scottish Isles. 11.45 Nicella's Cook. Eat. Repeat. Christmas Special. 12.50 Starstruck. 1.30 Back. 1.55 Catalys. 3.00 Close. 5.10 Dot. 5.35 Kids' Programs.

NITV (34) 6.00 Morning Programs. 1.00 Torres To The Thames. 2.00 Shortland St. 2.30 The Cook Up. 3.00 Bushwhacked! 3.25 Little J And Big Cuz. 3.40 Red Dirt Riders. 4.10 Grace Beside Me. 4.35 Spartakus And The Sun Beneath The Sea. 5.00 Our Stories. 5.30 Living Black. 6.00 Bamay. 6.40 Unknown Amazon. 7.30 Deadly Funny 2022. 8.35 I, Sniper. 9.40 Rudeboy: The Story Of Trojan Records. 11.10 Gifts Of The Maarga. 12.00 On The Road. 1.00 On The Road. 2.00 Late Programs.

SBS (3) 6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 BBC News At Ten. 12.30 ABC World News Tonight With David Muir. 1.00 PBS News. 2.00 Saving Lives At Sea. 3.10 Railway Vietnam. 3.40 The Cook Up. 4.10 The Supertv. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 The Toys That Built The World. 8.30 The Airport: Back In The Skies. 9.25 Tokyo Vice. 10.30 SBS News. 11.00 Dignity. 12.00 The Night Manager. 12.55 Shadow Lines. 2.35 Late Programs.

SBS VLND (31) 6.00 Morning Programs. 11.00 The Movie Show. 12.00 Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish. 2.45 Unknown Amazon. 3.35 ABC World News Tonight With David Muir. 4.10 PBS News. 5.05 Takeshi's Castle. 5.35 Joy Of Painting. 6.05 Country Music. 7.05 Jeopardy! 7.35 8 Out Of 10 Cats. 8.30 MOVIE: 2001: A Space Odyssey. (1968) Keir Dullea, Gary Lockwood. 11.10 MOVIE: The Big Short. (2015) 1.30 Future Man. 2.45 Late Programs.

SBS MOVIES (32) 6.00 Of Love & Lies. Cont. (2019) 7.50 The Great Dictator. (1940) 10.10 OSS 117: From Africa With Love. (2021, French) 12.15 The Internship. (2013) 2.25 Under The Cover Of Cloud. (2018) 4.05 Hotel Salvation. (2016, Hindi) 5.55 Unaccompanied Minors. (2006) 7.35 Zoo. (2011) Toby Jones. 9.30 Monty Python And The Holy Grail. (1975) Graham Chapman. 11.10 In The Loop. (2009) 1.10 Cyrano, My Love. (2018, French) 3.15 Late Programs.

SEVEN (6) 6.00 Morning Programs. 1.20 Test Cricket: The Lunch Break. 2.00 Cricket. First Test. Australia v South Africa. Day 5. Afternoon session. 4.00 Test Cricket: Tea Break. 4.20 Cricket. First Test. Australia v South Africa. Day 5. Late afternoon session. 6.00 News. 7.00 Cricket. Big Bash League. Game 10. Melbourne Renegades v Brisbane Heat. 11.00 Crime Investigation Australia. 12.30 Late Programs.

7TWO (62) 6.00 Shopping. 6.30 Escape To The Country. 7.30 Our Town. 8.00 Harry's Practice. 8.30 Million Dollar Minute. 9.30 NBC Today. 12.00 Emmerdale. 12.30 Coronation Street. 1.00 Escape To The Country. 2.00 Weekender. 2.30 Million Dollar Minute. 3.30 Medical Emergency. 4.00 Animal Rescue. 4.30 Better Homes. 5.30 Escape To The Country. 6.30 Bargain Hunt. 7.30 Heartbeat. 8.45 Lewis. 10.45 Born To Kill? 11.45 Cities Of The Underworld. 12.45 Late Programs.

7MATE (64) 6.00 Morning Programs. 10.00 Irish Pickers. 11.00 American Restoration. 11.30 Pawn Stars. 12.00 Outback Truckers. 1.30 Pawn Stars Sth Africa. 1.30 Pawn Stars UK. 2.00 Down East Dicker. 3.00 Billy The Exterminator. 3.30 Irish Pickers. 4.30 Aussie Lobster Men. 5.30 American Restoration. 6.00 Cricket. First Test. Australia v South Africa. Day 5. Late afternoon session. 7.00 Pawn Stars. 7.30 MOVIE: War Dogs. (2016) 9.50 MOVIE: Skiptrace. (2016) 12.05 Late Programs.

NINE (8) 6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra Summer. 11.30 Morning News. 12.00 MOVIE: Christmas A La Carte. (2021) 1.45 Explore. 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 Afternoon News. 4.30 Hot Seat. 5.30 News. 6.00 News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 Country Home Rescue With Shaynna Blaze. 8.30 Dream Listings Byron Bay. 9.30 Escape To The Chateau. 10.30 Family Law. 11.20 The Thing About Pam. 12.10 Tipping Point. 1.05 Great Australian Detour. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Late Programs.

9GEM (81) 6.00 TV Shop. 7.00 Creflo. 7.30 TV Shop. 10.30 Pointless. 11.30 My Favorite Martian. 12.00 Days Of Our Lives. 12.55 The Young And The Restless. 1.50 GB Sewing Bee. 3.10 Antiques Roadshow. 3.40 MOVIE: Tommy The Treador. (1959) 5.30 Murder. She Wrote. 6.30 Antiques Roadshow. 7.30 As Time Goes By. 8.40 MOVIE: Die Another Day. (2002) Pierce Brosnan, Halle Berry. 11.20 New Amsterdam. 12.20 Antiques Roadshow. 1.00 TV Shop. 1.30 Take Two. 2.30 Late Programs.

9GO! (82) 6.00 Morning Programs. 10.00 Ninjago. 10.30 Pokémon Journeys. 11.00 Tom And Jerry. 11.30 Yu-Gi-Oh! Sevens. 12.00 Inside Phuket Airport. 1.00 The Bionic Woman. 2.00 Full House. 3.00 The Nanny. 3.30 3rd Rock. 4.00 That '70s Show. 4.30 Raymond. 5.30 The Nanny. 6.00 3rd Rock. 6.30 That '70s Show. 7.00 Young Sheldon. 7.30 MOVIE: Deck The Halls. (2006) 9.50 MOVIE: Daddy's Home 2. (2017) Will Ferrell. 11.20 Telenovela. 11.50 Late Programs.

TEN (5) 6.00 The Talk. 7.00 Ent. Tonight. 7.30 Judge Judy. 8.00 10 News First: Breakfast. 8.30 Studio 10. 12.00 Dr Phil. 1.00 Jamie: Together At Christmas. 2.00 Ent. Tonight. 2.30 GCBC. 3.00 Judge Judy. 3.30 Freshly Picked. 4.00 Farm To Fork. 4.30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day. 5.00 News. 6.30 The Project. 7.30 The Dog House Australia. 9.30 MOVIE: Mission: Impossible III. (2006) 11.30 The Project. 12.30 Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Shopping. 4.30 CBS Morning.

10 BOLD (53) 6.00 Shopping. 7.30 Infomercials. 8.00 Healthy Homes Aust. 8.30 Australia By Design: Innovations. 9.00 I Fish. 9.30 Reel Action. 10.00 The Love Boat. 11.00 ST: Next Gen. 12.00 MacGyver. 2.00 Diagnosis Murder. 3.00 Bondi Rescue. 3.30 The Love Boat. 4.30 ST: Next Gen. 5.30 MacGyver. 7.30 NCIS. 8.30 Hawaii Five-O. 10.20 Tommy. 11.15 Evil. 12.15 Shopping. 12.45 Hawaii Five-O. 3.10 ST: Next Gen. 4.05 MacGyver.

10 PEACH (52) 6.00 Stephen Colbert. 7.00 Friends. 8.00 Becker. 9.00 King Of Queens. 10.00 The Middle. 11.30 Frasier. 12.30 Friends. 1.00 Becker. 2.00 NBL Slam. 2.30 Big Bang. 3.00 King Of Queens. 4.00 Becker. 5.00 Frasier. 6.00 Friends. 6.30 Big Bang. 9.20 Two And A Half Men. 10.10 Big Bang. 11.00 Frasier. 12.00 Shopping. 12.30 Infomercials. 1.00 Shopping. 1.30 James Corden. 2.30 Christmas With Australian Women's Weekly. 3.30 Late Programs.

Thursday

ABC TV (2) 6.00 News. 9.00 News. 10.00 Aust Story. 10.35 That Pacific Sports Show. Final. 11.05 The Wimbledon Kidnaping. 12.00 News. 1.00 Would I Lie To You At Christmas? 1.30 Call The Midwife. 3.00 Gardening Aust. 3.55 Long Lost Family. 4.45 Back Roads. 5.10 QI. 5.45 Hard Quiz. 6.10 Grand Designs NZ. 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 First & Forever. 10.10 Movin' To The Country. 10.40 Love On The Spectrum. 11.40 EXPOSED: The Case Of Kelli Lane. 12.35 Late Programs.

ABC TV PLUS (22) 6.00 Kids' Programs. 5.35 Do, Re & Mi. 6.05 Ben And Holly. 6.25 Go Jetties. 6.50 Kangaroo Beach. 7.05 Love Monster. 7.30 A Very Specky Christmas. 8.30 Would I Lie To You At Christmas? 9.00 Starstruck. 9.45 Mad As Hell Does Hard Quiz. 10.20 Penn & Teller: Fool Us. 11.05 Doctor Who. 11.50 Back. 12.15 Superwow. 12.40 This Time With Alan Partridge. Final. 1.10 Archer. 1.50 Everything's Gonna Be Okay. 2.15 Close. 5.10 Dot. 5.35 Kids' Programs.

NITV (34) 6.00 Morning Programs. 1.10 Settle Down Place. 1.40 Bamay. 2.00 Shortland St. 2.30 The Cook Up. 3.00 Bushwhacked! 3.25 Little J And Big Cuz. 3.40 Red Dirt Riders. 4.10 Grace Beside Me. 4.35 Spartakus And The Sun Beneath The Sea. 5.00 Our Stories. 5.30 The 77 Percent. 6.00 Bamay. 6.40 Unknown Amazon. 7.30 Going Places. 8.00 Strait To The Plate. 8.30 Tribal. 9.30 MOVIE: Jeddah. (1955) 11.05 My Life As I Live It. 12.00 On The Road. 1.00 On The Road. 2.00 Late Programs.

SBS (3) 6.00 Morning Programs. 12.30 ABC World News Tonight With David Muir. 1.00 PBS News. 2.00 Saving Lives At Sea. 3.10 Railway Vietnam. 3.40 The Cook Up. 4.10 Inside Harrods At Christmas. 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. 6.00 Mastermind Aust. 6.30 News. 7.35 World's Most Scenic Railway Journeys. 8.30 Coastal Ireland With Adrian Dunbar. 9.30 War Of The Worlds. 10.25 SBS News. 10.55 Ethnic Business Awards. 12.55 Stella Blomkvist. 1.50 Late Programs.

SBS VLND (31) 6.00 Morning Programs. 12.00 Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish. 1.50 Valley Of The Boom. 3.40 ABC World News Tonight With David Muir. 4.05 PBS News. 5.05 Takeshi's Castle. 5.35 Joy Of Painting. 6.05 Country Music. 7.05 Jeopardy! 7.35 8 Out Of 10 Cats. 8.30 The Curse Of Oak Island. 10.10 Betraying The Badge. Final. 11.00 The UnXplained. 12.40 Secrets Of America's Shadow Government. 2.20 NHK World English News. 5.00 Late Programs.

SBS MOVIES (32) 6.00 Unaccompanied Minors. Cont. (2006) 6.55 Hotel Salvation. (2016, Hindi) 8.50 Passione. (2010) 10.30 The Fisher King. (1991) 1.00 Husbands And Wives. (1992) 3.00 The Movie Show. 3.30 Of Love & Lies. (2019) 5.30 FairyTale: A True Story. (1997) 7.45 The Witches. (1990) Anjelica Huston. 9.30 Monty Python's The Meaning Of Life. (1983) Graham Chapman. 11.30 They Came Together. (2014) 1.00 Elie. (2016, French) 3.25 Late Programs.

SEVEN (6) 6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. 11.30 News. 12.00 MOVIE: Swept Up By Christmas. (2020) Lindy Booth. 2.00 Business Builders. 2.30 Travel And Eat With Dan & Steph. 3.00 The Chase. 4.00 Seven News At 4. 5.00 The Chase Australia. 6.00 Seven News. 7.00 Cricket. Big Bash League. Game 11. Sydney Sixers v Hobart Hurricanes. 11.00 Ambulance: Code Red. 12.00 Fantasy Island. 1.00 Shopping. 5.00 News. 5.30 Sunrise.

7TWO (62) 6.00 Shopping. 6.30 Escape To The Country. 7.30 Our Town. 8.00 Harry's Practice. 8.30 Million Dollar Minute. 9.30 NBC Today. 12.00 Emmerdale. 12.30 Coronation Street. 1.00 Escape To The Country. 2.00 South Aussie With Cosi. 2.30 Million Dollar Minute. 3.30 Medical Emergency. 4.00 Animal Rescue. 4.30 Better Homes. 5.30 Escape To The Country. 6.30 Bargain Hunt. 7.30 Father Brown. 8.30 Kavanagh QC. 10.15 Murdoch Mysteries. 11.15 Medical Emergency. 11.45 Late Programs.

7MATE (64) 6.00 Morning Programs. 9.00 America's Game. 10.00 NFL 100 Greatest. 11.00 Irish Pickers. 12.00 American Restoration. 12.30 Pawn Stars. 1.00 Pawn Stars Sth Africa. 1.30 Pawn Stars UK. 2.00 Down East Dicker. 3.00 Billy The Exterminator. 3.30 Irish Pickers. 4.30 Aussie Lobster Men. 5.30 American Restoration. 6.00 American Pickers. 7.00 Pawn Stars. 8.10 MOVIE: Resident Evil: Afterlife. (2010) Milla Jovovich. 10.30 The Cleveland Show. 11.30 Late Programs.

NINE (8) 6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra Summer. 11.30 Morning News. 12.00 MOVIE: Falling In Love At Christmas. (2021) 2.00 Pointless. 3.00 Tipping Point. 4.00 Afternoon News. 4.30 Hot Seat. 5.30 News. 6.00 News. 7.00 ACA. 7.30 Great Getaways. Return. 8.30 Paramedics. 9.30 Police After Dark. 10.30 Emergency Call. 11.20 Pure Genius. 12.10 Tipping Point. 1.05 Explore TV. 1.30 TV Shop. 2.30 Global Shop. 3.00 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. 4.30 ACA. 5.00 News. 5.30 Today.

9GEM (81) 6.00 TV Shop. 7.00 Creflo. 7.30 TV Shop. 10.30 Pointless. 11.30 My Favorite Martian. 12.00 The Young And The Restless. 1.00 As Time Goes By. 1.40 MOVIE: The Playboy Of The Western World. (1963) 3.45 MOVIE: Looks Like Christmas. (2016) 5.30 Murder. She Wrote. 6.30 Antiques Roadshow. 7.30 Grantchester Christmas Special. 9.00 Poirot. 11.00 Snapped. 12.00 House. 1.00 TV Shop. 4.30 Joyce Meyer. 5.00 TV Shop.

9GO! (82) 6.00 Morning Programs. 9.30 LEGO Friends Holiday Special. 10.00 Ninjago. 10.30 Pokémon Journeys. 11.00 Tom And Jerry. 11.30 Yu-Gi-Oh! Sevens. 12.00 Inside Phuket Airport. 1.00 The Bionic Woman. 2.00 Full House. 3.00 The Nanny. 3.30 3rd Rock. 4.00 That '70s Show. 4.30 Raymond. 5.30 The Nanny. 6.00 3rd Rock. 6.30 That '70s Show. 7.00 Young Sheldon. 7.30 MOVIE: The Polar Express. (2004) 9.30 MOVIE: Fred Claus. (2007) Vince Vaughn. 11.45 Late Programs.

TEN (5) 6.00 Morning Programs. 7.00 Ent. Tonight. 7.30 Judge Judy. 8.00 10 News First: Breakfast. 8.30 Studio 10. 12.00 Dr Phil. 1.00 Jamie: Together At Christmas. 2.00 Ent. Tonight. 2.30 GCBC. 3.00 Judge Judy. 3.30 Freshly Picked. 4.00 Farm To Fork. 4.30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day. 5.00 News. 6.30 The Project. 7.30 Jamie's One-Pan Christmas. 8.30 MOVIE: Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol. (2011) Tom Cruise. 11.10 Law & Order: S.V.U. (2000) Late Programs.

10 BOLD (53) 6.00 Shopping. 7.30 Infomercials. 8.00 Healthy Homes. 8.30 Australia By Design: Architecture. 9.00 I Fish. 9.30 Reel Action. 10.00 The Love Boat. 11.00 ST: Next Gen. 12.00 MacGyver. 2.00 Diagnosis Murder. 3.00 Bondi Rescue. 3.30 The Love Boat. 4.30 ST: Next Gen. 5.30 MacGyver. 7.30 NCIS. 8.30 Bull. 10.30 The Code. 12.30 Infomercials. 1.00 Shopping. 2.00 Tommy. 3.00 ST: Next Gen. 4.00 MacGyver.

10 PEACH (52) 6.00 Stephen Colbert. 7.00 Friends. 8.00 Becker. 9.00 King Of Queens. 10.00 Friends. 10.30 The Middle. 12.00 Big Bang. 1.00 Frasier. 2.00 Becker. 3.00 King Of Queens. 4.00 Becker. 5.00 Frasier. 6.00 Friends. 6.30 The Big Bang Theory. 9.30 Seinfeld. 11.00 Frasier. 12.00 Shopping. 12.30 Infomercials. 1.30 Stephen Colbert. 2.30 James Corden. 3.30 King Of Queens. 4.30 Shopping.

Fun and Friendship at Birchip Playgroup

On Friday, Birchip Playgroup celebrated a successful year of fun and friendship, capital improvements, concerts, and children's learning, with a visit from Santa and books for all the children.

Birchip Playgroup has had a strong focus on providing a safe and stimulating environment for children's learning and development whilst supporting parents and carers in their parenting journey. Their weekly sessions have been attended by a large number of families and children, which augurs well for the future of Birchip.

Playgroup has worked collaboratively with Buloke Shire Supported Playgroups and Mallee Family Care to provide local families with a Monday morning session of assisted playgroup, which has been addition to the traditional Friday morning session.

Grants

Throughout the year, Birchip Playgroup worked

hard to secure grants from the Charlton and District Community Investment Program to install funky monkey bars playground, VicHealth to provide mini mallee music and tumble Tots sessions, the Buloke shire for a community grant to host a Mik Maks concert and the Department of Education to host CJ and his puppets during Children's week.

Last week they also found out that they were successful in receiving a Buloke Shire community grant to upgrade the sandpit area.

With several babies due in the Birchip area in the coming year, Birchip Playgroup is looking forward to another successful year supporting families and children.



• Santa during his visit to Birchip Playgroup, with Tamihana Taiwhanga, Santa, Kahu Taiwhang. Savannah Ryan, Rudy Nottle, Phoebe Tyler, Imogen Noonan, Lucy Noonan. Preferring to watch on in the background are Bridget McAuliffe, Anna Beasley, Flynn Beasley.



• Sonny Sheridan, Imogen Noonan, Lucy Noonan, Bridget McAuliffe and Rudy Nottle watch on in anticipation as Santa reaches into his sack.



• Phoebe Tyler and Santa.



"Rainy Racehorse" - inspired by Edgar Degas

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Rex Set for the Summer Holidays

All bases are covered as the Rex prepares for a summer holiday bonanza of movies.

And while the weather might currently be unpredictable, the cinema can flick the switch to keep patrons comfortable whatever the outdoor temperatures might be.

Following a short break from Wednesday, December 21, to Friday, January 6, the Rex will be back on board on Saturday, January 7, with the Marvel Cinematic Universe super hero film “Black Panther: Wakanda Forever” (M 161 mins Action | Adventure).

A sequel to the 2018 hit “Black Panther”, “Wakanda Forever” is an action-packed outing which at its core deals with how people handle loss differently. Apart from the busy plot, there’s plenty of special-effects — action, with fistfights, vehicle chases, underwater and midair battles, high-tech suits and loads of explosions. The Afro-futurist visions of the production design and costumes combine to capture both a cosmic and cosmopolitan look which adds to the parallel universe feel.

Starting on January 14, “Strange World” (PG 102

mins Adventure | Family) is a computer-animated science-fiction adventure film from the Disney Animation Studios. Relating the story of the Clade family of explorers, the film is adventure driven, while promoting a touching story and messages about sustainability and protection of the Earth. Numerous audience reviews have praised the movie’s ability to appeal to youngsters through the stunning visuals, sci-fi technology and many flying machines. Relating a theme of following your own path, of putting others before yourself, and touching on LGBTQ+ relationships, it’s been a hit with plenty of families who give “Strange World” the tick of approval.

The long-awaited James Cameron block-buster “Avatar: The Way of Water” (M 192 mins Action | Fantasy) screens at the Rex from Saturday, January 21.

Following the world-wide success of the 2009 “Avatar”, “The Way of Water” is the second of a planned five films

set in the Avatar world. The ground-breaking visual effects of the original are sure to be exceeded, with UK critic Erik Davis writing after the world premier that “The Way of Water” is “phenomenal. Bigger, better and more emotional than ‘Avatar,’ the film is visually breathtaking, visceral and incredibly engrossing.

The story, the spectacle, the spirituality, the beauty — this is moviemaking and storytelling at its absolute finest.”

Termed a “visual masterpiece”, to “a never-ending visual spectacle”, the big screen is THE best place to experience this movie phenomenon.

And make sure you enter the My Cinema “Avatar: The Way of Water” Competition to be in the running to win a family trip to New Zealand. As a participating My Cinema member, the Rex is encouraging patrons to check out the details at <https://www.rextheatre.org.au/avatar.html> to have a chance at the major

prize which includes: a Trip for 2 adults and 2 children (under 16 years) to New Zealand, Rental Car: For 7 days, to be picked up/dropped off at Auckland Airport, New Zealand, incl. GPS hire, accommodation and activities, with a total prize value of AUD \$13,000 for a family of 2 adults and 2 children (under 16 years).

The Rex manager, Hayden McKinnon, said, “Avatar: The Way of Water” is going to be one of the stand-out movies of 2023, and we are encouraging people to see it how it was designed to be — up on the big screen where the impact will be spectacular.

“And with Christmas nearly upon us, a Rex membership, or gift vouchers might be the perfect choice for someone as a gift which lasts beyond the Festive Season.

“It’s as easy as heading to the Rex website, the Charlton Newsagents, or emailing boxoffice@therextheatre.org.au to follow through.”



• Promoting a summer of big movies, Rex Manager, Hayden McKinnon is pictured with posters featuring some of the action-packed fare screening over January.

A new year of films, live shows and events is already planned for the Rex, so share the word, bring your friends and make local cinema a regular part of your 2023 activities.”

*Avatar: The Way Of Water contains several sequences of bright lights which may affect customers who are susceptible to photosensitive epilepsy or other photo sensitivities.”

Lindsay Accepts the Croquet Invitation

Charlton’s Lindsay Patullo was invited to participate in the Victorian Croquet Association’s Selectors’ Invitation event held at Cairnlea, on December 10 and 11, and won this prestigious event.

The event started in 2005, and some previous winners have gone on to represent Victoria and Australia.

Players came from Traralgon, Quarry Hill, Belmont, Ballarat, MCC and Eastern Park (Geelong) and played 7 games over the weekend.

Although all of the players had a lower handicap than

Lindsay, he only lost one game, and has reduced his handicap to 6.

Congratulations, Lindsay.

Golf Croquet

On Mondays, December 5 and 12, Charlton College students were introduced to the skills of Golf Croquet.

On Thursday, December 15, the club held its annual President versus Captain’s event with the captain’s team being victorious.

Croquet will take a break until Thursday, January 5.

• **Right:** Selectors’ Invitation, Kim Collins (left, runner-up) and Lindsay Patullo (winner).



• Left to right, Reagan Good, Bailey Kemp, Lilly Mathi, Sarah Blair.



• School croquet: Robert Phillips (left), Jye Roberts, Isaac Bourke, Michael Olive

Landcare Loses a Great Friend

The Birchip Landcare Group is saddened with the passing of long-time member Richard Ferrier.

Thirty-three years ago Richard, with another long-time member past, Keith Barber, formed a Landcare group in Birchip.

Richard and Keith shared the leadership of the Group for a few years whilst creating a strong Birchip Landcare Group which is still strong to this day.

Richard had shown passion, integrity and commitment to enhancing and recording and photographing much of the wildlife in the Birchip district. With the Birchip Landcare's sensor cameras in Richard's care, they were set up in strategic areas to capture wildlife movements whether on water or land.

During his time with the sensor cameras, and with the events of floods or excessive water flows, Richard always took his time to photograph the movements of all the water birds that would show up due to the fresh water that was around at the time.

Having a few dams set aside with environmental water for all the wildlife, due to the decommission of the channel system and the now pipe system in use, it was like having mini sanctuaries scattered throughout the area. Being used by countless wildlife coming in for a drink or a rest before moving on, it was a great spot for Richard to record the wildlife that use these dams.

A few years ago, Richard travelled to the little desert to set up his sensor cameras, at the site of a mallee fowls nest and recorded all the activity of the birds and how they worked their nest over this nesting activity, and Richard was able to print out his photos to show this activity in the wild.

In 2014 Richard was presented, by the Birchip Landcare Group, this photo in recognition of his 25 years of services to the Birchip Landcare Group for his outstanding service, passion and loyalty to preserve, capture and promote the unique biodiversity of our special mallee area.



The photo shows Richard surrounded by just a few of his wildlife photos.

The members of the Birchip Landcare Group ex-

tend their condolences to Florence and all her families, and to say "thank you" for Richard's friendship, expertise and great leadership for

all the time he was a Landcare member.

Rest in Peace, Richard, a great member never to be forgotten.

Family First for Franks

Merilyn and Alan Frank have won their first mixed pairs championship after remaining undefeated in Donald Golf Bowls Club's championship event, played last Saturday.



• Alan Frank gets his bowl away, using his bowling arm, during Saturday's mixed pairs event.

The pair defeated Thelma Boyd and Geoff Rigby in a three-end play-off to decide the winner after both pairings remained undefeated in the round robin formatted event.

The Franks dominated the final, with Merilyn sealing the win with her superb final bowl on the third end, that wrested the kitty away from the Boyd/Rigby shot bowl and carried it over to her husband's bowl, to add two shots to their tally, making it 9-0.

In the preliminary rounds, Merilyn and Alan defeated Barb Pearce and Peter Raynes, Joyce Pearce and Shane O'Shea in their second game, and Brenda Dixon and George Wood in their third.

Thelma and Geoff defeated Lynette and Lindsay Borden, Enid and Brian Brasier and Sue Donnellon and Trevor Hollis.

Social Bowls

For those not involved in the club mixed pairs, social bowls attracted a good number of participants, with



• Merilyn Frank in delivery mode.



• Mixed pairs champions, Merilyn and Alan Frank.

Graeme Euvrard's combination of Matt Livingston, Peter Barretti and Leo Glenn taking out the day's prizes from runners-up, John Slater, Michael Flagg, Brian Bayles and Caylene Czoloszynski.

Rounding out a thoroughly enjoyable day, bowlers and other family members shared a delicious barbecue tea, cooked by Bill Livingston and Adrian Humphrey, followed by a variety of sweets, washed down by a knowledge-testing Q and A session, compiled by quiz master, Robert Reseigh.

Club president, Peter Raynes, thanked all involved in preparing for the day's activities, including head of the bowls catering committee, Thelma Boyd and her team, and Michael Flagg from the social committee.

Peter also congratulated the mixed pairs winners, Merilyn and Alan, and the winning social bowls quartet.



• Robert Burton enjoying his afternoon of social bowls.



• Skipper, Thelma Moresi (Boort).



• Third, Lynne Southwell (Charlton).

Composite Team Cleans Up

Illness and unavailability prevented some players from taking the green, and teams from being able to field their full complement of four bowlers in the North Central Playing Area's Ladies' State Fours, played at Donald Golf on Thursday and Friday.

Bowlers are a resourceful and helpful lot, however, and with the addition of three new team members to assist,

skipper Thelma Moresi's composite team of Lynne Southwell (Charlton, playing third), Margaret Kelly

(Donald, second), and Joan Wood (Donald, lead), swept all before it, on the road to a win in the final, against the

Wycheproof combination of Jeannie Grylls (s), Pauline Gardner, Lorraine Milburn and Betty Taylor.

In the round robin-format preliminary competition,

section 1, Thelma Moresi defeated Ruth Hall (Wedderburn), Ruth Hall defeated Brenda Dixon (Donald Golf), and Thelma Moresi defeated Brenda Dixon.

In section 2, Lorraine Milburn defeated Ronda Pole (St. Arnaud Country Club), Gillian Tweddle (Boort), Lorraine Milburn defeated Gillian Tweddle, and Gillian Tweddle defeated Ronda Pole.



Gerry and His Pacemaker

Testing the upgraded pedestrian bridge connecting Scilley's Island with the Sunraysia Highway at the western entrance to Donald is popular local, Gerry Hazewinkel, piloting his latest mode of transport.

Given Gerry's lifelong love of the Massey-Ferguson brand of tractors, could it be that he might consider naming his new vehicle his "Little Fergie"?

Elsewhere in today's "Times", Donald 2000 committee has advertised an official opening of the bridge at 6 p.m. on Thursday of this week, featuring a community barbecue.



• Second, Margaret Kelly (Donald)



• Lead, Joan Wood (Donald)