

Gisborne Gazette

serving the southern macedon ranges

APRIL 2024 FREE

Hidden in plain sight



New Gisborne Cub Scouts climb Magnet Hill in New Gisborne. As well as offering the Cubs a great climb, the hill offered a little-seen view over part of New Gisborne. Scouts and Guides news ► page 28.

Picture Elisha James



Podiatry and Footwear



Flat feet



Heel pain



Sore Knees

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From the Editor's desk

Congratulations

Congratulations to Gisborne Cricket Club for winning the McIntyre Cup, the premiership of the Gisborne District Cricket Association, and to Riley Vernon for making local cricket history. On 8 March Riley was the first person in the league to make 1000 runs in the home and away season. Pages 3 and 34 have more about these exciting moments and more of Riley's extraordinary season stats.

Congratulations also to the Probus Club of Gisborne for reaching 30 years last month. That's a lot of fun and friendship!

Autumn Festival

The Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival is on this month and temporary traffic changes have already started in Macedon, detailed on page 4. The Edgy Veg competition has more local entries this year so why not have some fun and support local businesses at the same time by tasting and voting on their entries. Get tempted on page 5.

Easy eco

If you think being 'eco' is too hard, Eliza Ransome's article on page 23 cleverly shows that people who camp or caravan already do a lot of it.

Special views

I drive by it all the time, but I have never thought to climb Magnet Hill in New Gisborne. Elisha James' photo of New Gisborne Cub Scouts on the top, on this month's cover, inspires me to do so.

Stephen Harrison's drone shot of the McIntyre Cup grand final at Tony Clarke Reserve on page 33 offers another impressive, rarely-seen local view. What a setting for a sports oval!

Anzac Day

A special sight this month will be the sun rising during the Mt Macedon Anzac Day Dawn Service on 25 April. If you haven't yet experienced it, it's worth the effort. See pages 10 and 30 for details, and page 10 also for Gisborne's commemorative service at 10.30am.

Our Anzac feature profiles Phil Sullivan of Mount Macedon who had a 42-year career in the Australian Defence Force, serving in the SAS and overseas multiple times.

Welcome back

Dr Umair Masood and Rue Kelly return as columnists this month and I welcome them both warmly. Rue wrote Gisborne Secondary College 'Captain's Rap' column last year and will now contribute periodic 'Rueflection' articles about life as a university student. It will be great to have her youth voice and perspective in the *Gazette* again.

I wish all of our readers a fantastic April. Enjoy our changeable autumn weather, and keep an eye out for local gems hidden in plain sight.

Happy reading,
Corinne Shaddock

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OBITUARIES

To submit an obituary for publication, please email bryanp2@bigpond.com. Please also provide a photograph for publication and restrict the article to about 250-300 words.

Where you can find the Gazette

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- Gisborne:** Post Office, Village Shopping Centre, Priceline Chemist, Hardy's UFS Pharmacy, Gisborne Medical Centre in Brantome Street, Coles and Foodworks supermarkets
- Mt Macedon:** The Trading Post

- Macedon:** Post Office, United Service Station on Black Forest Drive
- New Gisborne:** Baringo Food & Wine, Station Road; Cafe at 3 Ladd Road
- Riddells Creek:** Newsagency
- Woodend:** Coles supermarket

The *Gisborne Gazette* acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work. We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community, and pay respect to elders past, present and emerging.

MINUTE WITH MAXINE

Peter and Leonnie Wellington have been delivering the *Gazette* in Gisborne for five years.

They met in 1976 when Peter casually asked Leonnie, "Would you like to go out?" They were married in Albury in September 1977.

They have a son, Shane, and daughter-in-law, Lauren, who have two children, Abbey and Sam, and a daughter, Jo.

Leonnie was a legal administrator and retired in 2012. Peter worked for V/Line for 32 years before retiring in 2008. At work one day, he heard that a puppy needed a home, so he came home with Jack Russell Millie. He had not had time to ask Leonnie. Fourteen

years later, front and centre of the photo is Millie.

They both like spending time with their family and "giving back to the community by volunteering". Leonnie can be seen at St Paul's Op Shop in Fisher Street and Peter at the Gisborne Bowling Club.

Peter enjoys gardening and making his home brew, and he is an AFL Demons member with his daughter, Jo; they go to the games together.

Leonnie enjoys knitting, puzzles, reading and doing jigsaws. Peter and Leonnie consider Gisborne a safe, rural place. Leonnie loves autumn and Peter looks forward to the spring weather.

Maxine Barker

Leonnie and Peter Wellington with Millie.



Gisborne Olde Time Market
Sun 7 April 9am - 2pm

For Market information call
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www.gisborneoldetimemarket.org.au

Dragons win cricket grand final

Gisborne defeated Romsey in the GDCA McIntyre Cup grand final held at Macedon on 23-24 March.

With great support from the red army, the Dragons were convincing winners after sending Romsey in to bat on the Saturday and restricting them to 212 through some exceptional fast bowling from Leigh Brennan and Jay King.

The win was set up early on Sunday with a magnificent opening partnership of 139 between batting star Riley Vernon and wicketkeeper Matt Barake.

The winning team was very young, with six players aged under 20, and also had a strong local flavour with nine of the side having graduated through the Gisborne juniors.

Leigh Brennan won the Gary Sanders medal for best player in the grand final with five wickets.

Andrew Headberry

More pictures ►page 34



The very happy winning Gisborne Cricket Club team.

Holy Cross has something to crow about

Holy Cross Primary School's Sustainable Scarecrow 'Sarah' won the People's Choice award at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show in March.

The scarecrows were on display at the garden show which ran for four days from Wednesday 20 March, and attendees could vote for their favourite scarecrow, with the winner announced on the Sunday.

The school's Sustainability leaders visited the Show on Friday with Outdoor Ed teacher Caitlyn Blake and Co-educator Wendy. They were very excited to hear the news after the show of Sarah's win.

Sarah now wears her 'People's Choice' badge proudly in the school vegetable garden.

Holy Cross thanks Caitlyn for her passion in the project and for sustainability in general.



Award-winning Sarah the scarecrow.

Takeaway cups are now recyclable

Thanks to new technology at the council's material recycling facility, Macedon Ranges residents can now recycle coffee and soft drink takeaway cups in their kerbside recycling bin (yellow lid). Takeaway cups that are compostable can be put in the FOGO bin (green lid). Drink cartons, including milk, juice and stock, can also be recycled. Sadly, takeaway coffee cup lids and caps from milk, juice and stock containers are considered too small to be recycled, so need to go in the general waste bin (red lid).



Plans for new childcare centres

A new childcare centre has been approved for the corner of Calthorpe and Fisher Streets in Gisborne, and an application is before the council for a childcare centre at 55 Aitken Street, two houses south of Aldi. The Calthorpe Street centre projects a capacity of 156 children, and the Aitken Street application lists a capacity of 110 children. Details are on the council's website.

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Local business news

- The laundromat in Hamilton Street (behind Dooney's Diner) has been fully renovated and upgraded and has a dedicated pet wash section.
- A new specialty coffee shop is being prepared for opening in Aitken Street called Aitken Thirty Six.
- Twins Natalie and Laura Sims have moved their Gisborne Skin Clinic to Hamilton Street, after the business outgrew the space above Neal Street Medical Centre where they had been for two years.



Natalie and Laura outside the new shop.

- The Sotheby's Macedon Ranges office in Victoria Street, Macedon, and RT Edgar Real Estate in Hamilton Street, Gisborne, shut in March.
- The 'Gisburgers' shop expected to open in Hamilton Street shortly is now not going ahead, with the shop again for lease.

It's Autumn Festival time with more fun but stronger traffic management

The council-run Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival returns this month, with a range of new and returning trails, events, activities and participating-business specials.

Joining the popular suite of tailored trails and regular markets this year from 5 to 28 April are the Live and Local in Community Halls series, celebrating locally based artists and community venues, and the Treasure Trail, highlighting some of the region's top leafy picnic spots.

Returning are the Autumn Pie and Tart Trail, the Food and Drink Passport, Tipple Trails and the Edgy Veg Trail, with the Woodend Visitor Information Centre the go-to festival hub.

The Kids' Colouring Competition is also being run again. Entries can be submitted to the Woodend Visitor Information Centre between 10am and 4pm during the festival.

For more information, visit visitmacedonranges.com/autumn-festival



anticipation of higher visitation on these days.

Extra toilet and waste facilities will be provided in the immediate area, while residents/guests within the road closure area will be given exemption passes in addition to multilingual signs to display on their properties.

Multilingual signs saying "Private property, no public access" and "Keep driveway clear" are available for any resident to place on their property in the Macedon

and Mount Macedon area. Signs can be collected from Gisborne council admin centre on weekdays between 9.30am and 5pm.

The state Department of Transport is implementing a temporary speed reduction of 60km/hour on Mount Macedon Road.

The mayor, Annette Death, said, "The Autumn Festival helps to disperse visitors and economic benefits across the shire, but we acknowledge that people continue to be drawn to Honour Avenue.

"We are committed to supporting residents and this year's core safety measures reflect that, but it became clear that pursuing extended measures over the longer term would not be financially sustainable or responsible without external support.

"We are however working closely with our partner agencies, such as the Department of Transport and Victoria Police, on areas they are responsible for, such as Mount Macedon Road and the Calder Freeway, and providing advice to our local community groups and businesses who may wish to explore further temporary measures to improve amenity of the area on busy days."

For more information on the measures around Macedon and to sign up for direct email updates on these measures, visit the Autumn leaves and visitors page on Council's website or call the council on 5422 0333.

Traffic management in Macedon area

Limited temporary measures will be reinstated along Honour Avenue and surrounds following a comprehensive review that has prompted the council to refocus on its core responsibilities.

To help manage the influx of visitors, temporary signs have been installed along Honour Avenue and other council-managed roads to clearly highlight – and enable council officers to enforce – no-parking zones. It will stay in place until 12 May (Mother's Day weekend).

On weekends and public holidays through to 28 April, a full road closure along Honour Avenue between Mount Macedon Road and Waterfalls Road will be enforced from 8am to 6pm, to support public safety and in

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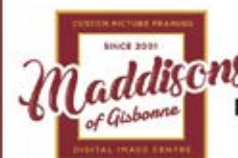
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Vegetarian food competition returns



▲ Harvest and Soul, Macedon: Grab a mouthwatering Pumpkin, Mushroom and Tomato 'sausage' roll for lunch in April.



Five local venues are pulling out all stops to create a winning plant-based dish for the 2024 Edgy Veg Awards this month. Part of the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival, the awards aim to promote vegetarian eating and plant-based offerings of local venues.

Get down and vote on the award entries at Gisborne and Macedon establishments between 5 and 28 April to support local business, and for a chance to win a \$100 voucher at Mort & Pestle kitchen shop in Woodend or an Eat More Veg workshop at Big Bowl of Happy.

10 other venues in the shire are also participating in the awards. Visit edgyvegawards.com.au for details. The Edgy Veg Awards are sponsored by the council and Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group.



◀ Macedon Ranges Wholefoods, Gisborne: Get your daily greens in and vote on their Green Goddess Jaffle.



▲ Flying Pigeon, Gisborne: Stephanie's XO Beans are simple perfection.

Pictures by
Tiffany Warner

► Three Little Pigs, Gisborne: Enjoy and vote on their Chickpea Curry with Pappadums.



► The Corner Cafe, Gisborne: Salwa's Makkoubi is an eggplant and rice dish to write home about.



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COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN

With Cr Dominic Bonanno

Hello All,

On 18 February, I had the pleasure of joining members of the Management Committee, major sponsor — Community Bank Gisborne & District (Bendigo Bank), and the three clubs (Gisborne Pony Club, Gisborne & District Adult Riding Club, Melbourne Show Jumping Club) at the opening of a new riding arena at the IR Robertson Reserve in Gisborne South. This was the culmination of hard work and dedication by many volunteers, and I congratulate all involved — the reserve was buzzing and the new arena looked amazing.

Among many items Council is progressing, I will highlight three of interest:

New Online Engagement Hub (yoursay.mrsc.vic.gov.au/) which has the capacity to host surveys, interactive maps, Q&As, forums and more. It has a range of user-friendly features and interactive tools providing an accessible and collaborative space for residents to stay informed and get involved in Council's decision-making processes.

Progression of Willowbank Road development in the south of Gisborne, including a supermarket, medical centre, office, and two cafes, creating a much-needed local activity centre. Apart from the sustainability benefits — including a 20Kw solar PV system on the roof, harvesting of roof water to rainwater tanks, and an EV charging station with possibility of further expansion to name a few — this local activity centre will reduce the need for many people to go into the centre of Gisborne contributing to congestion.

The section of Sheedy Road between Howey Street and Willowbank Road was reconstructed. This project's outcome is the connection of the missing Shared Path link, upgraded road surface and drainage in the proposed section of the road.

I hope you all had a happy and safe Easter with family and friends.

As always, if you wish to contact me, you can reach me on 0419 829 867 or dbonanno@mrsc.vic.gov.au.

Take care and see you around town!

Footpath works completed

Works to replace a section of ageing brick footpath along Hamilton Street in Gisborne with smoother exposed aggregate were completed in late February 2024.

Council would like to thank the Gisborne community for their patience as these renewal works, between the Aitken Street roundabout and Melbourne-Kilmore Road roundabout, were completed.

Reusable rebate

Time is running out to apply for the reusable nappy, sanitary and incontinence product rebate! The rebate program aims to reduce waste sent to landfill and assist residents in accessing affordable reusable items. Shire residents can claim up to 50 per cent of the purchase cost on selected reusable items (conditions apply). The program closes 30 April, unless funds are exhausted prior. For details, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/reusables or call 5422 0333.



Workshops for business

Are you looking for advice using online graphic design tools? Have you considered using an ecommerce platform or want help in how to build a website? Would you like to improve your website visibility using Search Engine Optimisation (SEO)?

The council is running three face-to-face workshops in May at Kyneton Community House, Mollison Street, Kyneton from 10am to 12 noon to help unravel these mysteries.

Canva for beginners – 9 May

An introduction to Shopify and Wix – 23 May

Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) for beginners – 30 May.

Each workshop costs \$35. Places are limited and bookings are essential. Find out more at mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-events.

Report dumped tyres

Tyres dumped in our parks and waterways, as well as being eyesores, pose a fire risk, provide a breeding

ground for vermin and cost a lot to clean up.

Remember you pay for the legal disposal of your waste tyres when you buy new ones. Don't let others destroy our shared spaces.

If you spot tyres where they shouldn't be, report it to the council or the Environmental Protection Agency at epa.vic.gov.au/report-pollution.

Resource Recovery Secondary School Grants

Applications to the council's Resource Recovery Secondary School Grant Program close at 5pm on 30 April. Secondary schools in the Macedon Ranges can apply for up to \$2000 to tackle a waste-specific problem at their school. Proposals must consider long-term solutions and sustainability. Details at mrsc.vic.gov.au/school-grant-program.



Piper



Goldie

Responsible pet ownership

Piper the kelpie and Goldie the ginger cat, along with their fellow friends — created by local artist Chris Roy Taylor — will be popping up around the shire as part of the council's new responsible pet ownership campaign "For the Love of Paws".

For more information visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/pets.

Council meeting decisions

The following planning matter was endorsed at the 28 February Scheduled Council meeting: Adoption of Amendment C153macr, which rezones vacant land at 101-105 Willowbank Road from residential to commercial, allowing for the development of a small supermarket, a medical centre, office and two cafes, and car parking spaces in Gisborne's south.

To view current active planning applications, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/planning-register.

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Digital Devices Know How

A great introduction to digital devices such as phones or tablets, providing an overview of common devices, their functionality and the ways people can use these devices to connect with others and access services.

Introduction to Computers

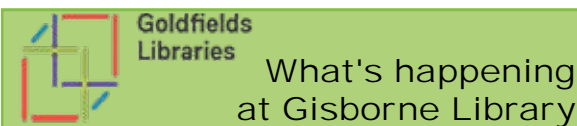
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Introduction to Customer Service

This course offers the skills and knowledge required to provide excellent customer service at an entry-level job in the travel, tourism, retail, hospitality and events industries.

Xero – Online

Want to advance your bookkeeping skills? Come along to gain insight and understanding of the computerised bookkeeping program Xero.



We had a busy month in March with many programs and activities for all ages. Helen Elliott visited us to talk about her book *Eleven Letters to You*. The event was well attended and we received positive feedback from the attendees, who expressed interest in seeing more of such events in the future.

During the month, the Bendigo Discovery Centre also visited Storytime to teach kids about science. The children had the opportunity to take home experiments and try them out themselves. They will visit again on Wednesday, 15 May at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome to join in.

Our Crochet and Conversation group continues to grow, and is held on the first Monday of each month at 2.30pm.

The library was closed for a day in March due to a staff development day. All staff travelled to Bendigo for an informative day and an opportunity to mix with colleagues who we don't usually see. Thank you for your understanding on this day of closure.

APRIL

We have some exciting events planned for April, such as free mindfulness sessions with retired psychologist Guy Robbins, a talk on gut health with Bec O'Farrell from Big Bowl of Happy, and school holiday activities to keep the kids entertained. **More details on page 37.**

Be sure to come into the library to pick up a 'What's on' brochure, or head to our website goldfieldslibraries.com/gisborne-events.

Sara Shaw

Xero Payroll – Online

The program will give participants an insight and understanding to the computerised bookkeeping program Xero, specifically focusing on the payroll aspects. For more information, please visit www.mrfec.net.au.



GISBORNE GOSS

Gisborne Rookies Junior Football Netball Club president Clay Reinking got a new look in March after sacrificing his trademark mullet (grown over 2½ years), beard and moustache to raise \$9087 for the Leukaemia Foundation as part of the World's Greatest Shave.

Pictures: *Gisborne Rookies Facebook*



Clay before...



and Clay after.

Congratulations to Lucas Taylor of Gisborne for having his work featured in three Melbourne exhibitions for top 2023 VCE projects. Lucas' digital video *Routine* features in Top Arts 2024 at The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia until July 14. His short film *Don't Burn the Toast* can be seen at Top Arts 2024 at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image until 8 May and in Top Designs 2024 at Melbourne Museum until 14 July.

Congratulations to Gisborne Football Netball Club players Eloise Rodda and Torie Skrijel on making their Victorian Netball League debut for the Bendigo Strikers team in March.

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Tales of Old Gisborne

Eddie remembers that respectfulness was expected in the old town

The *Weekly Times* of 1952 listed Gisborne's population as around 600. The town had about 100 houses.

To a young boy growing up in Gisborne in 1952 it seemed like there was a structure and order to society. People were called Mr and Mrs.

A gentleman tipped his hat to a lady. Respect was shown to the town fathers: the councillors, the clergy, the doctor, teachers, bank manager and policeman. They were regarded as important to the old town and each had their place. Their names are listed in important places and on important documents.

Another not so well-known group also demanded respect. They were so prominent in the old town but their names are not recorded on any of the historical documents kept in the old court house, though many of them feature on postcards of the old town. Names like Mick Leith, Barney McKay, Ebony Weymouth, Max Grudd, Whip Nolan, Cilla Black, the giant Ash Murray and Bones Sansom were household names.

They were... the town dogs. And they certainly demanded respect. (Ash Murray was a giant Irish wolfhound.)

If you see a dog in Gisborne today it's in a car or on a lead, but then, they roamed the streets and protected their territories.

Most of all I hated Mick Leith. He was a large fox terrier and he owned the Telegraph Hotel – well, the footpath outside. As a boy in short pants, I gave Mick a wide berth. All of those dogs were respected; they were a real, well-known and visible part of the town.

Peter recalls another pack of dogs that it was best to steer clear of

"Our family had two milking cows and before school it was my job to take them from our house paddock in Aitken Street and drive them to a paddock opposite St Brigid's church in Fisher Street.

"Now, this doesn't seem to be such a large problem, but we had to be careful to get our cows



with Peter and
Eddie Gardiner



across Fisher Street before Malachy Dohoney and his dogs got there. Malachy lived in the old Farmers Arms Hotel at the bottom of the Melbourne Road hill and each day he'd set off with his pack of about 10 dogs up the hill then into Fisher Street on his way towards Bullengarook to cut firewood.

"He wheeled an old bike with his axes in a hessian bag suspended from the bar of the bike. We were terrified of those dogs; they were like a pack of wolves. If they caught us before we got to the Fisher Street paddock, they'd chase the cows and they'd chase us too. We'd have to follow the cows and bring them back and we'd be late for school.

"Fortunately, when Malachy arrived back at the Farmers Arms, he'd lock them in so they never joined the town dogs in their patrols."

Seen AROUND TOWN

Gazette photographer Chris Fleming moved quickly to catch these events happening in March.

The Telstra mobile tower in Macedon was upgraded to 5G in early March.



The old house in disrepair at 35 Brantome Street, Gisborne (next to the Foodworks car park), was demolished in mid-March. The house was originally owned by Oscar and Alma Shilton and the block extended



through to Aitken Street; on that frontage the Shiltons sold petrol from bowsers on the edge of the footpath. In recent years the house belonged to Charlie and Beryl Young.

Parks Victoria conducted a burnoff on Cameron Drive on Mt Macedon on 17 March.



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A lifetime of service enjoyed to the full

Anzac feature
by Bryan Power

Mount Macedon resident Phil Sullivan remembers the times he was part of the observances of Anzac Day while serving overseas with the Special Air Service Regiment.

"I have had about a dozen Anzac Days overseas, three on operations," he said. "I found them very poignant, especially when you're doing operations and have a dawn service."

This Anzac Day, Phil, as president of the Victorian branch of Australian Special Air Service Association, will be leading former members of the regiment in the parade to the Shrine.

"The RSL in Victoria is really trying to rework the structure of Anzac Day to make it more contemporary-soldier-focused so that everyone who has more recently served is getting their due reward," Phil explained.

The beginning

Phil's interest in an army career was sparked when he heard a former SAS soldier on the radio in the late 1970s talking about the SAS. It sounded exciting so Phil set out to do some boating, diving and parachuting with the intention of becoming a member of that special branch of the army. He joined the army reserve at Fort Gellibrand in Williamstown to train with the commando unit based there. He found it to be "the best fun in the world": diving, parachuting, cliff climbing, rappelling, roping out of helicopters and small craft handling – kayaks and inflatables.

With this experience under his belt, in 1986 he joined the regular army and was accepted soon afterwards to be a part of the demanding induction course to qualify for entry to the ranks of the SAS. Of the 145 who started the course, only 25 received final acceptance. Phil was very pleased to be one of them. His career as a member of this elite unit had begun.

For the next 12 years Campbell Barracks in Swanbourne, Perth, was his base – "the best base in Australia," according to Phil. The training included postings to Papua New Guinea and Indonesia and these were preceded by one-month courses at the School of Languages in Point Cook in Pidgin and Indonesian. There were also postings to Malaysia and Thailand. Campbell Barracks also hosted special forces soldiers from these countries and Phil was involved in training with them.

Overseas postings

Phil's first overseas posting was in 1994 to Somalia as part of the United Nations peacekeeping mission in that war-torn country. He, now a corporal, was part of the SAS security attachment for the last rotation of the Australians there. Their task was to control the airport at Mogadishu and secure the movement of United Nations supplies through the sea port. The 12-man group

took over an old American camp and reinforced it with sandbags to create bunkers to protect themselves from mortars, artillery and machine gunfire that blazed across the camp from factions of the Somalis trying to gain control of the airport and the harbour.

One morning they found an unexploded shell buried in one of the sandbags. It would have burst into their sleeping quarters but for that sandbag. The situation in Mogadishu was chaotic. Nearly every Somali man carried a gun and drugs were a huge problem meaning that the population was even more out of control. A number of peacekeepers were shot for apparently no reason.

Phil was in charge of running night-time security for the eight months the detachment was there. Fortunately, they suffered no casualties.



Phil Sullivan on his retirement in 2022.



Phil receives the UN medal from General Aboo, the group of 12 in Somalia standing in front of the UN tanks. General Aboo was the commander of UN forces in Somalia.

On returning to Perth, Phil married his girlfriend, Sarah, who was serving with the RAAF.

The Somali team, after some leave, was assigned to counter-terrorism duties.

Phil then became a patrol commander in charge of a five-man squad but on his first shake-down patrol in a forest south of Perth he suffered a burst disc and was not able to walk for two months. His injury took two years of rehabilitation during which his work had to be sedentary; his days as an active member of the SAS were over. He still suffers with that back injury.

He was transferred to signals corps and went to army headquarters in Canberra for three years. He took a course to become a computer network manager then, in 2001, went back to the SAS in a support role. Next, he was sent to East Timor as a member of the headquarters staff for three months but was recalled to Perth for counter-terrorism duties following the September 11 attacks in New York.

During the post 9/11 counter-terrorism duties, Phil and Sarah's marriage came to an end. Their careers had seen them separated for such long periods of time.

Phil was on those duties in eastern Australia when he received a call to immediately return to Perth from where he was soon on a plane to Afghanistan for the next eight months. He was in the task headquarters at Bagram, from where patrols searched for remnants of al-Qaeda. Phil also took part in short patrols.

Please read on – continued on ► page 36

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ANZAC DAY commemorations

Mount Macedon Anzac Day Dawn Service



The Anzac Day Dawn Service will take place on April 25 at the Mount Macedon Memorial

Cross. The community is invited to attend and help acknowledge this year's theme, which is 'Honouring Every Role, Every Sacrifice', showcasing the different ways that Australians have served, and continue to serve, in wartime, conflict or peacekeeping.

The service will include a special tribute to the late Gisborne veteran Robin Funston, who had served as a Chief Petty Officer mechanic for the Royal Australian Navy during Vietnam and was a life member of the RSL, serving as president and secretary of the Gisborne sub-branch.

As part of the service, school students will read excerpts from the accounts of veterans, including 99-year-old Joy Daymon from Woodend who served as a flight mechanic in the Women's Auxiliary Australian Airforce (WAAAF) from 1943-1946 and 102-year-old Joyce Strawhorn from Kyneton whose service included the Women's Air Training Corps, the WAAAF and the Australian Women's Army Service.

The president of the Mount Macedon Anzac Day Dawn Service Committee, Leona Latcham, said, "We have found some wonderful stories that show the diverse ways that our veterans have contributed to protecting our country and we really look forward to sharing them with the community on Anzac Day.

"There's something so special about the dawn service at the Cross – it's an iconic location that sets a very moving scene for the morning's proceedings."

The service starts at 6am and runs for approximately one hour. Roads to the Cross are shut to normal traffic for the morning for the safety of attendees. Free shuttle buses run from Tony Clarke Reserve in

Gisborne Anzac Day service

The annual veterans' march and commemoration service at the Gisborne War Memorial in Hamilton Street on Thursday 25 April will begin at 10.30am.

We intend to assemble at the cenotaph from 10am. Those who wish to place a wreath should email the RSL secretary at admin@gisbornerl.com.au or call 0487 278 681.

Macedon from 4.15am. Plenty of parking is available the Reserve.

A free bus service will also run from Gisborne, Woodend, Sunbury, Kyneton, Riddells Creek, Lancefield and Romsey. The timetables and booking for the town buses are available at bookings.organscoaches.com.au/anzac. See ad on page 30.

Attendees are encouraged to dress for the weather and bring a water bottle, torch and cash to buy a snack or drink on the day, with any donations also appreciated. For more information, visit mtmacedondawnservice.org.



Updates at [Facebook.com/MountMacedonAnzacDayDawnService](https://www.facebook.com/MountMacedonAnzacDayDawnService).

News from Gisborne RSL sub-branch



The annual Anzac Appeal in Gisborne and district is now underway in the leadup to Anzac Day on 25 April. As usual, you'll see us at selling points outside supermarkets as well as at other locations, including the Gisborne Market on 7 April.

This is a call to arms too. The RSL is seeking people who would like to help by volunteering to sell Anzac badges. RSL members would love to have you join us as a 'volunteer seller' for an hour or two during this month at one of several locations in Gisborne or Riddells Creek. Volunteers will be paired with one of our RSL members on a day and time that suits them.

To learn more about Anzac badge sales and being a volunteer, please call our branch secretary on 0487 278 681, or send an email to admin@gisbornerl.com.au

All monies raised from the Anzac Appeal continue to support veterans and their families in their time of need. Every purchase of a badge will help the RSL continue to deliver life-changing support to our veterans.

Plans and preparations are also underway for the annual veterans' march and commemoration service at the Gisborne War Memorial on Thursday 25 April. See details above (in red box).

Sadly, our last World War 2 veteran in the Gisborne RSL passed away recently. Wal Cusworth was 101 years of age and was the honoured veteran at last year's Anzac Day service, in which he was presented with a medallion and certificate of appreciation honouring his service to Australia.

The RSL is an advocate for veterans and their families. It assists with various services and support to both veterans and their families in times of need or crisis. If you are a current or serving member and you need advice or help, please don't hesitate to get in contact with the RSL.



Darren Grevis-James

A reminder that Gisborne RSL encourages all current or past serving members of the ADF and their dependents to join our sub-branch. Police, fire, and emergency service personnel are also most welcome to join the RSL.

Darren Grevis-James, president



IMPORTANT NOTICE

FOREST GLADE GARDENS

If you are planning to visit Forest Glade Gardens on any weekend or public holiday during April 2024,

YOU MUST BOOK IN ADVANCE

This Autumn, guest numbers and parking will be strictly limited.

SCAN QR CODE TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS ONLINE
www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1192143





Bullengarook CFA thanks all its helpers



On 16 March, Bullengarook CFA saw the culmination of years of administration and paperwork to approve a burn on the Bacchus Marsh Road. The unit was supported by five other local brigades and the day saw 30 volunteers working to ensure a safe and successful burn.

In the week prior, a number of moisture tests were conducted on the fuel. There were also many anxious eyes on the weather forecasts – about the only time that rain was a bad thing to have at the end of summer! Fortunately, the day dawned with clear skies and a light wind. Enough to keep the smoke off the road without pushing the fire faster than we could keep up.

Fuel reduction burns are an important part of maintaining safe access in fire-prone areas, and as the Bacchus Marsh Road is the only access for so many of us, this was well overdue. With a bit of luck, we can now get a bit burnt every year to clean some of the low fuel that is all along the road.

The CFA is a mostly volunteer organisation, and this burn was a great opportunity for some of the newer members to gain some real-life experience. With some experienced members on hand to support the team, even one of our older juniors was able to extend their skills and confidence. We are grateful to traffic



Bullengarook CFA members were happy to get a start on the overdue Bacchus Marsh Road, above, and at the station, right.



management and all the passing vehicles for allowing us to work safely on the roadside. Also to the members of the other brigades – we couldn't have done it without you. We had two support members on the day helping with lunch as well as refilling tankers with water. To the Bullengarook members who were there on the day of the burn, and those who were part of the clean-up team the next day – you rock!

If you are interested in contributing to the safety of

your community, consider joining the CFA. So many people say they "don't have time" and yes, it does take a bit of time commitment, but the rewards are worth it. Even if you can't be on the trucks, there are many ways to support the brigade.

Don't forget juniors – if you are over the age of 11, there are ways for you to help out as well.

Firefighter Rebecca Hunter



Easter egg hunt brings egg-cellent fun

The Gisborne Easter egg hunt on Saturday 23 March organised by Gisborne Rotary Club drew a large crowd of young egg hunters and their supporters.

The annual event continues to grow and is now a highlight on the calendar for local families.

Lola Aspanall got a chocolate egg and a cuddle from the Easter Bunny!

With the Easter Bunny at the Gisborne Easter Egg Hunt on 3 March are (front) Ellie Moir and Chloe Moir and (back) Shaye Sidon, Shanrah McEachern and Sandra Barrotta.



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Bank support helps life-long learning



Congratulations to Fiona Lawford of Gisborne, recipient of the 2024 Community Bank Gisborne and District scholarship for the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program (LMCLP). Fiona is an artist, mental health support worker and mental health advocate working in suicide prevention in the Macedon Ranges, and hopes to develop new skills and connections by participating in the program.

Fiona had this to say about participating in the part-time regional leadership course:

"I am driven to create change on a system level as well as on an individual level. In recent years I have noticed a lack of community connection as well as a lack of knowledge of what services are available in times of need, particularly for those most vulnerable.

"Through a journey of healing for myself, I have discovered a love of nature and expression through painting. My hope is for others to discover their own creativity, interests, and hobbies to find inner peace, along with providing connections for others to feel less alone in their lives, no matter what age or background.

"[At] the first retreat of the LMCLP it was wonderful... being surrounded by like-minded community-driven people. I can already see how much there is to learn



Community Bank Gisborne & District board CEO Jo Irwin (left) with Fiona Lawford at the leadership program launch.

from this program, and I'm excited for the journey."

We wish Fiona all the best in the program this year.

Fiona is the sixth local adult participating in the LMCLP on a Community Bank Gisborne & District scholarship. The scholarship was established to invest in local talent and encourage life-long learning in Gisborne and surrounds.

The team at Community Bank Gisborne & District (Bendigo Bank)

What's on at Macedon and Mt Macedon Community House

Canasta Club – Wednesdays 2-5pm

New players welcome to drop in. Gold coin for tea and coffee.

Community Choir – Thursday 11 April 7.30pm

Please contact Grainne at bgblack@aussiebroadband.com.au to register your interest.

Permaculture Group – Permies at the House

Check out our Facebook page Permies @ the House for those interested in permaculture and for past course participants to find out about permaculture activities such as produce swaps, book clubs and more.

Playgroup – Mondays and Wednesdays 10.30am-12.30pm

New families welcome to join our free playgroups on Monday and Wednesday mornings thanks to the support of Shared Table. Email playgroup@mmmcommunityhouse.org

Pregnancy Yoga – Wednesdays 12.30-1.30pm

For more information and to discuss pre-requisites, please contact Loris at loriscassar@gmail.com.

Over 55s Yoga – Wednesdays 6.30-7.30pm

For more information and to discuss pre-requisites, please contact Loris at loriscassar@gmail.com.

Craft Circle – back to Thursdays 10am-12pm

Bring your own sewing, knitting or craft project to the community house on and meet creative, like-minded locals.

Library Drop in and Co-working space Fridays 10am-1pm

Our Community Street Library is open every Friday. No membership required, just drop by and browse the shelves for a book to borrow. You can also bring work from home as we are now connected to the NBN. Gold coin donation for tea and coffee.

Macedon Ranges Further Education Centre courses at M&MMCH

Digital Device Know-How – 22 April-6 May, 12.30-3.30pm – Understand and learn to use your device (tablets and smartphones)

Introduction to Customer Service Training – Saturdays 20 and 27 April TBC. Please call MR FEC for enquiries on 5428 3799 or visit mrfec.net.au/events.

St Paul's Op Shop Jottings

A huge thankyou to the people of Gisborne and surrounds for respecting our decision to close donations on the weekends. It is very comforting to know our community understands the need to do this. Our extra room is open again which means more space to fill with more goodies.

A few of the items to be found in there are some interesting vintage collector books, lots of DVDs at \$1 each, knitting yarn, pictures and homewares.

This month we asked Judy about her time with the Op Shop.

"I have been working in the Op Shop for over 10

years now and I love meeting all the customers that come in. Some call in as they travel through the town from over 100km away and we get a few interstate visitors; we obviously have a reputation as being well worth a visit. We have wonderful bargains that visitors love to get, from clothing and shoes to ornaments and crockery. Hope to see you soon."



Volunteer Judy.

If you would like to follow us on Facebook, just search St Paul's Op Shop, like and follow our page and you will get all the info you need to visit us and get the scoop on what is happening in the shop.

Janine Sanders, coordinator

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Making sawdust



Activity in a workshop is often enthusiastically referred to as 'making sawdust'. We can now make that sawdust even faster with our latest acquisition, a new belt sander.

This allows us to not only get a smooth finish but also results in a perfectly flat surface, even on wide pieces of timber. And given our demographic, it's a lot easier on hands and arms!

Please note that since the accompanying picture was taken, the sander has been permanently installed and connected to our central dust extraction system.

In our Shed we use a lot of reclaimed materials, often laminating smaller sections to create a larger section. The new belt sander will be highly used.



Some of the 'sawdusters' at Gisborne Men's Shed.

But our most important piece of equipment is still the big meeting room table, around which the tea and coffee continue to lubricate lively discussion.

Connecting with each other is what Men's Sheds everywhere are all about. If you know someone who could benefit from a bit of community connection, nudge them to drop in any Monday, Wednesday or Thursday morning.

What is cardiac rehab?

Cardiac rehabilitation can help keep people out of hospital, reducing the risk of heart events.

Macedon Ranges Health provides a cardiac rehabilitation service, which helps in recovery from a heart attack, a cardiac procedure or the diagnosis of a heart condition.

Our Heartsmart program involves support, supervised exercise and comprehensive education sessions, personalised to strengthen hearts and led by qualified health professionals.

It focuses on long-term lifestyle changes, which lead to a longer, healthier life. Sessions cover topics directed by the Heart Foundation and focus on lowering risk, enabling more positive wellbeing after a cardiac event. Cardiac rehab is discussed while you are still in hospital, and a referral to a local community health service begins after you have been discharged.

You may also be referred by your GP or self-refer to Heartsmart.



Heartsmart is delivered face-to-face at the Macedon Ranges Health community health centre in Gisborne.

Group or one-on-one appointments can be made as preferred.

An assessment with an exercise physiologist prior to starting any exercise ensures that you are assessed as safely able to join the group exercise sessions.

Macedon Ranges Health aims to start clients with educational sessions as soon as possible after referral while waiting for their exercise assessment.

All options are offered and discussed via a phone call prior to any attendance.

For more information call 5428 0300 and ask for Louise Beer, Coordinator for Heartsmart, Macedon Ranges Health, Neal Street, Gisborne.

Information about cardiac rehab may also be obtained via the website heartfoundation.org.au.

Tired of juggling laundry duties while trying to spend quality time with your family?

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🎁 **Exclusive Offer for New Customers:** Enjoy your first wash on us! Use Dexter Pay and the promo code *Free* to claim your FREE wash as a warm reception to the Gisborne Laundromat family.

🕒 **Open Every Day.** Life doesn't adhere to a 9-to-5 schedule, and neither do we! With our extended hours from 6 AM to 11 PM, 365 days a year, you can tackle laundry whenever it suits your busy family life.



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🚗 **Convenient Parking:** Say goodbye to parking woes with our dedicated car parks reserved for small cars or skilled drivers like you. Enjoy hassle-free access to our facility every time.

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🐾 **Pamper Your Furry Friends Too!** Don't forget about your four-legged family members! Our K9000 dog washing station and dedicated pet washing machines and dryers ensure your furry friends get the total clean they deserve.

Join Us Today! Elevate your laundry routine with Gisborne Laundromat. Visit us at 11C Hamilton Street and let us handle the dirty work while you focus on making memories with your loved ones.

Health Talk **Atrial fibrillation**

with Dr Umair Masood



Atrial fibrillation (AF) is an irregular and often very rapid heart rhythm. AF can lead to blood clots in the heart. The condition also increases the risk of stroke, heart failure and other heart-related complications.

For many people, AF may have no symptoms. AF can cause a fast, pounding heartbeat, shortness of breath or light-headedness in others.

Episodes of atrial fibrillation may be intermittent, or they may be persistent. AF itself usually is not life-threatening. However, it is a serious medical condition that needs proper treatment to prevent stroke.

Symptoms

Feelings of a fast, fluttering or pounding heartbeat, called palpitations; chest pain; dizziness; fatigue; light-headedness; reduced ability to exercise; shortness of breath; weakness.

What is AF and how does it happen?

The heart has four chambers: the two upper chambers are called the atria and two lower chambers are called the ventricles.

Inside the upper right heart chamber is a group of cells called the sinus node. The sinus node makes the signals that start each heartbeat.

The signals move across the upper heart chambers. Next, the signals arrive

at a group of cells called the AV node, where they usually slow down and then go to the lower heart chambers.

In a healthy heart, this signalling process usually goes smoothly. In atrial fibrillation, the signals in the upper chambers of the heart are chaotic and misfire. As a result, the upper chambers tremble or shake. The AV node is flooded with signals trying to get through to the lower heart chambers. This causes a fast and irregular heart rhythm of between 100 and 175 beats per minute.

Causes

Causes can include structural heart problems, sleep apnoea, heart attack,

sick sinus syndrome, high blood pressure, heart valve disease, lung diseases, ischemic heart disease, overactive thyroid, infections, heart surgery, excess alcohol or caffeine, smoking and illicit drug use.

What should you do?

In Australia, an estimated 5% of the population aged 55 and over have atrial fibrillation.

Smart devices may pick up possible AF. If you have symptoms or suspect you may have AF without symptoms, please bring this up with your GP at your next visit.

A simple ECG (heart tracing) done at the clinic can pick up AF.



With Betty Doolan

BETTY'S BOOP

Residents at The Oaks have had a quiet month due to some residents not feeling too well, so it was better to have no groups during this period. I am happy to say all is well and our residents are bright and happy again.

Well, football has started, and we have football flags hanging from the roof in the Life Enhancement room. I noticed there is no North Melbourne flag. When I went to meet Brian's family for the first time, Brian's father asked who I barracked for and I said North Melbourne and that was that.

When Richmond Football Club plays, people change. This person appears with bright yellow hair with matching top and long socks that only a Richmond supporter would wear. This very colourful person can be seen carrying a little toy poodle called Macy.

Gisborne Aged Care is going

through a lot of changes. We now have sliding doors which makes it much easier for wheelchairs. One area has been made a lovely garden; there are red paths and a small pond with goldfish, and there are tables and chairs. Outside the Life Enhancement room a large area has been made with lots of furniture. This means we have plenty of space to sit and chat with friends or just sit and enjoy the peaceful quiet.

International Women's Day was celebrated with high tea and David entertained. We had Pancake Day, and of course it's a leap year, and then we had the wearing of the green for St Patrick's Day.

I had a lovely surprise when my granddaughter Trish and her family visited me. They are travelling around Australia.

Another granddaughter, Fiona, and her boys were also very welcome visitors.



Kidney Kar Rally participants Daniel Craige (left), Adam Leggett and Levi Kavanagh.

Priceless gift inspires rally ride

Daniel Craige was diagnosed with kidney failure at 25. By the time he was 31, he required dialysis to keep him alive; five hours a day, three days a week in hospital having treatment, all while raising a young family.

At 4.58am on 26 October 2021, Daniel received the life-changing call his family will never forget. 'We have a kidney for you.' His family will be forever grateful for Daniel's second chance at life.

Daniel and mates Adam Leggett and

Levi Kavanagh will be participating in the Kidney Kar Rally in August. The annual fundraiser for Kidney Health Australia sees teams drive thousands of kilometres across Australia over a week. Donations to 'Team Jimmy' will be gratefully received at fundraise.kidney.org.au/fundraisers/teamjimmy

The team is holding a fundraiser on 18 May at Little Vic's in Riddells Creek. Details and bookings at www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1189175. Tickets \$50.




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Autumn on the Mount and Portrait Prize



April and May are extra busy at The Gallery. In April, members will be exploring autumn themes in their work. The stunning colours of autumn will be reflected in the art on display.

We will also host our Portraits on the Mount, Portrait Prize and exhibition for artists across the Macedon Ranges. We held two competitions which are now closed. Non-photographic is to be judged and hung in April which will consist of a range of mediums. The works promise to be exciting and thought-provoking, and most will be for sale.

This is a great chance to pick up an original work by a local artist. We will be asking visitors to vote for their favourite work, and the most popular work will be awarded people's choice awards.

In May, we will be exhibiting the Photographic competition (our second competition for Macedon Ranges photographers) in our Focus Room. This also promises to be exciting with works for sale and to be voted on for their popularity.

We thank the Gisborne & District Community Bank



Autumn-themed art: Origami by Chieko Hester (left), and wood Acorn by Brian Falkenberg (below).



(Bendigo Bank) for its generous donation of prize money.

The first exhibition will open on Saturday 6 April at 2pm, with the second opening on Saturday 4 May at 2pm.

The Gallery is open Friday-Tuesday, 10am- 4pm.

Jo Hoyne 0418 488 582, Sue Anson 0413 581 632

The Mount Players April happenings



The Mount Players

The Mount Players are now in full rehearsal for their second production of the year, *Looped*, which opens on 10 May and will run until 26 May.

A comedy written by Matthew Lombardo, *Looped* is being directed by Peter Newling. This is Peter's first directing gig with the Mount Players and he comes to us with bags of experience as a successful director across the Melbourne community theatre scene.

Looped

During the summer of 1965, celebrated actress Tallulah Bankhead entered a Los Angeles recording studio to re-record (or 'loop') just one line of dialogue from her final film, *Die, Die My Darling*.

What should have taken about eight minutes ended up taking eight hours.

The playwright uses a great deal of theatrical licence, offering a hilarious yet sympathetic guesstimation as to what may have happened in that room on that day.

A combination of clever writing backed by a stellar cast of highly regarded, experienced actors, this play will appeal to many...don't miss it!



Mother's Day

We will be celebrating Mother's Day at the *Looped* matinee on Sunday 12 May – there will be complimentary bubbles for all the mums and delicious treats at interval.

Book your tickets at www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892 for assistance.

See you at the theatre!

Karen Hunt

Phoenix art show coming up on 6 and 7 April



The first Phoenix Macedon Ranges Art and Craft Group Exhibition and Sale for 2024 will be held at the Old Gisborne Court House, 4 Hamilton Street, Gisborne on Saturday 6 April, 10am-4pm and Sunday 7 April, 9am-3pm (to coincide with the Gisborne market).

Come and see our exquisite art and craft works and speak to the artists who created them.

We are a multimedia group with current members producing a wide range of work including pottery, painting, paper-craft, woodwork, glassware jewellery,

textile art and knitted crafts.

At the exhibition you will have the chance to view original works which are locally made by our artists and to purchase a unique one-of-a-kind item at a reasonable price.

Entry is free.

If you are interested in joining our group, you can contact longtime member Kay Beale on 9744 2646, visit <https://phoenixmrac.com/> or visit our Facebook Page, <https://www.facebook.com/phoenixmrac/>

Enquiries: contact@phoenixmrac.com

Dianne Egan



Mae

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Geraldine Douglas, *Iris sp.*



Lioudmila Volodina, *Crataegus berries.*

ARTANICA botanic art exhibition returns

The biennial botanic art exhibition 'ARTANICA', showcasing the remarkable talents of the Mt Macedon & District Horticultural Society's botanic artists, will be held from 13 to 28 April at the Horticultural Hall, Mt Macedon Golf Club, Mt Macedon.

For over a decade the society has been supporting an group of talented artists, many of whom exhibit both nationally and internationally.

The group includes artists who regularly exhibit in major exhibitions at the Royal Botanic Gardens in both Melbourne and Sydney, as well as members who have exhibited works in major international institutions such as the Hunt Institute in the US, and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, London.

This is an opportunity to view and buy original works and admire the diversity of approaches that the



artists employ in this highly demanding art form.

All works are exquisitely executed in fine detail using the highest quality materials and a variety of mediums including watercolour on paper and vellum, graphite, and pen and ink.

The Macedon Ranges has a long history of botanic artists including Ellis Rowan, Joan Law-Smith, Jenny Phillips and Anita Barley. These artists displaying their work in 'ARTANICA' are continuing this tradition while adopting a contemporary approach and style, and a wish to capture the biodiversity of plants found in the natural landscape and historic gardens.

The exhibition hours are 10am to 4.30pm Saturday to Tuesday plus Anzac Day.

Photo workshops present great skill opportunities



Macedon Ranges
Photographic Society

The Macedon Ranges Photographic Society has an exciting

program set out for the coming months. Our members have the opportunity to attend workshops on portraits, landscapes, basic camera skills and an introduction to post-production with photo editing software Lightroom.

We recently had an outing to Dog Rocks, near Faraday. The giant hillside boulders were great subjects for practising the monochrome setting on our cameras. We also stopped off at the Cascades in Metcalfe for images of water movement and reflections. Both locations are ideal for a day out.

If you are interested in finding out more about our group, we invite you to attend a couple of meetings to see if the club is a good fit before paying for membership. Our next meeting is 2 April, and we will have the judging of our competition 'set subject, monochrome'.

The Macedon Ranges Photographic Society meets on the first Tuesday of the month, followed by the next Monday at Dromkeen, 1012 Kilmore Rd Riddells Creek. Social chats start at 7pm with the meeting beginning at 7.30pm. Please visit www.macedon-ranges-photography.org.au.

Sue Steward



Photo society members take monochrome images. Image by Paul Fletcher (cleverly taken in monochrome).

CRAFT CORNER

with Mary-Beth O'Brien

Crochet blocking

Crochet blocking is a technique to relax wool fibres in a crochet project to achieve a more draped look.

Blocking involves immersion in water, with or without a wool wash product or using a spray bottle to dampen your project, before placing it on a blocking board and pinning in place till dry. Steam is also a method that can also be applied.

To block, choose a small item then gather equipment; blocking board, pins, towels, a sink or tub, wool wash, a water spray bottle.

A blocking board can be purchased, or a cardboard square covered with foam material and a towel can suffice. An excellent substitution is floor sponge interlocking matting used for child

play areas or camping. It's durable, lightweight and waterproof.

Dressmaker pins work, but if you can get your hands on T-pins, so much the better. T-pins are longer in the shaft and rather than a bobble or ball, taper to a cross bar.

The project must be damp before pinning to the blocking board.

Place the board on a firm surface, cover with a towel to absorb any excess moisture, plunge your project into water or wool wash. Place the project on the blocking board and pin into the desired shape. The most important thing to remember at this point is to ensure your work is dry.

What did the art thief say to the gallery curator?

Give me all your Monet.



Singers get ready for first concerts

the Gisborne Singers

The Gisborne Singers' first concerts of the year are coming up. They feature a unique program that not only showcases musical masterpieces but also unravels

the historical tapestry behind each composition. The program includes Handel's *Zadok the Priest*, Haydn's *Te Deum* and three beautiful works by Mozart - *Regina Coeli*, *Laudate Dominum* from *Vesperae Solennes de Confessore* and *Exultate, jubilate*.

Join us for an afternoon of musical discovery as we travel through time and experience the emotions and cultural significance embedded in these remarkable pieces. The soprano soloist is Merlyn Quaife, with backing by the Macedon Ranges Chamber Orchestra. Concert dates are Sunday 28 April at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church, 53 Ebdon Street, Kyneton at 2.30pm, and Sunday 5 May at St Mary's Anglican Church, 7-19 Oshanassy Street, Sunbury at 2.30pm. Afternoon tea is provided after the Kyneton concert only. Tickets \$55 full, \$45 concession, under 12 free. Enquiries: please phone 0480 156 263 or go to our website: gisborne.harmonysite.com

The choir rehearses from 7.30pm to 10pm on Wednesdays at the Gisborne Uniting Church in Brantome Street, Gisborne and new members are always welcome.

Enquiries: www.gisborne.harmonysite.com or phone 0480 156 263. *Alison Kinghorn*



Happy choristers at rehearsal.

Eggs, excursions and exhibition for Gisborne CWA

After our meeting in early March the ladies enjoyed a shared lunch and then were instructed by Osija to make an Easter egg. The eggs, in the Romanian tradition, were a colourful reminder of our country of study for the year.

A simple statement that one would like to see Kangaroo Island and enjoy meals without having to wash dishes on the way saw eight of our members delight in a four-night cruise together in February. The first day was a little rocky for a few of us but after that we enjoyed different interests during the day and a get-together for dinner and a show at night.

The Central Highlands Creative Arts Exhibition is on Saturday 20 April, 10am-4pm and Sunday 21 April, 10am-3pm at Lancefield Mechanics Institute. The hall will be filled with a showcase of crafts, cooking, preserves, photography, art and floral arrangements. Indulge in homemade soup, a cup of tea and scones and check out the de-stash stall to top up your supplies. There is a \$5 entry, raffles to test your luck and



Helen Hallett with her Easter egg in the Romanian style.

an award ceremony at 11am on the Saturday for those winning best in show.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 8 April, 10am, not at our usual venue, but at Bacchus Marsh CWA, Darley Community Hub, at 168 Halletts Way. Enter via Wittick Street. A light lunch can be bought there for \$12.

Coffee, craft and chat the following Monday, 15 April, 10am at the stadium, Gisborne Secondary College.

Christine Edwards

Macedon CWA news

Early in March our CWA Central Highlands group meeting was held at our hall in Mount Macedon. We were fortunate to have our state president, Mrs Jenny Nola, conduct our AGM to elect group officers for the coming year. She also gave us a very informative overview of our CWA state activities. It is always good to be reminded of CWA's aims to assist women, children, and families.

We, at the Macedon branch, are currently investigating ways to be more involved in our community through help with secure housing. This helps to create a stable and caring community where people can thrive.

As I write this article our Easter Egg Raffle fundraiser is still in progress, but by the time you are reading it there will be some lucky winners enjoying their prizes. Thank you to all who have bought tickets. Our ticket sellers have enjoyed meeting you all and having a chat. Once again, thank you for your support.

Macedon CWA members hope everyone has had a happy Easter and, for those who are enjoying the school holidays – stay safe and have fun.

Want to know more about the CWA? Call Anne Fyfield on 5426 2210 for more details.



Clinic Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:00am to 6:30pm
Friday 8:00am - 5:30pm
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Dr Fareesa Zaman	Dr Sobia Siddiqi
Dr Janani Kannan	Dr Hina Bhatti
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Dr My-Huong San	Dr Batool Albatat
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Other Services

Children 15 years and under, and aged care patients with a Blue Concession Card are bulk billed by all doctors, except on weekends.

Visiting Services/Allied Health

We have a broad range of specialist and allied health services available. Please see our website for further information.

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Macedon Ranges Health

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Practitioners

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Zuha Gilani: Psychologist
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Aleksandar Milivojevic: Physiotherapist
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Ad sizes and prices are also listed on our website, **gisbornegazette.org.au**

New Probus Club committee elected

The Probus Club of Gisborne held its Annual General Meeting on 7 March after the normal monthly meeting for March.

The members appointed Susan Denheld as president for the 2024-25 Probus year. The election of the new committee was followed by a delicious lunch which was enjoyed by 50 members and provided by JBL Catering.

The Probus Club of Gisborne will be celebrating the milestone of our 30th anniversary at our General Meeting on 4 April.

The club held its first meeting on 22 March 1994 and it is wonderful to see that we still have some of the original members in the club. We will celebrate by having a special morning tea after our meeting.

We meet on the first Thursday of the month in the Gisborne Community Centre Hall (old Senior Citizens Room) at 10am.



Gisborne Probus Club committee for 2024-25 Probus year. Back row: Michael O'Brien (past president), Barbara Crapper (tours officer), Susan Denheld (president), Susan Skinner (membership). Front: Josephine Desira (almoner), Pamela Barton (Bulletin), Dianne Egan (secretary).

If you want to experience being a member of Probus, you are welcome to join us at our next meeting on 4 April.

You can contact our President Susan Denheld on 0419 530 041 for further information.

Dianne Egan



Minds, bodies and friends at play at U3A Kyneton.

U3A Kyneton offers table tennis for Ranges residents

U3A KYNETON UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE U3A Kyneton provides a stimulating environment for Macedon Ranges residents who have retired from full-time work, enjoy meeting people and want to keep active. There are no entry conditions or exams.

U3A Kyneton is a voluntary not-for-profit organisation and a member of U3A Network Victoria. Programs include a wide range of activities such as guest speakers, table tennis, choir, movies, poetry, social activities, cycling and games.

The table tennis group meets weekly on Wednesdays at the Kyneton Toyota Sports and Aquatic Centre from 4pm to 5.30pm. Recreational table tennis is a great activity for older people and has many benefits. It is easy on the joints, better eye-hand coordination and improves balance. Table tennis stimulates various parts of the brain and sharpens reaction times. And best of all it is fun.

Annual membership of U3A Kyneton is \$40. Several activities are free and some incur a charge to cover the use of a venue. The cost for table tennis is \$50 for each semester. Further information is available via email from our membership coordinator at **u3ak.membership@gmail.com**, on the website **u3akyneton.org.au** or by calling 0439 360 763.

Submitted by Roni Taubman

VIEW Club celebrates International Women's Day

It has been a busy start to the year for the Sunbury-Macedon Ranges VIEW Club, starting with a coffee morning and the AGM to elect a new committee.

On 8 March we hosted International Women's Day. At least 75 ladies from various regional VIEW Clubs and friends from Sunbury got together at Club Sunbury to enjoy a fashion parade hosted by Cabella Mia, a scarf-tying demonstration, guest speakers, a few laughs and many raffle prizes and a delicious two-course lunch.

Members also enjoyed an Easter Morning Tea in March with coffee, scones with jam and cream and, of course, chocolate on offer.

We are planning our 32nd birthday luncheon on 21 June, with the theme to be 'Gregarious in Green'. We would love to see lots of people there. If you would like to join us, message us on our Facebook page or give me (Lee-anne) a call on 0403 047 909.

Sunbury-Macedon Ranges VIEW Club meets on the third Friday of each month at Club Sunbury, 49 Riddell Road, Sunbury for an 11.30am start. Members then enjoy lunch at the Club Sunbury Bistro.

VIEW provides a place for women to connect and enjoy social activities – all while supporting the work of the children's education charity, the Smith Family.

Lee-anne Jeal, vice-president



The VIEW Club raises funds to support the Smith Family.



Vet Talk Tetanus tales



By local vet
Dr Caitlin
(Horwood) Retchford

This lovely young Kelpie-Labrador cross is Flipper. She came into the vets all stiff and sore and apparently grimacing with the 'sardonic smile' which is the classic sign of tetanus toxicity in dogs.

Tetanus affects dogs and cats much less than people or horses, so dogs are typically not vaccinated against the disease. It causes a toxicity when the Clostridium bacteria enters the body in a low-oxygen environment, such as a puncture wound contaminated by soil, or in Flipper's case a broken and infected puppy tooth.

The tetanus toxin travels to the nerves, and causes painful very stiff muscles, tremors, spasms of the face, and sometimes a 'lock jaw'.

Dogs have trouble simply standing up, and often cannot swallow, hence ending up in hospital on an IV drip, antitoxin, and antibiotics like Flipper did.

The good news is that Flipper has been a star patient and is heading home now.



Flipper: star patient

The reminder goes out to you people this time, to ensure your own tetanus vaccination is up to date, as I wouldn't wish this disease on anyone!

Dog training occurs in all seasons

March started off with a beautiful sunny Sunday and more new members with beautiful fur babies.

Coming into autumn where we can have four seasons in one day... rain, hail or shine, we are training, except on Code Red/Catastrophic fire danger days as the training grounds are an evacuation centre.

We get asked many questions. Most can be answered by the "FAQ's" (frequently asked questions) on our website. If not, use the chat to send a message or email us. The club is run by volunteers and many of us work, so we may not reply straight away, but we will reply. Please be patient.

Common questions include:

"How old does my puppy need to be?" 16 weeks (minimum) and fully vaccinated.

"Can my child train our dog?" Children 12 and over are permitted to train dogs, but they must always be supervised by an adult until they turn 16.

"My dog is not a puppy and has never done obedience



training. Can we still join?" Yes. Lots of dogs that join are older.

So, if you think your dog is too old or that there is no training in winter, think again. Details are on our website www.macedonrangesdogclub.org.au. Or contact us via our Facebook page or email to info@macedonrangesdogclub.org.au.

Don't be shy, come and see us at the Riddells Creek Recreational Reserve, Sutherlands Road, Riddells Creek. We are there from 9am to 11am Sunday mornings.

Carol, instructor/treasurer MRODC



Ebony and Shelby enjoy an autumn afternoon tea.



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By Robin Godfrey

In the 1880s, Australia was established as a major wool producer and the trade in wool with Europe was under the control of the British, with everything going through London.

The wool industry in France was obliged to source Australian wool via London. Consequently, French textile manufacturers requested that the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris (Discount Bank of Paris) open a branch in Australia to finance French imports of Australian wool.

In 1881, the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris (CEP) opened branches in Melbourne and Sydney and Charles Phalempin was appointed as the first manager of the bank's Australian operations. He was 37 years old, a native of the northern French city of Lille, and had joined the bank in 1861.



Charles Phalempin 1844-1918

The Australian branches of CEP dealt mainly with the import of Australian wool for the benefit of the French textile industry. This business, which up to then had been handled by British or Anglo-Australian banks, now moved over entirely to CEP — the first foreign bank in Australia. Charles Phalempin based his Australian banking activities mainly in Melbourne, with his office at 51 Queen Street.

In June 1882, Phalempin married Sarah Joske at St Mary's Catholic Church, St Kilda. Sarah Elisabeth Joske was of the Jewish faith and the Melbourne Jewish community was shocked by her conversion to Catholicism to marry her fiancé. In November 1883, a daughter, Claire Elisabeth, was born in South Yarra. Soon after this, the couple bought their Melbourne home, 'Oakrood', at the corner of Barkly and Acland Streets, St Kilda. Today, the site of this 1¼ acre (half hectare) property which consisted of a mansion and sundry outbuildings is completely swallowed up by a shopping precinct.

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The Mount's link to Australia's first foreign bank



Noel at Mount Macedon

Despite Phalempin's wife and daughter being born in Australia, the high society social circles of Melbourne consistently referred to them as Madame and Mademoiselle Phalempin, respectively.

In 1886, Charles Phalempin arranged for the construction of a country villa, 'Noel', on the Main Road, Upper Macedon (Mount Macedon). The 6½ acre (2.5ha) property was opposite the post office. The land had been sold to him by Charles Ryan after Phalempin first arrived in Australia in 1881.

The property is described in *The Age* of 8 October 1898, when 'Noel' was advertised for sale (but did not change hands): "The charming brick villa known as 'Noel', containing dining room (30ft x 15ft) (9.2m x 4.6m), four bedrooms, kitchen, servant's room, pantry, bathroom, three-roomed-cottage, stabling and coach house, fowl yard, piggery. Water is laid on to the premises. The property ... makes a splendid summer residence."

After the Phalempins sold the property in 1911, the furniture and effects from 'Noel' were auctioned, the goods described in *The Sunbury News* of 4 February 1911: "Dining room and bedroom furniture; bedsteads; bedding; household and table linen; kitchen

utensils, china, glass, cutlery; plated ware, ornaments; garden tools, and all the usual accessories of a country residence. Terms — cash."

The original 'Noel' house design echoed the style of a Swiss mountain chalet, and the flagpole regularly flew the French national flag.

Sarah Phalempin was talented musically and was often invited to social events in Melbourne, where she played the piano. She also took part in regional concerts, playing piano solos, including those held in the Working Men's Hall at Upper Macedon to raise funds for the local churches.

In 1889, the head office of CEP in France faced a financial crisis which was largely attributed to an associate banker's speculation over the world supply of copper. As a result of this and other irregular behaviour, CEP was liquidated in April of 1889. Soon after, in June 1889, the CEP was reborn as the Compté National d'Escompte de Paris (CNEP). The CEP and other French retail banks had been nationalised by the Bank of France.

Charles Phalempin was appointed the London manager of CNEP, and in April of 1891, he sailed for Europe with his wife and seven-year-old daughter. However, after only two years in London,

Phalempin was asked to resume his old position in charge of CNEP's agencies in Melbourne and Sydney. The family settled back in Melbourne for four years and no doubt would have spent their summers at their country villa on Mount Macedon.

In late January 1898, Melbourne's 'society' newspaper, *Table Talk*, announced the departure of the Phalempins for Europe: "The manager of the French bank in Melbourne, accompanied by his wife, leaves tomorrow ... for Marseilles. Monsieur Phalempin returns at the end of this year, but Madame Phalempin will stay about two years in France to superintend the education of their daughter."

Madame Phalempin returned to Melbourne to attend with her husband the first Australian Commonwealth Parliament opening in the Exhibition Building in Carlton in May 1901.

Before Charles Phalempin left Australia's shores for what might have been the last time, he was in Sydney in 1902 representing the financial integrity of a French construction company in its bid to win the construction contract for the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

In the 28 years from 1881, when Phalempin first came to Australia, to 1909, when he returned permanently to Europe, the banker made four trips between Europe and Australia. On most of these eight sailing journeys, he was accompanied by his wife and daughter. Clipper ships in the latter part of the 19th century and early 20th century took 50 to 70 days for the passage from Britain to Australia. Over the eight journeys, Phalempin was on the high seas for a cumulative total of 1 to 1½ years.

'Noel' was purchased by wool broker George Stoving in 1911, and was sold in 1929 by his widow Beatrice to another widow, Gertrude Clarke. *Table Talk* described the property as "a very charming place, for the property runs down to a lovely little stream (Turritable Creek) which in the early spring is banked by a mass of gentians and primroses and, later on, lilies of the valley."

In 1956, the original 6½ acres was subdivided into three blocks with 'Noel' left standing on the second block.

According to realestate.com, in January 1970 the original building was demolished. A new residence was built on the site. The property retains the name 'Noel'.

Today, on the main road at Mount Macedon, a little north of the Mount Macedon Primary School, is a road named Phalempin Road (the street sign incorrectly spelled) and halfway along the road towards Turritable Creek, is the gateway to 'Noel'.

What's ticking with the Genies?



The next meeting of the Gisborne Genealogical Group will be held on Thursday 18 April at 7.30pm in the Family History Room, adjoining the Gisborne Library. Note: this a week earlier than normal due to Anzac Day.

The topic will be the Vietnam War, with a visual display as well as a discussion on this subject. Unlike issues we have previously discussed at our April meeting, this is a war that many of us remember well, and some will have personal stories to tell.

The DNA workshop held in March was well attended, so we have decided to now form a DNA Special Interest Group to meet bi-monthly on the third Saturday of the month at 10am in the Family History Room. The next meeting will be on Saturday 18 May. Contact Julie on 0400 099 159 if you are interested in joining or would like to know more.

The next Saturday Workshop will be on 6 April at 10am when we will look at 'English Records and Resources' (free for GGG members, \$10 for visitors).

Our outing to the Police Museum is now on 5 April. Contact Mary for details and to book on 5428 3887.

The Family History Room is open for research each Tuesday from 10am to 1pm, and on Thursdays 2pm to 5pm. Check our website for further details about the Gisborne Genealogical Group, www.ggg.org.au.

Lyn Hall, president

Historical Happenings

A new display featuring the 'off to the goldfields' theme, is now open daily free of charge in the stables at the rear of the old Gisborne Court House, thanks to committee members Lois and Graeme.

'Nurses, medicine and caring in the Macedon Ranges throughout the ages' is the theme for a forthcoming display at Kyneton Museum. Running from 10 May to 15 September, this exhibition will contain memorabilia from all of the historical societies throughout the Macedon Ranges, so mark the dates in your diary. If you have any nursing memorabilia you would like included in the display, please contact the Gisborne & Mount Macedon Historical Society by visiting on any Wednesday between 10am and 4pm, phoning 5428 1540 and leaving a message or calling Phyllis on 0431 063 119.



Interpretive signs at the entrance help emphasise the Reserve's significance.

Mt Gisborne Bushland Reserve a special place

In the heart of our community lies Mt Gisborne Bushland Reserve, a precious natural gem designated as Public Conservation and Resource Zone. This site is home to a unique area of scoria woodland, the only one of its kind in the Port Phillip and Maribyrnong Catchment.

As urbanisation continues to encroach upon local green space, it is crucial to recognise the significance of preserving Mt Gisborne. The scoria woodland, with its distinct flora and fauna, is an integral part of the local biodiversity. Its protection ensures the survival of rare and endangered species, contributing to the overall health of our ecosystem, and is increasingly becoming a haven for birds and fauna of the area.

Mt Gisborne serves as the headwater for a tributary of Jackson Creek, a vital waterway supporting the ecological balance downstream. Managing this pristine reserve is an important environmental responsibility and a community duty. By participating in conservation efforts, we safeguard the natural heritage for current and future generations.

Mt Gisborne is a haven for nature enthusiasts seeking a quiet, more immersive experience. The serenity of Mt Gisborne allows visitors to connect with nature on a deeper level, fostering a sense of awe and appreciation for the unique biodiversity it sustains.

Helping to protect Mt Gisborne Bushland Reserve will ensure its sustained vitality as a beacon of biodiversity and a place that offers a distinctive and tranquil experience to all who venture into its landscapes.

If you wish to join this endeavour or find out more, please email us at friendsofmontgisborne@gmail.com.

Friends of Mt Gisborne Bushland Reserve



MACEDON MAIL

What beautiful weather we have had so far for autumn. Rainfall as at 21 March was 3mm for the Macedon township. Compare this to the same date last year where Macedon had 24mm. It has been a dry summer and not much rain is forecast for the next few weeks.

Macedon Cricket Club have been busy with hosting the McIntyre Cup grand final in late March. Congratulations to the Under 18 girls and Under 15s for winning their Junior Grand Finals, and to the Under 13s and Under 17s for making the finals.

Junior footy starts back up in April. Registrations are still open for Junior Girls football via email at macedonjfc.registrar@gmail.com.

Auskick begins on Saturday 20 April. It's at 8.30am to 9.30am at Tony Clarke Reserve. Everyone is welcome and the program runs for all of Term 2. For further info please contact Kristal on 0427 517 582.

We are pleased to announce that the final tally for the Macedon Fire Brigade Community Fundraiser is \$27,800. Special thanks to all local donors, contributors and participants for making the day such a success.

Chris Humfrey's "Junior Zookeeper" experience is running again these school holidays. Why not book your 'animal mad' child in for an amazing hands-on wildlife-filled day in Macedon. More info at www.wildaction.com.au.

April is Autumn Festival time for the Macedon Ranges. The trees around the area will be displayed at their best during the next few weeks, so make sure you get out and enjoy the changing colours – and falling leaves! Be aware that new parking signs have been put up in the area, so be mindful when parking your car.

Roadworks have started on Black Forest Drive between Macedon and Woodend and are expected to be in place until mid-2024.

If you have any news you would like us to include in future columns, please pop in and let us know.

We hope you had a happy and safe Easter.

Anne and the team at Macedon Post Office



Mary-Anne Thomas MP
Member for Macedon

Delivering for our community

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Victorian Labor



FOR THE GREEN THUMBS

Mountain home hits garden restoration out of the park



Gisborne Garden Club members had the pleasure of visiting Shepherds Bush high up on Mt Macedon in February.

Sadly, the lovely old house and gardens were destroyed in the 1983 bushfires but, undeterred, owners Kevin and Chris rebuilt, redesigned, and replanted the now existing magnificent gardens.

Many cool-weather plants are a feature of the

1.5 hectares, with towering elms and oaks, mature rhododendrons and azaleas, large beautifully coloured dahlias and so very much more.

Not only are the gardens a sight not to be missed, the rock retaining walls are the work of the owners and are outstanding.

The gardens are surrounded by well-defined pathways. Kevin guided us around the garden pointing

out certain plants and trees and relating the history of the property. The work carried out by both Kevin and Chris to build these gardens up to the standard they are today makes this a Mt Macedon delight.

The gardens are open to the public at certain times of the year and are well worth a visit or two.

If you would like to join the Gisborne Garden Club, please ring Jeanette on 5420 7303.

News from Daly Nature Reserve



A big thank you to Gisborne Primary School Year 3s,

who helped to collect rubbish in the reserve, as part of Clean-up Australia Day. As usual, most of the rubbish consisted of discarded food and drink containers. One supermarket trolley was returned to its owners.

Every volunteer hour is recorded and they certainly mount up, but our working bees and committee meetings are far from a chore, as we have become good friends. You are welcome to join us, any second Tuesday each month, starting at the scout hall, 9.30am.

Banksia

This month's photograph shows a banksia species which grows naturally in the Gisborne area. It is suitable for gardens and it is great to see our council starting to use these beautiful banksias as street trees.

Flower spikes of pale to bright yellow are most prolific during March, April and May. Each flower spike is made up of many small flowers. *Banksia marginata* attracts birds, insects and mammals to feed on the rich nectar.

Dried banksia spikes (sometimes called cones or candles) are featured in May Gibbs stories as 'The Big Bad Banksia Man', which is also a song by John Williams.

Enquiries to dalynaturereserve@gmail.com.

Friends of Daly Nature Reserve



Banksia marginata, commonly known as silver banksia.

Macedon Ranges Field Naturalists seek new members

Formed in 2020, the Macedon Ranges Field Naturalists aim to enhance knowledge and understanding of the flora, fauna and fungi of the Macedon Ranges Shire.

Through sharing this knowledge, the group aims to foster interest in the region's natural values and to help preserve its native species, communities and ecosystems.

If you love nature walks and participating in citizen science with like-minded people, we would love to have you as a member. For our inaugural membership drive, we also have a competition to create our logo. The winner will receive a \$50 book voucher and free membership of the Macedon Ranges Field Naturalists for five years. For full details, hop on over to our website to see what projects are happening and a link to membership.

www.macedonrangesfieldnaturalists.org.

Lisa Dobson,
secretary



A close look at nature on the ground during mushroom season could allow you to see an earth star mushroom like this.

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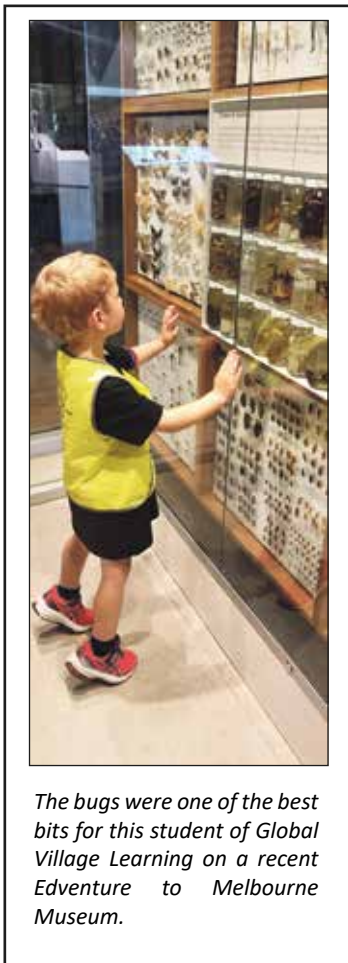


SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



Find 10 differences between the two drawings.

Artwork by Eliza Ransome



The bugs were one of the best bits for this student of Global Village Learning on a recent Adventure to Melbourne Museum.

CARING FOR THE PLANET

with Eliza Ransome



Eliza Ransome

Three years ago, my family and I went around Australia in a caravan. Not only was it a once-in-a-lifetime experience, it was also very eco- and budget-friendly.

Our caravan had solar panels on the roof that charged a large battery, which powered a number of the caravan appliances including the lights, fridge and microwave.

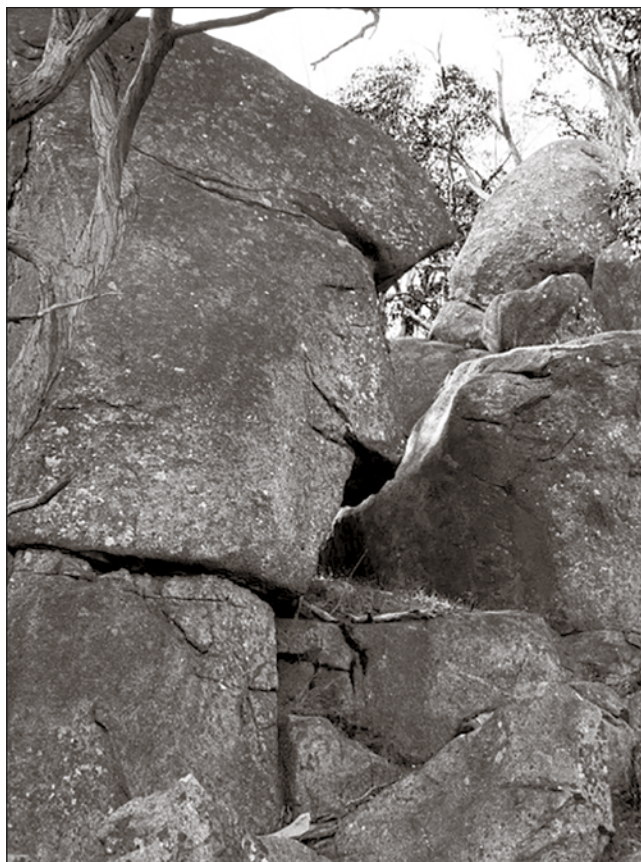
We spent a lot of time off grid in remote places and were able to use the sun to power our appliances instead of relying on an electricity supply. This saved us money and also reduced our carbon footprint. The other advantage of the solar panels was we didn't have to use a generator that runs on diesel or petrol which release pollutants into the atmosphere.

Another eco-friendly aspect of our caravan was the compost toilet. This meant no chemicals and less water was required as opposed to the traditional caravan cassette toilet. Conserving water was important on our trip due to the caravan's limited water storage. Also, travelling in remote areas it was sometimes difficult to source water. This meant we were very conscious of not wasting water including limiting shower times and not leaving taps running.

Another positive of living off-grid was that we were more responsible with food. Over seven million tonnes of food are wasted yearly. This is a massive amount! On our trip it was often hard and expensive to get food. We were therefore very responsible with planning meals, and hardly anything was wasted.

I'll never forget my trip around Australia!

What do you see?



Some people might see a pile of rocks. Other might see... 'Rock Face' by Nicky Donald.

KIDS' QUIZ

- 1 On which television show are you most likely to find a round, square, arched, and diamond window?
- 2 Which planet is the fourth from the Sun?
- 3 What sort of dairy food is Edam?
- 4 What colour do you get when you mix red and white paint together?
- 5 Which actor voices Donkey in the *Shrek* series of movies?
- 6 A nail is to a hammer what a screw is to which tool?
- 7 What is the name of the galaxy we live in?
- 8 What is the sum of 43.6 and 12.7?
- 9 Who is Walt Disney's most famous duck?
- 10 CO² is the chemical formula for which gas?

Answers page 39

JOKES & RIDDLES

What's black and white and eats like a horse?
A zebra.

I slept like a log last night and woke up in the fireplace.

When will water stop flowing downhill?
When it reaches the bottom.

Doctor, doctor, I think I'm a yo-yo.
Well, just sit down, and down, and down, and down.

What's in the middle of the World wide Web?
A very, very, very big spider.

An optimist fell off a ten-storey building. As he flashed past the third floor he was heard to call out, "All good so far."

I'm so old I can remember when emojis were called hieroglyphics.

A three-legged dog walks into a saloon in the Old West and says menacingly, "I'm looking for the man who shot my paw."

What happened to the man who jumped off the bridge in Paris?

He went in Seine.



A packed first term at St Brigid's



This article will tell you about what has been happening at St Brigid's, such as who won the swimming carnival, what it's like in the new senior building, cross-country, and an update on our school dog (Lulu) ambassador program.

In mid-February we had our swimming carnival. This was a great day, with many exciting races and activities, one of which was the teacher vs student race, the closest race of the day in the end. It came down to the millisecond between the student team Brigid and one of the staff teams. The students were declared the winners. The sporting house that took out the day was the supreme house of Brigid.

After 10 long months of waiting, the senior students finally moved into the new senior building on 7 March. We can all safely say the classrooms are definitely an upgrade from our previous ones and we have all settled in well; it was definitely worth the wait.

Some exciting news to announce is that the Lulu ambassador program has started. It is run by Tome Murrone (school counsellor), Emma Barker and, of course, Lulu (wellbeing dog). In the program, we are learning to understand Lulu's emotions, how to calm her down when she is stressed, and help other kids when they are feeling down. We have three expectations, and these are to ignore Lulu in certain situations, ask to pat Lulu, and keep moving.

Friday 15 March was a fun-filled day at Dixon Field where we all participated



Year 6 students testing out the size of the new senior learning space.

Jonah Sacco enjoys one of the many new features in the new senior learning building.

in our school cross-country. Even the little ones (Prep-Year 2 students) participated. The distances were 3km, 2km and a few laps for the younger year levels. We are super-excited to find out the winners, which we will let you know all about in next month's edition.

Summer Connors and Oscar Elsum, school captains



Edventures begin at Global Village Learning



At GVL, we have introduced Edventure Week. In two separate weeks in

each term, all of our community, from three-year-old kinder to our senior program, is engaged in learning (both fun and practical) based around a particular design theme. We had our first of many during week five; the theme was 'Futures' based. Let's take a look at what our young people had to say.

"Dream City (Melbourne) was amazing because they had all these fun things and even soccer. They had this game where you had to run and tap each light, it was really cool." – Ollie, C3

"We learnt a lot about stuff and how to save electricity and we learnt how to use Lego to even make stuff move like a windmill." – Jett, C2

"I enjoyed using our new computers to play Minecraft education (working with each other to create the future) and because it's fun. I really liked the excursion because I like the spy part that was like among us at Saboteurs in the city. Getting the train in was good." – Rihana, C3

"Edventure Week was super fun. The coding robots gave us a great experience and we should definitely do it again. I feel like the museum trip was the best bit. It was really interesting about space and we learnt a lot, we hope that more opportunities like that is going to come before us." – Olivia, C2

We are looking forward to learning at our next Edventure Weeks.



GVL guides and young people went on an excursion to Saboteurs in the city.

Term 1 at Mount Macedon primary

Hi, I am Eliana and I am the School Reporter for Mount Macedon Primary School this year.

On 7 March we had our Athletics Carnival. The Foundation to Year 3 classes competed in sack races, egg and spoon races, hopping races and many more fun activities.

The Year 4s, 5s and 6s were given the option to run a number of dis-



tance races. Everyone got to do shot put, discus and the 100-metre race.

It was a really hot day, but everyone had fun and got a ribbon for their efforts. Mitchell House came away with the win by only one point!

Later in March, the Year 3 to 6s did

cross country. The 8-, 9- and 10-year-olds did 2km and the 11-, 12- and 13-year-olds did 3km.

I hope everyone had a good sleep because it was very tough.

Lots of amazing activities were on the calendar for the last week of term: a colour run, a drum incursion and the Easter raffle.

Eliana

Logan, Leo, Levi, Ruby, Poppy, Isla, Leo, Mason and Riley took to their wheels on Ride to School Day.



Ready to roll at Willowbank

Willowbank Primary School's Ride 2 School Day on 22 March was a resounding success as 270 enthusiastic students chose to ride, scoot, or skate their way to school. The event was not just about getting to school in an eco-friendly manner but also about promoting physical activity and healthy lifestyles among the students.

Throughout the day, students participated in various riding activities, showcasing their skills and enthusiasm for



staying active. From friendly competitions to group rides, the day was filled with excitement and energy, highlighting the importance of regular exercise and outdoor play. Overall, the Ride 2 School Day at Willowbank Primary School was a fun-filled and engaging experience for all involved. It not only encouraged physical activity but also fostered a sense of community spirit and environmental consciousness among the students.

New Gisborne leaders get some tips at conference



An enthusiastic group of Year 6 students from New Gisborne Primary School travelled to Melbourne for a day of fun and learning on 13 February. Our eight student leaders, eight house captains and six Year 6 junior school councillors attended the GRIP Leadership conference (GRIP stands for Generosity, Responsibility, Integrity, People).

We got on a minibus to the city. The bus left at 7.30am! When we arrived at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, we headed for our seats in front of a massive stage. There were about 4000 students from many other schools there, ready to take on the responsibility of being a leader. We found booklets under our seats to help us. Everyone who attended this event got to use a booklet with some little educational activities inside. We all learnt strategies that can help us maximise our leadership potential, including the four steps: stepping in, stepping up, stepping out and



New Gisborne Primary School Year 6 leaders at the GRIP conference.

stepping closer. The day also involved lots of music and fun games, as well as comedic moments courtesy of the GRIP presenters.

At the end of the conference our teachers walked us back to Southern Cross Station and we hopped on a train back home. It was an inspiring and motivational day that we all enjoyed.



Mila



Emmi

Mila and Emmi, Year 6 reporters and house captains



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CAPTAIN'S RAP

with Tyler Jarris



Tyler Jarris

Hey everyone! We've done so many amazing things at school this year already. From the nerve-racking NAPLAN tests to the rewarding Clean Up Australia Day, to the fun and friendly competition at the swim sports! Plus, we had the fantastic opportunity to explore career paths at the Student Careers Expo. But one of the highlights for me was definitely seeing all the Year 7s go on camp to Roses Gap, where they bonded, challenged themselves, and created memories that will last a lifetime.

NAPLAN, oh boy, those tests really got people's brains working. It was a mix of excitement and nerves, but students tackled it like champs. Now, let's talk about Clean Up Australia Day. It was a cool event where we came together as a school community to make our environment cleaner and healthier.

We grabbed our gloves and trash bags, and we were on a mission to pick up every piece of litter we could find. It felt great to know that we were making a

positive impact on our surroundings.

Oh, and swim sports! Who could forget that? The pool buzzed with energy as we cheered on our friends, splashed around, and tried our best in the different swimming events. Whether we were racing, doing relays, or just having a good time in the water, it was a day filled with laughter and friendly competition.

The Student Careers Expo for Year 12s was like a sneak peek into the future. We got to explore various career options, talk to professionals in different fields, and gather information that will help us make important decisions down the road. It was eye-opening to see the wide range of possibilities out there, and it definitely got us thinking about our own aspirations and goals.

Speaking of Year 12s, we got a chance to meet the whole leadership team at the investiture night.

It was such a special event where we celebrated the achievements of our fellow students and recognised their hard work. Scholarships were awarded to deserving individuals and it was inspiring to see their dedication paying off. It was a night

filled with pride, excitement, and a sense of community. A great memory to add to our list of awesome school moments.

Last but not least, the Year 7 camp at Roses Gap. What an adventure that was! They packed their bags, left their comfort zones behind, and headed into the great outdoors.

They hiked through beautiful trails, shared stories and laughter late into the night. It was a time of bonding, making new friends, and discovering individual strengths and abilities.

Term one has been a great start to the year, and I can't wait to see the amazing things our school will do in the future.

On board with sticky decisions

RUEFLECTION

Thoughts on living and learning with Rue Kelly

Introducing an occasional column by Rue Kelly, one of last year's GSC school captains.



Graduation from secondary school marks the beginning of adulthood. Much like the classic board game the Game of Life, the initial step is getting behind the wheel and deciding the direction we want to steer our life. Although reality presents a broader selection of options than in the game, the first major decision is determining whether we start university, TAFE, employment, a gap year or build a billion-dollar tech company from our parents' garage!

Following the initial thrill of newfound freedoms (albeit from our childhood bedrooms), many find themselves starting the new year feeling lost, questioning if they've made the 'right' choice.

What often lies at the crux of these doubts is discomfort. No, not the kind you get from a lack of insulation during a Macedon Ranges winter. Rather, the uncomfortable feelings evoked by change, pressure and shifting beyond our comfort zone.

This transition may overwhelm, eliciting a degree of fear. Fear of failure. Fear of embarrassment. Fear of rejection. Naturally, the majority of us will go to great lengths to avoid this, pulling away from challenges when perhaps we should be leaning in. Often, the perceived fear isn't that much of a threat, with many others making the transition alongside us feeling the same insecurities and uncertainty.

For my personal journey, I've opted to take the university route. To make the most of this experience, I've made a conscious effort to put myself out there. Unlike the board

game, life doesn't come down to the luck of spinning a wheel. There won't come a time when you land on a square and instantly make new friends or miraculously get handed your dream job.

From the outset of 'Orientation Week' I've said hello and introduced myself to countless people, joined clubs and societies, attended social events and obtained a position on a committee. In a sea of 54,000 students, over four times the size of Gisborne, the possibilities are boundless and exciting!

If life were a game, I'd suggest it resembles Pick-up-Sticks, with every action having knock-on consequences and different choices producing potentially varied results. As in real life we can't know, nor can we be consumed by worry about, what the end may be.

Instead, we must let the unknown serve as a reminder to live in the present and enjoy the process. Making decisions based on the best information we have at the time. Leveraging our knowledge and skill to move the right obstacles and progress forward. Relying on our gut feeling as to what is the right choice at any given point. Sometimes that will be clear and easy, but at other times we can't take action lightly, the sticks will present a jumble of complications. Trust yourself to make decisions and know that if you fail, you will grow from it and a new opportunity will arise.

Don't let fear paralyse you or lie idle waiting for life to come to you – spin the wheel, pick up the stick, go out and make it happen. Knowing if we've made the 'right' decision may never be possible. Often just making a decision is the best choice of all.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

Did you know 3 and 4 year old kindergarten is free?

Register now for 2025 kindergarten and give your child the best start to their learning journey at one of Council's 8 kindergartens in the Macedon Ranges.

Our kindergartens have highly qualified and experienced early childhood Teachers and Educators and, with their beautiful natural features and outdoor play areas, are rich in nature-based and creative learning experiences.

For more information on when your child is eligible to start kindergarten, and guidance on making an informed decision about when is best to start, go to mrsc.vic.gov.au/kindergarten

Register online by 31 May 2024
Visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/kinder-rego or call our Enrolment Officer on (03) 5422 0239

Meet the new school leaders for 2024

This month we complete the introduction of 2024's primary school leaders with the teams from New Gisborne, Willowbank, Macedon and Mount Macedon Primary Schools, and some words on leadership from the team at Gisborne Primary School.



Willowbank: Captains Ava Hager, Gus Walton, Sophie Freeman and Romeo Gusak.



Mount Macedon: captains Lenny Monaghan and Ava Jex.



Macedon: captains Arwen Jeanes and Rupert Richards.



New Gisborne: leaders Callum, Neeve, Sophie, Zara, Ivy, Taliya, Claire and Joshua.

Leading the way at Gisborne Primary School



Mitch

Hi, my name is Mitch, and I am super excited to be one of the four Gisborne Primary School captains for 2024. In my spare time I like to kick the footy, play guitar and ride my motorbike. This year I really want to make everyone feel safe and at home at this wonderful school. My goal is to help younger and older kids to feel more confident when public speaking. I hope I can make GPS proud, and I promise to be the best leader and person that I can. Have an amazing year, everyone!

Hi, my name is Rubi and I'm one of the school captains for 2024. I enjoy writing, reading, and playing tennis. I am excited to see the school grow, to provide help



Rubi

in making the canteen better, and about meeting everyone. I am kind and helpful so you can always approach me in a time of need. When I was given this wonderful role, I was overcome with happiness. I hope everyone, whether it be teacher, parent or child, will have a good year at GPS.

Hello Gisborne, my name is Remy and I am stoked to be one of GPS' school captains for 2024. I have been at this school since Prep and ever since have had hopes, dreams and ambitions of becoming the school captain. I am looking forward to this year as an opportunity to enjoy my



Remy

last year of primary school and to leave a positive footprint on this school as I move up to high school. Some of the things I would like to improve is the student voice throughout the school because no good decisions are made without the people being heard. I hope everyone at GPS and the wider community enjoy their 2024.

Hi, I'm Maya and I am one of the GPS school captains this year. I am thrilled to lead the school as a captain. In 2024 I would like to listen to others' opinions and make every GPS student, their families and our staff feel welcome. I hope everyone enjoys and has a good time in 2024.



Maya



Kaylee and Abby enjoy their pancakes.

News from Gisborne Lightning Guides



Gisborne Girl Guides are pleased to welcome Catherine and Scarlett who joined the unit in term one.

The girls have been busy completing their Thinking Day badge which challenges them to consider how they can help in the fight against climate change and leading on from this we are now undertaking the Animal Tracks badge which has a focus on learning about our world fauna and local habitats. The Guides have also tried cooking pancakes to celebrate Shrove Tuesday and, of course, ended the term with an Easter hunt.



Deb Fleming

Next term the girls will undertake the Anzac badge which has the theme this year of 'Animals in War'. For anyone who would like to come and try Guides, contact Deb on 0409 542 619 or check out the Girl Guides Victoria website.

Deb Fleming

Activity all round at 1st Gisborne Scout Group

In keeping with the theme 'Books, Books... Glorious Books' for this term, the Joeys listened to a story about the adventurous 'Mulga Bill' on his bicycle and then went on a bike ride beside Jacksons Creek. They also had lots of fun acting out the story of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* and gave a wonderful performance at the end of the evening to some very impressed parents.

The Cubs have been out and about canoeing at Nursery Lake at Macedon with the Joeys, learning about First Aid and bike riding around the district. The staff from Shindo Karate in Gisborne also visited the Scout Hall and gave the Cubs, Scouts and Venturers lessons in different karate moves – a great way to build their confidence and fitness and have lots of fun in the process.

The Scouts went on a 12-kilometre walk from O'Brien's Crossing to Blackwood Caravan Park. They found a cool mine to explore and went for a refreshing dip in the creek to cool off.

'Anything Goes', AG for short, is an ultimate weekend away for Venturer Scouts. A group of Venturers from 1st Gisborne joined other Venturers from across the state



Success! 1st Gisborne Rovers find a cache on their geocaching quest.

during the last weekend in February to participate in a wide range of activities and hang out with their friends.

Some of the things on offer were tank rides along bush tracks, water slides at Gumbuya World, exploring the Labertouche caves, scuba diving and battling each other at splatball... a great way to spend a weekend!

Last but not least, the Rovers recently went on a geocaching mission around Gisborne. They found three out of three of their caches – well done!

If you are interested in joining Scouts, either as a Leader or a Scout, please email us at info@1stgisborne.com.au for more information.

Carolyn Goode (Joey Leader)

New Gisborne Scouting news

At New Gisborne we're still smiling after our great weekend camp at Rowallan Scout Camp near Riddells Creek. It was our first combined section activity for 2024. Always fun to see all the members of the Group coming together for activities and evenings round the campfire, with leaders taking care to ensure our young people understand and follow the fire restrictions.

The next big camp is the Macedon Ranges District Cub Scout Camp in April.

We're still awaiting council approval to allow us to offer more Scouting and more flexibility in our meeting nights, all focused on reaching out to the young people of New Gisborne.

Once that approval is granted, we look forward to fitting out the

hut with a toilet block, kitchen and storage facilities. Donations to help fit out the hut are welcome and tax-free.

Scouts at New Gisborne offers great programs, challenges and opportunities for young people aged from 5 to 18 years, all with trained and enthusiastic adult leaders and a program proven and refined over the 115-year history of world Scouting.

We meet on Wednesdays, from 6.30 to 8pm, and Venturers on Fridays. Children are always welcome to come along and try out Scouting.

Contact Group Leader Russell Barker on 0400 297 025 or russell@jeem.com.au to learn more. For Venturers, call Tracey 0407 098 032.

John Frearson



Cub Scouts Edith and Jess take a break from their camping activities at Rowallan.



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Hello from the Gisborne Ramblers

Last month I wrote about how the extremes of the summer's heat had not arrived. Boy, were the weather gods watching! After three scorching days in mid-March, not only am I wearing egg on face – but fried egg on face!

However, these extremes did not occur on a Friday, so the Ramblers plodded on, enjoying our walks.

The highlight of the month was a new walk for the group at Blackwood, following the Lerderberg and Byers tracks along the river.

Even if you are not into walking, it is well worth visiting the picturesque picnic and camping ground, located on a section of the river.

This can be accessed by car from Golden Point Road.

I have detailed an easy walk (below) that you may care to try at your leisure.

Details of our weekly walks are emailed out if you care to join the mailing list.

There is no cost or obligation, you can walk with the group on Fridays or solo at your preference.

Charles (gisramblers@gmail.com)

Bushwalkers explore Gisborne



Bushwalkers enjoy the Gisborne historical walk.



March brought extremely hot weather and fires hindered some of Gisborne Bushwalking Club's scheduled walks, however, we managed some great ones including a historical walk of Gisborne where we learned many facts of the Indigenous tribes of the area, white settlement and the adventures and making of Gisborne by early settlers. Our leader, Keith passed on a wealth of local knowledge enhanced by the other walkers along the way.

Our sunset walk on 14 March was to Mt Gisborne Bushland Reserve which would normally offer fantastic views of the Macedon Ranges, You Yangs, city lights and Healesville among others but it was a bit overcast that evening, so these were limited. We made the most of it and enjoyed wine and nibbles at the top. It's a great local walk for those who have not visited it.

This month we will be hosting our 'Bring a Friend' on Saturday 6 April. If you would like to join us, contact Gail on 0419 374 603; the usual casual fee is being waived for this walk so it is a great chance to check us out.

If you would like to give bushwalking a try you can join as a casual participant for \$5 (insurance coverage) and see if it is something for you. For details about the club, please contact Deborah on 0400 693 111 or Gail on 0419 374 603. Our website is www.gisbornebwc.org.au

Deborah Jepsen

WALK

Hesket Walk



Distance: Varies, can be up to 8km
Level: Easy

This is a good open country, scenic walk. No special footwear is required, average runners are fine, hiking poles are not required. All the roads are quiet dirt tracks, with little through traffic.

Getting there from Gisborne

Drive up the Calder Freeway, taking the Romsey Road turn off and turning right. After about 6km, Hesket is reached. Turn left into Kings Lane and park opposite the CFA station. The walk starts from here.

Directions:

Walk up Kings Lane to Colwells Road and turn right. Continue to the junction

with Potts Road and take the right turn. Following this leg will bring you back to the busy Romsey Road.

Directly opposite is Hylands Road. Follow this road, which is generally a gentle incline, until the road appears to enter a private property, however, the road hooks sharp right.

Walk along this section until the creek. At this point, I would recommend ending the outward leg and returning the way you came.

The track can be walked for a further half kilometre from the creek, until the road ends at the gates of a private property. This section is well treed but steeper.

A download of the Ramblers route map is available on request.

Age friendly Community Directory

Out now!

A directory to connect you with local resources, groups and services

Scan me

Free copies available at libraries, neighborhood houses and Macedon Ranges Shire Council customer service centres

Alternatively call (03) 5422 0333 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/VC-community-directory

Stepping out in the fight against cancer

Many relayers filled Lancefield Park for the annual Lancefield-Macedon Ranges Relay for Life on 2 March.

Sixteen teams took part, with the final result on the night being \$39,576.

The chair of the organising committee, Ken Wiltshire, said, "It is wonderful to see the community band together to support a cause that has affected nearly everyone at some point in their life. An array of age groups partake in volunteering, fundraising, relaying or just being present. Relay is such a moving event that creates a big impact not only for the Cancer Council's research and programs, but it offers support for community members who are fighting cancer, celebrating surviving or remembering loved ones that they have lost."

More funds were expected to be banked in the four weeks after the event, after which this year's total result will be finalised.

Highlights of the event included a relaxing morning tea for survivors and carers, couch rides for the lazy walkers thanks to Gisborne's Untitled Youth team, an array of entertainment from an eclectic mix of local musicians, fun competitions and a beautiful candlelight service.

Untitled Youth consists of over 20 youths from the Gisborne Church of Christ, who raised over \$2000 for the Cancer Council doing numerous fundraising activities prior to the event.

Brooke Barton



Gisborne Team Untitled Youth whose 'couch cruising' was a popular and effective money-making way to lap it out.



Some members from Gisborne team JK's Joggers, one of the highest fundraisers in the Relay with a total of \$5027.



Hello Gisborne community, This month I am delighted to fill you in on some local wins.

The Community Pharmacy Pilot has been expanded at Hardy's UFS Pharmacy and Priceline Pharmacy in Gisborne, making it easier to access treatment and medication for common health problems. This includes treatment of shingles, treatment of mild psoriasis, re-supply of select oral contraceptive pills without a prescription and antibiotics for uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women. More info at health.vic.gov.au/primary-care/victorian-community-pharmacist-statewide-pilot.

Our new state-of-the-art ambulance branch in Gisborne is now operational.

The new \$5.8m trades hub at Gisborne Secondary College is progressing well, with the slab complete and the frame under construction. I know the community is excited about providing local students with modern, hands-on learning spaces.

It is so important to invest in our local communities to support family violence intervention. Macedon Ranges Shire Council has received a Victorian Government Free from Violence Local Government Program grant to continue its work delivering programs and activities that will help people in the community understand the role they can play to make the community safer.

Enjoy your April!



MOUNT MACEDON ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE

THURSDAY 25 APRIL AT 6AM
AT THE MOUNT MACEDON MEMORIAL CROSS

ACCESS TO DAWN SERVICE VIA BUS ONLY
(CAMERON DRIVE CLOSED)

Gisborne to Dawn Service:

DEPART:	LOCATION:	ARRIVE:
4:15am	Gisborne Train Station	4:45am
5:10am	Gisborne Train Station	5:40am

Woodend to Dawn Service:

DEPART:	LOCATION:	ARRIVE:
4:30am	Woodend Train Station	4:50am
5:15am	Woodend Train Station	5:35am

Lancefield & Romsey to Dawn Service:

DEPART:	LOCATION:	ARRIVE:
4:45am	Lancefield Mechanics Hall	5:20am
5:00am	Romsey Community Hub	5:20am

Tony Clarke Recreation Reserve - Waterfalls Road, Macedon:

FIRST BUS: 4.15am
LAST BUS: 5.20am

+ On-Site Coffee Van!

Buses from Tony Clarke Recreation Reserve in Macedon will operate as a continuous shuttle service.

Kyneton to Dawn Service:

DEPART:	LOCATION:	ARRIVE:
4:45am	Post Office	5:15am

Riddells Creek to Dawn Service:

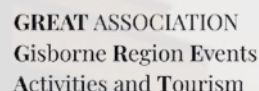
DEPART:	LOCATION:	ARRIVE:
4:15am	Riddells Creek Primary	4:45am

Sunbury to Dawn Service:

DEPART:	LOCATION:	ARRIVE:
4:50am	Sunbury Train Station	5:30am

BOOKINGS FOR ALL BUS SERVICES ARE ESSENTIAL (EXCEPT FOR THE MACEDON BUS SERVICE)
TO BOOK VISIT WWW.ORGANSCOACHES.COM.AU OR PHONE 5422 1788

DONATIONS APPRECIATED via <https://www.mycause.com.au/p/328422/> OR GOLD COIN ON DAY



Community Bank
Gisborne & District



For further information visit www.mtmacedondawnservice.org



Proudly sponsored by Rob Mitchell
Federal Member for McEwen 1300 701 966

AROUND THE GROUNDS



Gisborne Golf Club women's president Gudrun Wilkinson with Fiona Lawford from the suicide-prevention group MRSPAG.



Below: The winning team (from left): Kim Dufty, Nancy Inglis, Suzanne Carroll, Virginia Creece.



Gala golf day a great success



A full field of 80 ladies teed off on Wednesday 6 March for this year's Gisborne Golf Club Women's Gala Day.

Sponsored by TJ Scott & Son, the annual fundraiser raised money for local charity Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group (MRSPAG) this year. Players from 16 other clubs joined Gisborne ladies for a fun and competitive gentsomes competition.

Fundraising activities included the dinghy dunk on course, sales of mulligan tickets, a stand of local plants and produce, and a raffle and silent auction featuring generous prizes. Gisborne Outdoor Furniture topped the prizes with a \$1000 voucher to the winner.

The winning team, from Gisborne, were Nancy Inglis, Kim Dufty, Suzanne Carroll and Virginia Creece, with the runner up team comprising Kaye Atlas, Barb Podger and two visitors, Jeanette Wright from Medway and Suzi Ferrari from Trentham.

Players competed for nearest the pin on the fourth and 16th holes, and the straightest drive on hole nine.

The day was a huge success and enabled the club to provide a generous donation of \$3000 to MRSPAG.

Social tennis at New Gisborne Tennis Club

Monday afternoons at New Gisborne Tennis Club at 2pm is the place to be for any retirees looking for a fun social hit of tennis.

Anyone would be welcome to join the group for good-natured social interaction and a good hit.

Come along any Monday or ring Keith on 0448 516 906 for further information.

Robert Hetzel, Manos Lygnos, Peter Amott and Keith Jenkins welcome newcomers at New Gisborne Tennis Club.



Barefoot and winning



Congratulations to the winners of the 2023-24 Barefoot Bowls season at Gisborne Bowling Club, Jim's Battlers (Tuesday competition) and The Bold and the Beautiful (Wednesday).



Above: Winning Wednesday team the Bold and the Beautiful and left, Tuesday team Jim's Battlers, with Michelle Morrison of Community Bank Gisborne & District (Bendigo Bank) which sponsors the competition.

Petanque victory for Australia



Mount Macedon Petanque Club member Rhonda Shears was part of the Australian team which won the gold medal in the recent Tran-Tasman competition held against New Zealand.

The event was held in Subiaco, WA, in very hot conditions and on difficult terrain. Both the open division and the Plus 60 Australian teams won.

Woodend Hanging Rock member Shirley Marshall was also part of the Plus 60 team. Shirley was a founding member of Mt Macedon Petanque Club and is still a social member of the club.

If you are interested in learning more about our unique game that anyone can play, drop by the club grounds behind the Ampol Service Station in Gisborne.

Playdays are held every Wednesday at the new time of 3-6pm and Saturdays from 10am-1pm on the second and fourth Saturdays.

For enquiries please go to our website, mtmacedonpetanque.org, and for updates visit our Facebook page.

Alison Kinghorn



Happy winners, Shirley Marshall and Rhonda Shears in Subiaco, Perth.

Summer season closes at Gisborne Tennis Club



We are at the end of a successful summer junior tennis season for 2023-24. Thank you to all the players, parents and team managers who made the season the success that it was.

All our teams competed well throughout the season, and we have enjoyed having access to all courts at the club in the new year which has created a great vibe on those nice sunny Saturday mornings.

Out of the nine teams, Gisborne had four teams in their respective grand final: A1/A2, Aus Open; A3/B1, Wimbledon; C2, Davis Cup and C3/D, Indian Wells. Each of the teams performed well throughout the season and deserved the chance to play in the grand final. Congratulations to A3/B1 Wimbledon, C2 Davis Cup and C3/D for winning their sections!

Presentations

We celebrated the season recently with a Presentation Day. This was a great day with kids enjoying



Gisborne Tennis Club players at the junior Presentation Day.

having a social hit and lunch.

Ben van Emmerik, Keira Simpson, Robbie van Emmerik, Georgia Morley, Harrison Dryden, Alexander Crabtree, Riley Hammond, Evan Paton and Chloe Wright were awarded the Most Valuable Player awards for their respective teams.

Ben van Emmerik and Claire Byham were awarded the Best Sportsperson awards for the club.

Thank you to everyone for a successful season and well done to those teams in the finals who played to the best of their abilities to bring home the chocolates!

Looking forward to next season.

Tim Ryan

FOR THE LOVE OF PAWS

Tips for pawsome pet owners

To find out more mrsc.vic.gov.au/pets

A responsible pet ownership campaign delivering on Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) 2021-2025

First Choice Care Solutions

People Centred Care

- Locally owned and operated providing services to client in the Macedon Ranges, Hume, Mt Alexander, Hepburn and surrounds
- We are able to provide support services to both aged care and NDIS participants.
- We have the capacity to welcome new clients.
- Here to support you to live your best life and achieve your goals by providing the services you require.
- Workers are all experienced, reference and police checked and we work with you to determine workers that are the best fit possible.
- If we can be of any assistance please contact us for a no obligation chat.

P: 0447 400 001 E: admin@firstchoicecaresolutions.com.au
www.firstchoicecaresolutions.com.au
 Office based in New Gisborne but we come to you with Covid safe measures.
 Follow us on Facebook

'A helping hand in life'

Successful season ends at Macedon Cricket Club



A fantastic end to the season for Macedon Cricket Club with the hosting of the McIntyre Cup grand final between Romsey and Gisborne at Tony Clarke Reserve.

A large crowd enjoyed the game immensely. Congratulations to the winning Gisborne Cricket Club.

On the field Macedon had much success and growth. Three junior premierships, three of our four senior teams making finals, a strong showing in our first season in the McIntyre grade and multiple GDCA award winners to name a few highlights. Twenty-six of our junior players played senior cricket this season.

A big thank you to club captain Dan Trotta who will step aside next season. Also to our coach Tim Berzins for a great job over the past two seasons. Tim is also stepping down. If you feel that coaching a fantastic regional club in the GDCA is for you, please send your expression of interest to the club. *Stephen Harrison*



A drone's-eye view of the McIntyre Cup cricket grand final at Tony Clarke Reserve in March captured by Stephen Harrison.



Max (vision impaired) discovers tennis, with support from Deidre Perry from Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Specialist School.

Open Doubles tournament winners Paul Sylvia and James Wallace, on the left, shake hands with runners up Moza and Lachlan.



Great opportunities created at South Gisborne



South Gisborne Tennis Club hosted an Open Doubles event on 24 March. With over 20 doubles pairings registered, a competitive day was guaranteed, with the prize of \$400 up for grabs.

Congratulations to Paul and James for winning the tournament, and a great effort by young players Moza and Lachlan who were runners up. Well done to event organisers Padrick and Mario (Spark Coaching) and thanks to the WaterTank Cleaning Company for sponsoring the day.

Tennis for low vision

Jon Watson from Tennis Vic was on hand on 29 February along with club coaches Mario and Jeremy,

club volunteers and staff from Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Specialist School to assist with a hands-on demonstration of how people with low vision may interact and take part in tennis.

With modified equipment and plenty of enthusiasm, students were engaged in drills and tennis play. For some it was their first experience with a racquet and ball. Great teamwork, everyone!

All the best to South Gisborne juniors C1/2 Voltage and C2 Lighting playing in MRTA grand finals.

Junior Club Championships will be Sunday 21 April. Follow links on the club website to register or just to find out what is on offer at the club.

www.sgtennisclub.com.au

Gail Scott

Gisborne Thunder growth recognised

Gisborne Thunder Swimming Club was well represented at the Central Victoria District Swimming Championships on 3 March, with the largest contingent in several years consisting of 19 swimmers across multiple age groups. Swimmers gave 100% effort in their races, displaying their dedication and commitment.

Throughout the day there were many individual achievements, with 13 podium finishes and six personal-best times. The relays are where the team really shone, with several members swimming up age groups and some doing up to five relays. We formed a substantial 11 relay teams of which seven had podium finishes, a significant increase over the past few years.

What resonated throughout the day was the teamwork and sportsmanship we saw, with the group creating an exciting and encouraging environment with loud cheering and lots of high fives. The day culminated in the club winning the district's Most Improved Club award, a feat Gisborne Thunder has never achieved before, and affirming the growth at the club in recent times. It is great to see the hard work of all our swimmers paying off.

If you are interested in competing in some fun and friendly competition, please enquire about our monthly club nights held on the first Saturday of each month; the only requirement is to be able to swim 25m. For more information visit our website gisbornethunder.org or keep up to date by following us on Facebook or Instagram.

Tess, club captain



Club captains Charlotte and Tess with the award for Most Improved Club.



SPORT IN PICTURES



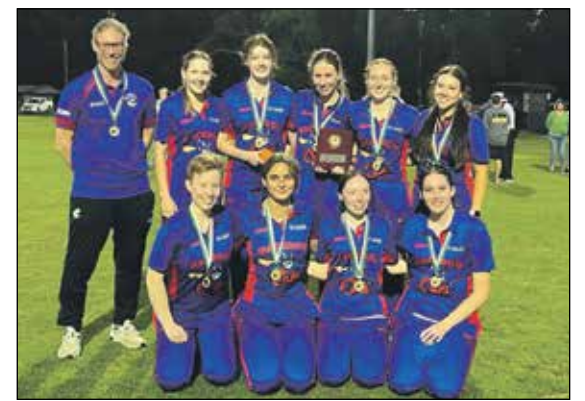
Jarrod Vernon scores 100 runs in the preliminary final of the McIntyre Cup Gisborne v Sunbury United, 16 March.



Riley Vernon makes a Gisborne District Cricket Association record of 1000 runs in the home and away season during the Gisborne v Woodend match, 8 March. Riley finished the home and away season with an astounding 4 hundreds and 1015 runs and an average of 84.58.



Leigh Brennan wins the Gary Sanders medal for best player in the McIntyre Cup grand final, with five wickets.



Macedon U18 Girls – Premiers. Picture supplied



Teammates race to celebrate with Leigh Brennan after his first wicket in the McIntyre Cup grand final.



Teammates rush onto the field when Gisborne wins the McIntyre Cup.



U13 Gisborne v Macedon – Qays Moiz bats.



U15 Macedon v Gisborne – T Andrews bats, 8 March.



U17 GDCA Premiers 2024 – Gisborne. Photo Nick Watson



Little Athletics, 22 March. Alani Fisher, Noah Jerkic, Varli Fisher, Siena Sohal, Tyler Treadwell, Elke Fisher.



Practice match Macedon v Spotswood, 23 March.



Grand final –Pink Panther v Trouble Tornados, 22 March.



Grand final – Ninja Kids v Thunder Wings, 22 March.

Pictures by Chris Fleming.
Pictures may be ordered from Maddisons of Gisborne,
1/37 Hamilton Street, at low cost.



Gisborne MiniRoos, 2 March.



Soccer: Gisborne v Meadow Park, 2 March.



Gisborne netball training, 16 March.



Gisborne netball training, 16 March.



Bowls: Tuesday Division 1 Premiers 2023-24 – Gisborne.
 Gisborne defeated Romsey 62 to 59. They have since won the regional competition and will be competing in the state championships in May.

A lifetime of service enjoyed to the full

◀ From page 9

Back in Australia

After returning to Australia, Phil met up with an old friend. He and Jo married and made their way to Mount Macedon in 2002 to enjoy the peace of the country and raise their four children.

His next posting was to the School of Signals in Watsonia where he was an instructor. Following that, he had a chance to go to Iraq in 2008 for eight months as part of the headquarters staff, running the communications for the Middle East – in contact with 13 Australian bases – from Baghdad. There was a civil war going on at the time between the Sunni and Shia groups and the headquarters was hit a couple of times.

Reflecting on the Brereton Enquiry which investigated events that occurred well after Phil's group left Afghanistan, he cautions people not to rush to judgement until after the results of the Federal Police deliberations are tested in court. "We do a lot with the people who have been broken – their families broken," said Phil. "We provide counselling and advocacy support."

After the Anzac Day march, the group will gather at the shrine around the commemorative tree dedicated to the regiment.

Later they will meet with family and friends at the Kelvin Club to remember their days of service and the mates who can't be with them.

At 62, Phil looks back with satisfaction and pride on his 42 years of service to the army and the nation.

His final words: "It was good fun. I enjoyed every minute. I'd do it all again."



Light aircraft at Kyneton Aero Club.

Scholarship to give you wings

Young aviation enthusiasts will be pleased to hear that the Kyneton Aero Club flying scholarship will continue this year.

The scholarship is a support program for young people aged between 16 and 22 years with a demonstrated interest in aviation. It is open to new students and to people who have already begun flight training.

The scholarship will pay 50% of the cost of each instructional or flying hour, to a maximum total value of \$5000. Scholarships are valid for 18 months from the date of award, during which time applicants are expected to complete their flight training.

Full scholarship and application details are available on the Kyneton Aero Club website, kynetonaero-club.org/wp/.

Applications close on 30 April.

Regional tennis success



Congratulations to Deb Fleming of Macedon Tennis Club (right) who came runner up in the D grade ladies doubles with Robyn McLusky of Echuca in the Echuca Easter tennis tournament. The tournament ran from 29 to 31 March.



The 16th iteration of the Great Trentham Spudfest will be on 4-5 May.

Events will include 'spudtastic' fare at local eateries, live music, activities for kids, tours by Trentham Historical Society, farm tours and the inaugural Spudfest Cèilidh, a traditional celebration of Celtic music, food, and dancing on the Saturday evening. Free and paid events.

For more information visit www.trenthamspudfest.org.au.

Volunteer sought for cemetery committee



Geelong Cemeteries Trust welcomes applications from community-minded individuals interested in volunteering on the Community Advisory Committee.

Geelong Cemeteries Trust cares for and maintains 22 locations within the Greater Geelong, Bellarine, Surf Coast, Colac-Otway and Macedon Ranges regions. The trust looks after the Gisborne cemetery. It is committed to understanding the ever-evolving needs and expectations of all its communities.

The Community Advisory Committee meets a minimum of four times a year, providing advice and guidance in service planning and delivery, ensuring diverse, broad and inclusive community views are considered.

For more information and to download the application form, please visit the website gct.net.au/about/community-advisory-committee.

Application forms will be received until 12 noon on Friday 3 May.

Don't get caught!

Spotting a scam, with Russell Barker



Russell Barker

Beware the cry for help: Risks of emergency text messages from close acquaintances

In today's digital age, where instant communication is at our fingertips, receiving a distressing text message from a close acquaintance can set off a chain reaction of emotions and actions. The instinct to rush to their aid is often immediate and overpowering. However, amid our genuine concern lies a potential risk: the possibility of falling victim to a scam or a deceitful ploy.

The perilous nature of emergency text messages

You receive a text message from a close acquaintance, claiming to be in distress. They paint a picture of being stranded in an unfamiliar place, their phone damaged, and without any means of financial assistance. The message is urgent, invoking a sense of responsibility and duty to help. However, as genuine as the plea may seem, it is crucial to pause and evaluate the situation critically.

The importance of verifying emergencies

If you receive a distress call via text message, exercise caution and scepticism. Scammers often exploit the trust of individuals by fabricating emergencies to elicit a swift and unquestioning response.

Safe words: a trusted lifeline

One effective method to safeguard against potential scams is the use of a 'safe word' within family or close-knit circles. A safe word serves as a secret code known only to trusted individuals. In the event of an emergency communication, you can request the safe word from the sender as a means of verification. If the sender fails to provide the safe word or provides an incorrect one, it raises red flags regarding the authenticity of the emergency.

Secondary confirmation: seeking assurance

Additionally, when faced with a dubious emergency message, getting in touch with alternative contacts for confirmation can provide clarity and validation. Contacting the purported individual through alternative means, such as their partner, a mutual friend, or a trusted family member, allows for cross-verification of the situation.

Conclusion

Receiving a distressing text message from a close acquaintance evokes a natural response to offer support. However, amid the urgency of the situation lies the potential for exploitation and deception. By using proactive measures such as safe words and seeking secondary confirmations, you can minimise the risks associated with fraudulent emergency messages.

Home-ground advantage wins the four points



With the football season fast approaching it has many of us thinking which team has put in a good pre-season and who is going to have that home-ground advantage.

Calder member and Kyneton local Stephan Toman is no stranger to the waters around these parts and with his recent 'pre-season' form with the fly rod we think he's going to have a ripper year.

Stephan often finds time to sneak in a fish before or after work so his home-ground advantage across the Upper Coliban, Lauriston and Malmsbury reservoirs is second to none. Not to be content with the trout scene, Stephan will also do his part reducing the carp population too.

A recent match was with a wily brown trout, all 59cm of him (or her). For these areas, a fish this size is getting into the 'trophy' territory, and it really gets the angler's blood pumping when you see a fish of this size.

After seeing the fish move, Stephan stalked the trout, presented the fly and then engaged in what can only be described as a back-and-forth struggle for the lead. And by the final siren the trout was in the net and Stephan had the four points.

A post-match celebration took place with a quick photo, shake of the hands and then the trout was released for the next match.



Stephan and his 59cm brown trout.

If you are interested in fly fishing or angling in the local Macedon Ranges waters, please contact info@calderflyfishing.com.au or look us up at [calderflyfishing.com.au](https://www.facebook.com/calderflyfishing), [facebook.com/calderflyfishing](https://www.facebook.com/calderflyfishing), or [instagram.com/calderflyfishing](https://www.instagram.com/calderflyfishing).
Simon Hall

QUIZ

1. The human heart has how many ventricles?
2. From which ore is aluminium usually extracted?
3. What is the official name of the London tower commonly called Big Ben?
4. Which singer was born Gordon Matthew Thomas Sumner?
5. Who wrote the Pastoral symphony?
6. A "Russian Blue" is a breed of which domestic animal?
7. The colours of the Jamaican flag are green, black, and which other colour?
8. Which element has the atomic number 6?
9. Which car maker makes the Jazz model?
10. Who is considered to be the first emperor of ancient Rome?

Answers page 39



School holiday and other library events



Fiona White: Wear a Purple Poppy

Tuesday 2 April, 10.30-11.30am

Gisborne Library

Local author Fiona White shares heart-warming stories of animals that served alongside our soldiers in war and peacetime.

It isn't quite a spider. It isn't quite a fly:

Clay insects

Wednesday 3 April, 10.30-11.30am

Macedon and Mount Macedon Community

House and

Wednesday 10 April, 10.30am-11:30am,

Gisborne Library.

Movie: Wonka (PG8+)

Thursday, 4 April, 11am-1pm

Gisborne Library

Movie: Paw Patrol: The Mighty Movie

(PG 5+)

Monday 8 April, 11am-12.30pm

Gisborne Library.

Bookings at [goldfieldslibraries.com](https://www.goldfieldslibraries.com).

Events for adults at Gisborne Library

Beck O'Farrell: Big Bowl of Happiness

Saturday 20 April, 11am-12 noon.

Nutritionist Beck O'Farrell has a clinical nutrition practice specialising in the nutritional treatment of digestive disorders. Beck also runs cooking workshops focused on the benefits of a fibre-rich whole foods diet. Come along for tips and demos on eating and living well. Bookings essential, [goldfieldslibraries.com](https://www.goldfieldslibraries.com).

Mindfulness Made Easy: A short course

Tuesday 30 April, 1.30-2.30pm; Tuesday 7 May, 1.30-2.30pm;

Tuesday 14 May, 1.30-2.30pm. Join Guy Robbins, Gisborne

resident and experienced psychologist, to learn and practise mindfulness for wellbeing in a three-session course in a small group setting. Bookings essential via [goldfieldslibraries.com](https://www.goldfieldslibraries.com).

Fiona Walker will speak at the library on 2 April.

The Norris's saved \$5,772 last year on their home loan!*

All over Australia, homeowners are saving money with a free home loan health check.

How much could you save? Call our lending team on 5420 7210 to find out more.

Community Bank · Gisborne & District



Bendigo Bank

*Amount saved was annual payments reduction on an owner-occupier home loan when repayments dropped by \$481 a month from lower interest rate and loan restructure. Actual savings will depend on individual circumstances. All loans are subject to the bank's normal lending criteria. Fees, charges, terms and conditions apply and are subject to change. Credit provided by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 Australian Credit Licence 237879. A1963170 EXPORT, 29/03/2024

Mount church 'raided'



The Christian Motorcyclist Association (CMA) 'raided' Mount Macedon Uniting Church on Sunday 24 March. A dozen motorcycles parked outside the church while the members joined our service.

The CMA members share with others through local rides, invitation rides, weekends away, and with churches and communities, and hold National Runs hosted by the states in turn. The main aim is to encourage each other in their Christian lives, to support Christian living every day whether at a CMA event or not.

Formed in 1979 by two Christian motorcyclists' clubs, the first get-together of CMA members from NSW and Victoria was held at Yackandandah. Now there are branches in all mainland states and CMA is affiliated overseas through CMA International.

We heard about the Bikes for Pastors Appeal, started in 2002 by CMA Victoria, to raise funds for motorcycles for pastors in developing countries where transport and travel were difficult. By 2019, nearly \$80,000 was raised to buy 38 bikes donated to 29 ministries. Afterwards, fellowship over a cuppa was enjoyed.

Remember, on Sunday afternoon 7 April at 2.30pm, we are celebrating



Members of the Christian Motorcyclist Association gather outside the church.

the 40th anniversary of the reopening of our church after the Ash Wednesday bushfires. We particularly look forward to anyone involved at that time joining us, but all are welcome. Rev Dr D'Arcy

Wood will officiate, and Rev Salesi Faupula, the Moderator-elect of the Uniting Church in Victoria/Tasmania, will preach. Afternoon tea will follow.

Neil Tweddle, 5426 2045

Join the Autumn festival



Why 'festival'? Well, the heat of summer has passed (we hope) and now we can harvest the last of the tomatoes for sauces and green tomato pickles. Even the zucchini plants have finally given up. Many readers might remember the Harvest Festival of old when churches were decorated with wheat sheaves, topped by baskets of quinces, apples, pumpkins, and often a packet of corn flakes, then to be shared with the local hospital or old folks' home.

Now we need to share food more than ever. First stop can be the Foodbank or Lentara Broadmeadows which supports refugees. Donations to both are most welcome. We need also to share the sense of joy in seeing baskets of fresh fruit and vegetables.

Climate changes warn us that growing



Maree Clarke learns the skill of CPR. Picture: Michael Woolner

locally, in our own back yards, is a very good idea.

Our congregation will celebrate this harvest on Tuesday morning, 10 April, from 10am-12 noon. Absolutely everyone is welcome to enjoy figs, quinces, pears

and especially the culinary delights which result. You are invited to bring a sample of your very own recipe, but you are also welcome if your skill lies in tasting delicious food!

While in the church hall you might like to browse the library shelves. The books range across topics such as biblical studies, spirituality and wellbeing.

In March, more than 60 people learned and practiced how to be skilled in the latest CPR technique and in the use of the newly acquired defibrillator. Congrats to all who were willing and able to kneel and competently pound the chests of our (fortunately) quiet dummies and many thanks

to our three excellently caring and competent ambos.

Janet Wood

From one of our gardeners. ▶
 Picture: Colin Chapman



St Brigid's Parish Gisborne
 – incorporating St Ambrose Riddells
 Creek and St Patrick's Macedon
 Parish Priest: Fr. Vincent Nguyen

2024 Sacraments

Registration is still open for Sacraments to be celebrated in 2024.

Please contact the office at gisborne@cam.org.au as soon as possible if you wish to register your child.

Holy Communion available to Year 4 and above and Confirmation available to Year 6 and above.

Sacrament fee is \$100.

Baptism details required for registration.

Baptism is available all year round on the fourth Sunday of each month.

Enquiries to: gisborne@cam.org.au or 5428 2591

Parish secretary: Tammie Dalglish

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9am to 5pm.

Website: www.@cam.org.au/gisborne.

Normal weekend services

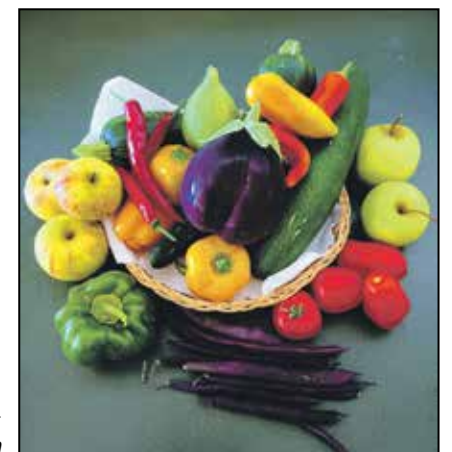
Saturday 6pm, St Brigid's

Sunday 8am, St Ambrose

Sunday 9:30am, St Patrick's

Sunday 11am St Brigid's

Everyone is welcome!





100 YEARS AGO

APRIL 1924

Gisborne Higher Elementary School - Want of Railway Facilities. At Kyneton the Government has established a High School, which is overcrowded. Some of the scholars attending it are from Macedon. At Gisborne the Government has also opened a higher Elementary School, which is languishing for want of scholars. Macedon is only a few miles and a few minutes train journey from Gisborne. Owing to the railway facilities favouring Kyneton, the parents at Macedon are compelled to send their children a much greater distance, and at a greater cost, to an over-crowded school. The stopping of the 7am Bendigo to Melbourne train at Gisborne for one minute is all that is required, and that only on school days. It stops at Macedon at 9.16am, where it could pick up the children, but although the whole of the residents of Macedon and Gisborne are in favour of the train setting down the scholars five minutes later at Gisborne, the Railways Commissioners refuse the concession to education, which means so much to our country.

The Sunbury News, 5 April 1924

News in Brief. The Gisborne Progress Association is to erect a drinking fountain, made of Gisborne granite, on the Island Reserve.

Weekly Times (Melb), 12 April 1924

Commemoration at Gisborne Higher Elementary School. The commemoration of Anzac Day was carried out at the Gisborne Higher Elementary School on Thursday afternoon. The first hour of the afternoon school meeting having been devoted to patriotic songs, recitations and readings, the head teacher then addressed the scholars upon the significance of Anzac Day, especially dwelling upon the sacrifices of the Anzacs, their loyal devotion even unto death and their splendid achievements. Special reference was made to Australia's debt and solemn responsibility to the Anzacs and their families, to our grief at the great losses suffered and finally to our proud recognition of their splendid worth.

The Sunbury News, April 26, 1924

Riddell Note. Last Sunday might well have been called "Mushroom Sunday" as nearly everyone in the district seemed to be engaged in gathering them. There is evidently an attraction in the occupation for old and young. The chief object of course is that of "a good feed" of these appetizing growths. With others, it is a source of pleasure to gather them and make presents to friends, and there is, during the gathering, the expectancy as each paddock is searched. On Sunday last, all the gathering receptacles chiefly basket, bucket and billy, were full on the return home. A mushroom found on one property ... weighed nearly four pounds and measured 30 inches in circumference.

The Sunbury News, April 12, 1924



WHAT'S ON REGULAR MEETINGS

New members always welcome

ADULT RIDING CLUB (Gis) 2nd Saturday I R Robertson Res
ADULT RIDING CLUB (Bullengarook) 2nd Saturday Rec Reserve
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 3rd Saturday 10am Woodend RSL
 www.mrarc.org.au

ANGLING CLUB 2nd Wed 8pm Railway Hotel Macedon

BOTANIC GARDENS working bee every Thurs 9.30am-10.30am
BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP 1st & 3rd Tues 10.30am Gisborne Golf Club

BRIDGE CLUB Mon 12.30, Tues 7.15, Thurs 12.30 St Mary's Church Hall, Woodend 5420 7595

BUSHWALKING CLUB Various locations
 secretary@gisbornebwc.org.au

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP last Wed of month Gisborne Golf Club

CAR CLUB 1st Wednesday 8pm Steam Park, New Gisb

CARERS GROUP (Mac Ranges) 2nd & 4th Thurs, 1pm Woodend RSL
 5420 7132 (Note: 4th Thurs carers only)

COMMUNITY GARDEN Wed 9am Church of Christ

CROCHET & CONVERSATIONS 1st Mon 2.30pm Gisborne Library

CROQUET CLUB Wed & Sat 10am Dixon Field

CWA GISBORNE 2nd Monday 10am Gis Secondary College

CWA MACEDON 3rd Tues 1pm & 7pm 662 Mt Macedon Rd

DALY RESERVE WORKING BEE 2nd Tues 9.30am Scout Hall, Daly Res

FILM SOCIETY 2nd Wed Woodend Neigh'hood House 5427 2323

FLY FISHING CLUB 4th Wed 7.30pm MRFEC Gisborne

FOCUS CLUB 2nd Fri 12 noon Gisborne Golf Club

FRIENDS OF JACKSONS CREEK working bees 3rd Sun 10-noon

GARDEN CLUB 2nd Wed various venues 0424 038 474

GENEALOGY GROUP 4th Thurs 7.30 Family Hist Rm, Library

GIRL GUIDES Thursdays 5pm Gis Scout Hall

GISBORNE SINGERS Wed 7.30pm Gisborne Uniting Church

HISTORICAL SOCIETY open Wed 10am-4pm Court House

LIBRARY: TODDLERS' STORY TIME Mon 10.30am, Wed 10.30am

LIONS CLUB (Gisborne) First Thurs of month, 7.30pm 247 Station Rd

MARTIAL ARTS Thurs from 6pm St Brigid's Hall;
 gisborne@jungeikan.com.au

MASONIC LODGE 2nd Thurs 7pm Masonic Hall Aitken St

MASTERS AFL Wed 6.30pm Sankey Reserve

MUFFINS 'N' MORE 2nd Tues 10am-noon Uniting Church

MUMS GROUP 2nd Mon 9.30-11.30am 49 Fisher St

OBDIANCE DOG CLUB Sun 9am Riddells Rec Res

PETANQUE 2nd & 4th Sat 10am behind Ampol service station, Station Rd, Gisborne 0439 887 178

PHOENIX ART & CRAFTS 1st Thursday phoenixmrac.com

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOC 1st Tues & 2nd Mon 7pm Dromkeen, Riddells Ck

PONY CLUB Bullengarook 1st Sunday Rec Reserve

PONY CLUB Gisborne 1st Sunday Robertson Reserve

PROBUS 1st Thurs 10am Mechanics Inst.

QUILTERS (Gisb) Wed 7pm Room attached to Gisb Library

RAMBLERS Fridays 9.15am Tennis Club Dixon Field

ROTARY (Gisborne) 1st & 3rd Tues 7pm Telegraph Hotel
 (email gisbornerotary@gmail.com for confirmation of venue)

ROTARY (Macedon Ranges) 1st Tuesday, 6.30 dinner, 7.45 meeting
 Baringo Food & Wine rotarymacedonranges@gmail.com

RUNNING GROUP Tues & Thurs 6pm, Sun 8am Gis Aquatic Centre

RSL 1st Mon 1.30pm Gis Golf Club 5428 2233

SENIOR CITS (Macedon) Tues 11am Tony Clarke Res

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS Thurs 1-3 Buffalo Stadium
 Woodend, 5427 1100

SPINNERS & FIBRE GROUP Wed 12 noon Rec Reserve Bullengarook

SUPPORT AFTER SUICIDE 2nd Mon each month, even if public holiday, 7-8.30pm Newham Mechanics Inst (1292 Rochford Rd)

TABLE TENNIS Wed 7.30pm Tony Clarke Res, Macedon

THUNDER SWIMMING CLUB 2nd Sat 5pm Gisborne Aquatic Centre

TOY LIBRARY Every Tues 9.30-10.30am; Sat 9.30-11am
 71 Robertson St

ULYSSES GROUP 3rd Tues 6pm Sunbury FC

VINTAGE MACHINERY Working bees 1st Sun of month, 8.30am at Steam Park; meetings last Friday of month, 7pm at Steam Park

WRITERS (Scribes & Scribblers) 2nd Tues 10am-12 Riddell N'hood House

YOUNG VOICES Thursdays 4.15-5.45pm Norma Richardson Hall, Buckland St, Woodend, 5426 4801 or sdggome@patash.com.au

They've got the heat licked



Chris Rhodes and Barb Pye were spotted enjoying an ice cream on a hot day in Gisborne last month...



...and James Woodward delivers cooling drinks during the McIntyre Cup grand final at Tony Clarke Reserve.

QUIZ ANSWERS

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Two | 6. A cat |
| 2. Bauxite | 7. Yellow |
| 3. Elizabeth Tower | 8. Carbon |
| 4. Sting | 9. Honda |
| 5. Ludwig van Beethoven | 10. Augustus |

KIDS' QUIZ ANSWERS

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Play School | 6. A screwdriver |
| 2. Mars | 7. The Milky Way |
| 3. Cheese | 8. 56.3. |
| 4. Pink | 9. Donald Duck |
| 5. Eddie Murphy | 10. Carbon Dioxide |

Baringo Film Club

Screening times: 3pm Wednesday
7pm Friday, 3pm Saturday

Date	Film
April 3 to 6	You Hurt My Feelings
April 10 to 13	Let the River Flow
April 17 to 20	Ride Above
April 24 to 27	The Crime is Mine

www.baringofilmclub.com

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5 Neal Street, Gisborne VIC
PH: 03 5428 0300



**Drug driving?
The consequences will blow your mind.**

Police are conducting drug tests across Victoria, which helps to keep our roads safe. Being caught with illicit drugs in your system could result in a minimum fine of \$577 and possible licence suspension. Drug driving? Chances are you will be caught. Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.

TAC 

