

Gisborne Gazette

serving the southern macedon ranges

FEBRUARY 2024 FREE

Advocate honoured

A determined voice for those with sensory disabilities

The closing months of 2023 saw prestigious honours awarded to Gisborne SES member Shanleigh Meldrum.

In October, Shanleigh was inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women which celebrates significant contributions made by Victorian women over a wide field of service.

Then, one month later, Shanleigh was named Deaf Youth Australian of the Year. Both honours acknowledge Shanleigh's dedication to improving the inclusivity of the Deaf, Hard of hearing and Deafblind throughout regional and rural Victoria including, of course, in the Macedon Ranges.

continued ► page 3



Picture: Chris Fleming

Shanleigh Meldrum is pushing for the needs of the Deaf, Hard of hearing and Deafblind to be better provided for in times of emergency.



Tree Removals

All Aspects of Tree Work Stump Grinding
Hedge Trimming Tree Pruning

Call Brett today 0417 400 718

- Pensioner Discounts
- Fully Insured
- Qualified Arborists

Mr Lumberjack



From the Editor's desk

I have never seen Coles Gisborne as empty as it was when I dashed in just before the men's final of the Australian Open. Once I figured out what was going on, I was pleased (and not just because I like tennis).

I'm a believer in the power and importance of people having shared experiences to build community. With the growth of the internet and streaming services, and the fragmentation of media, it doesn't happen that much any more through television apart from during major (usually sporting) events.

Thankfully, there are plenty of opportunities to get a shared experience locally with the amazing array of clubs and community groups we have in the area. February is a great time to join (or try out) a new one. Or maybe sign up to learn something new. With its broad range of community news, the *Gazette* is a great place to learn about what's on offer.

The last *Gazette* crossword for which questions were compiled by the late Graeme Millar is on page 37. I remember when the idea to do the alphabet in crosswords was born and it seemed like it would go on forever. Trusty Graeme developed questions for the whole set in a notebook. I will miss seeing his distinctive script each month.

We continue to have stars rising from our area. Following on from Janine Mohamed being named 2024 Australian of the Year for Victoria last November (the cover story of the December edition), this month we highlight Shanleigh Meldrum who was inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women and named Deaf Young Australian of the Year late last year. Congratulations, Shanleigh.

We also feature James Burnip for his kicking success in American gridiron, most recently in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California. Having grown up down the freeway from the Rose Bowl, I can tell you (as will his parents Mark and Lynda who were there) that that is a huge, shared experience in the US.

Back to the tennis, as I write this my fingers are crossed for Sinner, but things aren't looking good. Whatever happens, living the ups and downs of the match with the family is a special experience and I'm sure I'll be talking about the match with others tomorrow.

Happy reading,

Corinne Shaddock



Twilight Netball is always a relaxed and fun series: here is an action shot from the U18 grand final between Blue Thunder and Gangnam. Sport ► pages 31-35

Gisborne Gazette
PO Box 9, Gisborne 3437
Web www.gisbornegazette.org.au



Circulation
8000

Gazette Team



Editor: Corinne Shaddock
gisbornegazetteeditor@gmail.com
0409 422 492



Production
Pip Butler 0439 816 278 pbutlerhistory@gmail.com
Adam Lopez



Photographer
Chris Fleming
0417 322 944



Distribution Manager
Maxine Barker 0438 711 138
maxineandpeter@bigpond.com



Advertising
Maxine Barker 0438 711 138
gisbornegazetteadvertising@gmail.com

Distributors: Proudly distributed to letterboxes in Gisborne, New Gisborne, Macedon, Mt Macedon, South Gisborne and Bullengarook by more than 100 volunteers.

Available online

DEADLINES FOR COPY AND ADVERTISING

ISSUE	MONTH	DEADLINE	DISTRIBUTION
193	March	14 February	27 February
194	April	20 March	2 April
195	May	17 April	30 April

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in the *Gazette* are not necessarily those of the *Gazette* or its management committee unless acknowledged as such. No endorsement of products or services is implied by the listing of advertisers or sponsors. While every effort is taken in printing contributions accurately, the *Gisborne Gazette* takes no responsibility for errors.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Copies of the *Gazette* are posted to subscribers each month. For an annual subscription to cover postage, send your cheque for \$29.70 to the *Gisborne Gazette*, PO Box 9, Gisborne 3437 or you can deposit online. Please contact Maxine on 0438 711 138.

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

If you do not receive the *Gazette* in your letter box, you can collect a copy at:

- 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.

Gazette seeking social media help

The *Gazette* committee is looking for a volunteer to do social media for the paper. Please contact president Maxine Barker on 0438 711 138 or gisbornegazetteadvertising@gmail.com to express interest.

After a busy 2023 producing 11 full editions, the *Gazette* committee enjoyed some down time in December. Pictured at the committee's end-of-year lunch are (from left) Patsy Smith, Deb Fleming, Corinne Shaddock, Dorothy Murray, Maxine Barker, Pip Butler and Bryan Power.



Gisborne Olde Time Market
Sun 4 Feb 9am - 2pm

For Market information call
0431 563 566 or go to
www.gisborneoldetimemarket.org.au

Disability advocate honoured

◀ from page 1

Shanleigh began school at New Gisborne Primary School and completed her secondary education at Braemar and Sacred Heart. Throughout those years she felt the isolation that deafness brings in an almost totally hearing world. At an early age she became determined to reduce that isolation for the following generations of young people. To pursue this dream, she studied hard to gain qualifications at three universities including gaining a Master of Disability Studies (Sensory Disability) from Macquarie University.

In 2014, Shanleigh began to volunteer her time mentoring local Deaf and Hard-of-hearing young people and realised they, too, were continuing to face the same barriers and challenges in their lives. Shanleigh knew what she wanted to do.

"I wanted to create a program that connects isolated Deaf, Hard of hearing and Deafblind young people in rural areas," she said. "I had the opportunity to apply for Victorian Government Youth Engage! funding in 2021 through Deaf Hub Bendigo, and the Deaf Hub Bendigo youth program 'Get Engaged with Your Life!' came to fruition."

As Shanleigh explains, "At Deaf Hub Bendigo my current role is Senior Officer: Youth. I manage our youth and children's programs/activities...It comprises a school-based Deaf Role Model program, social events, skill building, mentoring and regular youth spaces in seven locations across Victoria including Gisborne. I deliver the program with support from a deaf youth intern."

Of particular interest to Shanleigh is the fact that the needs of the deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind are poorly provided for in times of emergency. Through her involvement with the Gisborne and Woodend SES she is striving to ensure that emergency warnings on television and other visual media are captioned with Auslan as it must be understood that for the Deaf, Auslan is their first language and English is a second language – one that is not always comprehended in an emergency situation. Through her efforts, Deaf Awareness and Auslan have been part of the training of Gisborne SES members.

"I am in the process of organising a community Auslan and Deaf Awareness training event in the Macedon Ranges and for Gisborne and Woodend SES in 2024," says Shanleigh.

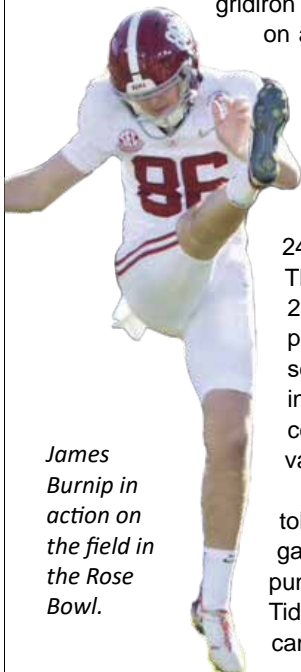
Small steps, but Shanleigh will not be satisfied until such training becomes the norm for all members of the emergency services.

Bryan Power

American highs for Burnip family

The Burnip family of Mount Macedon had a special Christmas holiday this year, visiting son James in the United States so he could have his first family Christmas in three years, then watching him punt to perfection in the famous Rose Bowl on 1 January in front of a crowd of more than 96,000. More than 27 million viewers watched the game on ESPN.

James, 22, once a keen local basketballer and ruck for the Macedon Cats, has been the leading punter for the University of Alabama Crimson Tide gridiron team since he started there on a sports scholarship in 2021.



James Burnip in action on the field in the Rose Bowl.

In the Rose Bowl, affectionately called 'the Granddaddy' of the college football calendar, Alabama faced the Michigan Wolverines in a semifinal of the 2023-24 College Football Playoff. They were defeated 20-27 in overtime, but James' performance was lauded on social media, notably his five inside 20 punts, and multiple commentators called him most valued player of his side.

Proud father Mark Burnip told us James has played every game since winning the starting punting position for Crimson Tide after the autumn training camp in 2021. James has



Mark, James and Lynda Burnip before the Rose Bowl game.

shown consistent improvement over his three seasons, reaching the rank of number five punter in the country for yards per kick and number one for hangtime (the length of time a punted ball flies through the air) in 2023, huge achievements in gridiron. Australians apparently have a competitive edge in kicking because from a young age they are given balls to kick as opposed to balls to throw in the US.

James has also been successful off the field, graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Science last year. He starts his senior year in the American autumn

continued ▶ page 30

Mahalia Barnes to feature at music festival

The Macedon Ranges Music Festival will return to Hanging Rock on Saturday 23 March. With a lineup fronted by Mahalia Barnes and the Soul Mates, this is a rare opportunity to enjoy live music as the sun sets behind the Rock.

The one-day festival releases only 1000 tickets, and promises to be another sell-out this year, with first-release tickets now on sale.

Also on the lineup will be some of Australia's finest musical outfits including local favourite Taylor Sheridan, contemporary folk singer Alana Wilkinson, 'Afrodelik' band Immy Owusu and more.

The all-ages event caters for young and old with



Mahalia Barnes

kids' activities including a jumping castle and face-painting.

For the adults, there will be a bar stocked with local wine, beer, cider and a pop-up gin bar from Gisborne-based Mountain Distilling as well as a range of food trucks and stalls.

Best of all, the volunteer-run event raises money for the Macedon Ranges-born Cambodian Kids Foundation, with all proceeds from

the festival donated to support grassroots community development projects in rural Cambodia. First release adult tickets from just \$40 and kids under 5 free.

Where: Saturday 23 March, 1pm-10pm, Hanging Rock East Paddock. More info and tickets at www.macedonrangesmusicfestival.org

Crown Cabs

Available on the iPhone ANDROID APP ON Google play

DOWNLOAD THE CROWN CABS APP FOR YOUR NEXT RIDE

www.crowncabs.com.au

Bookings: 1300 12 13 14

PODIATRY

Do you have **fungal nails?**

We can help you

Shop 12, 13 Goode Street, Gisborne (behind McDonalds) Call us for an appointment P: 1300 650 293



GISBORNE GOSS

Congratulations to Lyn and Eddie Gardiner, who as the *Gazette* went to press were preparing to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on 27 January.



SEEN AROUND TOWN

Heavy rains on 8 January led to flooding on roads and properties in Mount Macedon and the surrounding district. The upside was a gushing Stanley Park waterfall.



Cory Klaaysen in her flooded front yard on 8 January.



◀ A recent Macedon Ranges L2P Program participant and mentor driver Gary Sanders took part in the festival parade in December.

Spots are open for learners aged 16 to 21 with no access to a supervising driver or vehicle to gain the 120 hours driving experience required to apply for a probationary licence. Contact the Salvation Army on 0409 246 416.

Foodbank stalwart named Gisborne Local Hero for 2023



Lynne Margret with Vicky Hillyer of award sponsor Community Bank Gisborne.

In recognition of her extraordinary volunteer service to the community through the Gisborne Community Care Foodbank, Lynne Margret was awarded the 2023 Local Hero Award at the Gisborne Community Carols in December last year.

Lynne was an eager volunteer in the foodbank's early days and often stepped up into the operations manager's role when needed. In mid-2021, she officially became operations manager and has managed the day-to-day running of the foodbank since.

Lynne manages the team of volunteers and oversees the coordination of donations as well as respectfully serving foodbank clients when they visit.

The foodbank has seen significant growth in the number of people needing support and, in turn, donations coming through the door – creating a lot more work – and Lynne has managed both seamlessly.

Lynne is passionate about not only providing people in need a 'hand-out', but also a 'hand-up' and has implemented a program whereby each new client to the foodbank has an initial non-judgemental

consultation that aims to provide a holistic approach to supporting the client through their time of need. This could mean providing details of other support services in the area or referrals to professionals if required. Lynne's dedication to her role has seen her complete a mental health first-aid course and a Retaining Volunteers course to assist in providing a welcoming space for her volunteers.

Vicky Hillyer of sponsor Community Bank Gisborne congratulated Lynne and said she was delighted to celebrate her exceptional volunteering to the Gisborne community.

The business & individual tax professionals in the Macedon Ranges
www.kennedysaccountants.com.au
 0418 566 635 | hello@kennedysaccountants.com.au

Gisborne Podiatry

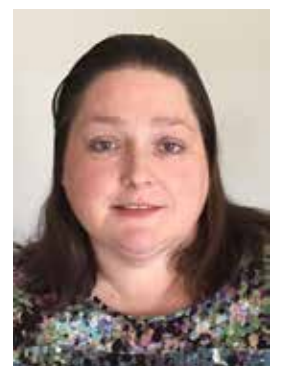


Sheridan – Podiatrist

18 Brantome Street (inside Priceline)

Ph 1300 44 77 63

• HICAPS • NDIS • DVA • HOMECARE PACKAGES •
Subsidised treatment available for eligible clients. Call to enquire.



New style of health care service opens in Gisborne

HMS Community Clinic is scheduled to open at 18 Brantome Street, Gisborne, (next to Priceline) on 12 February.

Describing itself as a community paramedic-led healthcare service, HMS Community provides a team model of care to individuals in their home, the community and, starting soon, from the Gisborne clinic. Care provided includes support of pain, chronic illness, wound treatment, mental health, women's health and plant medicine.

The clinic will offer bulk billing to healthcare and concession card holders, pensioners, and people under 16. Standard appointments will be 40 minutes and include a health check with a community paramedic



or nurse followed by a consultation with a doctor or nurse practitioner.

Limited services are already available.

It will be the first physical clinic of HMS Community, an innovative health care service started in Riddells Creek in 2021 by nurse practitioner Andrew McDonell and retired nurse Raneen Wilkinson with the key aim of keeping people out of hospital/ambulances. The organisation estimates it is saving ambulance services approximately 90 hours' worth of callouts each week.

For more information about HMS Community services, visit www.hmscommunity.org.au.



Isabelle Dolin (youth worker), Andrew McDonell (nurse practitioner) and Ashlea Christenson (community paramedic).

A nexus between fly fishing and mental health

In November last year, Jeremy Forbes, the co-founder and spokesperson of HALT (Hope Assistance Local Tradies), came to talk to the Calder Fly Fishing Association at our general meeting.

A response to his presentation by our president, Simon, appears on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/calderflyfishing/). I would like to add that it is well worthwhile to have a listen to his TEDx Talk (see link at end).

Participants at his presentations will leave the event with increased knowledge, confidence and skills in the following key areas: Myths surrounding mental health issues and suicide; how to be a good listener and have a 'tough conversation' with yourself or your mate; how to access local and national support services; ways to support your own wellbeing.

Recognising the mental benefits of fly fishing, our fly-fishing wellbeing exercises continue with successful outings in local lakes, as well as rivers and creeks. Rod did well with three days on the Goulburn and other north-east Victoria rivers. As he said, "amazing what it does for the soul."

Chris Schrueder and Mike Van De Graaf (pictured) show the obvious lift in spirits with a good catch and release.

If you'd like to know more about the



Chris and Mike during an awesome day on the Upper Mitta. And it ended up awesome for the fish too, as he was released after the picture to swim off happily.

Calder Fly Fishing Association, please visit our website www.calderflyfishing.com.au/ or find us on Facebook or Instagram.

Louis Bokor



Link to Jeremy's Forbes' TEDx www.ted.com/talks/jeremy_forbes_how_to_start_a_conversation_about_suicide?

WHAT'S ON

DATE PAGE

FEBRUARY

4 Gisborne Olde Time Market	2
6 All Electric Homes webinar	22
6 Tatiana Korinsky show opens at Gallery	17
10 Opening of T. Kofinsky show at Gallery	17
11 Car show at Hanging Rock	30
12 Autumn festival EOIs close	12
12 Over-55s bingo in Gisborne	12
17 Stone Hill garden open in Woodend	22
18 Photo display in Gisborne Village ends	9
20 Electric vehicles webinar	22
21 Table tennis 'come and try' evening	36
22 Over-55s coffee catch-up in Gisborne	12
23 'Wild' opens at Mountview Theatre	16
23 Reducing wildlife road toll forum	22
23 Small Property Grazing course starts	22
23 Over-55s chess in Gisborne	12
24 Gisborne Cricket Club Pink Day	33
24 Macedon Fire Brigade fundraiser	13
25 Seraphim Trio concert in Macedon	16
28 'Birthtime' documentary at library	28

MARCH

1 World Day of Prayer	38
2 Lancefield Mac. Ranges Relay for Life	13
3 Historic cottage open in Romsey	19
3 Clean Up Australia Day at Daly Reserve	8
4 Peter Barcham talk: Geoff Thompson	38
4 Portrait prize entries open	17
5 Designing for Resilience webinar	22



DOUBLE GLAZING IN YOUR EXISTING TIMBER WINDOWS

macedonrangesglass.com.au

Your Local Glaziers for Over 50 Years

Gisborne

☎ 03 5428 2899

Kyneton

☎ 03 5422 1724



Gisborne festival fun



New Gisborne Primary School.



Santa Claus gets a festive ride.



The Bear Foot monster truck dwarfs patrons Michelle Morrison and grandchildren and Bryan Power.



Gisborne and Surrounds Mountain Bike club (GasMTB) by the Macedon CFA tanker. Gisborne and Bullengarook CFA crews also participated in the parade.



Alison Roan, Sharon Wicks and Phil Hardy on the Lions stall.



Cast and crew of Gisborne Secondary College's 2024 production, The Addams Family.



Gisborne Dance Academy.



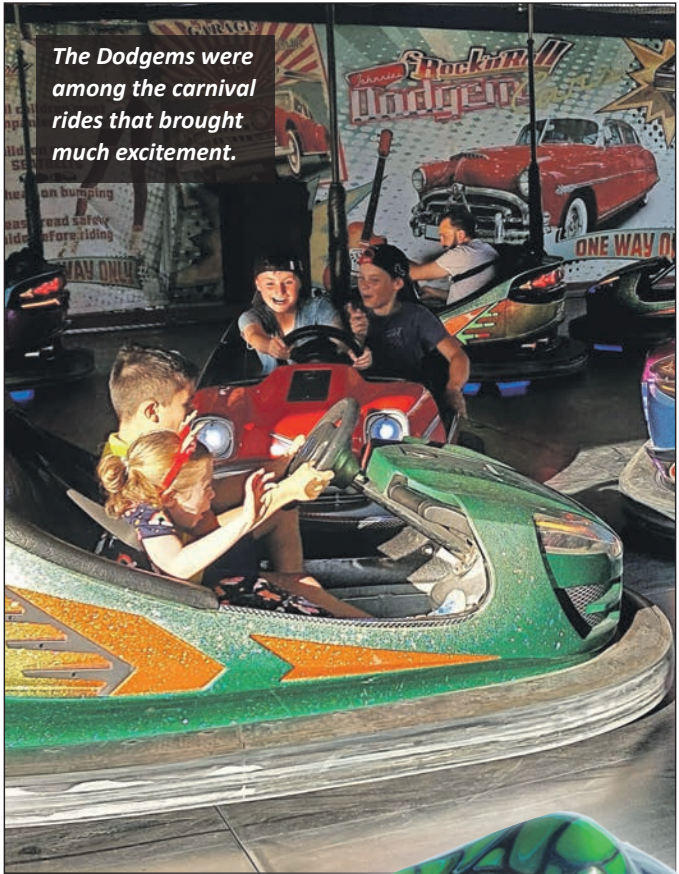
Gisborne SES members join the parade



Stomach-churning rides drew queues – and spectators.



Parade organiser Wally van Dort (Gisborne Lions Club) with Nelly Narcissus.



The Dodgems were among the carnival rides that brought much excitement.



Willowbank Early Learning Centre.



1st Gisborne Scouts



Gisborne Lions Club president Russell Walker OAM.



Gisborne Festival 2023

The Gisborne Festival on Friday 8 December attracted large crowds. A wide cross-section of the community participated in the ever-popular parade down Aitken Street.

Carnival rides, a variety of stalls, live music and fireworks provided entertainment on Gardiner Reserve. Members of Gisborne Lions Club, who organised the event, were delighted with the large turnout.

New year, new courses at MRFEC

Term 1 is underway at Macedon Ranges Further Education Centre as we welcome everyone back to the centre, with a range of new and old courses on offer. Take a peak at a few of our new courses available:

Business Admin Skills

Monday 29 January to 19 February, 9am-3.30pm

Take the first step in becoming an admin extraordinaire! Ideal for anyone wishing to update their business administration skills, change career direction or obtain computer skills to undertake further study. It provides the skills and knowledge to work in a variety of roles including reception, administration and word processing.

Social Media Marketing

Tuesday 6 to 27 February, 9.30am-11.30am

This course will provide the learner with information and hands-on experience on how to make the most of social media platforms to promote their business.

Chinese Language

Friday 2 Feb to 22 March, 9.30am-12 noon

Learn the basics of the Chinese language, principles of Chinese characters and grammar.



Website Building

Tuesday 12 to 26 March, 9.30am-12.30pm

At the end of this course, learners will have the fundamental knowledge to build and create a website using WIX.

Sure You Can Draw!

Thursday 22 Feb to 21 March, 6.30pm-8:30pm

This is not your classic drawing class. Learn that anyone can draw, even you.

MindSpa

Sunday 24 March, 1pm-4pm

Treat yourself to some seriously good down time with three hours of self-care at this MindSpa session. You will be guided through various relaxation exercises, guided meditations and self-pampering activities to help you experience deep rest and relaxation.

For more information on courses and online enrolment please visit our website www.mrfec.net.au.



Goldfields Libraries

Lots on at Gisborne Library

The library has been busy over the summer, with the school holiday programs being particularly popular. The Minecraft Lab gave children the opportunity to play together in specially created worlds, with challenges, tests, and lots of fun along the way. Stig Wemyss, the voice of the Andy Griffiths novels, visited and his incredible performance had the audience in stitches. The Big Summer Read wrapped up at the end of January. Keep an eye on our socials for updates on winners.

If you're happy and you know it clap your hands: Storytime is back from 5 February, and we'd love to read, rhyme and sing with your pre-schooler. We have special sessions for 0-2 and 2-5 year-olds; pop in and out as you like – come every time or once in a while. Storytime is Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 10.30am, and Baby Rhyme time is Friday at 10.30am. No bookings required.

To celebrate Library Lover's Day on 14 February, we're planning craft sessions to upcycle old books. Drop by and visit the Making Station to create something quirky and wonderful – a paper rose, dictionary magnet, or a vintage bookmark. Monday 12 February, 1-3pm, or Tuesday 13 February, 4-6pm. Suitable for adults and teens. Bookings required.

On Wednesday 28 February at 7pm we have a screening of the film *Birth Time*, a documentary about birthing practices in Australia. The film follows three women embarking on a mission to discover why an increasing number of women are emerging from their births physically and emotionally traumatised. Bookings required.

For bookings for all events, head to www.goldfieldslibraries.com/gisborne-events or give us a call on 5428 3962.

Sara Shaw

Prepare to clean up on 3 March

As we continue to tackle our national waste challenges and protect our environment, Clean Up Australia is calling on everybody to join their local communities and take more immediate action by registering for Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday, 3 March.

Friends of Daly Nature Reserve will have collection bags and gloves at the ready from 9am, and hope to be all packed up by 11am. Volunteers are asked to please sign-in at the scout hall in Howey Street, Gisborne.

Alternatively, organise a separate effort. For information and to register, visit cleanup.org.au.

Clean Up



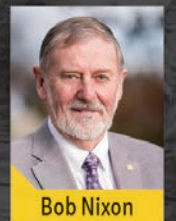
All volunteers receive a free clean-up kit containing gloves, bags and other resources, with packs for individuals, families and community groups available. Businesses are asked to pay a small fee to cover costs.

nixon financial services pty ltd

corporate authorised representative

SINCE 1973
FINANCIAL SERVICES
YOU CAN TRUST

- Financial Planning
- Pre-retirement strategies
- Superannuation
- Investment Advice
- Pensions
- Centrelink Advice
- Aged Care Financial Advice
- SMSF



Contact us on:
Gisborne - (03) 5428 0123
Sunbury - (03) 9744 2400
Melbourne - 0438 286 789

www.nixonfs.com.au
info@nixonfs.com.au

Nixon Financial Services Pty Ltd is a Corporate Authorised Representative of Sentry Advice Pty Ltd AFSL 227748

SECURING YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

Photo show extended to mid-month

It's been a huge success; the current six-week print and digital image display 'The Ranges in Focus'. The very accessible location in the Gisborne Village Shopping Centre has contributed to the exhibition being viewed by large numbers.

Our club has now arranged for a three-week exhibition extension until Sunday 18 February. A revised set of members' Macedon Ranges prints and digital images will be on display.

All 'Ranges in Focus' images can be viewed and ordered for purchase on our website, <https://macedon-ranges-photography.org.au>

The club's first meeting for 2024 will be Tuesday evening 6 February, 7pm for a 7.30pm start, at



Dromkeen, 1012
Kilmore Road,
Riddells Creek. Our
members will be
showing and discussing their Christmas-New Year
photographic images and projects.

The following Monday night's Technical Evening on 12 February is to be '80 years before the Bucket List' presentation along with Mini Technical Instructions on image resizing (refresher), sharpening techniques, and how to critique an image.

For more information, visit the club website. All welcome to attend the Dromkeen club meetings.

John Spring



Photographic Society members after putting up the exhibition. Picture: John Spring.

What's on at the Community House

An exciting year ahead for the Macedon and Mount Macedon Community House. Stay up to date via the website www.mmmcommunityhouse.org.

We are excited to 'break ground' on our landscape design and renewal project funded by a State Government regional grant and a Macedon Ranges Shire Council grant. Works to the front of the property will include upgraded all-abilities access and more 'fit for purpose' outdoor precincts and contoured grounds.

Canasta Club

Wednesday 2pm-5pm.
Gold coin donation for tea and coffee.

Introduction to Ethics and Principals of Permaculture

Tuesday 13 February to 19 March, 9.30am-12.30pm.
Offered in partnership with Macedon Ranges Further Education

Community Choir

Second and fourth Thursday, 7.30pm.
Starting on 8 February. Contact Grainne on 0423 769 643 for more information or just come along.

Playgroup

Monday and Wednesday, 10am-12 noon.
New families are welcome. Please email playgroup@mmmcommunityhouse.org



Pregnancy Yoga

Wednesday 6.30pm-7.30pm

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

Library Drop in and Co-working Space

Friday 10am-1pm.

No membership required, just drop by, enjoy a coffee or tea, and browse our 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.

Sit and Sew Craft Group

Now on Fridays, 10am-12pm

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

For more information, house hire or to volunteer, please contact hello@mmmcommunityhouse.org.

SAINT MARY MEDICAL CENTRE

Dr Demyana Ayoub & associates

Podiatrist Sarah Mullins **Audiologist Bloom Hearing**

Diabetic Educator Ann Bush **Dorevitch Pathology**

CONTACT US

03 5420 7014
After hours: 0491 141 010

51 Brantome St, Gisborne

KIDZFLIP AGM

Kidzflip gives notice of it's 2024 Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday 29th of February at 7pm to be attended at the Gisborne Men's Shed, Prince Street, Gisborne.



A psychologist's view

With psychologist Shula Pem

New Year resolutions should be out, and shifting mindsets in



The tradition of making New Year's resolutions is a familiar one, bringing a sense of excitement and the promise of positive change. We've all been down the road of setting resolutions, feeling the surge of enthusiasm for meaningful change. Yet, if you've noticed weak structure, lack of specificity, and absence of actionable steps in your resolutions, I would like to propose an alternative.

The alternative is shifting your mindset to focus on consistency rather than intensity; on lifestyle rather than a number of rigid short-term goals; on being process-oriented rather than outcome-oriented; on continuous and sustainable growth rather than fixating on hard finish lines. Redirect your focus from specific outcomes to the person you want to become. This opens the door to reflection on your beliefs, attitudes, values, and behaviours.

Having clarity and aligning with how you want to feel adds emotional motivation to your goals, hence creating a more organic commitment to those goals and a richer sense of fulfilment. How can you shift your mindset?

Reflect on your priorities, beliefs, and daily actions. Identify areas where you feel stuck. What needs repair, and what can you let go of?

Tune into your inner conversations. Challenge negative self-talk and limiting beliefs. How can you rewrite those narratives? Define your comfort zone. Explore what limits your growth and find ways to expand it. When was the last time you had an uncomfortable conversation in your personal or professional life?

In embracing a mindset shift, we move away from the constraints of resolutions, inviting a more holistic and fulfilling approach to personal growth in the coming year.

Lucky Gisborne Foodbank cubby winners

The lucky ticket holder was Lesley Hood but the real winners are her granddaughters Jess and Chloe. Because there is not yet a suitable site for installation, we delivered the cubby as a flat pack. But at least the new owners can enjoy their new furniture in the meantime.

Thanks to everyone who bought tickets to our cubby raffle leading up to Christmas. This latest raffle raised a record \$8,130 for Gisborne Foodbank, bringing our



total contribution over the last four years to \$29,623.

So that's 2023 done and dusted, now for 2024 which already has a rapidly-filling calendar. If you, or any other man you know, could benefit from a bit more community connection, drop in for a chat and a guided tour any Monday, Wednesday or Thursday morning and see what we can offer. You just might be surprised!



Jess and Chloe are happy owners of a new cubby house, ready to be put together.



MRFL
Macedon Ranges
Family Law

Legal Advice made easy

- All Areas of Family Law
- Divorce
- Child Arrangements
- Asset Division
- Wills & Estates
- Probates
- Deceased Estates
- Power of Attorney

Level 1, 45 Hamilton Street, Gisborne

P: (03) 5428 8711 www.mrfl.com.au

Urgent care clinics give option other than hospital

Two free urgent care clinics are available in the nearby area. One is at the Goonawarra Medical Centre in Sunbury and the other is at the Melton Health Hub in West Melton.

The clinics offer bulk-billed services and operate seven days a week from 8am to 10pm. They see patients with urgent but not life-threatening conditions. Patients do not require appointments, but appointments may be made.

The clinics help to alleviate pressure on hospital emergency departments as well as making it easier for people to get urgent care without spending hours in a hospital waiting room.

Both clinics will be open on the Labour Day public holiday (11 March) and over Easter.

Protect yourself from mosquito-borne disease

In Victoria, some of the diseases that may be passed on to



people through mosquito bites include Murray Valley encephalitis virus, Ross River virus, Barmah Forest virus, Dengue virus, Japanese encephalitis and West Nile virus.

There are simple things you can do to avoid getting bitten by mosquitoes, including:

- wearing long, loose-fitting clothes if mosquitoes are around
- covering up as much as possible
- using an effective mosquito repellent, containing either picaridin or diethyltoluamide (DEET) on all exposed skin
- using plug-in mosquito vaporisers or diffusers with repellent-treatment pads in enclosed external areas such as verandahs and decks – these should be switched off as soon as the area is no longer in use
- using mosquito coils in outdoor areas – these should be supervised at all times.



News from Gisborne RSL sub-branch



Gisborne RSL sub branch resumes this month and we expect a busy 2024 ahead with scheduled commemorative services, fundraising for veterans welfare support and member activities.

Vale Robin Funston

It has, however, been a sad start to this year for the sub-branch. Our esteemed member and immediate past president Robin Funston passed away suddenly on 13 January in Gisborne.

Robin was a life member of the RSL and president and secretary of the sub-branch from the time he retired from the Royal Australia Navy in 1970 having reached the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

On return to his hometown of Gisborne he soon joined RSL. Across his 50 years of service, Robin was twice president, secretary, and treasurer. In 2015 he was awarded life membership of the RSL, and received other commendations for service, commitment and support to the veteran's community. He was truly an outstanding contributor; dedicated and loyal.



The late Rob Funston (left) receives a commendation from RSL State President Robert Webster.

As always, we encourage all veterans, current and former ADF servicemen and women to join our sub-branch. Partners and dependents of veterans are also most welcome to become RSL affiliate members.

Darren Grevis-James, president

Obituary ► page 15



BETTY'S BOOP

With Betty Doolan

Christmas and all that goes with it is over now, but the hostel days leading up to Christmas were full on.

One morning it was a lovely surprise to come down for breakfast to find a letter from Mount Macedon Primary School. My letter was from Harriett and was lovely, saying all the things she likes to do and asking me what I did when I went to school. It was a long time ago, but some things stick in your mind. I remember I went to a convent and my worst subject was Religion.

My second letter was from Gisborne Primary School. It was drawn with a funny snowman and wishing me a Happy Christmas. Thank you to these wonderful children and their teachers.

Our beautiful Indian staff celebrated one of their special days, "Happy Diwali". The girls dressed in their traditional clothes and did traditional dances. There was a lot of hand clapping and some residents and staff joined in with much bottom wriggling. There was a lot of laughter and the food was wonderful, so a big thankyou for making it such a beaut day.

Residents were able to bring two guests for our Christmas party. The meal was super and, of course, Father Christmas was excellent, passing lovely gifts for the residents. On Christmas Day, residents were again able to bring two guests. Our chef and kitchen staff pulled out all the stops and produced a meal fit for a king with all the trimmings.

A big thankyou to all these wonderful people who help to make our residents' lives so much better.

Healthy relationship workshops for clubs

Young People as Agents of Change is a collaborative effort in the Macedon Ranges, working with young individuals and partners such as the Centre Against Sexual Assault Central Victoria (CASACV).

Their goal is to organise inclusive workshops for 12-17-year-olds on healthy relationships, boundaries, and consent laws to combat sexual violence. Surveys in 2021 indicated that about 70 per cent of young people

in the Macedon Ranges wanted more information on these topics.

Community groups are being sought to host these workshops from March to July this year.

Groups can undergo a 90-minute training on supporting youth in healthy relationships, led by experts from CASACV. For more information or to request training, email ypac@casacv.org.au.

rangesmedical
182 Station Road, New Gisborne

Skin Cancer Clinic

Our comprehensive skin checks are a two-step process.

Dr Bronwyn Edmunds

Dr Ashvin Arul

At Ranges Medical, Dr Edmunds, Dr Arul & Dr Pickard provide comprehensive skin checks, using the latest high resolution **Total Body Photography and Dermoscopy skin imaging technology from FotoFinder.**

1 Total Body Photography

2 Dermoscopy Skin Check

All Ranges Medical skin cancer doctors provide biopsy, cryotherapy, photodynamic therapy and surgical excision including skin flaps.

Dr Katz provides more advanced skin surgical treatment including skin grafts.

Dr Rhian Pickard

Dr Tanya Katz

Returning patients that have had a Skin Check at Ranges Medical please call us on 8373 5420, to arrange the best suited appointment type.

2 out of 3 Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer by the age of 70.

Scan to book online via AMS Connect app

If this is your **FIRST** Skin Check at Ranges Medical you can also book online at rangesmedical.com.au

Have your say through new online hub

The council has launched a new online hub to enable a clearer way of informing and obtaining feedback from the community on key council policies or initiatives.

People will be able to view current public consultations and have their say in new ways through the new Your Say hub, which can host surveys, interactive maps, Q&As, forums and more.

A number of matters endorsed by the Council for public consultation late last year are set to invite feedback throughout February, including:

Draft Complaint and Unreasonable Behaviour Policy – this policy outlines how Council will manage complaints and unreasonable behaviour and provides clear guidance for both the complainant and Council.

Draft Special Charge Scheme Policy – this policy applies to Special Charge Scheme (SCS) infrastructure projects such as resident-funded upgrading of roads and drainage.

Draft Fair Access Policy – supports the council to identify and remove systemic factors contributing to gender inequality in the provision of community sports infrastructure at times that are suitable.

Visit yoursay.mrsc.vic.gov.au to view the current consultations, provide feedback and sign up to receive tailored alerts about future consultations as they are listed.

Autumn Festival – Last chance to join

The Macedon Ranges will burst into life from 5 to 28 April with the annual shire-wide autumn celebration.

If you are a business or community group eager to host an event or feature on the renowned Pie and Tart, Edgy Veg or Tipple Trail during the festival, don't miss this final opportunity to be included in the program.

Submit your expression of interest by Monday 12 February via mrsc.vic.gov.au/Autumn-Festival.

Live4Life Crew

The Live4Life program to increase understanding, reduce stigma and improve mental health knowledge in the shire is relaunching this year. Year 8s from high schools will be getting together for launch event, after which they will participate in teen Mental Health First Aid at their school.

Join the Crew

A vital part of the Live4Life program is the crew of young people who support it, and we want you to join the Crew. The Crew is a group of young people making a change in the community by promoting positive mental health. If this sounds like you and you're in Year 9 or above, and have participated in Live4Life at school, we would love for you to join. Crew members will help plan Live4Life events and a mental health promotion activity.

For more information on the Live4Life Program, youth mental health initiatives, or to join the Crew, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/Live4Life or contact the Youth Team on 5422 0333.



COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN

With Cr Rob Guthrie

I hope everybody had an enjoyable and safe festive season and commencement to the new year.

The council has released its Arts & Culture Performance Season program for 2024 and it includes music, cabarets, kids shows, comedy and contemporary Australian drama – something for everyone. Full details are available at mrsc.vic.gov.au.

The council is releasing a number of draft policies for community consultation, as you will see elsewhere on this page. We encourage community feedback on these and other policies that we release.

Like everybody, our council is facing cost escalations in materials and labour. We tender all our capital works projects and are experiencing tender prices that exceed the estimated budget, an increase in non-conforming tenders and in some cases, no tenders are received.

Projects that are proceeding include the reconstruction of 1.8km of Hamilton Road in New Gisborne, which has started from the west end using traffic lights for shuttle flow. The road closure on the Hamilton Road project is proposed only during work at the intersection of Hamilton and Kilmore roads and the project will be completed late March. Please plan for increased travel time.

The construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Barringo Road and Hamilton Road for the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct should commence after the completion of the Hamilton Road works. Schools and residents will be advised as soon as details are finalised, but it may not be completed by 1 May when the other components of the precinct are complete. The good news is that the precinct completion may be ahead of that date.

Please call me on 0419 309 953 or email rguthrie@mrsc.com.au if I can be of any assistance.

Youth Summit

The council is hosting a Youth Summit from 9:30am-3pm on 21 March at the Woodend Community Centre.

If you are interested in representing young people in Macedon Ranges on key issues that affect you, we invite you to attend. The summit aims to facilitate opportunities that empower young people, to provide consultation for the council and stakeholders on key issues as identified by young people, and to invite feedback on the council's progress with the matters outlined in the 10-year Youth Strategy (2018-2028), "Elevate".

For information and to register to attend, call the Youth Team on 5422 0333.

Village Connect for over-55s

Age-friendly Community Directory

Village Connect has recently launched its Community Directory, an age-friendly resource, providing contact information for groups, clubs and organisations, and direction to services and useful resources in the shire. Hard copies of the directory are available on request, or to download a copy, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/community-directory.

Monthly gatherings

If you are eager to forge new connections, share stories, and build friendships in Gisborne, join us for one (or all!) of these gatherings for those over 55.

Bingo: Connect over a few rounds of bingo at the Gisborne Golf Club, Monday 12 February from 10:30am to 12 noon. Light refreshments. Registrations essential.

Coffee Catch-up: Thursday 22 February 11am to 12 noon, at Canteena, Prince Street. Seating is limited, so bookings are essential.

Chess: Friday 23 February 1:30pm to 3:30pm at the Gisborne Community Centre (meeting room), Hamilton Street. This is a free event but seating is limited so bookings are essential.

Call the Village Connect team on 5422 0333 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/village-connect.

Resource recovery facilities (formerly called 'transfer stations')

Textiles, clean white polystyrene, soft plastics, scrap metal, white goods and e-waste are all free to be disposed of at resource recovery facilities (RRFs). If items are in good condition, we encourage residents to take them to their nearest op-shop in the first instance. Any items that are no longer in good condition can be taken to any of the council's three RRFs. The closest to Gisborne is at Woodend. The facility is open every day except Tuesdays, apart from Total Fire Ban days and some public holidays.

Full list of accepted items at mrsc.vic.gov.au/RRF.

Music In The Sticks – recruiting for 2024

Music In The Sticks (MITS) is inviting young people aged 12-25 years interested in the music industry to join the crew for 2024. The crew meet fortnightly to share pizza and learn about the industry, including sound mixing, event lighting, event management, photography, and more.

Several events are also held throughout the year to practice new skills in a fun environment.

To register visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/MITS.

Nominate your business for an award

If you have been thinking of nominating for a Josh's Rainbow Eggs Macedon Ranges Business Excellence award but haven't got round to it, there's still plenty of time. The self-nomination period ends on Friday 15 March. For more information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-awards.



Foodbank begins another year helping those in need



Christmas has come and gone, presents have been given and joyfully unwrapped and families and friends have gathered

for a time of joy and celebration. The new year has also arrived with, hopefully, a promise of better things to come.

However, for some the hardships continue, with cost-of-living pressures affecting households around the country. At the Gisborne Foodbank, and no doubt at most food relief centres, we are encountering increasing numbers of a new demographic seeking assistance. These are people, many with families, who have jobs and a steady income, but are finding themselves under financial pressure and need to seek assistance (often very reluctantly) from food relief agencies like ours to be able to provide for their families.

As we begin the new year, we would like to give special thanks to the Gisborne Men's Shed members, who once again built and raffled a magnificent cubby house to raise money for the Foodbank. Some miserable rainy weekends were spent promoting and selling tickets and the Shedmen raised an amazing \$8130.

The Gisborne Foodbank is again open for business for 2024. We are so very fortunate to receive the generous support of the Macedon Ranges community which enables us to continue to assist those less fortunate during challenging times.

Open Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 3pm.

Wally Van Dort
president

In the box seat



Gisborne Rotary Club recently donated two benches to Warrina Aged Care, perfect spots to relax and catch up on community news. From left are John Bowhill, Barry Wills (Rotary), Louise Allen (Lifestyle Coordinator Warrina Aged Care), Lorna Swyer and Graham Snell (Rotary).



Macedon Fire Brigade Community Day fundraiser



The Macedon Fire Brigade will be hosting its Community Fundraising Day on Saturday 24 February, starting at 9.30am. Come along and enjoy some fun, see a presentation from Wild Action Zoo, grab a bite to eat, bid in the live goods and services auction or silent auction, enter the raffle, try your hand at virtual firefighting, have a coffee and hot jam donut, buy some produce, cakes and plants, plenty of activities

for the kids including a petting zoo.

Please support the Macedon Fire Brigade in raising funds to buy and maintain firefighting appliances and equipment and keep the community safe.

The Macedon fire brigade has been running this annual event since 1968 with exceptions during Ash Wednesday and COVID lockdowns.

We'd love to see everyone there.

For further information please follow us on Facebook @ Macedon CFA.

Time to sign up for Relay For Life



Gisborne-based teams Untitled Youth (supported by the New Gisborne Church of Christ) and JKs Joggers are among the teams that will take part in this year's Lancefield Macedon Ranges Relay For Life at Lancefield Park.

The event, which is on Saturday 2 March from 11am to 9.30pm, raises funds to support the activities of Cancer Council Victoria.

The relay will feature entertainment including performances by the Gisborne Singers and a number of musical artists from the Macedon Ranges. The Candlelight Ceremony that starts at 8pm is a highlight of the event.

There are activities for children and competitions for the participating teams. There will be onsite catering, a coffee van and an ice cream vendor.

The relay begins with an opening ceremony at 11am followed by the first lap of the event which is for cancer carers and survivors, after which the carers and survivors are welcomed to a morning tea. Those taking part in that activity are not required to register.

For information as to registering a team, joining an existing team or donating to a team see the Lancefield Macedon Ranges event page at relayforlife.org.au.

Ken Wiltshire

The Great Barrier Reef is the largest coral reef eco-system in the world



Joanne McFadyen
Professional Travel Advisor



'We come to you'

Let's meet to discuss your travel plans!
Contact me on t: 1300 365 688 (ext 672)

m: 0407 432 520

e: jmcfadyen@mtatravel.com.au

FIND OUT MORE
www.mtatravel.com.au/jmcfadyen



Caddick Designs

Local experts, tailored Building Design & solution focused Town Planning, for over 35 years.

WWW.CADDICKDESIGNS.COM.AU

03 5428 1853

REGISTERED BUILDING PRACTITIONER



Residential Building Design;

- ◇ New Houses,
- ◇ Renovations/Extensions,
- ◇ Multi-Dwelling Developments

Commercial & Public Building Design

Town Planning Approvals

Building Approvals

Energy Ratings

BAL Report (Bushfire Attack Level)

GISBORNE CAB Co

ph: 5428 2444
gisbornecabs.com.au

News from Community Bank Gisborne

Happy New Year!



We wish all the local students who applied for one of our 2024 early tertiary scholarships a great start to their tertiary studies. We will announce the recipients as soon as possible.

We recently funded a portable defibrillator for 1st Gisborne Scouts to take on adventures and hope the unit brings peace of mind but never needs to be used.

Self-nominations for the Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards close on Friday 15 March and we encourage local businesspeople to take this opportunity to celebrate their achievements and raise awareness of their business across the shire.

These benefits are why we



Venturer leader Daneta and 1st Gisborne Venturers with their bank-funded portable defibrillator.

sponsor these awards.

We are delighted that the all-weather arena at IR Robertson Reserve in South Gisborne to which we contributed \$30,000 has been completed and look forward to celebrating the new facility with the user clubs soon.

Finally, good luck to everyone

playing barefoot bowls at Gisborne Bowling Club for the second half of the season. As a sponsor, we hope you are all having fun and making new community connections as well as improving your bowling.

Have a fantastic February

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

St Paul's Op Shop Jottings

It was wonderful to see so many of our customers' happy faces when we reopened this year.

We also had a terrific day for the return of the Biggest Garage Sale in Gisborne on 20 January. This year it was named the Mega Sale, and it certainly was. So many bargains were snapped up, mostly at 50c each.

The shop is now fully stocked with summer and all-seasons clothes for \$2 and children's clothes for \$1. We also have a rack of \$5 clothes with the majority being new with tags. We also have LPs, which are back in vogue.

The hours are Tuesday 10am-1pm. Wednesday through to Friday 10am-4pm. Saturday 10am-1pm.

Thank you to the thoughtful members of the community who only donate clean, useable items to our op shop and indeed any op shop you choose to support. Consider this before donating: 'If you wouldn't give it to a mate, don't donate'.

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

Janine Sanders, coordinator



The hall was full of bargains at the Mega Sale in January.



Welcome to 2024. It's been a wet start to the year. This saw some flooding around town on 8 January, however, the local gardens are looking great as a result. With high rainfall last month, it is fitting we introduce Bernie, a long-time Macedon local who keeps a close eye on Macedon rainfall. As of mid-January, Macedon has had over 120mm of rain. Fun fact: In 2023 Bernie recorded a total of 833mm of rain for the year in Macedon.

Last year ended on a sad note with a large crowd gathering at Middle Gully on 15 December to farewell respected community member, Macedon Primary School past principal and stalwart of Macedon Cricket Club, John Ewels. Our love and support go to Lois and family.

We welcome the new police officer, Leading Senior Constable Erik Woods, and family to town and wish them well.

With the warmer weather, large crowds have been gathering at the Res. We are grateful to have such a beautiful feature in the town. It has also been great to see so many tourists out and about during January and supporting local businesses.

We wish all children returning to school the best of luck for a great year, particularly those beginning their education journey in Foundation year. Please remember to observe speed limits near the school crossings during school times.

Saturday 24 February is the Macedon Rural Fire Brigade's Annual Fundraiser and Community Day. This event raises vital funds for station and equipment maintenance and upgrades. There will be a silent auction, raffle, food and plant stalls as well as plenty of activities for families and children.

Congratulations to locals Larissa and Zach on their recent wedding.

Enjoy the final month of summer and please pop in to see us if you have anything to be included in our monthly column.

Anne and the team at Macedon Post Office

smart pool services

Mobile pool and spa service



- Over 20 years' experience servicing pools and spas in the area.
- Maintenance, pumps, filters, chlorinators, controllers, blankets.
- Specialising in water and energy efficient technologies.

Call Daniel
0416 289 898
dan@smartpoolservices.com.au

MACEDON GARDENING

Revitalise
Your Garden

Ian and Melanie Matthews
and Trained Staff

Expert Pruning,
Design, Landscaping,
Planting, Mowing,
Weeding.

Reliable,
17 years local
experience.
Fully Insured.

0402 46 46 00

REDUCE YOUR POWER BILL BY UP TO 75%

We have sourced quality renewable products and trusted installation partners for a community group-buy project designed to reduce our region's dependence on the electricity grid, reduce our impact on the climate, all while **saving money!**



For more information or to register your interest visit: mrsg.org.au/greg



Go Renewable Energy Group (GREG) is proudly supported by the Bendigo Bank and Macedon Ranges Shire Council. We are a project of the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group

A life spent in service

OBITUARY

Robin Lindsay Funston

1 March 1940 – 13 January 2024

With the sad passing of Robin Funston, Gisborne has lost one of its quiet achievers, a humble and unassuming man who was much loved for his unstinting service to his fellow ex-servicemen and women and to war widows and their families.

It is fair to say that Rob was the backbone of the Gisborne and Macedon Ranges branch of the RSL. He joined in 1972 and from the following year he was either president, secretary or secretary-treasurer up until March 2023. In 2019 the state president of the RSL came to Gisborne to award Robin with the Meritorious Medal of the RSL Australia in appreciation of outstanding service to the RSL. In all, Robin gave 52 years of continuous voluntary service to the RSL and Legacy.

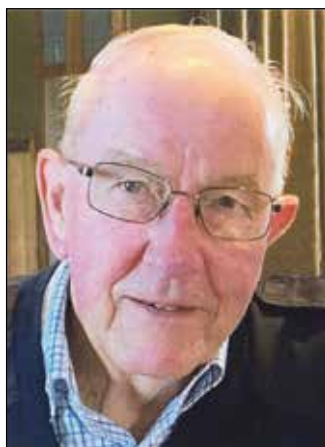
In 2018 the Gisborne Community Carols committee presented Rob with the Local Hero Award.

Rob was born at Essendon with his twin sister Pam in 1940 to parents Norman and Elsie Funston. Stuart was their younger brother.

Robin was a fifth-generation member of a South Gisborne family whose local roots go back to the 1850s, and Rob, Pam and Stuart were brought up in Brantome Street and later on the corner of Aitken Street and Fersfield Road.

Rob attended Gisborne Primary School and Kyneton High School. He started work at the Cherry and Sons factory in Gisborne in 1956. He was a volunteer fire fighter and played football for Gisborne Under 19s.

Robin joined the Royal Australian Navy on 23 June 1958 and began his training at HMAS Cerberus at Crib Point. Having finished



Robin Funston

his recruit training he was posted to HMAS Quickmatch for six months of engineering training. For the next two years he was aboard the aircraft carrier HMAS Melbourne serving in the engine room and on the flight deck as a member of the fueling party. Then followed several years of further training before he was posted to HMAS Hobart, a new ship that was being built in America.

Rob spent four years on the Hobart and in that time he did two six-month tours of duty in Vietnam. One night the ship came under friendly fire from an American plane and as Rob made his way to action stations, a friend in front of

him was killed. The following day Robin was lowered over the ship's stern in a bosun's chair to weld a steel plate over a large hole.

Robin received a commendation from the Naval Board for his service on the Hobart in Vietnam.

Robin was honorably discharged from the navy in 1970 with the rank of Chief Petty Officer after more than 12 years of service. The previous year, Robin had met a Tasmanian girl, Maureen Phillips, in Dandenong and he realised his future would be with Maureen, not the navy. They were married in Smithton, Tasmania, in 1971.

Back on civvy street Rob worked as an engineering instructor at the Australian Industry Group Training Centre in Richmond until he took early retirement in 1999.

Rob's contributions to the local RSL and Legacy are legion and too numerous to mention in this short article. People will remember seeing him conducting the Anzac Day and Remembrance Day services or selling badges at Gisborne Village Shopping Centre, but behind the scenes he never stopped volunteering his time in myriad ways in the service of others. What did not go unnoticed by those close to him was his devotion to Maureen and to their children Mark and Tracey and grandchildren Jack and Chloe Miles and Emma Funston.

On 22 January Rob was farewelled with a service at a packed Gisborne Golf Club and laid to rest at the Gisborne Cemetery.

Bryan Power



Robin in Navy uniform

Crime and punishment in 1841

Reports from Port Phillip newspapers of 1841

Police Intelligence

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Henry Walton, a hired servant in the employ of Mr Ward, residing near Mount Macedon, was charged with very gross neglect of duty. He had been sent out of town with a dray to proceed to his master's station, and having advanced a mile and a half upon the road he turned his bullocks, headed towards Melbourne and returned to town, where he was found in a state of intoxication.

The defence offered was that he got embogged and returned to town to wash out his boots; the drunkenness he positively denied. The Bench sentenced him to four hours in the stocks for drunkenness in default of cash, to forfeit all wages due, and to be confined in jail for one month.

Port Phillip Gazette 11 September 1841

Local Intelligence

SEIZURE. — A seizure of a quantity of spirits from a dray was effected on Friday night last by the Border Police stationed at Howey's Creek [Gisborne], near Mount Macedon.

It appears that the dray was on its way to Munro's station on the Coliban, and had encamped for the night at Howey's Creek, immediately opposite the Border Police station*. During the night the men accompanying the dray got intoxicated and became so noisy as to attract the attention of the Police party, who thereupon proceeded to the encampment and made a seizure of about twelve gallons of spirits. The confiscated property was brought into town yesterday and lodged in the watch-house.

If the party from whom the spirits were taken had had any inclination to recover the lost treasure, the attempt would have been attended with difficulty, as the property was guarded on its transit to Melbourne by a detachment of the Border Police consisting of Serjeant-Major Hawkins and three privates.

Port Phillip Patriot, 16 September 1841

*The Border Police Station was on the eastern side of Jacksons Creek at Gisborne.

Jumbuck SHEEPSKIN & LEATHER
 34A Aitken Street Gisborne Phone: +61 3 5428 3220
 Gisborne Vic 3437 Facsimile: +62 3 5426 3606
 Australia E: info@jumbucksheepskin.com.au
 ABN 17 007 050 875 www.jumbucksheepskin.com.au

REFRESH, REVITALISE + RENEW

- Anti-Ageing Facials + Peels
- Micro Needling
- Microdermabrasion
- LED Light Therapy
- Cosmetic Injectables
- Waxing
- Manicures + Pedicures
- Massages

5428 8800 **THE SPA**
 3/31 Brantome St, Gisborne SKIN + BODY
 www.thespa.com.au

Plumberman
 Gisborne/Macedon Ranges Plumber

- Renovations
- Maintenance Plumbing
- Gutter Cleaning
- Blocked Drains

0406 171 986
 sam@plumberman.net.au
 www.Plumberman.net.au

Medicine for the brain

Did you know?

- The Gisborne Singers have been going for 44 years;
- have twice had members sing at Carnegie Hall, New York;
- are one of the few choirs that pay above-award rates to their visiting soloists and musicians;
- have a member who has been honoured with acceptance of a reduced orchestral score for worldwide performances;
- is the only local choir in the Macedon Ranges that performs large-scale classical works;
- is a community, non-auditioned choir.

And that group singing: floods the brain with oxytocin (the love hormone) which fosters immediate connection



and empathy with surrounding people; makes one feel alive, focused and invigorated; and can heighten and sharpen senses.

Come and experience the magic yourself. Our first concert this year is *A Classical Celebration* on Sunday 28 April at Our Lady of the Rosary, Kyneton, and on Sunday 5 May at St Mary's Anglican Church in Sunbury.

Feel like giving the choir a try? Come to our rehearsal 7.30 to 10.30pm on Wednesdays at the Uniting Church in Brantome Street, Gisborne. We resume practice on Wednesday 7 February. Enquiries: www.gisborne.harmonysite.com or phone 0408 156 263.



Alison Kinghorn The Gisborne Singers. Picture: Anne Diver.

A 'Wild' start to year for Mount Players



The Mount Players

Another year kicks off at the Mountview Theatre, with *Wild* by Mike Bartlett. A darkly comic play that explores the unexpected, bewildering and life-changing consequences of challenging the status quo at a global level. Last week, Andrew was that guy with his girl lunching in KFC, making plans for the future. Today...he's in Moscow in an undisclosed hotel room, on the run and at risk of assassination. One day an ordinary guy, the next one of America's most wanted.

The play is loosely based on the story of Edward Snowden who leaked highly classified information when he was an employee of the National Security Agency. It's a riveting story with an ending you won't see coming. The season runs from Friday 23 February to Sunday 10 March. Tickets via themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892.

Auditions for our second production, in May, will be held on 18 February at 2pm. *Looped* is a comedy by Matthew Lombardo. 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 is



Warwick Smith, James Banger and Ruby James rehearse for *Wild*. Picture: Karlana Santamaria.

a guesstimation as to what may have happened in that room on that day.

One female and two males required. For full details go www.themountplayers.com. Bookings by appointment only with director Peter Newling at peter.newling@gmail.com

Looking forward to a great year in 2024! See you at the theatre.

Karen Hunt

Seraphim Trio back in Macedon

This year's *Music at Resurrection* concerts series starts in grand style on Sunday 25 February at 3pm at the Church of the Resurrection, Macedon with the celebrated Seraphim Trio. For pianist Anna Goldsworthy, violinist Helen Ayres and cellist Tim Nankervis, this will be their 10th annual performance at this venue.



Seraphim Trio

Listeners will be treated to the *Piano Trio in G major*, Op. 1, No.2 and *Piano Trio in B flat major*, Op. 11, 'Gassenhauer', both early works by Beethoven in the classical tradition. Of particular interest is the *Piano Trio in D minor*, Op. 63 by Robert Schumann, a work that has been described as one of the definitive trios of the romantic musical tradition. The piano assumed a highly elevated status during the 19th century, from the largest

concert hall to the smallest living room. It was ideally suited to the expression of romantic sentiments, whether highly agitated, grandiose, gently serene or delicately subtle. As such it is the instrument that features predominantly throughout Schumann's works. In this trio the piano works with the other

instruments in following extended narratives (rather than the classical convention of clear-cut sections) taking in scenes of musical play, lament, tragedy, courage and triumph.

Music at Resurrection 2024 will also feature concerts by the Australian Chamber Choir, the Castlemaine Chamber Players, and performance of the *Delibes Messe brève* by Young Voices of Macedon, the Bendigo Youth Choir with organ and string ensemble.

Bookings: trybooking.com

Dianne Gome

Big end of 2023 for Young Voices



A group of Young Voices' Cantabiles have recently been involved in two major projects. The first was a recording session in the studio of local sound engineer Angus Davidson, in which seven of our girls provided backing vocals to the John Lennon song *Merry Christmas (War is over)*, performed by 18-year-old Dylan Marguccio. Dylan has a severe form of muscular dystrophy, and the resultant single, available for purchase on iTunes and Spotify, will raise funds through Muscular Dystrophy Australia to support research into this debilitating disease. It was a huge thrill for our girls to appear on Channel 7 News singing with Dylan.

Our Cantabiles were also invited to participate in two memorable performances, along with the Bendigo Youth Choir and the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Luke Severn, of *Deep sea dreaming* by Australian composer Elena Kats-Chernin. *Deep sea dreaming* was originally performed at the opening of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games. Our Cantabiles are to be congratulated on mastering this substantial work over a short time frame under the inspiring direction of conductor Jess Demare.

2024 promises to be another exciting year, when rehearsals will take place at the House of the Rock Church, Station Road, New Gisborne. One highlight will be performances in Macedon and Bendigo of the *Messe breve* by Delibes with the Bendigo Youth Choir and string orchestra. New members are very welcome to join us at the first rehearsal on Thursday 1 February at 4.15pm.

For further information visit yvmacedon.org.au

Dianne Gome



Young Voices singers in recording session with Dylan Marguccio. Picture: photostudio_Australia.

One woman — many roads

 Tatiana Korinsky is exhibiting photographs from her time in the US, Japan and Australia at The Gallery Mt Macedon from 6 February until 3 March.

Tatiana often pairs her photographs with her original haiku, inspired by her two decades of residence in Japan.

Her main inspirational impulses come from Buddhism, which she has studied for many years, and “the greatest of all teachers, nature and the cosmos”.



Tatiana Korinsky

“As a child, I remember often lying on my back in the back yard and gazing at the heavens — and that fascination has continued ever since; the effect of the day and night skies on the natural and built landscape continues to be a dominant theme in my work.

“And a key part of that is the effect of light — the same view can be re-experienced in myriad ways — and though my life has taken me on many roads, one of my favourite things to do is to sit quietly on my verandah and



One of Titiana’s many landscapes.

experience endlessly unfolding Nature.”

Tatiana grew up in Melbourne, residing in the Mount Macedon and Kyneton areas for many years. She has also studied, lived and worked in London, Tokyo, and New York.

She has exhibited her art and photography in London and New York.

She is also an award-winning playwright, and has directed her original material in Melbourne and New York.

Join Tatiana for a meet the artist session and official opening of her exhibition at the Gallery Mt Macedon on Saturday 10 February at 2pm.

The Gallery Mt Macedon, 684 Mount Macedon Road, Mount Macedon.

Open from Friday to Tuesday, 10am-4pm.

Local artists invited to enter portrait prize

Calling portrait artists and photographers living in the Macedon Ranges Shire.

The Gallery Mt Macedon would like to invite you to enter the 2024 Portrait Prize.

There are two exhibitions and competitions, the first in April for non-photographic works, and the second in May for photographic works. This is the first time we have had a photographic portrait prize.

Gisborne Community Bank (Bendigo Bank) is generously sponsoring this exhibition, with first prizes of \$1000, and \$250 for the people’s choice award in each section.

Work is to be 2D, and must be smaller than 45 x 65 cm (landscape or portrait orientation), as we are limited by the space available in our small gallery.

The subject of the portrait must be



Leslie Rosochodski



Bindi-Lee Byrne




Eric Foster

known to the artist and have given permission for the portrait and its exhibition. Shortlisted entries will be exhibited at The Gallery Mt Macedon.

Entry forms and full terms and conditions are available on our website www.thegallerymountmacedon.com.au. Applications for both exhibitions, which include an online entry form, and an image of the entry, open on Monday 4 March and close on Wednesday 27 March.


The portraits shown here by Leslie Rosochodski, Bindi-Lee Byrne and Eric Foster are examples of some of the great entries we received in 2022. We can’t wait to see the entries this year!

For further information, please contact Jo Hoyne on 0418 488 582, or email thegalleryexhibition@gmail.com.


 **The Mount Players**
presents

Wild

written by Mike Bartlett
directed by George Benca
23rd February - 10th March 2024



Tickets: www.themountplayers.com or 5426 1892
Venue: The Mountview Theatre, 56 Smith St, Macedon
By arrangement with Origin Theatrical



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'

**GISBORNE
FOODBANK**

OPEN
Wednesdays
and
Fridays,
10am to
3pm



Enquiries:
0492 850 520
gisborneccf@gmail.com



Sawmilling in the Macedon Ranges

By Robin Godfrey

Not long after the first Melbourne land sales in 1837, timber was being felled in the forests of the Macedon Ranges for the expected demand for building materials. The land extending beyond early Melbourne to Mount Macedon was steadily being occupied by white settlers.

William Robertson established leasehold land in 1839, extending along the lower slopes of the Macedon Ranges from Mount Towrong and eastward along the range as far as Mount Charley.

The indigenous inhabitants called the area 'Woolong' and so William Robertson named his property 'Wooling'. The homestead at Wooling was built in 1840 from locally sourced, pit-sawn, hardwood timber.

A saw-pit consisted of a large hole dug in the ground beneath the felled log to be cut. Two men cut the log with a long deep-toothed saw. One man stood above the pit and the second man operated the other end of the saw from within the pit. The many saw-pits in the Macedon Ranges were not able to supply the demand for timber until William Robertson erected his waterwheel driven sawmill at Wooling in the early 1840s.

Robertson's mechanised sawmill was erected on a site higher up the Mount, on the Barringo Creek and above his homestead. The large waterwheel was assembled from prefabricated iron components imported from England. This was the first waterwheel-driven sawmill in the Port Phillip District (as Victoria was called until separation in 1851) and was in service for 30 years.

Another sawmill was operating on the Willimigongon Creek, at a place called the 'Devil's Hole', which was a volcanic crater about halfway up the southern slope of Mount Macedon. Thomas Fitzsimmons established this mill prior to 1862, selling in 1863. The Shire Rate Book shows that in 1865 a George Davis was operating the mill. The entry describes "an exten-



William Robertson's sawmill at Wooling operated from 1841 to 1875.



'Hauling Timber, Mount Macedon': sketch in Illustrated Australian News of February 1851. View from near the top, looking towards Dandenong Ranges. Having one end of the log dragging on the ground served as a brake on the steep timber trails.

sive steam sawmill, superior dwelling house and several cottages. Sixty men employed during summer and eight wagons on the road. Twenty-five men at work at present at one time. Sixteen bullock teams also drawing timber. Mill working night and day."

The illustration (top right) is of the Devil's Hole sawmill as it was in operation in 1874. Note the sawn log at the left of the illustration depicted descending the slope on a tramway. Gravity was employed in concert with cables and counterweights for the operation of these ingenious tramways. This particular tramway descended to the sawmill running along what is now part of Sangsters Road (previously known as Devil's Hole Road).

The 'Devil's Hole' itself is now flooded with water and is the upper part of the Orde Hill Reservoir – it is accessible by



This illustration is of the Devil's Hole sawmill as it was in operation in 1874. Note the sawn log at left (circled) descending the slope on a tramway.



The undershot waterwheel of Christian and Campey's sawmill.

Sangsters Road east of Mount Macedon Road.

William Christian arrived at Mount Macedon in 1854 and set up a water-driven sawmill on Turritable Creek. The sawmill was at the end of the roadway which is now called Christian Street, off Mount Macedon Road. The undershot waterwheel was fed from a dam which was replenished from Turritable Creek. The dam is now in the property known as 'Willowmount'. Initially, William Christian was in partnership with John Campey, but this association was dissolved, probably when William Christian's brother, Thomas, arrived from England in 1857 and when he became a partner in the operation of the sawmill.

The Christian brothers worked the Turritable Creek mill together until 1864, when Thomas bought his brother out

and became the sole proprietor of the sawmill and the attached property. The sawmill was not large, as described in the following 1865 Shire Rate Book entry: "the mill employed eight men in summer and had one team on the road". Thomas Christian continued to work the sawmill until 1873, by which time much of the millable timber on the Mount had been cut out.

The development of logging marked a large increase in timber harvesting. Instead of locally splitting and sawing the felled trees into timber, the main trunks of felled trees were hauled down the mountain slopes by bullock teams. Where the slopes were too steep, the logs were sent down by 'chutes' to the waiting bullock drays below. A 'chute' was simply a cleared path on the steep mountain slope and constant shooting of logs down these slipways increased the efficiency of the process.

The coming of the railway in 1861 gave fresh impetus to the timber industry. Logs now could be carted to the Middle Gully (Macedon) railway station, where they were stockpiled ready for railway trucking to Melbourne. By this time horses were being employed. A team of four or six horses was used

depending on the size of the load. Large quantities of timber, cut into two-foot lengths, were also trucked to Melbourne for firewood.

The Argus newspaper featured an article in 1863 which lamented the lack of income received by the Victorian Railways, from passengers using the Macedon railway station during the first four months of that year. The local member, John Carre Riddell, MLA for West Bourke, was prompted to write a letter to the editor of *The Argus* to point out that revenue attributed to the station was almost entirely produced by its timber traffic. He wrote that timber traffic income for the first four months of 1863 at the station was £1333 16s 6d (roughly equivalent to \$900,000 in 2023).

"I think the matter of sufficient importance to induce me to make these remarks; and it will be seen that the tim-

Sawmilling in the Macedon Ranges

continued from previous page

ber trade of this station is not only a source of considerable revenue to our railways, but is also a means of employing a large number of industrious families in the neighbourhood," Riddell concluded.

There came a time when the only worthwhile timber for milling, on the southern side of the range, was at the head of the Barringo Creek in an area known as the 'Cockpit'. Great ingenuity was employed in getting this timber to the sawmill. A tram track was laid from the sawmill, over the top of Mount Towrong, and down the other side to the 'Cockpit'. Bogies, or rail trucks, carrying the logs to the sawmill by way of the tram tracks were attached to cables. Wooden guide rollers, set at intervals between the tram tracks, kept the cables clear of the ground. A steam driven winch on Mount Towrong hauled the logs, on their bogies, up from the 'Cockpit'. Other logs on bogies, having passed over Mount Towrong and descending the tram tracks to the sawmill, would

by gravity provide some assistance to the hauling operation.

Over the period from 1854 to 1874, the demand for timber, which was to be used for building in Melbourne and the districts surrounding the Mount, led to the construction of many more sawmills; all of which led to the virtual destruction of the forests in the Macedon Ranges. The *Lancefield Examiner* in 1874 featured the following article which perhaps best summed up the situation:

"On the Macedon Ranges, hundreds of acres have passed into the hands of the agriculturalist, where the noblest of gums and stringy-barks grew. These lands have mostly been cleared or the trees ring-barked. The value of the timber thus destroyed cannot be estimated. It is a subject for regret; however, that so much land, little adapted for agriculture, yet so eminently fitted by nature for growing timber, should not have been retained by the Crown. Passing into the forest, the traveler is struck not

by the number of trees, but by the numbers of stumps and the quantity of waste timber lying rotting on the ground."

Major Mitchell was the first European to report on the original state of Mount Macedon's forests when he passed through in 1836. He described that the trees on the side of the mountain were of a much grander character than those in the surrounding forests. The trees consisted principally of black-butt and blue-gum eucalypti, measuring six to eight feet (roughly 180cm to 250cm) in diameter. He was able to ascend the Mount without having to get off his horse and found the summit to be very spacious. Tree ferns covered the southern part of the summit, and elsewhere musk plants grew in abundance. The mountain top was full of wombat holes and was covered with dead trunks of enormous trees in all stages of decay.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Gisborne & Mount Macedon Districts Historical Society at the Court House is open to the public each Wednesday from 10am to 4pm, when volunteers are in attendance to assist with family and local history research enquiries. The centre may be opened at other times by appointment.

Open day at historic Romsey cottage

Sidney Seymour Cottage, 20 Palmer Street, Romsey, Sunday 3 March, 10am to 4pm.

A range of heritage education, entertainment activities and refreshments will be available at this historic property constructed in 1856.

The keynote speaker will be Mount Macedon nurseryman and former ABC *Gardening Australia* presenter Stephen Ryan. Displays of historic photographs of Sidney Seymour Cottage, and local buildings and street views compared with their current day appearance, will be on view.

The day is organised by the Romsey and Lancefield Historical Society, which is based in the cottage.

Entry is by gold coin donation.

For more information, contact society secretary Shirley Kishere on 0402 248 540 or email lancefieldcourthouse@gmail.com.

Genie meetings return to library



The topic for the first meeting of the Gisborne Genealogical Group in 2024 will be 'PROV Records', led by member Mary Henry, an experienced genealogist who worked at the Public Record Office of Victoria for many years.

PROV holds many records that include immigration, education, wills and land records – all wonderful resources for family historians.

The meeting will be held on Thursday 22 February at 7.30pm in the Family History Room, adjoining the Gisborne Library.

After using other venues for the past four years (due to COVID restrictions) we felt it was time to 'go back home' for our monthly meetings, to the space where all our resources are held.

Supper will follow Mary's talk, and visitors are always welcome to attend our meetings.

The Family History Room will reopen for research on Thursday 1 February. It will then be open each Thursday 2pm-5pm, and also on Tuesdays 10am-1pm.



Lyn Hall

Volunteers are available to help with your research queries on Thursdays.

Saturday workshops will recommence on 2 March in the Family History Room. These are held on the first Saturday of the month from March to November, 10am-12 noon.

This year they will be free for members, \$10 for non-members.

Check our website for more details about the group, www.ggg.org.au

Lyn Hall, President



Clinic Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:00am to 6:30pm
Friday 8:00am - 5:30pm
Saturdays/Sundays 9:00am to 3:00pm
On-call GP available after hours for existing patients.

Flu Vaccination Clinics are now available.

General Practitioners

Dr Kulbir Gill	Dr Kasey Hogg
Dr Heena Choksey	Dr Tim Phillips
Dr Carlie Di Camillo	Dr James Owen
Dr Robert Hetzel	Dr Sean McGrath
Dr Rashida Moiz	Dr Min Kim
Dr Foreesa Zaman	Dr Sobia Siddiqi
Dr Janani Kannan	Dr Hina Bhatti
Dr Stephen Newton	Dr Ghada Alsaraf
Dr Ruba Jaber	Dr Peter Bakhroum
Dr My-Huong San	Dr Noor Mohammed

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.

16 Brantome Street
Gisborne VIC 3437
03 5428 3355
info@gisbornemedical.com.au
www.gisbornemedical.com.au



Gisborne Gazette

To advertise in the Gazette, contact our Advertising Coordinator

on 0438 711 138 or email gisbornegazetteadvertising@gmail.com

Ad sizes and prices are also listed on our website, www.gisbornegazette.org.au

Anniversary exhibit a special show

Phoenix Macedon Ranges Art & Craft Group wishes to thank the Gisborne community for visiting our 40th Anniversary Exhibition and Sale on 2 and 3 December last year.

The Phoenix Macedon Ranges Art and Craft Group was formed after the 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfires which decimated parts of the Macedon Ranges and affected many local artists and craftspeople.

As it was our 40th anniversary we invited past members to join us for a special afternoon tea celebration and presentation of awards after the exhibition had closed to the public.

The awards for Best in Show and two Highly Commended were made in honour of Joan Bourke, a founding member of the group, and were presented by her husband Maurie Bourke.

Best in Show was awarded to Anne O'Brien for a beautiful spun and woven wool shawl. Highly Commended was awarded to Russell Ball for a beautiful scroll wooden box and Dianne Egan for a free-motion thread-painted landscape.

Our next exhibition and sale will be on Saturday 6 April and Sunday 7 April. If you want to know more about Phoenix, contact Kay Beale on 9744 2646 or visit our website www.phoenixmrac.com or our Facebook page www.facebook.com/phoenixmrac. Dianne Egan



40th anniversary celebration of Phoenix Macedon Ranges Art and Craft Group.



Winners Dianne Egan, Russell Ball and Anne O'Brien.

News from Gisborne CWA



With a very wet day throwing a spanner in the works our January get-together in the park changed to lunch at the Vic Tavern in Gisborne. It was good to catch up for a chat after the Christmas festivities.

The rain didn't stop customers from attending our Christmas stalls at Macedon CWA Hall in early December. Macedon, Woodend Eves, Kyneton Twilights and Gisborne had a very busy day with lots of Christmas fare and a visit from Santa.

On 3 February there is training at Umina, CWA headquarters in Toorak, for all new branch officials. New branch presidents, secretaries and treasurers will have the opportunity to learn the basics and ask questions to lead their branch into the year ahead.

Two of our members enjoyed a day out to participate in the audience for the new Channel 9 *Tipping Point* show and others are looking forward to a cruise to Kangaroo Island next month.

Our first meeting for the year will be on Monday 12 February, 10am, at the Stadium at Gisborne Secondary College. The following Monday, the 19th, there is Coffee, Craft and Chat at the same venue and any ladies who would like to come along are welcome.

Christine Edwards



Two little bunnies wait for sale at the CWA Christmas stall, made by Allison.



Macedon CWA update



The members of CWA Macedon hope our readers have had a safe and happy Christmas and New Year period. Maybe you, like us, enjoy a bit of down time and are now ready to get things going for the year.

We had a busy end to 2023 and would like to thank everyone who supported our pop-up fair in December. On a very wet, miserable day, we were delighted that so many people came to the CWA Hall and purchased

the lovely baked goods, craft items, raffle tickets and bric-a-brac. I think anyone who was gifted these items at Christmas would have been very pleased.

After catering for a Christmas breakup for another club in the area, we were more than ready to enjoy our own special day in a lovely garden setting at the home of one of our members.

We had a casual get together in mid-January and are now set to start the CWA year.

Our focus at CWA is to help women and children in need to reach their full potential. At the same time, we support each other with care and friendship.

Our first meeting of the year is on 20 February, 1pm, at the CWA Macedon Hall in Mount Macedon Road.

We would welcome you at Macedon CWA. You don't have to be a good cook or crafts person.

Call Anne Fyfield on 5426 2210 for more details.

BOUND Macedon Ranges

Happy New Year

Bound welcomes three experienced professional agents to help with your property needs.

Agents also servicing

Castlemaine | Daylesford & Hepburn Shire | Toorak | South Yarra | Prahran | Windsor | Albert Park | Port Melbourne | Sunbury



Scan the QR Code to visit our website: boundrealestate.com.au



(PAUL BOHAN)
+61 413 594 224
paul@boundrealestate.com.au



(CAROLYN RYAN)
+61 407 393 079
carolyn@boundrealestate.com.au



(DAMIEN WALDER)
+61 439 391 569
damiens@boundrealestate.com.au

Probus Club welcomes a special year



First, Happy New Year to everyone, and we hope you all enjoyed the Christmas season. Our Christmas celebration was held at the Mount Macedon Winery on 7 December. We lived up to the 'Fun, Friendship and Fellowship' motto of Probus clubs, with 45 members, friends and partners coming together to share a lovely Christmas lunch in a truly beautiful setting.

This year we are celebrating 30 years of the Probus Club of Gisborne, as we started on 22 March 1994. This shows that our members have stayed engaged and connected in the community and have fun by participating in a wide range of activities, including monthly outings and a longer tour during the year. At our monthly meetings we have a guest speaker presenting on varied, interesting topics.

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



Gisborne Probus Club enjoys Christmas lunch. With the new year comes the club's 30th anniversary.

If you want to experience being a member of our club, you are welcome to join us at our next meeting on 1 February. You can contact our president, Michael O'Brien, on 0427 762 757 for further information.

Dianne Egan

Is your puppy ready for school?

Christmas is done and dusted, the tree gone, and the New Year is here.... hello 2024. Did you get a new addition to the family this Christmas? Puppies are often given as presents and many people do not realise how much work they can be.

Teaching your dog manners in public, how to walk with you rather than trying to take you for a walk, and how to be social with other dogs and people are all important aspects of integrating them into your family lifestyle.



Young pup Ebony.

Obedience training can be a great benefit. New members are always welcome. Induction is the first Sunday of the month and once you have done your online member registration you will be contacted by email with your induction date and time.

So, if your new fur baby is 16 weeks or older, come join us. We look forward to seeing all our new, and old, members and fur babies each month and look forward to providing you with a safe, friendly environment in which to learn and further bond with your new, or old, addition to the family.

Carol, Instructor/Treasurer



Macedon Ranges Obedience Dog Club trains on Sunday mornings, and the Riddells Creek Recreation Reserve is our home.

All details including online application, fees, age and vaccination requirements can be found on the website at www.macedonrangesdogclub.org.au.

Vet Talk

By Dr Caitlin Horwood
Veterinarian



My canine's spine is fine

It is frightening to be unexpectedly faced with a healthy happy dog who was frolicking in fields of sunshine one day, then wakes up the next morning and seems to have 'lost his legs'.

Many people are themselves familiar with the concept of a bulging disc as a source of back pain. A dog may suffer a sudden disc injury within the spine, without any known trauma or cause.

It doesn't necessarily follow from a dramatic incident. The spinal cord's job is to run nerves up and down the body, carrying a superhighway of information about sensations and pain. It is protected by the bony vertebra, and cushioned by discs separating each little bone.

When a disc spontaneously bulges or presses against the spinal cord, the nerves go haywire: the result maybe acute back pain or loss of walking function. Dogs may yelp when they jump or turn their neck, while some are not painful at all, simply dragging their back legs, depending which disc is involved.

My usual advice – Don't Panic!

Restrict your dog, and get a vet to assess how badly the spine is affected. Some will truly need an MRI or CT scan for spinal surgery, but many will improve significantly with medical management, drugs for pain relief, rest, and some good healing luck and loving home care.



The adorable dachshund, a dog with a long back story.

ADVERTISEMENT

HE'S HERE FOR US

Rob.Mitchell.MP@aph.gov.au | 5716 3000

Rob Mitchell MP

MEMBER FOR McEWEN

Authorised by R Mitchell MP 57-59 High St, Wallan.

Australian Labor

Romer Maud
FAMILY LAWYERS

Expert family law advice and support in the Macedon ranges.

SERVICE AREAS

- Pre-Separation Advice
- Amicable Separation
- Divorce
- Property Division
- Parenting Arrangements
- Binding Financial Agreements
- Collaborative Practice

03 9070 9856 reception@romermaud.com.au
romermaud.com.au



FOR THE GREEN THUMBS



Try native plants in your garden, like this Bulbine lily. Picture: Helen Radnedge.

News from Daly Nature Reserve



While walking through Daly Nature Reserve at any time

of the year, you will see many plants indigenous to our area. These have evolved to do well in the Gisborne area. In future months we will feature some plants which will be at home in your garden.

Take for instance, the Bulbine lily, which flowers, with beautiful yellow blooms, in spring and through most of summer. They attract insects for pollination and for attracting birds. Bulbine lilies are at home in forest, woodland and grassland areas, which will also suit most home gardens. You can find out more about these plants and others in council's booklet 'Flora of the Macedon Ranges'.

Our working bees are held on the second Tuesday each month, starting at 9.30am, signing-in at the scout hall. By 11'ish we pack up and enjoy a cuppa. We invite anyone interested to join us either for the working bee, or just for the cuppa when we would be able to tell you more about the long and interesting history of this conservation reserve which is conveniently situated so close to Gisborne town centre.

Enquiries dalynaturereserve@gmail.com

Friends of Daly Nature Reserve

A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows.



Garden Club Christmas lunch wraps up a great year



Following a very successful year visiting local gardens and bus trips, the Gisborne Garden Club's normal Christmas lunch was held with over 50 members in attendance.

The club bought 16 plants and each table had one plant which was won by the person sitting on the chair with a sticker beneath. A further number of prizes including plants and accessories such as gardening gloves, plant name tags, Seasol and the like, were also purchased and several members kindly donated extra plants for prizes, for which we thank them.

Margaret brought along her well-lit Christmas tree which added to the Christmas atmosphere. Everyone received a lucky ticket, and it would be a surprise if anyone left without a prize of some sort. It was a pleasure to see everyone so happy and joining in the fun.

We did not sing Christmas Carols this year, but it was quite clear that a great time was had by all, made possible by the excellent JBL Catering.

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

Jeanette Andrewartha

Stone Hill garden fundraiser for refugees

Private garden Stone Hill in Woodend North will open to the public for the first time on 17 February as a fundraiser.

Designed by Michael McCoy, author and host of ABC TV's *Dream Gardens*, Stone Hill has been featured in magazines such as *Gardens Illustrated* (UK) and *Garden Design* (US), as well as garden books *Dreamscapes*, *Australian Dreamscapes* and *Wild*.

With naturalistic planting based largely on perennials, Stone Hill is a garden full of flower colour and foliage texture in a constant state of seasonal flux. It was designed to require minimal irrigation, a perfect example of planting thriving in local conditions.

Owners Sue and Gerry Moriarty are making their garden available as a special fundraising initiative for Woodend Refugee Resettlement (WRR). Recently formed, WRR is a group of locals who will be assisting newly arrived refugee families to settle in Woodend through financial and practical support. Working closely with the Community Refugee Integration and Settlement Pilot, a federal government initiative, they welcome one family at a time; helping them find accommodation, employment, translation/language services, to navigate the health and education system, and to connect directly with our community and culture



Stone Hill.

upon arrival. Donations can be made at shoutforgood.com/fundraisers/woodendrefugeeresettlement. Visit our Facebook page for more information and updates.

Tickets for entrance to Stone Hill can be purchased via www.trybooking.com/COLVA or at the gate.

Stone Hill is at 97 Boundary Road Woodend North.

Open 10am to 4pm Saturday 17 February.

Cost: Adults \$15, children free

Submitted by Emma Goodsir

Council environment events coming up

Sustainable homes webinars



Make this year the year to take steps toward making your home and lifestyle more

sustainable. We know it can be tricky to find trusted independent advice. To help, the council is holding three online discussions from the sustainability and energy experts at Renew, which has been providing independent advice for over 40 years.

All-Electric Homes — 6 February, 7-8.30pm, webinar
Electric Vehicles — 20 February, 7-8.30pm, webinar
Designing for Resilience — 5 March, 7-8.30pm, webinar

Outdoor environment

Grazing and farming discussion group — Newham, 9 February

Local farmers on small properties — webinar, 13 February

It's rabbit season — Kerrie, 17 February; and Romsey, 18 February

Reducing the wildlife road toll community forum — Newham, 23 February

Small Property Grazing course: 23, 25 February and 19 March

To register for events or sign up to the monthly Environment eNews, visit www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events.



KIDS' QUIZ

- 1 How many days does February have in a leap year?
- 2 What sort of creature is a "redback"?
- 3 How many people are there on the fielding side of a test cricket team?
- 4 In which season does Christmas Day fall in Europe?
- 5 What do Americans call what we call a footpath?
- 6 What are the two territories on the Australian mainland?
- 7 In which year did the Apollo astronauts first walk on the Moon?
- 8 What is the capital of Spain?
- 9 What is the Roman numeral for 100?
- 10 How many wheels does a unicycle have?

Answers page 39

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

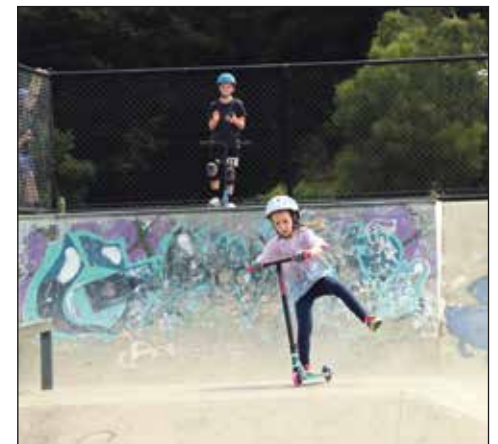


Can you find 10 differences between the pictures?

Drawing by Eliza Ransome



A young scooter rider gets some help with a cool trick at Gisborne Skate Park in January.



A scooter rider get some encouragement as balance is maintained.

CARING FOR THE PLANET

with Eliza Ransome



Eliza Ransome

We all know people are buying a lot more, more regularly than ever. There might be a product that everyone wants...or you can just get a lot more for cheaper online. So, with the spike in products being bought, more products are being made, and most of these products are being made in factories.

Some factories contribute to air pollution because they emit toxic chemicals into the environment. A lot of the products also end up in landfill which can affect air, land and water quality.

How can we limit the amount of products being produced? One way is to look for second-hand clothes, books, toys and more in op shops. Op shops are a great place to shop. You may find high quality clothes for cheap prices. Also, if you have anything you'd like to donate to an op shop, it might make someone really happy.

Handmade things are really great for the environment too because you can use recycled materials or make multiple gifts from the purchase of fewer materials. My school had a big Kris Kringle at the end of last year and the gifts had to be handmade or second hand. I liked this idea because it made the gift more personalised and special plus did not add to landfill.

Thank you so much for reading my article, I hope you learned something and may have some ideas for a birthday or another special occasion.



Focus is all important for this youngster at the skate park. Competition pictures ► page 27

JOKES & RIDDLES

Why is cricket now played at night?
Because bats sleep in the daytime.

The new dog I got for Christmas is just like a member of the family. Really! Which one?

What do you call a dog that likes to swim with crocodiles? Lunch.

I've heard that your dad is a linguist. Is that right?
Yes, he speaks three languages: golf, cricket and football.

What is the largest mouse in the world?
A hippopotamouse.

Waiter, is there any soup on the menu?
There was, sir, but I wiped it off.

Kindergarten vacancies

Council has kindergarten places available for 2024 at Macedon Kindergarten, Manna Gum Family and Children's Centre, Gisborne, and Swinburne Avenue Children's Centre, Gisborne. Register online at mrcs.vic.gov.au/kinder-rego or call the council's enrolment officer via 5422 0333.



2023 Year 6s exit New Gisborne with a splash



In December we farewelled our 2023 Year 6 group. We were sad to see them go but are also excited to see what the future holds for them.

We ended the year in style with a graduation celebration at Gisborne Golf Club. Before that, we visited Funfields in Whittlesea. It was a fantastic day. All our focus and persistence throughout the year was rewarded with glorious weather, sparking cool water and opportunities for adventure everywhere we looked.

The thrill seekers shrieked, the swimmers splashed, and students and staff were smiling ear to ear. It was a wonderful celebration of the friendships that have been made and the good times we have had while at New Gisborne Primary School. Thank you to all the students who made the day so great!

Thank you also to Community Bank Gisborne & District, Bendigo Bank, for including us in their 'Something Special for Graduates' program and helping to make this day possible for our students.

Kylie Miller



Friendships were celebrated at Funfields at Whittlesea.



Year end at Holy Cross a time of treasures and presentations



We were so grateful for the generosity of time, effort and resources from our families, making the farewell celebration for the Holy Cross Class of 2023 truly special. The underwater-themed graduation provided an opportunity for reflection, acknowledgement and celebration before the children begin their high school journey.

Thank you also to Corinne Shaddock from the *Gazette*, Mark Brockhus from Salesian College and Peita Rocard from Sacred Heart College for attending to present awards and scholarships. Congratulations to Mishayla Butcher and Sam Smith for receiving the *Gazette* awards, Priscilla Vickery for the Salesian scholarship, and Francesca Briganti for the Sacred Heart scholarship.

In their final weeks of primary school, our Year 6 children spent quality time with their Prep buddies, asking them questions that they later used to write and publish personalised stories for them. The time and care put into these books was evident with the beautiful illustrations and the finished stories enjoyed by all.

Seeing our Year 6 children reading these stories to their buddies was priceless. The expressions of surprise and delight as they discovered their names, siblings and pets being woven into the narratives means these precious stories will be treasured for years to come.

As well as celebrating our class of 2023, we also welcomed Fr Vincent into our school community at our end of year Mass and look forward to working with him this year.

We hope everyone has enjoyed a safe and peaceful holiday and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to a new school year.

Kellie McDonald



Bella Galloway loved her story and illustrations by her buddy, Maisy Magill.



Riley Gason enjoys his buddy Dillon Herron reading the story to him.

End of year billy-cart fun for Macedon Primary School



The high-energy annual Year 6 billy cart races around the school oval on 7 December were a great way to see out the year.



Last year's captains Rue Kelly and Harreson Watts

Former school captains reflect on a rewarding year

Looking back on their time as school captains at Gisborne Secondary College in 2023, Rue Kelly and Harreson Watts felt they had been well prepared for the challenges that they would face as Year 12 students and with the extra responsibilities that being captains posed for them.

Harreson said, "I don't think it was unbelievably difficult but it was certainly a challenge for the whole year and being a captain as well added to that, but it was definitely a rewarding challenge." Rue added, "It was definitely a challenge but for me it was a year of immense growth."

Harreson continued, "My priorities were usually school work then any captaincy work. I did a little bit of flying to stay current with my pilot's licence. I dropped footy a while ago but I worked part-time every Friday and Sunday night at Coles to fund the running of my car."

Rue had completed two subjects while in Year 11 so school time was more flexible for her. She enrolled with the Centre for Higher Education Studies to study psychology online with Melbourne University and sometimes travelled to South Yarra for lectures. She studied Indonesian online with the Victorian School of Languages and once a term met in Melbourne with students from around the state.

After COVID Rue did not go back to playing netball and cricket. She had worked three shifts at the Three Little Pigs Café while in Years 10 and 11 but last year she cut that back to one eight-hour shift on Sundays. "That time was important for me. It allowed me to take my mind completely off school," said Rue.

Harreson has managed to get into the two-year



Associate Degree of Aviation at Bendigo. He will be studying theory for half a day a week at RMIT and another full day at Bendigo. For the rest of the week he will be flying out of Bendigo to get his hours up to 250 by the time he graduates with a commercial pilot's licence.

After that he will have to fly commercially to reach another 1500 hours before being eligible to join an airline. He can arrange a once-off government Fee-HELP Loan to cover most of his costs, but if he goes down the instructor pathway of the course he will be building his hours while being paid as an instructor at the same time.

Beyond then he hopes to fly with an Australian airline. If not, there will be other opportunities as there is a serious world-wide shortage of commercial pilots.

Rue will be studying Commerce and a Diploma of Indonesian at the University of Melbourne.

"I've always had an interest in the business space: in all sorts of fields such as investment banking, consulting, management and marketing," she said.

"I love Indonesian and I've been to Bali 13 times. It is so cool to be able to talk to local people. They love it when they know you are taking time to learn about their culture. I'm sure that speaking Indonesian will open up opportunities for me.

"Beyond university I'm looking forward to new beginnings and changes," concluded Rue.

The *Gazette* wishes Rue and Harreson every success as they set out to follow their dreams.

Bryan Power

Gisborne Secondary College update

Happy New Year to our wonderful community. There was much to celebrate at the end of 2023 with our class of '23 receiving their results. Congratulations to College Dux, Rue Kelly who attained an ATAR of 96.75 and Dux Proximus, Abbey Holburt who attained an ATAR of 92.5. During December and January, university and TAFE offers have been made with our graduates set to head off to universities across the state, studying a range of courses including Nursing, Criminology, Graphic Design, Beauty Therapy, Education, Business, Engineering, Sports Science and more. We eagerly await information on employment offers for our students who completed their applied learning studies.



Not a moment is wasted in the school year, with the first week back seeing our Year 12 students head off on their Study Camp and our new Year 7 cohort enjoying Welcome Week which will culminate in an excursion to Funfields. We will also be preparing for our first Whole-School Assembly for the year at the end of Week 2. This will be the first opportunity for our new student leaders to take to the stage and run the assembly.

The college will continue to improve its facilities this year with the continuation of its Capital Works Program. Last year saw the refurbishment of I-Block into a Senior School Centre with the new spaces being fully utilised during the last few weeks of 2023. Refurbishment works on the Junior School Centre have continued over the break and are on track for completion very early in Term 1, and perhaps the most significant piece of work to commence was the demolition of the original administration building ready for a brand-new build that will include a Wellbeing Centre. Exciting times ahead!

From next month the college updates will be provided to you by our 2024 College Captains, Louisa and Tyler. If you would like to read more about what goes on at Gisborne Secondary College in the interim, our regular newsletter is available to the public via the College website www.gisbornesc.vic.edu.au.

Susanne Tzamouranis, Community Liaison

Waste-wise secondary school grant available

The council is excited to announce the Resource Recovery Secondary



School Grant Program, which will give successful applicants the resources to implement a waste-wise initiative at their school.

Secondary schools in the Macedon Ranges can apply for up to \$2000 to tackle a waste problem at their school.

The proposal must tackle a waste-specific problem and consider long-term solutions and sustainability.

Applications close on 30 April. More information is available at mrsc.vic.gov.au/school-grants-program.

GAZETTE STUDENT AWARDS PRESENTED

2023 Gisborne Gazette Student Awards

Eighteen students across nine schools were awarded *Gisborne Gazette* Student Awards in December. Recipients at four primary schools are pictured after the presentations, with proud supporters. Each student received a certificate and \$50. Unfortunately we were unable to have a photographer at the other presentations, which went to Juniper Culley and Darcy Rodda at New Gisborne, Deegan Vella and Ella Ullrich at Bullengarook, Luke Buttigieg and Olivia Bischof at St Brigid's, Pasco Thompson-Aylward and Harriet Quinn at Mount Macedon and Rue Kelly and Harreson Watts at Gisborne Secondary College.



Ava Harry of Gisborne Primary with mum Nicole.



Sam Smith of Holy Cross with parents Kevin and Lisa.



Mishayla Butcher of Holy Cross with parents Tim and Deanne.



Miller Johnson of Willowbank Primary with proud Mum Kieran. Miller completed Year 1 last year and is the youngest-ever recipient of a *Gazette* award.



Coco Le Broque of Willowbank Primary with parents Bianca and Brett and brother Harley.

Jayden Miles and Eva Kime of Macedon Primary with proud parents and teacher Anthony Bartolot.



Megan, Louise, Ethan and Matthew Weller. Ethan is from Gisborne Primary.



ADVERTISEMENT



Mary-Anne Thomas MP
 LABOR MEMBER FOR MACEDON
DELIVERING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

A: Shop 14, Nexus Centre, 9 Goode Street, Gisborne, VIC 3437

P: 5428 2138 E: mary-anne.thomas@parliament.vic.gov.au

f MaryAnneMacedon t @MaryAnneThomas i maryannethomasmp



Authorised by MA Thomas, Shop 14, Nexus Centre, 9 Goode Street, Gisborne

Stepping up for his community

OBITUARY

John Ernest Ewels

16 October 1949 – 20 November 2023

The death of John Ewels in November last year has left a large hole in the heart of the Macedon community.

John was a much-loved figure and will be fondly remembered by the hundreds of school children who were privileged to come under his care over about 30 years at both Mount Macedon and Macedon Primary Schools.

Macedon cricketers will also warmly recall the dry-witted and keenly competitive batsman and bowler who performed so consistently for their club over decades.

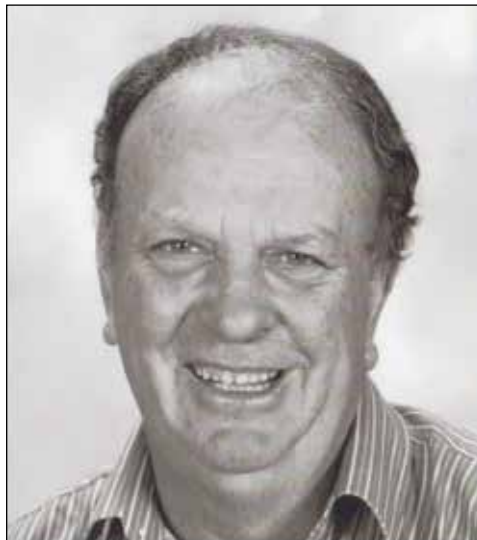
John was born to Ern and Shirley Ewels at Coburg in 1949 and was an older brother to Peter. He was educated at Essendon North Primary and Essendon High.

He went on to Melbourne Teachers College and it was there that he met and fell in love with Lois Howard. They were married in 1972. John and Lois moved to a bush block in McBean Avenue, Macedon, in 1977 and set to work clearing a messmate forest with a bow saw and making a home for themselves and their three daughters, Jane, Kathryn and Meredith.

Following the destruction of Mount Macedon Primary in the Ash Wednesday fire, John's challenge as principal was to support his traumatised pupils, their families and the community. His leadership and empathy at that time were superb.

Later he became principal of Macedon Primary where, under his guidance, the development of the school gardens, the Middle Gully environmental site, the orienteering and camping programs thrived. The funds for the John Curtain building were secured as a direct result of John's advocacy for the Macedon community.

His 40 years of service with the Education Depart-



John Ewels

ment were recognised with an award. Cricket Australia also acknowledged his contribution to the game as a player and administrator with a 50-year service award. John was the secretary of the Macedon Cricket Club for 40 years.

Another of John's sporting passions was orienteering and Macedon Primary was the champion primary school in this sport for over 14 years.

After his retirement in 2010, John still retained his love of education: mentoring new principals, replacing principals who were on leave, teaching bike education at Mount Macedon Primary and orienteering at Macedon Primary, and coaching at Macedon Cricket Club.

John's rich and colourful life was celebrated by his family and many friends at a service at Middle Gully that was also relayed to a screen at Jubilee Hall, such were the numbers of people who wished to farewell John and support Lois and the family.



Gisborne's Junseikan Goju-Ryu Karate Club students.

Karate success

Students from the Junseikan Goju-Ryu Karate Club in Gisborne came home with 10 trophies from the annual tournament held in November.

The Junseikan Goju-Ryu Karate Club is a young Junseikan club in Gisborne.

Classes are run in St Brigid's school hall on Thursday evenings, from 6 to 7.30pm. They are pay as you go, \$7, with the first two classes free.

During the year the club holds two gradings, an annual club competition and a wonderful weekend camp at the Urban camp in Royal Park, Melbourne. Junseikan Goju-Ryu karate teaches true traditional Japanese techniques; one gains powerful physical fitness, sharpens mental focus and develops self discipline – perfect for concentration and popular with all ages. Individuals and families train together.

Kathryn Aprile

TRICKS GALORE!



There was aerial action aplenty at the Skate, BMX and Scoot competition at Gisborne Skate Park on 20 January.





News from 1st Gisborne Scout Group

Planning is well underway for another year of Scouting adventures.

The Venturer Scouts had a flying start to the year at Venture24. Each Venturer chose an expedition of 5-8 days' duration from 20 on offer, then they all converged for a six-day Core Camp at Lardner Park in Gippsland with over 800 other Venturers from across Australia and New Zealand.

One Venturer chose to do a seven-day expedition to adventure capital Queenstown in New Zealand. Three went on a five-day hike into a rainforest in the Strzelecki Ranges, which saw them get a little wet.

Another three had five days of the most adventurous activities Melbourne has to offer. One raced against time and teams on a Victorian 'amazing race', while another joined a social animal adventure.

The last two experienced the ultimate car enthusiast's adventure, learning to drive with Rover Motor Sports.

The 1st Gisborne Venturer Unit is looking forward to an action-packed year, with a renewed focus on badge-work as several Venturers aim to complete their peak award.

The theme for the first term for the Joey Scouts is 'Books, books...glorious books!' A visit to the library will kick off the term, then the Joeys will look at some bugs in Jacksons Creek to see if they need a hug like the *Bug Who Needs a Hug* book. Other adventures include a bike ride after reading *Mulga Bill's Bicy-*



1st Gisborne Venturers enjoy a bushwalk at Venture24.

cle and a discovery walk around town reminiscent of Dr Suess's *Oh, the Places You'll Go*. The term will finish off with some yummy 'Wombat Stew' and 'Possum Magic'!

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)

News from 1st New Gisborne (Church of Christ) Scouts

New Gisborne Scouts' Opening Night is Wednesday 7 February. New Scouting equipment is coming, including a camping trailer, tents and eating shelters.

The Joey (5-8 yrs) year begins with birthday activities on Opening Night. Joeys will be making their own food for their celebrations. We have some vacancies, new members are welcome.

Some Cub Scouts (8-14) have 'gone up' to Scouts so there are a few Cub Scout vacancies as well. Much excitement about camps in February and April.

Our associate Macedon Ranges Venturer Unit (15-18) began the year with Venturers joining 1000 teenagers having fun for 10 days at the Venture24 event



The quad bikes were a hit at Venture24.

at Lardner Park near Warragul. Activities included rock climbing, surfing, high ropes, quad bikes, go karts, white water rafting, laser tag and more.

The next adventures come at the Anything Goes gathering in late February.

We look forward to council approval to widen our activities centring on our wonderful new Scout Hut.

Donations to fit out the Hut are welcome and tax-free.

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

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

John Frearson

Challenges and achievements in Girl Guides



River Region Guides held a canoeing activity day in Bendigo in December and Tayla, Eleanor and Emily joined in the day.

The girls were taught the basic safety and strokes required to move the craft. Tayla then decided to take on the Boating badge challenges which required demonstration of strokes and being able to roll over in the canoe, come up and then tow the canoe back to shore. She achieved this task with a big smile.

The unit is also very proud of Tayla for completing her BP (Baden-Powell) badge work in term 4. This has taken Tayla over 12 months to complete and is the highest achievement for her age group. Congratulations, Tayla. We look forward to presenting your badge later in term 1.

Some of our older girls who are starting secondary school this year have decided not to continue in 2024 so I have vacancies for new girls to try out Guides. Minimum age is 7. Enquiries to Deb on 0409 542 619 or through the Girl Guide Victoria website.

The unit meets on Thursday nights between 5pm and 6.30pm at the hall in Daly Reserve, starting on 8 February.

Deb Fleming



Tayla takes a canoeing lesson before having to roll the canoe and pull it back to shore.

New era for Gisborne Bushwalking Club



Gisborne Bushwalking Club has introduced a range of new initiatives for 2024 that will provide opportunities for all levels of walkers. We have our new Sunrise and Sunset Walks of around 5-10km, Guest Speaker Nights (non-members also welcomed), mid-week and weekend bushwalks throughout every month which commenced in January for the first time.

Taradale and the Coliban Channel was the destination for our first bushwalk for 2024. This area is full of wonderful tracks with wildflowers, wallabies, kangaroos and lots of birdlife.

Martin and Kerena lead members along the channel which was flowing quickly after recent storms and heavy rains and the humidity was high, but there were plenty of long shaded sections along wide dirt tracks to give us some reprieve.

McGregor's Picnic Ground at Mount Macedon was another great bushwalk with the January rain and the humidity. This track up through Mount Macedon was perfect with lots of tree cover and great views across the Mount.

New members are always welcomed and with our



Bushwalkers on the trail in Taradale.

new and diverse calendar of events, there is something for everyone. For details about the Gisborne Bushwalking Club, please contact Deborah on 0400 693 111 or Gail on 0419 374 603. Our website is www.gisbornebwc.org.au.

Deborah

Hello from the Ramblers

Starting the year with record turnout

It is probably a bit late to wish all a happy new year, but as this *Gazette* is the first of the year, I hope it has started well for you all.

The Ramblers didn't take a break over the festive season, managing to avoid all the inclement weather.

Looking back, we completed 51 out of 52 walks for 2023, missing just one to a fire ban day last February.

At the time of writing (second week of January) flooding seems to be the main concern!

The group started the new year off with the largest turnout of walkers we have ever had (32) — no doubt aiming to walk off some of the festive season's excesses.

I have described this walk below if you care to try it.

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)

WALK

Canning Park Road near Woodend

Distance: Approx 5 km

Level: Easy

This is a pleasant scenic walk. No special footwear is required, average runners are fine, hiking poles unnecessary as the wide dirt tracks are easily travelled and gradients gentle.

Getting there:

From Gisborne, drive the Calder Freeway and take the first exit to Woodend. Canning Park Road is the first right turn after leaving the freeway.

The road turns sharp left and continues for just under two kilometres before a junction with Blackmore Road. Park off-road here to begin the walk.

Directions:

Follow Canning Park Road and at some point there is a transition into Walkers Road. Along Walkers Road, great views to Mt Macedon are to be had, but unfortunately, road noise from the nearby Calder Freeway is evident.

Continuing along Walkers Road, the tree line is reached and the road noise fades. The walk then enters a tree lined section until a junction with Tweddle Lane is reached.

Turn left and walk Tweddle Lane until reaching a four-way crossing. Turn left (this is Blackmore Road) and walk approximately two kilometres back to your car.



Don't rely on your mains water supply in a bushfire.

You could experience low pressure or no supply.

Make sure you've got enough drinking water in your emergency kit for everyone in your household.

Please visit our website for more information.

gww.com.au/bushfires

Phone 13 44 99

Translation & Interpreter Service 13 14 50

American highs for Burnip family

◀ continued from page 3

and is working towards a second degree. The grade point average requirement and associated support provided by his scholarship have sparked a new interest in academics in James and Mark praised the school's focus on developing their players for life after football.

Given James' unknown tenure in the game, parents Mark and Lynda have gone over every year he's been there, seeing more games each time. Last year they saw eight games of Crimson Tide's 12-game season and loved it.

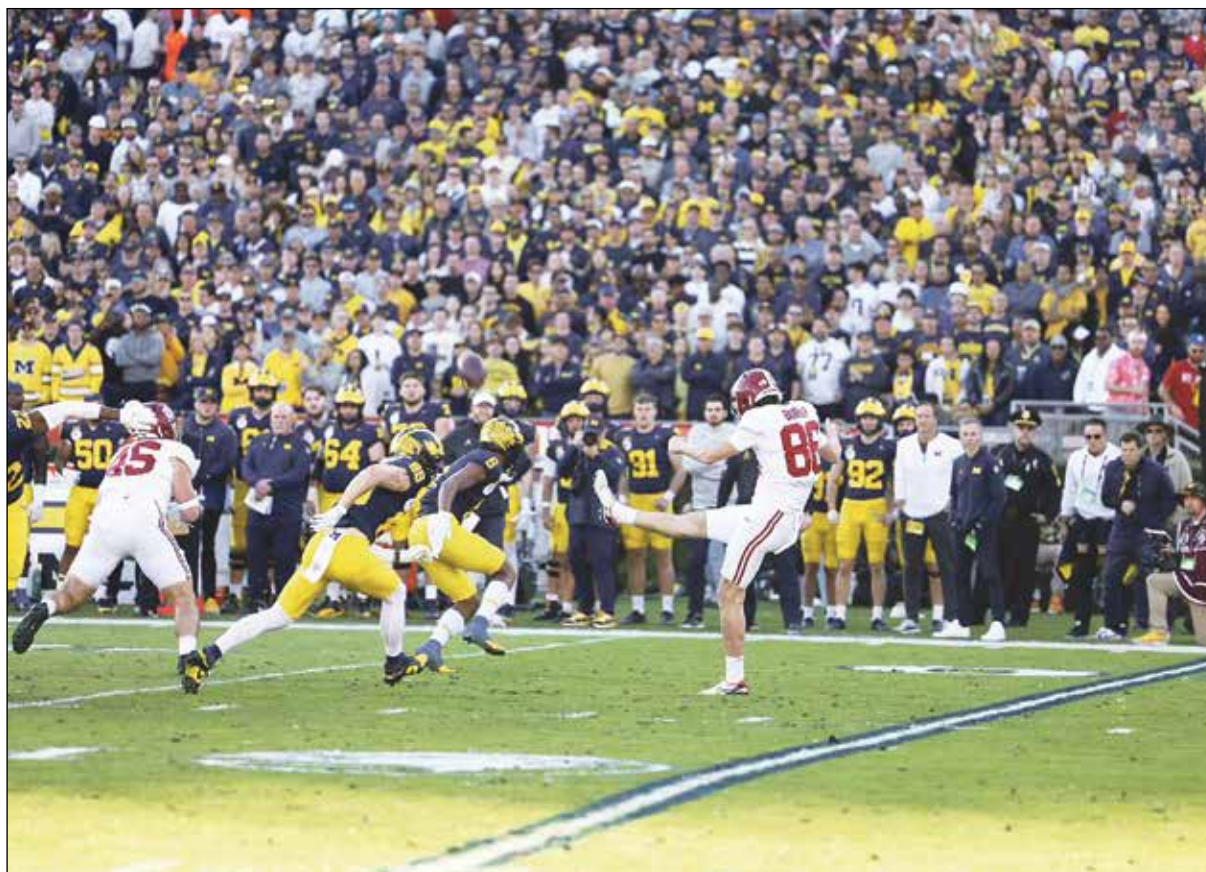
They have fully embraced the "circus" of American college football, as Mark described it.

"It's a real event. From the tailgating to all the stuff that goes with it, it really is a day of entertainment. The game is just part of it."

Crimson Tide's weekly game crowds range from 70,000 to 100,000 and they cheer throughout the game, in part to drown out any oral communication between players, who resort to hand and foot signals.

Before James went to Alabama people told the family, "American college football is big and in the south, they reckon it's bigger than religion." The largest crowd James has played in front of to date was 108,101 against Texas A & M in October 2023.

It's been a great ride for James and the family and only time will tell what the future holds. In the meantime, James has already started preparing for the coming season that kicks off in August, and Mark and Lynda are planning their next trip to cheer him on.



James Burnip punts during the Rose Bowl game on 1 January before an enormous crowd.



A panorama photo of Ulysses members at a Tyre-kick in Gisborne.

Ulysses and me...



Our family moved to the district over 20 years ago, and we didn't really know anyone. I soon joined the Ulysses, as a junior member at 40 years of age, and have since made a wide range of friends, from all walks of life, many of whom we may never otherwise have had the good fortune of coming to know.

Our motorcycle adventures have since taken us all the way from Brantome Street in Gisborne to the other side of the world and back again, and many places in between.

Those memories now pave the roads we travel, and the friends we have made shall remain part of our journey ahead.

So, if you are looking for a way to make new



Matthew and Michelle Dridan

memories with people who share a common interest in motorcycles, then this is it. We accommodate a wide variety of riding styles and the members have accrued a wealth of life experience to share.

Our Ride Calendar is full of monthly Saturday lunch rides and Sunday trips, plus special annual events, and Wednesday road rides.

Here's a great chance to meet new friends and expand your horizons.

You'll find us sharing stories and a laugh at the Saturday morning Tyre-Kick in Brantome Street, Gisborne, so kindly sidle up and say 'hello'.

Check us out online at www.mrub.org.au or join us on Facebook for the latest club news.

Matthew Dridan

Popular car show returns to the Rock



Macedon Ranges and District Motor Club is holding its annual Hanging Rock classic car show on 11 February.

The popular event runs from 8am to 3pm in the Hanging Rock Reserve.

Tickets range between \$12 and \$25 and are available via Eventbrite, www.eventbrite.com.au. Type Hanging Rock in the search bar and follow the prompts.





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

AROUND THE GROUNDS



For grandmothers, these high-flying feats are probably heart-stopping; for the amazing young people who do them, it's all in a day's work. This image was captured by Gazette photographer Chris Fleming at the Skate, BMX and Scoot competition at Gisborne Skate Park on Saturday 20 January (more on page 27).

New chapter begins in golf Pennant comp

Women included in regional Pennant for the first time



"I'm playing pennant in the rain, just playin' pennant in the rain. What a glorious feeling, I'm hap, hap, happy again."

The North West Regional Pennant season began on 7 January with Gisborne hosting the Northern Golf Club and another 22,000 cats and dogs that fell from the sky.

At one stage, players walked off as greens and fairways were covered in sheets of water and the course became unplayable. But, like true golfers who are oblivious to weather conditions, play resumed when the torrential downpour eased to "just" rain.

Gisborne went on to win the match, but that was not the most important thing about this match.

Women have been invited to compete in the NWRGA pennant competition. Gender competition separation has been smacked over the fence, out of bounds. Golf is one of the few world sports where the handicap system, along with course design, removes gender sporting inequality. Our handicaps mean we are all equal on the golf course.

Moon "Flash" Gordon represented Gisborne in her first match. She didn't get the victory, but winning was less important than competing and being one of the founding players to drive club integration. Well done, Moon and the other women who have joined the competition.

In other news, if you are still trying to get the perfect Valentine's gift for your partner, and they like golf, good food and a bevy, while dancing in bare feet on a green out in the open with the Macedon Ranges the backdrop, then get on down to the Gisborne Golf Club on 16 February at 5:30pm to absorb the legendary music local duo Son of Gun.

Dom Hogan



Moon "Flash" Gordon and Roberta Hendy celebrate the inclusion of women competitors in the North West Regional Golf Association Pennant competition.

Petanque club's Members Challenge award goes to...



Mount Macedon Petanque Club finished 2023 with a fun-filled Christmas party at Canteena in Gisborne. During the annual Christmas party, the Members Challenge winner for the year is announced.

The 2023 recipient was Peter Chaldjian. The challenge was started in 2013 to encourage members to attend play days. A record of games played, points earned, and games won, are entered after each play day. The award is determined by points won, as well as attendance at more than half of the available play days.

The challenge runs from January until November, which enables the plaque to be made for the Christmas breakup. As well as the yearly winner, monthly winners during the year are rewarded with a gift card.

The new year

To start 2024, five club members played at the inaugural singles tournament put on by Ballarat Petanque Club for North West region players only. Best results and congratulations to Rhonda Shears, second in the women's event, and Danny Green who was seventh in the men's event.

If you are interested in learning more about our unique game, drop by to our club grounds behind the Ampol Service Station in Gisborne. Playdays are held every Wednesday at the new time of 3-6pm and Saturdays 10am-1pm on the second and fourth Saturday. For enquiries, please go to our website mtmacedon-petanque.org and for updates visit our Facebook page.

Alison Kinghorn



Secretary Rhonda Shears, Members Challenge winner Peter Chaldjian and president Danny Green.

Soccer club starts the year on a high



Gisborne's Carl Valeri in action on 19 January.

Gisborne Soccer Club's senior men's team impressed with a draw against state league 3 team, Point Cook, on 19 January, kicking off the season on a high note.

The club sets a new record with a total of 32 teams after completing team allocation for juniors and miniroos.

An inaugural intra-club season for U7s and U8s is fully booked, showing overwhelming interest. The tremendous efforts of volunteers in organising these initiatives are acknowledged.

Training for all teams begins in February, setting the stage for an exciting season ahead.

Carl Valeri, president



Gisborne's Vince Ryan on the ball on 19 January.

Giants kick off 2024



Seeking coaches, assistants and sponsors for big year ahead

In the leadup to pre-season, Gisborne Giants Football Netball Club has made multiple announcements signalling a strong start to 2024.

Last year's U19.5 football captain Tom Doyle has recommitted, demonstrating his loyalty to the club, and Mark McKenzie has been reappointed as head coach. Mark led the U19.5s to the RDFNL 2023 Grand Final after

only their second year in the competition.

The Giants will enter an inaugural D Grade netball team in the RDFNL senior competition, with trials starting in February. The club opens the door to senior coaches, assistant coaches and competitive players for netball and football as their sights are set on a full senior affiliation in 2025.

Pete Elliot has been announced as coach for the inaugural Junior Girls Football program. Gisborne Giants are encouraging new players to give it a go. Pete will lead the program which connects girls of all abilities to learn and develop their football skills.

Gisborne Giants is also one of the first clubs to introduce U9s to the RDFNL Netball competition this season.

The club's netball operations representative, Jess Bonanno, said the club was delighted to introduce U9s and new families to league netball.

"We are proud to be able to offer options for players and be part of their growth in the community," she said.

The club will hold its official launch on Sunday 11 February for families who are keen to join or continue their journey with the Gisborne Giants.

The club seeks coaches/assistant coaches and sponsors who share its philosophy and community spirit,

Enquiries: to club secretary, Kelly du Kamp, at secretary@gisbornegiantsfnc.club.

Web: www.gisbornegiantsfnc.club



The Giants junior football team.

Rising star visits South Gisborne



Coach Mario Matejcek and Croatian junior Dora Miskovic.



It has been an exhilarating month or two of tennis, with tournaments all around the country and the Australian Open at the pointy end as we write.

South Gisborne Tennis Club had the opportunity of welcoming Dora Miskovic, a rising tennis star from Croatia, to our courts in January. Ranked 160th junior in the world, Dora's achievements are impressive. She is aiming high, hoping to reach the top 50 in women's singles and top 20 in doubles on the global stage.

The experience and approach to coaching of South Gisborne's coach, Mario Matejcek, are key elements in supporting young talents such as Dora. His insights into the tennis world, shaped by his own professional playing career, highlight the significance of experience and relationships in this sport.

Mario said Dora's impressive curiosity, unwavering dedication and astute self-awareness stood out. He also noted the crucial influence of a supportive family environment in building resilience and confidence in young athletes. Dora will be competing in all the junior grand slams this year.

South Gisborne Tennis Club values not just the skills of our players, but also the quality and experience of our coaches, who play a pivotal role in shaping future tennis champions like Dora.

Macedon Cricket Club update



The 2023-24 season has been a very sad one for the Macedon Cricket Club with the passing of club legend John Ewels. John was secretary of the club for 40 years, was a life member, and had won multiple club champion and best clubman awards. In memory of John the club has decided to name the club champion award the John Ewels Medal.

On the back of a successful last season, the club is again well poised for success. Our senior men's teams are all playing in higher grades this season compared to last season, with our First XI playing in the McIntyre Cup for the first time for many years. All the senior teams, including our very successful women's team, are well placed to make finals.

Our junior program remains very strong for a small town, with teams in all grades and a very strong girls' program with three teams. Like our seniors, all teams have been very competitive and are well placed at this stage of the season.

The club is looking forward to its major social event, with the annual trivia night being held on Saturday 10 February at the Tony Clarke social rooms.

Stephen Harrison



Shuttles and Pickleballs

Happy New Year. It's time to get back into the swing of things. Join Macedon Ranges Badminton Club to play badminton, or pickleball, or both, at Macedon Community Centre, Waterfalls Road, Macedon.



Badminton

Tuesdays from 7.30pm.
Thursdays, 9.30am (starts on 1 February)

Pickleball

Mondays, 6.30pm.
Wednesdays, 10.15am.
Contact David, 0419 589 425 or macedonranges-badminton@gmail.com.

Dragons' kids do well in rep cricket



The Christmas break saw representative cricket take place for the best young cricketers around the state. As usual, the Gisborne Cricket Club was well represented by our future star boys and girls who competed in a variety of representative games. The Dragons had 24 players in these sides and also provided three coaches and many other helpers to get the teams up and running for the big games.

There were some standout performances and solid reinforcement of the quality of the Gisborne junior program as the club continues to produce excellent young cricketers. Well done to all involved.

Pink Stumps Day

Reminder for all members, friends and supporters that our Pink Stumps & Ladies Day is on 24 February. The day supports individuals and families experiencing breast cancer and all fund raised go to the McGrath Foundation. 2pm to 6pm at the club's social rooms. \$65 per person includes drink on entry and high tea. Tables of 8-10. Book via trybooking.com. Click on Buy Tickets, then type gisborne cricket in the Search Event box, and follow prompts.

Andrew Headberry

Accommodation Vacancy

Gisborne

Support Independent Living (SIL)

Brand New - Ready for moving in



SIL services are provided by Holistic Futures support staff and the house is suitable for participants who have no access needs. This property is not an SDA property.

This is a New SIL – there are currently three vacancies in this house.

This house has:

- 4 bedrooms (one will be for Support Worker)
- Built-in robes in each bedroom
- 2 bathrooms
- Double garage
- Large dining and living areas
- Large new kitchen
- Large outdoor area
- Internet

Holistic Futures will work closely with you and your

family and carers to establish a Supported Independent Living quote for you.

If this house is not for you, however you are still wanting to explore other housing options, please

reach out for a chat as we also have other SIL options throughout Victoria.

The house is in close proximity to Gisborne Town.

Current Support Model: The house will offer support staff 24 hours, 7 days a week and overnight (sleepover) to meet residents' individual needs.



To register your interest please email or phone
CONTACT US TODAY: 0490 065 296
info@holisticfutures.com.au



SPORT IN PICTURES



McIntyre Cup, Gisborne v Romsey, 13 January – Aaron McLean



Legacy cricket, Gisborne 4th v Wallan, 20 January – Tate Kemp



McIntyre Cup, Gisborne v Rupertswood, 6 January – Riley Vernon



McIntyre Cup, Macedon v Romsey, 6 January – bowler Cadel Howlett



McIntyre Cup, Gisborne v Rupertswood, 6 January – Jay King



U13 Cricket Country Week, Gisborne District Cricket Association v Castlemaine, 3 January

Pictures by Chris Fleming



Division 1 bowls, Gisborne v Diggers Rest, 19 January – Eddie Gundy



Macedon club champion Gail Hobbs, 16 December 2023



Division 3 bowls, Gisborne v Gisborne, 19 January – Kaye Atlas.

SPORT IN PICTURES



U13 Cricket Country Week, Gisborne District Cricket Association v Castlemaine, 3 January



Open girls cricket, Gisborne v Bacchus Marsh, 3 December – B Goodburn



Open girls cricket, Gisborne v Bacchus Marsh, 3 December – Georgia Weir



2023 U13 Twilight premiers – Gissy Goats, 28 November



U15 Twilight netball, Big Dawgs v Possums, 28 November



2023 U18 Twilight premiers, Gangnam, 28 November



McIntyre Cup, Macedon v Romsey, 6 January



2023 U15 Twilight premiers, Big Dawgs, 28 November



Teresa Salafranca and Callista.



View from the Stalls

Alivecreations

Alivecreations is a local kids entertainment agency providing face-painting, balloon twisting, giant bubbles, games and much more.

The director, Teresa Salafranca, has been running a stall at the Gisborne market for the past seven years.

Callista, in her wonderful elf costume, provided roving giant bubbles for the special Christmas Market in December.

Looking to play a fun, family-friendly, healthy and social sport?



Then why not give table tennis a try?

It will keep your mind and body sharp, flexible and engaged. So, whether you are new to the game, on the comeback trail, or perhaps wanting to play table tennis with your partner, kids or mates, come and join our friendly association.

We welcome new, current and past players to our upcoming Summer Autumn competitions for all ages and skill levels.

A 'come & try' practice evening is scheduled for 21 February from 7.30pm to 9.30pm.

Competition pennants start on 28 February from 7.30pm onwards.

Group and one-on-one coaching sessions are also available. Location: Macedon Community Centre, Waterfalls Road, Macedon.

For more information, please call or email Stan Thomas on 0437 508 338 or Kay Thomas on 0407 508 333, or email: stthomas@gisbornectts.com.au.



MEMBER'S MESSAGE

With Mary-Anne Thomas, MP

Hello Gisborne community,

As we take our early steps into 2024, I want to wish you, your families and the amazing community of Gisborne and surrounds a very happy and healthy year ahead.

I'm looking forward to continuing my work representing the electorate of Macedon in the Victorian Parliament and seeing you out and about in our community.

My office team are available to assist you with state government matters, issues or concerns. The electorate office is at Shop 14, Nexus Centre, 9 Goode Street, Gisborne. Or you can call on 5428 2138 or email me directly to mary-anne.thomas@parliament.vic.gov.au

See you soon!

Green Means Go

Got a passion project you want to get started, or one you want to keep going?



Macedon Ranges
Shire Council

Green Means Go gives dollars and project support to young people looking to do just that. Financial support of up to \$1000 is available for selected projects. Participants can apply by pitching their projects through our Green Means Go 'Pitch' portal at mrsc.vic.gov.au/youth

Stage 4 of South Gisborne park complete

Stage 4 of the Gisborne Fields community park, on the corner of Tovey Drive, Coop Drive and Rothschild Road in Gisborne, is now complete. Visitors will find a set of AFL goals ready for a casual kick-about and soil mounds under new tree plantings offer a shady spot to watch the fun. Bench seating has been installed, as well as bollard and rail fencing to improve safety. These improvements complement the recently completed barbecue and picnic shelter area, and longstanding playground.



Adults and schoolchildren sing out loud in the spirit of Christmas.

Gisborne enjoys Carols by Candlelight

A large gathering enjoyed the Gisborne Community Carols by Candlelight at Dixon Field in December.

Fortunately, it did not rain and everyone loved hearing the local primary school choirs and the Community Carols Choir along with seeing the dancers from Gisborne Dance Academy.

The Little Athletics Club ran a barbecue and Nicole

the canteen, and there was an ice cream and a donut van. Cr Rob Guthrie opened the evening, and the Local Hero Award was presented to a well deserving Lynne Margret (see details page 4).

Thanks to Burnt Honey and TAKT for the wonderful pre-entertainment, our great MCs Grace Walker and Josh Leach, choir director Jan Goodall and choir mem-

bers, pianist Alan Grinton, stage manager Sue Stevens, sound engineer Graham Glasson, Gisborne CFA, and all our sponsors.

Special thanks to carols committee members Tracey Calnan and Erin McKinnon.



Bronwyn Tacey

Lynne Margret

Supporting women and girls in tennis



Women in leadership

Five members of Macedon Tennis Club attended a Tennis Australia Women Leaders in Tennis breakfast featuring Jelena Dokic as the guest speaker on January 19, followed by a fun day at the Australian Open.

Jelena is a champion for women in sport and spoke passionately about the importance of having female coaches, administrators, and active club members to develop and keep girls playing tennis.

She also spoke about her journey to become a commentator, and how vital support from both women and men, notably Todd Woodbridge, was to her successful career change.

Jelena's ideas, authenticity and resilience were inspirational, and our group left energised. With so many women on the club committee, participants in the Women Leaders in Tennis program, girls helping club coach Scott Vaughan with coaching and members participating in the MRTA Junior Girls' Academy, the club already does a lot to support women and girls in tennis, but there are opportunities to do more.

New fencing

In other news, work began in January on our fencing project which will see the replacement of our 50-year-old fences with safe and accessible fencing. Unfortunately,



Angela Dridan, Jodee Huley, Jelena Dokic, Junko Mishima, Corinne Shaddock and Liz O'Connell with Jelena Dokic (centre) at the Women Leaders in Tennis breakfast on 19 January.

the project completion date has been pushed back to end February so some competition and coaching will be moved to other venues during February.

Courts 7 and 8 are still playable but competition and coaching will have priority in February.

See the club Facebook page or con-

tact your team captain for details. We thank our members for being patient while this important infrastructure upgrade takes place.

Good luck to our 12 teams starting a new competition season this month: five in Tuesday Ladies' and seven on Thursday evening.

QUIZ

- Which planet's largest moon is called Triton?
- Who wrote *Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2*?
- Who directed the film *A Clockwork Orange*?
- How many points does the 'M' tile score in Scrabble?
- Who played James Bond in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*?
- What is coulrophobia the irrational fear of?
- What was the name of the aeroplane flown by Charles Lindbergh on the first solo, non-stop flight over the Atlantic?
- What was the name of Bendigo before it was changed in 1891?
- How many bones are there in the adult human body?
- Who wrote the novel *Bleak House*?

Answers page 39

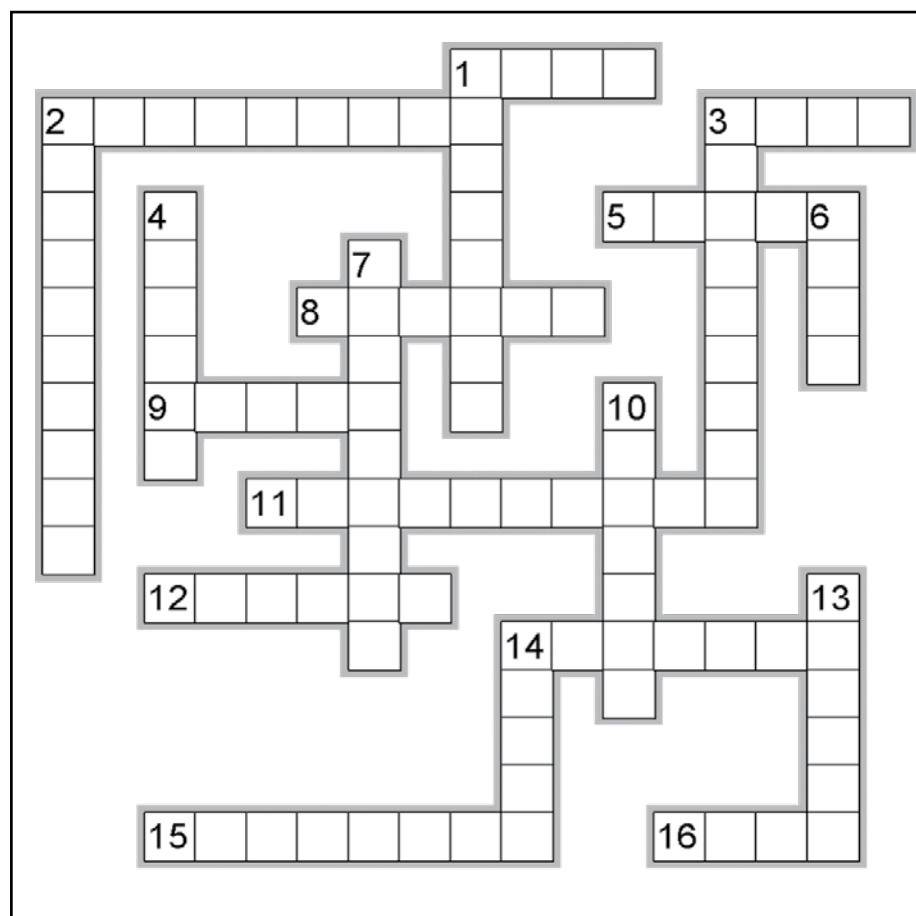
CROSSWORD

Words starting with the letters X, Y and Z

Questions compiled by the late Graeme Millar and his daughter Heather.

ACROSS

- Zn is the chemical symbol for this
- A musical instrument
- The yellow part of an egg
- A photocopying machine
- A river in China
- A light sailing vessel
- Postcode 3013
- A line having sharp alternating right and left turns
- The study of animals
- Robert Mugabe was once president of this African country
- Time taken by one revolution of Earth around the Sun



DOWN

- A cigar-shaped long-range German airship
- Fear of strangers
- County in the north of England
- A light wind and an old model of car
- An abbreviation for Christmas
- The day before today
- A natural sugar-free sweetener
- A surgical instrument for scraping bones
- The country once called the Belgian Congo

Answers page 39



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

Parish Day – Feast of St Brigid – Sunday 4 February – 10:30am.

The only Sunday Mass to be celebrated on this day will be at St Ambrose in Riddells Creek commencing at 10.30am in the church grounds.

BYO picnic lunch, chairs and rugs to enjoy the music and fellowship at the conclusion of Mass.

Free barbecue. Tea and coffee supplied.

Sacrament Registration Evening

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

Reconciliation begins with the start of the school year so please contact the office at gisborne@cam.org.au asap if you wish to register your child.

Reconciliation available to Year 3 and above, Holy Communion available to Year 4 and above and Confirmation available to Year 6 and above.

Sacrament fee for 2024 is \$100.

Baptism details required for registration.

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

Parish Secretary: Tammie Dalglish

Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9am to 5pm

Parish website: www.pol.org.au/gisborne/Home.aspx

Normal weekend services

Saturday 6pm St Brigid's Gisborne
Sunday 8am St Ambrose Riddells Creek
Sunday 9:30am St Patrick's Macedon
Sunday 11am St Brigid's Gisborne

Everyone welcome!

World Day of Prayer on 1 March



The World Day of Prayer is an ecumenical movement inspired by the motto 'Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action'. As an international, inter-church organisation, it enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all

parts of the world; their hopes, concerns and prayers, and is celebrated in over 170 countries on the first Friday of March each year.

An ecumenical group of Palestinian Christian women have prayed and reflected together over the past several years to respond to the invitation to write the 2024 program. Their theme is "I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love," based on Ephesians 4:1-7. This program calls us to bear with each other in love, despite all difficulties and oppression.

The Palestinian Christian women who wrote this worship service have invited the world to pray for peace, justice and freedom of religion and freedom of movement. You are invited to join us at our local World Day of Prayer Service on Friday 1 March at 10am at Gisborne Church of Christ, Saunders Road, New Gisborne.

2024 Peter Barcham lecture On being renewable

Gisborne Uniting Church



So far, this year seems a replica of the last; dreadful conflicts abroad, homelessness in this nation and, of course, climate crises. There are various plans, international, national and local, to deal with each of these. It can be hard for us to know what we could and should do. Perhaps we too could be renewable sources of energy.

Many churches begin a new year with a covenant service — one where we reflect on the past and collectively resolve to do better. This is also a part of the regular church services — reflection/confession/resolution/action.

Actively, the Gisborne Uniting Church congregation continues to raise funds and goods to support those in need locally and further afield. In 1948 Victorian minister the Rev Frank Byatt despaired of the state of his post-World War II world.

He suggested that a bowl be placed on every table laid for Christmas dinner to receive the same amount of money as was spent on that dinner. Hence the program we know as the Christmas Bowl.



Geoff Thompson: giving the Barcham Lecture.

Seventy-five years later it still supports those in desperate need.

Planned also for this year is the 14th Peter Barcham lecture.

Peter was a man of many talents — first principal of Gisborne Secondary College, an opera buff and organist, a lover of houseboats and continually

interested in exploring his Christian faith.

This year the guest lecturer is the Rev Dr Geoff Thompson, who will explore the role of Christian discipleship in an age of spirituality.

This is an event open to one and all at the Gisborne Uniting Church, 26 Brantome Street (opposite the mall) on March 4, at 7.30pm.

And because hospitality is part of active discipleship, there will be a delicious supper. Enquiries to Neil on 0408 378 722.

Janet Wood

Carols and company



Mount Macedon Uniting Church members enjoy socialising at the Christmas Eve carols service in December (story next page).



**100
YEARS AGO**

FEBRUARY 1924

Talma Buildings – Opening Ceremony.

At the invitation of the trustee of the Howey Estate, the Lord Mayor, Cr. W. Brunton, officially opened the new Talma Buildings in Swanston Street yesterday afternoon. The Lord Mayor said the Howey Estate dated back to 1837, and had been owned by members of the Howey family ever since. Coming from NSW, Captain Henry Howey settled in Gisborne, and subsequently purchased the block at the corner of Collins and Swanston streets. After his death, his brother came from India as heir to the estate and his descendants are the present owners.

The Sun News-Pictorial – 1 February 1924

Gisborne News –

On Wednesday afternoon, 13th Feb., a number of gentlemen interested in the welfare and advancement of the Gisborne district met and had an informal discussion with a view to ascertaining the best means of advertising the hidden treasure and possibilities of the place. Amongst those present were Messrs. Lewis McGregor [farmer], Charles F. Swinburne [bootmaker], Alec Dalrymple [grazier], William G. Whipp [bank manager], David G. O'Donnell [retired policeman], Walter L. Noy [hotelkeeper] and John M. Kensley [shire secretary]. It was admitted that in the Gisborne district, there was good land, an ideal climate, unlimited scenery, mineral water second to none in existence, sufficient grey granite and bluestone to build a Paris, London and New York, slate kaolin, pyrites, graphite, gold and other minerals, all of which have been left in mother earth unexploited.

The Sunbury News – 16 February 1924

Macedon Note –

On Friday of last week, snow fell on top of Mount Macedon for four hours. Old residents state that as far back as they can remember, this is the first time snow has fallen here in February.

Gisborne Gazette – 29 February 1924

Gisborne's Big Fish –

Last Sunday morning, our well-known local sportsman, Mr. William Gardner, just behind the goal-posts at the north-eastern corner of the Island [football ground], took from ... Jackson's Creek, a beautiful brown trout, 23 inches in length and six pounds in weight. His brother Mr. Ernest Gardiner, who is also a noted sport in the piscatorial line, while on a flying visit to Shepparton, hooked from the Goulburn River a magnificent Murray Cod, weighing 40 lbs, the gigantic head of which now hangs in triumph at Mr. W. Gardiner's blacksmith shop in Aitken Street.

Gisborne Gazette – February 29, 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
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 MRFC 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@juseikan.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 Caltex 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
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 GROUP Last Sat of month 2-5pm Woodend N'hood House
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

**Mount Uniting
Church
groups refresh**

After a hectic Christmas and New Year period, the Mount Maceon Uniting Church ladies group, the Thistle Club and the Men's Group will recommence regular meetings in February.

The church was comfortably full for the Christmas Eve carols' service and the Christmas Day service was well attended. Both these services again attracted quite a few visitors as have our services over January. As a result, we made a substantial donation to the Christmas Bowl Appeal of Act for Peace to assist overseas aid programs. We are pleased we can provide these opportunities to visitors and locals alike, even if not regular churchgoers.

Moving into the new year, the first meeting of the Men's Group is on Tuesday 6 February at 10am at the church. David Liebich will be giving us another interesting presentation from his life.

The Thistle Club meets on Wednesday 28 February at 2pm at the church. The program is still being finalised, but an interesting year can be assured. Both groups offer a friendly welcome and time of fellowship to anyone who wishes to join them, whether or not they are 'church people' or from other denominations.

Please contact me for more information or just come along. Why not give it a try?

Neil Tweddle, 5426 2045

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS		DOWN	
1. Zinc	2. Xylophone	1. Zeppelin	2. Xenophobia
3. Yolk	5. Xerox	3. Yorkshire	4. Zephyr
8. Yellow	9. Yacht	6. Xmas	7. Yesterday
11. Yarraville	12. Zigzag	10. Xylitol	13. Xyster
14. Zoology	15. Zimbabwe	14. Zaire	
16. Year			

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Neptune	6. Clowns
2. Franz Liszt	7. The Spirit of St Louis
3. Stanley Kubrick	8. Sandhurst
4. Three	9. 206
5. George Lazenby	10. Charles Dickens

KIDS' QUIZ ANSWERS

1. 29	Australian Capital Territory
2. A spider	7. 1969
3. 11	8. Madrid
4. Winter	9. C
5. A sidewalk	10. One
6. Northern Territory and	

Baringo Film Club

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

Date	Film
February 7 to 10	TBA
Feb 14 to 17	<i>Some Like It Hot</i> (Classic Comedy)
Feb 21 to 24	<i>Oppenheimer</i> (Drama, 3 hours)
Feb 28 to March 3	<i>Barbie</i> (Comedy/Fantasy)

Please note It is time to renew Annual Subscriptions
Please refer to website for bank details.

www.baringofilmclub.com



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.



Community Bank
Gisborne & District

A better banking experience.

Right on your doorstep

We deliver the products and technology you'd expect from a big bank, plus the personal service you wouldn't.

As one of Australia's biggest banks, our heartland remains firmly local. As does our focus on you and the quality banking products you need.

Feel good about who you bank with. Try Bendigo.

Find out more. Call 5420 7210 or search Bendigo Bank Gisborne.



Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 A1455027 OUT_34583715, 27/01/2024