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Gisborne Gazette

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JULY 2020 – FREE

It's good to be out again

Residents, cafe owners and workers sighed with relief when restrictions were eased on June 1 allowing 20 people to sit down for a cuppa in indoor and outdoor spaces.

The opportunity to go out again and reconnect with the community was savoured by many, especially on sunny winter days.

Unfortunately, the increase to allow 50 people in cafes, restaurants and pubs slated for June 22 did not eventuate due to an uptick in Victorian coronavirus cases, so local traders continue to do it very tough. Readers are encouraged to support local eateries and businesses of all types, to keep revenues, spirits, and connection up as the pandemic persists.

Susan Henshall was all smiles on June 18, delighted to be back at the Mt Macedon Trading Post for a sit-down coffee. Sporting her 'isolation project' beanie, Susan said, "I missed it so much, I can't do takeaway," referring to the period when tables and chairs were removed from the cafe. "It was so exciting to walk down the hill again for a coffee!" she beamed.



Jackson (left) and Portia also enjoyed being out on June 18.



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From the Editor's desk

As this edition goes to print, Victorian coronavirus cases are on the rise, many in 'hot spots' not too far from Gisborne. I sincerely hope the Macedon Ranges continue to be relatively COVID-free and we are able to continue going out, albeit in a safe, limited way, as this month's cover celebrates.

Similarly, as the smiling students on pages 29 and 30 show, the return to at-school learning was a joyous occasion at local schools and I hope it can continue in Term 3. What I am doing to help make it so is continuing to follow the guidelines and washing my hands frequently, and I encourage you to do the same.

In this edition, we highlight three parts of our community impacted by the pandemic at work. After more than two months of lockdown, local cafes, restaurants and pubs were able to reopen for limited sit-in service on June 1. The limitations were meant to be loosened on June 22 but this did not happen, extending much of the hardship many have faced since late March. With our spread on pages 20 and 21, we acknowledge and thank local traders for all they've been through during COVID-19. Please hang in there, your community needs and values you! We can all help local businesses by buying local whenever possible.

Another part of our community affected by the pandemic at work are healthcare workers and on page 8 you can read about local nurse Junko Mishima's experience treating COVID-19 patients at the Austin Intensive Care Unit (ICU). Healthcare workers continue to do a tremendous job caring for our community and beyond at this uncertain time, for which I am very grateful.

Finally, the pandemic has made the work of Community Chaplain Barb Davis busier and more important than ever. Barb has provided pastoral care to the Gisborne Secondary College community since 2005 and to our broader community since last year, and the article on page 13 explains her role to those unfamiliar with it.

With school holidays upon us, I direct local families to pages 28 and 29 for information on a variety of programs, active wet weather ideas and our young reporter Asher Kroon's favourable review of the video game Cities: Skylines.

Also just starting (on July 1) is the shire-wide cat curfew and on page 27 local vet Dr Caitlin-Horwood offers some helpful tips on how to keep kitty inside and happy at night.

In closing, as the back cover couldn't include 'kind art' this month, I remind you to continue to be kind to yourself and others as the pandemic persists. And if you could benefit from any support, contact Council's Recovery Operations Centre on 5422 0237 or via recovery@mrsc.vic.gov.au.

Take care and happy reading,

Corinne

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OBITUARIES

To submit an obituary for publication, please email elgrae@bigpond.com or phone 5428 2522. Please also provide a photograph for publication and restrict the article to about 250 words.

Mt Macedon: The Trading Post

Macedon: Post Office and United service station on Black Forest Drive

New Gisborne: Cafe at 3 Ladd Road

Riddells Creek: Newsagency

Woodend: Coles supermarket

The *Gazette* is supported by Macedon Ranges Shire Council.



A MINUTE WITH MAXINE

Janeen Edward has been delivering the *Gazette* to Mt Macedon letterboxes since 2016 and many have told her that it is the only local newspaper they read.

Janeen was born in Ballarat and has lived on the Mount since 1998 and in her current house since 2003.

She worked in Melbourne until she retired in 2012, employed by Parks Victoria in the corporate and governance department.

Janeen joined the Gisborne Bushwalking Club in 2015 and enjoys both leading and participating in their varied walking calendar. The club will be celebrating their 40th anniversary in 2022 so the members are busy gathering information with the aim of publishing a historical record of their activities. She is also a member of the Gisborne Ramblers and enjoys walking around Mt Macedon either on her own or with friends.

Sewing, gardening, cooking are other activities Janeen enjoys, and most of all being "Nan" and looking after her four-year-old granddaughter, Isobella, and Heidi who is nine months old.

Europe is a favourite destination for holidays,



Janeen Edward and her own Lake Wendouree.

especially Italy with its culture, history and trying to communicate with the locals.

Janeen enjoys the colours of autumn and along with Campbell they have created a wonderful bird-friendly garden and an area that is their own Lake Wendouree. Catching up with friends and neighbours is important to Janeen and with her happy personality, I can see she has many.

Maxine Barker

Queen's Birthday honour for local high achiever

Gisborne resident Jay Bonnington was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours.

Jay and her husband Stuart have lived in the Macedon Ranges since 2000 when they built a home in the Bolobek Estate in Macedon. They developed a garden there that became the venue for charity-focused Open Gardens run by Rotary, with which Stuart has been a long-time member.

Jay grew up in New Zealand and became an accountant after completing part-time studies in Auckland. Before long, Jay — like many other young Kiwis — set off to explore the world, working in South Africa, then the UK and Holland.

Jay and Stuart met in 1980 and lived in South Africa until 1985 when they moved to Australia, by which time she was moving up in her corporate career path. Over the next 15 years she worked in senior financial roles for some of Australia's biggest corporations, and undertook more studies to finalise a B.Com. By 2000 she also had done three years of study at Monash to achieve an MBA.

From 2000 onwards Jay continued to build a varied



Jay Bonnington, AM

board-portfolio career, restricting herself to corporate board responsibilities with just one large company at a time, at the same time taking on other governance roles with an extensive list of Government boards and not-for-profit organisations. She was also the Make a Wish Foundation National CEO at this time for three years.

At any one stage over the past 20 years Jay has

been on boards of up to a combination of nine separate types of organisations: corporations, various Government boards (and Chair of Dental Health Services Victoria), various superannuation funds and not-for-profits. Other NFPs which have benefited from Jay's leadership are Save the Children Vic, University of New England, Prince Henry's Medical Research, Agriculture Victoria, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation (with which she was Deputy-Chair for 10 years), the Queen's Fund, University College (Melbourne University), Mercy Health and Aged Care, Bush Heritage, Deakin University, Women on Boards, Social Enterprise Finance and Philanthropy Australia.

Jay has always been a strong advocate for women on boards and for two years chaired an Australian Institute of Company Directors' Nexus group whose aim is to empower women to move from their corporate careers to board level competency.

Jay is now winding down her career and is looking forward to retirement. She and Stuart are in close contact with family members and enjoy catching up with them in New Zealand while holidaying there each year.

Back to school 2020 take 2!



Schools reopened for students at the end of May after being closed in March to help stop the spread of coronavirus in Victoria.

Pictured are Jamie Treacy and Grace, Adele Dobson

and Theo, and Kirsti and Jasper Edmunds on their third day back at Mt Macedon Primary School on May 28, kept safe making their way across the road by crossing supervisor Alan Ford.

AFL debut for ex-Gisborne teen

Nineteen-year-old former Gisborne resident Ned McHenry played his first AFL match on June 9, turning out for the Adelaide Crows.

McHenry attended primary school at New Gisborne before the family relocated to the Geelong area, where he started his football career with the Geelong Falcons. The small forward was drafted by the Crows at pick 16 in 2018.

Although the Crows have not started the season well, Crows' captain Tex Walker said last month that he had been impressed by Ned who, when asked how he felt after the Crows' loss in his first match, had responded emotionally that he simply felt thrilled to be in that dressing room. "All I've ever wanted to do is play AFL," Ned told Walker.

Ned McHenry



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COUNCILLOR COLUMN

With Helen Radnedge

Council will be sharing the Gisborne Futures draft for consultation shortly. Gisborne Futures, which is planned to be a guide for the next 30 years, includes issues such as neighbourhood character, housing, activity centres, economic growth and employment, heritage and culture, landscape and environment, movement and transport, community facilities and utilities.

The Emerging Ideas booklet from May 2019 highlights feedback that has led to the current draft Gisborne Futures. The booklet recognises the values that the community has expressed, including retaining the village atmosphere and semi-rural town character, the importance of trees and the natural environment, walkability, open spaces and accessibility. It also recognises impacts on the amenity and safety of the township like heavy freight.

The Statement of Planning Policy will be a major influence on Gisborne Futures, regarding the priority areas of landscape, biodiversity and environment, and water catchments and supply. Our township has significant conservation areas including a nationally significant wetland and many waterways and wildlife corridors throughout.

Gisborne has rich Wurundjeri Woiwurrung cultural heritage and significant areas. Post-contact history includes our two Avenues of Honour and bluestone assets such as the culvert at Bunjil Bridge.

The Gisborne Futures documents will be appearing on council's website in the "Have your say" section and advertising will let you know when this happens. I encourage all local residents to see what you think and send in your feedback.

Our Environment, Our Future.

NEW IN TOWN AS SHOWN BY SIGNS



When Term 2 resumed at school, parents and carers were no longer allowed to enter to drop off or collect children and these times were staggered to minimise traffic and gatherings. Quick cuddles now take place outside school perimeters, like this 'kiss and drop zone' at left outside Mt Macedon Primary.

Works started at the end of May on upgrades to Swinburne Avenue Kindergarten. The centre's \$735,000 upgrade which will see an extension of the existing building, new shared office space, child amenities, storage and a meeting room for parents, staff and health professionals. Construction is expected to finish in September and provide seven new kinder places

Works to upgrade the cricket nets at Tony Clarke Reserve, Macedon, began in June.



This sign went up at many council-owned recreational facilities in June to remind us all of the key things we can do to help spread the stop of coronavirus.



New four-bin household recycling is reducing the amount local waste going to landfill, but misplaced glass and plastic items continue to be a problem. Stickers put on local bins in June provide a handy reminder of where to put what. Help name council's new bin mascot ►page 15



Signs went up at parks and recreational areas around the shire highlighting dog on- and off-leash areas.



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COPING WITH CORONA

ON FEELING STUCK

It has now been a good three months since our lives changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There have been many external restrictions imposed on our lifestyle and our life plans. At times we have felt stuck.

Some restrictions have been obvious and tangible — such as reduced income, reduced activities, reduced socialising and travel.

Others have been more nebulous and intangible — reduced opportunities, increased vulnerability, loss of routine and loss of an imagined future. We may have even lost a sense of self that was based on previous roles, achievements and resources.

Of course, we know that loss is part of life and also the kernel of new beginnings. But how can we nourish that little seed and help it grow despite the weather outside?

Just like in germination, where internal processes take place to allow

Clinical psychologist Dr Biliiana Ivanova writes about what many of us may be feeling.



growth, our personal journey depends on the conditions within.

When it comes to human psychology, internal barriers are more prohibitive than external restrictions and losses. What we believe about ourselves, others and the future can determine our actions and development above and beyond other factors.

So let us shift perspective and ask the question: Is there anything inside our own mind that is making us feel stuck? Is there a nasty 'virus' within that keeps us in self-imposed isolation from the real world of possibilities?

The usual suspects tend to be a set of core beliefs that are outdated, untested, irrelevant and ultimately un-

healthy: "it's all too hard", "others are better/luckier than me", "things will get worse, "it's not fair"...

Such deeply held assumptions prohibit our adaptation and growth, they make us stuck.

Perhaps the current situation is an opportunity to accept what we cannot change on the outside and to challenge our internal barriers to growth.

We can give ourselves permission to test some unhelpful beliefs by taking small action in a different kind of way.

We can take initiative, try something new, be the first to call, speak our mind thoughtfully, change routine, adjust expectations, give ourselves a chance to learn and do what previously felt beyond us.

We can start with open minds and curiosity — to simply see what happens — rather than expect specific outcomes.



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Visiting services/allied health

Broad range of specialist and allied health services. See website for detail



Remote learning can be hard when your three-year-old sister thinks she needs to help you all the time! Hayley and Riley at the school desk. Remote learning is now over; see school news on pages 29 and 30.

Cats spend 66% of their lives asleep. (And perhaps even more in the Macedon Ranges now that there's a dusk to dawn cat curfew in place.)



Local businesses receive \$10,000 booster payment

More than 460 businesses across the Macedon Ranges Shire Council area have been paid a one-off \$10,000 support grant for operational costs such as salaries and utilities.

The State Government's Business Support Fund provides payments for eligible businesses that have a wage bill below the payroll tax threshold, and will help support local businesses to get through to the other side of the coronavirus crisis.

In addition, 79 businesses in the Macedon Ranges have received full payroll tax refunds for the 2019-20 financial year, totalling \$1,544,652 in immedi-

ate government support. The refunds are part of the state's \$1.7 billion Economic Survival Package which also includes land tax deferrals for eligible small businesses, rent relief for commercial tenants, and the \$500 million Working for Victoria fund to help people who have lost their jobs find new opportunities.

Last month it was announced that Macedon Ranges Shire Council would take on 92 temporary staff as part of the Working for Victoria program.

"We're fighting for every job and every industry across the Macedon Ranges," said local member Mary-Anne Thomas.



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Family charity launches special support program

Local charity PS My Family Matters, who offer emotional and practical support to families caring for loved ones with mental illness, is launching a free program called Good Space.

The aim of the program is to support local families at this time and provide some respite. "As we all learn to adapt to the 'COVID normal', we wanted to do something specific for carers in our region," said Tamara Wilson, president of PS My Family Matters.

"The Good Space program aims to identify the specific needs of each family and target support to assist them."

Tamara said the COVID lockdown had proved especially tough for families experiencing mental illness. "Even at the best of times, carers experience social isolation, difficulties in accessing services and live with a constant level of stress," she said.

The Good Space program will offer support to all those caring for loved ones and will be adapted to focus on the needs of younger family members, who often take up significant caring responsibilities for both siblings and parents.

The program features emotional and practical support elements, including a targeted needs assessment, peer support from trained volunteers, an online wellness program and a range of complimentary respite items including meal and shopping vouchers, data cards and even entertainment subscriptions.

"We wanted to ensure that families in the Ranges who are impacted by mental illness know that we're there for them at this time," Tamara said. "We're grateful to the Bendigo Bank, Tobin Brothers and the State Government, whose funding enables us to make this happen."

To register for the Good Space program and to set up your initial assessment call, please call 0475 269 965 or email psmfm@outlook.com.

Free financial counselling for small businesses

Has COVID-19 impacted your small business finances? Do you need a plan? Are you looking for options?

Thanks to a government grant, Sunraysia Rural Counselling Services is providing a free, confidential, independent, support service for eligible small businesses in rural North-West Victoria, including the Macedon Ranges.

Eligible businesses can get free help with analysing cash flows, balance sheets, preparing budgets, record keeping, debt management, taxation issues including planning to meet tax obligations and online reporting, online services and useful website links, dealing with lending institutions and identifying government and industry support service.

Phone Marty Sammon FCA on 1300 769 489 or email msammon@sunrcs.com.au for more information.

What impact has COVID had on your business?

Many businesses in the shire have been, and will continue to be, greatly affected by the pandemic and restrictions put in place to combat the spread of the virus.



To help define what the business community needs, now and into the future, Council is seeking your input to a Business Impact Survey. How did the restrictions affect you, your business and staff? Were you able to access financial or other support? Did you have to close your business? Were you in a position to adapt? Will continuing restrictions impact the running of your business?

We would like to hear from business people from all sectors and locations throughout the shire and we welcome your participation. Your feedback will help us decide what initiatives to support and will help us to advocate on your behalf.

The short survey is now open for your feedback until 31 July. To fill it in, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay For more information, call the economic development and tourism team on 5421 9616 or email ecodevadmin@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Seniors line up for digital help project

The Digital Connection Project for Seniors has received an impressive 18 enquiries in its first two weeks of operation.

The project supports people over 65 in the Macedon Ranges to connect with family and friends using internet-enabled digital technologies. It was started in response to the physical distancing required because of COVID-19 which, while essential to protecting older Australians, may be causing social isolation and loneliness.

The project aims to help seniors use electronic platforms to stay connected to friends and family, as well as the many essential services, clubs and support groups available online. Enquiries have been received from people aged from 65 to 90 and with varying levels of experience with digital technology.

Sixty-nine-year-old Gisborne resident Michael Fiteni speaks of the benefits of using his smart phone to stay connected while self-isolating.

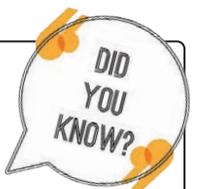


Michael Fiteni

"I use it to keep in touch with friends and family, follow the news, shop online and share songs and photos with my friends," he says. "I'll be 70 this year, I can't go anywhere without my phone. It's now part of me!"

If you don't have your own device there may be options available to you. Contact the Macedon Ranges Shire Council on 5422 0237 for further information and to register your interest.

All the blinking you do in one day equates to having your eyes closed for roughly 30 minutes



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Emperor T'ang to close after 16 years

Chinese restaurant Emperor T'ang will shut its doors on August 3 allowing owner and chef Tony Young to "have a go at retirement".

Tony bought the shop in 2004 in an agreement with his wife to operate it for 15 years. The term finished in 2019 but Tony convinced her to let him squeeze in one more year. He has now sold the shop to another local food business.

Tony has greatly enjoyed bringing "authentic Cantonese food to Gisbornites" and says he will miss his loyal customers dearly. He has been touched by the support he has received over the years and has made many friends along the way.

Highlights have been nightcaps with loyal customers, hosting parties and weddings, and bringing the Bendigo Chinese Association to Gisborne every year for Chinese New Year banquets.

The past few years and the pandemic have made business "tougher and tougher" so Tony is ready to move on. Many of his local customers have sold and moved away and fewer people are going out for meals. He feels Gisborne has changed with growth (everyone used to know each other and catchups in the supermarket were common) and many young families face increased mortgage costs. "And once it's cold out, or the footy or tennis is on, people stay home!" At the same time, bookkeeping and accounting fees have increased (and during the pandemic food prices were sky high for a while). If he had to pay rent, Tony said he would have closed a while ago.

After 16 years of being at the restaurant most nights a week, Tony is looking forward to a break and going out with friends and to the movies. If he gets bored,



Tony Young outside his Aitken Street restaurant.

he may open a business above the current Emperor T'ang as he owns the property, so we may see his smiling face yet. The Gazette wishes him well in his future, whatever it brings.

Members enjoy slower pace of lockdown

The latest monthly CWA magazine has continued to connect us with inspiration from our state president, Marion E. Dewar, and all the others in office. There are extra recipes to collect and tempt us and a lovely article from Kyneton branch President Patricia Morgan on her Anzac tribute to women.



We have also had weekly information on a CWA Facebook page called Grow, Connect, Improve to help us with cookery, craft, gardening, wellbeing, communication and children.

How many of us have enjoyed lockdown? It seems quite a few, in our chatter at a small get-together of our branch recently. No particular time to get out of bed on a cold icy morning because we are not expecting anyone to visit, and pyjamas till lunchtime is ok. There is also time to sit with your feet in the sun and read a book without hurrying to get ready to go out.

Life at a slower pace is quite nice, a few of us have found. Outback travel stories were reminisced about and some hoping to get back out there before too long. Thank you Kay for your hospitality and great job as our secretary, passing on all the incoming emails.

Happy birthday to Kerrie B, Barbara, Edie and Kathy for the month of July. We would normally have a Christmas in July lunch on July 13, but we are not sure if this will go ahead as yet due to lockdowns.

Christine Edwards, 0437 953 253

Health and wellbeing covered

The COVID-19 period has been a challenging time for all of us. Anxiety and insecurity can be heightened for those who do not have access to up-to-date information or community support.



Macedon Ranges
Shire Council

mation pack mailed out, please call the council on 5422 0237 or email recovery@mrsc.vic.gov.au (Recovery Operations Centre).

This information can be found on the internet but not everyone has the internet or a computer.

An Information Pack is available that includes information on how to prevent the spread of the virus, healthy cooking and getting active at home, keeping mentally well, food and financial relief services, staying connected and supporting children and families. It can be posted to you or to someone you know. If you would like an infor-

Meals' service extended

Council's supplied meals program will continue until the end of the year, following increased demand due to COVID-19.

The Meals-Individual program was originally scheduled to finish at the end of June, however the Federal Government has provided additional funding to ensure the program can continue for an additional six months.



Pyjamas until lunchtime? Who cares!
Picture: Osija Anolak



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'Treating COVID-19 is back to basics'

When the *Gazette* caught up with Junko Mishima, she was sanitising her hands and joked, "My hands are getting a lot more alcohol than my mouth since COVID!" This mix of pragmatism and positivity continued throughout our discussion about her experience as an intensive care nurse during the pandemic.

Junko has worked as an intensive care nurse at Austin Health in Heidelberg since 2002. She is specially trained to work in intensive care units (ICU) and is passionate about ICU work. As Victoria deals with the COVID-19 pandemic, Junko is happy that her professional skills can be used for community good.

While the media make it seem like healthcare practices during COVID-19 have changed dramatically, Junko said her job as an ICU nurse hasn't changed much. Some patients entering ICU are always classed as 'infectious' and require special treatment. Often these patients have suspected or confirmed influenza, tuberculosis, or another infectious disease. They are isolated to a ward and staff wear full personal protective equipment (PPE) as required over their scrubs when treating them. Full PPE includes a plastic gown, mask, face shield, hair cover and gloves.

Also, every year during the flu season staff and the public are reminded to wash their hands frequently, keep a safe distance from others and stay home if they are sick. So as Junko says, "Treating COVID-19 is back to basics."

Patients entering The Austin ICU with any respiratory symptoms are now classed as 'suspected COVID' and isolated in a 'COVID-pod'. The area has negative pressure to help keep germs from escaping when doors are opened. Treating staff wear the same PPE to treat them as they do for other 'infectious' patients. To date there has been no shortage of PPE at The Austin ICU during the pandemic for which Junko is thankful.

The main difference between COVID-19 and the other infectious diseases Junko treats at work is how



Local nurse Junko Mishima treats COVID-19 patients at work and spoke to Corinne Shaddock about the experience.

relatively little we know about it and how it is transmitted. The health of patients with COVID-19 can deteriorate "like a snowball", said Junko, and it's not always clear why. The many unknowns around coronavirus are what make it so concerning, especially to healthcare workers.

When the pandemic started, Junko and her colleagues were told to expect Victorian ICUs to be full over Easter. They were scared as they had seen reports of health professionals contracting COVID-19 overseas, and many dying. Working in ICU meant exposure to the virus would be unavoidable.

Junko and her colleagues were asked to develop plans of how they would isolate from family and friends if they contracted the virus. Some looked into renting a new space if they fell ill. When the Premier announced free accommodation for healthcare workers with COVID-19, it was a great relief. Fortunately, the number of COVID-19 cases at The Austin to date has been much lower than forecast and no one has died at the hospital.

Junko believes restrictions to help 'flatten the curve' gave Austin ICU enough time to prepare

for a potential COVID-19 onslaught. Protocols were developed, staff were reminded of the correct technique to wear PPE, debriefing was increased, and walkways and lifts were made one-way.

This gave Junko confidence and has made her feel relatively 'safe' at work.

However, the stress around potential infection continues to be great. As an ICU worker, Junko's greatest fear is unknowingly transmitting COVID-19. First and foremost, she fears getting infected with the virus at work and unwittingly passing it to family and friends; she noted many nurses, like herself, rely on grandparents for childcare. Of equal concern is contracting coronavirus outside work and inadvertently bringing it into a ward of highly vulnerable ICU patients.

To minimise these risks, on top of the increased safety practices she follows at work, Junko has implemented a new regime at home. She changes into and out of her work clothes (including shoes) in the garage and has a shower immediately upon arriving home. Only after that will she



Junko in full PPE gear at work at The Austin.

go near anyone or touch things around her home. Her work clothes are washed hot after every wear and her shoes and car surfaces are wiped down with disinfectant.

Sadly, many of Junko's colleagues have experienced discrimination and verbal abuse during the pandemic when stopping for petrol or shopping on the way to or from work while wearing scrubs. This has made an already stressful job even more stressful and forced many to change their usual routine.

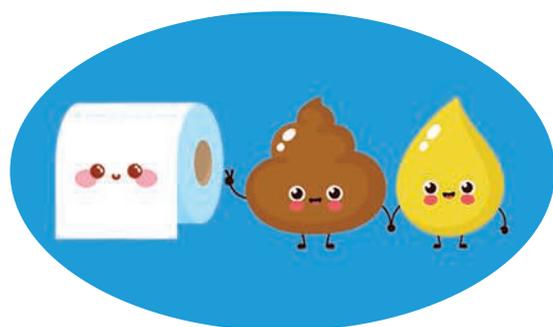
Fortunately, Junko hasn't experienced any such behaviour in the Macedon Ranges. In fact, she has been overwhelmed by the offers of help and support she has received during the pandemic. She has lived in the area for 10 years and says she has only ever had positive interactions with people here, despite being Asian in a predominantly white area.

Originally from Japan, a country that has suffered many more deaths from COVID-19, Junko underlined how lucky we are to live in Australia. We have a good health system, there is a good understanding of the virus, people follow guidelines, and there are enough resources to look after and protect the population.

Junko hopes to be able to look back on the pandemic in Victoria in five years' time and be proud of how it was managed and her personal contribution as an ICU nurse. But as she promptly pointed out, this will only be possible if Australia continues to have a very low incidence of COVID-19. To help make that possible, we all need to do our part and follow guidelines.

Then, once the pandemic passes, we can toast to surviving this historic time together — and the immeasurable contributions made by healthcare workers like Junko.

• *The Gazette thanks all healthcare workers for their important service during the pandemic and hopes they stay well.*



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Fight to save Gisborne's historic bridge

The Gisborne Historical Society is fighting to save the town's historic bridge at the eastern entry to Gisborne, near the old Court House.

The bridge is slated for demolition as part of Regional Roads Victoria works to install a roundabout at the corner of Melbourne Road and Kilmore Road.

The society, whose president Frank Porter has extensive contractual experience relating to road construction projects, is putting together two alternative options for the upgrading of the intersection which do not involve destruction of the bridge.

The intersection has safety issues and there is no question that with Gisborne's growing population, some action is needed. However, the society believes that alternative designs that retain the historic bridge have not been properly

considered by Regional Roads Victoria.

There are no heritage protections on the bridge — it is very hard to get such protections put in place and this bridge, although 146 years old, does not have unique characteristics in the legislative sense that might qualify it for protection. But that does not mean it has no heritage value to the people of Gisborne.

The bridge, which was constructed in 1874, is highly significant to Gisborne as it has stood the test of time and for its 146 years has been the main entry point to Gisborne from Melbourne.

The Historical Society says that improving safety and retaining Gisborne history are both achievable. Feedback to VicRoads on the roadworks can be made to NREngagement@roads.vic.gov.au or in writing to Regional Roads Victoria, 53-61 Lansell Street, East Bendigo 3550.



Historical Society president Frank Porter stands on the north side of the bridge

SIGNS TO OUR PAST

Aitken Street is the main street in Gisborne and I've walked up and down it for many years. While statues are a highly visible means of marking history, street signs are markers too. Follow a street sign and you can be following a stream through history.

Aitken Street is a signpost to Victoria's conflicted past. It is named after John Aitken. A contemporary of John Batman's, he landed on the shores of Port Phillip in 1836 with sheep from Tasmania and made his way, with the help of an Aboriginal group, to just south of what is now Gisborne. He carved out of what he undoubtedly thought was no one's land an empire built on the sheep's back and the dispossession of Indigenous peoples. He claimed thousands of hectares. He built a formidable reputation for management of his flock and the quality of his wool.

He was at first, in his own words, "conciliatory" to the "natives", but within a couple of years he had narrowly missed the cut of a tomahawk and was "attacked

REFLECTIONS

with Warwick McFadyen

by about 40 natives at my station. They came to me armed with spears and their guns". Contemporary accounts say "Aitken would not permit the Aborigines to trespass on his run".

Historical research has revealed suggestions of his poisoning of at least one Aboriginal group and the late Ella Brady of Gisborne chronicled her grandfather's story that he had been sacked by Aitken for refusing to carry out an order to kill an Aboriginal infant.

Aitken, in failing health, returned to England in 1858 and died in October that year. His was a time in Victoria defined by conquest, cruelty, conscience and minuscule and ineffectual kindness.

The month Aitken died, and almost 25 years after Europeans arrived in Victoria,

a report was produced for the Legislative Council on "the state of the Aborigine in the colony". It acknowledges, in part, that "great injustice has been perpetrated upon the Aborigines".

The thought that it benefits no one to measure one culture against another did not enter the colonists' heads. Pity was the prime motivator of their stance. "Victoria is now entirely occupied by a superior race, and there is scarcely a spot, excepting in the remote mountain ranges, or dense scrubs, on which the Aborigine can rest his weary feet. To allow this to continue would be to tolerate and perpetuate a great moral wrong; and your committee are of opinion that, even at this late period, a vigorous effort should be made to provide for the remnants of



Portrait of John Aitken c1853

the various tribes, so that they may be maintained in comparative plenty." Thus is the indifference of conquest reconciled with the diffidence of conscience.

Last month, in Aitken Street, excavation work for the new Aldi store had to be halted while a survey of the site's Aboriginal significance was conducted.

"ALDI, in conjunction with the Wurundjeri people, is assessing the cultural sensitivity of the land in which the Gisborne store will be built," ALDI told the ABC. It's been a long, desperate road of lamentation and survival to reach this point. The past is not a foreign country. The recent protest marches have shown that. The road we take is built on the stones of our history.

(This is an extended version of an article that also appeared in *The Age*.)

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Children support Gisborne Foodbank

Since the Gisborne Foodbank opened its doors in June 2019, it has received great support from the younger members of our community.

Last year local schools, scout groups and church youth groups ran food drives so that the Foodbank's shelves were never empty. This year, with schools all closed for most of Term 2, children have had to get more creative.



Ed and Aston visited the Foodbank during the COVID-19 isolation period to deliver fantastic treat bags with smiling faces on them that they had made to cheer up customers. Eloise also visited with her mum Abbey from Harvest and Soul Catering to drop off prepared meals that could be frozen for Foodbank customers.

A number of community members report that it is their children who make sure to get extra items while out shopping because they want to make sure that they are putting something in the Foodbank donation boxes at Foodworks and Coles in Gisborne. Often these items are small treats for the children of families who visit the Foodbank.

Thanks to the children of the Macedon Ranges who will ensure that the future of our community is in good hands!

The Gisborne Foodbank is open on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 3pm. If you need assistance putting food on the table, please contact the Foodbank on 0492 850 520, drop in on Wednesday or Friday, or message them via Facebook (@GisborneFoodbank) or their website (www.gisbornefoodbank.org.au).



Eloise helps mum Abbey deliver meals.



Ed and Aston deliver treat bags.

Rotary just Zooming along

Like many other community groups, the Rotary Club of Gisborne has been unable to meet face-to-face for some months, however, we have continued to be active using Zoom technology to keep in touch.



With the easing of restrictions (at time of writing), we have been able to now meet in small groups at the homes of members and hope to return to our usual meeting place at Wine O'Clock in July.

COVID-19 has placed a number of local families in some difficulty due to redundancies and layoffs. Rotary is concerned to do what it can to alleviate the short-term financial impact on families and is reaching out to local schools to offer assistance to vulnerable students.

While COVID-19 is still at the forefront of thought for most of us, Rotary throughout Victoria continues to support bushfire victims with financial and physical assistance and although our club is small in number we are looking at some visits to affected areas to support local businesses struggling to get back on their feet.

If you want to get involved in a similar way with support for your local community, why not join us? We meet on the first and third Tuesday each month for supper and a chat and to work on ways we can assist our neighbours. You would be more than welcome. Contact our secretary Noeline on 0426 500 516 for details.

Richard Stewart



Dumpling fundraiser at Flying Pigeon

Come and learn how to make northern Chinese dumplings from scratch and raise much-needed funds for Gisborne Secondary College Chaplaincy on Saturday July 25 or August 22, from 10.30am to 12.30pm. The cost of \$80 per person includes a complimentary beverage.

Bring your friends or family, have some fun, and take home delicious dumplings for dinner. 100% of profits will be donated to Chaplaincy. You can secure your spot by emailing Bronwyn on sbtacey@bigpond.com or by calling 0417 028 605. Maximum 10-12 people.

We look forward to your support. *Bronwyn Tacey*
GSC Chaplaincy Committee

CWA Macedon



In recent months repairs have been made to our hall after extensive damage caused by cockatoos.

Much work has been done to spruce up the hall, and we thank those volunteers who also painted the exterior.

We look forward to again hosting visitors and

community groups once restrictions are lifted. We have been able to welcome back the Craft group, but returning to our monthly CWA Macedon meetings is yet to be confirmed.

We look forward to reconnecting with friends and community contacts in the near future, and wish our readers courage and strength in regaining their lives after so much disruption. *Jenny*



Jenny Strang



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An SES volunteer with a big Gisborne heart: Vale Bill Cartwright



Vale, Bill Cartwright

It was October 2007, a tranquil, sunny day in the Macedon Ranges with a busy Gisborne Market experiencing a significant crowd leading up to Christmas.

Gisborne SES volunteers were at the market selling books which had been donated to the SES unit by the community to raise funds for a new rescue truck. An elderly gentleman with an infectious smile emerged from the crowd and struck up a conversation with us, asking, "What do I have to do to join you people?", and subsequently introducing himself as 'Bill'.

Our then Unit Controller, Ralph, who has always been an incredible mentor for people, discussed Bill's SES prospects with him for quite some time and made him feel welcome from the outset, identified his potential and encouraged him to become an SES volunteer. The following week Bill

joined Gisborne SES unit at age 75.

Bill entrenched himself into the SES lifestyle and was dedicated to his training and development, and swiftly became one of our prominent day-time rescue responders. He attended in excess of 250 emergency and non-emergency incidents during his time as a volunteer and was very proud of his achievements.

The highlight of his time as a volunteer was achieving his 10-year SES service medal, which he was so honoured to wear.

Bill attended the Gisborne Market every month and in recent years would have a 'standoff' at the Brantome Street pedestrian crossing with other SES volunteers competing with their fundraising efforts. He would say to people, "Don't give



it to them, put it in here." People would quite often say "He told me I have to put it in his tin, not yours!" It was banter that we and market attendees enjoyed every month.

Bill was a gentle soul who was extremely dedicated to his community through his volunteering with Gisborne

SES unit and other organisations within our Gisborne community. He was a positive and warm person who will be deeply missed by all his friends at Gisborne SES, colleagues past and present... he was an inspiration.

The treasured happy memories will stay with us forever. May he rest in peace knowing he was loved by his family, friends and community...such a jolly fella.

Di Dale
Gisborne SES

Lions plan for Gisborne Festival

Despite the restrictions that are currently in place, it is hoped that by the end of the year they will be lifted to enable the Lions Gisborne Festival to be held. Notwithstanding the uncertainty, the Gisborne and District Lions Club has plans well underway, with the festival

scheduled to be held on Friday December 11.

The festival that brings the community together is again planned to have a focus on families with a range of free activities for children. Of course, there will be the ever-popular street parade and on Gardiner Reserve there will be live music and entertainment, stalls and carnival rides, concluding with a fireworks display.

It will cost around \$20,000 to produce this free community event with the Lions Club seeking sponsorships from businesses to meet this cost. It is pleasing to report that the Bendigo Bank has already come on board again as a major sponsor. If you are interested in supporting the festival, please call Russell Walker, President, on 0419 318 615.

The Lions Club is also seeking community support by participation in the street parade and as stallholders. Application forms are available by emailing gisbornefestival@gmail.com

Please jump on board and help Lions deliver another successful festival, and bring some joy to our community hopefully at the end of this current health and economic crisis.

Russell Walker, OAM



Helena Cyrulo, Secretary of Gisborne Lions, receives a certificate for \$5,000 sponsorship of Gisborne Festival from Bendigo Bank staff member Rebecca Baber.

ESTD *Lachlan Fleming* 2005
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Friends assist Timorese high school students

After Australian schools have been dramatically impacted by the coronavirus, spare a thought for our impoverished neighbour to the north, who does not have the luxury of being able to offer online learning.



The Timor-Leste district of Turiscai, which is supported by the Macedon Ranges Friends of East Timor (MRFoET), has a population of almost 9000. The district has one senior high school for secondary school students undertaking their final three years of education. The school has only one toilet, and a total of three laptop computers, all of which have been provided by MRFoET.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, MRFoET also currently sponsors five students from poor families to undertake their studies. During our most recent visit to Turiscai, we met with these students to monitor their progress. They told us that upon graduation they wish to give back to their country by becoming teachers (three), a doctor, and a nun. They are so thankful for the opportunity they have been given by their Macedon Ranges sponsors.

Schools have only recently reopened in Turiscai following the recent lockdown, and our supported students are studying hard and enjoying being reunited with their teachers and friends.



MRFoET sponsorship member Warwick Potter meets sponsored Turiscai high school student Abrun last year.

There are more students who would benefit from being financially supported to complete their final three years of high school, and anyone interested in obtaining further details is welcome to contact mrfoet@bigpond.com

Warwick Potter

Wilkinson's Wheels donates 70 bikes to Reclink

Wilkinson's Wheels is entering a new phase and part of the change is focusing on getting as many bikes (and smiles) as possible to where they are needed most for social and health impacts.

As a result of the generosity of the Macedon Ranges community in donating preloved bikes, we have been able to support other great organisations. One of those is Reclink Australia.

Reclink Australia provides sport and art programs to disadvantaged Australians to create socially inclusive, life-changing opportunities.

A local Wilkinson's Wheels supporter connected us with Peter Cullen, managing director of Reclink. Their values align with our own so it was a no brainer to work together. Peter and his brother John (an antique dealer from Woodend) collected about 70 bikes from the bike shed on June 15.

If you are interested in helping us in the next stage



Peter and John Cullen and Phil Wilkinson load the truck on June 15.

of our venture or know of someone who needs a bike, please send Phil Wilkinson a text on 0415 296 918 or drop into the bike shed between 10.30 and 11.30am on Saturday morning.

Phil Wilkinson



MACEDON MUSINGS

With Belinda Carlton-Doney

What a difference a few weeks can make. Macedon has gone from a busy weekend destination to a ghost town and back.

Recently I passed a drive-by birthday in Bent Street. It came complete with a table in the drive, decorated with balloons, ready for a little girl's 'iso' birthday celebrations. Fast forward a few weeks, and the town went nuts!

Friday before the Queen's Birthday weekend found me driving back from rural Victoria. I have been doing this drive for many years. My path along the Calder takes me through Charlton, Wedderburn, Bridgewater etc. Never in all these years have I seen the towns so busy. Caravans and cars everywhere. The comfort stations and local bakeries were packed to the brim. So much so that I couldn't find a park, so kept on driving. I guess people were so happy to finally be allowed a little more freedom.

I thought I'd returned to our quiet little town. Not quite right. That weekend saw a huge influx of tourists and visitors to Macedon. On Sunday morning, the Macedon Shopping Village was pumping! Not a car space left in Margaret or Victoria Streets.

The area in front of MR and the Lazy Baker was packed full, people spilling out onto the road. It looked like a party. (Not much distancing there!)

IGA had its own constant stream of customers and a young busker, who was excellent, entertained out front. Dirt bikes filled the forest and walkers filled the streets. Yep...party time so it seemed.

So nice to be slowly making our way out of iso. I'm sure Anne and crew at the PO will be relieved. They have been dealing with hundreds and hundreds of extra parcels over this time. A big thank you to them all, for the hard work they've put in. Thanks to our cafes for ensuring our coffee requirements continued to be met. Thanks to Tony and the staff at IGA also. They made sure we didn't go without!

We're not quite through iso yet folks, so do keep up the good work. Take care.

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The story of chaplaincy in Gisborne

What is Chaplaincy?

A Chaplain's role is to provide pastoral care to the school, community, staff and students' families. Support and guidance may be given about ethics, values, relationships, spirituality, behaviour management, social issues, a sense of purpose, and an understanding of self and mental health. It may also include the delivery of welfare services in response to identified needs.

Each community and school within a community has its own culture; a Chaplain's provision of care is carried out according to the unique culture and needs of the community. Chaplains support community members in a non-judgmental, respectful way that is responsive to the diverse cultural, spiritual and emotional needs and circumstances of each person.

A Chaplain's role overlaps with that of other school wellbeing services such as a social worker or psychologist but as each of these differs in scope, so does the role of Chaplaincy. The Chaplain's role has a unique element of spirituality, however, that is understood by the individual. The Chaplain offers support for those who do not need formal mental health or social services. They may however benefit from emotional, social, financial or psychological help while experiencing distress or are attempting to cope with new, often overwhelming experiences.

A Chaplain supports families, individuals and communities so that our students can be healthy, safe and happy at school.

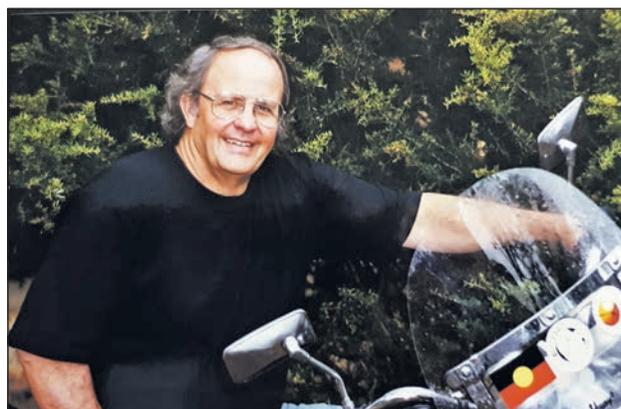
History of Chaplaincy

The first chaplains in government schools were appointed in Victoria in 1955 by the Council of Christian Education in schools (CCES now trading as Korus Connect). As noted in a 2009 study into chaplaincy, "It was a bold experiment, which began in Collingwood, Footscray, and Brunswick Technical Colleges. Gradually other schools adopted the programs and more Chaplains were appointed." In 2006 the Federal Government announced the establishment of the National School Chaplaincy Program and funds were made available from 2007.

While government funding has continued for the Chaplaincy program and is being accessed by some schools, the funding is limited. Gisborne Secondary College's program has not received government funding since 2014.

Chaplaincy in Gisborne

In 1996 and 1997 traumatic events took place that affected the Gisborne community including members of Gisborne Secondary College. Local



Gisborne's first Chaplain, Graham Hall.

church members raised concerns and one member suggested that a Chaplain might be able to help.

Jenny Barnes, then a member of the Gisborne Secondary College School Council, had already begun investigating the idea. She presented the idea to the GSC School Council and began seeking community interest and support. The proposed payment for the position was one third from CCES, one third from local churches and community and one third from the school. With the support of John Flanagan, then Vice-Principal of GSC, and Principal Gavin McDonald, Jenny approached church groups and visited chaplains in Bendigo.

The School Council agreed to the need and value of employing a chaplain and so a Chaplaincy sub-committee was formed. CCES conducted interviews and Graham Hall was appointed. He had just completed five years at the Uniting Church of Ballan.

Graham was welcomed into Gisborne Secondary College and was visited by students, staff and families alike. Although an open-door policy was always maintained by Graham, he also scheduled other times to hear people's stories, ascertain how individuals and groups were managing, and working to help them with experiences which included a significant number of deaths and funerals.

In December 1999 a fatal plane crash occurred in Gisborne involving a number of young people. This event preceded a further string of tragedies involving members of the Gisborne community and young people who were attending or had recently attended Gisborne Secondary College; some had siblings and peers attending the school. These events singularly were horrific to the community but combined they left the community devastated and in shock.

Graham continued to work diligently to address the needs of the school community including staff, students' families and extended families through this incredibly difficult time. Such was the need that the position spilled outside of school hours and into the community, although the position technically

remained a service for Gisborne Secondary College.

In 2005 Graham resigned from the position and Barb Davis was appointed. Barb had over 11 years' experience as Chaplain in two previous schools. She stepped into the role, continuing Graham's work and with the support of CCES and the school, adjusted and evolved the position description in order to continue to meet the needs of the community.

Over the years there have been increasing rates of unemployment, acute and chronic illness, accidental death, domestic issues including violence, abandonment, drug dependency, and suicide resulting in an increasing need for family support. Mental health issues continue to rise with the answer lying not only in professional counselling but also in practical, crisis driven, social areas that work to reduce the impact on the



Current Chaplain Barb Davis

affected individuals, their families and other support-givers.

One area of ongoing need is for food packages. As part of her work, Barb began sourcing food from local churches, independent Gisborne community members, some local businesses and Careworks Sunbury. Via Jenny Barnes, Barb also gained access to food from Second Bite, the precursor to the Gisborne Community Care Foodbank. Some families still prefer to access this program through the Chaplain.

In 2019 the Chaplain's position was altered from five days in the school to three days in the school and two days

in the community. Support Groups that were established to support Gisborne College families have been extended to include families from the broader Gisborne and Macedon Ranges community. As part of this wider role, Barb assists community members access other services, and offers both informal and formal meetings with community members. Thus the support needs of the whole community are being assisted and attended to by the Chaplain via the provision of physical and emotional support, connection and referral.

The financial costs of maintaining a Chaplain have grown over the years and have not been reflected in increases in government funds via the NSCP. In order to achieve the shortfall, donations and grants have been applied for within the local community and fundraisers held by the Chaplaincy Support Group.

The continuity of the Chaplain's work is made possible by the generosity of the GREAT Association, who have contributed not only to the Chaplain's position but also to the Chaplaincy Discretionary Fund, held at the school, which buys essential items for those in need. Likewise the Chaplaincy Program is a recipient of the continual open-hearted generosity of the Macedon Ranges churches and their members, along with the magnanimous financial support from the Bendigo Bank. The continued efforts and generous support of the Lions Club and the unselfish support of Shared Table contribute to the Discretionary Fund ensuring essential items for health, wellbeing, safety, continuing education and community participation.

Chaplaincy Today

COVID-19 has had a twofold impact on the Chaplaincy position with an increase in family stress and issues including unemployment, business closure and family confinement. It has also meant the cancellation of all of the Support Group's fundraising activities.

Would you like to support our local community by donating to maintain Barb's position? All donations will be much appreciated and will go to help strengthen and support the work done by and through local Chaplaincy. Donations greater than \$2 are tax deductible and if you would like a receipt please contact Sonja Deveson on 0418 362 597.

Donations can be made directly into our Bendigo Bank account as follows: Gisborne Secondary College Chaplaincy, BSB 633-000, Account 137805834.

Gisborne Secondary College and Community Chaplaincy Committee

MARKET TALK

When will the Olde Time Market reopen? Put simply, we don't know. The GREAT Committee has under consideration the safest and earliest circumstances for the reopening and critical to any decision is following and meeting any State Government restrictions and guidelines.

Looking ahead to future easing, GREAT will plan for social distancing measures through a stall layout with plenty of room and staging (and limiting) the movement of patrons across the market area. Reopening is a top priority as soon as it is possible and it is certain to be a celebrated occasion.

GREAT in ISO

The GREAT Centre remains closed to the public but we're delighted to continue publishing the *Gazette* which thanks to the support of our advertisers is covering its

costs. Our Tourism and Community Support subcommittees are in recess temporarily, as the pandemic restrictions impact visitation and mean the absence of market income to fund GREAT sponsorships.

NEW ROLES

Just as the pandemic hit, GREAT lost two key members of the executive. President John Frearson stood aside to attend to pressing commitments and Secretary Graham Dickinson stepped down to take up another community appointment.

Fortunately, former President Moc Hoyme has taken over as Acting President and Maxine Barker stepped up as Vice-President.

We welcome and thank Berneice Callow who has taken up the position of Secretary.

More recent good news is that Maureen Lynch recently accepted the role of GREAT Membership Coordinator.

Missed us? We've missed you. We're back

Libraries are slowly reopening but it won't be business as usual. Government advice is changing regularly and we're doing the best we can to offer a service to our community safely.

You will be asked to use hand sanitiser at the library entrance and to keep to the 1.5m distancing rule. You will be asked to sign in so we can contact you if we learn about any coronavirus on site. We will be quarantining all items for 72 hours after they are returned through the book chute and we will be regularly sanitising keyboards, computer mice and common areas.

At the moment we're able to offer access to the collection for browsing, public computers, printing, photocopying and scanning, and free WIFI. There will only

be a certain number of people in the library at a time and there will be time limits as well.

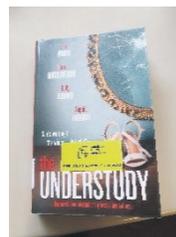
We still won't be offering newspaper and face-to-face programs, including story time and one-on-one computer help, just yet.

We are still here to help via phone and email, and we have some great online resources and events happening in July. Check them out at www.eventbrite.com.au/o/goldfields-libraries-9805186189.

Stay in touch via Facebook, sign up to our eNewsletter at www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/newsletter, or send us an email or leave us a message and a friendly librarian will call you back.

We can't wait to see everyone back in the library. *Sara Bryant*

JULY STAFF PICKS



The Understudy by Sophie Hannah, B.A Paris, Clare Mackintosh and Holly Brown – Thriller.

This book kept Georgina up all night. Written by several authors, it was really interesting to read. Each author has a different style but the book flowed really well.

If You Could Go Anywhere by Paige Toon – Romance. We're big fans of Paige Toon and if you haven't read any of her books we highly recommend you do. This is a very nice read about a young woman who travels from outback Australia to Italy and beyond after the death of her grandmother, to find herself and to reach out to some newly discovered family.



The Hunting Party by Lucy Foley – Thriller.

In a remote hunting lodge, deep in the Scottish wilderness, old friends gather for New Year: the beautiful one, the golden couple, the volatile one, the new parents, the quiet one, the city boy, the outsider, the victim. Not an accident, a murder among friends.

After you've read this one, have a look at Lucy Foley's latest release, *The Guest List*.



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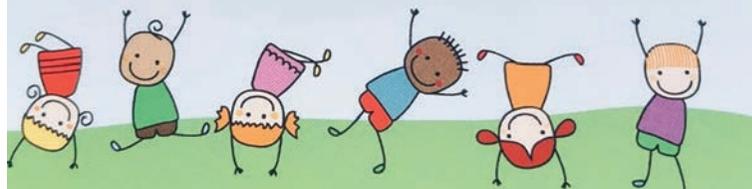
Occupational Therapy for Children

Simone Trevillian

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)

0410 544 090

cleverkids.ot@gmail.com



Genealogy group shares its roots

While having a 'clean-up' during this time of isolation, I've found a lot of Family History notes written years ago.



At the time they didn't make sense, but now I've been able to slot many of the details into my 'Trees'. I remember just how hard it was to find (and prove) information on my family when I began researching over 40 years ago. It was one of the reasons I joined the Genealogical Society of Victoria and the Gisborne Genealogical Group.

Our group began as the Friends of the Gisborne Library Genealogical Group in 1991 when Marion Button, a professional genealogist, was asked by Gisborne librarian John Bourne to lead a small group of enthusiastic people wanting to trace their family histories. The group was incorporated in 1993 and became the Gisborne Genealogical Group.

We have grown considerably since that time, in both numbers and resources. We hold monthly meetings, have outings to repositories, run a seminar during Family History Month as well as help people with research when our room is open. We have a large collection of books, fiches, magazines, CDs, maps and pictures.

It is good to still have that original association with the Gisborne Library, with our room adjoining it, and we are very grateful to have access to their genealogy computer programs. We are lucky to have so many members in the Gisborne Genealogical Group who are prepared to keep learning and share their knowledge with others. Unfortunately, our rooms must remain closed due to social distancing restrictions. Some repositories such as the State Library and Public Record Office have reopened, but on a limited basis. Check their websites if you are planning a visit.

Hopefully it won't be too long before we can reopen our doors. In the meantime – happy researching at home. And perhaps have a look through your old notes!

Lyn Hall



Lyn Hall



Suggest a name for new bin mascot

(But maybe steer clear of 'Binny McBinface'!...)



The Council's new bin mascot has begun appearing around the shire,

but there is one thing missing. It does not have a name. Can anyone help? We are hoping to find a name that fits the personality and purpose.

When the bin mascot wears the purple hat, the glass-only bin helps us to transform our glass bottles into roads.

When wearing the lime-green hat, the FOGO bin helps turn food and garden waste into compost for our parks, gardens and farmland.

When wearing the yellow hat, the recycling bin takes materials and recycles them into something new.

When wearing the red hat, our general waste bin collects all of the items that cannot be recycled or composted.

The winner of the chosen name will win a compost bin, or a worm farm. The naming competition is open from July 13 until August 14. To enter, call 5422 0333 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/bin-mascot



MEMBER'S MESSAGE

With Mary-Anne Thomas

We love our sport in the Macedon Ranges, and I'm happy to give a shout out to the following groups who all received \$1000 through the State Government's community sport survival package: Gisborne Tennis Club, New Gisborne Tennis Club, South Gisborne Tennis Club, Macedon Tennis Club, Gisborne Football Netball Club, Gisborne Giants Football Netball Club, Macedon Football Netball Club, Gisborne Masters Football Club, Macedon Cricket Club, Gisborne Thunder Swimming Club, Gisborne Little Athletics, Gisborne Soccer Club, Bullengarook Pony Club, Bullengarook Adult Riding Club, Gisborne & District Bowls Club, Gisborne Basketball Club, Gisborne Golf Club and Central Highlands Orienteering Club. I'm pleased to know that this will go a long way towards paying the bills and keeping the lights on.

As some of our sports return to competition, I thought it'd be a great time to let you know where two of Gisborne's important sports facilities projects are at.

Gardiner Reserve is home to many of our sports clubs. Works to upgrade the reserve are currently under way and will include a new pavilion with female friendly change rooms, umpire's room and construction of a new netball court, complete with 200 lux LED competition standard lighting.

This upgrade will give clubs room to grow and is due to be completed by late 2020.

As regards the Macedon Ranges Sports Precinct in New Gisborne, Council, the State Government and the AFL have committed funding, but not yet the Federal Government.

The Council has just awarded the design tender for the first stage. For information go to www.mrsc.vic.gov.au and follow the links About-Council/Our-Projects/Initiatives/Macedon-Ranges-Regional-Sports-Precinct.

GROWN A LITTLE DURING LOCKDOWN?

Inactivity can lead to all sorts of health issues. And we know it's been difficult these last few months to stay active. But before you hit the gym and start pounding that pavement again, come in and see us for a health assessment.

Our GPs and Allied Health specialists can provide plans for getting your health and fitness back on track. Now is the time to reset, renew and be ready to go out into the world again as the best version of yourself.



For appointments, telephone 8373 5420 or online at rangesmedical.com.au





BETTY'S BOOP

With Betty Doolan

The hostel is still in lockdown but a couple of family members are allowed to come in to visit family if they have had their flu shots.

I have cancelled two of my appointments to get fitted for my shoe; I am not too sure what it will be like to go out to the shops again.

In June we had a Dress-Up Day for staff and residents. Football was truly in force with people dressed for North Melbourne (hooray), Geelong, Essendon and Collingwood.

There was Minnie Mouse, a beautiful pink fairy, a lovely beetle all in gold and brown glitter (I bet it would have been hard to get the glitter off), Red Riding Hood, a witch, a dragon that wiggled a very long tail, a cowboy, and M&Ms. Our chef even got into the swing of things and dressed as a big white rabbit with pink ears. Residents wore a variety of hats and there was even a dinosaur.

One of the staff came straight out of Downton Abbey in a lovely long green frock complete with hat, small handbag and long white gloves. .

I was looking at moving some pot plants and guess who came along — Superman. Honestly, you wouldn't believe it; not only did he move the pots, but he carried the pot stand for me in the afternoon and changed his costume to a panda.

A lot of work was put in to Dress-Up Day and it was a very successful and happy day — just what the staff and residents needed.

Stay safe

Betty

Revised COVID-19 restrictions in June meant that some of the services and programs that either had just reopened or were scheduled to recommence were affected. These include the Community Lifestyle Enhancement Program, exercise classes, Opportunity on Hamilton Op Shop, Volunteer Home Visiting and Volunteer Driver Transport.



Men's Shedders back in action



After a 10-week closure (which felt a lot longer for some of us) we opened the doors again on June 1.

Because most of us are in the 'at risk' age group, there was a lot of

behind-the-scenes activity preparing for the reopening. We reviewed the government guidelines, assessed our potential risks and took advice from the Australian Men's Shed Association. Then we prepared a policy and procedure which was reviewed and approved by Macedon Ranges Health.

So this is our New Normal. Anyone entering The Shed now must sanitise their hands and go through a temperature check and questionnaire, similar to what you get at the doctors. Once inside there are restrictions on numbers to assure we maintain the required distances and we also have additional hygiene measures for everyone to follow. And surprisingly, so far not one member has complained but it's early days yet!

Even though there has been a lot of phone and



Shedmen Paul and Max follow the new procedures.

internet communication between members, there's no substitute for a face-to-face cuppa and chat. There are now many smiling faces at The Shed on Mondays and Thursdays from 9am to midday.

Even though we're operating with some restrictions, whatever your age, drop in and see us. Somehow we'll find a way to fit you in.

Resumed visits at Gisborne Oaks bring joy to all

In May visits were able to recommence at the Gisborne Oaks residential aged care home, allowing family and friends to safely visit their loved ones again.

Applying stringent screening and physical distancing measures, residents were able to connect with their loved ones face-to-face while mitigating the potentially devastating risk of COVID-19 from entering the home.

Staff said: "Our volunteers have particularly been superstars. They have positively and proactively taken on the role of screening visitors. We could not have reopened our doors without them.

"There were so many tears of joy from our families and big 'welcome back' smiles from our residents. It has moved many of us and we are so proud to be able to support these connections where we can.

"Understandably, there are still some reservations from a number of our families and residents and to be honest, we are all fearful that COVID-19 will spread into our home. But the strong measures and processes that we are determined to uphold have helped us straddle this incredibly challenging time and ensure our community feels safe, supported and connected."

The Gisborne community and Macedon Ranges Shire continue to enrich the lives of Gisborne Oaks residents by sending letters, paintings and flowers. Primary school children have even developed pen pal relationships with many residents.

Our visitor support program will continue to be monitored and adapted as required in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



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www.macedonrangeslasertherapy.com.au

Can you laugh without leaking?

If not, you may be one of six million Australians who live with incontinence.

Continence nurse Janene Henthorn says that while bladder issues are highly common in the community, they do not have to be accepted as a normal part of life.

As a registered nurse for 30 years, Janene has a great deal of passion for supporting people to feel confident and able to live their life fully "without leaking".

"At times it can be as simple as addressing our diet," she says. "Tea, coffee and alcohol all aggravate the bladder and while weaning off coffee is never ideal—trust me I get it—it can sometimes do just the trick.

"We also have continence physios who help build the pelvic muscle strength that we need.

Many people who come in are familiar with the pelvic floor muscle exercises, but they're often not practising them effectively to make a real difference."

Janene says it is important to take action. Incontinence can affect whether a person feels confident enough to go for a run, or have dinner with friends.

"It can also affect bigger life decisions," she says. "I've had clients in their 30s unsure whether to conceive again due to the impact on continence. The quicker people seek out treatment the better. It's about taking the action needed to feel confident to laugh again without leaking — whatever your age!"

To book a continence assessment at Macedon Ranges Health, call 5428 0300.



Make your op shop donation count

Did you know that up to a third of items that are donated to charity

stores are unsuitable for sale? Our local organisations rely on your generous donations but if the correct processes are not followed, it can create a financial burden for not-for-profit organisations and put a strain on volunteers.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is joining local opportunity shops to stop dumping of illegal rubbish and unwanted items.



Macedon Ranges
Shire Council

Here are some tips for making your donation count.

- Every store is different so check with the op shop as to which items they are accepting.
- Only donate items that are in good condition, undamaged and clean.
- Leave items in designated drop-off areas during opening hours, unless after-hours donation bins are accessible.
- Do not leave donations outside where they are exposed to the weather.

Health Talk

with local medico Dr Umair Masood

What are screening tests?



Screening tests are done to identify people who may require further investigations to determine if a particular disease is present and how

bad it may be. Screening allows us to detect disease at a stage when we can treat it more effectively.

We do screening tests on conditions that are prevalent in the population so that we can reduce mortality. Early diagnosis is the key to more effective treatment. Some common examples are breast screening for breast cancer, pap smears for cervical cancer and FOBT (poo test) for bowel cancer. Let us look at these tests and consider their benefits.

The Poo test- (FOBT)

The commonly talked about poo test is also known as the faecal occult blood test (FOBT). You will be given a sample kit by your doctor or by the federal government when you turn 50. You will have to take a sample from at least two different bowel motions. These samples are then sent for lab analysis. The test detects blood that may be present in the stool samples.

Blood can be present for many reasons: it could be due to polyps in the bowel, which is a precursor to bowel cancer, and it may also be present for something simple such as haemorrhoids. If the test is positive for blood, your doctor will recommend a colonoscopy, which detects if there is a polyp or bowel cancer present. We will be able to go ahead and treat this. If this is detected early enough, the treatment will be very effective. FOBTs should be done every two years in everyone over the age of 50.

Breast Screen

Breast screening involves a mammogram, which is a low energy X-ray that is done with two separate views of each breast. It can detect breast cancer even when any lumps are not palpable. You may be called back for further views if an abnormality is detected. This will help decide if any other intervention is needed. Again, early diagnosis of breast cancer usually means a better outcome.

Women aged between 50 and 74 should have this done every two years. It is a free service and available throughout Australia. It is worth remembering that over 75% of breast cancer is found in women over the age of 50. Breast screening services across Victoria are now open again after closure due to COVID-19.

Pap smears

The cervix is the opening of the uterus. We have the ability to detect pre-cancerous changes in the cervix. If these changes are detected and treated early, we can prevent the onset of cervical cancer. The test involves collecting a sample from the cervix. Your doctor will be able to do this at the clinic. The sample is analysed for the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), which is implicated in 99% of cervical cancer. If HPV is detected, the test can also be used to see if there are any changes in the cells of the cervix. There is effective treatment for this if detected early.

If you are aged between 25 and 74 and have ever been sexually active, you should have a pap smear done every five years until you turn 74. Since we started doing pap smears in 1991, we have halved the incidence and death rates from cervical cancer.

Are you in a GOOD SPACE?

If you care for or look after a family member or loved one with a mental illness, **PS My Family Matters** is offering a complimentary program of support to help keep you in a 'good space'. Recent funding from the Bendigo Bank, Tobin Brothers and the State Government means we can offer a support program to help in these tough times.

The Good Space program includes:

- an assessment of your individual and family needs;
- assistance accessing the right health care resources;
- peer support from a trained volunteer with lived experience of mental health issues;
- access to a range of complimentary respite offers to help in these tough times (e.g. pizza or shopping vouchers, phone/data cards, entertainment subscriptions); and
- access to online support targeted to mental health care and personal wellbeing.

To register for the **Good Space Program**, and to set up your initial assessment, please call or email using the details below.

0475 269 965 | psmfm@outlook.com



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Peer support after suicide

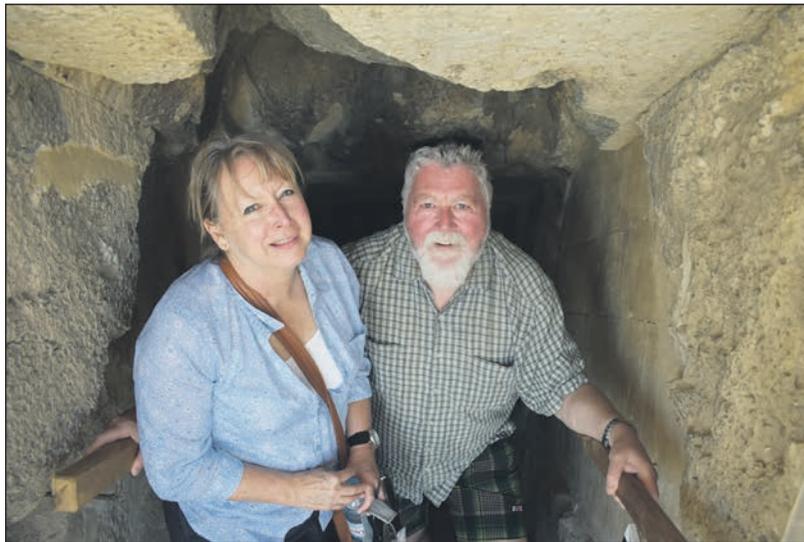


"We were away when we received the phone call that absolutely rocked our world and broke our hearts. Liam, our 20-year-old son, had suicided very early in the morning and was discovered by his sister, our 18-year-old daughter. It was the longest three hour drive home, both so desperate to get back to our daughter and what she would be going through.

"Liam had not given any hint of what he must have been feeling, so his suicide came absolutely out of the blue.

"Having a child suicide made us question our belief in ourselves as parents. It evokes all sorts of emotions; the heightened awareness of being judged and the assumptions made about our son...well, you think you are being judged due to the stigma which can surround suicide."

When the opportunity to be involved in Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group (MRSPAG) arose, Noelene Ward became involved straight away and has continued to do so for over six years now. When it became an action of MRSPAG to support those bereaved by suicide, both Marcus and Noelene participated, along with five others with similar experience, to become Peer Supporters of those bereaved by suicide. The training was led by the Richmond-based Jesuit Services'



Noelene and Marcus Ward are Support After Suicide Peer Supporters for MRSPAG

Support After Suicide, who are considered the best practitioners in this area of suicide support.

Since then, on the second Monday of every month, meetings have been held for people bereaved by suicide at Newham Mechanics Institute between 7 and 8.30pm. Presently they are meeting via Zoom but are hopeful of again meeting face to face in Newham in the coming months.

"Our family has been through some really tough times, but we have come through together. It really helped us to talk to others who have a

lived experience of a loss by suicide; we just want others who have lost a loved one to suicide to know support is available from empathetic people who have some understanding of what they are experiencing."

For further information call Noelene on 0400 509 896 or email peersupport@mrspag.com.au. If interested, a link to Zoom can be sent.

National 24/7 crisis services:
 • Lifeline 13 11 14 www.lifeline.org.au
 • Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467, www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au

An article about general health by local resident Julie Ireland

Helping others is good for your health

Research suggests that there is a strong correlation between those who actively help others and their own wellbeing, happiness and health. And to be honest, doesn't it just make you feel good to know that you have helped someone?



By Julie Ireland

The end of June marked the first anniversary of my association with the Gisborne Foodbank.

When I found out that a Foodbank was opening in our area, I was shocked at my own naivety in not realising that some people in our Macedon Ranges community might be struggling to put food on the table, and started wondering how I could help.

So, on opening day, I headed to Gisborne with a small donation. I was greeted warmly at the door by the Foodbank Manager, Anita, an amazing woman who is passionate about helping others. We chatted about the need for a Foodbank in our community as Anita showed me around their modest space at the rear of the Uniting Church, and I met some of the wonderful volunteers who give their time each week to help others.

But what could I do to help? I offered to get the word out about the Foodbank into the community, and so the Gisborne Foodbank social media pages were born. This has led to local people and businesses regularly donating food and cash and the Foodbank family being spread far and wide around the Macedon Ranges. I feel truly fortunate to be a part of something like the Foodbank with other members of our community and it is heart-warming to know that there are so many people who also want to help.

When I first turned up at the Gisborne Foodbank a year ago, I had no idea what I could do to help in the community that has been so welcoming to my family since we moved here in 2003. It just goes to show, that we can all make a difference. I did, and so can you, all while improving your health and wellbeing at the same time.

Take care of yourselves everyone.

Water prices to remain stable for next twelve months

Western Water's prices are to remain stable for the coming year, as set out in the Essential Services Commission's price determination handed down recently.

"In response to customer feedback, we are reducing our fixed services charges, so customers have greater opportunity to reduce the size of their bill if they can use less water,"

said managing director Jeff Rigby. The Tier 3 water use rate, which applies to residential customers using more than 880 litres per day, will see a small increase.

Mr Rigby said with population growth and climate change affecting water supplies, Western Water wanted to encourage people to use



less water if they could. Support options were available for those who could not, including large-family discounts. Customers were encouraged to contact Western Water to discuss these options.

The only increase to typical water bills on July 1 would reflect the cost of inflation, Mr Rigby said.

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Aircraft restorer scales new heights

By Bryan Power

In June 2018 the *Gazette* published an account of Mike Subritzky's involvement in the restoration of a Spitfire aircraft which saw him take on the task of building the two main wings at his factory in New Gisborne. The aircraft is now finished.

The story of Mike's career is fascinating, as is the history of his Polish ancestors who made their mark on the development of New Zealand.

At the age of 19, having just completed his tool and die-making apprenticeship with Universal Tooling in Auckland, Mike started working on the restoration of his first plane, a Curtiss P40 Kittyhawk,

He worked on that plane from 1996 to 2008 and his efforts were well recognised and rewarded when the plane was judged Grand Champion at the prestigious Oshkosh Air Show in Wisconsin, US, in 2016. However, despite his long love affair with Kittyhawks, when speaking of war planes Mike is adamant: "In my mind Spitfires are the ultimate—the best all round fighter in World War Two."

Mike was born in New Zealand and grew up in Auckland where his father Don worked as an aeronautical engineer for Air New Zealand. Mike has only been living in Australia since 2008 but the Subritzky family's connection with this country goes way back to the gold rush days of the 1850s when they initially sought their fortune digging for gold at Maldon and later successfully achieved it by starting businesses there to supply the diggers.

However, when the family learned of land opening up in the far north of New Zealand they emigrated across the Tasman in 1860 to take up 3200 hectares (8,000 acres in the measures of the time)



▲ Mike (left) and his father Don with one of the Spitfire wings at his factory in 2018.

and from then on prospered to become one of the nation's leading pioneer families.

Mike's great-great-grandfather Johannes Anton Subritzky and his brothers Ludolph and Heinrich established numerous businesses including the Subritzky Shipping Line that carried coastal supplies and later cargo between New Zealand, Australia and the South Pacific islands.

On a return journey from a trading voyage to Australia, Johannes Anton brought back one of the first privately owned cars in Auckland and the first in Northland. It was a 1902 Oldsmobile and the locals nicknamed it "The Queen Street Greyhound" after Johannes Anton had the colourful distinction of participating with the car in the first 'drag race' along Queen Street in Auckland; he was aged about 74 at the time. Both drivers were fined ten pounds for endangering public safety. Johannes also had the first recorded automobile smash in Auckland when his car collided with Tram Number 40 on October 12, 1904.

So the fascination with all things mechanical seems to have been passed down the generations to Don and Mike.

Mike received a call in 2008 inviting him to come to Australia to work on a Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) contract to develop heat suppressors for the engines of Chinook helicopters being flown by the Australian Army in Afghanistan. The Taliban were using shoulder-mounted launchers to fire heat-seeking missiles at aircraft so the heat of the helicopters' exhaust emissions had to be drastically lowered. The project was proceeding well until a change of government saw the contract terminated.

Mike then decided to move with his wife Michelle to Gisborne as he knew it to be at the hub of aircraft restoration in Victoria and because of the town's proximity to the aeronautical industries associated with Essendon and Tulla-



▲ Mike with the Piper Lance



▲ The restored Spitfire on a recent flight in Queensland.

Mike has clocked up 30 years of experience and his expertise is much in demand

marine airports. Mike's expertise allows him to create the tools that are used to make aeroplane parts and he can do this on a one-off basis for engineers. For example, for his Kittyhawk restorations he has bought microfilm copies of the aircraft's original plans from the archives of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington.

Mike has now clocked up 30 years of experience restoring aircraft and his expertise is much in demand. Ian Whitney, another local aircraft restorer whose current projects include two Kittyhawks and a Wirraway, said: "if Mike does it, it will be done properly and accurately."

Mike is also manufacturing the internal control system, propeller, spinner

and engine cowls and mountings for a Spitfire being built by Frank Deeth, a Qantas A380 pilot who has found plenty of time in the past couple of months to work on his project. Frank is building the plane to a special design created by an Englishman and it will be only the second Spitfire to be constructed as a two-seat, timber aircraft. Frank has already built a wooden plane—an Australian-designed Corby Starlet—which he flies out of Kyneton. He said it was a pleasure to work with Mike whom he described as being "part of New Zealand aircraft royalty". He likened watching Mike's CAD skills as akin to witnessing "the hand of God in action."

Mike has also worked on building panels for vintage cars including a 1920s-era Alvis C20. He is currently involved in a local project to build a replica of the Edsell Ford Model 40 Special Speedster.

During the COVID-19 lockdown Mike has been restricted to working at home on the Piper Lance he co-owns with friends.

Thank you, Gisborne foodies

Local cafes and restaurants were delighted to welcome back their customers when restrictions were eased in June to allow limited onsite consumption within COVID-19 guidelines. The *Gazette*

popped in to catch some of the action and encourages readers to support local businesses of all types to help them make it through this challenging time. More local eateries next month.



Go Go at Kaffeine Bar Cafe was pleased to show off the cafe's new decor.



The Elamin family – Leanne, Salwa, Phyras and Saad – are a happy team at the Corner Boutique Cafe Bar.



Cody, Anupam and Louisa are happy to have their customers return in good numbers at Canteena.



Mandy at Gisborne Bakehouse Cafe was busy on the coffee machine.



Sam was being kept busy allocating seating at Jed.



Bryony and Brittany agreed that the Jolly Miller has been as busy as ever.



Jack's customers are returning in numbers for his popular Vietnamese dishes at Trinh's Kitchen.



Daniel, Nelson and Ellie are part of the team catering for full (to COVID limit) houses each night at The Collective

for hanging in there for us



Yan (who loves a joke) decides to serve her waitresses Emily and Beth at Hai Yun.



Liz, Khoka and his sister Cynthia look forward to their customers returning to cibo e vino.



Staff members Jaz and Jess have been dealing with full houses at the Telegraph Hotel.



Shae and Sophia make sure their diners get the message at the Victorian Tavern.



Carolynn and Adrian at Wine O'Clock are thrilled to have customers back again and have been booked out (to the allowed 20 at a time).



Salv at Sheppard's Choice is grateful for the loyal support of his customers.



Husband and wife team Chris and Amy kept SoLatte going with takeaway trade during the lockdown.



Hannah, Cathy and Jaz keep the coffees coming at 3 Little Pigs.



Yok and Marilyn at My Thai are hoping there will be further easing of restrictions.



Lewis Gauci says it's been pumpin' at Baringo.



Stephanie is pleased to be reopening the Flying Pigeon for table service.

Wearable winter art at the reopened Gallery

The Gallery is pleased to be open again, with restricted hours during July of 11am to 3pm weekends only.

During lockdown our artists have been active in their studios creating new work. We welcome the return of our loyal local customers in our wonderful community and the many visitors coming to support our region.

We had to cancel our Art to Wear Parade in July for the first time in fifteen years. However, during July in the focus room of the gallery we will be featuring textiles by our talented local members. In this cold winter, treat yourself to our hand painted wool and silk scarves, handknits, beanies, and felted wool garments. All unique pieces. There is also a large range of jewellery to choose from. We thank you for supporting our artists during this unprecedented time in our lives.

The Gallery: down the lane behind the Trading Post www.thegallerymtmacedon.com.au



Creativity comes with a challenge

The Macedon Ranges Photographic Society Members have been creative during the last few months in order to stay connected and enjoy their love of photography.

With all outings and face-to-face meetings cancelled for the first half of the year, club members have been keeping in touch and staying creative in other ways.

Back in January, local resident and club member James Holgate started planning a 20-week photographic challenge in order get club members out and about in the local area. This was quickly modified when lockdown restrictions took over. James had to ensure that the challenge could be completed within lockdown rules.

At the beginning of each week, a new set topic is announced. Those involved in the challenge then take photographs of that theme. It has quickly become apparent that rather than limiting the opportunities



Challenge Topic: Food
Image: Judy Harrison

for interesting photographs, the lockdown helped creativity flourish. Members have demonstrated interesting interpretations on a wide range of topics such as: (Through) a Window, Blue, Food, Hope, Candlelight, Black and White and many more.

As each week ends, members post their image online. Others within the club then provide valuable feedback, constructive criticism, ask questions about technique or ideas, or simply enjoy the gallery of photographs.

The 20 Week Challenge has become such a great opportunity for creativity and enjoyment that

it looks like becoming a 30 Week Challenge, as it continues through the winter months!

For more information about MRPS, please visit www.macedon-ranges-photography.org.au or to view more creative images from the 20 Week Challenge see <https://macedon-ranges-photography.org.au/20-week-challenge-topics/>

Colleen Mahoney



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Love of music and love of life



Vale Stephen Brockman
(1 November 1941 – 28 May 2020)

In late May the Gisborne Singers announced the tragic death of their esteemed musical director, Stephen Brockman, following a serious fall from a bicycle.

Stephen came from an accomplished musical family and studied flute at Melbourne University Conservatorium of Music before starting an engineering career in Geelong. He later switched to music, his great love, and became a successful orchestral musician and conductor, both in Australia and overseas.

Stephen was appointed musical director of the Gisborne Singers in 2008 and, under his expert and compassionate leadership, the choir has successfully brought quality large-scale classical works to the Macedon Ranges, complete with professional orchestras and soloists.

Twice, members of the choir have been invited to sing at Carnegie Hall, New York. The first was in 2017 for the North American premiere of Sir Karl Jenkins' *Cantata Memoria* and the second in early 2020. Stephen was ably and lovingly assisted in all things musical by his wife, Margaret, and it was her reduced orchestral score for *Cantata Memoria* that made it possible for the choir to present the 2018 Australian premiere of this work.

In 2015, Stephen received the Macedon Ranges Arts Ambassador Award in the Australia Day honours list.

Compounded by COVID-19 restrictions, the choir is still grappling with this devastating news and is unsure how it will best proceed as a choir, as Stephen's shoes are very BIG shoes to fill.

Within the choir community, tremendous support has been shown for each other. Choir members in isolation recorded several pieces that were dear to Stephen's heart and assembled these in a virtual recording that was played at Stephen's funeral.

The outpouring of grief from the wider musical community has included tributes from singers and musicians who attribute the opportunities presented to them by Stephen as a significant factor in their journey to success. Stephen also gave unique opportunities for local children to sing with the Gisborne Singers.

Among the adults, one chorister acknowledged that Stephen had provided the opportunities for her to learn music she "only ever dreamt of singing." Another commented "Our time with Stephen and the Gisborne Singers was the beginning of a deeper understanding and love of classical music; and singing with an orchestra under the baton of an experienced and dedicated conductor was a privilege we did not take for granted."

Stephen will be remembered as a man who had incredible talent, not only in music, but in many aspects of life; who knew how to get the best from his singers, had a wonderful sense of humour, who continually encouraged choristers and made them feel comfortable and welcome.

As one choir member so aptly said: "His kindness, good nature and humility were as much a part of him as his love of music and love of life."

Stephen is survived by his wife Margaret, daughters Johanna and Heidi, and grandchildren Jack and Jean.

Alison Kinghorn



Receiving Macedon Ranges Arts Ambassador Award.



Leading the Gisborne Singers at Tuesday night rehearsal



Chorister Orson Pillay rehearses in his garden.

Young Voices receive bank grant

Young Voices of Macedon are the fortunate and grateful recipients of a grant of \$1,000 from the Community Bank Branch of Bendigo Bank to enable the participation of professional musicians at their annual concert. Due to COVID-19 disruptions to live rehearsals, the concert will not take place as planned in October. However, the terms of the grant allow the event to be postponed to mid-2021.



During Term 2 the choir maintained a program of Zoom rehearsals. This challenged staff and choristers to embrace different learning strategies, happily with positive outcomes.

Much progress has been made by the Cantabile group in learning the jazz cantata *Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo*, along with sea shanties and other songs. And under the excellent leadership of Jessica Demare the Vivo group has mastered several songs about the sea. By the beginning of July we expect to have produced virtual whole-choir performances of three-part arrangements of *Drunken Sailor* and *Octopus's Garden*.

Not all children were able to participate in this program, so we look forward to a return to live rehearsals. New members are encouraged to come along and enjoy the experience of being part of a friendly choir that values excellent repertoire and the development of musical skills.

www.yvmacedon.org.au

Dianne Gome



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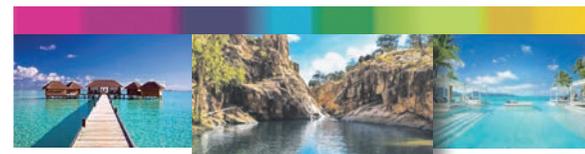
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The Watsons

OF GISBORNE AND MOUNT MACEDON

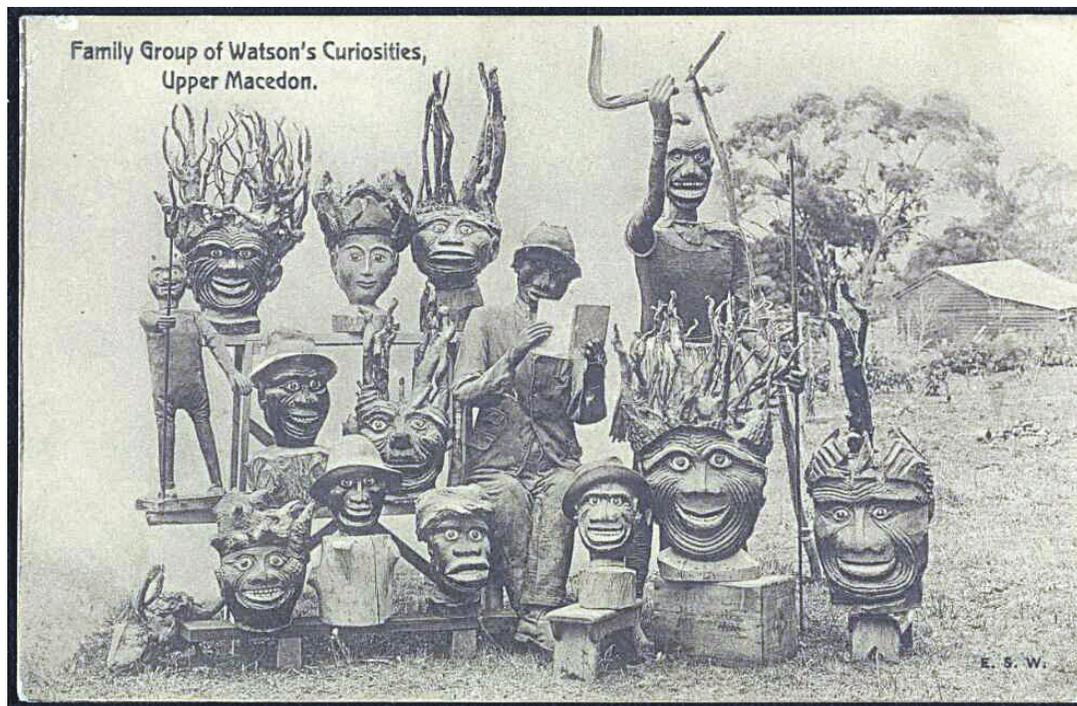
From the archives of the Historical Society

William Edwin Watson who was born in Northumberland in 1823, married Henrietta Greenbank in the Registry Office at Newcastle-upon-Tyne on March 4, 1848. The following year their daughter Adelaide Henrietta was born, followed by the arrival of Alfred William in 1850 and Emily Anna in 1852. Emily died in infancy.

Four months after the death of Emily Anna, William and Henrietta, together with their two surviving children, set sail as unassisted migrants aboard the *Chance* on July 24, 1852, for a new life in Australia. Tragically both of their children died of an undisclosed illness during the voyage and were buried at sea.

The ship arrived in Melbourne on October 26, 1852, after a voyage of 95 days, and all the passengers were required to remain in quarantine until November 11, as 46 passengers, most of whom were children, had died during the voyage.

The arrival of William and Henrietta coincided with the frenzy of the discovery of gold, so after a few weeks in Melbourne, they headed for the diggings at Bendigo, Beechworth and McIvor. Watson's success at the goldfields enabled him to buy three teams of horses to carry provisions from Melbourne to the diggings.



William Watson became known around Mount Macedon for his family of intriguingly odd carved figures.

Early in 1854, with Henrietta pregnant with their fourth child, the couple moved to Gisborne where they lived for the next six years and where Watson returned to his former occupation as a carpenter and builder, erecting and repairing many homes and shops, also carrying out repairs to the original jail that was situated in the Police Paddock on what is now known as 'Wyabun Park'.

These tasks were recorded in Watson's day book, a copy of which is held at the Court House. When building work

was not available, he found employment including painting and decorating, ploughing, sowing grain crops and coffin making. In 1854, Alfred William Greenbank Watson was born, followed by Emily Adelaide in 1855 and Ernest Edwin in 1857.

In May 1855 William Watson had assisted with the marking and surveying of the road from Gisborne to the Blackwood diggings. The Historical Society has a copy of this planned route which ran from the Gisborne Cemetery through the forest to Blackwood, although this road was not ever constructed. The general instruction provided to travellers for access to the Blackwood diggings was to travel along Mount Alexander Road to Middle Gully and turn west to the new diggings. Blackwood Road in Macedon is a reminder of these early directions.

In 1860 Watson bought land and the family moved to Upper Macedon (Mt Macedon) where he completed the first hotel in 1863 which he named the Mountain Inn, later renamed Waterfalls Hotel and Oriental Hotel. The hotel and house, on the Main Road at Mt Macedon, survived many bushfires for 120 years, until it was destroyed in the 1983 Ash

Wednesday fires.

William and Henrietta had a further five children, Laura Stella in 1860, Herbert Canard in 1862 (who died aged two years), Albert Edward in 1863, Flora Constance in 1865 (who died aged six months), and Herbert Kanard who was born in 1867. The marriage had produced 11 children although only six of these children survived beyond infancy.

In his retirement, Watson carved grotesque figures from tree stumps and roots and displayed them in his front garden, much to the amusement of those who passed by and to the fear of many local school children, who crossed the road to avoid seeing what became known as 'Watson's Curiosities'.

Henrietta Watson died in 1902 followed by William in 1916 and they rest in the Macedon Cemetery.

Herbert Kanard Watson followed in his father's footsteps as a carpenter and remained living at Mount Macedon. His son Geoffrey Herbert, who was born in 1909, became a policeman and he in turn had a son Graeme Geoffrey, who was born on May 8, 1933.

During 1937 when the poliomyelitis epidemic was of concern, Graeme was sent from suburban Melbourne to Mount Macedon to stay with his grandparents in the 'pure mountain air' to avoid the virus. A child from New Zealand was staying with a neighbour and these two little boys played together. Unbeknown to all, this neighbouring child carried the virus and Graeme contracted polio and spent the next five years in isolation at the orthopaedic branch of the Royal Children's Hospital at Mount Eliza.

Graeme, who wore a support on his withered leg and who joked about the way he walked with a noticeable limp, together with his wife Carol and family, settled in Queensland in retirement. It was here that Graeme, great-grandson of William and Henrietta, died recently just prior to his 87th birthday.

He will always be remembered fondly for his jokes, his infectious smile and his enjoyment of life.



Waterfalls Hotel, Mt Macedon

The 'Father of Railways'



George Stephenson

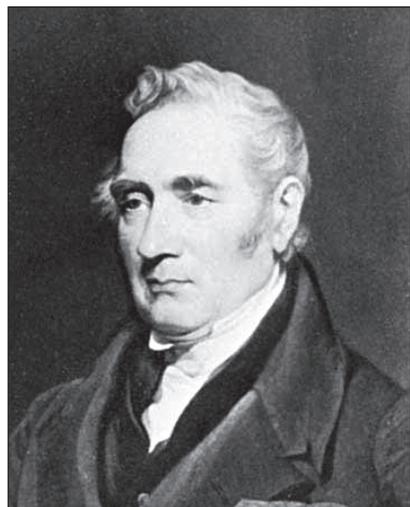
Engineer and inventor George Stephenson is regarded as the 'Father of Railways'. His chosen rail gauge was the basis for the 4 feet 8½ inch (1435mm) standard gauge used by most of the world's railways.

Stephenson was the second child of Robert and Mabel Stephenson, neither of whom could read or write. Robert Stephenson worked as the fireman for a steam engine that was used to pump water out of the Wylam Coal mine a few kilometres west of Newcastle, UK. His son went to work at the mine at an early age and without formal schooling; by age 19 he was operating a Newcomen engine.

His curiosity aroused by the Napoleonic war news, Stephenson junior enrolled in night school and learned to read and write.

After his marriage, in order to earn extra income, George Stephenson learned to repair shoes and fix clocks. His wife died of tuberculosis, leaving him with a young son, Robert, whom he sent to a Newcastle school to learn mathematics; every night when the boy came home, father and son would go over the homework together, both learning.

Stephenson's genius with steam engines eventually won him the post of engine wright (chief mechanic) at Killingworth colliery near Newcastle. By 1814 he had persuaded the lessees of the colliery to fund a "travelling engine", the Blucher, a steam engine that drew eight loaded wagons carrying 30 tonnes of coal at



George Stephenson



Stephenson's Rocket

6km per hour. Over the next few years, Stephenson built several locomotives for Killingworth and other collieries and gained a measure of fame by inventing a mine-safety lamp.

In 1821 he heard of a project for a railway to be built, using draught-horses, in north-east England to facilitate exploitation of a rich vein of coal. He interviewed the promoter, Edward Pease, and so impressed him that Pease commissioned Stephenson to build a steam locomotive for the line. On September 27, 1825, railway passenger transportation was born when the first public passenger train,

pulled by Stephenson's Active (later renamed Locomotion), ran from the towns of Darlington to Stockton, carrying 450 people and travelling at 15 miles (24km) per hour.

After this, Liverpool and Manchester interests called him in to build a 64-kilometre railway line to connect the two cities. To survey and construct the line, Stephenson had to outwit the violent hostility of farmers and landlords who feared, among other things, that the railway would supplant horse-drawn transportation and shut off the market for oats.

When the line was nearing completion in 1829, a competition, known as the Rainhill Trials, was held to find the best locomotive engine for the line. Stephenson's new engine, the Rocket, which was designed and built by George's son, Robert, won with an average speed of 16 kilometres per hour (10 miles per hour back in the day).

The locomotive had a tall smokestack chimney at the front, a cylindrical boiler in the middle, and a separate firebox at the rear. The large front pair of wooden wheels was driven by two external cylinders set at an angle. The smaller rear wheels were not coupled to the driving wheels, giving an 0-2-2 wheel arrangement.

From this time on, railway building spread rapidly throughout Britain, Europe, and North America, and George and Robert Stephenson continued as the chief guides of this revolutionary transportation medium, solving problems of roadway construction, bridge design, and locomotive and rolling-stock manufacture.

Submitted by Arthur Boyd, Gisborne Vintage Machinery Society Miniature and Model Railways, 0419 897 721

Fellowship and discovery when U3A reopens

During the lockdown period, we have spoken to a number of people who have felt cut off and would like things to return to normal.



In these conversations we have referred to the U3A fellowship. It is not demanding, but it offers community and a chance to share knowledge and to learn new insights. Once we reopen, please consider coming to a meeting to see if this form of connection is for you.

Our speakers are varied and there is something for everyone. If a coming speaker does not interest you, it is OK to not come to that session. But most sessions have been lively and engaging.

Visitors will be welcome when we reopen. Meetings are held on Mondays at 10:30am at the Gisborne Community Centre, but naturally we are waiting for restrictions to be lifted again. If you come, you will be entering into an activity that has branches and courses all over Australia for like-minded people.

Keith Hallett, President

Birds of the Macedon Ranges



White-throated Gerygone

This small bird sometimes known as the White-throated Warbler, is migratory, leaving Victoria in autumn to fly north. Its call, a distinctive descending trill, is among the most pleasant of our native birds.

The pairs breed in spring when they make a nest of fine bark held together with spiders' webs.



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FOR THE GREEN THUMBS

Friends of Daly Nature Reserve

News from Daly Nature Reserve

Our Friends group and neighbours of Daly Nature Reserve were disappointed to see a well-established eucalyptus tree felled near the Daly Street bus stop. Council have advised that the tree was rotting and therefore a danger to the public.

The good news is that 10 of our group met in early June and walked around the whole area, assessing, and making plans for future working bees. Gorse, broom, blackberry and ivy are invasive and confirmed weeds for our area in Macedon Ranges Shire Council's Weed Booklet.

In spring, a professional team will assist in eradicating these plants. In general, the Reserve is in good condition and we invite you to take a walk around and enjoy the peace and quiet. Mulched tracks are there to guide you through the bushland section.

Pupils of Gisborne Primary School will remember planting seeds of kangaroo apple during a visit to the Reserve. The plants are growing well and will be ready for transplanting later in the year.



Unfortunately this tree was rotting and presented a danger, so was cut down by council contractors.

Committee nominations are being accepted, but we cannot confirm the date for our AGM (due late July) until we confirm our venue and hear about the latest COVID-19 virus restrictions.

We are happy to welcome newcomers to our next working bee on Tuesday July 14 at 9.30am. Sign in at the Scout Hall. Tool kits are provided and we end with a cuppa at 11am. Enquiries: dalynaturereserve@gmail.com

Irene Perkin

Some virtual gardens to enjoy



Subject to any directions from the government, we hope to have the Gisborne Garden Club meet again in September – we will advise you as soon as possible. The club AGM will be postponed to the November meeting which we propose to be at the garden of Louise Whitefield in Gisborne as was previously scheduled for August.

On the suggestion of Di Barker, I have investigated 'virtual gardens' via the internet and would like to introduce you to a couple of gems.

My first destination is the Gardens by the Bay in Singapore. Having visited this horticultural gem myself late last year, I am more than enthusiastic about what has been done there. The most impressive are the two domes; the Cloud Forest and the Flower Dome. You will see some amazing plants and also spectacular sculptures, all in a controlled environment.

The Flower Dome contains the most amazing collection of succulent plants that I've ever seen as well as international plant collections. The Cloud Forest is nothing if not spectacular with an incredible waterfall at the entrance. You can ascend to the top of the dome via a lift, then descend again on an aerial walkway alongside and through the hanging tropical plants. See www.gardensbythebay.com and click on 'stayhomewithgb' and 'videos'. There are also handy gardening workshops, DIY tips and tricks and insider knowledge with a series of horticultural videos, all free, related to various gardening pursuits.

For those with a more European focus, you might like to check out the Royal Botanical Society gardens at Kew and Wakehurst in England. They are having a wonderful season. Visit www.kew.org/about-us/virtual-kew-wakehurst Again there are many informative and interesting videos for keen gardeners.

Bernhard
President, Gisborne Garden Club

Marvellous mailboxes



William and Sue, client and support worker respectively, from Windarring Gisborne, took these photos on the outskirts of Gisborne while delivering the June edition.

Maybe a school holiday project for creative kids with a standard letterbox?



Many opportunities for you to care for nature

It has been wonderful seeing so many people out walking and exercising in nature over the past couple of months. We are very lucky to have such a beautiful environment in which we live.



If you discovered or rediscovered a favourite place, why not investigate whether there is a volunteer group associated with caring for it and donate some of your time to help maintain it. There are lots of groups maintaining various nooks and crannies and they could achieve much more with a few extra hands.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has a list of current groups, or keep your eyes open for working bee signs while out and about.

Ann
Gisbornelandcare@gmail.com



Adjusting to new shirewide cat curfew

Confining cats

**Vet Talk with local vet
Dr Caitlin Horwood-Skelton**



From July 1, Macedon Ranges Shire has a cat curfew from sunset to sunrise — so while you may still be focused on COVID containment, don't neglect to confine your cat.

What does a cat curfew really mean? How do you contain a cat, this independent little “king of the beasts”? If your cat is accustomed to roaming at all hours, then you have some work ahead of you.

It makes sense to convince your feline friend to hunker down at home in the evening. The goal is to reduce cats' significant predatory impact on nocturnal wildlife, reduce injury to your own cat from fighting or road trauma, and minimise nuisance to your neighbours. You have three options: 100% indoor, indoor with an outside containment space, or indoor-outdoor cat-living.

Many cats can be content with a 100% indoor lifestyle. Keep life interesting with vertical play spaces, cat towers, high shelves for sleeping and hiding, and access to sunny spots by the window. Spend some time in play with your cat, with laser lights, feathery or fluffy chase-toys, or moving mobiles.

You may need a deterrent (such as water spray, or a sharp noise) to stop your cat darting outside whenever the door is opened and ensure there are multiple litter tray options.

To provide an outside containment space, you may install a cat-proof netted or caged enclosure accessible from an open window, or attempt to make your entire yard cat-proof. Cats are notorious Houdinis, and accomplished climbers, so a high fence will not usually suffice. Roller batons or an internal-facing wire or netting on the fence topline discourage cats jumping to escape. Your cat will find the weakest point, so look for a loophole before your cat finds one.

If you're aiming for an indoor-outdoor balance, review the activity, sleep, and feeding patterns of your cat. Promote an environment where he gets his play, exercise and entertainment through the day, then always comes inside for dinner.

Cats love routine — it is up to you to create the rules: be inside by sunset.

- Macedon Ranges Shire Council has a “Training your cat to stay inside” brochure available containing information and hints for keeping cats where you need them to be. It is available to download at mrsc.vic.gov.au/cats

You can also pick up a hard copy at your local pet supply store or by contacting Council on 5422 0333.

More morning adventures of a dog called Max

What was that? That noise! It's the coffee machine! That means it's my morning snack time! So, while they enjoy sipping their soy lattes, I get to woof down a beef schmacko! My favourite! I love them! Absolutely delicious! After



gulping that down, it's time to venture outside once more; this time ... to patrol the outside perimeter!

First mission: search for the lizard people (dry-noses call them skinks). They had better not be on the back deck again! I've warned them so many times; even chased them, but they scamper between the planks and escape my clutches; Max the Terminator! I see one...time for me to pounce! Damn; missed it. He's too quick. Woof, woof!! And stay away! This is my place, and don't you forget it.

Next, time to say hello to Rex (he's the puppy next door). He's always good for a chat; always wanting to seek out my words of wisdom. You see, he's trying to train the dry-noses he lives with; but he's got five to train! And he's only six months old; that's a lot to ask of a young dog. Hence he turns to good old Uncle Maxie for help. And I have heaps of advice. He looks up to me. What can I say — I'm his idol.

Time now to strut along doggie lane humming “Who let the dogs out”

and head to the rear fence to see what's happening down there. Doggie lane is this paved pathway reserved only for the top dog of the house; and I've earned this privilege! The dry-noses have planted some nice plants down here, obviously tributes to me.

Now where are those bones I buried? Oh boy! I'm having so much fun digging! I feel like the Lagina brothers, Rick and Marty, attempting to uncover the mysteries of Oak Island. Maybe you've watched a few episodes of their TV program, “The Curse of Oak Island” on the History Channel? The doggie master and I watch recorded episodes every Saturday morning. We never miss it. The female dry-nose hates it; she'd rather do her Pilates. I don't get it. What's more exciting — digging or Pilates? I know which one I'm picking! Digging for bones, baby!

Found them! Happy days! Yippee! Wag the tail; run around in circles...I'm so excited; I just can't hide it; I'm about to lose control; and I think I like it! Lol...

All right...that's enough! I think I've got all the yummy taste out of those raw bones, plus my jaw hurts from all that gnawing. I wonder what the dry-noses are up to. Let's go check! I can't wait to tell them about my digging...what? Why is the female dry-nose yelling at me? What do you mean I'm dirty?!...

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JOKES & RIDDLES

What ring is always square?

A boxing ring

Doctor, Doctor, I've only got 30 seconds to live!

Could you wait a minute, please!

Teacher: What's the shortest month?

Student: May! It's only got three letters!

What kind of bird never tells the truth?

A lyre bird

What time of day is the same whether it's spelt backwards or forwards?

Noon

What has eight legs and eighteen lives?

Two cats

How can you tell which end of a worm is its head?

Tickle it in the middle and see which end laughs.

What happens to a thief if he falls into a cement mixer?

He becomes a hardened criminal.

Why are birthdays good for you?

The more you have, the longer you live.

Five fun wet weather ideas to do at home

Cold and rainy days are only going to increase over winter in the Macedon Ranges. Here are five wet weather ideas for the kids at home.

Car Racing: The Matchbox cars always get a workout in cooler weather, even as my children get older. Do a simple race down a ramp to find the car that can go the farthest, or have each car represent an AFL footy team, play them against each other and record the results.

Play Dough Baking Championship: Get the play dough out or make your own and start creating. Have the kids use cookie cutters to make ice-cream sandwiches, biscuits and cakes.

Put on a Performance:

Whether through a fashion parade, rock band, magic or dance show, get the kids to showcase their talents by preparing a performance. This can be as big or little as they like. The kids might want to put on costumes, create posters, make tickets and invite family, friends or neighbours.



MACEDON RANGES MUMMA

with Kat Buttigieg

Paper Aeroplane Target Practice: Get creative with your older kids by making paper aeroplanes. Everyone can choose their three best and you can test them out by seeing which can fly the farthest, highest, or hit a specific target.



Jumping in Muddy Puddles: Rug the kids up and send them outside to jump in puddles.

The worst-case scenario is everyone gets chucked in the bath afterwards and that there is a bit of extra washing. It's definitely worth the joy on your children's faces.

I hope to see you around in our beautiful part of the world.

Shadow puppet workshop is kids' play

Want to try your hand at making and telling a story with shadow puppets?

Kyneton Town Hall's school holiday program has gone online and is offering a shadow puppet workshop. Children aged four to 14 can join this free workshop at any time during the school holidays through short instructional videos. The videos will include construction methods, performance and storytelling.

Make this a family project and share with others by uploading your puppet show and telling your stories online.

The facilitators are experts in children's entertainment including puppetry, performance, roving entertainment and all things that engage children in fun and educational activities.

For details on the workshop, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/arts-workshops.



QUIZ

- 1 Where is the Sea of Tranquility?
- 2 What kind of animal is a brumby?
- 3 The Grand Canyon is found in which country?
- 4 What type of race is the Tour de France?
- 5 What kind of fruit is a Golden Delicious?
- 6 How many rings does the Olympic logo have?
- 7 Water expands as it gets cooler. True or false?
- 8 What is the name of the largest castle in the capital city of Scotland?
- 9 How many players fielding in a cricket team are on the ground during a match?
- 10 What is the sun – a planet, star, comet, meteor or a satellite?

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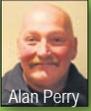
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SCHOOL'S IN



St Brigid's welcomes back its excited students

In early June St Brigid's Primary School students were very excited about going back to school.



Everyone had been counting down the days until we can see friends and learn at school. Our first day back was Tuesday June 9. When we arrived we were welcomed by a welcome back sign and smiling friends. We had Art, Performing Arts, Japanese and Sport and in the morning the students were told how it will work, since now we have different break times, home times and more handwashing.

When we got back to school we were all so happy because we discovered that the new grass was finally ready to play on. It was so great because we had fresh new grass to welcome us back to school. The Preps and Juniors even got to bring their teddy bears to school and enjoy lots of teddy bear activities, make teddy bear treats and even enjoy a picnic on the new grass.

Thanks to Maree, the teachers and all of the staff at St Brigid's who welcomed us back to school.

By school reporter Eden Fennessy



▲ St Brigid's prep children have fun and cuddles at a teddy bears' picnic on May 28.

Foundation students happy to be back at New Gisborne

New Gisborne Primary School's Foundation students were among the first to return to onsite schooling as schools were allowed to reopen. They were also among our happiest students as they bounded back through the school gates, barely looking back to farewell mums and dads.

A little bit taller, a little bit faster and with their school uniforms a little bit snuggier, it was wonderful to see their happy faces and hear their cheers as classrooms and playgrounds were once again filled with children.

Five students who are especially happy to be back at school are Harry, Lachlan, Eli, Poppy and Sadie. Here are their thoughts.

Harry: When I came back I loved seeing my teacher, Mrs B, in real life and not on a screen. She is friendly and nice.



Lachlan: I like being back in my classroom where there are lots of colours and I like seeing all the kids in my class.

Eli: I like seeing and meeting all my friends. It is fun playing outside on the equipment. It is fun inside too.

Poppy: I like coming back to school because I like seeing all my friends. I like seeing them not on a screen. I like playing with them, talking to them, just being with them.

Sadie: I love doing my learning at school, I like reading groups, being with other kids and reading with Mrs B. I love PE too because there's so much equipment to play with. Welcome back to all our staff, students and families.



▲ Harry, Poppy, Lachlan, Sadie and Eli.

ANSWERS

to Kids' Quiz, previous page

- 10 Star
- 9 Eleven
- 8 Edinburgh Castle
- 7 True
- 6 Five
- 5 Apple
- 4 Bicycle race
- 3 USA
- 2 A wild horse
- 1 The moon



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Ask

Raine & Horne

Holy Cross students in joyful return to school



Blake Hawira and Hudson Butcher in Prep with their Welcome Packs.

Since the last edition of the *Gazette* it has been so nice to welcome our students back to school.

Firstly, grades Prep, One and Two returned on May 26 then Grades Three to Six on June 9.

There were lots of happy faces when the children arrived and saw the Welcome Back signs and their teachers waving from the basketball court. (Some of those happy faces belonged to parents too!)

A few things have changed in schools, but our friends have remained and that has overwhelmingly been the loveliest sight, seeing friends reconnect with lots of smiles and laughter.

When asking some of the children about their remote learning, most enjoyed not having to get up as early, being able to have a snack when they felt like it and seeing their teachers and friends on Google Meets.

Caitlyn in Grade 6 enjoyed Literacy Circles during remote learning but is happy to be back at school so they can have better discussions about the books they are reading.

Holly said that having regular Google Meets was helpful and teachers listening to suggestions about how to improve remote learning was beneficial too, especially when Billy suggested, 'Joke of the Day!'

Overall, we all learnt a lot, but a school isn't the same without children and we are really happy to see everyone back safe and sound.



Grade 6s are very happy to be back at school!



Grade 2 children are welcomed in style on their first day back after remote learning.

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Game Review – 'Cities: Skylines'

While Cities: Skylines is not a new game, it is definitely one worthy of a great review. Released in 2015 as a joint venture of Paradox Games and Colossal Order, this game was developed in competition to the hugely popular SimCity. Obviously, it was a huge risk to take on a game so famous and I found it to be an exceptional and sophisticated game.

It is more interactive and has many "real life" elements and generally more user friendly than SimCity.

Cities: Skylines is a single-player city building game available on all platforms except Nintendo Switch. In the game, players learn how to develop, build, and manage their own city.

There are options to choose different city landscapes ranging from high density to desert plains.

As the city mayor, your object is to build and manage a successful and profitable city by undertaking various challenges and tasks. Your role is to encourage citizens to move into your city and then provide enough jobs, infrastructure, food and amenities to keep them alive along with creating a sustainable environment for the citizens to occupy.

It can be quite a stressful environment at times, however the game provides so much entertainment!

There is a fine line between providing what the citizens need and want and what you as mayor can provide. For example, if you put the taxes too high, residents get angry and move out of the city. Or if you get your budgeting wrong in the police department and you don't provide enough resources, then crime rates skyrocket and people lose faith in your ability to run the city.

I encountered a rather smelly issue while playing the game when I forgot to



YOUNG BEAT
with Asher Kroon

increase the budget for garbage collections; this resulted in household bins not being collected and created huge environmental problems across the city.

While these challenges sound difficult to accomplish and can take a few attempts to complete, the result is very fulfilling and fun. I found I learned a lot about real-life issues and solving problems and now fully appreciate how hard grown-up work can be!

I found Cities: Skylines to be a well-made and high-quality game with all business elements you would encounter in real life. One of the biggest pros of the game is how easy it is to navigate around your city. Building roads, installing water pipes and electrical wires are all super



easy which gives you ample time to expand your city even more!

The game is fun and addictive and has over 12 milestones to play. Put simply, you unlock a milestone by reaching certain population levels. The highest milestone is a Megalopolis which has a population of 80,000 people.

To top it off there are add-ons you can buy that extend the game further, one of which involves navigating around natural disasters. Very impressive!

I found I learned a lot about real-life issues and solving problems

Once you've got a large city, it does get quite complex to manage as there are so many key areas to monitor and regulate. One suggestion for improvement would be the ability to employ other people to help run your city. It would be great to employ government officials to help with managing financials, ensuring education needs are met, health ministers etc. This would improve gameplay and allow the player to focus on the town planning side of things.

It would be a great expansion and would work very well.

The game is rated G and is not specifically aimed at a certain age, although I would say 10+ as it can get tricky at some points. Because the game is so well-made and entertaining, I give it a 9.5/10.

I can see why the developers of Cities: Skylines were awarded the Finnish Game of the Year in 2015.

BRAINBUSTERS QUIZ

1. Rev. John Flynn, who was born in Moliagul, Victoria, was the founder of what present-day organisation?
2. What is the capital city of Jamaica?
3. If you attended a horse race meeting at Eagle Farm, which city would you be in?
4. What was built in 122 AD to separate the lands of the Britons and the Picts?
5. This saying is taken from which film: "That's not a knife... THIS is a knife!"?
6. What year was Pearl Harbour bombed by Japan?
7. What is Europe's longest river?
8. Which of the four seasons do Americans call the Fall?
9. What is a baby swan called?
10. The British Prime Minister lives at 10 Downing Street, London, but who lives at 11 Downing Street?

Bonus question: Who is going to win the AFL Grand Final?

- ANSWERS**
- 1 Royal Flying Doctor Service
 - 2 Kingston
 - 3 Brisbane
 - 4 Hadrian's Wall
 - 5 Crocodile Dundee
 - 6 1941
 - 7 The Volga River
 - 8 Autumn
 - 9 Cygnet
 - 10 Chancellor of the Exchequer
 - Bonus question: Hawthorn

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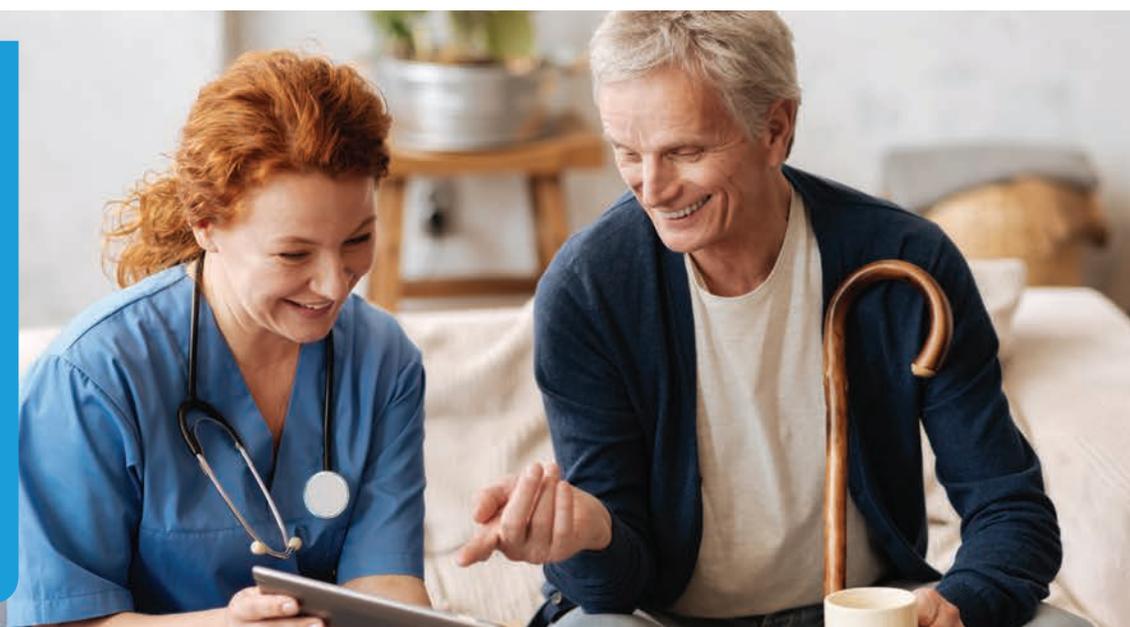
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Coronavirus turns 1st Gisborne to other skills

It will take more than a COVID-19 lockdown to stop 1st Gisborne Scouts having fun doing scouting activities. While online meetings and scouting at home has replaced the usual nights at the hall and outdoor adventures, all sections have been busy learning new skills, keeping in touch and supporting each other, and planning activities for the not-too-distant future when we can meet together again.

Joey Scouts have been learning about how to grow new plants from old plants, exploring new areas in our neighbourhood, how to have a frog-friendly backyard and having fun making obstacle courses in our homes. It has been good to see the happy faces of our Joeys online and talk about what we plan on doing next term.

The older sections of scouts have also been doing some exciting things. Some of the activities include science experiments, construction techniques, cooking at home, skits and plays over Zoom, indoor camping, first aid and planning expeditions and hikes for when we come out of lockdown.

If you have ever wanted to give Scouts a try...now is a great time to give it a go. Membership fees have been suspended for the year, so Scouts is free for the rest of the year.

For more information, email us at info@1stgisborne.com.au

Carolyn Goode (Assistant Joey Scout Leader)



Eamon (Joey Scout) proudly displays his new carrot and celery plants grown from the old plants.



Bombshell gets a lift from his owner Oscar on the way up

Bombshell has one peck of a time with Macedon Scouts



On June 14, 2020, I went on a 1st Macedon Scout hike with my owner Oscar. I'm a Pekin rooster called Bombshell. It was a hike from a scout's house up Mt Towrong (near

Mt Macedon), down the other side and back to the scout's house.

At first I was in Oscar's backpack, but then I jumped out and started walking. We were walking on roads for the first bit but then we got to a dirt track. It was all muddy and every one kept slipping over. Oscar picked me up until we got to the top. Everyone wanted to hold me. I didn't walk for a long time after that.

When we got to the top of the mountain, I stood on the top of the rock cairn which is the marker of the highest point on the mountain. On the way down I had to go back into the backpack because it was rocky and if anyone fell they would need two hands.

Once we got to the road I came out of the backpack and got carried. Once we got back to the house, Oscar and the other scouts had sausages but I had to stay in a cat carrier because there was a dog. After that we walked home.

Bombshell Walliss

New Gisborne Scouts keen to get outside

At New Gisborne we are preparing for a return to outdoor Scouting on Saturday afternoon July 25 with a sausage sizzle, ceremonies and games. Zoom has been good but being outdoors will be better. We have a backlog of awards and investitures to work through!

Working with parents, we offer interesting, learning and challenging online activities, reminding our children that their Law and Promise matter more than ever with COVID-19. Even as restrictions ease, our thoughts and prayers continue with front-line health professionals and essential community workers.

On the Queen's Birthday weekend our Joeys had a "virtual sleepover" having much fun. Joey Scout Sandy just had his appendix out so Joeys have been sending him best wishes.

As we move slowly toward building our own "Scout Hut", following soil tests we are about to finalise the building site and dimensions.

Joeys, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers are meeting online for the remainder of Term 2. Venturers Friday evenings, other sections Wednesdays. Contact Group Leader Skipper (0450 922 787 johnfrearson@mac.com) if your children would like to join. And we'd love to hear from you if you're interested in helping build or fund our new Scout Hut.



A card from Joey Emily to fellow Joey Sandy after his appendix operation.



Joey Scout Poppy talks to Joey Leader "Kanga" online.

Gisborne Girl Guides continue to meet via Zoom



Leader Deb Fleming meets with Girl Guides in the comfort of her own home on June 6.



Bushwalkers are back on track

June has seen the resumption of bushwalking for clubs in Victoria with limits of 20 people on a walk, no car-pooling, mandated social distancing protocols but still lots of fun, fresh air and good company in abundance.



This month the club has plenty of different activities on offer; three challenging walks (Barrm Birrm, Bullarto and Metcalfe), three standard walks (Lyonville–Loddon River source, Domino Trail Trentham and Pyrete State Forest) as well as a compass orienteering activity in the Macedon Ranges.

Now is the time to get involved again in exploring our ever-changing Victorian landscape after almost a quarter of a year with limited access to leisure activities and venues.

In a year closed to international travel and diffi-



Gisborne Bushwalkers social distancing on the Domino Trail.

culties travelling across state borders, it raises the question 'why not enjoy our own backyard?'

For further information and inquiries about membership and club activities contact pierre.marg.m@

bigpond.net.au (President) or janeenedward@bigpond.com (Secretary)

Website: www.gisbornebwc.org.au

Nigel Tarr

Petaque players on the piste



The Gisborne-based Mt Macedon Petanque Club has emerged from the COVID-19 lockdown with two play days.

The first one on May 30 had a modified start and end time to allow two groups of 10 to play one after the other. The second day, on June 12, reverted to the usual starting time of 10am as 20 players were allowed.

COVID-19 restrictions require modifications of play including drawn throwing circles, two cochonnets per game (one for each team and handled only by one member from each team), standing 1.5m apart, players not touching other players' boules, and a numbering system for the picking up of the boules when each end is complete.

Players were happy to see each other and look forward to their next play day. Play days are held on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month at 10am. The club grounds are situated behind the Caltex Service Station in Gisborne.

Players currently need to pre-register with the sec-



Players take part in the May 30 petanque Play Day.

retary to avoid the club going above the current total person limit. Once the 20-person limit is raised, the club will again be welcoming interested new players. For further information and an enquiry form please go to our website: mtmacedonpetanqueclub.weebly.com

Alison Kinghorn

Another ramble tip from the Ramblers

Since relaxation of the COVID-19 rules, the Gisborne Ramblers have recommenced our Friday walks but in keeping with social distancing, refreshments usually offered at the end of walks are still suspended.

We meet at Dixon Field at 9.15am for a 9.30am start. Car sharing is not recommend at this time and please do not come if you have flu-like symptoms.

Perhaps Friday is not a convenient day for you, or you are uncomfortable with being in a group, then maybe you would enjoy one of the walks the Ramblers have in their program.

Burns Lane, South Gisborne: This is a walk without major hills, on a wide dirt road with little traffic. The walk returns along the same path so getting lost is not an issue.

Directions - from Gisborne, follow Mt Gisborne Road to Couangalt Road, turn left towards Sunbury. Turn right into Blackhill Road. After about 3km, the bitumen ends and a gravel surface begins. Burns Lane is on the right. Park off-road at the junction.

The walk has attractive views over open countryside and ends at a gate to private property. The full walk there and back is about 5.5 kilometres.

Cheers,

Charles, gisramblers@gmail.com

Trout fly fishing at Walter J Smith Reserve Lake

The Calder Fly Fishing Association has again been given the support of the Victorian Fisheries Authority with the stocking of the Walter J Smith Reserve Lake at Riddells Creek with 200 catchable rainbow trout. The fish included some "big surprise ones".

This was done in June just in time for the school holidays. With luck a local young person may hook a big one.

The Calder Fly Fishers first approached Fisheries in 2017. They initially stocked the lake with 200 65 gram yearlings; this was after the club did some



CALDER FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION

preliminary work at the lake to enable containment of the fish in times of high water.

Immediately following the stocking in October the club held our very successful "Kids and Family Fly Fishing Day" at the lake.

Fish have been released each June and September since the initial stocking with a total of 1225 fish having been released in the lake by this July.

If you'd like to know more about the Calder Fly Fishing Association please visit www.calderflyfishing.com.au

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Tennis players' sigh with relief

The reopening of tennis at the South Gisborne Tennis Club has been welcomed with a huge sigh and a sense of anticipation.

Mario and the Spark team were up to the challenge of lessons starting which included expressions of interest from individuals who needed to regain fitness and practise which couldn't be maintained during the shutdown.



Our juniors are super keen to play off in their grand finals.

We encourage social tennis while adhering to Tennis Australia guidelines for the opening up of courts and club-houses.

The club has a lot going on. Windows and door security have been upgraded. Courts 5 and 6 upgrades should be completed early in July, just in time for the commencement of competition (all going well with the COVID-19 situation). Our commitment is to our members and the community to keep all safe.

Interested in playing junior, night or ladies comp when they start up? Contact the club at southgisborne.tc@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing our families back enjoying the facilities.

Gail Scott



Jo Kerr, Olwyn Snape, Winsome Grigg, Bernadette Myers, Joan Gregoor, Ros Anders back on the piste on June 20.

CROQUET CLUB NEWS

Approval to play now! The club has been given approval by both the Croquet Association and Macedon Ranges Council for groups of up to 20 to begin playing now.

We will at all times need to abide by the 1.5 metre rule. Currently the clubhouse will not be available.

In a normal season we would have held our AGM and be in recess until the

start of the 2020-21 season in mid-September. When greater numbers of members are permitted, we will endeavour to hold our AGM prior to September.

If possible, we will try to meet up for lunch, as we usually do during the off-season.

President Ros is happy to answer any queries members may have.

Faye Armstrong



Why not start your day with tennis at South Gisborne Tennis Club?



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It's oh so quiet at the courts...

Recently I went up to the MRNA courts with my daughter to fix the COVID-19 tape and put up more signs. We were having a chat about netball and then we realised that it was eerily quiet at 11am on a Saturday.

This would have been round six and the third match for the day. The teams playing in the 11:30am game would have been arriving and getting ready to warm up, the car park would have been full, and umpires and officials would be running around. The canteen, coffee ladies and barbecue would have been busy.

This day was beautiful and sunny, with a bit of wind, still a perfect day to be out and watching junior sport. There was not a sound from those courts. No whistles, hooters, cheering, "Contact" or "I'm here if you need."

It hit us how many people are usual-



ly up there and what a social day it is. I know I miss my regular morning hello to the canteen, coffee ladies, admin person, club volunteers and umpires. I also miss seeing our U15 and U17 teams battle it out in well contested matches, and at the end of the day our tiny U9 players doing cartwheels, hand stands and dance moves when the ball is at the other end of the court. I'm sure you all have memories of what our season is usually like.

Unfortunately, despite recent announcements from the State Government and Netball Victoria endorsing the return to competitive junior sport, we have decided to cancel our 2020 Junior Competition.

Multiple factors influenced this decision, including

- the recent spike in COVID-19 cases on our doorstep
- the wellbeing of our extended netball community
- the added burden of the Netball Victoria "Return to Netball Guidelines" and the associated measures that would need to be stringently implemented
- the uncertainty of access to the pavilion at the netball complex

On a happier note, we are looking at running a twilight competition later in the year and we aim to have our Ladies Midweek competition back in the second part of the year. Both are pending further advice from the State Government, Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Netball Victoria.

The Annual General Committee Meet-

ing is scheduled for Monday August 3. This is highly likely to be a Zoom meeting.

We would like to thank the Macedon Ranges Netball Community for your patience whilst we worked through options and scenarios and tried our best to get a season up and running. A big thankyou to the MRNA Executive committee and the clubs for all the hard work in the background. And finally, a huge thankyou to Bendigo Bank for their ongoing support.

I have certainly enjoyed my Saturdays off, but it would be great to see netball back in the Macedon Ranges. We look forward to seeing you back on the court soon for Twilight and our Midweek Ladies competitions. And perhaps making a little bit of noise.

Katie Duoba

President, Macedon Ranges Netball Association

We're back at the Mount



We have been delighted with the response from players near and far who have left the hustle and bustle of the city and suburbs to discover 'Our Hidden Treasure on the Mount'.

Locals were agog at the volume of vehicles streaming up the Mount road over the Queen's Birthday weekend. Pleasingly, some of them diverted into our car park and, conversing with them, we discovered they were visitors from as far as Epping, Queenscliff, Wallan and Bundoora, all looking for an opportunity to enjoy the delights of the Macedon Ranges.

While we have not been immune to the financial impost that COVID-19 has wrought on the wider community, the reopening of the course seems to have given a green light to a whole lot of wannabe Tigers to dust off the cobwebs and head to the course.

This month sees the commencement of our new membership and sponsorship year and at only \$450 for a 12-month full



Winter perfection.

membership, we believe we offer an excellent and affordable facility that is open for play seven days a week. There are a number of membership options including couples, students, weekdays only, families, juniors and concession. We appreciate that the past months have put significant strain on the financial circumstances of families and individuals, so payment options are available. Please make contact for more detail.

For inquiries and bookings and to keep informed you can contact us at www.mtmacedongolfclub.com.au, call 5426 1650 or visit our Facebook page.

Walrus

Golf just the beginning as clubhouse bistro reopens



On June 3, the cockatoos cried in relief as Gisborne Golf Club reopened its clubhouse.

The committee's decision to open the clubhouse doors came after the easing of restrictions on indoor gatherings on June 1. The absence of indoor activity provided club management with the perfect opportunity to reinvent the club's in-house hospitality.

Starting on June 3 the GGC Bistro was launched with great success for the Wednesday Ladies and Open competitions.

The clubhouse has opened two enclosed spaces where 20 patrons per space can share drinks and a meal. Unfortunately, like many licensed venues, bar service and large group bookings remain on hold.

As the club slowly returns to the 'new norm', establishing the

GGC Bistro will hopefully relieve some financial burdens from the past few months.

More importantly, the committee is optimistic that the bistro atmosphere will prove to be a step in the right direction for the long haul.

Visitors are welcome after their round. Bookings for the GGC Bistro can be made via GGCbistro@gmail.com as walk-ins will only be accepted space permitting.

Currently, the Bistro is open from 11am to 3pm on Wednesday and 11am to 6pm on Thursday/Saturday.

We look forward to seeing more new faces around the club — from 1.5 metres.

Take care,

John Griffiths
GGC Committee



Tyla serves lunch at the bistro.



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Ulysses riders on the road again...

With the progressive relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions, members of the Macedon Ranges Ulysses Branch (MRUB) have taken the opportunity to catch up on riding time and share coffee with friends. The club is supporting and practising social distancing which hasn't been too tricky of late with most activities out of doors, plus days of delightful weather to enjoy riding.



New riding gear, too clean! Tyre Kick May 30. Photo: MRUB

Top Tip: If your bike has been in isolation make sure you check tyre pressure, chain tension and fuel before taking off!

The coming weeks will see a more complete resumption of scheduled club rides and social occasions (unless the situation changes) including:

Tyre Kicks: weekly 10am+ Saturday mornings, Brantome Street, Gisborne.

Wednesday rides: weekly 10am, meet at the service station at 4 Station Road, Gisborne.

Saturday lunch rides: First Saturday of month, meet 11am Brantome Street.

Sunday rides: Third Sunday, meet 9.30am McDonald's Sunbury; plus

Monthly branch social evening and special rides/events such as Christmas in August.

Check us out on Facebook or review the Ride Calendar and newsletters at www.mrub.org.au

Our regular newsletters contain great stories and pictures, a growing Buy and Sell section plus news and views on all things motorcycling. Join us sometime for a ride, coffee, meal or just great company!

Cherry Cole

Bowlers thank bank for sponsorship

In May the Gisborne and District Bowling Club was delighted to learn that the Bendigo Bank had awarded \$1300 sponsorship to the club for its annual community bowls program.

The sponsorship deal replaces a previous lower level of annual sponsorship by the bank. It also formalises a laissez-faire arrangement over the past 10 years of bank support for the community bowls program.

So get excited all of you would-be bowlers out there – here's your chance to get serious about participating in a fun community bowls program. It runs for six weeks before Christmas (November/December) and six weeks after Christmas (February/March).

You need a team of four players (preferably five for an interchange) who are prepared to go the distance.



It doesn't matter if you haven't played before — the club provides bowls and instruction to get you going. You have a choice of whether you play on a Tuesday night or a

Wednesday night (both starting about 5.30pm for 6pm). There is a sausage sizzle every night and the bar is open.

The sponsorship funds enable the club to award prize money to the lucky winners each night and at the end of the hard-fought but lots of fun competitions, the Bendigo Bank Community Bowls Shields will be awarded to the overall Tuesday night and Wednesday night victors.

To find out more about the Community Bowls program contact Rob Paterson on 0417 283 382 for Tuesday nights or David Wesley on 0413 838 548 for Wednesday nights. Let us know your interest by 30 September.

Hey kids, have you heard of Newk?

Welcome back to coaching and social tennis at the Macedon Tennis Club. The courts are open for safe and COVID-responsible tennis. Stay tuned for information about the resumption of competition.



In the meantime, kids, have you heard of Newk?

He is a tennis legend. John Newcombe is one of the few players to have held world No.1 rankings in both singles (1967, 1970, 1971) and doubles (1965).

He won seven singles titles and 17 doubles titles. He won Wimbledon in 1967, '70 and '71, the US Open in 1967 and '73 and the Australian Open in '73 and '75. He also contributed to five Davis Cup wins for Australia. *Tennis* magazine rated him the 10th best male player for the period 1965 to 2005.



John Newcombe

A right hander, Newcombe's powerful serve and volley was the backbone of his attacking game. He frequently came up with a second-serve ace, much to his opponent's shock.

He was born in Sydney in 1944 and married a former German junior tennis champ named Angelika Pfannenburr.

Newcombe was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985 and elevated to "Legend" status in 2014. In 1979 he was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE), the fifth such Aussie tennis player following Rod Laver, Ken Rosewall, Margaret Court and Evonne Goolagong Cawley.

In 1989 Newcombe was made an Officer of the Order of Australia for his services to tennis.

Newk, most definitely one of Australia's tennis greats!

Lisa Fowler

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SPORT IN PICTURES

with Chris Fleming



Gisborne Seniors' football coach, Rob Waters, at training on June 4



Football training in Gisborne on June 4



Gisborne A Grade netball coach Tarryn Rymer



Gisborne U18s football coach, Rob Kerr, at training on June 6



Gisborne U17 netball training game between Gisborne and Gisborne Furies on June 25



Netball training, June 4



Gisborne U18 training, June 6



Gisborne Golf Club stableford competition, June 13

St Paul's celebrates 60 years

May 15, 1960, was a fine day. St Paul's Anglican Church, being debt-free and unencumbered, was duly consecrated by Archbishop Frank Woods.

St Paul's as we know it now is the second building and third site for the main parish church.

What is now the Op Shop and Hall was the first St Paul's Church. It was prefabricated in England and arrived in 1858, (a forerunner of the Ikea flat pack!), and was originally sited on the corner of Melbourne Road and Rodney Street. It was moved to the present site in 1930.

The need for a permanent home was soon apparent and the new St Paul's was designed to give the impression of a much older church in an English style.

Recently, a service of Morning Prayer and Thanksgiving was held



St Paul's Church

marking the diamond jubilee of consecration.

In the congregation were three people who were present in 1960. Tom Sankey headed the procession with the brass cross. Beth Crawford spoke of the "three St Paul's" and the importance of the Parish in her life. Beth's wedding was the sec-

ond-last wedding held in the in the old church. Kath Vilips was one of the first brides of the new church.

It was not the celebration we hoped because of the public health restrictions, but it was good to be able to give thanks for this iconic house of worship in a time of great community need. *Dennis Webster*

A student reader's thoughts on the pandemic

There is no doubt that the past few months have been rather unsettling for the community and as individuals.



In some ways, our experience is similar to the first generation of God's people wandering in the wilderness. Day after day, they lacked material needs. They were uncertain about the future and had a deep longing for life to become normal again. Times like this force us to contemplate what is central to our lives and what superfluous aspects we can afford not to retain. God used the wilderness experience to test his people (Deut. 8:2).

Think about your own life: What do we value more strongly now? What things do we no longer consider necessary? As a church, this season has been a reminder of the importance of people. People matter; lives matter; and everything we do must be about people.

We have begun the process of cautiously resuming our activities and our public church gatherings (both in person and online). We are ensuring that everything we do promotes peoples' safety, dignity and wellbeing.

If this season has raised some issues or questions for you, we would love to provide a space and opportunity for you to stop, reflect, and connect.

Benjamin Clements

Support for Foodbank

At Faithworks we admire the work of Gisborne Foodbank. We love being a part of such an important part of our community. Here is a snapshot of who they are.



The Gisborne Community Care Foodbank began operations on June 26, 2019, with the aim of acquiring and distributing food and essential items to individuals and families in need throughout the Macedon Ranges.

It offers a safe environment where vulnerable individuals and families who are experiencing financial and emotional stress can seek practical assistance.

The Foodbank was established by the local churches who had identified and been responding to the needs of community members who were struggling financially and facing food security issues.

It became evident that a more permanent solution was necessary and so the churches worked together to make the Foodbank a reality. Since incorporating, the committee has opened the Foodbank on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 3pm.

The Foodbank is at the rear of the Gisborne Uniting Church at 23 Brantome Street. The entrance is via Heritage Way.

Find them on Facebook under 'Gisborne Foodbank'.

It is our hope that those who are struggling will feel comfortable to visit the Foodbank to pick up some essential items to tide them over until their situation improves.

Darren Farrugia

<http://faithworksc.com.au> or find us on Facebook



'Each man will be like ... the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land.' (Isaiah 32:2)

House of the Rock Church

In line with the beginning of lifting of restrictions, House of the Rock Church is hosting live services again at 10am each Sunday.

Future services will continue to be streamed live. You can tune in to see past and future services via our website: www.hotrock.org.au

The picture included here was taken on one of our trips to India and surprised us as it fits our name and aim perfectly. That is, that House of the Rock would be a safe place, individually and corporately, particularly in difficult times. This fits in with Jesus' commandments to love Him and love one another.

We are praying for our community during these challenging times, and we thank God for His leading to begin the Gisborne Community Care Foodbank along with the other Gisborne Churches to serve the community at this time. Blessings, *Pastors John and Jenny Barnes House of the Rock Church*

Hospitality at a distance

When I was a child, after the service of worship the minister would stand at the front door of the church to shake the hands of the congregation. We would do so, with some embarrassment, and then scamper off home to check that the Sunday roast would be ready by 12.30pm.



That tradition went the way of no sport on Sundays and was gradually replaced by post-service tea and biscuits. We have much enjoyed this time for chatting, sharing information and concerns.

Alas, COVID-19 halted the services for some weeks and, while these have resumed, the sharing of refreshments remains limited. This might seem trivial but a warm pot of coffee shared with others stirs conversation. It is one of the ways in which we draw closer to each other, even while observing the physical distance rules.

This strange period has led to new ways of being hospitable — the sharing of bread and wine is at the heart of our faith practice. Sharing food has been part of the Christian story remembered vividly in Jesus' sharing meals with others. So the past weeks have seen the delivering of meals to those in need, dropping fruit and veg on a neighbour's porch, and even Zoom fish and chip dinners.

One local couple shared more than that. In January Alan and Glennis Speed happily welcomed their annual UK guests, having planned lots of excursions. Then, the lockdown. The airline which would have taken Shirley and John back to England was grounded. There was some alarm, even panic, but then a settling into the daily life of mutual hospitality, shared housing, shared chores, shared cooking and competitive board games in the evenings.

Just another of those small stories of cooperation in the midst of an anxious time for all of us. *Janet Wood*



**100
YEARS AGO**

JULY 1920

Gisborne Mechanics Hall

There was a full attendance of the committee of the Mechanics' Institute at the meeting held on Friday last. The President (Mr. H. M. Lanyon) occupied the chair. The report of Messrs. Eggleston and Oakley, architects, Collins Street, dealing with renovations and alteration of the hall, was placed before the committee. The report advised covering the internal walls of the hall with fibrous plaster, adding fanlights to the present windows, and reconstructing the procenium arch by forming a classic pediment supported on engaged columns. The porch at the front of the building to be removed and a larger entry to be added, into which the doors of the library and reading room will open. Ticket boxes will be added, and a large double door will form the front entrance. The walls to be colored and all woodwork to be painted.

The report was adopted, with the exception of proposal to erect a kitchen at the rear of the reading room. This was held over for a future meeting. The architect estimated the cost of the work to be between four and five hundred pounds.

Gisborne Shire Angler's Club

At a meeting of the Gisborne Shire Anglers' Club held at Pearson's Hotel, New Gisborne, on Saturday evening last (Mr. E. Gardiner in the chair) it was resolved to endeavor to obtain a further supply of yearling brown trout for the Gisborne Creek.

The club will hold a smoke night on Saturday evening, July 17th, particulars of which will be advertised later. Donations received — Mr. E. Gardiner 10 shillings. Intending members are asked to forward subscriptions (five shillings) as promptly as possible, as supply of membership buttons will shortly be available.

Football: Gisborne V Macedon

The match between the above teams attracted a large crowd to the Island [Gardiner Reserve, Gisborne] on Saturday. The fact that on the result depended who should have the right to compete in the semi-finals lent extra interest to the game and put both teams on their mettle.

Commencing the final term, the visitors were five points to the good, but Gisborne went at it with a will, and point by point reduced the lead... The play was fast and exciting during the whole of the last quarter, and both sides were still full of go when the final bell clanged, leaving Gisborne victors of a strenuous contest by six points. Final score Gisborne 4 goals 12 behinds, Macedon 4 goals 6 behinds.

WHAT'S ON REGULAR MEETINGS

New
members
always
welcome

**PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR GROUP WHETHER
MEETINGS ARE ABLE TO RESTART IN JULY**

ADULT RIDING CLUB (Gis)	2nd Saturday	Robertson Res
ADULT RIDING CLUB (Bullengarook)	2nd Saturday	Rec Reserve
ANGLING CLUB	2nd Wed 8pm	Railway Hotel Macedon
BOTANIC GARDENS working bee	every Thurs 9.30am-10.30am	
BRIDGE CLUB	Mon 12.30, Tues 7.15, Thurs 12.30	St Mary's Church Hall, Woodend 5420 7595
BUSHWALKING CLUB	Various locations	Tel 5428 3490 or 5427 0888
CANASTA CLUB	1.30pm every Mon except first Mon of month	Parish centre (behind St Pauls Church, Gisborne)
CANCER SUPPORT GROUP	last Wed of month	MRH
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	MRFEC Gisborne
FOCUS CLUB	2nd Fri 12 noon	Gisborne Golf Club
FRIENDS OF JACKSONS CREEK Working bees	3rd Sun 10-noon	
GARDEN CLUB	2nd Wed various venues	0409 691 525
GENEALOGY GROUP	4th Thurs 7.30	Family Hist Rm, Library
GIRL GUIDES	Thursdays 5pm	Gis Comm Hall
GISBORNE SINGERS	Tues 7.30pm	Holy Cross PS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY	open Wed 10am-4pm	Court House
JPs SIGNING STATION	Thursdays 1-3pm	GREAT office Hamilton St
LIBRARY: TODDLERS' STORY TIME	Mon 10.30am, Wed 10.30am	
LIONS CLUB	First Thursday of month 7.30pm	247 Station Rd
MARTIAL ARTS	Thurs from 5.15pm	St Brigid's Hall
MASONIC LODGE	2nd Thurs 7pm	Masonic Hall Aitken St
MASTERS AFL	Wed 6.30pm	Sankey Reserve
MEN'S SHED BARBECUE	Last Mon 12.30pm	Lyell Street
MT MAC & DIST HORT SOC	1st Tues 8pm	Horticultural Hall
MUFFINS 'N MORE	2nd Tues 10am-noon	Uniting Church
MUMS' GROUP	2nd Mon, 9.30-11.30am	49 Fisher St
OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB	Sun 9am	Riddells Rec Res
PARKINSON'S SUPPORT	2nd Wed, 1pm	Lancefield Bowling Club
PETANQUE	2nd & 4th Sat, 10am	behind Caltex service station, Station Rd, Gisborne
PHOENIX ART & CRAFTS	1st Thursday	phoenixmrac.com
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOC	1st Tues & 2nd Mon 7pm	Riddell's Creek Neighbourhood House
PONY CLUB Bullengarook	1st Sunday	Rec Reserve
PONY CLUB Gisborne	1st Sunday	Robertson Reserve
PROBUS	1st Thurs 10am	Masonic Hall
QUILTERS (Gisb)	Wed 7pm	Room attached to Gisb Library
RAMBLERS	Fridays 9.15am	Tennis Club Dixon Field
ROTARY (Gisborne)	Tuesfortnightly, 6.45for7pm	WineO'Clock, 50AitkenSt (book 5428 4483 by 1pm Mon)
	(Macedon Ranges) 1st & 3rd Monday	Baringo Food & Wine
RUNNING GROUP	Tues & Thurs 6pm, Sun 8am	Gis Aquatic Centre
RSL	1st Mon 2pm	Hall at 247 Station Rd 5428 2233
SENIOR CITS (Macedon)	Tues 11am	Tony Clarke Res
SPINNERS & FIBRE GROUP	Wed 12 noon	Rec Reserve Bullengarook
TABLE TENNIS	Wed 7.30pm	Tony Clarke Res, Macedon
THUNDER SWIMMING CLUB	2nd Sat 5pm	Gisborne Aquatic Centre
TOY LIBRARY	Every Sat 10-11am; first & third Wed, 8.45-9.30am, second & fourth Fri 9-10am	71 Robertson ST
U3A	Mondays 10.30am	MRFEC
ULYSSES GROUP	3rd Tues 6pm	Sunbury FC
VINTAGE MACHINERY	Working bees 1st Sun of month, 8.30am at Steam Park; Meetings last Friday 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

Vision Australia

Members and friends of
the Gis-borne Auxiliary
of Vision Australia are



advised that due to the COVID-19 restrictions we are unable to hold our annual 3S Luncheon at the end of July.

At the time of writing no meetings are planned, but if circumstances change we will endeavour to hold the annual meeting at the end of September. This will be confirmed in the next edition of the *Gazette*. Fundraising efforts are presently on hold but any cash donations to Vision Australia would be very welcome and can be arranged by contacting the Secretary, Elaine Millar, on 5428 2522.



Elaine Millar

Meet Probus member Irene Bullard

Irene joined Gisborne Probus in 2018, volunteered to take on the role of vice-president in 2019 and was elected President in March this year.



Almost immediately, COVID-19 took the club into uncharted waters. With no meetings or outings, Irene is working to ensure that members stay connected via newsletters and phone calls.

Irene has led a rich and eventful life. Losing her mother to a heart attack when only two years old, she grew up with her father and five siblings in Oakleigh and Noble Park. She was educated at Catholic primary schools and Killester Ladies College, where she undertook commercial studies.

As a young woman, Irene lived in Papua New Guinea for six years with her husband Geoff who was an air traffic controller and pilot. Three of her four children were born there, including twins. She enjoyed flying to many outlying areas with her husband, as part of his duties there.

Upon return to Australia, the family settled in Macedon. Over the next 20 years, Irene worked in various local businesses ranging from management of the Black Forest Motel to running the Gisborne Squash Courts, where she coached many upcoming players.

In middle age, Irene's passion for caring for others led to a career in welfare. She embraced studying and has training in first aid, family support, childcare, youth support, disability and aged care. She has worked for

Macedon Ranges Shire in aged care, at The Oaks and Macedon Ranges Health.

Although now retired, she remains a very active volunteer in the community.

Irene has had more than her share of ill health over the years. However, she has turned misfortune into opportunity.

She is a very caring and compassionate person, who enjoys life and her family. She has eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



Irene Bullard

Agent on site
every Thursday 3-4pm
or by appointment



COVID-19 PROTOCOLS IN PLACE

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