

Power Saving Bonus Cut: Households Left in Cold

The Nationals Member for Mildura, Jade Benham, has slammed the Allan Labor Government for slashing support for households through the Power Saving Bonus scheme, as energy bills continuing to climb.

The latest round of the program will offer just a \$100 rebate, down from \$250, and will now be limited only to concession card holders.

“This sends a shiver down the spine of working families, retirees without concession cards, and low-income earners who are already struggling to make ends meet,” Ms Benham said.

“Labor promised cheaper power, but the reality is stark; bills keep climbing and families are paying the price. Cutting this program only adds more pressure.”

Ms Benham said Labor’s record on energy affordability was one of broken promises and rising costs.

“They keep talking about delivering cheaper energy through renewables, but all we’ve seen are higher bills and fewer support measures,” she said.

“Labor can’t manage money, can’t manage your power prices and it’s regional Victorians who are paying the price.”

Ms Benham also raised concerns about the digital-only application process, which disadvantages those without internet access.

The Power Saving Bonus will be available to electricity account holders with a Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Veterans’ Affairs Concession Card or a DVA Gold Card. Applications open



• Jade Benham.

August 25, 2025, at www.compare.energy.vic.gov.au.

Ms Benham encourages eligible residents to contact her office if they need help applying.

At Expense of Regional Communities... Renewable Zones Expanded

The State Government has once again shown its disregard for regional Victorians, with the release of the final VicGrid 2025 Victorian Transmission Plan revealing a major expansion of renewable energy zones (REZs) in the Wimmera, Mallee and south-west.

The final plan shows proposed Grampians Wimmera and the Wimmera Southern Mallee REZs have now been combined to significantly increase the size of the zone.

The Nationals’ Member for Mildura, Jade Benham, said the announcement is yet another example of Labor steamrolling regional communities in its rush towards renewables.

“People who live and work on the land have been completely blindsided. They’ve had no genuine consultation, no warning and no respect from this government,” Ms Benham said.

Taking Away Rights
“Through these changes and the VicGrid Stage 2 Reform Bill, Labor is taking away landholder rights and

telling regional people they have no option but to fall into line.

By widening the zones, the government is handing renewable energy companies an easier pathway to push through large-scale projects, while shutting out communities.

Major Changes
“These are not minor adjustments, these are major changes that impact farms, businesses and entire communities. The government expects our region to do all the heavy lifting when it comes to renewables, but in return we’re left with crumbling roads, stretched health services and an escalating crime crisis.”

Ms Benham said The Nationals were committed to

restoring fairness, proper consultation and protection for regional communities impacted by renewables projects.

“Energy infrastructure matters, but it can’t come at the expense of the farmers who have worked this land for decades,” Ms Benham said. “The Nationals will restore farmers’ rights to appeal to VCAT, reinstate the two-kilometre buffer zones around wind towers, and review the REZ process so regional Victorians aren’t left carrying the burden for the whole state.

“We know that Labor can’t manage a transition to renewables, it can’t manage these projects and it’s regional Victorian communities who are paying the price.”

Have Your Say at the GWMWater Workshop

Community members can have their say about the future of water services in the region next month when GWMWater hosts its twice-yearly Customer and Stakeholder Workshop in Horsham.

The Friday, September 12, workshop is on between 9.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Horsham Golf Club, with an option to join online.

GWMWater Managing Director, Mark Williams, said the workshops, which have run for more than a decade, remained a vital channel for the water corporation to listen to and learn from the community.

“It’s a chance for everyone to come together, share per-

spectives and help shape future plans,” Mr Williams said.

“We will provide a detailed water resources update and outlook, and a look at GWMWater’s infrastructure investment strategy.”

Sessions
Engagement sessions will follow two of the presentations, providing an opportunity for open discussion. “The potential to use groundwater to supplement

urban water supplies and the results of our recent customer survey are examples of topics we are keen to get feedback on at the workshop.

“Customer and stakeholder feedback is vital in shaping our future direction.”

More information, including an agenda and registration details, is available on GWMWater’s website: www.gwmwater.org.au/stakeholderworkshop.

Letter to the Editor



Vanilla Slice Triumph
(The Editor, “The Times”)

Dear Editor.— I was fortunate to attend the recent Great Australian Vanilla Slice Triumph, and what a day it was! Nothing brings a community together quite like a major event, and the community spirit was alive for all to see. With huge crowds and vanilla slices for miles, it was a day that offered something for all ages.

Congratulations to the winners of all the baking categories and in particular, to Sharp’s Bakery of Birchip, who took home the crown of 2025 Professional Vanilla Slice winner.

My warmest thanks go to Syd and Anne Nash and everyone involved in making this event such a success. Their work continues to amaze me as they deliver a bigger and better event each year, and that’s a credit to

their passion and the many volunteers who make it all happen.

Events like the Vanilla Slice Triumph showcase what makes our part of tropical north Victoria so special. These events not only boost our economy and tourism, but also strengthen the bonds of community spirit that make living here such a privilege.

Warm regards,

Jade Benham, M.P

“The Fantastic Four: First Steps”

An introduction to Marvel Studio’s first family is the theme of this weekend’s Rex Theatre movie entitled “The Fantastic Four: First Steps”.

In a 1960’s-inspired world the characters of Reed Richards/Mister Fantastic (Pedro Pascal), Sue Storm/Invisible Woman (Vanessa Kirby), Johnny Storm/Human Torch (Joseph Quinn) and Ben Grimm/The Thing (Ebon Moss-Bachrach) face their most daunting challenge yet.

In a retro-futuristic world, this movie takes place on Earth-828. This is one of the rare Marvel movies which stands completely on its own, with a phenomenal cast whose chemistry brings the story to life in the most compelling way. The chemistry between the leads feels genuine, and their interactions are

the heart and soul of the movie.

In a fresh, creative take the story balances the roles of the heroes with the strength of their family bond, as they defend Earth from a ravenous space god called Galactus (Ralph Ineson) and his enigmatic Herald, Silver Surfer (Julia Garner). And if Galactus’s plan to devour the entire planet and everyone on it wasn’t bad enough, it suddenly gets very personal. As Reed and Sue learn she is pregnant, Galactus makes the bargain that the planet can be saved if they give up their child.

As each character showcases their superpowers;

Reed, the power of elasticity; his wife Sue; invisibility and force fields; her brother Johnny Storm; flight and fire, and Reed’s best friend Ben Grimm; as “The Thing”, a creature with super strength made of rocks. They protect planet Earth against a collection of golden age villains.

Directed by Matt Shakman, and set in a vibrant, stylish and space-age world, “The Fantastic Four: First Steps” is full of humour, along with plenty of heart and sincerity.

“The Fantastic Four: First Steps” (PG 114 mins) screens: Saturday, August 30, 8 p.m. | Sunday August 31, 2 p.m. | Tuesday, Sept 2, 8 p.m..

One Hundred Years Ago

From the “Birchip Advertiser”, August 28, 1925.

Local and General Conservatorium Recital

The last University Conservatorium Recital for the season was given at the Mechanics’ Hall on Friday evening, but owing to the inclemency of the weather many people were prevented from attending, and only a small audience had the pleasure of hearing one of the last recitals given for some considerable time. The items were all instrumental and were contributed by three well-known and most accomplished musicians attached to the Conservatorium — Mr. Edward Goll, pianist; Mrs. Bernard Heinne, Violinist; and Mr. Lucas Huttenbach, cellist. The small audience who braved the elements were well rewarded and showed their appreciation of the rare artistry portrayed by each of the performers.

Concert at the Methodist Church

A very successful concert was held in the Methodist Church on Monday, August 24th. There was a large and appreciative audience, and encores were frequent. The principal part of the program consisted of a piano recital, which was given by Mr. Harold Rodgers. His playing was of the highest order, and in addition to other well known classical items, he ren-

dered the “Rainbow Prelude” and “To a Water Lily” by special request he also played the following organ recitals “Overture to the Occasional Oratorio” and the “Hallelujah Chorus” by Handel. Other items were “The Windmill” “The Bugler” by Mr. Paine; “That tumble Down Shack” by Mr. Rumble; and “Love come Calling” by Mrs. Bray.

The proceeds of the evening for towards the circuit fund of the church.

Football
The Boys from Birchip
(Up to Date)

We are the Boys from Birchip
The best team in the land
We fought and won the premiership
With a record simple grand.

How did we come to do the trick?
The other teams to spoil
Just listen to our song and you

Will get the dinkum oil.
Additional verses:
Bill Allan plays five or six
He’s clever, sure, and keen
On the half back line we know

A star in Morris Sheean.
We went to play the final
Twas Donald that we met
The wat we put it over them
They never will forget.
They thought they had us beaten

And planked in all their rolls
But we romped home in the final term
With nine unchallenged goals.

Now, listen lads and lassies all,
As long as your alive
Tell how we won the premiership
In nineteen twenty-five.
We won the best performance
For many, many. Years
So, for our team of champions
Give thee hearty cheers.

“Times” Crossword

QUICK PUZZLE NO. 8190 - SOLUTIONS

Across - 6, Merchantman. 7, Talc. 8, Vigorous. 9, Stroll. 10, Redeem. 12, Calico. 15, Outcry. 17, Virginia. 19, Nous. 20, Unmitigated.
Down - 1, Broccoli. 2, Shovel. 3, Onager. 4, Emir. 5, Endure. 6, Meant. 11, Detonate. 13, Animus. 14, Ornate. 15, Orange. 16, Round. 18, Game.

Fond Farewell for Coral Hicks

Coral Elizabeth Hicks (nee Cook) passed away July 7, 2025, her funeral was held at the Donald Golf Club on Friday, July 14.

Coral’s niece, authorised civil celebrant, Donna Coutts (nee Hommelhoff), led the service. Following the service Coral was interred at the Donald Cemetery.

Family and friends were encouraged to wear a touch of pink, in honour of her surviving breast cancer, and it was wonderful to see so many splashes of pink.

A poem was written by her daughter Paulene, and read out by Donna, and her granddaughter Molly Hicks read a beautiful poem. And two touching photo tributes were played during the service.

Coffin-bearers were her children, Stephen Hicks, Brett Hicks, Brenden Hicks and Paulene Syamanond, and grandsons Ben Probst and Griffin Hicks.

The following eulogy was read by Coral Hicks’s eldest child, Stephen Hicks:

“On behalf of Coral, myself and my brothers Brett, Brenden and our sister Paulene, along with all our family, we thank you for coming to help celebrate Mum’s life.

“I don’t think I can say much about Mum, that you don’t already know.

“She was caring, respectful, loving, generous, resilient, and always there to help if needed.

“Coral Elizabeth Cook was born in Warracknabeal on May 6, 1937, to Herbert and Ruby Cook.

“They were farmers at Wilkur South, who toiled the land and loved their Clydesdale horses.

“Coral was the seventh child, out of 10 siblings, who throughout their lives enjoyed a close family connection and bond. Coral’s siblings and in-laws who passed before her were:

- Aubrey Cook, Chetwyn.
- Gwen and Ron Storer, Coonabarabran.
- Mervyn and Eily Cook, Warrnambool.
- Shirley and Ted Ekberg, Seymour.
- Lyle and Gladys Cook, Warracknabeal.
- Avril and Ray Taylor, Glenroy.

- Errol Cook, Wycheproof.
- Don McNaughton, Wycheproof.
- Ian Hommelhoff, Horsham.

“Coral is survived by her brother and sister in-law Graeme and Lesley Cook, Birchip, Thelma McNaughton, Wycheproof, and her youngest sister Lorna Hommelhoff, Horsham.

“Whilst growing up, Coral enjoyed the farm life, riding horses, catching rabbits, and playing around with her siblings.”

The Good Old Days Were The Best

“They would ride the horse and cart to school each day, where Coral gained her knowledge at Watchem West school.

“Interestingly, Coral was only eight years old, when the second World War ended. She was born two years before it started.

“After leaving school, Coral lived in Warracknabeal, where she worked at the hospital, real estate agent and Schubert’s car garage.



• The late Coral Eizabeth Hicks.

“She played netball and other sports and was also a member of the local Marching Girls Club.

“She married James (Jim) Hicks in 1965, and they moved to Donald.

“They raised four lovely children, Stephen, Brett, Brenden, and Paulene.

“They settled into the Donald life, playing sport and involving themselves in the community.

“Our life, as Stephen said, was filled with love, good and bad times, delicious food including Sunday roasts, cakes and the best home-made sausage rolls going around.

“Stephen’s favourite was her self-saucing chocolate pudding, Yummo.

“We grew up in a house full of family and friends and enjoyed many holidays with our family from both sides.

“Christmas at Grandma Ruby’s, with all our cousins and family, were some of our best memories.”

With Two Racing Legends in Tow . . . Melbourne Cup to Return to Donald

[From Donald 2000]

The Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour is set to make a triumphant return to Donald on Sunday, August 31st, bringing with it not only the iconic trophy but two legendary figures from the world of racing.

Joe Agresta, renowned track rider for twelve-time Melbourne Cup-winning trainer Bart Cummings, will accompany the Cup throughout its visit. Joining him is Joe McGrath, Keeper of the Cup and one of the original architects of the Cup Tour, which began in 2003.

The day kicks off at 10:15 a.m. at the Donald Pony Club, where locals will have the rare opportunity to hold the Cup, take photos, and hear firsthand stories from the racing world.

“The process of selecting destinations is based on the strength of the submissions,” said Joe McGrath.

“We assess applications against a set of criteria including historical referencing and community connection. The strongest destinations rise to the surface.”

Donald last hosted the cup in 2020, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. While restrictions limited that visit, this year’s tour will include stops at Goodwin Village and the Donald Hospital,

much to the delight of residents who missed out previously.

The event promises to be a celebration of both racing heritage and community spirit, with everyone welcome to attend.

As the race that stops a nation prepares to roll through Donald once more, locals are encouraged to come along, share in the moment, and help showcase the town’s enduring connection to Australia’s most famous sporting trophy.



• Peter Russell during the cup visit in 2020.



• Joe Agresta.



• Joe McGrath.

"Times" Classifieds

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

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

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

DEATH HOLLIS.—

John Edward
1935 - 2025

The Hollis family regret the passing of their eldest brother, John, on Saturday, August 23, 2025, shortly after his 90th birthday.

Brother and brother-in-law of Ron & Cheryl, Stewart & Joyce, Norm & Beth, Heather & Alan, Marjory & Peter, and Trevor (dec.) & Margaret and all his nephews and nieces, and their families.

We will remember you as a role model in our lives, and we cherish the times we enjoyed together and we will never forget you.

We express greatest sympathy to Dawn, Cynthia, Tim, Casey, Kimberley and family.

HOLLIS.— John
1935 - 2025

Treasured memories, words cannot express how much we will miss you.

Our deepest sympathy to Dawn and her family.

— Norm & Beth
Sharon,
Imogen & Georgia
Daryl & Karen,
Lachlan and Zac.

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

FUNERAL LETTS.—

A service to celebrate Ewan Donald "Mick's" life will be held in St Andrew's Uniting Church, Donald on Friday, August 29, 2025, at 1.30 p.m.

The cortège will then leave for the Donald Lawn Cemetery

KELL FUNERALS
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BEREAVEMENT THANK YOU

Kevin Prendergast
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Friarstown, Kildare
Ireland

05/07/1932-20/06/2025

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported us following the recent loss of a much-loved father, grandfather, and father-in-law. Your kind words, cards, flowers & overwhelming support during this difficult time has been of great comfort to us.

To our friends, neighbours, and extended family — thank you for your love, your kindness, and your shared memories.

*From Louise, Chris,
Laura and Claudia — and
on behalf of our extended
family — please know how
much your support has
meant to us.*

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

- Aug. 26, Koby Westerland
- Aug. 27, Angie Donnellon
- Aug. 29, Jan Adcock
- Aug. 29, Kath Campbell
- Aug. 29, Chelsea Leeder
- Aug. 31, Barbara Pearce
- Aug. 31, Janice McArthur
- Aug. 31, Kim Griffiths
- Aug. 31, Des Jess
- Sept. 1, Shannon Geddes
- Sept. 1, Pat O'Reilly

If you know someone celebrating a special anniversary, let us know at
Donald Newsagency & Emporium
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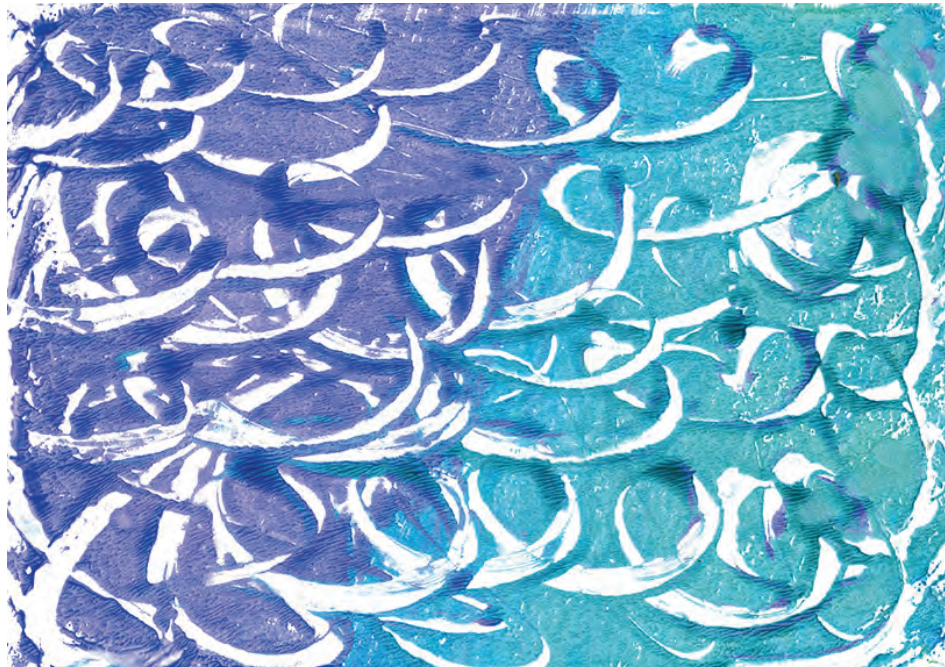
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• Action on the Goff Letts oval and on the Jeffcott oval in the background.

Schools Gather for North-Central Sports

Friday saw students from Birchip P-12 School, St Arnaud Primary School, St Patrick’s Primary School (St Arnaud), St Mary’s Primary School (Donald) and Donald Primary School converge on the Donald Community Precinct for the Annual North Central Athletics Sports.

The overcast day kicked off with the 800m event, then students were grouped by their ages to compete in shot-put, discus, vortex, hurdles, sprint, long distance and long jump.

The senior students remained on the main oval with the junior students competing on the Jeffcott Oval.

Students spent their day meeting children from other schools and having fun while showcasing their athletic skills.

As always there were many family and friends who travelled to show their support for students.

Each event was worth 3 points and there were a number of individual winners for the days who received a full score of 21 and select senior students will have the opportunity to compete at the Black Ranges.

The day ended with all schools coming together to cheer on their teams in the relays.

School winners for the day were St Patrick’s in the Junior School events and Birchip P-12 School in the Senior School Events.

A huge thank you to all those who helped set up and helped with the running of the day.



• Students from St. Mary’s Primary School Donald, Donald Primary School and St. Patrick’s Primary School in the sprint events.



• Ruben Jane-Higgins demonstrating his discus throw!



• I remember the occasion a man with a stop sign pulled me up while driving along a north Queensland road and warned me to drive carefully because the road was partially blocked by a rockslide and there could be more.

Earthquake Warning!

At 9.49 a.m. on Saturday, August 16, 2025, I was sitting at the kitchen table of our holiday accommodation unit on Queensland’s Sunshine Coast when the building began to shudder.

I soon realised we were in the midst of an earthquake and it was not long until Geo-science Australia seismologist Michelle Salmon was reporting that the 5.6 magnitude earthquake was the largest on-shore earth quake in Queens-land for 50 years.

After the initial earthquake, which lasted around 7 seconds more announcements were made warning us we could face aftershocks so be prepared!



• Bruce Stewart

This earthquake reminds us how quickly people can find themselves in a potentially dangerous situation so we need to

listen carefully to warnings coming from authorities. I remember the occasion a man with a stop sign pulled me up while driving along a north Queensland road and warned me to drive carefully because the road was partially blocked by a rockslide and there could be more. We appreciated the warning.

I am reminded of another situation where ignoring a warning resulted in a severe consequence. Back in 1980 Mount St. Helens belched grey steam plumes hundreds of metres into the air. Geologists watched their seismographs in growing wonder as the earth danced beneath their feet. Police moved tourists and residents away from an ever widening zone of danger.

“Warning!”

“Warning!” blared loudspeakers on helicopters overhead. “Warning!” pleaded radio and TV journalists. People heard the warnings and fled for their lives except for Harry Truman, who refused to budge. Harry was a caretaker of a recreation lodge 8 km north of the Mt St Helen peak. People begged him to leave. But Harry ignored the warnings. Harry grinned on national TV and said, “Nobody knows more about this mountain than Harry and it doesn’t dare blow up on him!”

Explosion

On May 18, 1980 Harry cooked his eggs and bacon and planted petunias. At 8.31 a.m. the mountain exploded. Did Harry regret his decision in that millisecond he had before the concussive waves travelling faster than the speed of sound flattened everything for many kilometres? Did he have time to mourn his stubbornness as millions of tons of rock disintegrated and disappeared into a cloud reaching 16 kms into the air? Harry rejected the warnings and reaped a terrible consequence.

Two thousand years ago the greatest teacher of all time gave us warnings for our benefit. Jesus Christ told many wonderful stories like the “Good Samaritan”, which is still told around the world, but He also gave us warnings. Jesus said to the crowds of people listening to Him about the way to heaven, “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life and only a few find it” (Matthew 7:13-14). Jesus is saying that the “narrow gate” represents a life of faith and commitment to Him, which can be very costly at times that leads to eternal life in heaven. He also warns us that those who reject Him are separated from Him for eternity and “will be thrown outside into the darkness where there will be wailing and gnashing of teeth” (Matthew 8:12), a terrible place.

The Easter season reminds us of Jesus dying a sacrificial death on the cross of Calvary to save us from a horrible destination, if we so choose. Jesus took the punishment for our sin. We need to confess our sin (1 John 1:9) and “repent then and turn to God so that your sins maybe wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord” (Acts 3:19).

Warnings are for our benefit. Listen carefully to warnings from earthly authorities but especially listen to warnings from Jesus and heed them for the benefits are eternal.

Bruce Stewart.

COMMUNITY UPDATE Buloke.



INTERIM CEO APPOINTED

At its Ordinary Council Meeting in Wycheproof, last Wednesday night, Buloke Shire Council appointed Daniel McLoughlan as Interim Chief Executive Officer, commencing 1 September 2025.

This interim arrangement will be in place for up to 12 weeks, until a permanent CEO is appointed or Council resolves to make an alternative interim appointment.

Outgoing CEO Wayne O’Toole will officially conclude his duties on 29 August 2025, following a period of leave commencing 25 August. Daniel will act as CEO during this week.

Council thanks Wayne for his dedicated service and leadership and congratulates Daniel on his Interim CEO appointment.

SPOT IT WHILE YOU DRIVE

Council has received funding to manage weeds and rabbits on rural roadsides.

If you’re out driving keep an eye out for any roadside hotspots. Your observations are incredibly valuable.

Our community plays a vital role in helping us spot invasive weeds and rabbit activity beside rural roadsides and considering Buloke Shire covers over 8,000 km² it’s a vast area to monitor.

While reports often come from Landcare groups or from staff out on the road, we also rely on local knowledge to guide our efforts.

The priority weeds impacting our region listed below are identified in our Roadside Weed and Pest Management Plan: Wheel Cactus, African Boxthorn, Horehound, Bathurst Burr, Paterson’s Curse, Bridal Creeper and Amsinckia. If you spot listed weeds or rabbit activity on rural roads (outside townships, typically 100km/h zones), please fill out the online form www.buloke.vic.gov.au/pest-control

COMMUNITY GRANTS AWARDED

At last week’s Council Meeting, Councillors awarded a total of \$3,350 in funding to support three community-led projects across the shire that celebrate community connections and creativity.

Congratulations to:

- Birchip Playgroup - Strong Start Active Play for Birchip’s Future (\$2,000)
- Combined Probus Club of Wycheproof Inc. - Probus Wycheproof Christmas Lunch (\$350)
- Mallee Creatives Auspiced by Charlton Neighbourhood House – Charlton Weekend Coffee Stop – Volunteer Training & Equipment Initiative (\$1,000)

If you have a great idea that could benefit your local community, you may also be eligible for a community grant. To find out more visit: www.buloke.vic.gov.au/community-grants-and-sponsorship or email grants@buloke.vic.gov.au

BIRCHIP RECREATION RESERVE MASTER PLAN

The Birchip Recreation Reserve Master Plan was endorsed by Council at its August Ordinary Council Meeting.

The Plan aims to provide direction to the Birchip Community Leisure Centre Committee of Management, user groups and Council, to guide the management and development of the Birchip Recreation Reserve for the next twelve years.

It was developed in close consultation with the Committee of Management, user groups, key stakeholders and Council officers to provide a sustainable community space that promotes recreation, social and business opportunities.

CHARLTON LIBRARY

The Charlton Library continues to operate from the mobile library van every Tuesday from 10am – 2pm (outside the Municipal Office) whilst an alternate space is identified. A number of sites are currently still being assessed for their ability to meet accessibility, security and location requirements.

Council appreciates the patience of the local community throughout this process and hopes to announce a new location soon.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH BULOKE

Council is an equal opportunity employer. Our roles are non-gender specific, and Council encourages all suitably qualified applicants to apply. For more information on equal opportunity, call Human Resources on 1300 520 520.

You can find all current employment opportunities at www.buloke.vic.gov.au/employment

Applications can be lodged by:
Mail - PO Box 1, Wycheproof
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TEAM LEADER ROAD SERVICES (NORTH)

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→ Applications Close 14 September 2025

This is a role for a proactive individual to lead and support the Road Services Team, ensuring the effective planning and coordination of maintenance and construction crews, essential to maintaining the quality and safety of Council’s road network. This role is suitable for a person experienced in coordinating grading, patrol activities. It involves supervision of staff as well as assisting in preparing budget estimates and recommendations for annual road maintenance and capital improvement programs.



BULOKE SHIRE COUNCIL

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GRDC Southern Panel Welcomes New Members

South Australian, Victorian and Tasmanian grain growers will be represented by a new-look Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) Southern Panel which has been appointed for the next two years, from September 1, 2025.

The panel was announced by the GRDC Board and comprises four new and six returning members, who together will help guide priorities for research, development and extension (RD&E) investments to deliver enduring profitability to grain growers.

First Time Appointees

Appointed to the Southern Panel for the first time are Victorian grain grower Wayne Burton, Yorke Peninsula grain grower Max Young, grains research and extension specialist Greta Duff, and South Australian agronomist Adam Hancock.

GRDC Chair Sharon Starick said that the incoming panel members will contribute a wide range of skills

and expertise that will complement the experience of existing members.

"The GRDC Board was extremely impressed with the quality of applicants, underscoring the significant industry value and respect associated with the GRDC regional panels," Mrs Starick said.

"Our objective was to achieve a balance of expertise and experience, ensuring a geographic representation reflective of the grains industry and capable of providing thoughtful and informed guidance on industry needs, priorities and proposed GRDC investments."

Mrs Starick continued with "the GRDC regional panels

played a critical role identifying and prioritising local, regional and national grains industry issues informed by their industry networks and firsthand understanding.

"We are confident this panel will support GRDC to continue making innovative, targeted, strategic and transformational RD&E investments," she said.

GRDC Southern Panel Chair Andrew Russell welcomed the arrival of new members and acknowledged the four panel members stepping down after serving as representatives for their industry.

Farewells

"We say farewell to Eyre Peninsula grain grower,



• GRDC's Southern Panel meet with growers and other people working in the industry to help guide GRDC's RD&E investment to support the enduring profitability of grain growers across Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. Photo: Sophie Clayton, GRDC.

Michael Treloar, scientific researcher and strategic leader Neil Fisher, Tasmanian grain grower Peter Damen, and grower and farming systems researcher Dr Patricia Flynn,

who have all made outstanding contributions to the grains industry through their involvement with the GRDC Southern Panel," Mr Russell said.

"Their insight, expertise and comprehensive understanding of the challenges and constraints encountered by southern region grain growers have been instrumental in guiding GRDC RD&E investments.

"These efforts ensured that initiatives were tailored to meet the practical needs of growers while also addressing broader industry challenges.

"On behalf of both the Southern Panel and the wider GRDC organisation, I would

like to extend my sincere appreciation for their dedication."

Returning Members

The returning panellists are extension specialist Pru Cook, Birchip grain grower Tim McClelland, South Australian agro-ecologist and grower Ruth Sommerville, Port Lincoln research agronomist Andrew Ware, and scientific leader Dr Kathy Ophal-Keller. Mr Russell will remain Southern Panel Chair.

The new Panel's first task will be the annual GRDC spring tour, visiting regional growers, advisers and researchers to assess opportunities and challenges in the southern region.



• Wayne Burton



• Max Young



• Greta Duff



• Adam Hancock

Dangers of Fungicide Overuse

Crop pathologists and fungal disease experts are concerned about the increasing use of precautionary fungicide applications in Australian canola.

Repeated applications of a single fungicide as "cheap insurance" against disease could have serious long-term consequences.

Associate Professor Fran Lopez-Ruiz, project lead for the Australian Fungicide Resistance Extension Network (AFREN), a Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) investment, said fungicide resistance poses an ongoing threat to canola production, with frequent and repeated application of the same fungicide group being one of the main drivers.

Spores released by fungicide-resistant fungi can spread over large areas in a short time. This means overuse of fungicides and poor disease management practices on a single farm can quickly become a regional problem.

"We are seeing this with net form net blotch (NFB) of barley in parts of South Australia, Western Australia and Victoria," A/Prof Lopez-Ruiz said.

"NFB pathogen populations with triple fungicide resistance to all three registered

fungicide groups have limited growers' options for protecting their barley yields. This is why AFREN recommends a targeted approach to fungicide application – only apply fungicide when necessary and when there is a clear economic benefit from doing so.

"Even then, different fungicide groups should always be used in rotation so any pathogens with fungicide resistance or reduced sensitivity will be controlled by one of the treatments."

Mutations for reduced sensitivity to Group 7 SDHI fungicides and Group 12 fungicide fludioxonil, the only other fungicide groups registered for blackleg control, have also been detected in SA. There is a potential for reduced sensitivity to these two groups under high disease and fungicide selection pressure.

Dr Marcroft said he has received several enquiries about using double rates or off-label timings to help control blackleg or mitigate efficacy issues due to fungicide resistance.

"Both practices are illegal as label rates and require-

ments must be followed – and they will also contribute to increased levels of fungicide resistance," he said.

"Fungicides must only be applied in accordance with label recommendations and only used when disease pressure is high and there is a clear risk of yield loss."

It's important to remember that canola plants can tolerate a significant amount of disease before any yield loss occurs – typically up to 20 per cent crown canker infection. So, while skipping early foliar applications will lead to a small amount of crown canker, this is unlikely to result in yield losses but will have a massive impact on minimising the risk of fungicide resistance evolving.

"What may seem like cheap insurance now could actually be a longer-term risk to canola production. Weighing the pros and cons of a fungicide spray with your agronomist is a much better investment."

Growers should also follow the "AFREN Fungicide Resistance 5" principles for integrated disease manage-



• Dr Steve Marcroft says to prevent fungicide resistance getting worse, only apply fungicides according to label recommendations and only when disease pressure is high and there is a clear risk of yield loss. Photo: Marcroft Grains Pathology

ment. This includes planting canola at least 500 metres from the previous season's stubble, using time of sowing to manage disease risk, and using more resistant varieties and rotating them.



What's On AFREN Webinar – Barley diseases and Fungicide Resistance 101

Start time: September 9, 1 p.m. and ending at 2 p.m.

Join this AFREN webinar for an update on barley diseases and practical strategies to minimise the risk of fungicide resistance.

Queensland DPI's Dr Lisle Snyman will share the latest insights on barley diseases, in particular net blotches and recent screening results. This will highlight the importance of variety choice, a key AFREN principle for managing disease risk and reducing reliance on fungicides.

Register online for free at:

<https://grdc.com.au/events/list/2025/09/afren-webinar-barley-diseases-and-fungicide-resistance-101>

Donald Hockey Presents Awards

[From Donald Hockey Club]

The Donald Royal Blues held a combined Seniors Presentation Night at the Anderson Blue Room, with all three codes coming together to celebrate an eventful year of winter sport in Donald.

The social crew put on a fantastic evening, with the room looking stunning and everyone dressed to impress – it was a real occasion, and great to see so many people scrubbed up for the night.

Congratulations to all of our award winners on the evening – well-deserved recognition for a big season both on and off the field.

Hockey Club Awards

Most Improved Senior Player, Louise Barber; Best Club Person, Carly Pearce.

Men's

Matthew "Kakka" Davidson Memorial Men's Most Valuable Player, Henry Bouchier; Best and Fairest – Henry Bouchier; Runner-Up Best and Fairest, Lincoln Westerland; Coach's Awards, Leo Nuske and Oskar Nuske; Highest Goal Scorer, Glenn Pearce; Goal of the Year, Parker Bicket; Best in Finals – (to be awarded at season's end).

Women's

Matthew "Kakka" Davidson Memorial Women's MVP, Hannah Werner; Bob Davison Memorial Best and Fairest, Hannah Werner, Heather Shilton Memorial Runner-Up Best and Fairest, Lauren Hawkes; Coach's Award, Louise Barber; Highest Goal Scorer, Hannah Werner; Goal of the Year, Isabelle Rowe.

Thank you to all our coaches for their commitment this season, and to our executive team – Katie Bicket (president), Alexander Bouchier (treasurer), Carly Pearce (secretary), and Lauren Hawkes (vice-president) – along with the extended committee, players, and supporters.

Once again, it's been an incredible year of hockey. While results were mixed across the board, every step has been one forward, particularly for the women who

enjoyed some fantastic wins and should be congratulated for their hard work and determination. The men were once again a force to be reckoned with, notching up strong results and spending much of the year near the top of the ladder. Well done, boys.

A huge thank you also goes out to all our sponsors for their incredible support once again throughout the season, and to our generous trophy donors for the year. Without you, Donald Hockey wouldn't be able to achieve the fantastic results we've seen – with our men still charging ahead in finals. A full list of trophy donors and sponsors will appear in our Junior Awards report.

We've got a few exciting weeks to look forward to yet, so let's all get around the boys and see if we can finish the year with another piece of silverware, just like last season.



• Women's Lauren Hawkes, Isabelle Rowe.



• Men's Hockey, left to right: Glenn Pearce, Oskar Nuske, Lincoln Westerland, Henry Bouchier, Parker Bicket, Leo Nuske.



• Special Awards Brent Barber, on behalf of his daughter, Louise; and Carly Pearce.



• Goal Scoring awards: Parker Bicket, Glenn Pearce, Isabelle Rowe.

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Birchip's Students' Success at District Athletics

Birchip P-12 School students have once again shown their determination, talent, and strong school spirit through their efforts at recent North Central and District Athletics events.

On Friday, August 15, the school travelled to Charlton for the Interschool Athletics Day, with 18 students braving strong winds and chilly showers to proudly represent their school. Despite the testing conditions, students gave their all in every event, supporting each other from the sidelines and demonstrating the teamwork that Birchip P-12 is known for.

Seven Wins

The school was thrilled to celebrate seven students winning their respective events, who will now progress to the next stage of competition. Congratulations to Beau Haslam, Lana Angel, Zali Angel, Cassie Tynan, Ada Bourke, Ashlei Poyner and Elise Cox. In addition, several others placed across both track and field events, showcasing the depth of talent in the team. While Birchip P-12 finished 6th overall in the aggregate – mainly due to having fewer competitors than larger schools – the effort and spirit displayed by the students was outstanding.

At Donald

Just one week later, on Friday 22 August, Birchip P-12's Prep to Year 6 students competed at the North Central Athletics Carnival in Donald. This time the weather was perfect, and five local schools



came together for a day filled with fun, friendly competition, and plenty of school pride.

Birchip P-12 performed strongly across the board, finishing a close second in the Junior section and claiming 1st place in the Senior section for the second year running – a remarkable achievement.

Special mention goes to students who earned the maximum number of points on the day: Fred Hogan, Awhina Kahukura, Millie Poyner, Lucy Coffey, Sadie Bourke, Jaymee Poyner, Denley Tyler, and River Ryan. Their efforts, along with those of their classmates, highlight the commitment and enthusiasm of Birchip P-12 students when it comes to sport.

Principal staff and parents also praised the students for their teamwork, encouragement of one another, and willingness to represent their school with pride.

With many students now advancing to the next level of competition, Birchip P-12 looks forward to even more sporting success in the months ahead.



• Senior School NDC Sports Team for Birchip P-12 School.



• Junior School NDC Sports individual maximum number of points on the day: Denley Tyler, Awhina Kahukura, Saide Bourke, Lucy Coffey, Millie Poyner, Fred Hogan, River Ryan and Jaymee Poyner.

Mary Travels, This Time to Mexico

The travels of former Donald resident, Mary Raynes, have so far also included meetings in Puebla with Heineken and Central Altiplano Maltería, Mexico.

For anyone not in the know, Mexico isn't just about tacos and tequila, it's a beer giant!

In fact, it's the world's largest beer exporter, pouring

out more than 6 billion USD in sales last year.

Nearly three-quarters of what goes into that frothy glass is sourced locally, but when it comes to malting

barley, imports are still crucial; around 400,000-500,000 ton-nes a year.

Australia has been right in the brew of it, supplying on average 61 per cent, up to 85 per cent of Mexico's total malting barley imports. With that kind of scale and influence, it's no wonder Mexico is such an important market for Australian barley.

Mexico is buying high quality, single malting barley varieties only; this market is of importance to the Australian barley grower for market diversity.

Of course, Australia isn't the only player meeting with Mexico's barley, malting, brewing, and beer representatives. Canada and the United States play the long game, sending delegations at least three to four times a year to strengthen ties with local brewers and maltsters. They also enjoy a home-ground advantage through the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), the successor to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which streamlines regional trade.

With the investment from Grains Australia, Mary is able to lead the technical market engagement for Australian barley into Mexico.



• Australian Embassy, left to right: Ms Penny Toledo, Deputy Head of Mission, DFAT Australian Embassy, Mexico, Ms Mary Raynes, Markets Manager – Lead, Australian Export Grains Innovation Centre (AEGIC), Ms Laura Torres, Senior Agriculture Analyst (Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's (DAFF, Australian Embassy, Mexico and the only DAFF resource covering all aspects of agriculture for Mexico and Central America).

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"I said we'll start getting up early for a walk next week!"

“Life” for Donald Netball Great

At the North Central Netball Association Vote Count and Presentation Day on Sunday, August 24, a standing ovation greeted Donald's Xanthi Rice as she was inducted as a life member of the association in recognition of more than 450 games and an extraordinary record of service on and off the court.

The nomination, put forward by the Donald Netball Club and supported by existing life members, outlined a career that has spanned more than three decades. It celebrated not only Xanthi's playing achievements but also her tireless commitment as a coach, volunteer, and leader at both club and league level.

Jess Nunn, on behalf of the Donald Netball Club, said; “Xanthi Rice is a name synonymous with netball excellence in the North Central region. She is a role model, a leader, and a community champion. Her charisma, determination, and generous spirit have inspired countless teammates, players, volunteers and supporters over the years. Whether on the court directing play, on the sideline coaching, or in the committee room planning for the future, Xanthi gives her all. Her 450-game milestone is not just a number – it represents decades of service, passion, and loyalty to the sport she loves. It represents weekend after weekend of commitment, of mentoring, of lifting others around her. It is a legacy that will be remembered for generations.”

Potential

Xanthi's netball journey began as a junior in the early 1990s, when her potential was quickly recognised. She participated in state and regional development programs, represented the Wimmera Mallee at championships, and by the age of 14 had already broken into Donald's “A” Grade side.

Her early accolades included the North Central Junior “A” Best and Fairest, representation at the Victorian State Development Squad Championships, and the Wimmera Sports Star of the Year nomination. From these beginnings, a remarkable career was set in motion.

Honours

Across the decades that followed, Xanthi collected a string of honours. She amassed 14 “A” Grade Best and Fairest awards at Donald, claimed the NCNA A Grade

Best and Fairest in 2002, and was runner-up on several other occasions.

She was a regular in the North Central representative sides, making 12 appearances between 2003 and 2017. Her consistency and skill also earned her broader recognition, including the Hardingham's Netballer of the Year, the Ro Wood Memorial Award, and the prestigious Worksafe Medal, presented by football legend Ron Barassi.

Coaching

Her coaching record is equally impressive. As a player-coach she guided Donald's “A”, “B” and “C” Grade sides, juniors, and representative teams. In 2006 she famously led Donald to its first “A” Grade premiership in 47 years, cementing her place in club history.

She later oversaw premierhips in “B” and “C” Grade and a host of junior titles, while also serving as a representative coach for the NCNA. Her ability to inspire, mentor and develop young players has left a lasting mark across the region.

Xanthi's service off the court has been just as significant. She has held almost every role at Donald Netball Club, from president, vice president and secretary through to Umpires Convener, Archive Officer and Finals Co-ordinator, positions she continues to hold today. In 2012 she was awarded life membership of the Donald Netball Club, acknowledging her tireless contribution at club level.

At association level, she has served multiple terms as secretary, co-ordinated finals, and helped run junior development programs.

Milestone

In May this year, Xanthi brought up her 450th senior game in a match against Charlton, a milestone few players in country netball achieve. It is a testament to her resilience, passion and love of the game that she remains a key figure both on court and in leadership roles in 2025.

From her first taste of representative netball at Country Week in 1994 through to guiding juniors in 2024, the story of Xanthi Rice is one of commitment, achievement and altruism.

She has been a player, coach, official and leader, but above all she has been a role model to generations of netballers in Donald and across North Central.

Her induction as a life member of the North Central Netball Association is a fitting acknowledgement of an outstanding career and a legacy that will inspire for years to come.

A video with messages from players across the region was testament to the esteem in which Xanthi is held across the association.

Xanthi responded with emotion and pride, paying tribute to her family for their support, beginning with her parents and siblings who instilled in her a love of netball, and to her husband for his unwavering encouragement, particularly during the years when their children were young.

She spoke of her passion for the game, the role models she has learnt from and the joy netball has brought her both on and off the court, reflecting on the lifelong friendships she has made and the satisfaction of watching the next generation of players succeed.

Although this milestone is remarkable, it is certainly not the end, as Xanthi has vowed to play on and will no doubt continue her selfless dedication to netball for a lifetime.



• Life member Xanthi Rice and President of NCNA Kim Fitzpatrick.



• The Rice family were on hand to witness the celebration, from left, Jason, Curtis, Xanthi, Luca, and Halle.

Seb Tops Under-17 Voting

Charlton's Sebastian Zagame is the winner of North-Central Football League's 2025 Jeff “Woofa” Guild Trophy as “best and fairest” in the under-17s age group.

Equal runners-up, with 25 votes each, are Sea Lake-Nandaly's Brayden Allen, and Boort's Cooper Gooding.

The following is the complete list of under-17 voting.

27: Seb Zagame (CFC).
25: Brayden Allan (SLNT), Cooper Gooding (BFC).
22: Tiger Vearing (CU).
19: Frankie Donald (STA).
18: Austin Lowe (STA).

17: Aaron Smith (WFC).
16: Chase Zander (STA), Max Fawcett (CU).
11: Cruz O'Sullivan (SLNT), Luke Boyd (BFC).
10: Brodie McPherson (BFC), Isaac Bourke (CFC), Riley Wagner (BFC).
9: Baxter Donnellon (SP), Judd Durie (SLNT).
6: Nate McClelland (SLNT), Oakley Brennan (DFC), Tynan Perry (CU).
5: Aidan Wickham (STA), Chase Campbell (DFC), Jake O'Flaherty (BFC), Luca Rice(DFC), Oliver Cook (BWFC), Scott Barbary (SP), Taj Borlase (SLNT).
4: Ethan Clapham (DFC), Murphy Fitzpatrick (CFC), Sean Bridgeman (STA).
3: Archer Reyne (STA), Archer Ward (SP), Beau Chapman (CU), Darby Perryman (BFC), Jack Batters (STA), Jacob Cox (SLNT), Jesse Lydom (DFC), Noah Winslett (WFC).
2: Angus Cowell (CU), Angus Renney (SLNT), Bob Donald (STA), Darcy Coles (CU), Ethan Soulsby (CFC),

Hugo Warne (SLNT), Jam Borden (DFC), Jarvis Wright (CFC), Jasper Morcombe (SP), Liam Budge (SP), Noah Dean (BWFC), Ollie Daiken(CU), Rhett Hogan(CU), Ryder Newick (SLNT), Rylan Chislett (BFC), Ryleigh Amor (SP).
1: Ben Cunningham (WFC), Brody Kelly (SLNT), Cooper Gould (BFC), Henry Cox (SLNT), Hugo Funcke (DFC), John Clapham (DFC), Slater Piazza (SP), Taio Atkinson(BWFC).

Your Blood is Worth Bottling

If you are visiting Ballarat or Bendigo and have a bit of time to spare, a trip to the Blood Bank would be a very rewarding experience. You will need to book, by phoning 13 14 95.

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• Boort's Ethan Coleman looks set to gather the ball. Others pictured are Boort's James Byrne and Tigers' Trent Donnan and Charlie Cox. – Photo Clare Letts.

Tigers Stay in the Race

• Continued from page 12.
of the match for Boort, which saw a comfortable victory to the impressive yellow and blacks.

All eyes now turn to next week's game at Boort where Birchip-Watchem takes on the newly formed Calder United in what promises to be a cracking second semi.

Scores: Sea Lake-Nandaly 15.11 (101) d Boort 7.5 (47).

Best for Sea Lake-Nandaly: Max Cahoon, Wade Donnan, Tyson McKenzie, Lachie McClelland, Jack Poulton, Ryan O'Sullivan.

For Boort: Matt Austin, James Keeble, Tom Potter, James Wilson, James Byrne, Alex Chamberlain.

The Buloke Times

Coloured Photographs

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

Photos not published may also be available.

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



• James Keeble attempts to break free from the grip of Kane Donnan, also pictured Tom Potter (Boort). – Photo Blake Lee.

Tigers Stay in the Race

Sea Lake-Nandaly has advanced to the preliminary final after accounting for Boort in front of an impressive crowd at Birchip.

Both sides entered this encounter with regulars missing from their usual line-ups. Boort's ruckman Peter Barbopoulos and rover Carlos Egan were unavailable, while the Tigers' dynamo Thomas Cox couldn't recover from injury in time, but should be available in a fortnight's time.

While the result won't shock followers of North Central football, Sea Lake-Nandaly still had to shake off a persistent Magpie outfit that can hold its head high after a solid season.

With Barbopoulos sidelined, most of Boort's ruckwork was shouldered by James Wilson, who tackled this task admirably against Tigers' Ryan O'Sullivan, who continues to amaze with his longevity and reach.

Another match up of note was Sea Lake-Nandaly's defender Luke Martin on dangerous full forward Jhye Baddeley-Kelly. Baddeley-Kelly proved his versatility when, due to the lack of forward entries, moved on to the ball as the game unfolded, adding bite in the middle prompting one onlooker to quip: "If only we had two of him."

What was also evident early was Tiger defender Jack Poulton, who continually gathered the ball at half-back and created opportunities further afield. Poulton has the happy knack of seeming to never have an opponent, as if he's a loose man in defence.

Arm Wrestle

The game actually began as an arm wrestle with both defences on top and it wasn't until five minutes in when Lachie McClelland snapped

truly in heavy traffic for the Tigers. Team mate Max Cahoon floated another one through before Austin Mertz added a third which ominously saw Sea Lake-Nandaly holding a three-goal lead despite kicking into the breeze at quarter-time.

It was only a matter of time before ex-AFL gun Josh Jenkins made an impact and it began four minutes into the second period when he slotted a clever left footed snap. Not to be outdone, Boort's Ethan Coleman mirrored this to break the ice for his side. The game began to open up due to the efforts of Sea Lake-Nandaly's Max Cahoon, Tyson McKenzie and dual Feeny medallist Wade Donnan, and Boort's Matt Austin, James Keeble and Tom Potter, and the Tigers banged on another four goals, while the Magpies managed two through Lachie Hall and Harry Weaver from a long bomb.

Most Even

The third term was the most even of the game in both play and scoring, as two goals apiece were added, the best of which came from a brilliant passage of play when Boort's Tom Potter sprinted through the middle and passed to Jhye Baddeley-Kelly who found James Keeble, who made no mistake.

Sea Lake-Nandaly now held a six goal lead heading into the final phase. Josh Jenkins booted his fourth and fifth for the Tigers and John Sumerhayes kicked two of his own. To add some respectability to the cause Will Perryman and Jhye Baddeley-Kelly kicked the final goals

• Continued on page 11.



• Feeny Medalist Wade Donnan (SLNT) and Boort's Jayden Dick charge at the ball. Others pictured are Tom Potter (Boort), Alex Chamberlain (Boort), Ryan O'Sullivan (SLNT) and Austin Mertz (SLNT). – Photo Clare Letts.

Goldacres North-Central Football League First Semi-Final Results

Gate at Birchip \$16,038

GOLDACRES SENIORS

SEA LAKE-NANDALY.	3.2	9.4	11.6	15.11	(101)
BOORT	0.2	3.2	5.4	7.5	(47)

Goals for Sea Lake-Nandaly: Joshua Jenkins 5, Lachy McClelland 2, John Summerhayes 2, Max Cahoon, Jarvis Keogh, Tyson McKenzie, Austin Mertz, Cruz O'Sullivan, Adam Pattison.

For Boort: Jhye Baddeley-Kelly, Ethan Coleman, Lachlan Hall, Kieren Jaksic, James Keeble, Will Perryman, Harry Weaver.

Best for Sea Lake-Nandaly: Max Cahoon, Wade Donnan, Tyson McKenzie, Lachy McClelland, Jack Poulton, Ryan O'Sullivan.

For Boort: Matt Austin, James Keeble, Tom Potter, James Wilson, James Byrne, Alex Chamberlain.

HAEUSLER'S RESERVES

BIRCHIP-WATCHEM...	2.2	3.2	6.7	7.9	(51)
SEA LAKE-NANDALY.	0.2	4.4	4.4	5.5	(35)

Goals for Birchip-Watchem: Callum Goode 2, Riley Doran, Connor Lee, Stefan Pye, Lochlan Sirett, Tison Wiantara.

For Sea Lake-Nandaly: Chase Tait 2, Isaac Durie, Rylee McGarry, Brody Weir.

Best for Birchip-Watchem: Ty Colbert, Bodie Colbert, Harry Cook, George Addis, Connor Boyle.

For Sea Lake-Nandaly: Connor Michael, Chase Tait, Billy Poulton, Jack Stacey, Harry Pitchford, Cooper Roberts.

COMMUNITY BANK CHARLTON & DISTRICT UNDER-SEVENTEENS

BOORT	0.2	0.2	2.7	4.12	(36)
CALDER UNITED.....	1.5	2.6	2.6	2.7	(19)

Goals for Boort: Seth Muller 2, Luke Boyd, Riley Wagner. For Calder United: Locke Coles, Tiger Vearing.

Best for Boort: Luke Boyd, Riley Wagner, Brodie McPherson, Rylan Chislett, Cooper Gooding, Darby F Perryman.

For Calder United: Tiger Vearing, Rhett Hogan, Max Fawcett, Beau Chapman, Private player, Darcey Poyner.

UNITING CHURCH UNDER-FOURTEENS

BOORT	3.1	4.2	5.4	7.6	(48)
DONALD.....	1.1	2.2	2.2	4.2	(26)

Goals for Boort: Noah Howe 2, Tyler Stringer 2, Brady Gilmore, Connor McNally, Jed Perryman.

For Donald: Noah Michael 3, Liam Stopps.

Best for Donald: Samuel Mortlock, Noah Michael, Nullah Clapham, Jhonrick Vincent Embate, Emmett Geddes, Lithil Hitihamillage.

For Boort: Seth Muller, Archer Lee, Noah Howe, Liam King, Tyler Stringer, Jed Perryman.

HOCKEY

Women: Wedderburn 3 d. Charlton 2

Men: Donald 3 d. Boort 2.

Underage: Donald 4 d. Boort 3.

Under-12: Charlton 2 d. St Arnaud 0.

NETBALL

"A" grade: Sea Lake-Nan 34 d. Calder United 25.

"B" grade: Birchip-Watchem 48 d. Boort 33.

"C" grade: Boort 41 d. Sea Lake-Nan 30.

"C" grade reserves:

Calder United 46 d. Birchip-Watchem 19.

Under-17 "A": Boort 52 d. St Arnaud 46.

Under-14 "A": Donald 25 d. Calder United 23.

Under-14 "B": Birchip-Watchem 25 d. Calder United 5.

SECOND SEMI FINALS
SATURDAY AUGUST 30 AT BOORT

SENIORS | 2:30PM
BIRCHIP-WATCHEM V CALDER UNITED

RESERVES | 12:35PM
CALDER UNITED V BOORT

UNDER 17'S | 10:55AM
ST ARNAUD V SEA LAKE NANDALY

UNDER 14'S | 9:30AM
ST ARNAUD V SEA LAKE NANDALY

A | 3:00PM
B | 1:45PM
C | 12:30PM
C RES | 11:15AM
17&U | 10:00AM
14&U 'A' | 9:00AM
14&U 'B' | 10:00AM

WEDDERBURN V BOORT
WEDDERBURN V CALDER UNITED
CALDER UNITED V WEDDERBURN
BOORT V SEA LAKE NANDALY
CALDER UNITED V BIRCHIP-WATCHEM
BOORT V BIRCHIP-WATCHEM
BOORT V ST ARNAUD

MENS | 3:15PM
WOMENS | 1:40PM
UNDERAGE | 12:30PM
UNDER 12 | 11:30AM

DONALD V BOORT
CHARLTON V WEDDERBURN
DONALD V BOORT
CHARLTON V ST ARNAUD

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