

DONALD

Phone: 5497 1222

Email:

buloket@inet.net.au
admin@buloketimes.com

The Buloke Times

Est. 1875

BIRCHIP

Phone: 5492 2735

Fax: 5492 2863

Email:
birchipblc@
bigpond.com

Published Tuesdays and Fridays
PP331336/0000 1

Friday, February 18, 2022

PRICE (inc. G.S.T.) \$2

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

Great Exercise for Your Body . . .



• Charlton's yoga participants: Back row, left to right, Lesley Miller, Jo Russell, Abby Mulquiny, Debbie Whykes, Kim Thompson, Pat Byrne, Jayne Burton, Danielle Lang, Leanne Holt, Averyll Loft (instructor). Kneeling: Bree McPhee, Kath Hake, Marg McGrath, Diedre McKenzie, Julie McGurk, Lori Mills.

Yoga's Back in Charlton

Now that we have some normality back in our lives, it is great that yoga is happening again in Charlton, this time on a Thursday at 6 p.m. at the Charlton Senior Citizens' rooms.

Yoga is a great way to keep fit and we are so fortunate to have people like Averyll Loft in our region, who is qualified to facilitate these sessions.

This new 6-week program fits nicely under the Vic-Health-Future Healthy initiative which supports physical activity opportunities for women and girls.

Rhonda Allan, of the Mallee Sports Assembly, again liaised with local Cert IV Fitness yoga instructor Averyll Loft to facilitate another 6-

week yoga program in Charlton. Thank you also to the Buloke Shire Council which is again in full support of this continuing program.

The yoga sessions are ideal for all people, (including men) of ALL ages and abilities. As mentioned previously, yoga is great exercise to assist with pain relief, increased flexibility in body movement, balance and other benefits that are important, especially as you get older.

If you have restrictions with what you can do, you



• The session is ready to start.

just go at your own pace, and Averyll instructs you with your movements. You have nothing to lose, but much to gain by feeling better and freeing up your stiff body joints.

Rhonda briefly attended the first session of this new 6-week program. It was great to see a "full class" of 15 women, which included many "new faces" to these sessions.

Averyll did a mix of stretch and relaxation exercises to suit all fitness levels which was backed up by very relaxing and soothing music.

These sessions suit all ages, especially older adults,

as it is low impact, great for muscle strength, improves balance and improves overall health and fitness. Just a reminder that this is a COVID-19 Safe program.

Birchip Landcare Shares Healthy Rivers Grants

The Australian Government has announced more successful grant recipients under the \$20 million Murray-Darling Healthy Rivers Program, which is helping Basin communities to get out on the ground and restore their rivers and wetlands.

Among the beneficiaries of the latest grants is the Birchip Landcare Group, which will receive \$14,300 towards the enhancement of four existing environmental water sites within the GWMWater Wimmera-Mallee pipelining scheme.

Minister for Resources and Water, Keith Pitt said the program was benefitting rivers, wetlands and communities throughout Mallee and the wider Basin.

"These grants provide a significant boost to the Mallee economy, providing almost \$580,000 in funding and supporting local businesses and jobs in the process.

This funding also builds on \$116,000 in grants Mallee communities received in the previous round of the Healthy Rivers Program," Minister Pitt said.

"With over 2.6 million Australians calling the Basin home, community-led grants like these empower our local communities to practical actions that protect their own stretch of river and help to improve lives and livelihoods now and into the future."

Across Mallee

Local Nationals member for Mallee, Dr. Anne Webster, said the grants would benefit

a number of communities across Mallee.

"It's fantastic to see the Australian Government supporting Mallee by funding eight new Healthy Rivers grants for community-led projects to improve the health of our waterways," Dr Webster said.

"Working with catchment managers, a landholder will work to restore a wetland near Wallpolla Island, building infrastructure needed to deliver environmental water to the wetland, and undertake weed control and revegetation.

"We're seeing also strong community collaboration for a project on the Loddon River, where local farmers, catchment managers, and Boort schoolkids will get involved to plant 12,000 aquatic plants. This will allow them to release 200 critically endangered Silver Perch fingerlings and support other threatened fish species, such as the Murray Cod."

"The Nationals in Government are ensuring that vital funding such as the Healthy Rivers Program is hitting the regions where it matters most.

In Mallee, I have advocated in government for these grants for our region and am delighted to see them delivered locally."

Minister Pitt said this week's announcement was about putting communities back at the heart of the Basin Plan, with the Healthy Rivers Program forming a key part of the Australian Government's Murray-Darling Communities Investment Package.

"My announcement of 72 projects in the latest rounds of the program total \$11.5 million

• Continued on page 2.

Productivity Commission to Review Waterfront System

At an Australian Industry Group meeting, the Prime Minister has indicated that the Treasurer will shortly announce full details of a Productivity Commission (PC) review of practices in Australia's dysfunctional maritime logistics system.

This was occasioned by the latest assessment made by the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission on hold-ups for exporters, out-of-date industrial practices, and Covid-19-caused world shipping issues.

According to the Freight Trade Alliance (FTA), the Alliance and the Australian Peak Shippers Association (APSA) have contributed to a broad coalition of industry bodies to bring on the inquiry.

The industry bodies include the NFF and APSA/FTA member associations such as the Meat Industry Council, Wool Exporters & Processors, Cotton Shippers, and Steel Association.

The group has compiled detailed terms of reference for consideration in the review. These aim at matters

The Buloke Times

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2022

that can be directly influenced by the federal government, and include:

- A waterfront industrial relations review.
- Forcing stevedores and empty container parks to cost recover directly from commercial clients (shipping lines) rather than land transport operators.
- Ensuring fair practices of shipping lines in dehirring empty containers.
- Repealing Part X of the Competition & Consumer Act 2010.

Part X provides immunities for liner shipping from the competition provisions of the Act (Part IV). Shipping operators may discuss and fix prices, pool revenues and losses, co-ordinate schedules, and engage in other

conduct which would otherwise breach Part IV, which covers restrictive trade practices.

Part X was put into the Act in recognition that, if it otherwise follows reasonable practices, shipping was a trade with its own peculiar circumstances. It is, thus, unlikely that a government would want to interfere with this provision.

However, for many years now the port container logistics sector has been the subject of sustained criticism from land transport interests. This has increased recently because of soaring unregulated landside charges and imposts from stevedores and huge shipping cost increases, exacerbated locally by industrial action.

This, in turn, has meant the rise in export costs, affecting many of the products exported which have an origin in the region covered by our readership.

The Prime Minister told the industry group that, in the light of the recent ACCC Container Monitoring Report, the government was examining broader issues in the productivity of Australian ports.

The expectation was that the inquiry would be asked to report back by the middle of 2022.



Birchip Connect was established in 2016 by some past and present Birchip P-12 School students, interested community members and Birchip P-12 School VCE coordinator Mr Russell Christie, to extend the connections of the Birchip P-12 School and to link people and organisations together to foster and nurture mutually beneficial relationships.

Birchip is a flourishing community with strong connections locally and globally, and Birchip Connect was designed to build on these connections, to help past and present community members to grow and prosper and to develop opportunities for the Birchip P-12 School work experience and careers programs.

Prior to COVID 19 restrictions, Birchip Connect had hosted a biennial cocktail style function in Melbourne to bring past and present community members and their friends together to network.

In the alternate years, Mr Christie utilised the connections that had been established

at a Careers Information Day at the Birchip P-12 School, with ex-students presenting to the current students about their inspiring career journeys and life stories.

Over the past six years, members of Birchip Connect have generously contributed to Birchip P-12 School presentation night, participated in a mentor program and now they are pursuing the possibility of a scholarship program using Birchip Connect's Tax Deductible gift recipient status.

Free Brunch

This year, Birchip Connect will be hosting a free brunch at the Birchip P-12 School on Monday, March 14, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, in conjunction with the Mali Heart Street Art Festival and the Birchip Harness Racing Mallee Bull Cup Meeting.

There will be tours of the school, and an opportunity to catch up and have a chat about some mutual benefits that could come from being a member of Birchip Connect. However, you don't have to be an existing member of Birchip Connect; this is a chance to come along and find out more about the program, or just come along and check out the Birchip P-12 School and reminisce. Contact Russell Christie 0429 922488 for more information.

Opera Under Lights Coming to Donald

Due to the resounding success of last year's performance, the Donald Lawn Tennis Club is hosting another major event in Donald, on Saturday March 5, 2022.

Yes, it is a fundraising event, but this could potentially be another incredible experience for the district. High calibre soprano and tenor artists have been booked and ready to perform in the wheatlands of the Wimmera/Mallee.

This show presents all the Great Tenor and Soprano arias made famous by the greats.

Mario Lanza Medley, "Nessun Dorma", "The Drinking Song" from Traviata, "La Boheme", "Summertime", "The Prayer", "Time to Say Goodbye" and many more.

It is the "Pops of Opera and music theatre".

Soprano Mary-Louise Santa and tenor Marco Cinque have been performing together for well over a decade and toured their show Great Tenors and Sopranos nationally around Australia. They have performed with the major Australian opera companies in productions such as La Boheme, Carmen, The Magic Flute, The Barber of Seville, Tosca and The Pirates of Penzance, to name a few. They have shared the stage with the cream of Australian talent such as Marina Prior, David Hobson and John Farnham, and studied with the late Great Luciano Pavarotti.

So why not have a night at the opera that is normally only reserved as city entertainment? A unique night in Donald, of live vocals, as well as supporting local tennis to continue to play on grass!

The performance will be held at the Donald Lawn Tennis Club; 7 p.m. arrival for drinks and a chat before the 8 p.m. performance. A light supper will be provided. Drinks available at bar prices. Dress is opera appropriate. Tickets are \$70 per person and limited tickets are available.

Tickets can be purchased online through trybooking.com (search Opera under lights) or <https://www.trybooking.com/BXLHV> –or by calling/text Richard (0418325501) or Cherie (0427809668) Reilly.

However, if you are unable to attend, but you value any past or present involvement you have had with the club, it would be grateful for any support by calling Richard or Cherie for a donation.



Birchip Landcare Shares Healthy Rivers Grants

Continued from page 1.

for communities ranging from Charleville to Murray Bridge to date, with more grants to come," Minister Pitt said.

"Importantly, these projects will contribute to regional and rural economies across the Basin through supporting local jobs and purchasing of goods and supplies from local businesses, providing critical economic support in their recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, drought and bushfires."

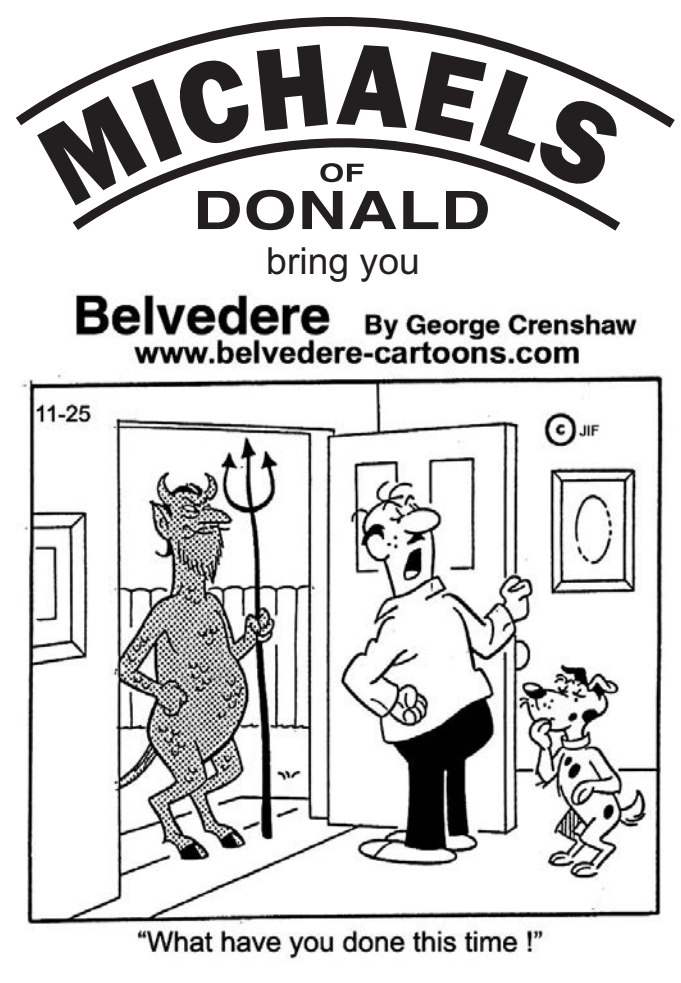
For more information on the successful projects, visit the department's website.

Fast Facts

• 72 Healthy Rivers grants are being funded under the second small grants and large grant round of the Murray-Darling Healthy Rivers Program, including at Gunbower Creek, Birchip and the Hattah-Kulkyne National Park.

• Across Mallee, these projects will undertake over 800 hectares of weed control and 900 hectares of pest species management, plant 16,000 seedlings and involve over 400 volunteers.

• \$695,000, in total announced funding in Mallee across all rounds of the program.



Billie Brings Bush Food to Birchip

On Saturday, March 12, at the Mali Heart Street Art Festival, the Birchip community will finally get to enjoy the talents of Billie Cornthwaite and share her love of Native Australian Bush Foods in a cooking demonstration and tasting session at the Birchip Neighbourhood House, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m..

Billie Cornthwaite is the daughter of Ray Townsend and Edna Poyner, and last year she returned home from South Australia to provide cooking demonstrations in Warracknabeal and a Wergaia CountryLong Table dinner in Beulah.

Unfortunately, the Birchip community missed out as Billie's schedule was jam packed.

Billies' business "Meez On Plus Catering" has specialised in the use of Bush Foods for eight years, and she is on a mission to educate people in how to grow and utilise them in every day cooking.

Billie established "Meez On Plus Catering" in 2014, and since then she has catered for a fascinating array of events, from elite parties to weddings and winery events, all the way through to an event for NASA and the Australian and UK space agency.

Billie's main focus is on helping people understand and appreciate the foods that our First Nations people have foraged and cooked with for over 60,000 years. She regularly includes proteins such as Crocodile, Wallaby, Emu, Kangaroo, Barramundi and home grown plants and

berries such as Muntries, Karkalla, Warragul Greens, Finger Lime and Davidson Plum.

Billie said, "It's nerve racking to be cooking in front of your local community, but I am really excited to be coming back home, where I went to Kindy and Primary and High school with the same roughly-30 kids. I still keep in touch with."

The demonstrations will be running throughout the afternoon, and bookings are not essential, so anyone can join in and taste the interesting array of food Billie is renowned for.



• Billie Cornthwaite.

Victoria's Rate Caps Cost Over 100 Jobs in Mallee

(From Simon Hammersley, Communications Officer, Australian Services Union)

The Victorian government's rate capping policy has cost thousands of jobs and reduced the scope and quality of local government services, according to a report from the Australia Institute's Centre for Future Work.

The report, commissioned by the Australian Services Union, found setting rates with a blunt instrument such as a cap damages local workforces, with detrimental effects on essential community services.

According to localised data released by Australian Services Union, the rate cap has cost up to —

- 62 jobs in the Mildura Rural City Council area.
- 23 jobs in the Swan Hill Rural City area.
- 7 jobs in the Buloke Shire area.
- 12 jobs in the Gannawarra Shire area.

The report finds that despite Victoria recording population growth of over 20% in the past decade, there were about 3,000 fewer local government workers in 2019-20 than 8 years prior, and rate capping has cost up to 7,425 jobs in the public and private sectors, reducing GDP by up to \$890 million in 2021-'22.

Local government revenue from other sources, including user fees and fines, is now growing at more than twice as fast as before the cap was introduced.

Victorian ASU Secretary Lisa Darmanin said Victorians are seeing fewer services provided by local government, with more 'user pays' to

cover the funding shortfalls and the casualisation of council workforces, creating employment insecurity.

"Local government is an important and outsized employer of choice in regional Victoria, that could be providing even more high-quality middle-income jobs in regional Victoria."

"Local communities know what they need, they don't need interference from the state government in Melbourne. Rate capping imposes a top-down, one-size-fits-all approach at the expense of democratic decision-making and local jobs and services," she said.

Report author and economist Dan Nahum said there is no evidence that rate caps make local councils "more efficient". Instead, they simply take money out of much-needed council services and rob local communities of employment opportunities.

"Far from protecting rate-payers and residents, rate caps hurt them. Rate caps compromise service delivery, negatively impact employment and wages amongst residents employed in the local government sector, result in higher fees collected through other revenue tools, and reduce local government expenditures flowing back into the private sector." Mr Nahum said.

Police Beat



Buloke

• On Sunday, February 13, a 37-year-old Lyndhurst man was intercepted in Charlton. He received a penalty notice for exceeding the prescribed concentration of alcohol, with a reading of 0.104.

• Between 8 p.m. February 4 and 9 a.m. February 7, offenders have stolen various items from a caravan parked in the driveway of a home in Learmonth Street, Charlton. Items included a Honda generator, caravan batteries, a smart TV, and other items.



Office: 03 5494 3120
Mike: 0408 316 394
Brendan: 0427 794 479
Nathan: 0409 525 805

For all Earthmoving works including:

- Shed pads, sheep yards, house pads
- Dam construction and fill in, channel fill in
- Driveways and roads
- Supply and Delivery of gravel, sands and quarry materials.



Marnie
ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, DONALD



Sophie

Mensland

OUTFITTING MEN SINCE 1959

BIG NEW RANGE OF HARD TO GET
4XL 5XL 6XL 7XL 9XL

T-SHIRTS & POLO SHIRTS

Just ring or email mensland@inet.net.au
and we will deliver your order.

For Promotions, Specials and Competitions, [us on Facebook](#)

Find us on

70 Woods Street, Donald — 5497 1211

"Times" Classifieds

Phone Donald 5497 1222, Birchip 5492 2735

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.

BIRTH BURKE - MASON

Tayla and Dylan are pleased to announce the safe arrival of –

Jett Harper,
on February 14, 2022
7lb 7oz at Bendigo Base Hospital.

Second grandchild for Ali & Gerard and Ken & Anita.

21st BIRTHDAY Bailey BAXTER 17/02/01

Happy 21st birthday and best wishes always.

–Love Mum, Tiarni and Bronte.

50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CARTWRIGHT Jacki & Grant



19/02/2022

May your Golden Anniversary be as special as the day you said, "I do."

Here's to many more years of love and laughter together.

Mum & Dad, thank you for your guidance, support, and unconditional love, throughout our lives.

Congratulations on such a wonderful milestone for two very special people.

–Love, Kylie, Kane, Megan, and their families.

Scrap Metal Wanted

- Batteries • Brass
- Copper • Aluminium
- Cans, etc.

Donald Scrap Metal & Recycling

5399 2203
0427 992 203

50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY Richard & Florence FERRIER (Baker)



Married 19/02/1972
at Swan Hill
Presbyterian Church.
Congratulations on your Golden Wedding Anniversary.

–Love from
Melissa and Jared;
Cameron and Rachel;
Amanda and Phillip
and your grandchildren,
Margot, Amelia, Isabeau
and Henry;
Gracie and Isla;
Ruby, Cleo and Matilda.

DEATH RICKARD (Wright).– Phyllis On February 14, 2022 in her 102nd year.

Beloved wife of the late Bill.

Dearly loved mother of Beverley (Neill) and Ken. Fond mother-in-law of Bill, Alison (dec.) and Glenys. Cherished nan of Joanne, Peter and Susan; Wendy, Robyn, Diane and Steven; Louisa, Alistair, Marcus and Rhys and their partners and families.

Loved Great-nan of 20.

~Eternally in our hearts~

RICKARD (Wright).–
Phyllis
June 21, 1920 -
February 14, 2022

Dearly loved and respected mother of Ken and mother-in-law of Glenys and Alison (dec.).

We bid goodbye
to one so cherished and
never to be forgotten.
Her legacy endures.

DEATH

RICKARD.– Phyllis

We sadly farewell a woman who became very special to us. "Nan", together with "Pa", warmly welcomed us into their family and it was a privilege to know them both.

–With love,
Louisa, Alistair, Marcus
and Rhys Ferrier and
their families.

RICKARD.– Phyllis

Goodbye, Nan. Thank you for the conversations, advice, recipes and much more.

–Love Louisa.

RICKARD.– Phyllis

Nan – one of the most beautifully caring and resilient women we know. You have taught us the importance of family. The legacy you leave us is strong.

Gone to join Bill, (Pa, Bigger Pa) on Valentines Day.

Your memories will be treasured by us always.

–Wendy, Jamie, Jesse,
Connor & Ty.

RICKARD.– Phyllis

The congregation of the Birchip Uniting Church is saddened by the death of Phyllis Rickard, our dear friend and lifetime member of the Presbyterian and Uniting Church at Kinnabulla and Birchip.

Her faithful service to the church through the Ladies Guild and Fellowship and her baking skills for church catering committee were outstanding.

Phyllis will be greatly missed, and we extend our love and sympathy to Ken and Glenys, Beverley and Bill and their families.

Look First Op. Shop

68 Woods St, Donald

\$5 BAG SALE

TUESDAY, FEB. 22
TO SATURDAY, FEB. 26

DEATH

ZIMMER (Borden).–

Jean Isobel

31/08/1930 - 13/02/2022

Wife to Mervyn (dec.).

Mum to Raymond & Meralyn, Eros, Helen & Gavin, and Dallas & Sian. Nana to Trent & Bec, Dylan, Sam & Ellen, Carey, Mary, Peter & Micheal and their families.

Daughter of William "Bill" and Ruth Borden (both dec.). Sister to Edna & Ab (both dec.), Iris (dec.), Walter & Alix (both dec.), Arthur (dec.) & Joan and Lindsay & Lynette. Sister-in-law to Bette (nee Zimmer) & Alan Smith and Margaret (nee Zimmer) & David Nichols. Aunty Jean to a wonderful collection of nephews and nieces.

Very much loved by all.
Now singing and
whistling praises
to her King.

ZIMMER (Borden).–

Jean Isobel

on February 13, 2022

Loved sister and sister-in-law of Lindsay and Lynette Borden.

Loved Auntie of Daryl, Trevor & Kerrie.

Now in God's loving care.

FUNERAL NOTICE RICKARD.–

A Thanksgiving Service for the late Mrs Phyllis Rickard will take place on Monday, February 21, at the Uniting Church, Duncan Street, Birchip, commencing at 11 a.m., followed by burial at the Birchip Cemetery.

David Kelly

M.J. KELLY & SONS

AFDA - Birchip - 5492 2547



AMBULANCE PHONE NO.
000

FUNERAL NOTICE

ZIMMER (Borden).–

Jean Isobel

31/08/1930 - 13/02/2022

Memorial Services for the late Jean Zimmer.

Melbourne - Wednesday, February 23, 2022, 2 p.m., Syndal Baptist Church, High Street Rd, Glen Waverley. Refreshments to follow. Service will be web cast on www.bethelfunerals.com.au

Watchem - Friday, February 25, 2022, 1 p.m., The Watchem Church (previously the Catholic Church). Refreshments to follow.

Miriam Levy
BETHEL FUNERALS
Mitcham - 03 9873 8866

BIRCHIP COMMUNITY FORUM INC.

Meeting scheduled

for Monday, Feb. 21

**POSTPONED TO
Monday Feb. 28
6.30 p.m.**

In Birchip Cropping Group Meeting Room

Members of the community
invited to attend.

Items to raise must be
communicated to the secretary
by **COB Friday, Feb. 25 2022.**
john.richmond@education.vic.gov.au 0417 106 033

HOGAN BUILDERS & CABINETMAKERS PTY LTD

Quality . . .

- Homes
- Kitchens
- Bathrooms
- Renovations
- Extensions
- Cupboards

Phone 0438 871 602
or 5497 1602

Master Builder members with
over 25 years' experience.



BIRCHIP-WATCHEM FOOTBALL CLUB JUNIOR A.G.M

**WED., FEBRUARY 23
6.30 p.m.**

BIRCHIP COMMUNITY
LEISURE CENTRE

MINYIP & DISTRICT FIELD & GAME CLUB

75 Target February Shoot

SUNDAY, FEB. 20

Noms 11 a.m. - Midday
Sponsored by: Darren Liersch
Electrical, Maiden Gully and
Customized Spreading Leopold.

COVID rules apply

Enquiries: Peter 0428 855 190



SOLICITOR

116 Napier Street,
St. Arnaud

**Experienced practical
advice in plain English**

Appointments also
available in Charlton,
Donald and Wycheproof

Ph. 5495 2595

Karen@klp.net.au

An advert. in
"The Buloke Times"
can cost as little as \$10,
and up to 5,000 readers
will see it.

**Enjoyment &
Employment —
Have Both,
Shop in Your
Own Town!**



POSITION VACANT

DCIRS is currently seeking a **community support professional** to join our team.

DCIRS provides a range of home and community care services to people with

disabilities and older people living at home. We are located in Donald, and service the surrounding areas to within 100kms.

Requirements;

- Support the health, hygiene and general wellbeing of participants
- Assist participants to achieve their personalised goals
- Perform a variety of tasks including but not limited to; domestic assistance, personal care, assistance with medical and social engagements.

You will need;

- Minimum of Certificate III in disability or similar
- A commitment to support individual needs and goals with a high level of empathy
- First aid and CPR training (Can be arranged on commencement)
- Working with Children and Police Checks (Can be arranged on commencement)
- Current driver's license and a registered vehicle with comprehensive insurance
- A basic understanding of technology to access rosters and input documentation.

If you are interested in applying for this role, please send your interest to emily.mills@dcirs.com.au

ABN: 50648590961

www.dcirs.com.au

Office P. (03) 5497 1891 Office M. 0468 940 674
Manager M. 0405 254 053 E. emily.mills@dcirs.com.au

GARRY QUIRK HAULAGE P/L



CARTAGE:

Gypsum
All Road Materials
Grain

Boral Products
Sand

FOR HIRE:

Cat Grader
4-Wheel Drive Front-end Loader
Low Loader
10-yard Laser Scraper

Road Rollers
Laser Level

Semi Tipper
Water Truck

- New catchment dams.
- Converting old dams to catchment.

**Specialising in Construction of Roads, Pads, Channels,
Grading Fence Lines, Filling in Old Dams and Channels,
Laying of Polypipe for Stock Troughs etc.**

PH. 5492 2361; FAX 5492 2841; MOBILE 0417 399 244



Cultivating Healthy Communities

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- Enrolled Nurse
- Food & Domestic Service Assistant
- Nurse Unit Manager
- Physiotherapist
- Quality & Risk Manager
- Registered Nurse

Further information available at
ewhs.org.au/employment.html

"Times" Classifieds

PHONE
Donald 5497 1222,
Birchip 5492 2735
Fax 5497 1407

ARTIE'S HOME MAINTENANCE

- Basic home repairs
- Plaster repairs and painting
- Insurance Work
- Lawn mowing
- Guttering cleaned • Pruning
- Rubbish Removal • Odd jobs
- Pressure washing

Ph. 0431 323 709
Find us on [Facebook](#)



Birchip Connect &
Birchip P-12 School

Free Brunch

AT BIRCHIP P-12 SCHOOL
10 a.m.-12 noon

Monday, March 14

(Hosted in conjunction with
Mali Heart Street Art
Festival and Birchip
Harness Mallee Bull Cup)

For more information
contact Russell Christie
0429 922 488

BIRCHIP TENNIS & CRICKET CLUB

Annual Quiz Night

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25 - 7 p.m.
BIRCHIP COMMUNITY LEISURE CENTRE
Strictly tables of 6 - \$10pp, byo supper.

A MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENT

Donald Lawn Tennis Club

Opera Under Lights



Saturday, March 5

7p.m. for 8 p.m. performance
\$70 per ticket

Tickets from <https://www.trybooking.com/BXLHV>

Preliminary Notice

WYCHEPROOF

Special Store Sheep Sale

Friday, February 25, at 12.30 p.m.

Quality 1st X and
Merino Sheep

Further entries invited.



Sam Crow 0455 506 622
Jim Coffey 0419 830 682
Kevin Thompson 0419 830 682
or contact your local Elders agent.

FOR SALE BY TENDER

WIMMERA CROPPING-GRAZING LAND MINYIP-LAWLER DISTRICT

1582 Acres (640 ha) approx. as a whole
or in 3 lots

LOT 1: "Homestead" 675 acres (273ha) approx.
Two main paddocks, pipeline water.

LOT 2: "Foxes" 627 acres (253.7ha) approx.
One paddock, pipeline water.

LOT 3: "Woods" 292.8 acres (118.5ha) approx.
One paddock, pipeline water.

Well managed adjacent lots, comprising gently
undulating quality medium load soils.

Tenders marked "Lawler District" close Friday, March
18, 2022, at 2 p.m. Elders Office 30 Scott Street,
Warracknabeal with 10% deposit.

Immediate possession given, settlement 30 days.
All or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Further info and inspection contact: Nick McIntyre
0409 180 016



Elders Warracknabeal
30 Scott Street, Warracknabeal

CONTRACT - Disc Chain Work -

Excellent weed management, ground levelling
and straw integration.

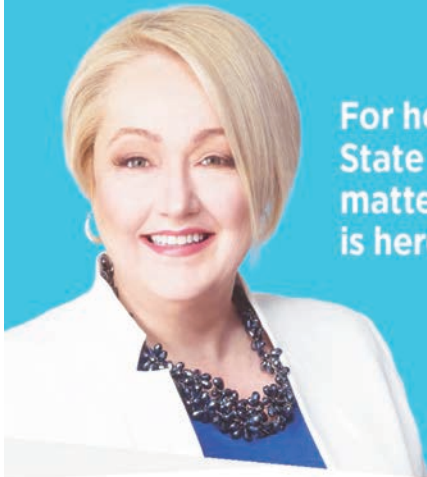
New Brookfield Disc Chain, John Deere Tractor
and Trimble, A-Steer. **GOOD RATES**

Contact Mick 0459 060 306

ADVERTISEMENT

Louise Staley MP

MEMBER FOR RIPON



For help with any
State Government
matters, my office
is here to help you.

5461 1255 LouiseStaley.com.au
Louise.Staley@parliament.vic.gov.au

Authorised by Louise Staley MP, 177 High St, Maryborough. Funded from Parliamentary budget

Motel Accommodated Coach Tours

'Pick up and return to your home'
Request the itinerary for the many tour highlights

YARRA VALLEY - HEALESVILLE MELBOURNE - DANDENONGS

6 days Monday 14th March \$2785

Highlights: Healesville Sanctuary, Queen Victoria Market,
Marysville, Bruno Torf's Gallery, Steavenson Falls, Yarra Valley,
Puffing Billy, MCG tour, Melbourne Botanic Gardens, Eureka
Observation Deck, Rayner's Fruit Orchard, Coombe Cottage,
Yarra Valley Chocolaterie, Mt Dandenong Lookout, Tea Leaves
Australia, Cloudehill Nursery, Southbank, Yarra River Cruise.

SAPPHIRE COAST

9 days Tuesday 5th April \$3980

Highlights: Lakes Entrance, Gippsland Lakes Cruise, Buchan
Caves, Mallacoota, Merimbula, Merimbula Aquarium, Eden,
Eden Killer Whale Museum, Cat Balou Cruise on Twofold Bay,
Bega Cheese Factory, Mogo Town, Mogo Zoo, Eurobodalla
Botanic Garden, Batemans Bay, Clyde River Cruise, Canberra
City Tour, Government House, Wodonga.

PLUS MANY MORE TOURS AVAILABLE -
CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Tour costs include: luxury coach travel, motel accommodation twin share, admissions, air fares and meals as per itineraries.
- Pick up and return to your home.
- For bookings or to request a full itinerary that details the many tour highlights, please contact Brendan's Australian Tours, Ararat.

Brendan's Australian Tours

Toll Free 1800 981 187 / Ararat
www.brendanstours.com.au

DRISCOLL DOUGLAS EAST
RURAL REAL ESTATE

TODAY!

MULTI LAND AUCTION



SINGLE TREE ROAD, DONALD



468 COPE COPE ROAD, COONOOER BRIDGE

468 COPE COPE ROAD, COONOOER BRIDGE
115.12 HECTARES

SINGLE TREE ROAD, DONALD
128.29 HECTARES

FEBRUARY 18TH 2022, AT THE GOOROC CFA SHED -
ST ARNAUD / WYCHEPROOF ROAD, ST ARNAUD. 11AM START.

FEBRUARY 18TH 2022, AT THE DONALD GOLF CLUB.
2PM START.

Selling Agent:
Brett Douglas / 0447 162 455

DRISCOLL DOUGLAS EAST RURAL REAL ESTATE
5938 Sunraysia Highway, St Arnaud VIC
driscolldouglaseast.com.au
03 5495 1166

Church Notices

UNITING CHURCH (North Central Living Waters Cluster)

Donald, 10 a.m..
Wycheproof, 10 a.m..
Birchip 10 a.m..

Contact Number: 5497 1033.

DISTRICT CATHOLIC CHURCHES "East Wimmera Parish"

Birchip	8.30 a.m.
Boort	10.30 a.m.
<i>(Livestream in)</i>	
Banyena	No Mass
Charlton (Sat.)	7.00 p.m.
Donald	10.30 a.m.
<i>(Livestream out to churches without Mass)</i>	
St. Arnaud	No Mass
Wycheproof	10.30 a.m.
<i>(Livestream in)</i>	

Fr. Gerry Prunty
0419 247 779

Parish Co-ordinator
- Noeline Hogan: 0476 617 976

ANGLICAN "Parish of Charlton-Donald"

Enquiries: Rev'd Judi Bird
0435 593 395

Friday Feb. 18
Induction Service
St. Martin's Charlton, 5 p.m.

Sunday Feb. 20
Holy Communion (all services)
St. George's, Donald, 11 a.m.
St. Martin's, Charlton, 1 p.m.
Holy Trinity, W'burn, 3 p.m.

Monday Feb. 21
Holy Communion
St. Paul's, Birchip, 5 p.m.

"Times" Classifieds

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.

BULOKE HIRE

0488 197 032

- Permanent skip bins
- Short term skip bins
- Portable toilets
- Water trucks
- Light towers
- Generators
- Temporary Fencing
- Tilt tray transport
- Ditch witch trencher

info@bulokehire.com.au
www.bulokehire.com.au

ADVERTISEMENT

WORKING FOR DONALD, CHARLTON & THE BULOKE SHIRE

Hon Jaala Pulford MP
LABOR MEMBER FOR WESTERN VICTORIA

211 Dana Street, Ballarat Central VIC 3350

P: 5332 2405 E: jaala.pulford@parliament.vic.gov.au

Authorised by J Pulford, 211 Dana Street, Ballarat Central. Funded from Parliamentary budget.



Donnellon's Bulk Haulage

Pty Ltd

BUYING ALL GRAINS

BULK CARRIERS of . . .

- Gypsum
- Fertilizer
- Gravel
- Woodchips
- Road Base Materials

Public Weighbridge 3008

Phone Bill

5492 2333 or 0428 136 483

The Buloke Times
Est. 1875

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**

As a Person Thinks . . .

The other day our car broke down. We were 120 kilometres from home and had stopped for refreshment.

Then our car refused to start. We called the RACV. The mechanic told us that the problem was beyond being able to be fixed on the roadside. He called a tow truck. The truck arrived and soon our car was on the truck tray and was on its way back to our local garage.

What a change of plans for our day! How did we react? What did we do? Before I tell you our response I want to direct ourselves to the writings of Steven Covey.

Steven tells us about the 90/10 principle which demonstrates our thinking radically impacts our lives. 10% of life is made up of what happens to us. 90% of life is decided by how we react.

No Control

What does this mean? We really have no control over 10 percent of what happens to us. We cannot stop the car from breaking down or a driver cutting us off in traffic. The other 90 percent is different. We determine the other 90 per cent. How?

Steven illustrates. "You are eating breakfast with your family. Your young daughter accidentally knocks over a cup of coffee on to your good shirt. You have no control over what just happened. What happens next will be determined by how you react".

You harshly scold your daughter for accidentally knocking the cup over. She bursts into tears. After scolding her, you turn to your spouse and criticize her for placing the cup too close to the edge of the table. A short verbal battle follows. You storm upstairs and change your shirt.

Back downstairs, you find your daughter has been too busy crying to finish breakfast and get ready for school. She misses the bus. Your spouse must leave immediately for work. You rush to the car and drive your daughter to school. Because you are late you drive 70 km per hour in a 60 km per hour zone. Consequences!

After a 15-minute delay and gaining a \$160 traffic fine you arrive at school. Your daughter runs into the building without saying good-

bye. After arriving at the workplace 20 minutes late, you find you forgot your toolbox. Your day has started terribly. When you arrive home, you find a wedge in your relationship with your spouse and daughter.

Why?

Why did you have a bad day?

- A) Did the coffee cause it?
- B) Did your daughter cause it?
- C) Did the policeman cause it?
- D) Did you cause it?

The answer is "D". You had no control over what happened with the coffee. How you reacted in those 5 seconds is what caused your bad day.

Here is what could have happened. Coffee splashes over you. You gently say, "It's okay honey". Grabbing a towel you rush upstairs. After grabbing a new shirt and your toolbox you come back down in time to look through the window and see your child getting on the bus. She turns and waves. You arrive at work 5 minutes early and cheerfully greet other workmates. Notice the difference?

Two different scenarios. Both started the same. Both ended differently. Why? Because of your thinking and how you reacted. The Bible says "Do nothing out of selfish

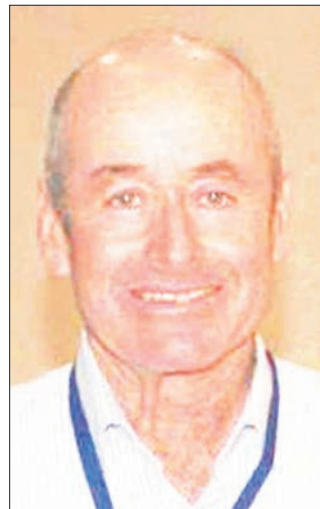
ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same attitude as Christ Jesus": Philippians 2: 3-5.

Much to be Thankful For

What about our broken down car situation? As my wife and I thought about the whole situation we realized we had much to be thankful for: We broke down in a place where we had good phone reception; the RACV were very helpful; we did not wait long for the mechanic, nor for the tow truck; a taxi was arranged for us; we rendezvoused at the garage our car arrived at; the garage lent us a courtesy car (brand new contrasting with our 7 year old car!); we discovered our car manufacturer had an extended warranty on repairing our failed computer chip in the transmission; we repacked our "new" car and we were able to get to our appointment a few hours late and that was okay! All the people we dealt with were friendly and efficient. We had a lot to be thankful for!

Responsibility

In our homes, work situation and leisure activities,



• Bruce Stewart

might we take responsibility for our thinking and attitude? How different would this world be if we stopped blaming others, behaving like a victim, or making excuses for poor conduct?

Someone wrote this: "Sow a thought, reap an act; sow an act, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a destiny".

Have an attitude of gratitude. Yes, it is indeed true to say, "As a person thinks, so is he/she". Proverbs 23:7. Think wisely and well before we act; yes our thinking does indeed ultimately determine our habits, character and our destiny. Have a great day!

Bruce Stewart



• The other day our car broke down. We were 120 kilometres from home and had stopped for refreshment. Then our car refused to start. We called the RACV. The mechanic told us that the problem was beyond being able to be fixed on the roadside. He called a tow truck. The truck arrived and soon our car was on the truck tray and was on its way back to our local garage. What a change of plans for our day! How did we react? What did we do? Our car being winched onto the back of a tow truck after breaking down.

The Buloke Times
Est. 1875

Call in and see our experienced staff for all your commercial printing at competitive prices. Free quotes given.

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| * Letterheads | * Brochures | * Personalised Stationery |
| * Receipt Books | * Account Books | * Programs |
| * Statements | * Pamphlets | * Membership Cards |
| * Posters | * Docket Books | * Raffle Books |
| * Business Cards | * Envelopes | |



FULL COLOUR PRINTING

To discuss your printing needs, ring 5497 1222 (Donald), or call in at our office in McCulloch Street, or see Simone at the Birchip Business and Learning Centre, in Cumming Avenue, Birchip.

6 McCulloch Street, Donald Phone 5497 1222 Email: art@buloketimes.com

Active Youth Program for Year 9 Students

“Use Your Head, Move Your Body” were the sessions for Birchip P-12 School Year 9 Students.

The Mallee Sports Assembly, in conjunction with the Birchip P-12 School, continues with the Active youth program for the Year 9 students. The sessions conducted for the second week are as follows:

Drug and Alcohol Session

This session was facilitated by Leading Senior Constable-Crime Prevention Officer Tania Peters from the Swan Hill Police Station. Tania has been in the Police force for approximately 30 years, and has a wealth of knowledge and advice for the youth of today.

Tania included the following in her two sessions that she facilitated:

- Alcohol and drugs and how they affect us, both mentally and physically.
- How common drug and alcohol use is with young people aged 12-17 and what they are; eg., most common is alcohol, followed by cannabis.
- Offences relating to drugs and alcohol.
- Why people use drugs and why people may choose not to.
- Options for opting out, strategies to cope with situations where you may be offered drugs or around people using.
- Common reactions to drugs, First aid that may be required, looking out for each other.

- How to help a friend using drugs/alcohol.

The session also included a video on young people at a party some making good choices and others making bad choices. The consequences of being a drug addict are life damaging, and Tania stated that it's all about making the right choices and having effective strategies to refuse drugs in peer pressure situations.

The students were very interactive and got a good insight on what poor life choices can do to damage a bright future ahead.

Rhonda Allan, of the Mallee Sports Assembly, and the Birchip P12 School, thank Tania for her time and support to the youth of today. Rhonda presented to Tania a “Certificate of Appreciation” on behalf of the Mallee Sports Assembly and the Birchip P-12 School.

Gym Session

The circuit gym session was facilitated by Certificate 4 Fitness instructor Brenda Doran, of Birchip. Brenda has been a qualified fitness instructor for many years, and certainly knows the do's and don'ts when it comes to using exercise equipment.

Brenda conducted two separate sessions which both included a circuit of 10 exercises using portable gym equipment and bodyweight

for strength. The students had to “exercise” at each station for 40 seconds, then rest for 15 seconds.

“The focus was on correct execution and technique of the exercise and muscle group explanation,” said Brenda.

Circuit gym activities are a great way to keep fit and strong and are beneficial for those participating in other sports such as football, netball and hockey.

Rhonda and the Birchip P-12 School thank Brenda very much for her time and support to Active Youth Program for the Year 9 students.



• Leading Senior Constable Tania Peters (back, standing) facilitating the Drug and Alcohol session.



• Cert IV fitness instructor Brenda Doran demonstrating the correct use of the exercise equipment at the Birchip P-12 School gym.

WHEN YOU NEED US, BUT NOT THE SIRENS

There's a new way to contact the police when you don't need the sirens - the 24/7 Police Assistance Line.

Save **131 444** to your phone for non-emergency situations. Or for online reporting go to **police.vic.gov.au**



VICTORIA POLICE



**SAVE
131 444**  **POLICE
VIC.GOV.AU**
FOR NON-URGENT SITUATIONS

Does Anyone Recognise This Holden Torana?

Australian muscle cars have become increasingly valuable over the years, and many car enthusiasts just about drool at the mention of older gems like the Valiant, Mustang, Monaro or Torana, with particular models reaching record-breaking prices at auction.

In 2021, the auction record for a road-going Torana XU-1 was smashed, not once but twice, with an LJ Torana GTR XU-1 selling for \$295,000 at Burns & Co. Auctions in May; sold in pristine condition and reported to have been housed for extended periods in an aircraft hangar. That record was surpassed in Au-

gust with the sale of a 1973 Bathurst LJ GTR XU-1 scoring a whopping winning bid of \$348,000 before the buyer's premium.

The new record-setting car was also auctioned through Burns & Co. and has an interesting history – besides being a Bathurst-spec example. Ac-

cording to the listing it was used as a test mule for Holden, with documentation proving Holden was the first owner of the car.

For this reason, it comes as no surprise that owners of these valuable vehicles tend to know their entire history, or be in the process of learning it as best they can.

Recently, motoring historian and enthusiast, Todd Martin, contacted the “Buloke Times” with regards to the vehicle pictured on this page, a 1970 Torana GTR XU-1.

As the owner of this vehicle, Todd is seeking to find information on previous ownership and local history. He has already learned that the vehicle was sold new from O.A. Shilton & Sons in Donald late August 1970, and registered at the Donald Police Station on August 30, 1970, with the registration plates as shown in the photo KRT 513.

The vehicle was then traded into Hall & Sons (Holden Dealer) in Kerang, and resold 5 years later, on November 19, 1975, when it had a registration number of IHN 781 until 1982, after which it was unregistered for 28 years until Todd's ownership and registration in 2010.

Any information – particularly on ownership during those 28 years – would be greatly appreciated. Todd can be emailed at todd@musclecarevents.com.au or phoned on 0428 487 981.



• Holden Torana GTR XU-1 purchased new from OA Shilton & Sons in Donald late August, 1970, and registered at the Donald Police Station on August 30, 1970, with the registration plates as shown in the photo KRT 513.



• A reproduction of a dealership decal from around 1969; motoring historian, Todd Martin, would appreciate seeing any O. A. Shilton & Sons stickers from this period, or perhaps a decal still on a vehicle.

Drop In Now for Your Power Saving Bonus

Of the eligible population of Birchip, 58.1 per cent have not applied for their one off \$250 Power Saving Bonus, and it is as easy as calling into the Birchip Neighbourhood House with a few documents.

The \$250 Power Saving Bonus is a one-off \$250 payment to provide direct support to vulnerable Victorian households experiencing energy bill stress due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The \$250 Power Saving Bonus is available to Victorian households which have at least one eligible concession cardholder.

Eligible households can access the Power Saving Bonus by applying on line, or if you are living in the local area you can call in to the Birchip Neighbourhood House and Simone will make the application on your behalf.

You will need to show Simone an electricity bill, a Centrelink CRN (copy of your pension card or centrelink card/concession card) and

your bank account details so the funds can be transferred electronically into your account.

The applicant's residential address associated with the CRN must match the service address listed on the electricity bill.

One Payment

The \$250 bonus is limited to one payment per eligible household, so if you have already claimed this payment in 2021, you are not eligible to re-apply.

There was also an earlier scheme where people received a \$50 bonus; if you received \$50 Power Saving Bonus and meet the eligibility requirements, you can apply for the \$250 Power Saving Bonus.

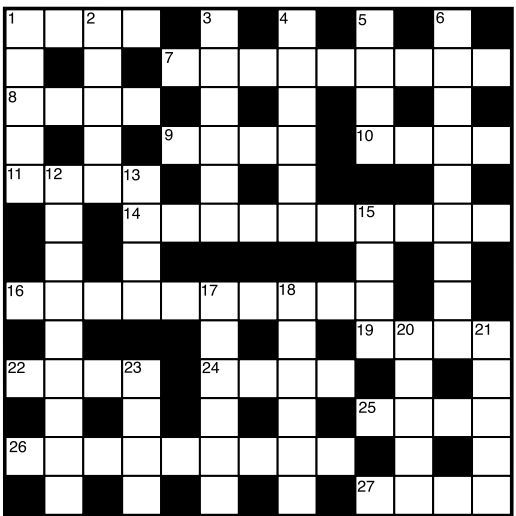
To be eligible to apply for the \$250 Power Saving Bonus, you must be a Victorian residential energy consumer (i.e., have a residential electricity account), you must be receiving payments through Centrelink Pensioner Concession, JobSeeker, Youth Allowance, Austudy or Abstudy, Department of Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession, or hold a Department of Veterans Affairs Gold Card. You don't have to be the account holder, but you must live in the household.

Pension Concession Card holders or seniors who are not receiving payments, and Health Care Cards holders who are not receiving Youth Allowance, JobSeeker, Austudy or Abstudy payments, are not eligible.

If all the information provided in your application meets the requirements of the program, you will receive the funds in your bank account in approximately two weeks

“Times” Crossword

QUICK PUZZLE NO. 8011



ACROSS

1. Tropical American plant (4)
7. Inquisitiveness (9)
8. Absent (4)
9. Whale (4)
10. Act (4)
11. Spinster (4)
14. Undecided (10)
16. Dull (10)
19. Profound (4)
22. Particle (4)
24. Step (4)
25. Pack (4)
26. Final demand (9)
27. Twosome (4)

DOWN

1. Gorge (5)
2. Disorder (5)
3. Rotten (6)
4. Dish (6)
5. Second-hand (4)
6. Considerate (9)
12. Childish (9)
13. Fabric (4)
15. Want (4)
17. Turmoil (6)
18. Language (6)
20. More (5)
21. Strength (5)
23. Servant (4)

• Solution next issue.

Letters to the Editor



Birchip's Pioneer Memorial Fountain

(The Editor, “Buloke Times”)

Dear Sir.— I write to propose the relocation of the Pioneer Memorial Fountain from the front of the Buloke Council Office in Birchip to Cumming Avenue.

The artist who designed the structure was Ian Bow, 1914-1990. Ian was best known for his enduring contribution to Australian sculpture throughout the '50s, '60s and '70s. He was previously a renowned painter, having won the Archibald Prize for portraiture in 1950.

He then focused on 3D artistic pursuits. His work is represented in the National Gallery Canberra, National Gallery of Victoria, Tasmania Museum and Art Gallery, Art Gallery of W.A. and Queensland Art Gallery along with galleries of Ballarat, Sale, Hamilton, Mildura, Shepparton and collections at Melbourne University, Australian National University and

James Cook University Cairns.

In 1963 he was commissioned to design and make the Pioneer Memorial Fountain for the Birchip Shire Council.

This was dedicated in 1964 in front of the now defunct shire offices. Unfortunately, a lot more people come in the back door than the front door of this office these days.

The fountain construction costing many thousands of pounds was aided by contributions by rate payers, many of them on the basic wage, like my parents. I remember at the time my Dad saying, “I could put a 44-gallon drum with a hose up the middle for no cost.” Tom was not the artistic type! But could run water uphill as a channel ranger.

Well, a fountain can run water up in the air, so let's get it back into public view. We have the water and power now in the middle of the street. With the modern pumps we can resurrect this memorial for the pioneers

who did not have a pipeline, or even an open channel system.

Let's acknowledge these people, as the brass plaques says on the wall: “This Pioneer Memorial Fountain was dedicated in 1964. To the memory of those people who explored pioneered and developed the Birchip district, and to symbolise the important contribution water and power made to this development.”

Is there any interest in acknowledging the contribution of our forebearers for the good lives we live today and put some artistic beauty and gurgling water in the main street?

Maurice Hogan,
Maurice.hogan@gmx.com
0427 890 405

*

Vandalism at Jeffcott Oval

(The Editor, “Buloke Times”)

Dear Sir.— I refer to the article which appeared in the

“Buloke Times” recently regarding the vandalism which occurred on the Jeffcott Cricket Oval on Friday, February 4.

I am pleased to report that the damage to the wicket square, whilst significant, is repairing satisfactorily and will, it is hoped, not impact future wicket preparation by our volunteer team.

There have been developments regarding identifying the culprits and some evidence from an eye witness has been crucial to the investigation, which is in the hands of local Police.

This unfortunate incident has highlighted the need for a fencing upgrade to the Jeffcott Oval, which rather ironically coincides with a fundraising effort by our club to do exactly that, to purchase and install a traditional “white picket fence” around the perimeter of the oval.

We believe that the much needed upgrade will provide

not only a safety and security benefit for our turf wicket square, but will also become a great asset for the town, providing a huge amount of aesthetic appeal for locals and visitors entering the town.

The “Fund the Fence” campaign was recently launched and we have had some significant donations at this point. On Saturday, February 26, the Club is holding a function after the last home-and-away match of the season to bring together supporters of the club and like-minded townspeople who may be interested in making a contribution to the project.

We invite any interested persons to attend the night and bookings (for catering purposes) can be made by contacting Corey Donnellon on 0488343819.

Yours sincerely,

Richie Needs,
President,
Jeffcott Cricket Club Inc.

NVT changes to yield results for growers

GRAINS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

New changes to the highly regarded National Variety Trials (NVT) program will ensure Australian grain growers and their advisers have long-term access to independent, trusted data to inform their crop variety decision-making.

The well-known program, which is delivered by the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC), is the industry's "go to" source for locally relevant information that gives growers the confidence to adopt new and improved crop varieties.

It is the largest independent, co-ordinated trial program in the world with more than 650 trials planted annually at more than 300 locations across Australia, featuring 10 different crop species.

GRDC NVT Manager, Sean Coffey, said changes to the NVT program were designed to remove restrictions on the number of entries that breeding companies could have in the trials and ensure the sustainability and relevance of the program into the future.

"Until now, GRDC has fully funded the program, including the cost of breeding companies trialling pre-commercial varieties for up to two seasons ahead of their planned commercial release. GRDC paid for these trials regardless of whether the varieties were ever released to growers," Mr Coffey said.

"Going forward, GRDC will continue to fully fund the costs of trials for newly released and commercially available varieties so we can deliver independent, reliable and trusted comparative data back to growers and advisers.

"However, a user pays system will be introduced for varieties that are not yet commercialised, which will require breeding companies to cover the NVT trial costs for varieties still in development."

Mr Coffey said GRDC had consulted with breeding companies and industry to develop an effective NVT Pre-commercial Entry Purchasing Model, with the aim of having a more efficient program that delivered a better return on investment for growers.

"Under this model GRDC would cover trial costs that have the most value to growers, while breeders would initially cover the costs of their pre-commercial lines," he explained.

"GRDC would then provide breeding companies with a rebate for pre-commercial testing when these varieties became commercially available."

The proposed new model would also remove current limits on the number of entries breeding companies could have in NVT, as well as how long a pre-commercial variety could remain in the program.

"This is about removing constraints on the NVT, while ensuring it continues to deliver for growers and remains sustainable into the future. At the same time these changes offer increased opportunities

for breeding companies," Mr Coffey said.

Importantly, Mr Coffey said the new model would allow breeding companies to have access to valuable comparison data for pre-commercial varieties earlier.

"The underlying focus of these changes is the continued independence and sustainability of the NVT program as part of GRDC's unwavering

commitment to Australian grain growers," he said.

"The majority of breeding companies we have consulted with are very supportive of these changes and we will be fine-tuning the detail in consultation with industry ahead of the coming winter crop season."

The NVT program assists growers and advisers in varietal decision making by



GRDC NVT senior manager Sean Coffey oversees the largest independent, co-ordinated trial program in the world with more than 650 trials planted annually at more than 300 locations across Australia, featuring 10 different crop species. Photo GRDC.

providing comparative information of commercially available grain varieties, including

data on yields, disease resistance ratings and grain quality.

CHANGES TO GRDC NATIONAL VARIETY TRIALS

KEY CONCEPTS, BENEFITS AND OUTCOMES.



Farm business essentials webinar series

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

Recordings of Agriculture Victoria's Farm Business Essentials webinar series are now available.

Farm Business Essentials Webinar 1: Planning

A webinar to show how to develop, document and use strategic, tactical, and operational business plans.

You can access the recording for this webinar at <https://vimeo.com/643337486>

Farm Business Essentials Webinar 2: Budgets

Successful farm businesses have a budget, review it regularly, and use it as a communication tool. This webinar looks at how to develop and make the most of cash flow and partial budgets.

You can access the recording for this webinar at <https://vimeo.com/650127265>

Farm Business Essentials Webinar 3: Profits - Get'm working

With high prices and good seasonal conditions it's even more important to ensure business profits are put to best use. This webinar will explore how to achieve this.

You can access the recording for this webinar at <https://vimeo.com/650905012>

Farm Business Essentials Webinar 4: Farm Succession Planning

This webinar will focus on how a succession plan helps a farming business manage challenges, including where to seek advice and communicate effectively with family members.

You can access the recording for this webinar <https://vimeo.com/656371511>

PRESENTER Webinars 1 - 3: Paul Blackshaw

Paul is a farm business consultant with Meridian Agriculture in North East Victoria. Paul provides farm financial analysis, benchmarking, business performance and succession planning.



Farm Business Essentials

A series of farm business management skills webinars

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

PRESENTER Webinar 4: Claire Booth

Claire is a lawyer, Nuffield Scholar and cropping and beef farmer from Dubbo, NSW. Claire has presented to farmers

on succession planning at workshops and conferences.

The Local Economic Recovery "On Farm Recovery Support Services" project is

jointly funded by the Victorian Government and Commonwealth Government under the Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DREA).

FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS!



**ASK ABOUT
THE BEST
HEAVY INDUSTRY
WARRANTY
5 YEARS**



**WACKER
NEUSON**

all it takes!

**COMPACTION | DEMOLITION | PUMPS | EXCAVATORS | WHEEL LOADERS
SKID STEER LOADERS | MINI LOADERS | TELEHANDLERS | DUMPERS**

**CONTACT
OUR SALES
TEAM FOR
MORE INFO**

**OUR ONGOING PRODUCT SUPPORT IN
FIELD WITH MOBILE EXPERIENCED
TECHNITIANS AND RESPONSIVE
PARTS SUPPLY NETWORK PROVIDES
THE FULL PACKAGE WHEN CONSIDERING
YOUR SPRAYER NEEDS!**

PERFORMANCE • RELIABILITY • EFFICIENCY



**IT'S TIME TO CONSIDER THE LEADER IN THE PACK!
SILVAN SCRAM TRAILED VINEYARD SPRAYER 3500L**

Silvan NOBILI

**0% INTEREST
RATE P.A**

**IDEAL COMPACT TRACTOR
FOR ALL YOUR
HORTICULTURAL NEEDS.
BIG OR SMALL,
NO TASK IS TOO GREAT.**



6 YEAR DRIVE TRAIN WARRANTY!

ASK US ABOUT OUR PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE

**MILDURA: 31-37 Eleventh Street
p. 5055 0600
www.haeuslers.com.au**



JOHN DEERE



Haeusler's

Photo includes customised option. † Like for like specifications. Ask in-store for more details. For New John Deere Turf & Utility Equipment for ABN Holders through John Deere Finance on all 0-50Hp Compact Tractors. Terms and conditions apply. Finance offer based on 1/3 Cash Deposit over 36 equal monthly repayments with GST value of purchase factored into repayment structure. Offer available until 31/03/2022.

Australian grain: a leader in low emissions intensity production

GRAINS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Australian grain growers are producing low emissions intensity, high quality cereals, pulses and oilseeds, according to a new report released recently by the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC).

THE REPORT – *Australian Grains Baseline and Mitigation Assessment* – found that the Australian grains industry exhibits low greenhouse gas emissions for each tonne of grain produced compared to other grain producing regions and countries, including the EU, USA, Canada, Russia and Ukraine.

ity including low rainfall and increased temperatures to the Australian grains sector are significant,” Mr Woods said.

“Yet climate challenge creates new opportunities for innovation and growth for the agricultural sector, and with the right approach, Australia’s grain sector can prosper in a changing environment.

production, while maintaining and improving profitability.”

Mr Woods said there were multiple drivers for the agricultural sector to investigate low emissions intensity opportunities, including market preferences, financial investment advantages and environmental considerations.

“International markets



CSIRO Senior Research Scientist, Dr Maartje Sevenster led the 18-month research initiative and co-authored the report. Photo supplied.

around the current level of greenhouse emissions for the Australian grains industry.

“Having robust reference information for greenhouse gas accounting and assessing priorities for mitigation is essential. This type of information will also be increasingly important for the Australian grains industry in maintaining access to global markets,” Dr Sevenster said.

“If Australia can produce grains to feed the world at relatively low greenhouse-gas intensity there is global benefit.”

To identify a GHG emissions baseline for the Australian grain production sector, CSIRO scientists used the 2005 baseline for Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement (COP 21). Their research found:

- Emissions arising from Australian grain production in 2005 were 13.75 million tonnes CO₂-e or 315 kg of CO₂-e per tonne of Australian grain produced.

- Approximately 60 percent of these emissions are direct farm emissions.

- The report notes that

approximately 40 percent are scope three emissions external to the farm gate, which include the emissions produced in the manufacture of the inputs growers use such as fertiliser.

- On-farm emissions from Australian grain accounted for 1.7 percent of all of Australia’s national emissions reported in 2005-06.

- Reducing overall net emissions of the Australian grains industry by 2030 is unlikely to be achieved without decreasing Australian production.

- Any reduction in Australian grain production is likely to result in an increase in grain production in regions of the world that are not able to achieve the low emissions intensity of Australia, increasing global grains emissions.

“We focused our assessment of mitigation opportunities on measures that would maintain or improve average production across the sector and found that it is possible to increase production dramatically while keeping net on-farm emissions more or less constant,” Dr Sevenster said.

“While this is not the same as reducing emissions, it is a very important finding. The next step is to determine what information and tools farmers need to make those modelled scenarios reality.”

Mr Woods said there was significant complexity in terms of greenhouse gas mitigation in grain production, however several opportunities existed to further reduce emissions intensity of Australian grain production.

“Six scenarios were modelled to reduce emissions intensity: current rotations and nitrogen rate, best practice nitrogen application, perfect nitrogen management, optimised rotation, green

ammonia fertiliser and controlled traffic farming,” Mr Woods said.

“These are key areas where GRDC has a long track record of research, development and extension (RD&E) investment and where we will continue to invest to drive profitability for growers and enhance environmental outcomes.

“Two prime examples of GRDC’s ongoing investment in this area include extensive nitrogen use efficiency research and our 2019 CSIRO ARENA investment to develop green ammonia fertiliser.”

Mr Woods said the CSIRO report indicated the collective adoption of modelled scenarios could reduce greenhouse gas emissions intensity per tonne of grain by up to 15 percent.

“This report has identified opportunities for further research and demonstrated that best practice farming has the potential to further reduce emissions intensity for Australian growers.”

He said the report’s findings gave the grains industry a realistic pathway towards reducing the greenhouse gas intensity of Australian grain production as part of a profitable grain growing business sector.

“GRDC has a long history of investing in RD&E to help grain growers adapt to climate, mitigate its impact and to manage industry-wide emissions,” said Mr Woods.

“Going forward recommendations from this GRDC-commissioned CSIRO report will help inform RD&E that supports a realistic trajectory towards reducing the greenhouse gas emissions intensity of Australian grain production, through practices that can be integrated into a profitable grain production business.”



GRDC Chair and Goondiwindi grain grower John Woods, said Australia’s national science agency, CSIRO was commissioned to prepare the report to establish a detailed and robust greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions baseline for the Australian grains sector and explore mitigation opportunities that maintain or increase profitability. Photo: GRDC.

GRDC Chair and Goondiwindi grain grower, John Woods said Australia’s national science agency, CSIRO was commissioned to prepare the report to establish a detailed and robust greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions baseline for the Australian grains sector and explore mitigation opportunities that maintain or increase profitability.

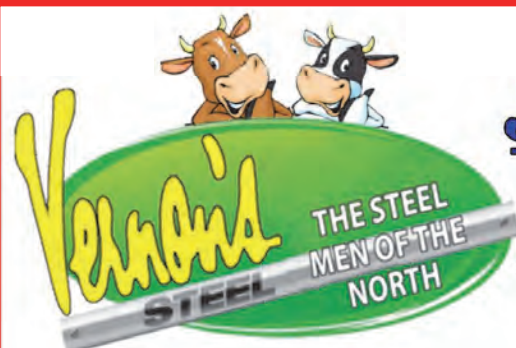
“The risks of climate change and climate variability

“Grain growers manage about four percent of the Australian continent with 22,300 grain farms covering an estimated 31 million hectares, so they play an important part in delivering economic and environmental outcomes on behalf of the broader community.

“As growers we continue to apply farming practices that result in world-leading low emissions intensity grain

are now looking to source grain grown with the lowest emissions and they should be looking at Australian grain growers. We are amongst the most efficient producers in the world,” he said.

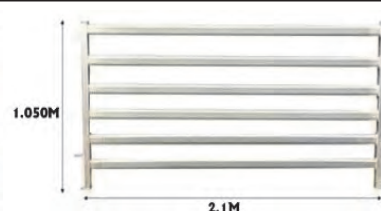
CSIRO Senior Research Scientist, Dr Maartje Sevenster led the 18-month research initiative and co-authored the report. She said the information provided essential baseline data



The Farmers Store

(03) 5032 9222

sales@vernonsteelyards.com.au



Stiff Knot
6-70-30

\$215 Inc. GST

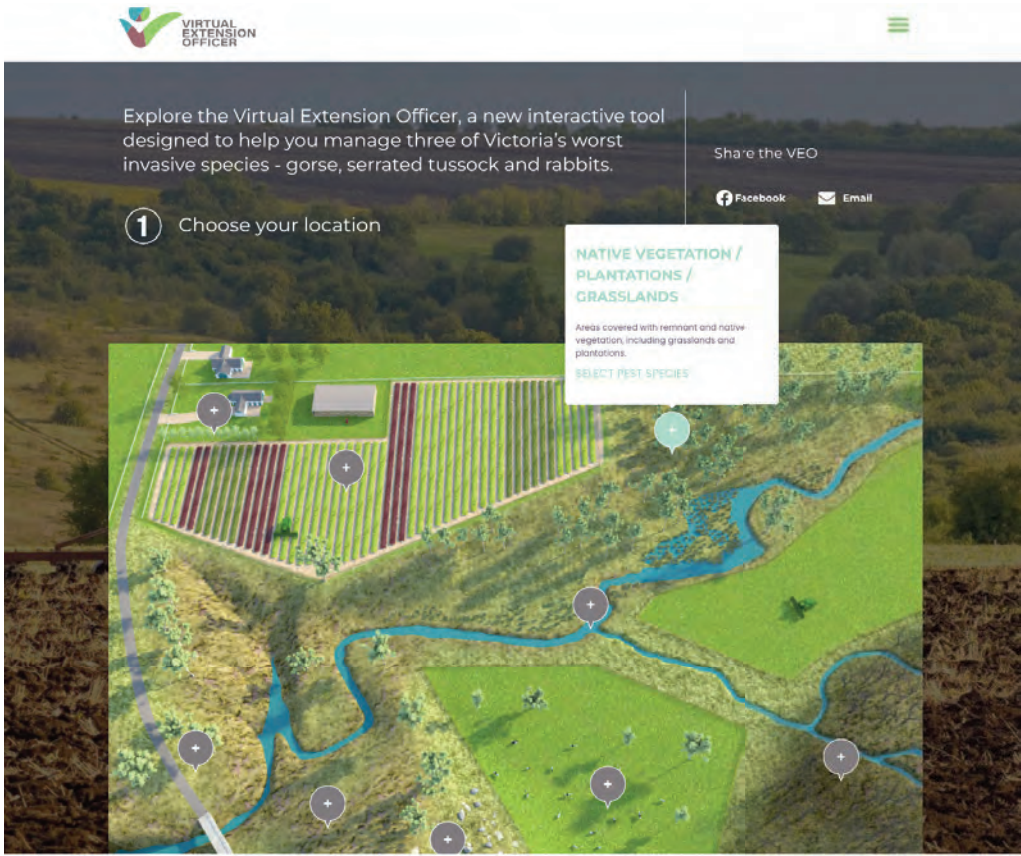
Stock Panels
From
\$93.50 Inc. GST



(03) 5032 9222

sales@vernonsteelyards.com.au

Thurla st. Swan Hill



The new interactive website can be accessed at <https://virtualextensionofficer.com.au>

New interactive website to help manage pests in Victoria

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

A new free and accessible website has been launched to assist land managers, pest controllers and community groups to manage rabbits, gorse and serrated tussock on their properties.

The Virtual Extension Officer website (VEO) was developed by the Victorian Gorse Taskforce (VGT) in collaboration with the Victorian Rabbit Action Network and the Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party, to help people take control of pests.

Agriculture Victoria Biosecurity Leader Nicole Garfi said rabbits, gorse and serrated tussock are widespread in Victoria and impact agricultural productivity and the environment.

"The VEO was developed to enable landholders battling one of these species, to replicate their individual situation

online and gather relevant information, in one location, without leaving their home," said Nicole.

"In just four clicks of a button, the user can choose their property location, species, infestation size and type of control they are interested in, and the VEO will advise the most appropriate methods of control.

According to Ron Cosgrave, VGT chairman, communities battling rabbits, gorse and serrated tussock will find great value in the website.

"We have tried to simplify finding best practice information for those affected by

these species, so they can apply it to their own situation.

"We hope it gives people the right advice and a little bit more confidence to start effectively managing their pest species," he said.

Funding for the website was provided by the Australian Government Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper in collaboration with Agriculture Victoria.

Access the Virtual Extension Officer website at <https://virtualextensionofficer.com.au/>

For more information, please email the Victorian Gorse Taskforce at info@vicgorsetaskforce.com.au

Ramp up in local AdBlue production

DR. ANNE WEBSTER MP, MEMBER FOR MALLEE

Fertiliser manufacturer Incitec Pivot has ramped up its production of AdBlue by around 800 per cent, as the Federal Government continues to work closely with industry to bolster diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) supplies for Australia's transport sector and keep the wheels of industry moving.

The Australian multinational corporation, Incitec Pivot, last week achieved a significant milestone – producing over 3 million litres of AdBlue in the week, representing around 75 per cent of Australia's AdBlue needs.

This locally produced AdBlue is already flowing through the domestic supply chain to wholesalers and service stations across the country.

Incitec Pivot has also commissioned a dedicated AdBlue distribution facility in Brisbane, which has the capacity to load the equivalent of three B Double trucks per hour. The 24/7 operations will allow more AdBlue to get to market efficiently and help boost consumer confidence.

Temporarily securing our local capabilities through Incitec Pivot has been complemented by the Government's ongoing work to secure additional international supplies, and our work with industry to manage stock supplies nationally.

Important Role

Other local AdBlue manufacturers continue to play an important role in the supply chain through production and distribution, with the Government assisting these businesses by facilitating commercial supplies from overseas through our diplomatic network.

Since late 2021, the Government has been working closely with AdBlue manufacturers, fuel retailers, and transport and logistics bodies through the National Co-ordination Mechanism, to replenish out-of-stock sites.

As a result of these collaborative efforts, localised stock-outs at priority sites across the country have largely been overcome.

Although AdBlue users may continue to see a few sites occasionally stocked-out, they can be reassured that with the new AdBlue supply coming into the market, these sites are now being progressively replenished.

In the Mallee

Member for Mallee, Anne Webster said that the Government's prompt response and industry's proactiveness have caused this successful outcome for sectors that rely on AdBlue.

"Here in Mallee, our transporting industry can move forward with confidence, knowing that Australia has a secure supply of AdBlue," Dr. Webster said.

"The positive collaboration between the Australian Government and Incitec Pivot means that our food and fibre industries in Mallee are secure."

Minister for Industry, Energy and Emissions Reduction, Angus Taylor, thanked the Incitec Pivot for stepping up as the Australian Government continues to work together with industry to keep trucks fuelled and Australian diesel motorists on the road.

"The company has already ramped up production to over 3 million litres per week and this milestone is great news," said Mr Taylor.



Dr. Anne Webster MP.

While Australia currently has sufficient volumes of AdBlue to meet its needs, this local production will help restore normal national stock levels.

As part of the partnership with the Government, Incitec Pivot will shortly begin trialling the production of technical grade urea (TGU), the active ingredient in AdBlue, with an additive sourced from Germany.

With a view to the longer-term future, the Government continues to offer assistance to AdBlue manufacturers and suppliers to secure international supplies of TGU and AdBlue, and assist with shipping and customs entry into Australia.

CONTRACT - Disc Chain Work -

Excellent weed management, ground levelling and straw integration.

New Brookfield Disc Chain, John Deere Tractor and Trimble, A-Steer. **GOOD RATES**

Contact Mick 0459 060 306

\$12,490

DRIVE AWAY

500cc

EFI

EPS

2WD 4WD

IRS

TILT TRAY

ROOF KIT

ROPS

ALLOY WHEELS

TOW

2 YEAR FACTORY WARRANTY

80+ DEALERS

U-FORCE 550 EPS

Donald Motorcycles

44-46 Woods Street, Donald, VIC 3480
(03) 5497 1611 | sales@donaldmc.com.au | www.donaldmc.com.au



"Wall of Achievers" in Donald's Woods St.

Achievers "Go to the Wall"

BULOKE TIMES

Country communities have long appreciated their achievers, and Donald is no exception. On Tuesday, December 28 — a public holiday — the Donald Lions Club unveiled its "Wall of Achievement" at the centrally situated Donald mall.

Dozens of local residents, and visitors, many of them relatives of those featured on the wall, gathered at 11 a.m. for the welcome by the Mayor of Buloke Shire, Cr. Daryl Warren, and by the president of the Donald Lions Club, Lion Graham Shilton. Among those present was Lions District Governor Harry Brindley.

Project committee member, Lion Brian Brasier, outlined the steps leading to the establishment of the Achievement Wall, emphasising that there was "still power to add" to the stories being unveiled on the day.

Special thanks were accorded to Lion Graeme Harris, a leading figure behind the initiative, who had also made

available the wall of his business premises for the display of the plaques, professionally produced by Carol Holland, of "Signs R Us".

So, for those travelling through Donald, it is well worth a look at its "Wall of Achievement", located at the Donald Mall in the centre of Woods Street.

Mensland

70 WOODS STREET DONALD - 5497 1211

FOR SHORTS



THOMAS COOK
ELASTIC WAIST
LONG & SHORT



LONG & SHORT
ELASTIC WAIST
+ GET A FREE
FXD TOWEL

ALSO



RUGGERS \$29
LONG & SHORT

MENSLAND HAS THE BOOTS

MONGREL ZIP SIDE & ELASTIC
STEEL BLUE IN PINK/BLUE/KHAKI/BACK/
ARGYLE /HOBART E/S/PARKES
ROSSI 303 & 306

Also **THOMAS COOK** and **R.M.WILLIAMS**
AT A SPECIAL PRICE \$450

NOW IN **AKUBRA** CATTLEMAN HATS

AUTHENTIC



2 ONLY **\$200**

ALSO THOMAS COOK HATS FROM **\$49.99**

SKATEBOARDS



and **SCOOTERS**
by **MADD GEAR**

some
under
\$100



FREE DELIVERY - DROP OFF

IF NEEDED RING, and we can help work out your size.
SAMPLES CAN BE SENT to make sure of correct sizing.

Phone or fax Mensland **5497 1211**
Email **mensland@iinet.net.au**

BCG TRIALS REVIEW DAY

FRIDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2022
BIRCHIP COMMUNITY LEISURE CENTRE

GEN CLARKE • BROOKE BENNETT
ALI FRISCHKE • JAMES TAYLOR
KELLY ANGEL • JAMES MURRAY
JAMES HUNT • PETER BOUTSALIS
CHRIS WARRICK • STEVE HENRY
JASON BRAND • GREG REBETZKE
PHIL MCFARLANE • GOLDACRES
MATT BISSETT • TIM POHLNER

MEMBERS ONLY EVENT

BECOME A BCG MEMBER TODAY
bcg.org.au/events 03 5492 2787



School is in for Young Shearers

NORTH WEST EXPRESS

There is an old saying that necessity breeds solution, and one local shearer is finding that to be the case.

MATT EDWARDS loves his job, but is only too aware of the dramatic shortage of shearers in his industry and the desperate need for new, young workers to continue the trade, especially in the Mallee and Wimmera areas.

To try and introduce and encourage new people to take up shearing as a career Matt organised a shearing school to be held near Ouyen earlier this month. In all there were eight young men eager to learn the basic skills needed to take those first tentative steps into shearing and wool handling.

After considering the idea for quite some time, Matt put the feelers out about the possibility of the school in the last months of 2021, but then with harvest, the festive season and his own work snowballing again, put a hold on plans for a little while.

With plenty of initial interest shown at the time plans were put in place for the event to go ahead in the first week

of February.

Matt has always been open about the fact he is not an accredited trainer, but a jobbing shearer, he had done classes through Shearer Woolhandler Training Inc. and so he arranged for accredited instructor Rick Chilcott to lead the school.

Throughout the week Rick was supported by Roger Mifsud, also an instructor and well known in this area and Matt himself. There was also a visit from a retired local shearer who gave some practical help and tips to a young learner who is left-handed.

After the initial shyness, the group slipped quickly into the rhythm of a shearing shed as a place of learning with lots of information being passed on along with hands on training.

They concentrated on the gaining of skills which ranged from foot positioning, how to hold the handpiece, using the knees to help control the animal safely, basic sheep



The young shearers with instructor Rick (second from left) and organiser Matt (far right).

anatomy to know where arteries are and even some nutritional advice.

Before long there was lots of good-natured ribbing between the students and an easy relationship forming with the leaders, enabling a



Up close tutoring with Rick.

relaxed learning environment.

The school was working very much on positive reinforcement for the students, lots of praise and encouragement when things were done right and explanations and a different alternative when the students

didn't hit the mark the first time.

While none of the young men who took part in the school seem to be considering shearing as a full-time future career, all agreed without a doubt that it was a very worthwhile thing to take part

in and that they had gained a lot from it.

Most, like Hamish Farnsworth, would be taking what they had learned back to their outside lives and putting aspects of it into practice, allowing him to shear his own sheep in the future.

For others it will let them be more involved on family farms at shearing time or round out knowledge to be used in future careers on the land.

Matt is still hopeful that there may be a full-time shearer among them and that it may trigger more schools like this to be held in the area in the future.

"Honestly, I'd love to get one or two to take it on," Matt said.

"It would make my life easier most certainly, but from a class like this normally you would expect maybe one in ten to stick at it to make a career out of it.

"I get nothing out of this except the hope that we might bring new shearers into the industry, there is no doubt it is bloody hard work and there are no free rides, but it's honest, good hard work and you can set yourself up for life."



Matt talks Liam through shearing the belly.



Rick talks the group through an exercise.

New artificial intelligence technology at BCG's Trials Review Day

BIRCHIP CROPPING GROUP

The new artificial intelligence (AI) technology, Weedetect from Goldacres, will be showcased at BCG's Trials Review Day on Friday, February 25 at the Birchip Leisure Centre.

GOLDACRES' RESEARCH and Development expert, Dave Tuppen, will explain Weedetect's capabilities to attendees. The Goldacres G6 Crop Cruiser Series 2 fitted with AI precision spraying technology Weedetect will be on site at the event, adding

value to Dave's presentation.

BCG Senior Manager of Extension Tom Draffen said the technology couldn't have come at a better time.

"Trials Review Day is about introducing attendees to science and technology which can improve farm profitabil-

ity," Tom said.

"We know from our members that the rising costs of inputs are causing concern. It is also well documented that many people learn best from a hands-on experience.

"Having Dave Tuppen present the Weedetect technol-

gy on site is a great opportunity for farmers to see if this new technology could benefit their farming system."

Dave said he was looking forward to attending the event.

"At Goldacres we are always working towards the next big thing to help farmers improve their profitability. With Weedetect's ability to detect and selectively target weeds in crop, it has

the very real potential to dramatically reduce the cost of a year-round spraying program. Blanket sprays will diminish remarkably.

"With this type of technology now available we also hope to see a shift to lighter, smaller tank capacity, which is again a real plus for the farmer," Dave said.

Crops that Weedetect is currently compatible with include wheat, barley, oats, can-

ola, lupins, sorghum, potatoes and cotton, detecting broad-leaf and rye grass weeds.

Weedetect has two configurations, green on brown with green on green an upgradable option.

BCG's Trials Review Day is a members' only event. To become a member visit bcg.org.au/memberships/ or call (03) 5492 2787. Register for the event at bcg.org.au/events/



The Goldacres G6 Crop Cruiser Series 2 fitted with AI precision spraying technology Weedetect.

NORTHERN WOOL PTY LTD

TONY KEAM - WOOL BUYER

- ✓ On-farm pricing
- ✓ In-store pricing
- ✓ Shed clean-ups
- ✓ Price on results
- ✓ Consignment
- ✓ Forward pricing
- ✓ Re-classing service
- ✓ Prompt payment

Full auction service available with
ENDEAVOUR WOOL EXPORTS

SWAN HILL STORE - 15 SHEPHERD ROAD - OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 8AM-5PM OR BY APPOINTMENT

M: 0427 993 041 AH: 03 5032 9547 F: 03 5032 2032 E: tony-keam@bigpond.com

ON FARM
PICK-UP
AVAILABLE

Improving soil, and managing input costs, hot topics at Trials Review Day

BIRCHIP CROPPING GROUP

With the rising cost of fertiliser and growing talk of soil carbon, the Managing for productivity and soil organic carbon discussion at BCG's Trials Review Day on February 25 at Birchip is not to be missed.

Dr James Hunt's nitrogen bank theory is set to generate much interest, with Hunt's theory on nitrogen having the potential to increase profit by \$100/ha over current application rates.

"Australian wheat yields are only half what they could be for the rainfall received," said Dr Hunt,

from The University of Melbourne.

Nitrogen [N] deficiency is the single biggest factor contributing to this yield gap. This is also likely to be true for other non-legume crops and this reduces farm profitability. So while fertiliser costs are rising, and growers need to watch budgets care-

fully, it's important that farmers understand exactly how the system works and where they can best put their fertiliser budget to increase profits.

"What we are finding in our trial at Curyo is the most profitable strategies all have neutral to positive partial nitrogen balances—more nitrogen applied in fertiliser than removed in grain—indicating soil organic nitrogen is not being mined.

"Taking into account the current high cost of fertiliser, I will be talking attendees at Trials Review Day through some of the strategies they can use this year to achieve these balances."

Soil Amelioration

Also on the day, BCG's James Taylor will deliver the results of BCG and WCMA's soil amelioration trials in the Wimmera.

"At Trials Review Day I'll be highlighting to growers where deep ripping is a good option, and where it should be



James Hunt.

avoided. It's not suitable in all situations," James said.

"We will also be discussing the positive results of applying manure in these trials. We have been seeing a positive response, which is good news, particularly with current input costs."

BCG's Trials Review Day is a members' only event to be held at the Birchip Leisure Centre on Friday, February 25. Sign up to become a member by visiting bcg.org.au/memberships/ or calling (03) 5492 2787. Register for the event here: www.bcg.org.au/events/

The BCG 2021 Season Research Results manual will be launched as an eBook on the day. Please remember to download your copy on your device to bring to the event.

A hardcopy will be posted after the event.

THE INNOVATOR NOT THE IMITATOR

In 1977 JCB pioneered the telescopic handler. We have since refined this hardworking machine, and now offer the most versatile and productive line of telehandlers on the market today.

ON TOP OF EVERYTHING
OUR BEST CAB EVER.

JCB

SERIES III **AGRI LOADALL**



MACHINE
OF THE YEAR 2019

Michaels Moama

480 Cobb Hwy, Moama, NSW 2731 Phone 03 5480 0731

Michaels of Donald

15 McCulloch St, Donald, VIC 3480 Phone 03 5497 1203

Thatch Grass Returning to Lake Buloke

(By Chris Guthrie)

Lake Buloke is a 20,000 acre water catchment that marks the termination of the Richardson and Avon water catchment.

The value of the lake, from the earliest white settlers to present day, was not its water reserves, but in its feed source for livestock.

The two dominant species were thatch grass and trefoil clover, which grew abundantly over the entire lake.

The earliest settlers to utilize the feed were the Corack and Banyenong sheep stations, whose sheep and cattle thrived on the lake's feed reserves, being separated by a fence through the centre of the lake.

Common

In 1878, the government proclaimed the lake as a common for the use of all ratepayers. Sheep, cattle and horses were grazed under the control of a shire employee known as a herdsman.

Stock yards were erected on the northern and southern ends of the lake to count the stock annually, which were levied by the shire.

Lease

In 1903 the common was abolished in favour of a seven-year limited lease, which attracted 98 applicants who were permitted to fence their allotments up to 250 acres in size.

The popularity of the lake was reflected in the building of a new school at Witchipool on the edge of the lake. The value of the feed attracted two dairy farms, which grazed next to cattle and sheep blocks.

It was the inconsistent water levels in the lake that proved to be the demise to the majority of leaseholders. The flood of 1909 saw the lake completely flooded, which was only matched by the great flood of 1956. Dry years such as 1914 with 7 inches of rainfall saw most of the leaseholders walk off.

In 1939, 33 perpetual leases (99 years) were allocated alongside the grazing licences. The leases of 300 acres were now more viable, as they had access to permanent stock water, with the sinking of dams which were serviced by the Wimmera Mallee channel system, implemented after the First World War.

Great Flood

The great flood of 1956 provided the moisture for a cropping opportunity in 1958, which saw 95% of the lake cropped, producing an unprecedented yield of 2 tons per acres without fertilizer and spray inputs. Due to the thick covering of thatch, the grass was burnt to help prepare a seed bed, which was then cultivated before sowing.

It was the cultivation which proved to seal the demise of the thatch grass, which has failed to recover in the ensuing 65 years.

Today there are six grazing enterprises that farm on greater Buloke (125,500 acres) which rely on the value of trefoil and the hope for the return of thatch grass.



• Chris Guthrie shows a stand of thatch grass growing by the roadside on greater Lake Buloke.

Victoria's Record Breaking Sheep Traceability System

Victorian producers, staff and agents at the Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange created an Australian record – with 59,487 electronic National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) tags scanned on sheep sold at the sale on December 15, 2021.

During December 2021, approximately one million electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags were read in Victorian saleyards and abattoirs and movements uploaded to the NLIS database demonstrating widespread successful adoption by the industry.

Agriculture Victoria's Manager Livestock Traceability, Ben Fahy, said electronic

identification (EID) tagging and movement recording facilitate accurate "whole of life" tracking of sheep and goats for food safety, disease control and market access purposes.

Important Tool

"Electronic tagging is an important tool in ensuring that Victorian sheep and goats can be quickly tracked in the event of a disease outbreak or food safety issue," he said.

"Victorian saleyards have become world leaders in this area. They have demonstrated repeatedly, and over a long time now, the ability to efficiently scan thousands of sheep on a daily basis."

Electronic tagging has been required in the UK for several years, because of the role that sheep can play in the spread of infectious diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease (FMD). But unlike the situation in Victoria, saleyards in the UK typically only sell

and scan fewer than 10,000 head at a sale.

Mr Fahy said the excellent traceability of Victoria's system was demonstrated by the SAFEMEAT sheep traceability evaluation which showed that Victorian EID tagged sheep were 99 per cent traceable, compared to 70 per cent traceability for interstate sheep that do not require electronic tags.

Prompt Tracing

"The automatic verification of the presence of a sheep or goat at a saleyard following the scanning of its tag enables reliable traceback and facilitates prompt contact tracing in a disease emergency," said Mr Fahy.

"Contact tracing where saleyards are involved in the recent movement history of sheep can only be done successfully with electronic tagging."

"The entire livestock supply chain should be congratulated for their efforts during Victoria's implementation of an electronic NLIS (Sheep & Goats) system."

Since 2017, producers have purchased more than 51 million electronic NLIS (Sheep) tags, and almost 35 million sheep and goat movements have been recorded on the NLIS database.

From January 1, 2022, all sheep and non-exempt goats need to be identified with an electronic NLIS (Sheep) tag before leaving a Victorian farm.

Victorian sheep and goat producers are able to access the most affordable electronic tags in Australia with prices starting from 77 cents per tag.

Visit the Agriculture Victoria website for more information on Victoria's NLIS (Sheep & Goats) system or to order NLIS tags or phone Agriculture Victoria's NLIS Helpline on 1800 678779 during business hours.



• The thatch cart, used to transport large quantities of thatch grass into town during times of drought.



• The site of the Witchipool East state school.

New Rules to Protect Farmers from Trespass

The Livestock Management Amendment (Animal Activism) Bill 2021 that passed through the lower house last week will allow police to issue infringement notices to people who break biosecurity procedures by trespassing on livestock farms.

"Activists shouldn't be given free range to break into property, sabotage equipment, and stress or steal animals," said Liberal Democrat Senator Tim Quilty.

"We've seen too many cases of trespass being rewarded with a smack on the hand from out-of-touch magistrates. These new laws will provide the police with a significant on-the-spot response, so activists are actually deterred."

However, the new rules are far from perfect. Following the 2019 enquiry, the committee wanted simple legislation ensuring that, people committing an offence could receive a substantial on the spot fine.

Instead, the government has produced a complex new regulatory regime that farmers are required to comply with to access the protection, creating loads of pointless red tape.

"Farmers have a right to get on with farming without

having to worry about activists trespassing onto their property – and they shouldn't have to jump through meaningless bureaucratic hoops to get that protection," said Mr Quilty.

"When the bill comes to the upper house we will favourably consider supporting any amendments that reduce the red tape and make it easier for farmers to access the same protection from trespass that everyone else has."

★
★ **Protect your
child with the
coronavirus
vaccine for
5-11 year olds**

Throughout the pandemic, our kids have given up a lot to help keep their families, schools and friends safe.

And with children eligible for vaccination from January 10, now it's their turn to feel safe.

The coronavirus vaccine for kids 5 - 11 will keep them protected from serious illness and will get you off to a safe start to the school year.

To find out where and how to book visit
coronavirus.vic.gov.au

★
★ **Know the how,
what & when
of vaccination
for 5-11 year olds**



Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



Two-Way Walk to Bugge’s Hill

Recent letters to the “Buloke Times” regarding ambulance transfers have brought to the mind of one of its readers, the early days of the Donald Ambulance Group.

Notes from Anne Walsh’s book “A History of Donald Shops and Businesses” Volume 1 describe fundraising activities in 1969 to raise money for an ambulance building, including a walk-a-thon from

Donald to Bugge’s Hill, Cope Cope, in April 1969 as follows:

1969: Donald Ambulance Group is formed. The ambulance, a 1962 Falcon Wagon,

is housed in Youngs’ Garage until a station is built. Various clubs run fund-raisers for this building.

One memory is of a Walkathon to Bugge’s Hill.

The ambulance group was Ballarat-St. Arnaud-Donald, so St. Arnaud people walked out from their end and Donald people did the same.

The Ambulance Station was built on part of the site of the original Memorial Hall (destroyed by fire in 1930). The new building was opened by Lions Club president Jack Paino in 1970. First ambulance crew to attend a callout were Ron Young and Bob Strochnetter. Mrs Zampatti was the patient. Don Wood was the secretary/treasurer for 22 years.

The station was a single-car garage, and in 1989 a larger station was built in McCracken Avenue. The original site is now owned by O.W. & B.A. Michael, and is next door to the “Buloke Times” office in McCulloch Street.

One of the instigators of the fundraising for the original ambulance building was



• Donald Pipe Band entertains the crowd.



• Bob Strochnetter, member of the Donald Pipe Band, was the chief organiser of the walk-a-thon.

Native frog or exotic cane toad?

Cane toad

The back of a cane toad ranges from light yellow, brown, whitish brown to almost black in colour (never bright green).

Parotid gland excretes a poisonous milky substance.

Eyes are set in warty bony socket with prominent bony ridges over the eyes meeting at the nose.

Skin is dry, warty (bumpy) and leathery.

Distinct poorly shut.

Horizontal pupil.

External ear drum.

Does NOT have discs or adhesion pads on end of fingers or toes.

Has leathery webbing between toes of hind feet at least half length of toes.

The underside of an adult toad is usually a dirty cream colour.

Habit: Nocturnal, becoming active in large open areas, such as on roads and lawns. Can be found congregating beneath street lamps and other lights to catch insects.

Call: Sounds like a guttural rill and is sustained for about 30 seconds.

native pobblebonk frog

Never black stripe on lip or above eyes.

Generally smooth round eye socket.

The back ranges in colour from grey, olive-green, dark brown to black.

Average adult length ranges from 6-10cm.

Rounder snout with no poorly lip.

Pupil shape is round and horizontal.

A pale stripe runs from under each eye to the arm.

The belly is smooth white or mottled.

No webbing between hind toes.

Prominent glands on rear legs.

Skin is usually moist, smooth and slippery. Those with rougher skin do not have large raised "warts".

Habit: Most are nocturnal. Habitat varies, but all prefer moist environments and will mostly be found in or near water as most are still dependent on water to complete their life cycle.

Call: Various, all very different to the cane toad and Asian black-spined toad.



Recent heavy rainfall around the state has increased frog activity and with it reports from the community of potential cane toad sightings.

Leading Biosecurity Officer Emily Hill said reports are critical to Agriculture Victoria's efforts to protect Victoria from the establishment of such pests.
“Exotic toads such as cane toads pose an extreme threat to Victoria's native species as they compete for food, can carry disease and pathogens, poison with their toxic glands and can rapidly expand and colonise new areas,” said Ms Hill.
“Thankfully, very few cane toads make it into Victoria – less than ten a year on average – and community reporting

has played a big role in protecting our state.
“So far, all of the reports we’ve received have been native frogs and not cane toads.”
Ms Hill said exotic toads can be easily confused with native frog species – such as the eastern banjo frog or pobblebonk.
“Therefore, Agriculture Victoria has developed several quick reference guides to help people to identify what is a native frog and what is a cane toad,” said Ms Hill.
“We encourage people to use these guides, and of course, if they believe they

have found a cane toad, report it to us immediately.”
Know the Difference
Native frog or exotic toad? Members of the public can check the features of the specimen they have sighted and compare the prominent identification characteristics that set native frogs apart from exotic toads, using the native frog or exotic toad? online guide.
“These are usually entering the state as sneaky stow-aways, accidentally transported on vehicles, camping gear, caravans and in the luggage of returning travellers

from northern Australia or via commercial goods such as potted plants imported for the plant nursery trade,” Ms Hill said.
Members of the public still unsure about the identity of their sighting can email photographs.to.highrisk.invasiveanimals@agriculture.vic.gov.au or contact the customer service centre on 136 186, with details of the animal, and a member of staff will contact you.
More information about Priority pest animals in Victoria can be found online via the Agriculture Victoria website.

Donald policeman Bob Strochnetter. He was also in the Donald Pipe Band and led the group out of town as they and the townsfolk headed towards Bugge’s Hill to meet their St. Arnaud “cousins” doing likewise.

Bob had lived in north-east Victoria for many years and passed way there in late July. His daughter, Sharelle, provide these photos taken at the

time of the station opening, and also told of Bob’s disappointment with Ambulance Victoria’s service nowadays. He was very ill when an ambulance was called for him, but it did not arrive until 4 hours later.
Bob said “all his years of raising funds for them to build a station in Donald doesn’t seem to add up to the waiting times these days,” and it made him very sad.



• Primary school art teacher Dianne Gilbert give a young Helen Trollop a ride.

Young House Prevails in Pool

Birchip P-12's 69th. annual school swimming competition was held on Friday, February 11, 2022.

The annual competition between Young and Fraser House was attended by a small group of parents and a large and enthusiastic student body.

Throughout the day the competition saw a variety of swimming styles contribute to the inter-house competition. The crowd was well catered for by the barbecue under the guidance of experienced operators Joshua Richmond and Rohan Davis.

In the pool, the competition was spirited with some outstanding individual performances. These included our individual champions who were:

- Grade 5/6 boys: Willow Ryan.
- Grade 5/6 girls: Asha Lee.
- 12-14 boys: Jeswin Daniel.
- 12-14 girls: Eva Coffey.
- 15-16 boys: Harry Cook.
- 15-16 girls: Sassia Coffey.
- 17-20 boys: Sam O'Donnell.
- 17-20 girls: Hannah Cook.

At the completion of the competition, Young House swam out winners, 524 points to 302.

The victorious Young House captains, Charlotte McCredden and Sam O'Donnell, thanked the organisers and the students who com-



BULLETIN

peted on the day. A special thanks went to the students who were cajoled to fill in at the last minute

Thank you to the sport committee; Travis Knight, Andrew Sayle, Olivia Dalglish, Kristie Knights and Janet Ingle for their organisation of the day.

The next step on the road to Paris 2024 is the inter-school sports in St. Arnaud. These will be held on March 7, 2022.



• Happy Young House Captains, Charlotte McCredden and Sam O'Donnell.

Donald History Enquiries for January

Troy Nash found mention in one of our 2014 Newsletters that Traynors Lagoon was named after his 3x Great Grandfather, Thomas Traynor/ Trainor who was a drover.

Troy wished to know if we had any further information about this. We don't, and Lilian Kirk, who wrote the article, is no longer with us. We assume that Lilian was told this story by a local. Can anyone help us with the origins of the name "Traynors Lagoon"?

Someone wanted a copy of the "Lockhart Morton" book, and another asked to buy "Donald, Past and Present", so the old favourites are still selling. We have sold quite a few of Adam McNicol's photographic book on the Wimmera, but still have some left, as well as his Mallee Book.

Sharon Watson rang for information on her forebears, George Watson and Martha Willey.

Helen Ferguson (nee Walsh) rang for a report of the visit of a Sherriff of London in 1961. Alderman Adam Kennedy Kirk was a brother of Jack Kirk Senior, of Donald, and visited the town, causing a great deal of excitement.

There was a Civic Reception at the Memorial Hall on Monday, 8th August, 1961, to which the whole town was invited. Performances were rendered by Ruth Flett on the piano and Judy and Helen Walsh on violins, who performed as a trio with Mary Connellan on piano accompaniment.

The following morning many of Donald's school-children went to the Memorial Hall to listen to a presentation by the Sherriff, who was resplendent in his official scarlet robe with black trimmings, fur edgings, black knee



breeches and stockings, buckle shoes, white lace jabot and gold chain and pendant.

Two of the school children who were present assured me recently that they had not forgotten the Sherriff. One thought that she had seen the Town Crier as she remembered the outfit very well.

Bev Gilmour (nee Bath) donated a very early Swanwater West Church Hymnal. The names of her grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. A.P. Bath, are inscribed inside the hymnal as it was a presentation to them.

A gentleman who is researching Australian Post Offices wished to know if we had heard of a place called Pimula. We were unable to help.

Craig Proctor, who has ancestral connections to Donald, Corack East and St. Arnaud, has donated a photograph of the original Donald Flour Mill which was built by Mr. White on a site opposite the current swimming pool (now 145 Woods Street) in 1876. We have been blown away by the existence of this historic photograph, and are very pleased to have it in our hands. The mill was damaged by a storm in 1881. In 1887 much of it was transferred to Hammill Street, where a new mill was built. This is where Dunstan Wool is currently situated.

Kerry Free contacted us. Kerry has many ancestors from around Donald and surrounding area. She is doing family research and asked our help with various dates, names and local knowledge. Kerry was willing to make a donation, and we were happy to help.



• Individual Champions: Back row, left to right, Hannah Cook, Sassia Coffey, Harry Cook, Eva Coffey, Sam O'Donnell. Front: Jeswin Daniel, Asha Lee, Willow Ryan.



• Birchip P-12's Year 12 class dressed for the occasion: Back row, left to right, Asher Whitehand, Tadhg Lowry, Patrick Sheahan, Will Hogan, Sam O'Donnell, Ryan Hampton. Middle: Petria Frank, Alexandra Randall, Charlotte McCredden, Gemma Woods. Front: Hannah Cook, Ella Hogan, Brodie McCredden.

Bulls Quell Quamby’s Quest

Birchip took on Quambatook on the banks of a full Avoca River on a very warm Saturday afternoon.

In Division 1, the locals were desperate for a win to cement their place in the upcoming finals.

At the halfway they had their noses in front, but Birchip finished better and grabbed the majority of the match points on offer.

In Division 2 Birchip led all day and was never threatened.

The first Division 1 contest saw “Reidy”, “Sauce”, “Waffle” and “Trolly” jammed up on rink 1, where they took on “China” Williams and his team.

After dropping a couple of shots on the first two ends, the Birchip boys found their range and were never threatened. “Trolly” was leading well, “Waffle” and “Sauce” had their wands tuned well, and “Reidy” was as consistent as ever. Birchip won by 30 shots to 17. I will mention that there was some glary footwear on display on this rink.

The next match was a see-sawing contest. “Kempy”, “Carty”, “Coop” and Owen took on “Tacker” McKissic, who had the league Champion of Champions as his third.

The Avoca river locals took control early and led by ten shots at lunch. After the break “Kempy” cracked the

whips, and Birchip strung together eight winning ends and grabbed the lead.

But as often happens, Quamby came again. It grabbed the last three ends and won by two shots, resulting in a 22 to 24 shot loss to Birchip.

The final match up saw Mick Spicer, TD, “Frogga” and president Bryan take on “Red” Manners and his team, which included his mother.

Scores were level at the halfway mark. On the eighteenth end Birchip grabbed a six and this was the impetus for it to push towards victory. They won by 23 to 21 shots giving Birchip overall victory 75 to 62 and grabbing 10 match points.

In Division 2, the confident Bobby Noonan was back as skipper after a few weeks in Division 1. He had Stan, “Blackie” and “Blairy” well and truly motivated as they took on the Amber Wood-skipped opponents.

Birchip dominated the score board and it was skipper Bobby who claimed the biggest victory of the day. Birchip won by 30 to 12 shots.

The final match up was played almost on the river bank. Ray Barr, who has

played in most positions this year, was back as skipper. He had “Smithy”, “Fletch” and Steve Simpson as teammates as they took on the Alan McKissack-led Quamby side. Birchip led from start to finish and were never troubled. It won by 23 shots to 13.

Overall the Bulls won by 28 shots and gained maximum match points.

Birchip Bowls Teams

To play Berriwillock at Birchip, 1.15 p.m. start.

Division 1
T. Grogan, D. Cooper, M. Hogan, K. Reid (s)
B. Hogan, T. Doran, M. Spicer, W. Clark (s).
O. Reid, M. Bowen, G. Cartwright, R. Kemp (s).
Division 2
S. Simpson, N. Fletcher, G. Smith, R. Barr (s).
L. Blair, G. Trollope, S. Fraser, N. Noonan (s).

Scribe’s Observations

•Thank you to “Blairy” for driving the bus. He drove me to school 42 years ago, and now he’s driving me to bowls. He didn’t hit the gravel as much as he used to!

• Glen Trollope’s footwear seems to be setting a trend in the team.
• Bobby Noonan was the quiz master on the trip home.
• “Blackie” has bought some new bowls. They are

black and white, with a magpie emblem. He reckons he’ll eventually donate them to the Collingwood FC museum. #doorstops

— “You gotta be up”

North-Central Pennant Bowls

This Week’s Selected Club Teams



DIVISION ONE
Preliminary Finals, Saturday, February 19.
At St. Arnaud Country Club.
Donald Golf v. Wycheproof

DONALD GOLF
W. Livingston, G. Harmer, P. Hibberd, T. Hollis (s)
S. Hollis, G. Geddes, G. Rigby, D. Pettifer (s)
L. Borden, A. Frank, R. Reseigh, W. Gniel (s)
Emergencies: M. Frank, G. Wood, B. Bayles.
Cars: G. Geddes, G. Harmer, R. Reseigh, leave 12.20.

WYCHEPROOF
J. Grylls, J. McLean, D. Groves, G. Coatsworth (s)
R. Grylls, F. Grylls, A. Mead, B. Macdonald (s)
A. Jones, V. Grant, A. Coatsworth, E. Rayes (s)

DIVISION TWO
Preliminary Finals, Saturday, February 19.
At St. Arnaud Country Club.
Korong Vale v. Wycheproof

KORONG VALE
S. Nelson, R. Ashley, J. Matthews, J. Murnane (s)
L. Barby, Y. Cashen, D. Gibson, A. Roberts (s)
J. Earl, K. Griffiths, W. Keenan, J. Gibson (s)

WYCHEPROOF
R. Coles, L. Milburn, P. Coles, G. Allan (s)
B. Taylor, J. McKay, J. Grylls, D. Denney (s)
A. Wallace, R. Tierney, N. Coles, P. Connolly (s)

Donald Derby Tomorrow

At the moment, only percentage separates Wimmera Mallee cricket’s top three “A” grade sides – St. Arnaud, Jeffcott and Brim Kellalac Sheep Hills.

Donald is half-a-game behind, in fourth place, and faces Jeffcott at the Goff Letts Oval tomorrow.

There is no point in trying to pick a winner – both sides have had their good and bad days during an unpredictable summer season in which the big sporting question has been, “What’s next?”

Brim K.S.H. will be at home to fifth-placed Birchip, while St. Arnaud will enjoy its penultimate pre-finals game

on Marnoo’s picturesque picketed playing surface. Wycheproof-Narraport has the bye.

Six of the eight “B” grade sides are still in the running, but the focus tomorrow will be well and truly on the battle of the top teams on the Jeffcott ground, both Charlton and Jeffcott being on 51 points.

St. Mary’s will be at Hopetoun, Birchip will host Brim K.S.H., and St. Arnaud will travel to Watchem.

Wimmera Mallee Cricket Ladders

“A” Grade							
	P	Bye	W	D	L	Pts	%
St. Arnaud	10	2	6	2	2	54	1.6418
Jeffcott	10	2	6	2	2	54	1.5716
Brim KSH.....	11	1	8	0	3	54	1.4675
Donald	10	2	6	1	3	51	1.4693
Birchip	10	2	3	2	5	36	1.0866
Marnoo	9	2	0	2	7	18	0.3098
Wyche/Narraport	10	1	1	1	8	15	0.3857

“B” Grade							
	P	W	D	L	Pts	%	
Charlton	12	8	1	3	51	1.4140	
Jeffcott	12	8	1	3	51	1.1323	
St. Mary’s	12	7	2	3	48	1.3967	
St Arnaud.....	12	6	1	5	39	1.2654	
Birchip	12	6	1	5	39	1.1333	
Southern Mallee Giants...	12	5	1	6	33	1.0240	
Watchem Panthers	12	2	1	9	15	0.5268	
Brim KSH.....	12	1	2	9	12	0.5430	



• Left to right, Charlton participants, Naomi Patullo, Kenn Boal (coach), Pat Mathews, Anne Kenny, Lindsay Patullo, Barb Dalrymple, Janet Richardson, Margaret Bowen, Nita Perry.

Charlton Croquet Coaching Session

Charlton Croquet Club held the second of three Player Development Workshops on February 8 and 9, 2022.

Once again Kenn Boal from Rich River was the coach. Kenn demonstrated different openings and ways to get a break going, and also explained how to build confidence in one’s own game while perhaps putting opponents under pressure. Although the weather was warm, the two days were very worthwhile.



• Concentrating! Naomi and Lindsay Patullo.

Champion Aaron

Aaron Mead is Wycheproof's bowls singles champion for season 2021/22 after threatening for the past few years. Aaron was in terrific form for all games over the 2 days.

A new name already on the board 8 times is Robbie Grylls, who was the runner-up to Aaron this year, after battling the heat and some stiff opposition. Not a bad effort for an octogenarian!

Pennant

Division 1 went down to Donald Golf 12/0 at Donald on Saturday, January 15. Division 2 had the bye.

Division 1 played St. Arnaud Country Club at Wyche on Saturday, January 22, and got the majority of points 8/4. This secures its position in the finals.

Division 2 played Donald Golf at Wyche., but was soundly beaten 12/0. Players will have to rally in their next 2 games to have a chance of playing finals.

Division 1 and 2 were scheduled to play Charlton at Wyche on Saturday, January 29. Division 1 took all 12 points, with George Coatsworth's team getting the funny money.

Unfortunately, Charlton's division 2 had to forfeit due to a lack of numbers.

Division 1 and 2 both had 10/2 wins over Donald at Donald on Saturday, February 5. Division 1 finished third on the ladder and had a terrific tussle with St. Arnaud Country Club at Donald in the first semi-final, on Saturday, February 12.

Wycheproof got home by 2 shots after a tense finish, with umpire Norm Hollis calling for a tight measure at the second last end. The funny money went to Brett's team.

Division 2 had a solid win over St. Arnaud C.C. after

sneaking into fourth position on the ladder. Paul's team got the right to skite, and even picked up an 8 on one end. Well done to Paul, Nick, Ced and (managed) Rex.

Tomorrow, February 19, Division 1 will play Donald Golf at St. Arnaud Country Club, while Division 2 plays Korong Vale at the same venue, in the preliminary final.

The winners of these 2 games will get the chance to play St. Arnaud (Division 1) and Donald Golf (Division 2) in the grand final the following weekend.

Congratulations to Aaron Mead on finishing runner-up in the Champion of Champions to Laurie Witham (Wedderburn) at Wedderburn on Sunday, January 30. Great effort!

— "Kitty Litter"



• Wycheproof singles champion, Aaron Mead.



• Left to right: singles runner-up Robbie Grylls, president Paul Connolly, singles champion Aaron Mead.

Donald Golf Back in Finals Contention

Donald Golf forced its way back into the top four and finals contention after securing all 12 points against St. Arnaud Country Club, as other results on the day also went its way.

The prospect of playing finals had seemed out of the question for Golf, after an indifferent season.

And the new found optimism may be short lived, Golf having to play top side, Korong Vale, in next Tuesday's final home-and-away round, but at the moment the club's bowlers are in charge of their own destiny.

Golf holds a 5 shot advantage over fifth placed Wedderburn, which went down to Korong Vale on Tuesday, but faces an easier prospect, Charlton, in round 18.

Depending on other round 18 results, sixth St. Arnaud also remains in the hunt for a finals berth, with a match up against cross-town rival, St. Arnaud Country Club, next week.

Higher up the ladder, Korong Vale leads the pack with 112 points, followed by Wycheproof 107 and Boort 101.

Wycheproof has the bye, so cannot add to its tally.

Boort will host Donald, and going on its strong performance against St. Arnaud, is primed for finals action and should be able to answer the challenge.

It all makes for an exciting end to the home-and-away season, and sets the scene for some entertaining finals.

As previously mentioned, Donald Golf claimed all 12 points against St. Arnaud Country Club, led by dominant performances from the rinks skipped by Marg Kelly and Marilyn Frank.

Boort bagged 9 points to St. Arnaud's 3, Kevin Depiazza enjoying success against Phil McRae's rink, while Colin Marchment had the better of Laurie Maxted, and Thelma Moresi and Sandra McIntyre's rinks drew 20-all.

Faced with the bye next round, Wycheproof gave itself some much needed breathing room with a 10 points to 2 win over Donald, Dale Groves piloting his team to a commanding victory, while Beryl Milne flew the flag for Donald, with a win over Jono Grylls.

Korong Vale accounted for Wedderburn in a game decided by just 10 shots overall, and banking 10 points to 2.

Details:
St. Arnaud Country Club 52-0 lost to Donald Golf 75-10.

Patricia Goode, Yvonne Templar, Heather Esmore, Colleen Bond (s) 11 lost to Colleen Raynes, Enid Brasier, George Wood, Marilyn Frank (s) 31.

Dianne Fullarton, Betty McDonald, Lyn Moulday, Rhonda Marchment (s) 25 lost to Joyce Pearce, Sue Donnellon, Joyce Hollis, Geoff Stopps (s) 26.

Yvonne Nevill, Faye Rodger, Amanda Marland, Rhonda Pole (s) 16 lost to Thelma Boyd, Corazon Stopps, Wayne Gniel, Margaret Kelly (s) 37.

Wycheproof 81-10 d. Donald 54-2.

Betty Taylor, Carol Jones, Pauline Gardner, Jeannie Grylls (s) 24 d. Bill Hegarty,

Alison McEwen, Beth Hollis, Lindy Morgan (s) 22.

Andrea Coatsworth, Jason McKay, Alan Jones, Dale Groves (s) 42 d. Ev Adams, Kelvin Adamson, Marion McEwen, Margaret Quick (s) 7.

Lynette Nicholls, Shirley McKenna, Lorraine Milburn, Jono Grylls (s) 15 lost to Joan Wood, Brenda Brennan, Peter Kelly, Beryl Milne (s) 25.

Korong Vale 65-10 d. Wedderburn 55-2

Susan Nelson, Robert Ashley, Judy Mathews, Joan Murnane (s) 22 d. Helen Stephenson, Fay Lockhart, Lance Standfield, Laurie Witham (s) 16.

Keith Griffiths, Dorothy Gibson, John Gibson (s) 25 d. Sandra Standfield, Neville White, Bob Passalick, Ruth Hall (s) 18.

Laurie Barby, Yvonne Cashen, Wayne Keenan, Amy Roberts (s) 18 lost to Robina Little, Sandra Steel, Andrew Caserta, Ian Hall (s) 21.

Boort 73-9 d. St. Arnaud 61-3.

Lynette Cameron, Phyl Baker, Jo Maxted, Laurie Maxted (s) 22 lost to Heather Stevenson, Lynette Arbuckle, Thomas Amos, Colin Marchment (s) 25.

Pam Gould, Lorna Gardner, Graeme Gardner, Thelma Moresi (s) 20 drew with Gary Smith, Margaret McRae, Greg McNally, Sandra McIntyre (s) 20.

Gillian Tweddle, Margaret Nelson, Tania Noles, Kevin Depiazza (s) 31 d. Diane Ostarevic, Frank James, Gary Shinnars, Phil McRae (s) 16.

Leaders Maintain Winning Form

Tyrrell Division 1 pennant leaders, Birchip and Woomelang, secured wins last Saturday to enhance their respective positions at the head of the competition ladder.

Birchip accounted for Quambatook by 13 shots, while Woomelang had a big win over Berriwillock.

In the other game, Culgoa, currently in third place, accounted for Sea Lake.

Details:

Saturday Division 1

Woomelang defeated Berriwillock by 79 shots to 47.

G. Symes 26 d. S. Wight 17, M. Duthie 27 d. M. Ryan 13, R. Malcolm 26 d. T. Emonson 17.

Quambatook lost to Birchip by 62 to 75 shots.

C. Manners 21 lost to M. Spicer 23, D. Williams 17 lost to K. Reid 30, G. McKissack 24 d. R. Kemp 22.

Culgoa defeated Sea Lake by 85 to 73 shots.

R. Ince 34 d. N. Watson 21, P. Brook 28 d. R. Stacey 20, P. Loughran 23 lost to A. Louttit 32.

	Ladder			
%	Pts	Shots	Up	
Birchip	88	260	157.9	
Woomelang	52	-4	99.2	
Culgoa	43	14	102.5	
Quambatook	38	-78	86.9	
Berriwillock	37	-29	94.8	
Sea Lake	30	-163	74.3	

Division 2
Woomelang lost to Berriwillock by 46 to 47 shots.

R. Barbary 24 lost to P. Schodde 29, L. Down 22 d. substitute (Tony Sheppard from Culgoa) 18.

Quambatook lost to Birchip by 25 shots to 53.

A. McKissack 13 lost to R. Barr 23, A. Wood 12 lost to N. Noonan 30.

Sea Lake had the bye.

	Ladder			
%	Pts	Shots	Up	
Birchip	36	141	168.1	
Sea Lake	31	35	115.6	
Quambatook	29	-111	66.9	
Woomelang	16	1	100.4	
Berriwillock	16	-66	70.4	

Midweek Pennant
Unfortunately midweek finals had to be postponed due to the heat.

Semi-finals will now be played on Monday, February 21, at Quambatook, with the grand final pushed back to February 28.

Country Club Hosts Prelim. Finals

North Central Playing Area, weekend pennant preliminary finals are to be hosted by the St. Arnaud Country Club Bowling Club tomorrow (Saturday).

In Division 1, Donald Golf will meet Wycheproof.

In Division 2, Korong Vale will take on Wycheproof.

Both preliminary finals are scheduled to start with a roll-up at 1.15.

Bowling enthusiasts are assured of a good day's bowling on the well presented Country Club greens.

Ladder after round 17

	P	W	L	D	Bye	F	A	S/D	%	Pts
Korong Vale	17	8	3	4	2	803	671	132	119.67	112
Wycheproof	17	7	5	4	1	891	769	122	115.86	107
Boort	17	7	5	3	2	869	805	64	107.95	101
Donald Golf	17	7	5	3	2	847	841	6	100.71	98
Wedderburn	17	7	5	3	2	829	829	0	100	93
St. Arnaud	17	5	6	4	2	741	770	-29	96.23	90
Donald	17	5	6	4	2	770	778	-8	98.97	87
Charlton	17	3	8	4	2	770	778	-8	98.97	74
St. Arnaud Country Club	17	3	9	3	2	696	975	-279	71.38	54

Tennis Wins to Charlton and Donald

Round 11 of the North Central Tennis Association's 2021-'22 season saw both Birchip and Wirrim back on their home deck at George Cartwright Oval, up against Donald and Charlton respectively.

Results saw Donald defeat Birchip 123-88 games and collecting 8 points to 2, whilst Charlton also claimed an 8-2-point victory against Wirrim, winning 118-85 games.

Birchip v. Donald Men

Birchip's men had a tough day at the office, winning only 1 out of 6 possible sets, which saw them go down to the Donald cohort 44-23 games, and missing out on the first two points up for grabs.

In the top section, the Birchip pairing of Jon Haslam and Josh Richmond got off to a tough start against the experienced Donald combination of Derek Hollis and Richard Reilly, going down 8-2, before Jon Haslam retook to

the court pairing up with Andy Barber to face Donald's Derek Hollis and Jacob Bath, with the final score line going the way of the Donald pairing 8-3.

In the lower section, Birchip scored its first win through the hard-fought efforts of young guns Blake Lee and Riley Hogan, who defeated Donald's Ben Clark and Noah Slater 8-4. Donald quickly reversed the score line with Mark Mortlock and Ben Clark claiming an 8-4 win against Birchip's Sam O'Donnell and Blake Lee.

Women

The score line didn't get much closer for the Birchip women, who battled hard all day but went down to the Donald contingent 43-28

games, who also claimed the two section points.

In the top section, Birchip's Fiona Best and Kelly Haslam put up a staggering fight against Donald's Dawson Hollis and Jenny Mortlock before going down in an intense tiebreaker 8-7. In other matches, Birchip's Sandie Richmond, and Kelly Haslam partnered up to face Donald's Braxton Hollis and Jenny Mortlock, which saw an 8-3 win in the favour of the Birchip pairing.

In the lower section, Bec Botheras and Tylah Haslam took to the court against Donald's Macie Mortlock and Carmel Lowry, and a 40-minute battle saw the Donald pairing claim an 8-4 victory. In the second set of the section, the Donald pairing of Carmel Lowry and Lainey Mortlock were too strong in the end for Birchip's Amy Walder and Leah Connelly, taking an 8-6 win.

Mixed

Heading into the mixed section, Birchip may have been down by 36 games and by 4 match points, but the fight was far from over. After a gallant effort, the Birchip crew managed to sneak the section win by the smallest of margins, defeating Donald 37-36 games and claiming their first two points of the day.

In the top section, Donald's father-son pairing of Derek and Dawson Hollis were far too strong for the husband-wife combination of Josh and Sandie Richmond, claiming an 8-1 victory. In other matches, the results went the way of Birchip, with Jon and Kelly Haslam defeating Richard Reilly and Braxton Hollis of Donald 8-6, before Fiona Best and Andy Barber played their best tennis to claim an 8-0 win against Donald's Jacob Bath and Jenny Mortlock.

In the lower section, Sam O'Donnell and Amy Walder got Birchip off to a winning start with an 8-6 win against Jack Reilly and Carmel Lowry, before Donald's Ben Clark and Lainey Mortlock flipped the results to claim an 8-6 win off Birchip's Riley Hogan and Tylah Haslam. Rounding out the day, Birchip's Blake Lee and Bec Botheras put up a strong fight but went down 8-6 to the father-daughter pairing of Mark and Macie Mortlock.

Three-set winners from Donald were Derek Hollis, Mark Mortlock, Dawson Hollis, Macie Mortlock and Lainey Mortlock.

Wirrim v. Charlton Men

Wirrim's men had a tough encounter against the Charlton contingent, which saw Charlton claim all 6 sets to win the section 48-21 games and collect the two match points.

In the top section, Wirrim's Russell Christie and David Ferrier had a less-than-ideal start, going down 8-0 to the experienced Charlton pairing of Troy Heenan and Matt



• Watched by playing partner, De Ferrier, Birchip's Russell Christie plays a forehand return shot.



• Donald's Ben Clark returns service, watched by mixed doubles playing partner, Lainey Mortlock.



• Charlton's Abby Thompson in action during Saturday's tennis at Birchip.



• Charlton veteran Brian Heenan focuses on his return shot.

McGurk, before Russell Christie and Baden Grey partnered up to take on Charlton's Troy Heenan and Charlie Patullo, with the 8-6 result going the way of Charlton.

In the lower section, Charlton's Wayne Southwell and Mason Heenan got off to a strong start to claim an 8-5 victory off Wirrim's father-son pairing of James and Jak Goldsmith, before James Goldsmith partnered with Matt Ryan to take on Wayne Southwell and Brian Heenan, which saw another 8-3 victory to Charlton.

Women

Wirrim's women managed to reverse the score line and claim the section win off Charlton, 32-27 games, and collect the two points up for grabs.

In the top section, De-Anne Ferrier and Kellie Matthews got off to the perfect start to defeat Charlton's Sharon McLean and Abby Thompson 8-0, before Kellie Matthews backed up her first-round performance to partner with Julie Coffey to defeat Charlton's Emily Lanyon and Abby Thompson 8-0.

In the lower section, results went the way of Charlton which was started by Michelle Jenkin and Rae Heenan claiming an 8-3 win off Wirrim's Georgie Warne and Alexandra Randall, before Michelle and Zara Jenkin partnered up to defeat Georgie Warne and Sas-sia Coffey 8-1.

Mixed

Heading into the mixed, match points were split at two points each, but with Charlton leading by 22 games.

In the top section, Russell Christie and De-Anne Ferrier got off to a dream start to defeat Charlton's Troy Heenan and Abby Thompson in a tiebreaker 8-7, which we hear was Russell's first win against Troy! In other matches, Dave Ferrier and Julie Coffey fought till the very end against Matt McGurk and Emily Lanyon, but suffered an agonising tiebreak loss, whilst Baden Grey and Kellie Matthews claimed an 8-4 victory against Charlton's Mason Heenan and Sharon McLean.

In the lower section, Charlton's Charlie Patullo and Michelle Jenkyn were far too strong for Wirrim's James Goldsmith and Georgie Warne, winning 8-1, before Jak Goldsmith and Alexandra Randall took to the court to face Charlton's Wayne Southwell and Rae Heenan, which saw an 8-6 win to Charlton. To round out the mixed section, Wirrim's Matt Ryan and Sas-sia Coffey had a tough encounter, going down 8-2 at the hands of Brian Heenan and Zara Jenkyn, of Charlton.

Three-set winners for Charlton were Matt McGurk, Charlie Patullo, Michelle Jenkyn, Wayne Southwell, Rae Heenan, Brian Heenan, and Zara Jenkyn

Three-set winners from Wirrim were De-Anne Ferrier and Kellie Matthews.

Round 12 matches this weekend will see Wirrim travel to Nullawil, Charlton vs Kara Kara, Donald vs St Arnaud and Birchip with the bye.

Annual Tournament

Entries for the Donald Lawn Tennis Club's 68th annual Labour Day Weekend Tournament on March 12, 13 and 14, 2022 are also now open.

The 2022 entry form (both in PDF and Excel forms) is now on the tennis club's website at www.donaldtennis.com.au

Printed copies of the entry form can be obtained at the Donald Lawn Tennis Club, Donald Newsagency, Bendigo Bank, or Donald High School.

Singles, doubles and mixed doubles are again all on offer, with competitions in a range of grades from open, right through to 13-and-under events.

This year, once again, the veterans' doubles event (for all those over 40s still playing tennis and perhaps struggling to compete with the younger brigade) is being held. As it was last year, the veterans' event will be a "rotating partner" format, with the overall winners being determined on number of games won.

Entries close on Wednesday, March 9, 2022. The club hopes to see plenty of returning and new players.