

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, January 21, 2022

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

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



Achievers “Go to the Wall”

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”.

Those six new plaques were lined up alongside two already on display, outlining the sporting careers of David (“Dangles”) Dougal, Donald’s first Paralympic State, National and World Champion

lawn bowler; and Joel Howley, winner of the 2019 Slalom Waterski World Championship in Malaysia, against 25 countries.

At the December gathering in Donald, relatives of those featured on the day expressed their thanks to the Donald Lions Club, the Buloke Shire, and all others involved in the project.

Those speaking briefly on behalf of their families were Alyssa Allen (Pat’s daughter), Len Bryan (Glenis’s husband), Robert Dunstan (nephew of Sir Albert), Max Harris (grandson of Col. Harris), Robert O’Brien (Phil’s son), and Mark Letts and Marion Kossowski (grandson and granddaughter of G. W. Letts).

• Continued on page 10.

New CEO for Buloke

Buloke Shire Council has its new Chief Executive Officer, after Wayne O’Toole was appointed at a Council Meeting held this week.

Wayne has been Director Works and Technical Services since September 2018, and began his time at Buloke in 2017 as a Manager Statutory Services. In his three years leading the Works and Technical Services directorate, Wayne has been involved in flood recovery works, increased project delivery, the Working for Victoria Program, as well as focusing on Buloke’s road network and increasing customer satisfaction.

Wayne spent seven years at Mount Alexander Shire in a number of roles including Manager of Development Services and Manager of

Healthy Environments. He has a strong background in the private sector in project management and senior leadership roles and completed his Masters of Business Administration in September 2020.

Wayne, who has been Interim CEO at times during the recruitment process, is excited to be leading Buloke into its next phase.

“I’m incredibly excited and honoured to be given the opportunity to lead this remarkable organisation. I look forward to working with Councillors, staff and the community as we continue to build a better Buloke”, he said.

Mayor Cr. Daryl Warren is extremely pleased with the appointment that again underlines Buloke Shire’s excellent history in professional development.

“Wayne is a great appointment for Buloke Shire. He has in recent years lead significant capital project delivery and has grown a cohesive workforce culture not only in his own directorate, but across our organisation, all this during a global pandemic. Council has been ambitious in our planning around project and program delivery, and are confident with Wayne at the helm, we are well placed to continue to



• **Wayne O’Toole**, newly appointed Buloke Shire deliver for our community,” said Cr. Warren.

Hannah Yu will continue in the role of Interim CEO until Wayne O’Toole begins on Monday, January 24, 2022.

Birchip’s Big Bash

Ideal weather meant that all Wimmera Mallee round 8 cricket games were able to be played on Saturday.

At Marnoo, Birchip “A” grade averaged almost 7 runs an over, in its 40-overs total of 4/260.

Up front in that biggest score of the round was opener Joe Boyle, whose perfectly measured 110 not out represented close to “a run a ball”, and included 18 fours.

He enjoyed partnerships with several team mates, particularly Riley Doran, who featured 11 fours and 3 sixes in his whirlwind 81-run innings.



• **Joe Boyle**

• All Saturday’s cricket details are in today’s sports pages.

It's the Thought that Counts

"What's in a name?", asked Juliet.

Do you remember this one?

*Ipsy Wipsy spider climbed the water spout;
Down came the rain and washed poor Ipsy out.
Out came the sunshine and dried up all the rain.
And Ipsy Wipsy spider climbed up the spout again.*

That nursery rhyme was sung with enthusiasm by children at Donald Primary School Kindergarten, 90 years ago. The class of five-year olds loved it then, but is it still used and appreciated?

Recently, three people, seated around a small table, were discussing that subject. One reported having seen

The Buloke Times

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2022

a spider on the ceiling, which brought back memories of the old chant.

The younger person thought that the spider's name was Imsy Wimsy, while the third, with an American accent, was sure that it should be Itsy Bitsy. They agreed to differ.

When you come to think about it, the name doesn't really matter. It is the message carried by this old childhood rhyme that is important. It tells us all, and

children in particular, that when times are hard, and you are hit by life's setbacks, you should pick yourself up, look upwards and start all over again.

Then, during a pleasant Christmas function, a similar, but more topical discussion was overheard. One person said that the latest Covid variant should be pronounced Oh-micron rather than omicron. Others disagreed.

Once again, it doesn't really matter. It is how we deal with the pandemic in 2022 that counts. Scientists, health workers, governments, politicians and communities must work together (and avoid kicking the political football around) if we are going to "climb up the spout" together to a safer, happier life. Perhaps that might be a good New Year Resolution for all Australians.



• Rebecca Coffey



• Nicole Clark.



• Shae Colbert.

Former Birchip Students Graduate

Graduation is an exciting and satisfying time in a student's life. It is a celebration of the culmination of a substantial number of years of hard work and study, and it is a pathway for students to become part of a broader global alumni community.

Students get to dress up in the academic regalia, be formally congratulated by University leadership, and celebrate with family, friends and their peers. But synonymous with the past two years, graduation ceremonies have been cancelled, postponed and many students have been forced to graduate in absentia and wait for their testimonial to be mailed to their postal address.

However, several local graduates were fortunate to be

able to attend in-person graduation ceremonies (some belated by twelve months), in the small window of opportunity that opened in December, but seemingly closed again in January, with many 2022 ceremonies already being cancelled.

Nicole Clark

Nicole Clark, daughter of Brenda Clark and Ross Clark completed her VCE studies at Birchip P-12 School in 2016 and pursued tertiary education at La Trobe University in

Bendigo. At the end of 2020, after four years of study, Nicole graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science and Masters in Physiotherapy Practice. Nicole said: "I am now working my dream job in a private clinic in Bendigo known as The Neuro Practice where I work with neurologically impaired clients of all ages around regional Victoria."

Nicole also works as the physiotherapist at Mitiamo Football Netball Club during the football season to try to keep the players in the competition!

Shae Colbert

Shae Colbert is also a 2016 VCE graduate from Birchip P-12 School. Shae commenced at La Trobe University in Bundoora in 2017 and on December 20, 2021, she formally graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science and a Master of Occupational Therapy Practice. Shae has been working as a Paediatric Occupational Therapist since

February 2021 at a private practice in St. Albans, and she said, "I am loving it." Shae is the daughter of Rae and Chris Colbert.

Rebecca Coffey

Rebecca Coffey, has taken a very diverse and inspirational path to graduating with a Doctor of Medicine from Flinders University in December 2021.

Rebecca harboured a desire to be a doctor from a young age, and is finally fulfilling her dream, sixteen years since completing VCE at Birchip P-12 School in 2005.

After leaving school, Rebecca studied a Bachelor of Science at Melbourne University, and on completion of her Bachelor, she moved to Queensland to commence studies in Medicine, but after twelve months she returned home to the Mallee.

Bec enjoyed many busy years in the Mallee, where she married Daniel Coffey, had three children, completed a Bachelor of Education and taught science at the Birchip P-12 School and Wycheproof P-12 College.

In 2018, Bec, with her family's support, took the courageous step of accepting a place at Flinders University in Adelaide to study a Doctor of Medicine. During this time, she completed two years of study in Adelaide and 1 year in Mount Gambier to access the unique learning available in a rural setting, and also had their fourth child.

Rebecca and her family have recently relocated to Echuca, where she will be Interning at Echuca Regional Health in 2022. Rebecca is the daughter of Jan and Ron Bar-betti, from Nullawil.

Congratulations to all of these Buloke graduates who have worked hard to achieve their dreams.

There will be more graduation acknowledgements in coming editions.

Charlton Lights Up

Well done to the many residents of Charlton who lit up their homes and businesses, making Christmas brighter and more enjoyable for everyone.

More people in Charlton join in this tradition every year. Menzies St. is always exceptional. 2020 saw High Street and Mary Street embrace this competition and last year many houses in Clifton Street were elegantly decorated.

Winners of the Most Impressive Decorated House were Emily and Daniel Lane, 135 High Street, and Karen and Jeff Cox, 7 Donald Road, Charlton.

Most Impressive Shop Window went to the Boyz Café, 27 High Street, and the Zagame Family at 33 Menzies Street won the Most Impressive Santa prize.

The Rotary Club of Charlton thanks everyone who "Lit Up Charlton".

DCIRS Community Care

Providing essential support to people in need



ABN: 50648590961

www.dcirs.com.au

- Domestic assistance
- Personal care
- Group activities
- Respite care
- Social, community & recreational assistance
- Transport & assistance with appointments
- Skills development

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

MOUNT JEFFCOTT WARD



Cr. Daryl Warren 0427 194 422



• **Wedderburn deb set, 2021:** Back row, left to right, Top row: (left to right) Zac Slide, Coby Cunningham, Connor Winslett, Thomas Jackson, Finn Turnbull, Jake Murphy, Mack Mathews, Josh Lowe. Bottom row: Dede Williams (dance instructor), Kristin Graham (Chaperone), Emily Elliott, Olivia Lockhart, Samantha Arnup, Crystal Hardiman, Chelsea Giorlando, Lahni Jackson, Aliza Lockhart, Montannah Gartside, Maddison Postle (Chaperone), Danny Fowles (Chaperone). Flower girl: Sofia Casterta. Flower boy: Jai Laverty Smith. — Photograph by Andy Banks Photography.

A Night Well Worth the Wait

For countless events throughout the country, Covid-19 has caused either their postponement or cancellation.

In the case of Wedderburn's Debutante Ball, four postponements had to be endured before the big occasion was to materialise.

Ultimately, the Wedderburn College Parents' Association Debutante Ball was held back on November,

2021, at the Korong Leisure Centre.

Training commenced at the end of March, 2021, with dance instructors Dede Williams and Thomas Jackson, preparing the debts twice a week for eight weeks for the deb to be held on Friday, May 28.

Unfortunately, on Thursday, May 27, just the day before, everyone went into lockdown!

At first, it was thought the ball could be held the following Friday, as everything was prepared and ready to go, but that was just wishful thinking, as lockdown continued.

The event was then postponed until the end of July, and then again to October, and then to the final date of November 26.

Training continued when all concerned were out of lockdowns, going from what should have eight weeks to eight months!

Everyone waited with bated breath, hoping that the

evening would go ahead. Even just three weeks out, it wasn't looking promising.

Thankfully, the night arrived, and it was even better than anticipated. With no density limits in place, guest numbers were able to be extended, and more than 400 family and friends came to share the evening with the debts.

The theme for the night was "country" with hay bales and a white picket fence, all of which was organized by the debts and their parents.

The spectacular scene was complemented with a flower girl, Sofia Caserta, in her pretty white dress, and Jye-Laverty Smith, in his handsome suit.

Attend BCG's Trial Day on February 25: Storing Grain?

"Growers assume they will be taking the same quality grain out of storage as what went in."

"Without strategic monitoring and management this isn't always the case," warned grain storage expert Chris Warrick.

"This reality can be gut-wrenching for farmers who have gone to the "nth" degree to protect and nurture their crop throughout the season, who have stored their grain hoping for better returns, only to be downgraded because of quality issues or worse turned away due to insects or phosphine residues. This can result in significant losses.

"By putting some simple strategies in place however these losses can be avoided."

Chris Warrick will be presenting these strategies at BCG's Members' Only Trials Review Day on Friday, February 25, at the Birchip Leisure Centre. Chris places great importance on monitoring.

"If growers go away on holidays or even just for the weekend throughout the growing season, the first thing they do on return is check the crops," he said.

"It is no different at the end of January. Farmers need to be 'checking the crop' in storage. That means checking the temperature, checking for



• Grain storage expert, Chris Warrick.

insects. By monitoring early enough and following a few simple rules which I'll explain, growers can save themselves a lot of money, time

and pining for what could have been."

Chris is also looking for farms in the Wimmera and Mallee to host a detailed, two-

hour workshop. If you are interested, please call 1800 WEEVIL.

BCG's Trials Review Day is a members' only event.

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/



Australian Government

OFFICIAL MEDICAL ADVICE

Boost your protection against COVID-19 with a free booster vaccination, from 5 months after your second dose.

Book your vaccination at australia.gov.au

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra.

"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

SMITH - LISTON

Alexandra, Alistair and Victor are delighted to welcome –

Magnus Alphonsus Liston,
to the Smith family.
Born January 12, 2022
in Newcastle NSW.

Magnus is the grandson of Angela Liston of Birchip, Bobby Liston of Beulah and Eileen and Ian Smith of Hobart (formerly Birchip).

DEATH

COLLINS.–

Anthony John "Tony"
Passed away 04/01/2022

Loving father of Vivienne, Penelope and Hayden, father-in-law to Lachlan, grandfather to Levi and Archer. Beloved brother of Marie, Gerard and Veronica and their families. Dearly missed fiancé to Susana.

Tony was interred Speed Cemetery 13/01/2022.

David Kelly
M.J. KELLY & SONS
AFDA - Birchip - 5492 2547

DEATH

CONLAN.– Bernard
Passed away peacefully
in Horsham
on January 13, 2022
Aged 66 years.

Best friend and soul mate of Val Hannigan. Beloved and loving father to Colman and Hannah & Poppy to Leo.

Beloved son of Marie & Coley and much loved brother of Colleen, Denise, Gerard (dec.), Danny (dec.) and Shane (dec.).

*We will miss you dearly
and remember your
laughter fondly.*

RIP BJ.

A Funeral Service was held on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

KELL FUNERALS
ST. ARNAUD 5495 1043
NFDA EST. 1860

DEATH

DUNSTAN.–

John Stuart
Died peacefully in
Brisbane,
on January 7, 2022.

Loving husband of Joyce. Beloved father and grandfather of Shirley and Bruce (dec.), Adam and Antoinette.

Great-grandfather of 5 little ones.
Son of David and Pearl.
The last surviving member the family.

Grandson of Thomas and Sarah Dunstan, Cope Cope pioneers.

*We are blessed to have had
his love and wisdom.*

DUNSTAN.– Stuart
Born April 3, 1926, Cope Cope –Died January 7, 2022, Brisbane.

Much respected uncle of John, David, Ronald and families.

DEATH

EVANS.– Norm

Passed away 10/01/2022
at Brisbane Hospital.

Loved husband of Dorothy (Anderson) (dec.).

Loved father of Susan, Leanne, Colin & Gary. Brother-in-law & uncle to Bill Anderson & family.

DEATH

NOONAN (Rogan).–

Kathleen Mary
21/04/1932 – 31/12/2021

Loving wife of Leo (dec.) for 65 years.

Devoted mum to Wendy, Bernadette, Marea, Shane, Peter, Gabrielle and Richard.

Adored and much loved grandma to 19 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

*A cherished mum who
lived for her family.*

A Funeral Service has been held.

MULQUEEN FAMILY
FUNERALS EST. 1853
BENDIGO 03 5443 4455

DEATH

PHILLIPS.–

Keith Vawdrey
Passed away at Eventide Homes, Stawell
on December 19, 2021
Aged 103 years.

Beloved husband of Dorothy (dec.). Loved father to Colin (dec.).

Brother to Mac, Albert, Ern, Jean & Don (all dec.). Respected Uncle to Allison, Bill, Helen, Peter, Brian, Rodney & families.

The Funeral of the late Mr Keith Vawdrey Phillips was held at Stawell on Thursday, December 23, 2021.

In the care of
Fred Crouch & Son
Stawell 5358 1043

WANTED

Pop Top Caravan
Ph. 0418 304 930.

DONALD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY -
Christmas Promotion Winners

- 1st Draw - \$1000 Shopping Voucher: *Graeme Cocking*
- 2nd Draw - \$500 Shopping Voucher: *Peter Muhling (Kangaroo Flat).*
- 3rd Draw - \$250 Shopping Voucher: *John Spackman*
- 4th Draw - \$250 Shopping Voucher: *Kerry Duncan*
- 5th Draw - \$100 Shopping Voucher: *Evie Donnellon*
- 6th Draw - \$100 Shopping Voucher: *Leigh Hawkes*
- 7th Draw - \$100 Shopping Voucher: *Peter Raynes*
- 8th Draw - Voucher Pack 1: *Janet Smith*
- 9th Draw - Voucher Pack 2: *Jess Wyatt*
- 10th Draw - Voucher Pack 3: *Zhani Gibson*
- 11th Draw - Voucher Pack 4: *Jeanette Wood*
- 12th Draw - Voucher Pack 5: *Roger Smith*
- 13th Draw - Voucher Pack 6: *David Elsom*
- 14th Draw - Voucher Pack 7: *Ash Jeffery*
- 15th Draw - Voucher Pack 8: *Percy Evans.*

Congratulations to all winners and thank-you to everyone who participated in the promotion.

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

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

Nullawil Netball Club Season 2022

NETBALL COACHES REQUIRED

Coaches required for all senior grades (A, B & B Reserve)

Please forward application or expression of interest to nullawilnetball@outlook.com or phone Lauren on 0457 824 277 for further information.

Applications close Monday, February 28, 2022.

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.

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

WATCHEM DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION INC. A.G.M.

TUES., FEBRUARY 8
WATCHEM HALL
7.30 p.m.
All Welcome
—Mitzi Black – Sec.

PULLETS FOR SALE

Hyline Brown (Isa Brown)
Sexed and vaccinated
DELIVERY Wed., Feb. 2
NORTHWEST AG ST ARNAUD
APEX PARK DONALD
NUTRIEN AG BIRCHIP
Ph. Kelvin 0400 559 559
Fb. [ballarathooks](https://www.facebook.com/ballarathooks)
informationpage
Delivering to area every 6 wks

DONALD LEARNING GROUP INC.

DIGITAL LITERACY [BEGINNERS]

ACFE PRE-ACCREDITED COURSE
February 15 to 18, 2022
8.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Cost: Free to concession card Holders / \$50.00 per person
Certificate on completion.
Venue: 31 Woods St, Donald
Phone: 54971707
DONALD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Keep Australia Beautiful

DONALD & DISTRICT RESIDENTS

You are invited to attend



Australia Day Ceremony, 2022

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26
11 a.m. start

Memorial Park, Houston St, Donald

Guest Speaker:
Ms. Helen Hilis.

Presentation of:
~ Citizen of the Year
~ Event of the Year.

Barbecue and Cold Drinks, Donald Lions Club.
(gold coin donation).

BYO Chair please

Covid Safe practices will be adhered to:
~ QR Code sign in (assistance provided)
~ Please do not attend if unwell
~ Maintain physical distance rules at all times
~ Attendees will need to observe good hygiene practises (hand sanitiser provided)
~ Please carry a face mask at all times.

ALL WELCOME



Birchip Community Forum
Registration Number A0048109J Inc. 2005

BIRCHIP COMMUNITY FORUM INC.

invites

Birchip & district residents & visitors to the

2022 Australia Day Breakfast

at the

BIRCHIP MEMORIAL PARK

Wednesday, January 26, 2022
commencing with breakfast at 8 a.m.

Formal proceedings will commence at 9 a.m.
including the announcement of the
Birchip Citizen of the Year.

Our guest speaker is Rainey Daniel,
Nurse Unit Manager, Birchip Campus, EWHS.

COVID Safe practices will be adhered to:

- Each attendee is asked to do a symptom self-assessment prior to leaving home and should not attend if they are unwell or have been instructed to isolate or quarantine.
- Attendees must maintain at least 1.5m physical distance between those from other groups at all times.
- Attendees will need to observe good hygiene practices and cough etiquette. It is recommended to carry a face covering in the event physical distancing is not possible.
- Requirements for face covering, observe cough etiquette and personal hygiene measures.
- Attendees will need to sign in or use the QR code on arrival at the park.

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

"Times" Classifieds

Phone Donald 5497 1222,
Birchip 5492 2735

**Need a
road worthy
certificate for
your car or
motorbike?**

Call Nullawil
Motors 5493 5210

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.

POSITION VACANT

Looking for casual &
part-time cleaners for
Birchip P-12 School.

Senior school students
may apply.

Contact
Des Roberts
0488 981 570

Scrap Metal Wanted

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

**Donald Scrap Metal
& Recycling**
5399 2203
0427 992 203

Bill Ower Real Estate

Specialising in the sale and lease of rural
and lifestyle properties throughout the
Wimmera and Southern Mallee areas.



ENQUIRIES INVITED.

Bill Ower Real Estate
2 Jardwa Crt, Horsham 3400
Ph: 03 5382 3449
or 0428 504 395

CROPPING MANAGER SOUTHERN MALLEE, VICTORIA

- Autonomous role with high level of responsibility.
- New high-tech machinery, modern infrastructure, and exceptionally well-kept equipment.
- Very attractive salary package, \$90-\$110K (negotiated to reflect skills).
- Modern 4 bedroom, 2 living area, 1 study, 2-bathroom house and double carport.
- Work Vehicle provided.
- Commence immediately.

A well-established family-owned mixed farming business, operating across 2,200 hectares of dryland cropping country in Southern Mallee; 65kms from Swan Hill, 130kms from Bendigo.

This opportunity will expose the successful applicant to a wealth of farming knowledge. They will gain valuable experience in agriculture and advanced farming techniques, using modern machinery and supported by an outstanding agronomic team.

We are looking for a competent, passionate, and enthusiastic person who can work autonomously with strong experience in operating and maintaining large, modern, high tech agricultural machinery and equipment.

For more information and to apply, please email Lisa at lisa@reltuc.com.au or contact Lisa 0409 562 903.

FOR SALE BY TENDER

Cropping/Grazing Land
Warracknabeal – Brim East District
1711 acres (692.71ha) approx. -
in two lots

Well managed blocks with mixed medium loam soils, typical of the area.

LOT 1: 978 acres (395.95ha) approx.
Pipeline water connected, sealed road access.

LOT 2: 733 acres (296.76ha) approx.
Pipeline water connected, lockup steel frame machinery shed, 2 hay sheds, shearing shed & yards.

Tenders close: Friday, February 11, 2022 @ 2 p.m.
All or any tender not necessarily accepted.



CONTACT:
Nick McIntyre – 0409 180 016
Elders 30 Scott Street, Warracknabeal

LAND FOR SALE

Concongella - Stawell Area
633 ACRES 256 HA (APPROX.)

- Subdivision – 4 very well fenced paddocks
- Large reliable Dams to all paddocks
- Strong Phalaris pasture and natural grasses
- Well suited to more cultivation and inputs
- Particularly good shelter belts and gullies for stock
- Located 7 kms from Stawell on Landsborough Rd.
- Gently undulating land offering exceptional Grampian's vista- ideal home sites.

Directions: from Stawell take the Landsborough Road- 7kms, sign at Wydarra Road on left.

SALE BY TENDER

Tenders close at Elders Real Estate Stawell, on
February 4, 2022, at 12 noon.

Contact Elders Real Estate for Tender forms and details.



Elders Real Estate
3 Patrick St, Stawell 03 5358 3939
Jim Barham 0418 504 166



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.

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.

Trash to Treasure

One person's Trash is another's Treasure!

Turn your Trash into Cash by advertising it for sale in the "Times" classified pages. Phone the Donald office (5497 1222), or Birchip (5492 2735); email advertising@buloketimes.com



Brady Griffiths
DONALD HIGH SCHOOL

Mensland

OUTFITTING MEN SINCE 1959

NOW IN AKUBRA CATTLEMAN HATS



2 ONLY \$200

ALSO THOMAS COOK HATS FROM \$49.99

Just ring or email mensland@iinet.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



• Australian Polish Consul General, Dr. Monika Konczyk (back), is pictured with local pianist, Dana Czarski, at the Rex during a visit to discuss the presentation of a musical event during the 50th. anniversary celebration of Polish / Australian diplomatic relations in 2022.

Polish Consul General Visits the Rex Theatre

(By Jenny Pollard)

A visit to Charlton's Rex Theatre by the Australian Polish Consul General has laid the foundations for an exciting performance opportunity in 2022.

The Consul General, Dr. Monika Konczyk, along with her son Marcin, and Greg Machnacki (co-ordinator of Polish performance throughout Australia), were touring Victoria during late December, and dropped into the Rex courtesy of a connection with local pianist, Dana Czarski.

Consul General Konczyk was excited about seeing another side of Australia, having travelled from Sydney down along the Great Ocean Road, the Grampians, Halls Gap, then Charlton over the Christmas break, before heading back to NSW.

Visibly impressed with the Rex, Dr. Konczyk said that her role as Consul was about bringing people together and building mutual understanding.

As Dana Czarski played the Steinway Concert grand, the Consul General spoke about building cultural bridges saying, "Music joins people; music finds friends everywhere and brings different nationalities together."

Anniversary

With 2022 marking the 50th anniversary of Australian /Polish diplomatic relations, the visit entailed discussions about holding a special musical occasion at the Rex as celebrations unfold across the country.

The association between Poland and Australia was formalized on February 20, 1972 and acknowledges the con-

nection between the two countries stretching back more than 150 years.

While Polish influence filters through Australian culture and can be seen in the naming of the Strezlecki Ranges and Mount Kosciuszko, the country has also absorbed a range of high-profile people with Polish heritage. Actor Jacek Korman, pianist, David Helfgott (Polish Jewish ancestry), Magda Szubanski, radio personality Karl "Dr. Karl" Kruszelnicki, and Professor Lidia Morawska, (Queensland University of Technology) whose research into the transmission of Covid has influenced the management of the disease, are just some who have become established citizens, enriching our national identity.

Consultation

In consultation with Greg Machnacki, co-ordinator of the Australian PolArt Festivals, the Rex management discussed ideas about bringing performers to the theatre to celebrate the diversity and richness of Poland's cultural heritage.

Tapping into his wide resources, Greg and Dr. Konczyk believed that a diversified musical program could be curated for later in the year, following the completion of the Rex renovation.

Having previously attended the Rex in early 2020 (providing technical support for pianist, David Helfgott's stellar performance) Greg was

already familiar with the scope and possibilities offered by the theatre.

Two years into her four-year tenure as Australian Polish Consul General, Dr. Konczyk was effusive about her trip across Victoria, making special mention of the mountainous terrain of the Grampians, which reminded her of her homeland region in Northern Poland. Praising the beauty of the Australian land, and the chance to see a different landscape, she said it had provided an opportunity to appreciate the real spirit of the country.

Church Notices

UNITING CHURCH (North Central Living Waters Cluster)

Donald, 10 a.m., Worship with Harold Flett.
Wycheproof, 10 a.m.
Contact Number: 5497 1033.

DISTRICT CATHOLIC CHURCHES "East Wimmera Parish"

Birchip L'steam in 10.30 a.m.
Boort L'steam in 10.30 a.m.
Banyena No Mass
Charlton L'steam out to churches without Mass 10.30 a.m.
Donald L'steam in 10.30 a.m.
St. Arnaud 8.30 a.m.
Wycheproof (Sat.) 7.00 p.m.

Fr. Gerry Prunty
0419 247 779
Parish Co-ordinator
- Noeline Hogan: 0476 617 976

COMMUNITY UPDATE



Australia Day Eve

Buloke Shire Council is hosting another Australia Day Eve event to celebrate our community.

The 2022 event will be held at the Berriwillock Community Centre, Berriwillock, on 25 January and will feature: the presentation of Council's Australia Day Awards, representative speaker from the Australian Ambassador Program, Alistair McCooke OAM and a Citizenship Ceremony.

A community dinner, incorporating finger food for casual dining will be provided free-of-charge to the community.

This is a COVID-Safe event and is open to fully vaccinated persons or those with a valid medical exemption with QR-code check-in required upon arrival. Persons under the age of 18 years are not required to present evidence of vaccination.

Location: Berriwillock Community Centre, 69 Taverner Street, Berriwillock

Time: 5:30PM-9.00PM. Pictured (below) last year's winner Citizen of the Year, Margaret Pollington with Mayor Cr Darryl Warren.



Small Towns Big Difference Program - Register for Information Sessions

The Program aims to assist community organisations undertake smaller community-based projects, which champion social outcomes.

It was developed in recognition that many funding programs are more often geared towards economic development rather than the social benefits of small communities. Consequently, some community organisations find it difficult to attract funding for their smaller community-based projects.

This Program focuses on building community capacity, social inclusion, community pride and improved lifestyle and access to community services, along with projects that develop the local economy.

It recognises the importance of community groups and volunteers as an essential part of Buloke, in strengthening the community, and creating opportunities to continue to create meaningful change.

The \$120,000 fund is a collaboration between Council, the Mallee Regional Partnership, Charlton and Donald Community Banks and the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank.

To register for the information sessions being conducted at Birchip, Charlton, Donald, Sea Lake, Wycheproof or online between 15-21 February 2022, visit <https://www.buloke.vic.gov.au/small-towns-big-difference-grant-program>.



Employment Opportunities

Council is an equal opportunity employer. Our roles are non-gender specific, and Council encourages all suitably qualified applicants to apply. Council is currently recruiting for:

Pool Lifeguards

Love to be outdoors during summer? We have the perfect role for you! Council is currently seeking Pool Lifeguards for the 21/22 swimming pool season across its three swimming pool regions.

Applications are now open for Pool Lifeguards for Council pools across Buloke. Council will provide training for suitable candidates who do not currently hold a Lifeguard Certificate.

Senior Diesel Mechanic

Are you experienced in the repair and maintenance of a variety of large machinery? If you are searching for a leadership role that offers variety, look no further!

Applications close 5.00PM Friday 28 January 2022.

Human Resources Officer (maternity leave)

Buloke Shire Council is currently seeking a positive and motivated person to join our Human Resources department on a temporary part time basis.

Applications close 5:00PM Friday 28 January 2022.

Administration Assistant

Do you have a range of administrative skills that can be adapted to the various departments including Customer Service, Library Service and Records Management on a casual basis?

Applications close 5:00PM Friday 11 February 2022.

Maternal and Child Health Nurse

Council is seeking a highly motivated and enthusiastic Nurse to provide high quality services to young families in Buloke Shire on a casual basis.

Applications close 5:00PM Friday 25 February 2022.

Visit www.buloke.vic.gov.au/employment or call Human Resources on 1300 520 520 for full details on these exciting roles.

Building a Better Buloke.



Notice of an Application for a Planning Permit

The land affected by the application is located at 11 Corack Road, Wycheproof.

The application is for a permit for the use and development of land for a dwelling.

The application reference number is PPA967/21.

You may look at the application and any documents that support the application on the **Buloke Shire Council website** or by making contact with the office of the Responsible Authority, **Buloke Shire Office, Wycheproof**.

This can be done during office hours and is free of charge. Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions to the Responsible Authority.

An objection must be sent to the Responsible Authority in writing, include the objectors name and contact details, include reasons for the objection, and state how the objector would be affected. An objection form is available on the Planning and Building page of the Buloke Shire Council website.

The Responsible Authority will not decide on the application before 3 February 2022.

If you object, the Responsible Authority will tell you it's decision.



Notice of an Application for a Planning Permit

The land affected by the application is located at 18 Sproats Lane, Donald.

The application is for a permit for a two-lot subdivision of land.

The application reference number is PPA969/21.

You may look at the application and any documents that support the application on the **Buloke Shire Council website** or by making contact with the office of the Responsible Authority, **Buloke Shire Office, Wycheproof**.

This can be done during office hours and is free of charge. Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions to the Responsible Authority.

An objection must be sent to the Responsible Authority in writing, include the objectors name and contact details, include reasons for the objection, and state how the objector would be affected. An objection form is available on the Planning and Building page of the Buloke Shire Council website.

The Responsible Authority will not decide on the application before 20 January 2022.

If you object, the Responsible Authority will tell you it's decision.



PHONE: 1300 520 520
www.buloke.vic.gov.au

☆
★ **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



New Trainer for Charlton Training Centre

(By Peter Hibberd)

The Charlton harness racing training centre continues to grow with official announcement of Western Australian trainer Ashleigh Markham and his wife Tamara and their family shifting to Charlton.

Currently based at Bunbury, the long journey east will begin next week. The following week, at least four horses will follow.

Ashleigh spent time with Glenn Douglas in 2011, so the desire was to come back some time.

Tamara is a clerk of course and is hoping to gain accreditation in Victoria. She has been in that capacity at the Bunbury track for the last 15 years. Ashleigh also has a good reputation for being a good farrier.

Three Winners for Ellen

Ellen Tormey continues to drive plenty of winners. At Charlton on Monday she again showed her talent. Driving her first two winners, she controlled the race from the front with slow early sectionals, before running very quick closing sectionals. For her third win of the day, she sat behind the leader and used the sprint lane to win. Two of Ellen's winners were for Bendigo trainer Terry Gange.

A regular trainer at Charlton meetings is Terry French

and his win ratio at the track is very good. Again, he had a winner, this time in Pinnacle Hope.

Charlton Results

Race one: Concession driver Luke Dunne driving the Ray Cross-trained trotter, Who's Countin, had the opening race won a long way from the finish. Away brilliantly from the stand start, led by as much as 30 metres although getting tired, it still won by 10 metres. Luke has only been driving since last year. He is the grandson of Frank Dunne, a regular on all the local tracks many years ago.

Race two: A typical drive from Greg Sugars. Sitting behind the leader and using the sprint lane to win by 3 metres; was very well supported late in betting.

Race three: Having raced the previous day at Hamilton, did not deter trainer Kelvin Barker and driver Glen Craven. Heavily supported to start at a very short price, was able to lead and never looked like getting beaten, winning by nearly 10 metres.

Race four: Ellen Tormey driving the Terry Gange-

trained Happyaslarry showed why she is one of the best judges of pace when leading. Setting an easy pace for the first two sectionals, she then came home her last half mile in 57.4, making it virtually impossible to get beaten.

Race five: With regular driver Tayla French unavailable, Alex Ashwood picked up the winning drive on Pinnacle Hope. Using the sprint lane was the key factor in this win. The result blew a lot out of the quaddie.

Race six: One of the biggest runs of the day was the Glenn Bull-owned, -trained and -driven Favouritehighlight. Three wide in the early part of the race, outside the leader for the last lap and still won, even though the margin was by a nose victory. The time of 1.56.6 was the best for the day.

Race seven: Ellen Tormey adopted the same tactics as in her earlier win in the day, driving Twisted Bliss, a horse she trains. Starting the favourite, punters had no worries, winning by 4 and a half metres.

Race eight: Another winner for Ellen Tormey, this time



• Concession driver Luke Dunne winning on the Ray Cross trained Who's Countin. Luke began his driving career in October last year.

driving Mister Jimaringle for Terry Gange, giving him a double. This time Ellen used the sprint lane to win. Quaddie punters collected over \$20,000 for a winning ticket. I know one punter on course who had a percentage of the dividend.

Race nine: I'm Miss Royalty, a recent winner at Kilmore at \$5.00, blew punters away with another win, this time at \$51.00. Trained and driven by the White family of Bendigo, it sat back in the field with a solid mid-race

pace, coming home very quickly to win.

Race ten: The heavily-supported lamawingate driven by Connor Clarke, led all the way to win the last race. When betting opened in early markets, as much as \$15.00 was available, but with constant support, shortened up to pay \$3.10 for the win.

Holiday Winners

Over the festive break, local trainers, drivers and owners had winners. One of those winners was John

Richard raced by the Connellys and Terry Arnel, who won at Boort. It has been transferred to the stable of Ben Yole in "Tassie" and goes around at Devonport this Sunday night.

Upgrade

The next meeting is Cup day on Sunday, March 20. At the time of going to press, a major upgrade in the stables is being undertaken.

Coming up

Wedderburn, Sunday, January 30.

Donald Races, Sunday, January 30.



• Closest finish of the day. On the inside, Favoritehighlight, driven by Glenn Bull, defeats Wemade Freo, driven by Leigh Sutton. The winning margin, a nose.



• Driver Ellen Tormey drove three winners at Charlton. This was her second winner, Twisted Bliss, a horse she also trains.



• Driver Ian White driving rank outsider, I'm Miss Royalty to victory in mobile Trotters Race, defeating Bacardi Wood, driven by Gary Pekin. The winner started at odds of \$51.00.

Boort Claims Big Scalp

Six rounds out from the finals, Boort, playing at home, staked its claim for a finals berth by defeating top side, Korong Vale, in a thriller, finishing just one shot to the better of its opponent.

Boort is now just 3 points adrift of the top four and remains in charge of its own destiny, provided it can maintain its winning form.

In another nail biting finish, Wycheproof had its collective nose in front at the right time against Charlton, sneaking in by just 2 shots to retain its hold on third place on the North Central Playing Area midweek pennant ladder.

In other results, St. Arnaud, playing at home, continued Donald Golf's run of outs with a 9-shot victory.

And Donald continued its run of good form to account for fellow top four team, Wedderburn, 89 shots to 69.

Details:

Boort 75-10 d. Korong Vale 74-2.

Lyn Cameron, Phyl Baker, Jo Maxted, Laurie Maxted (s) 31 d. Susan Nelson, Keith Griffiths, Judy Matthews, Joan Murnane (s) 25.

Pam Gould, Lorna Gardner, Ian Mercer, Thelma Moresi (s) 17 lost to Laurie Barby, Yvonne Cashen, Wayne Keenan, Amy Roberts (s) 24.

Tania Noles, Margaret Nelson, Gillian Tweddle, Kevin Depiazza (s) 27 d. Joan Earl, Robert Ashley, Dorothy Gibson, John Gibson (s) 25.

Wycheproof 83-10 d. Charlton 81-2.

Andrea Coatsworth, Jason McKay, Alan Jones, Dale Groves (s) 38 d. Brian Patton, Hazel North, Pat Connors, Kevin Willey (s) 21.

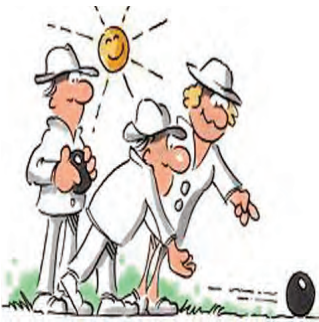
Betty Taylor, Carol Jones, Pauline Gardner, Jeannie Grylls (s) 20 lost to Greg Wain, Neil Cossar, Gary Bateson, Lynne Southwell (s) 41.

Lynnette Nicholls, Shirley McKenna, Lorraine Milburn, Jono Grylls (s) 25 d. Brad Chester, John Headon, Dale McCallum, Richard Porter (s) 19.

St. Arnaud 76-10 d. Donald Golf 67-2.

Frank James, Lyn Arbuckle, Tom Amos, Colin Marchment (ds) 31 d. Corazon Stopps, Beris Jones, Marilyn Frank, Margaret Kelly (s) 21.

Gary Smith, Terence Robert-son, Maurie Wood, Graham Simpson (s) 26 d. Thelma Boyd, Mary Murray, George Wood, Pam Rollinson (s) 23.



Diane Ostarcevic, Margaret McRae, Sandra McIntyre, Gary Shinnars (s) 19 lost to Bill Livingston, Sue Donnellon, Lynette Borden, Brenda Dixon (s) 23.

Donald 89-10 d. Wedderburn 69-2.

Kelvin Adamson, Alison McEwen, Jack Collins, Lindy Morgan (s) 37 d. Sandra Steel, Glenda Hunter, Lance Standfield, Ian Hall (s) 16.

Ev Adams, Ian McEwen, Marion McEwen, Margaret Quick (s) 27 d. Helen Stephenson, Fay Lockhart, Neville White, Laurie Witham (s) 23.

Luke Kelly, Joan Wood, Brenda Brennan, Beryl Milne (s) 25 lost to Sandra Standfield, Bob Passalick, Andrew Caserta, Ruth Hall (s) 30.

Ladder after round 12

	P	W	L	D	Bye	F	A	S/D	%	Pts
Korong Vale	13	5	3	4	1	578	493	85	117.24	82
Donald	13	5	3	4	1	591	530	61	111.51	81
Wycheproof	13	4	4	4	1	586	530	56	110.57	75
Wedderburn	13	6	2	3	2	589	547	42	107.68	75
Boort	13	4	4	3	2	569	566	3	100.53	72
St. Arnaud	13	3	5	4	1	518	577	-59	89.77	67
Charlton	13	3	5	4	1	589	558	31	105.56	66
Donald Golf	13	4	4	3	2	543	577	-34	94.11	64
St. Arnaud Country Club	13	2	6	3	2	462	647	-185	71.41	42

Santa Arrives Early for Graeme

Graeme Cocking had something extra to celebrate at Christmas, after winning first prize of \$1,000 in Donald Chamber of Commerce and Industry’s 2021 “This Christmas We’re Getting Back to Business” shopping promotion, drawn on Christmas Eve.

Graeme’s entry was the first drawn by 2020 winner, Ros Olle, from the thousands of entries lodged during the six-week promotion.

Welcoming all present for the draw in the Donald Mall, and deputising for president Kez Duncan, who was unable to be present, Chamber secretary Stacey Morris thanked the 58 businesses which contributed to this year’s promotion, and the five very generous sponsors, Donald 2000, Donald Friends and Neighbours, Donald Lions Club, Donald Bingo Committee and Goodwin Village.

Stacey also acknowledged the contributions of Kate Clark, John McConville, Yvonne Brown, Judy Chapman and members of the Chamber’s Promotions Committee, towards securing and establishing various Christmas decorations strategically located at the town’s entrances and in the mall.

In addition to the major prizes of shopping vouchers, eight hamper packs, each valued at over \$300, compiled by Ali Cashin from donations made by local businesses, were also won, making for a very rewarding lead up to

Christmas for those who shop locally.

In total there were fifteen draws, with the combined prize pool valued at in excess of \$5,000 — contributed by generous local businesses and sponsors.

Each draw, starting with Ros Olle, was conducted by a representative of a participating business, with the lucky winners as follows:

First prize, \$1,000 shopping voucher: Graeme Cocking (entry received from Weir’s IGA Supermarket).

Second prize, \$500 shopping voucher: Peter Muhling, of Kangaroo Flat (Weir’s IGA).

Third prize, \$250 shopping voucher: John Spackman (Weir’s IGA).

Fourth prize, \$250 shopping voucher: Kerry Duncan (Donald House and Hardware/GJR).

Fifth prize, \$100 shopping voucher: Evie Donnellon (Woods St Cafe).

Sixth prize, \$100 shopping voucher: Leigh Hawkes (Weir’s IGA).

Seventh prize, \$100 shopping voucher: Peter Raynes (Weir’s IGA).

Eighth prize, voucher pack: Janet Smith, Birchip (The Clothes Bin).

Ninth prize, voucher pack: Jess Wyatt (The Clothes Bin).

Tenth prize, voucher pack: Zhani Gibson (The Clothes Bin).

Eleventh prize, voucher pack: Jeanette Wood (Artie Home Maintenance).

Twelfth prize, voucher pack: Roger Smith (Donald Bakery).

Thirteenth prize, voucher pack: David Elsom (Weir’s IGA).

Fourteen prize, voucher pack: Ash Jeffery (S and R Sweet Treats).

Fifteen prize, voucher pack: Percy Evans (Donald Newsagency).

Making the announcements of the respective winners, Stacey also thanked the many people who supported local businesses.

“Each time you make a purchase, you put a smile on the face of that local business person,” she said.



• Shopping Promotion winner Graeme Cocking was hard at work preparing the Donald racecourse for its next meeting when the “Times” camera caught up with him recently. Delighted with his good fortune, Graeme observed that we must support local businesses, because if we don’t, they won’t be there when we do need them.

NO ONE’S UNSINKABLE

To all those Unsinkable Guys out there –

You might think it’s safe to have a few drinks around water, skip the lifejacket when you’re out on the boat or go for a swim without checking the conditions.

But statistics prove that 4 out of 5 drownings are men.

Just remember that no one’s unsinkable.

Q UNSINKABLE GUY

RETHINK
TAKING RISKS
AROUND
WATER



Achievers “Go to the Wall”:

• Continued from page 1.

The following details include excerpts from the new plaques affixed to the Wall of Achievement:

Pat Allen

A former Donald cricketer and footballer, Pat Allen was a premiership player with the Donald and Marnoo football clubs.

A successful greyhound racing trainer, he developed manipulation techniques to help keep his dogs in racing condition.

These skills eventually led Pat to treating humans successfully, drawing customers from all across the Australia, and internationally. Among them have been AFL and local footballers, netballers, jockeys, soccer players, farmers, tradies, and people of countless other occupations.

Pat never misses the opportunity to promote the

Donald cause, with particular emphasis on Kooka's Country Cookies.

Glenis Bryan

Glenis was the Deafness Advocate founder, and first executive officer of the Wimmera Hearing Society, being awarded life membership in 1997. She was the Dummunkle Shire's Citizen of the Year in 1991, and Quota Club International South Pacific Deaf Woman of the Year, 1995/96.

She was ultimately successful in her original aim of winning more government support for hearing services in rural Victoria.

Sir Albert Dunstan, K.C.M.G.

Born at Cope Cope in 1882, Albert Dunstan was educated at Cope Cope School, worked on the family farm, and was secretary of the Cope Cope Hall Committee.

Moving to Goschen (near Swan Hill) in 1909, he joined the Victorian Farmers' Union's Culgoa branch in 1919, later becoming the VFU's candidate for Eaglehawk, in the Victorian Legislative Assembly.

As Country Party Leader in 1935, he led the State Government as Premier for ten years. From 1947 to 1949, he was Minister for Health in a Liberal-led coalition government, being knighted in 1948. His service is commemorated by memorial gates at both Charlton Park and Cope Cope Memorial Lane.

Lieutenant Colonel Ernest Harris

Born at Jeffcott in 1880, Ernest Harris farmed in the district before World War I, during which he served with the A.I.F in Egypt, France and Gallipoli. On the way from Alexandria to Gallipoli, he was among those on board the “Sutherland”, when it was torpedoed by a German submarine. Taking to lifeboats, troops abandoned ship, which was expected to sink, but the crew managed to beach it on Lemnos.

Col. Harris was wounded at the battle of Fromelles, when the Australian division suffered more than 6,000 casualties. Returning to Australia, he became involved in a range of local and state affairs, including the Donald Shire Council from 1935 to 1951, with two terms as president.

Phil O'Brien

Respected and remembered for his outgoing personality, Phil O'Brien excelled at Australian Rules football, from an early age. At 19, he was a member of Donald's 1949 senior premiership team, before joining the Hawthorn club. While there,

he played 86 club games, and represented Victoria against Tasmania in 1957. He was awarded Hawthorn Club life membership in 1962.

As a coach, Phil led both Springvale and Alice Springs Rovers to premiership victory in the late 1960s. Beginning his working life in Donald, he was later employed by the Commonwealth Public Service in Melbourne, Alice Springs and Canberra.

The Lettses

Godfrey William (Goff) Letts, MBE, grandson of the “Donald Times” founder, Godfrey Morgan, left the “Kalgoorlie Miner” newspaper in 1921, at the age of 23, to become editor of the “Donald Times”. It was a position he held for 66 years, until his death in 1987.

Outside the office, he excelled at athletics, cricket and football, and was a member of Donald Football Club's 1924

premiership team. He was a champion rifleman, winning the Victorian King's Prize in 1949, after having been runner-up in the Empire King's in Sydney in 1938. He was also captain of Victorian rifle teams.

Goff and Maisie Letts had four sons, all of whom gained their early education at the Donald Higher Elementary School.

Malcolm, the eldest, became a doctor, practising in Melbourne. Sadly, Malcolm passed away in 1975, at the age of 49.

Veterinary Science was the chosen career of **Dr. Godfrey Alan (Goff) Letts, CBE, AM**, before he moved into working life up north. He became Majority Leader and Chief Secretary in the first Northern Territory Legislative Assembly, and is known as the “Father of Self-Government”, for his role as

Majority Leader before the Territory achieved full self rule, in 1978. Now a resident of Stawell, Goff recently launched his book, “Dancing with Brolgas”, and is a member of the “Buloke Times” editorial panel.

Since attending the Royal Australian Naval College from 1944 to 1947, **Robin Letts** has spent the succeeding 75 years with the “Donald Times”, the “Donald Birchip Times”, and the “Buloke Times” – the past 35 years in the editor's chair. He is a charter member of the Donald Lions Club, and a life member of both the North-Central Football League, and the former Donald District Cricket Association.

Having studied languages in his early years, **Ewan Letts** began his diplomatic career as an immigration officer in

• Continued on page 11.



• Sir Albert Dunstan, K.C.M.G.



• Pat Allen, with daughter, Alyssa.



• Lieut. Colonel Ernest Harris.



• Phil O'Brien



• Glenis Bryan, with husband Len.

Plaques Unveiled in the Mall

• Continued from page 10.

Rome, between 1958 and 1961. He became Australian Trade Commissioner in Bonn (Germany), Stockholm (Sweden), and Hamburg (Germany), and was also Consul-General in Hamburg. From 1976 to 1979, he represented the Departments of Agriculture and Trade in London.

Currently living in Canberra, Ewan has continued to keep in touch with his home town, and has been “a silent contributor to many Donald industries and projects”, as well as a member of the “Times” editorial panel.



• Ewan Letts, with wife Marjorie.



• The editor, G.W. Letts, and son, Robin, at the Intertype keyboard.

Activities Abound for Senior Citizens

As you can see by the photos there is plenty of activities on offer at the Donald Senior Citizens’ Club. You are able to play cards, board games, and billiards on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Indoor bowls are played every Saturday. You don’t need to have played bowls before; it’s just a fun, friendly afternoon. All activities start at 1:30 p.m..

A warm welcome awaits anyone over 55 years who

wishes to join in these activities, and afternoon tea is available at each session.

Dinner outings are held once a month, and birthday anniversaries are celebrated on that day.

Further information can be obtained from the president, Barry Hepworth, 03 5497 1125; secretary, Owen Duncan, 0466 081 819; or for indoor bowls, Mary Archbold, 0439 637 759 – or just turn up.



• Father and son — the two Goff Lettises.



• Friendly game of billiards between Frank Cinaglia (left) and Don Broughton.



• Playing cards, left to right: Frank Cinaglia, David James, Allan Dennis, Owen Duncan, Barry Hepworth and Don Broughton.



• Skippers for the bowls, Noelene Reid (left), and Mary Archbold.



• Playing bowls left to right: Chris Macleod, Margaret Peck, May Reed, Peg Davidson and Paula Grassano.



• The Shorts: Simon Sharp, Brodie Glen, Danny Glen, and Simon's niece Tara Sharp in the background showing off her dance moves.

Shorts In for the Long Haul

Brodie Glen, Simon Sharp and Danny Glen have been playing music together under many different guises, but they have always remained true to their roots, performing at local events and functions since they were teenagers, attending school at Birchip P-12.

Regardless of their stature in the music world, they have always rewarded their local fans by coming back to

Birchip to put on high quality and entertaining performances at the Birchip Pub, the Mallee Root Round Up Ball,

Birchip Harness Racing Club, weddings, twenty-firsts and fund-raising events at the Birchip Community Leisure

Centre, and on Boxing Day they added Tchum Lake to their concert venues with an impromptu performance for the campers and supportive locals on the banks of the lake.

Despite the weather being incredibly windy, the locals and visitors thoroughly enjoyed the laid-back atmo-

sphere and the live performance with a large crowd dancing to the traditional cover songs the locals love to hear "The Shorts" perform.

Simon, Danny and Brodie know the local crowd well, and they always keep them entertained, whether they be the young children or the more

senior community members.

The Tchum Lake Aquatic Club committee thanks "The Shorts" for sharing their love of music with the community at Tchum over the Christmas period. It was definitely a highlight for the campers and visitors enjoying a holiday at Tchum Lake.



Don't travel to high risk areas on **Extreme Fire Danger Rating** days.

If you plan to travel through Victoria, during fire season, it's important to check the Fire Danger Rating every day. If the rating is Extreme or above, avoid travelling to high risk areas, including to cities and towns.

How well do you know  fire?

Plan. Act. Survive. Go to emergency.vic.gov.au

Success for Birchip Ladies

Birchip ladies have had success on the bowling green since 2022 commenced. It may be a good sign for things to come.

The first major event for the Association was the Champion of Champions. The Birchip ladies were pleased when their representative, Jennifer Blainey took out the title. Jennifer now goes on to the Regionals later this season. Congratulations Jennifer.

Next Sunday the Tyrrell over 60s pairs winners, Birchip's Peg Hogan and Moya Connelly, play in the finals of the Region at Murray Downs. Good bowling ladies.

The Tyrrell State Pairs was completed last Saturday. This was a match between two Birchip teams with the winners being Jennifer Blainey and Ronda Cooper, from Moya Connelly and Peg Hogan.

Birchip hosted Woome-lang to pennant games last



Moya Connelly (left) and Peg Hogan, Tyrrell over 60s pairs winners.

Birchip Bowls Teams

To play Woome-lang at Woome-lang, 1.15 p.m. start.

Division 1
T. Grogan, M. Hogan, M. Spicer, K. Reid (s)
B. Hogan, T. Doran, M. Bowen, W. Clark (s)
O. Reid, G. Cartwright, R. Bragg, R. Kemp (s).

Division 2
G. Trollope, K. Donnellon, D. Cooper, N. Noonan (s).
L. Blair, R. Barr, S. Simpson, G. Smith, (s).
Cars leave Sherwood Street at 12.15.

Monday. Both games were very close with Birchip taking the honours by one shot.

And the final event for the week was the Club Drawn Pairs played on Wednesday last. The games, although the scores did not indicate this were of a high standard. The match between the eventual winners, Peg Hogan and Moya Connelly, was against the winners of the State pairs, Jennifer Blainey and Ronda Cooper. On this occasion Jennifer and Ronda were out-bowled most ends. Maybe pay back for their defeat last Saturday.

Next Monday Birchip travels to Sea Lake for the next-to-last game of pennant prior to the finals. The teams are Moya Connelly, Jennifer Blainey, Ronda Cooper and Glen Trollope; Peg Hogan, Ray Barr, Natasha Hogan and Jackie Tierney. Cars driven by Ronda and Tash leave at 9.20 a.m..

Next Wednesday it is again social bowls, and we welcome all who would like to try the game to come along. Remember, bowls has no age limit.

— In the Ditch.

North-Central Pennant Bowls

This Week's Selected Club Teams



DIVISION ONE
Round 12, Saturday, January 22.

St. Arnaud v. Boort
ST. ARNAUD
T. Amos, C. Marchment, A. Dyke, A. Jackson (s)
T. McSwain, D. Shepherd, M. Wood, G. Hancock (s)
G. McNally, K. Dyke, G. Simpson, P. McRae (s)

BOORT
K. Birt, T. Matley, K. Ritchie, T. Moresi (s)
I. Allison, G. Gardner, K. Walton, K. Depiazza (s)
P. Waters, J. Hampson, J. Maxted, L. Maxted (s)

Donald Golf v. Charlton
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)

CHARLTON
J. Cox, N. Cossar, S. Perry, K. Willey (s)
G. Bateson, M. O'Brien, P. Watts, L. Southwell (s)
D. McCallum, D. Gretgrix, J. Headon, K. North (s)

Wycheproof v. St. Arnaud Country Club
WYCHEPROOF
P. Connolly, J. McLean, D. Groves, G. Coatsworth (s)
A. Coatsworth, F. Grylls, B. Macdonald, A. Mead (s)
N. Coles, V. Grant, A. Jones, E. Rayes (s)

ST. ARNAUD COUNTRY CLUB
J. Needs, J. Nevill, B. Rodger, J. Abbott (s)
D. Goode, T. McDonald, S. Elliott, M. Esmore (s)
T. Marland, L. Lynch, K. Meade, B. McGregor (s)

Donald v. Wedderburn
DONALD
I. McEwen, N. Barber, M. Harris, P. Kelly (s)
J. Howley, L. Kelly, J. Collins, B. Hegarty (s)
J. Aitken, P. Wyllie, K. Adamson, N. Hollis (s)
WEDDERBURN
A. Noordennan, G. Burnside, A. Caserta, N. Holt (s)
D. Stephenson, L. Holt, B. Hargreaves, B. Montebello (s)
A. Holt, L. Standfield, J. Grant, L. Witham (s)

DIVISION TWO
Round 12, Saturday, January 22.

Wycheproof v. Donald Golf
WYCHEPROOF
D. Nicholls, R. Pollard, D. Denney, G. Allan (s)
J. McKay, A. Wallace, J. Grylls, P. Coles (s)
R. Grylls, R. Tierney, J. Nicholls, S. Barratt (s)

DONALD GOLF
M. Raynes, B. Bayles, M. Kelly, G. Wood (s)
R. Adams, J. Hollis, S. O'Shea, M. Frank (s)
J. Meyer, J. Slater, P. Raynes, G. Stopps (s)

Cars: B. Bayles, J. Meyer, R. Adams, leave 12.20.

St. Arnaud v. Wedderburn
ST. ARNAUD
G. Smith, R. Talbot, G. McIntyre, C. Coates (s)
T. Robertson, P. Duncan, G. Shaw, G. Shinnars (s)
B. Eccles, C. Cheesman, K. Bibby, W. Rourke (s)

WEDDERBURN
S. Steel, P. Norman, N. White, B. Passalick (s)
R. Guelfo, B. Green, T. Benaim, T. Jackson (s)
S. Smyth, R. Liddle, R. Hall, I. Hall (s)

Byes: St. Arnaud Country Club, Boort, Charlton, Donald, Korong Vale

Round 13, Saturday, January 29, 2022

Division 1
Boort v. Donald Golf
Wycheproof v. Charlton
Wedderburn v. St. Arnaud
St. Arnaud Country Club v. Donald

Division 2
Boort v. Donald Golf
Wycheproof v. Charlton
Wedderburn v. Korong Vale
St. Arnaud Country Club v. Doinald
Bye: St. Arnaud

Wimmera-Mallee Cricket Scoreboard
proudly sponsored by Wilken Group

Table with 4 main sections: Round 8, "A" Grade, "B" Grade, and Southern Mallee Giants d. Charlton. Each section contains match details, player names, and scores.

Family Fun at the Lake and Pool

Omicron may have robbed our immediate dreams of travelling to exotic places, indulging in exciting new adventures and sunning ourselves on idyllic beaches, but our love affair with the water has not subsided, and many locals were still able to retain a water theme for their summer holidays, with the Birchip Pool and Tchum Lake awash with happy families over the January period.

For most people, summer holidays are a time that bring back loads of happy memories, whether it's riding the waves at the beach, swimming at the local pool, water skiing on the lake, fishing at the river, or yabbing in the dam, they have all formed an indelible impression from our early lives.

For this reason, many parents regard swimming lessons as a non-negotiable for their children, so they too can enjoy these pleasurable and relatively cheap pastimes.

At the Birchip Pool for two weeks in January, Maurita Noonan and her helpers taught over one hundred children from as young as six months old, from all over Victoria, and even New South Wales, to love the water and to be safe around it.

Many ex-Birchip residents combined a visit to family and friends with Maurita's lessons, noting that they were a really good holiday activity to keep the children engaged and enjoying the outdoors.

Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles and older brothers and sisters also enjoyed watching on from the sides of the pool, encouraging the children and relishing the catch up with extended family and long lost friends.

Out at Tchum Lake campers were enjoying being close to the water, with many campers now self-sufficient thanks to personal solar power set-ups attached to their caravans and camping trailers.

The serenity, beautiful sunsets, bird life, sealed walking

tracks and a plethora of options for water sports from paddle boarding to wake boarding, make Tchum Lake an ideal camping destination for families, grey nomads and groups of friends.

Pleasingly, the fishermen also reported that the fish were biting at Tchum Lake, which is an added bonus for those who enjoy fishing as a hobby or a sport, from the bank or from the middle of the lake.

These sweet summer moments are a good reminder that we don't need to do anything elaborate to create lasting memories with our friends and family, and whilst Omicron is adding a dimension of uncertainty and anxiousness to our lives, we still have lots to be grateful for here in the Buloke Shire.



• Charlie Barber and Noah Dean with his catch.



• Swimming lessons with Maurita Noonan and Sophie Reid.



• Donald Golf Bowls Club's men's singles champion, Peter Hibberd (left) and runner-up, Geoff Rigby.

Peter Hibberd Emerges Victorious

Donald Golf's Men's Club Championship was played on January 2 and 3, in windy and warm conditions, with Peter Hibberd playing Geoff Rigby in the final.

Peter reached the final by accounting for George Wood (25-11), defending champion Robert Reseigh (24-9) and Bill Livingston (25-15). Geoff accounted for Wayne Gniel (25-16), Trevor Hollis (25-15) and Stewart Hollis (25-23).

The lead changed several times, but scores were level at 12-all.

Peter's bowls improved and Geoff's fell away, which resulted in Peter taking a commanding 23-14 lead.

Geoff picked up six shots to trail 20-23, however Peter prevailed to win his third club championship. Congratulations to Peter on his hard-fought win.



• Enjoying water activities at Tchum Lake.



- *A flick to the square leg boundary in Joe Boyle's masterful 110 not out.*

Catch-Up Cricket This Weekend

• Continued from page 20.

Southern Mallee Giants' bowling figures have left My-Cricket followers a trifle puzzled, as can be seen elsewhere in today's "Times". It would appear that Charlton was bowled out for 118 in 29.3 overs, with Daniel Whykes scoring 41 not out, Elliott Fitzpatrick 25, and Patrick Soulsby 20. In reply, the Giants cruised to victory at 2/122, thanks to the steady batting of Matthew Bellinger 38 not out, Leighton Hateley 28, Tom Huf 21, and captain Jack Flavel 16 not out.

Six Birchip bowlers shared the wickets against Watchem, with James Paley and Nathan Blencowe both taking 2/4, Josh Hamilton 2/5, and Connor Lee 2/6. Most of Watchem's modest 45-run total came from the bats of Jeremy Dean 9, Sam Milne 8, and Charlie Barber 9 not out. Overtaking that target with 4/55, Birchip's Sam Noonan scored 16 not out, Connor Lee 15, and James Paley 11. Sam Milne took 2/16 for Watchem, while Josh Woods and Austin Dean claimed a wicket each.

Batting first, Brim K.S.H. used its 40 overs in compiling

7/120. Leading the way was the evergreen Barry Schilling, with 64 not out, while Sean Wright added 21, and Sheldon Bryan 12. Major wicket-takers for St. Mary's were Paul Healey 4/21 (8), and Bailey Watts 2/11 (8).

Chasing down the Brim K.S.H. total, St. Mary's reached 4/121 in 31 overs, top-scorers being Colby Schmidt 50, Bailey Watts 21, Nathan Priest 18 not out, and Paul Healey 71. Sharing the wickets for Brim K.S.H. were Sean Wright 2/20 (6), and Ben Williamson 2/22 (3).



• *A big day for St. Arnaud's Hayden Torney, with bowling figures of 3/1 from 5.3 overs, and 63 not out (retired), in the "B" grade game on the Jeffcott ground. Tom Reekie is the Jeffcott player, and Corey Donnellon the umpire.*



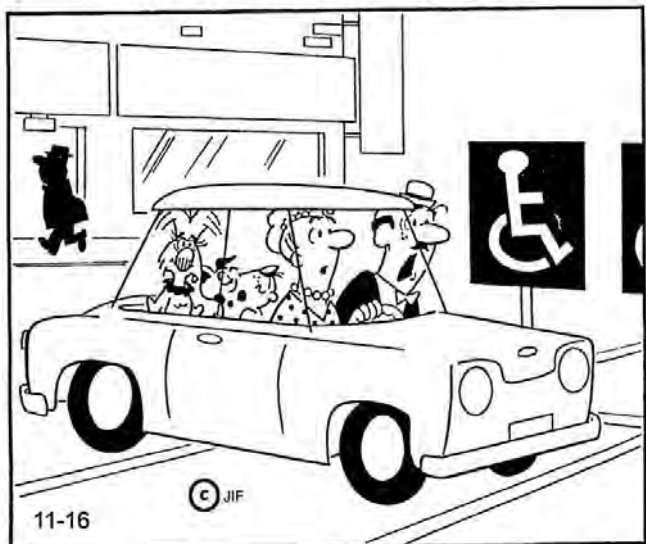
• *Birchip all-rounder Sam Noonan is the bowler, and Joshua Woods the Watchem player, at the Birchip ground prepared to perfection by curator Gary Living (Photo by Amanda Reid).*



• *A slightly unorthodox drive by Birchip's Connor McCredden, but it earned him 3 runs and Brylie Cameron is Marnoo's 'keeper.*



Belvedere By George Crenshaw
www.belvedere-cartoons.com



"Of course we are handicapped. We OWN Belvedere don't we !"

Mixed Results for Donald Golf Bowlers

Donald Golf pennant bowlers played both matches at home on Saturday January 15, with Division 1 defeating Wycheproof 73 to 56 shots,

In Division 1, Golf led by 12 shots at afternoon tea and gradually drew ahead to collect 12 points to 0.

Wayne Gniel's team shot to an early lead and led 18-6 at afternoon tea against Aaron Meade's rink. Wycheproof played consistent bowls to narrow the gap to eventually lose 18-22.

Daniel Pettifer's team led all day to defeat Eric Rayes's team 22-20 in a close battle. Trevor Hollis's men played well to lead 18-6 at afternoon tea, and increased their lead to win 29-18.

Overall, this was a very pleasing win, and secured

Donald Golf's lead on the premiership ladder.

In Division 2, Korong Vale led by 7 shots at the afternoon tea break, and hung on to win 62-59 in a nail-biting finish. Golf won 2 of the 3 rinks to gain 4 points to 8.

Geoff Stopps's team defeated Joan Murnane's team 21 to 17, whilst Marilyn Frank's team won 14 of the 25 ends played to win 22-17 against John Gibson's team.

George Wood's team tried hard but lost by 12 shots to Amy Roberts's team.



- *Vaughn Dunstan gets Jeffcott off the mark with 13 runs.*

Birchip Bowlers at Berriwillock

Tyrrell Saturday pennant bowls resumed from its harvest break last Saturday, with everyone chomping at the bit for a roll.

Birchip travelled to Berriwillock, where the locals are always hard to beat on their home track. It was great to see a few Birchip players step up and help Berri field a Division 2 side.

The first match in Division 1 saw “Reidy”, Mick Spicer, “Sauce” and “Waffle” take on the team skippered by Mark Ryan. There wasn’t much in this game all day, with scores level at lunch. Birchip got its nose in front on the 16th. end and managed to hold off its opponents, with a two-shot margin the difference when scores were tallied. The final result was 22 shots to 20.

On the adjoining rink Wayne Clark, “Frogga”, Tony and Bryan came up against “Blue” Wight’s team. It was a very close game up until the 12th. end, where Birchip grabbed six shots. This was all that was needed to give the visitors an edge.

Birchip gradually extended the margin to eventually win by 16 shots, 33 to 17.

The final Division 1 contest saw “Kempy”, “Braggy”, “Carty” and Owen take on John Watson and his sidekicks.

Birchip jumped out of the blocks early, even though one bowl did go on a sightseeing tour to the neighbouring rink.

It had a five shot break at the halfway mark. Berri did draw level at one stage, but Birchip grabbed a handful of shots on the 23rd. end. This gave it breathing space, with the final score being 28 to 24 shots in the visitors’ favour.

Overall, Birchip won with a 22 shot margin and picked up maximum points.

The first Division 2 game saw Nick, “Coop”, Alf and “Trolly” take on D. Cook’s team, which included “Blackie” filling in from Birchip.

There wasn’t much in this game early, but Birchip strung 9 winning ends together mid match. To Berriwillock’s credit, it did pick up a few late ends, but the damage had been done. Birchip won by 29 shots to 14.

Geoff Smith, Steve Simpson, Stan and Ray came up against Peter Schodde’s crew on the second rink. The Berri team had a few familiar faces, with “Fletch” and John Ritchie helping them out. Birchip took control early and never let its opponents back into the match. The margin widened as the match progressed, with the eventual difference being twelve shots 28 to 16 shots. Overall Birchip won 57 to 30 and gained maximum points.

— “You gotta be up”



Three Fathers, Four Sons

Seven of Watchem’s eleven cricketers at Birchip on Saturday were from three families, when Jeremy Dean, Dean Woods and Andrew Slater teamed up with their sons.

• Pictured, left to right, are Austin Dean, Jeremy Dean, Joshua Woods, Dean Woods, Andrew Slater, Luke Slater, and Daniel Slater.

“Times” Crossword

QUICK PUZZLE NO. 8007

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
8					9							
10								11				
		12	13					14	15			
16												17
18				19				20			21	
						22						
23										24		
25												

ACROSS

- Sauce (6,7)
- Youngster (5)
- Lattice (7)
- Diminutive (6)
- Weak (6)
- Open (5)
- Stone (5)
- Shrewed (6)
- Lubricate (6)
- Permission (7)
- Big (5)
- Officer (4,9)

DOWN

- Amuse (6)
- Wet (5)
- Minnow (7)
- Bird (4)
- Motif (5)
- Fish (7)
- Zodiac sign (6)
- Pope’s palace (7)
- Ape (7)
- Inexperienced (6)
- Layer (6)
- Pick-me-up (5)
- Pungent (5)
- Appear (4)

• Solution next issue.

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



AUSTRALIA'S INVESTING IN CLEAN ENERGY AND CREATING THOUSANDS OF JOBS. IT'S WIN-WIN.

We're creating a hydrogen industry which could create more than 8,000 jobs and billions in economic activity by 2050.

The Marinus Link will deliver up to 2,800 jobs during peak construction (2025-27) for regional Tasmania and Victoria.

AUSTRALIA'S MAKING POSITIVE ENERGY

Australian Government

FIND OUT MORE AT [POSITIVEENERGY.GOV.AU](https://positiveenergy.gov.au)

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra.

Jennifer and Mick Win Tyrrell's Singles Titles

Birchip's Jennifer Blainey and Quambatook's Mick Coleman are Tyrrell Playing Area's singles champions for the 2021-'22 season.

Both played very well to take out their respective titles against strong opposition.

And pennant bowlers were back on the green, midweek and at the weekend, following the harvest/festive season break.

Last Saturday's results
Division 1
Quambatook lost to Sea Lake 77 shots to 71.

C. Manners 21 drew with N. Watson 21, D. Williams 36 d. A. Louttit 29, M. Coleman 14 lost to R. Stacey 27.

Culgoa defeated Woome- lang, 81 shots to 44.

P. Brook 35 d. C. Barber 15, T. Gravestocks 28 d. G. Symes 11, P. Loughran 18 drew with R. Malcolm 18.

Birchip defeated Berri- willock, 83 shots to 61.

R. Kemp 28 d. J. Watson 24, W. Clark 33 d. S. Wight 17, K. Reid 22 d. M. Ryan 20.

Ladder

	Pts	Shots	Up	%
Birchip	48	205	207.3	
Quambatook	25	-13	95.6	
Berriwillock	23	0	100.0	
Sea Lake	19	-93	70.7	
Culgoa	15	-33	88.5	
Woomelang	14	-66	76.8	

Division 2
Quambatook defeated Sea Lake, 48 shots to 46.

L. Graham 23 drew with R. Allan 23, A. McKissack 25 d. L. Harker 23.

Birchip defeated Berri- willock, 57 shots to 30.

N. Noonan 29 d. B. Cook 14, G. Smith 28 d. P. Schodde 16.



• Jennifer Blainey, of Birchip, ladies' Champion of Champions singles winner.



• Mick Coleman, of Quam- batook, men's Champion of Champions singles winner.

Woomelang had the bye.

Ladder

	Pts	Shots	Up	%
Birchip	24	123	248.2	
Quambatook	23	-62	66.3	
Berriwillock	8	-27	52.6	
Sea Lake	7	-14	90.7	
Woomelang	2	-20	82.0	

Midweek Pennant
Play on Monday, January 10, did not go ahead, due to the heat rule. All teams scheduled to play that day got 4 points.

Monday, January 17:
Berriwillock defeated Quambatook, 42 shots to 33.
D. Southcott 23 d. W. Cook 15, J. Simpson 19 d. D. Manners 18.

Birchip defeated Woomelang, 42 shots to 41.

M. Connelly 21 lost to V. Mitchell 22, P. Hogan 21 d. J. Pratt 19.

Sea Lake had the bye.

Ladder

	Pts	Shots	Up	%
Woomelang	34	91	166.4	
Berriwillock	26	23	114.8	
Birchip	25	-6	97.4	
Sea Lake	17	-33	83.6	
Quambatook	10	-75	71.1	

Champion of Champions
Saturday, January 8, saw the Champion of Champions event take place at Sea Lake.

Club men's and women's champions played off for the coveted Tyrrell Playing Area singles titles, with each game being the first to 25 shots.



• Women's pairs winners, Jennifer Blainey (left) and Ronda Cooper, of Birchip.

After a long day on the green, with some top quality bowls played, the winners were Mick Coleman, from Quambatook, in the men's, and Jennifer Blainey, from Birchip, in the women's. Congratulations to all took part in a great day.

Women's Pairs
Last Thursday saw the women also play their pairs event.

Five pairs took to the green at Birchip. After some inter- ruptions from lightning and rain during the day, there were two section winners, both teams from Birchip. Arrangements were made to play the final on Saturday morning, between Peg Hogan and Moya Connelly, and Jennifer Blainey and Ronda Cooper. Peg and Moya got off to a flying start, with Jennifer and

Ronda having to work very hard to get back in the match. In the end they were able to do this, and go on to win the title. There is still a number of State events to be held over January and February, along with the remaining pennant season to complete, so plenty of bowls action to come in the near future.



• Alison McEwen (left) congratulates Donald Bowling Club's 2021-'22 ladies' singles champion, Lindy Morgan. At right is runner-up, Ev Adams.

Lindy's Singles Title

An early new year game saw the semi-finals and final being played for the esteemed title, ladies' single bowls champion of the Donald Bowls Club for '21/'22 season.

The semi-finals were between Beryl Milne against Ev Adams and Lindy Morgan against Bo Subprom. Ev, with her very natural style of delivery took control from the first bowl and de- feated Beryl 25 to 7. Similarly, Lindy led all the way against Bo. Bo, who did very well to reach the semi- finals, but was defeated 15 to 26. After a short lunch break, the final commenced. The

spectators sheltering from the heat in the air conditioned club rooms were treated to some fine bowling, with each contestant concentrating, Ev starting well with a 6 to 1 lead, Lindy catching up, bringing the score to 10-all on the 11th. end and Lindy draw- ing away to lead 20 to 10 on the 15th. end. However, Ev rallied and fought back with 16 to 22 on the 20th end. The last end saw Ev kiss the kitty twice, but moving

the kitty toward Lindy's first two bowls, Lindy bowled the perfect bowl – picking the correct green and drawing her third bowl around her own bowl to bring it in close to the kitty, her fourth enabling her to have a four on the last end, winning 26 to 16. Congratulations Lindy on games well played. Commis- erations to Ev on being run- ner-up. — Lady Tiger in the Ditch



• State mixed pairs winners, Jono and Jeannie Grylls.

Jeannie and Jono Beat the Heat

Mother and son team Grylls from Wycheproof won the North Central Playing Area's State Mixed Pairs event, played at Boort over two exhausting days of bowls, in hot conditions.

Jeannie, with Jono vocally directing his hard of hearing Mum, Team Grylls played a tight final against Merilyn and Alan Frank. Scores were 15-all after 18 ends, with an extra end needed to decide the title.

Donald Golf Bowlers Out and About

Donald Golf bowlers have been making up for lost time in recent weeks, competing successfully in a range of events across the local area.



• Donald Golf's ladies' singles champion, Merilyn Frank.



• Donald Golf's ladies' singles champion, Merilyn Frank (right) is congratulated by runner-up, Brenda Dixon.



• Marg Kelly (left) and Merilyn Frank, North Central Playing Area's State Pairs winners.

Marg Kelly and Merilyn Frank recently won the North Central Playing Area's State Pairs.

They defeated the veteran pair of Thelma Moresi and Amy Roberts in the final. Very well done, ladies.

The combination of Wayne Gniel, Robert Reseigh, Geoff Rigby and Bill Livingston was also successful in the State Fours, played on Sunday on the St. Arnaud synthetic green.

They overcame the Wyche-proof combination of Aaron Meade, Dale Groves, Jason McKay and Jonathan Grylls to take out the title. Well done, fellas.

Stewie Hollis, George Wood, Geoff Stopps and Shane O'Shea played well to reach the final of Korong Vale's tournament on Sunday.

They defeated fellow Donald Golf team, Peter Hibberd, Robert Adams, Michael Raynes and Jim Meyer in a playoff, but were beaten in the playoff by the St. Arnaud team of Terry McSwain, Denis Goode, Darren Shepherd and Garry Smith.

Congratulations are also extended to Merilyn Frank, who won the ladies' club championship by defeating Brenda Dixon in the final.



• North Central Playing Area's men's State Fours winners, Wayne Gniel (left), Geoff Rigby, Bill Livingston and Robert Reseigh.



• Runners-up at Korong Vale's tournament, left to right, Geoff Stopps, George Wood, Stewart Hollis and Shane O'Shea.



• Winners are grinners: Korong Vale Open Fours tournament winners, St. Arnaud's Gary Smith (left), Darren Shepherd, Colin Marchment and Terry McSwain.

St. Arnaud Foursome Wins Korong Vale Tournament

Korong Vale Bowls Club turned on the charm and provided an ideal environment on Sunday, for the staging of the club's annual Open Fours tournament.

The ideal weather conditions and the club's warm hospitality were enjoyed by bowlers from as far afield as Boort, Calivil, Charlton, Donald Golf, Inglewood, St. Arnaud, St. Arnaud Country Club, Wedderburn and Wyche-proof, with only one composite team of three club bowlers and Pat Connors (Charlton) required at the last minute to make up a full field of 16 teams.

Club president, Dorothy Gibson, extended a warm welcome to all competitors and thanked all bowlers for their support, observing that it was wonderful to see the club's green full for its most important tournament.

Dorothy also acknowledged the event's sponsors and outlined the rules of play, encouraging all to enjoy their day of bowls.

Three games of 12 ends sectional play was the order of the day, with a break for a supptuous lunch provided by the small but dedicated band of club members.

Prior to the play offs to decide the day's placings, presentations were made to the best winning rinks: Game 1, Leon Holt (Wedderburn); game 2, Robbie Day (Inglewood); game 3, B. Meighan (Calivil).

The four sectional winners, Peter Hibberd (Donald

Golf, 3 wins) versus Stewart Hollis (Donald Golf, 2 wins an a draw), Terry McSwain (St. Arnaud, 2 wins) versus Peter Waters (Boort, 3 wins), competed in play-offs of 5 ends to decide the finalists.

Stewart Hollis and Terry McSwain then led their charges into the decider, with the St. Arnaud quartet of Terry McSwain, Dennis Good, Darren Shepherd and Gary Smith proving too consistent for Donald Golf's Stewart Hollis, George Wood, Shane O'Shea and Geoff Stopps.

The Peter Hibberd and Peter Waters combinations finished equal third.

After a lengthy festive season break and the uncertainty created by COVID-19, all bowlers appreciated the opportunity to take part in a very well organised tournament.

At the end of the day, while making the presentations, Dorothy Gibson paid tribute to her small and very hard working band, including tournament co-ordinator Judy Matthews, the indefatigable John Gibson, and those who prepared and served a delicious two-course meal at lunch time, followed up by afternoon tea later in the day.

No one could go home disappointed after such an enjoyable outing.

Birchip Tennis Derby Day

Whilst the North Central Tennis Association is currently enjoying a summer hiatus, in a new initiative the two Birchip teams played the second of the Swans' Derbys in the final round before Christmas on Friday, December 16.

With the installation of lights at several of the North Central Tennis venues, the NCTA by-laws have been revised to make provision for matches to be played prior to Saturday afternoon and the Friday evening timeslot provided pleasant summer conditions for Birchip and Wirrim's Round 8 matches of the 2021-2022 North Central Lawn Tennis Association season and it was a welcome change to the traditional Saturday afternoon format.

In a very tight contest, Birchip edged Wirrim 109-105 games, picking up 6 points to 4, and levelling the scores at one Derby win apiece for the season.

Men

In a close contest, Wirrim's men started off the evening in winning form to take the section off Birchip by the small-

est of margins, 36 games to 34 games.

In the top section, Birchip's men, Jon Haslam and Robbie Lee, got off to a dream start to defeat Wirrim's Josh Richmond and James Goldsmith 8-5, before Jon Haslam backed up his first-round performance to partner with wife Kelly Haslam and take another 8-5 win off Wirrim's Josh Richmond and Steph Coffey.

In the lower section, Wirrim switched the results, taking the win in two out of the three sets, which started with young guns Connor Lee and Riley Hogan defeating Birchip's Sam O'Donnell and Blake Lee 8-5. To continue the winning run for Wirrim, Riley Hogan and Amy Walder partnered up to defeat Blake Lee and Mark Bowen 8-4.

Women

Birchip's women got off to a flying start to turn the tables in the women's section, taking the two points following a 39-30 game win.

In true derby fashion, Wirrim's top pairing of De-Anne Ferrier and Kellie Matthews started off the night by narrowly overcoming Birchip's Sandie Richmond and Fiona Best in a tiebreaker. In match two, Birchip's Sandie Richmond was out for redemption following a close defeat earlier in the evening, and accompanied Jo Lee to defeat Wirrim's combination of De-Anne Ferrier and Carling McEvoy 8-4.

In the lower section, the derby rivalry only got stronger, with Wirrim's Deanne Botheras taking the court with Alexandra Randell to face daughter Bec Botheras and Georgie Warne (Birchip), which saw the Wirrim pairing take a convincing 8-3 win. In other remaining matches, Wirrim's Alexandra Randell and Sassia Coffey came up against Birchip's Georgie Warne and Tylah Haslam but went down to the Birchip duo 8-2.

Mixed

Heading into the mixed section, scores were tied at two points each, but with Birchip having a 7-game lead. The contest didn't take long to heat up, with Wirrim overcoming the Birchip contingent by only 3 games (39-36), to take the section win and collect another 2 match points.

In the top section, Wirrim's top two pairings of Josh Richmond and De-Anne Ferrier, and James Goldsmith and Carling McEvoy, all got off to winning starts to both have 8-3 wins against Birchip's pairings of Jon Haslam and Sandie Richmond and Robbie and Jo Lee, respectively. To round out the top section,

Birchip's Kelly Haslam and Fiona Best managed to overcome Wirrim's Steph Coffey and Kellie Matthews 8-6 right as the sun set for the evening.

In the lower section, Birchip's Bec Botheras was out for redemption and partnered with Sam O'Donnell to defeat mother Deanne Botheras and Connor Lee in a tiebreaker. In other matches, Riley Hogan and Sassia Coffey fought hard to defeat Birchip's Blake Lee and Georgie Warne 8-6, whilst Wirrim's Amy Walder and Alexandra Randall were outclassed by Birchip's Mark Bowen and Tylah Haslam 8-2.

Riley Hogan was the sole three set winner of the evening. Congratulations Riley!

All going well, tennis will resume on January 29, 2022, where Birchip faces Charlton, and Wirrim plays Donald, both away.



• Riley Hogan sends a forehand return shot back over the net.



• Korong Vale's John Gibson focuses on his delivery during Saturday's Division 2 clash with Donald Golf.



• Club president John Howley (right) congratulates Peter Kelly on his men's singles championship win.

Bowlers Back on the Green

• Continued from page 20.

John Hampson 23 lost to Lindy Morgan 26, Glenn Hudson 21 lost to Graeme Davidson 28, Ken Strachan 27 d. Marion McEwen 19.

Donald Bowls Summer Report

There's been a lot happening over the Summer break.

The Donald Bowling Club is three nights into its summer night pennant, with good support from within the club and also outside, for a very pleasant bowls experience for any aspiring bowlers. Brenda Brennan is taking names in charge of these events, phone 0407607310.

Last Saturday both divisions travelled to Boort for pennant and both won the day.

The "ones" had a clean sweep, with Norm Hollis with "Acky" (Kelvin) Adamson, Peter Wyllie and Jim Aitken eclipsing Kelvin Richie's lot 35/11, and Bill Hegarty with Jack Collins, Luke Kelly and John Howley also having a great win over Kevin Depiazza 37/19.

Peter Kelly, skipping after his big win in the club championship the day before, with Max Harris, Nev Barber and

Ian McEwen, had a very close battle with North Central playing State singles champ Shayne Morris's lot, playing catch up all day to finally edge in front on the 24th., and won by two shots.

Unfortunately, this team skip, Graeme Euvrard, went down with Covid after the semi-final in the championship last week, and had to council his bowling commitments for the time, and we will miss him greatly.

The championship final on Friday was down to 4 players, with Graeme to play Peter Kelly and Max Harris to play John Howley.

Max won over John and then had to play Peter in the final.

Congratulations to Peter Kelly on winning his first

Donald Bowling Club men's singles championship.

Graeme is slowly recovering, along with his wife Mon, and club members wish them well and are thankful to this stage that no one else in the club has been affected.

The division twos won two of their three games, with Graeme Davidson with Beth Hollis, Frank McConville and Trevor Farrer winning 28/21 over Glen Hudson.

Lindy Morgan's lot of Beryl Milne, Marg Quick and Colin Perry won over John Hamson, 26/23 .

Marion McEwen's team of David Romeo, Brenda Brennan and Bo Subprom went down to Ken Strahan 19/27, to give Donald a narrow two shot victory overall.

— Tiger in the Ditch

Ladder after round 11 — Division 1

	P	W	L	D	Bye	F	A	S/D	%	Pts
Donald Golf	11	6	1	4	0	571	412	159	138.59	92
St. Arnaud	11	5	2	4	0	574	416	158	137.98	84
St. Arnaud Country Club	11	5	2	4	0	550	472	78	116.53	80
Wycheproof	11	5	2	4	0	511	446	65	114.57	80
Wedderburn	11	3	4	4	0	476	506	-30	94.07	60
Charlton	11	3	4	4	0	436	537	-101	81.19	56
Donald	11	1	6	4	0	437	535	-98	81.68	45
Boort	11	0	7	4	0	403	634	-231	63.56	31

Ladder after round 11 — Division 2

	P	W	L	D	Bye	F	A	S/D	%	Pts
Korong Vale	11	7	0	3	1	472	380	92	124.21	89
St. Arnaud Country Club	11	4	2	4	1	419	390	29	107.44	69
Wedderburn	11	4	2	4	1	426	400	26	106.50	66
Donald Golf	11	3	3	3	2	439	359	80	122.28	58
Wycheproof	10	3	3	3	1	421	377	44	111.67	54
Donald	11	2	4	4	1	371	442	-71	83.94	54
Boort	11	2	4	4	1	385	420	-35	91.67	52
Charlton	11	1	5	4	1	314	372	-58	84.41	44
St. Arnaud	11	2	5	3	1	423	530	-107	79.81	42



• It's all about balance. **Above:** Marnoo's Cooper Reading lets loose, as Birchip's Will Marks prepares to head for the batting crease. **Right:** Marnoo spinner Jake McLean in action. Chris Guthrie is the umpire.



Catch-Up Cricket This Weekend

In a season interrupted by showery weather and COVID-19, Wimmera Mallee cricket was forced to call off the first scheduled games of the new year, its round 7 on January 8, 2022.

In the circumstances the Association executive decided that, instead of being cancelled, round 7 would be moved to this Sunday, January 23 after round 9 is played tomorrow, January 22.

In the meantime, round 8 "restarted" the season last Saturday, with Donald assured of holding fourth place in "A" grade, due to having the bye.

Game of the day, in terms of ladder positions, was at St. Arnaud, where it was second versus third. On percentage, Jeffcott was in second place,

but on Saturday its batting order suffered a major blow through the unavoidable absence of the high-scoring Lachie Jones.

In blistering bowling form, St. Arnaud's Jacob Patching returned the match-winning figures of 5/17 (7.3), with the ever-reliable Carl Torney also taking 3/33 (8), and the last Jeffcott wicket fell at 116. Remarkably, 92 of that total was contributed by just two players, Aaron Schofield, 66, and Sam Postlethwaite, 26.

St. Arnaud needed only 25 overs to take the game at 4/124, top-scorers being Nick Gorrie 31, Harley Durward 29, Kurtis Torney 28, and Mitch Egan 27.

At Marnoo, Birchip kept in touch with the top four with a total of 4/269, the biggest of the round. Batting right through the innings, for a masterful 110 not out (including 18 fours), Joe Boyle shared partnerships of 57 with Will Marks (23), and 132 with Riley Doran, whose commanding 81 featured 11 fours

and 3 sixes. Among the wicket-takers for Marnoo were David Lang 2/46 (7), and Jack McAllister 2/34 (8).

In a brave reply, Marnoo managed a respectable 158, mainly through the efforts of Nick Hudson 49, Brylie Cameron 26, David Lang 25, and Jake McLean 17. Completing a memorable double, Joe Boyle took 2/24 (5), while Connor McCredden finished with 3/32, and Lachie Randall 2/1 (2).

"A" grade ladder leader, Brim Kellalac Sheep Hills forged ahead with a win at Wycheproof, though the home team did well to restrict the visitors' total to 9/127,

most of which was contributed by the McPherson clan — Isaac 57, Mark 36, and Chris 15. The Demons' bowling honours went to Tom Trewin 4/25 (8), and Bryce Gaylor 2/20 (8).

With Brim K.S.H. bowlers giving nothing away - Mark McPherson 3/6 (8), and Charlie Dean 3/10 (7) — Wyche. was all out for 54, double-figure scorers being Bryce Gaylor 15, and James Ison 11.

"B" Grade

Equal ladder leaders, Jeffcott and Charlton, both suffered defeat, while third and fourth, St. Mary's and Birchip strengthened their hold on those places.

On its home ground, Jeffcott was given a solid start by Vaughn Dunstan, 13, and Tom Reekie, 16. Other valuable scores came from Leigh Nunn 24, and Baxter Donnellon 11 not out, as the total reached 96. St. Arnaud players sharing the wickets were Hayden Torney 3/1 (5.3), Zane Bigmore 3/21 (8), Jason Smith 2/26 (8), and Adam Pritchard 2/17 (4). Then, with captain Hayden Torney retiring at 63 not out, and with Brad Williams scoring 27, St. Arnaud took the points with 3/103 from 32 overs. Luca Rice returned Jeffcott's top bowling figures, 2/12 from 7 overs.

• Continued on page 15.

Bowlers Back on the Green



• Wycheproof skipper, George Coatsworth, sizes up the head as he prepares to bowl during last Saturday's Division 1 match against Donald Golf.

North Central pennant bowlers were back doing what they enjoy, with the resumption of the 2021-'22 pennant season last Saturday, with three of the leading teams enhancing their position on the ladder, and just three rounds remaining prior to the finals.

The match-up of the day saw Ladder leader, Donald Golf, hosting fellow top four team, Wycheproof, with the honours going to the home team.

Donald Golf led on most of the rinks all afternoon, but it was Trevor Hollis's rink which gave Golf a significant advantage late in the day, when the pressure began to mount.

When the final bowl was delivered, Golf got home by 17 shots overall and bagged all 12 points.

St. Arnaud Country Club also secured all 12 points in its match against Wedderburn.

All three rinks were close, but Mark Esmore's 9-shot win over Bobby Montebello provided some much needed breathing space for the visitors.

St. Arnaud flexed its considerable bowling muscles against Charlton, winning all three rinks by a combined margin of 22 shots, Glendon Hancock, Alan Jackson, and Phil McRae maintaining control on the day's play from start to finish.

Donald scored a morale-boosting win over Boort, storming home by an impressive 44 shots overall and claiming all 12 points on offer, skippers Bill Hegarty and Peter Kelly securing big wins to ensure the trip home was an enjoyable one

Results of round 11:

Donald Golf 73-12 d. Wycheproof 56-0.

Daniel Pettifer 22 d. Eric Rayes 20, Wayne Gniel 22 d. Aaron Mead 18, Trevor Hollis 29 d. George Coatsworth 18.

Charlton 50-0 lost to St. Arnaud 89-12.

Kevin Willey 16 lost to Alan Jackson 29, Lynne Southwell 18 lost to Glendon Hancock 27, Ken North 16 lost to Phil McRae 33.

Wedderburn 59-0 lost to St. Arnaud Country Club 81-12.

Neale Holt 19 lost to Jason Abbott 25, Bob Montebello 21 lost to Mark Esmore 30, Laurie Witham 19 lost to Bob McGregor 26.

Boort 53-0 lost to Donald 97-12.

Kelvin Ritchie 23 lost to Norm Hollis 25, Kevin

Depiazza 19 lost to Bill Hegarty 37, Shayne Morris 11 lost to Peter Kelly 35.

Division 2

Donald Golf took the challenge right up to Division 2 ladder leader, Korong Vale, in a keenly contested encounter at Donald Golf.

Golf won two of the three rinks, due to solid team efforts by the rinks skipped by Merilyn Frank and Geoff Stopps, but Amy Roberts's experience and bowling prowess led her team and Korong Vale to a hard earned win.

Charlton trounced St. Arnaud by a whopping 51 shots, with Greg Wain's rink leading the charge with a commanding 27-shot win over Wayne Rourke and his troops.

St. Arnaud Country Club strengthened its grip on a top four position with a good win over Wedderburn, Kevin Pole and Des Moulday leading their rinks to victory, while Bob Passalick flew the flag for Wedderburn, with a comfortable win over Chris Webb's rink.

Donald completed a successful day for the club by

emulating the achievements of the club's division 1 counterparts and securing a good win over Boort, albeit by just 2 shots overall, Boort claiming one winning rink, led by Ken Strachan, while Lindy Morgan and Graeme Davidson ensured the win for Donald.

Details:

Donald Golf 59-4 lost to Korong Vale 62-8.

George Wood 16 lost to Amy Roberts 28, Geoff Stopps 21 d. Joan Murnane 17, Merilyn Frank 22 d. John Gibson 17.

Charlton 90-12 d. St. Arnaud 39-0.

Colin Stewart 31 d. Colin Coates 16, Eily Rosewall 24 d. Gary Shinnars 15, Greg Wain 35 d. Wayne Rourke 8.

Wedderburn 55-2 lost to St. Arnaud Country Club 76-10.

Bob Passalick 26 d. Chris Webb 15, Travis Jackson 15 lost to Kevin Pole 42, Ian Hall 14 lost to Des Moulday 19.

Boort 71-2 lost to Donald 73-10.

• Continued on page 19.