



# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

No. 322  
FEBRUARY  
2016

**Free, and your spare coins help cover costs.**

**Since the last edition you have donated**

**\$50 from Yarragon Uniting Church Ladies Guild,**

**\$25 from Yarragon Craft Group \$60.<sup>20</sup> from the collection boxes.**

## WINNERS ANNOUNCED

By Pat McPhie, Yarragon Lions Club

Yarragon Lions very much appreciate the support we had in supporting our major raffle. You helped us to raise over \$15,000, which will be distributed in the near future.



Lion Ken Trezise was pleased to deliver first prize (ticket 00799) to Jennifer Rolls, a teacher at Yarragon Primary School. She was thrilled to be able to furnish her house with new items.



Moe resident Carol Ward bought her ticket (09790) the night before the draw, and won the 2nd prize trip to Merimbula.



Lion Jack Kirston joins Ken in congratulating 3rd prize winner Caren Heard (ticket 09295), who has a selection of gifts and shopping vouchers from Yarragon Village businesses to use.

## YARRAGON SKATE PARK campaign update

By the Yarragon Community Skatepark Committee



The Baw Baw Shire's community consultation process is currently open for submissions from residents on their preferred site location and what they would like to see incorporated into the concept design.

This is a critical step in the process. Although there has been overwhelming support for a skatepark in our town, finding a site that has community support will in the end determine the outcome.

If you know a young person who would like a skate facility where they can meet and safely enjoy riding their skateboard and scooters, please help them to have a voice in this process by either assisting them in submitting

their ideas or submitting on their behalf.

Submissions can be made by :  
Completing the online form at [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/Our-Community/Get-Involved/Have-Your-Say/Yarragon-Skate-Park-Location](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/Our-Community/Get-Involved/Have-Your-Say/Yarragon-Skate-Park-Location) or  
Emailing Baw Baw Shire [bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au) or  
Completing the comments form in the Consultation pack available online or at Baw Baw Customer Service Centres or  
preparing your own submission and either posting it to: Recreation Team, Baw Baw Shire Council, PO Box 304, Warragul, VIC 3820 or handing it in at a [Customer Service Centres](#).

All written submissions must be received by **5.00pm, Friday 12 February 2016.**



## KEEP YOUR GUARD UP

By Geoff Conway, Secretary, Yarragon Fire Brigade

As I write I am looking out on our damp lawn and feeling relieved. The risk of fire has grown steadily since the dry started in October. Many parts of the state, Gippsland included, have experienced intense and destructive fires.

We have been fortunate in our own area with only a small number of fires which were quickly contained. This is due in part to the care and vigilance of those who live in the Yarragon district. Brigade members are appreciative of the efforts of our friends and

neighbours who have made the summer a safe one so far.

However, it is far too early to relax and the recent rain will not lessen the fire risk for long. There are still a few weeks of summer left and the potential for serious fire weather remains. Don't drop your guard just because of a few drops of rain.

Fire Restrictions are still in force and will be for some time. **No fire may be lit without a permit** and care still needs to be taken when using tools and machinery in the

open.

If you see smoke or fire, **ring 000 immediately.**

Years of experience have shown that the two things that make all the difference in keeping people and property safe is how aware the community is of fire risk and how soon we can get firefighters to the scene of any fire.

If you need any advice on how to protect yourself and your family, go to the CFA website or ring the bushfire information line on 1800 240 667.

The Yarragon Community Newsletter is produced monthly by community volunteers.

Editor Jude Conway  
Printer R.M.I. Print, Warragul

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  - \* Yarragon Rural Supplies
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### Contact us:

Yarragon Community Newsletter  
95 Earls Rd, Yarragon 3823

Email: [yarragonnews@gmail.com](mailto:yarragonnews@gmail.com)

Phone : 0411 833 219

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**NEXT DEADLINE:  
26th February 9am**



### FROM the EDITOR

I made the mistake of reading a real newspaper today. One needs to be in a particular frame of mind to read so much pessimism; our democracy is shaky, the global economy is shot, inequality is becoming more extreme (62 people own 50% of the world's wealth), extreme weather events challenge our resilience

and insurance companies, the tide of desperate humans looking for asylum in other countries will not reduce any time soon, and the price of petrol is going up.

Hopefully you'll feel optimistic about the future after reading our little local rag; as we farewell Stuart Nicholas we are reminded how blessed we are to have truly gentle men in our community who understand that kindness is a strength. As we celebrate Dorothy

Mudie's Australia Day medal we are reminded that a great army of volunteers have made their time and talents available for the benefit of our community - in fact, putting this newsletter together is a perfect antidote to pessimism! So take a little break from your deadlines, and read some good news.

Jude Conway

## FAREWELL to STUART NICHOLAS

By Tini Cook

The Yarragon community came out in great numbers on January 8 to mourn the passing of Stuart Nicholas - a much loved 'Yarragon icon'.

From diagnosis to death was just over 4 weeks and his rapid decline was such a shock to all, but his acceptance and dignity was amazing. He met adversity with good spirit and diffused it with his usual dry wit.

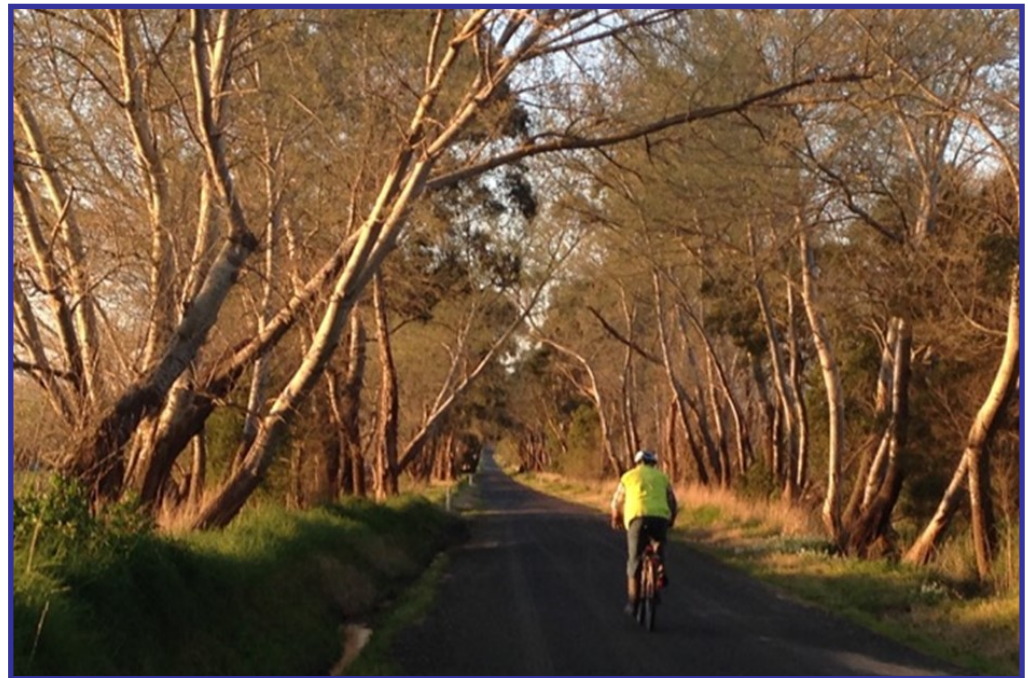
Riding his bike around town each day in his shorts and gumboots, stopping to chat, he touched the lives of so many with the gift of friendship.

He was the go-to man for Yarragon's history and organised local annual history tours that were enjoyed by a keen group of locals. He was always ready to give a helping hand to both individuals and the community.

His kindness, sense of humour, wisdom and wealth of local knowledge will be so sadly missed.

Truly nature's gentle man.

Farewell dear friend, from all your friends in Yarragon.



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NO JOB IS TOO SMALL. Quotes are free and Eric can come to you.





## Seven classes this year!

By Keith Lewry, Principal

**New Year:** Welcome to the 2016 school year. The staff commenced on 27<sup>th</sup> January and the children commenced on 29<sup>th</sup> January. This year we are running seven classrooms for the first time, I think, ever. We continue to grow and have nearly 30 Foundation (Prep) students already engaged in their learning.

The kinder/school transition is excellent with the ELC under our wing. Lee and her team have commenced another great year in our Early Learning Centre and this year will be running longer days to suit parents and children. Across Yarragon K-6 we now have over 200 students.

As part of this growth we will be receiving a new Multi-Purpose building which will be a great asset for our PE and other programs that require a bit of space. We expect it will be here by the end of February.

**2015 Grade 6 Graduation:** As always, this proved to be one of the most enjoyable nights of the year with the chance to farewell our Grade 6 class after seven years of primary school. There were a number of presentations with the highly prized Yarragon Lions Club Outstanding Citizenship and Leadership Award this year going to Eemaan Zafar who was a most worthy winner. The Yarragon and District Community Association presented the other major award, the Y&DCA Academic Award. Another worthy winner in Hannah Slocombe received this award. Both girls were very excited and proud to win their awards. I thank the Lions Club and the Y&DCA for their excellent support of education in Yarragon.

I would also like to wish our 2015 Grade 6 class all the best in their new schools!

**Grounds:** Our Grounds Committee has been doing and organising a fair bit of work over the past month. The new area is nearly complete and looks sooo much better than the overgrown junk pile it used to be.

**Ins and outs:** Heather Harvey retired from school at the end of last year after over 20 years of phenomenal service to our school. Heather has been a fantastic member of our staff team and we will miss her presence each day. Well done and all the best Heather!

Tara Burke also finished up with us as she has graduated as a teacher and is looking for teaching positions. Thanks Tara and all the best in your new career.

Emma Gubbels and her family are currently in Indonesia as part of their year long trek around South East Asia. We wish Emma and her family all the best and look forward to having them back at Yarragon in 2017.

New to our school this year will be Daniel Riddle who will be teaching in the senior village, Lisa Beatson will be working as an aide in our classrooms and Sharon Hirst will be taking Indonesian for 2016. Welcome!

**What's On?** Student Leadership elections, House Athletic Sports, Interschool swimming, Grade 5/6 Urban Camp in the last week of Term 1 and lots of learning and fun during the year.



## PANCAKE DAY

TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup>  
FEBRUARY

from 9:30am to 12:00pm  
at the UNITING CHURCH HALL  
All welcome!

Local people helping local people in need.



## LIONS ALWAYS BUSY

By Pat McPhie

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of December Ray Robins and Pat McPhie were pleased to represent Yarragon Lions Club at the school graduation night, where we presented the Outstanding Citizenship and Leadership Award. The glass trophy and \$100 cheque went to Eemaan Zafar, who plans to go to St Margaret's School in Berwick. She hopes to become a lawyer, and with her great work ethic, we are sure she will achieve her ambition, and we wish her all the best at her new school.

We had a great gathering of Yarragon seniors for their Christmas evening at St Jarlath's Hall on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December.

Lions is not all about work. Our club enjoyed their wind-up night for 2015 on the 18<sup>th</sup> December. David Evans proved that Santa is not just for the youngsters.

1: Pat McPhie & Roy Robins with Eemaan Zafar.

2: Seniors' Christmas Party

3: Lyn Jones with Santa

4: Lionel & Shirley Deane with Santa



## Latrobe Chorale Is Back With Bells On in 2016



Following the success of its end of year concerts in December, the Latrobe Chorale is looking forward to a wonderful year of music making for its thirtieth anniversary year in 2016.

The choir will get together for its first 2016 practice on Tuesday February 2. Their next main concert on May 21 and 22 will be of Gabriel Faurés *Requiem* and John Rutter's *Gloria*. Members of the City of Traralgon Band will join the Chorale for these performances.

Fauré's *Requiem* dates from the 1890's, while Rutter's *Gloria* although written in the style of much earlier music, is by a living composer and was first performed in 1974. Recordings of these works will be introduced to the choir over supper at the first rehearsal; when the choir will also start preparing work to perform at the Latrobe Valley Community Choir's *Street Requiem* event in Traralgon on March 5.

The Latrobe Chorale is a Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass choir that was founded in 1985. The Chorale has been coming together ever since to practise and perform a range of mainly classical and sacred choral works.

During the second half of the year the Chorale will again be singing Handel's *Messiah*. This event will be at the West Gippsland Arts Centre in Warragul, on Sat. Nov.19 and at Kernot Hall, Morwell, on Sun. Nov. 20. These performances will be with the Gippsland Symphony Orchestra.

Singers who would like to sing *Messiah* are welcome to also join in the first half year's program. New, current and returning singers will all be welcome.

The Latrobe Chorale is also currently seeking a rehearsal pianist for its Tuesday evening practices. Interested people should contact the Chorale's musical director, Mary Mirtschin on 5174 6659

The Latrobe Chorale meets on Tuesday evenings from 7.30p.m. to 10 p.m. in the hall at St Andrews Church in Church St Morwell (Entry from James St. )

<http://www.latrobechorale.org/>



# AUSTRALIA



*Our own Dorothy Mudie, long-time Yarragon resident and active community member for many years, was honoured with an Australia Day medallion in Baw Baw Shire's Australia Day Award ceremony on Monday 25th January. She is shown here receiving her award from Mayor Joe Gauci.*

*Mrs Mudie addressed the gathering of Yarragon residents at Howard Park the following day, where she reflected that volunteering brought many satisfactions for volunteers. Her interest over many years has been the welfare and opportunities for young people, particularly through Sunday School and Scouts, and she exhorted residents to not stand in the way of the proposed skate park.*

*Congratulations Dorothy. You ended your speech saying you didn't know why you had won the award. Your many many years of putting others first is exactly why the people of Yarragon nominated you.*



1: Newest Yarragon Fire Brigade recruits Janet McConville and Darold Klindworth prepare to raise the flag. Will they get their knots right?

2: The Yarragon Lions were kept busy serving the scones.

3: Geoff Conway and Inge Mitchell - a good chance for friends and neighbours to catch u

4: The crowd appreciated the thought-provoking speeches.

5: YDCA President Michael Ogden welcomed everyone; musicians Peter & David Pawley entertainment.







## FOOD for THOUGHT:

# WHERE ARE THE LIMITS?

By Cr Murray Cook



*After congratulating the Australia Day award recipients, Councillor Cook's Australia Day address highlighted some of the challenges that will face future Australians. The extent of their challenges will depend in part on the decisions we make now, and I thought it was worth reprinting his words here - Ed.*

As the world gets effectively smaller and the world population increases at approximately 220,000 net per day, or 70 million a year to what is now a total world population of 7.4 billion, one wonders what is the planned population of Australia into the future?

Depending on who you are talking to at a government level, a population of 30-40 million by 2050 is the figure plucked out of the air. Mind you, I am not aware of a whole of community debate on just what the Australian population should be, or how many people Australia can sustain, with research in water and land use to back it up.

Of specific interest is how this relates to us in Baw Baw Shire. As Chair of the Peri Urban Group of Rural councils, which is made up of the seven councils that surround Melbourne, I have been involved in the Footprint Melbourne Project. This project aims to model the capacity of Melbourne's foodbowl, which includes the Baw Baw Shire, and is a collaborative study between the University of Melbourne and Deakin University, and is funded by the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation.

This region surrounding Melbourne produces 82% of the food required for the Greater Melbourne city. However, if the current urban sprawl of Melbourne continues, with house building on farm land ongoing, this will reduce to around 21% by 2050.

This is where it gets interesting, as the State Government says that Baw Baw Shire has to have 15 years of residential land ready to be developed at any one time. The challenge then becomes one of balancing this residential growth against the sub-division of rural land. It also highlights the fact that local government is truly at the bottom of the political hierarchy, and has to do as directed by state legislation.

I share this short glimpse of one of the many challenges facing us here at a local level, and as a part of the changing face of this great land we call home. There is one fact for sure. Change is inevitable and it is the increasing rate of change that compounds what is happening all around us.

We must all work together as a community to keep this country great.

## WALK IN THEIR SHOES

By Frances Oakes

Have you ever been slapped in the face by wet leaves? I have, and I was glad I was wearing glasses which prevented the leaves and bits entering my eyes. It emphasized to me a conversation I'd had with a friend who works for Yooralla.

We had gone for a walk and she was surprised that so many plants had been allowed to overflow on to the footpath.

How many of us bother to walk along our bit of footpath at least once a month and check if we need to trim, prune or tie back any unruly plants?

People who rely on wheelchairs for mobility, or who are vision impaired, or unsteady on their feet are put in jeopardy because trees and shrubs are hanging over the footpath.

Another hazard for vision impaired and disabled pedestrians is cars parked across the footpath. People with

walkers and pushing prams also find it really, really annoying to have to go around the car into the road. Please everyone, think before you park across the footpath. If there is no room in the driveway then park in the road, which is where cars belong.

It is an offense by law to park your car on the pavement or nature strip.

Take care everyone and enjoy life every day.

that are happening around them.

**Bottlebrush** - will assist the animal in letting go of the past and adapt to the new changes. It will also help the new bonding relationship between the person that will carry out the main physical caring and mothering role.

**Boronia** - helps in dealing with an ended relationship where there is still pining for the other family, whether be it be an animal or human it has moved away from.

**Dog Rose** - helps to bring confidence if the animal is fearful, shy or timid.

**Pink Mulla Mulla** - is to help release fear of past hurt being repeated; this can be a huge emotion for animals that have been abused.

**Sunshine Wattle** - for being open to a brighter future.

**Bauhinia** - can be given to the animals that are already a part of your family, to help them be open to the change of having new members join them.

**Emergency Essence** - is a combination of

Bush Flowers that are excellent for any emotional upset. It has a calming effect during stressful times. *This Essence should be a part of every household, it's available in drop or spray form and can be taken by people (this is really good for us!) and animals.*

This is just one area on how the Australian Bush Flower Essences can help to improve lives. Overall, every Bush Flower works with a different emotion or can treat physical conditions for people and animals. Flower Essences go a step beyond herbalism. They have a unique and gentle way of bringing healing energy from the flower, which vibrates at a very high frequency. The Essences work, not just within the physical body as herbs do, but vibrate throughout all energy fields which surround the body. They can make a profound difference to your life, and to those around you. I do also have, and individually make up, a large range of blends for humans.

Lastly.....

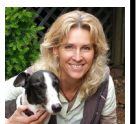
**Do you or your animal/s feel distressed in the hot weather?**

**Emergency Essence** and **Solaris Essence** are both great blends that can relieve stress that 'we' (animals & humans) feel due to the hot weather conditions.

Please feel free to come into the Clinic for information about the range of Australian Bush Flowers; you can see their beautiful photos and descriptions of the healing qualities they bring.

I am in attendance at the Clinic on  
**Thursdays: 1pm - 4.30pm**  
**Fridays: 9.30am - 4pm**  
and from Feb 20th  
**Saturdays 9.30 - 1pm**  
or outside these hours by appointment only. Phone: 0412 500489

By Julie Veenstra,  
Holistic Animal Health  
Practitioner



## The Unsung Joy of Volunteering

We have just completed our summer holiday program for children. As expected it provided a really delightful time of fun and activities for local children, but it also allowed a group of adults to come together to put on this event. A number met new friends, others enjoyed the company of well known neighbours and every one of the adult volunteers was pleased to have contributed to a worthwhile program. Particularly on the second (and final day in Yarragon) there was a general feeling of well being because we were doing something positive in the community for no reward other than seeing the happy smiles on the children's faces and enjoying a chat with their parents.

Doing things together with people in our community is one of the defining features of happy country towns. We cannot wait for some unknown third party- 'they should...' Instead, we recognise that we need to participate ourselves to make things happen. What is often not mentioned is the happiness that comes from getting to know others in our community that we might have walked past otherwise, or the sense of satisfaction when a skill (like hammering in nails!) is attempted by a child because we believed in his or her potential! Jesus said, 'It is better to give than to receive' and this was definitely a time that highlighted this Gospel truth.

## Holiday program

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January, children gathered for the Holiday Program at St Mark's in Loch Street Yarragon. There were many different activities available- crafts and woodwork, games and stories and for the more adventurous, a chance to conquer fear on the Earth Ball or some fun on the water slide.

This year the stories centred on self esteem and overcoming difficulties. We used the model of David- the young shepherd boy who defeated the giant Goliath and eventually became the King- great messages for children who often are fearful and need encouragement to achieve their potential.

It was great to have volunteers from the church and community working together to make this a really memorable time.



YARRAGON  
Animal Health  
& Wellbeing Clinic

Yarragon Village Vet, 75 Princes Highway, Yarragon

Hello ! This month I thought I would talk about the changes that happen when a new animal arrives in your home. Whether it be very young, is being re-homed or from a shelter, all of these situations bring different emotions for the animal. Also, the animals you already have may have difficulty adjusting when a new member joins the family.

**Australian Bush Flower Essence** remedies are an excellent way of assisting animals to settle into new situations. They work on a holistic level given in drop form. Bush Flower Essences that can help animals with the settling-in process are:  
**Bluebell** - helps them to trust and feel more settled with the new changes

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Yarragon Medical Centre will be farewelling  
**Dr Ei Thu Aung and Dr Farhana Quamar**  
as of Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January.

We would like to welcome to our Clinic **Dr Stuti Tandon**  
commencing on Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016

Appointments available 8.30 am to 7.00 pm  
(Monday to Friday) New patients welcome

Contact the Clinic on 56370222 to make an appointment.



## Council News

### Get The Latest Council News!

For all the latest Council News:

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- Tune into 3BBR FM, 531 3GG and 94.3 Star FM
- Read the Warragul & Drouin Gazette and the Warragul & Baw Baw Citizen
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### Mount Worth Ward Councillors



**Cr Murray Cook**  
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[www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au)



Everyone is welcome to come and join in the  
**World Day of Prayer**  
Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
10:30 am at the Uniting Church, Yarragon.

This is a global ecumenical movement of informed prayer and prayerful action.

More than 3 million people in over 170 countries and islands will be praying together during a global annual day of prayer.

This year the focus of the prayers will be the island nation of Cuba; a nation of rich contrasts with worsening economic conditions and cultural differences contributing to an unsettled society.

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# REGULAR EVENTS

## MONDAYS

### Music & More

for Pre-schoolers & parents /carers,  
St David's Uniting Church, Campbell St  
9:30 - 10:30 am during school terms  
\$2 per family includes morning tea  
Phone Rev Chris Duxbury 5633 1047

### West Gippsland Mobile Library

2:30 - 5:30pm  
Yarragon Public Hall carpark,

### Yarragon Fire Brigade

8:00 pm  
1A Murray Street,  
Captain: Ken Kemp  
Enquiries to secretary Geoff Conway 0411 833 219



## TUESDAYS

### Yarragon Craft Group

10am - 2pm  
Uniting Church Hall, Campbell St  
Bring along your own lunch and work or  
come along for a cuppa and a chat

**JAFFAS after school program** for primary  
school children, at St Mark's Anglican  
Church, Loch St, 3.30-5.30 pm.  
Gold coin donation.

## WEDNESDAYS

### Gardening Group

9 - 10am  
Yarragon Medical Centre  
Campbell Street



### Yarragon Playgroup

9:30 - 11:30am  
Yarragon Public Hall, Campbell St

### Yarragon Lions Club

2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7pm  
St Jarlath's Catholic Hall, Rollo St  
President: Kevin Arnold Ph: 0419 325 923



### YDCA

**Yarragon & District Community Association**  
Third Wednesday, 7pm  
The Station Gallery, Princes Hwy  
President: Michael Ogden 0490 058 993

## THURSDAYS

### Yarragon Bowls Club

**Shady Creek Rd**  
Social game night  
1st & 3rd Thursday  
followed by meal  
President Russell Weekley: 0417 521 605



## SATURDAYS

### Yarragon Craft & Produce Market

Fourth Saturday 9am - 1pm  
Yarragon Public Hall, Campbell Street  
Enquiries: Gaye Kent 0427 342 430

## SUNDAYS

### St Mark's Anglican Church, Loch St,

Rev Sue Jacka, ph: 5633 1021  
1st Sunday, Trafalgar 9:30am  
All other Sundays, 8:30am

### St David's Uniting Church, Campbell St

Rev Chris Duxbury, ph: 5633 1047  
1st, 2nd, 4th Sunday: 9:15am service.  
3rd Sunday: 5pm service followed by a shared meal  
for those who would like to stay.

### St Jarlath's Catholic Church, Rollo St

Father Bernie Krotwaar, ph: 5633 1166  
9am Mass on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

## WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY?

## ... and MARCH 2016

Tues 9 Pancake Day

page 3

## MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK

### Heart Foundation Yarragon Walkers



Starting at ROTUNDA,  
opposite 'All Things Bright & Beautiful'  
9:00am, in all weathers  
Tuesday:  
approx. 45 min town circuit  
Thursday: approx. 1 hour walking track  
Enquiries Angela Greenall 5624 3545

### Baw Baw Arts Alliance

The Station Gallery, Princes Hwy  
m: 0490 173 103  
Weekly drop-in sessions  
(small cost, plus materials if needed)  
Mondays: paint & draw 10:30—3:00  
Wednesdays: Clay 10:30—1:00  
Thursdays: Mosaics 10:30—12:30  
Fridays: Fibres & Fabrics 10:30—3:30

Shopfront & Gallery  
Wed to Sun 10:30am - 4pm

Classes with Tutors (fees apply)  
Tuesday: Calligraphy 1:00—3:00  
Thursday: Mosaics 1:00—3:00



Please keep those books coming. They can be left at 15 Burnett  
Crt Yarragon, or organise collection with Michael 0438 342 670,  
Kris 0419 588 200 or Paul 0428 595 736.



## FOR SALE by TENDER

2006 Land Rover Defender Crew Cab.  
Includes firefighting tank and pump unit.

Tender forms can be obtained from:  
The Secretary, Yarragon Fire Brigade via email at  
[yarragonfb@gmail.com](mailto:yarragonfb@gmail.com)  
or ring 0418318900.



Bookings appreciated  
Tel. 03 5634 2202

café | bar | restaurant



[www.yarragonhotel.com.au](http://www.yarragonhotel.com.au)

## OPEN 7 DAYS FOR MEALS

LUNCH: 12-2.30  
DINNER: 5.30-8.30 PM  
PIZZAS 7 DAYS

FRIDAY NIGHT  
RAFFLES &  
MEMBER'S DRAW

## Certificate of Excellence



tripadvisor

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