



# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

**No. 358  
MAY 2019**

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

**Since the last edition you have donated \$32.85 in the collection boxes. Thank you very much.**

## Yarragon Community Proudly Supporting the Good Friday Appeal

What an amazing community we have, to be continually supporting the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal!

Since then have achieved:

- 2015 \$6,232.95
- 2016 \$15,012.90
- 2017 \$21,884.10
- 2018 \$25,050.90
- 2019 \$26,585.40

Majority of funds are raised through monster Raffle with 60+ prizes donated by local businesses!

Easter Treasure Hunt was held for 100 kids in Market Street Park on Good Friday!

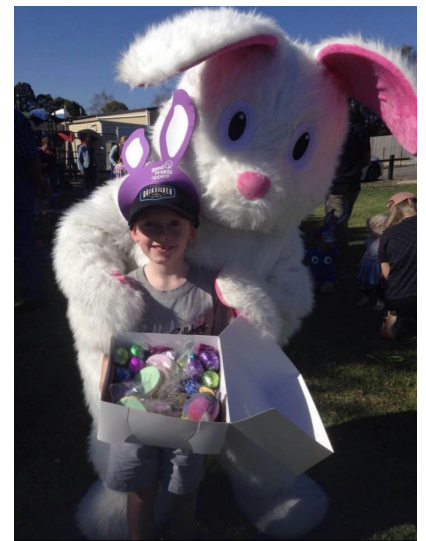


Special mention to:

Yarragon Lions Club, Mens Shed, Yarragon Craft & Produce Market, Cafe Piccolo, Yarragon Hotel, Warragul Greyhounds, Kaylah's Lashes, Sweet Treats by Jaime Lee & Colour of Life Photography who all held their own fundraisers!

We would LOVE more volunteers to help in 2020! We need door knockers, raffle tickets sellers, donation seekers and MORE! Businesses can run their own fundraiser, donate goods for monster raffle, help door knock Yarragon and surrounding towns.

Receipts can be given for substantial donations!



We would love a representative from each of the following clubs to contribute in some small way, so please get in contact with us: Bowls Club, Tennis Club, Football Club & Cricket Clubs!

Follow our journey & events on <https://www.facebook.com/yarragongoodfridayappeal/>

Please contact  
Lisa Harvey [0407309609](tel:0407309609)  
Dee Wheller [0438333026](tel:0438333026)

*More Photos on Page 8*

## What You Will Find in this Issue:

	Page
Yarragon Community Supports Good Friday Appeal	1
Thank you and help needed, Rainfall	2
Yarragon Craft and Produce Market	3
The History behind our Street Names	4-5
ANZAC Day in Yarragon, YDCA report	6
Take a Moment Paint it Cream	7
Kindergarten Open Days, Reflections	7
Yarragon Lions Club, More Good Friday Appeal photos	8
Yarragon Fire Brigade	9
Foxes near town, Advertisements from our wonderful Yarragon Businesses	10 –11
Your events Wrap up	12

### Thank You

To Gwen Gilbert who kindly donated a “From the Dawning” book for use by the newsletter.

It will form a valuable part of our resources.

Now the newsletter is seeking help in another way.

We would very much like some new members to join the team to help us out in times when we are away. If you would be interested please give Jen a call or email.

### Rainfall for Yarragon 2019 compared with 2018, 2017 & 2016 As recorded in McIntyre Rd

	2019 mls	2018 mils	2017 mils	2016 mils
January	12	54	33	74
February	25	15	84	16
March	36	46	35	64
April	43	40	64	40
May		141	66	95
June		75	42	106
July		127	93	148
August		106	151	80
September		93	191	76
October		42	74	131
November		143	35	70
December		54	120	66
YTD Total	116	936	988	966

The Yarragon Community Newsletter is produced **monthly** by community volunteers.



**Editors** Jen Lowe, Christine Whiley, Inge Mitchell.

**Printer** R.M.I. Print, —Warragul

Pick up your copy, make donations, or leave items for inclusion in next month's newsletter, at:

- \* Post Office
- \* Foodworks
- \* Yarragon Pharmacy

### Contact us:

Yarragon Community Newsletter  
PO Box 209, Yarragon 3823

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

Phone : 0428 218 111

Items for inclusion may be emailed, or placed in any of the donation boxes. *Please include your name & phone number.*

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Full page	\$120

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**NEXT DEADLINE:**  
For June 2019  
26 May 12 noon



# Yarragon Craft & Produce Market

By Marcus Hanley

April 27<sup>th</sup>

Saturday was our final market on the lawn for the summer/autumn season until hopefully the end of September for the grand final long weekend. So from May through to August we'll be completely back at the Public Hall and staying nice and cosy.

And it was a super chilly market out on the lawn on Saturday... with snow hitting Mt Baw Baw on the Friday and Saturday, we thought it was about to snow in Yarragon at times! The cold weather meant it was a quiet start to the market, but the crowds did come out eventually with many of the stalls reporting a solid day's trade. There were many travellers driving through town returning from Easter and Anzac Day holidays this helped with some extra sales. Di Armstrong kept herself warm with her doona, but was very happy with her day selling her original photo gift cards and she loves the outdoor market.

There were more stalls inside the public hall this month due to the weather forecast and what shoppers have been doing is parking up near the hall, checking out the



stalls inside and then wandering down Campbell Street to the lawn area for the rest of the stalls. The hall also started quietly but picked up as the day progressed and they had some

excellent results for the day. Rocco, our new veggie guy from Hazelwood, had a better day than expected so we're looking forward to having him back next month around at the hall with his wide range of fresh veggies. The Lions club have scoped out the area near the hall to setup their BBQ trailer, so we'll be good to go next month.

See you on Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>!





# THE HISTORY BEHIND OUR STREET NAMES

## DOWTON PARK

W.H. Dowton was noted as settler No. 200 in the 1908 Electoral Roll for Flinders.

The Dowton family occupied Allotment 5 in Section 15a on Loch Street comprising of approximately 10 acres from 1894 when the government of the day opened up land for closer settlements because of the 1890s depression. The railway line opened in 1878 with settlers and shopkeepers moving closer to it. W.H. Dowton later acquired Allotment 10 which was the adjoining 10 acres when the landowner failed to comply with the government leasing rules of clearing his land. Even with the additional block it was insufficient to be a manageable and profitable farm to support a growing family.

William Henry was the eldest child of Thomas & Susan Dowton, agricultural labourers in Kelshall, Hertfordshire, England and was born on 29 August, 1856. Together with their two sons they left England as assisted workers aboard the 'Herald' and sailed for 140 days arriving in Melbourne in June 1859 and settled in the Brighton area. The ship went on to survey the South Pacific and its islands.

Thomas did farming or labouring jobs as they settled in primitive conditions. Sadly the baby who made the journey died after 6 months as did the next two babies. The next five all lived to adulthood.

William had some education at the Brighton State School before going to work. This area had big trees which the early settlers related to rich land so tree felling and land clearing was the source of employment for many strong lads.

It was while working in the Ellinbank/Darnum area that he met his wife, Helen Rodier, the daughter of a family who were making a living as tree fellers helping to clear the land. They were married on 3 January, 1886 in the state parish of Darnum. Two sons, Daniel & Henry and two daughters, Amy & Alice were born in this area before they moved to a bark hut in Loch street, Yarragon in 1894. By late 1898 he had cleared about 5 acres, erected a 4 roomed house with paling walls and shingle roof, also a barn with slabs & palings and a cowshed made of palings. [And we think recycling is new.] The family increased over the years to 5 sons, Ernest, Albert & William and 5 daughters, Daisy, Edith and Ellen, the youngest was born in 1909.

The children were baptised over the years at the recently erected Church of England and they all attended the various services over the years. [Building replaced in 1991] The children all attended the State School to grade 8 and then found various types of employment. To help maintain the growing family other plots of land were purchased to graze stock, grow fodder and crops. Some was close by but another was 'down on the swamp' the main drain area. It was mixed farming but cattle had to be moved or crops harvested and carted. The

milking was done by hand with the cream separated and sent to Melbourne. A milking machine didn't arrive until the late 1920s. Other farm work would have been carried out using horses.

As well as improving their working areas most farmers were required to improve the area by digging and maintaining drains on the boundaries of their properties. Today it is the responsibility of the council to maintain roadside drainage.

Daniel worked in sawmills or as a contractor and figured prominently during the period a town water supply was being procured in the late 1940s. He married Amelia Anderson and lived in various places before returning to Yarragon. He died in Yarragon in April, 1952 aged 65 years & Millie died in September, 1952.

Amy married Henry Ireland and began an orchard in Mitcham, growing a variety of crops while waiting for the trees to fruit. Their produce was taken into the market by horse and dray. Amy died in 1974, aged 86 years, Henry had died in 1947 aged 63 years.

Henry William was born in 1891 and also bought land in Mitcham to begin an orchard but enlisted in the 1<sup>st</sup> A.I.F. in July 1915 and embarked aboard the HMAT 'Ceramic' in November for the Middle East. He spent some time in Egypt before being sent to the Western Front. He was killed in the action on 25 July, 1916 at Pozieres, France and his name is recorded on the memorial at Villers Bretonneux, France. His name is also recorded on the Box Hill memorial and here in Yarragon. He was 25 years old.

Alice married Stephen Fletcher, a WW1 soldier, and after trying to make a worthless soldier's settler farm at Mirboo North work they returned to Yarragon to farm on Waterloo Road adjoining his parents. They were both tireless workers for their church. Alice was 76 years when she died in WGH in 1970. Steve died in 1968, aged 71 years.

Daisy married Arthur Ahearn and after moving about a bit bought a farm at Lardner. Firstly they were dairying then later sheep farming. Daisy was 83 years in 1980 when she died.

Edith [Edie] was a strong community and church worker and helping friends with their household jobs. Edie did a lot of washing & ironing for others. Her fiancé died before they were married and after the Great War there were less men around. She lived all her life at Loch Street and worked tirelessly doing the many tasks that life on a farm required. A bicycle was her mode of transport locally. Edith was born at the end of one century, 1899 and died in another, 1986 at 87 years.

Ernest [Ern] was too young for one war and a bit old for the next although with his love of horses he was a member of the local Light Horse unit which had regular training camps in the area. Ern never married and farmed the property with his sister. He never got a driving licence so continued to work the farm with horses, taking out winter hay on a sled. [As kids we had to learn to hang on for the sudden starts going through the gateways.] His love of horses led him to breed Shetlands and ponies for which he received many ribbons from the local shows. Ern was 76 when he died in 1978.

Albert [Bert], although he married Evelyn Howard in Yarragon they lived in Sale with his family. They always returned to Yarragon for Christmas and other family occasions. Bert had been married for 60 years when he died in 1988 aged 84 years.

William [Bill] was a butcher, a saw-miller and a builder during his working life in Yarragon. He married Margaret [Madge] Fletcher, sister of Steve, and lived closer to the town in Loch Street. Bill sported the signature of a saw-miller – a lost finger. Bill used to take his younger sister around his rabbit traps by lamp light to collect his catch. Bill died in 1973 aged 67 years, Madge died in 1978 aged 72 years.

Ellen [Ellie] was born in March 1909 and was baptised at home during her eldest sister Amy's wedding in late November, 1909. She worked as a house keeper in Melbourne homes and later for the Divine family in Warragul. The milking machines arrived after she had left home. She was working at the WGH during the war

years and would cycle home on her leave or taking the train sometimes. In late 1944 Ellie married E.A. [Ted] Kent who had served in WW2 and was taken prisoner in North Africa, eventually ending up in Switzerland and came home early. They made their home in Yarragon, the first having no electricity, with a young family. Ellie was active in many community groups over her long lifetime including being President of the Yarragon Red Cross for about 40 years before dying in 1999 aged 90 years. Ted lived until 2001 and died at 86 years.

W.H. Downton helped to build the community by helping with the local produce shows, gala events, helping neighbours and helping with local rescues when needed. He also was a frequent visitor at the local hotel. William died in August 1928, aged 71 years. The family did not lose their farm or other land during the 1930s depression as so many other families did. They worked hard and supported their mother during this time. It was briefly out of the depression and into another period of war and shortages.

Helen died in April, 1945 aged 81 years.

When the relocation of the sports reserve from way out of town was being planned it was the land that the Downtons had added to their nearby farm to graze their stock on that was selected.

The Downton Park reserve main oval in Market street and the relocated primary and preschool and second oval in Loch street are all on the land they farmed.

By Helen [Kent] Langres - No. 15 of 18 grandchildren.



The Downton Family Christmas Day 1908

Back: Henry, Amy, Alice, Daniel

Front: Ern, Dad William H holding Billy, Daisy, Bert, Mum Helen, Edie. Ellie was born 1909 (not in photo)



# Anzac Day in Yarragon



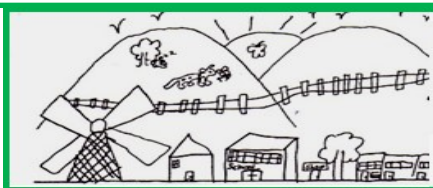
The Anzac Day service was held at the cenotaph in Yarragon. Again Barbara Kingwill conducted a very good service.

The choir from the Yarragon Primary School led the community with the National Anthem and later sang the First Anzac beautifully.

Jenny Heggart outlined her grandfather's service in World War 1 and read a number of the entries from his diaries, which very well depicted the conditions which our soldiers faced at that time.

It was pleasing to see so many members of the Yarragon Community in attendance.

It was also pleasing to note that the bollards have now been restored to their rightful place around the cenotaph.



YARRAGON & District  
Community Association Inc.

## YDCA Report

The proposed subdivisions in Yarragon at 71 Rollo Street has been approved by Baw Baw Shire Council, taking into account some of the issues raised by YDCA.

The Yarragon and District Community Association has invited Dr. Greg Hollis, the manager of Sustainability and the Environment in the Baw Baw Shire, to address the June meeting about the work council is undertaking for sustainable development. He has been part of a team that has been investigating Environmentally Sustainable Design for Subdivisions in Regional Victoria – Proof of Concept and Cost Benefit Analysis. This may be of interest to many community members so keep it in mind for June 18th.

The next meeting of YDCA will be held in the Fire Brigade Building on May 21st at 7.00 p.m.

## Take a moment @ Paint It Cream

The last time we visited **Paint It Cream**, owner, Toni McPhail had only recently opened her new store. Since then, it has grown and evolved to even more, being supported by locals and visitors alike.

Toni's enthusiasm for rescuing pre loved vintage pieces, bringing them back to life and into today's world is evident. Her greatest delight comes from sharing her knowledge and love of all things vintage with others. Toni now holds classes teaching the basics and assisting with personal projects as well as taking on private restoration/up-cycling assignments. Drop in, see what classes are coming up and join in the fun! With all materials supplied, everyone goes home with a new hand made item and newfound skill.



**Paint it Cream** is a pleasure to visit, the store is filled with a delightful collection of treasures that will be sure to evoke memories from the past. Amongst the shelves you'll find home décor, fashion, crockery and so much more along with all the products and friendly advice you'll need for your next up cycling project. There will always be something new and different to find when you visit **Paint It Cream**.



Drop in and browse or find out more about upcoming classes @

**Paint It Cream**  
1B Campbell Street, Yarragon  
10am-4pm Thursday-Sunday & Public Holidays

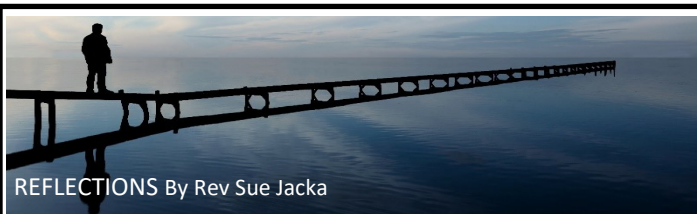


## KINDERGARTEN OPEN DAYS FOR 2020 PLACEMENT

Baw Baw families looking to enrol their children in kindergarten for 2020 are invited to attend upcoming Open Days in their township.

The Open Days are a fantastic way for families to see firsthand which kindergarten best suits the needs of their child and discuss with teaching staff any queries they may have.

Yarragon Early Learning Centre will open its doors to prospective families and their children on Thursday 23 May, 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm.



REFLECTIONS By Rev Sue Jacka

With ANZAC day commemorations in our minds, I have been reflecting on the nature of peace and how each of us, not only our defence personnel, plays a role in maintaining peace in our land.

Peace is a fragile thing on one hand, but when the community rises to support it, peace is also very resilient. While our current service personnel are

engaged in very necessary operations in war torn or politically fragile countries, we have become aware that we are not immune from the possibilities of acts of terror which could threaten to destabilise our lives. Along with you all, I was horrified to think that an Australian man, with all the benefits of our education and democracy in this country, had carried out the shootings in Christchurch. Like you, I have been saddened by the acts of violence in Northern Ireland and Sri Lanka after years of peace. And yet, the community response to these events has been overwhelming! Politician, religious leaders of all faiths and other community leaders have spoken out against violence. Vigils have been held in support of our common humanity. Each time you speak out against a xenophobic comment; each time you uphold respect and acceptance of difference, you also play your role in peace keeping. So as we reflect on the meaning of ANZAC day and give thanks for those who gave their lives to ensure our freedom, let us pledge to do all that we can to work for peace in our own situations.



# Yarragon Lions Club

We donated \$200 to the "Ride for Site". We won 1st prize in their raffle—an Electric Bike. We plan to re-affle this bike so keep an eye out for it and buy a ticket.!



By Pat McPhie

Our thanks to the Drouin Leos who helped us at the Bunyip Show on 24 March. They turned up again to help us feed people visiting Farm World at Lardner Park from 11th to 14th April. Our thanks to everyone who dined with us. We were lucky to have had good weather.

A BIG thank you to Lisa Harvey and her friends who put our money into the Melbourne Children's Hospital Appeal on Friday April 19th.

We would like to thank the people for helping us to run an Op Shop for Yarragon. We hope to have it ready to be open on May 1st. Now that the floor is almost done we should be able to handle more donations.

The shop will open from Wednesday to Sunday from 10am to 3 pm for sales. We will also be accepting donations through the shop, but please no electrical or furniture items.

## More Wonderful helpers for the Good Friday Appeal.





# YARRAGON FIRE BRIGADE

## Fire danger period to end on 1 May 2019



Although it is still quite dry in the district, it is expected that the end of the fire danger period will be proclaimed to be on the 1<sup>st</sup> May for the Baw Baw Shire.

The official announcement will be in printed and electronic media.

This means that controlled burn offs will be permitted within the Shire in designated rural areas. In township and residential areas, permits to burn off are still required and need to be obtained from the Shire. Penalties apply for not obtaining written permission.

Conditions in the region are still very dry. We have had below average rainfall, higher than average temperatures and there is still a lot of dry grass in the landscape. Where possible, authorities recommend delaying ignition until conditions improve.

In the past, with the announcement of the end of the FDP date, Local brigades get higher numbers of calls to attend out of control burn offs as landholders are eager to get started. Delaying the ignition helps to reduce the chance of a fire escaping as the landscape green up, and moisture levels rise. This in turn reduces the pressure on local volunteer fire brigades.

Remember that preparation is the key when lighting the fire and care should be taken at all stages of the process. The use of accelerants like petrol or any highly inflammable liquids should be avoided

Landholders wishing to carry out burn offs still have responsibilities. Here are some of the things you should note.

- Residents in towns are not permitted to burn off at any time without issued permits.
- Residents in rural zones can burn off only when there are no fire danger restrictions in force.
- No fires are permitted anywhere during days of TOTAL FIRE BAN.
- Select the area you have chosen for your burn off pile by taking into account the geography around the fire. Don't burn off close to trees and long grass, choose the least exposed area to prevailing winds - both current and forecast, ensure that the area is accessible to fire vehicles and that a good water supply is close by.
- Once the site is selected prepare a mineral earth perimeter around the fire and have firefighting equipment in place.

### Register your burn off on 1800 668 551.

If you are concerned about your planned fire, contact your local brigade. Where possible they may be able to attend at least for the initial stages and often use it as a training exercise.

You must be in attendance at all times. A big fire can burn for a long time, so smaller burns over different days maybe more feasible than a burn that goes on for days. When finished, make sure that the ash is extinguished with water

Don't be the person who burns down their own property because you didn't take precautions, it can be highly embarrassing !!!!!!! not to mention costly.

If your burn does get out of control call 000 immediately, fire will spread quickly in the current conditions

# FOX WARNING

A fox was sited walking through Helen Langres's back yard, from North to South on Tuesday April 23rd.

So be warned that they are around the town area, keep small pets and poultry safe and do not leave pet food out to attract them.

Helen also wrote: "This is not the first time I have seen them here. I thought the birds on our roof were rather loud one morning. Looking out, a fox descended using our patio fence as steps to the ground. We stared at each other before it left."



**GREEK CUISINE - BAR AND GRILL**

**KITCHEN OPEN 11-5 PM**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**1 TO 4 PM EVERY SUNDAY**

THE GATHERING PLACE

67-69 PRINCES HIGHWAY

SERVICE ROAD YARRAGON

## Council News

To keep our community up to date, we're bringing Council News to you online, on air and in print. For more information and updates, visit Council's Facebook page, Twitter feed, or website at [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au)



### Meet your East Ward Councillors



**Cr Peter Kostos**  
0438 570 304  
Peter.Kostos@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au



**Cr Darren Wallace**  
0476 000 053  
Darren.Wallace@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au



**Cr Michael Leaney**  
0476 000 119/5165 6263  
Michael.Leaney@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

### Drop us a Line!

To get in touch with us, contact Council's Community Information and Service Team on 5624 2411 or visit us at:

**Drouin** 33 Young Street

**Warragul** 90 Smith Street (Annex Building)

Please note: Council's Warragul Customer Service Centre, Arts Centre Team and Box Office have been temporarily relocated to the **Annex Building** on Smith Street to make room for the exciting upgrade works that are starting at the West Gippsland Arts Centre.



Have Your Say is an opportunity to provide your thoughts, feelings and ideas on a range of Council projects and activities. Your feedback is highly valued and will ultimately influence Council's decision making on various projects in the Shire.

We encourage all residents to visit the **Have Your Say** section on Council's website and take this opportunity to get involved and be part of shaping Baw Baw Shire.



café | bar | dining



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service.**

# REGULAR EVENTS

## MONDAYS

### West Gippsland Mobile Library

2:30 - 5:30pm

Yarragon Public Hall carpark,

### Yarragon Fire Brigade

8:00 pm

1A Murray Street,  
Secretary Inge Mitchell  
0411 453 175



Email: yarragonfb@gmail.com

## TUESDAYS

### Yarragon Craft Group

9.30am - 12.30pm

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.

### YDCA Yarragon & District Community Association

Next meeting May 21, 2019, 7.00pm

Yarragon Fire Brigade, Murray Street..

All welcome.

President: Jude Conway 0411 833 219

## SATURDAYS

### Yarragon Craft & Produce Market

Fourth Saturday 8am - 1pm

Yarragon Public Hall, Campbell Street  
Or Waterloo Park

Enquiries: Gaye Kent 0427 342 430

## SUNDAYS

### St Mark's Anglican Church, Loch St, Rev Sue Jacka, ph: 5633 1021

Morning Worship, 8:30am

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

**Watch the notice board at the front of the church for details.**

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

## WEDNESDAYS

### Gardening Group

9 - 10am

Yarragon Medical Centre  
Campbell Street



### Yarragon Playgroup

9:30 - 11:30am

Yarragon Public Hall, Campbell St  
Contact Jacinta on 0401 824 195

### Yarragon Lions Club

2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7pm

St Jarlath's Catholic Hall, Rollo St

President: Tony Hayes 0428 325 134



## THURSDAYS

### Yarragon Bowls Club

Shady Creek Rd

Telephone: 0490 831 283

Social game night only October to April.

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursday, Followed by a meal, orders to be placed by 5:30 pm on the Tuesday prior.



## WHAT'S ON IN MAY?

### MAY

1: Op Shop open P8  
21: YDCA Meeting P6  
25: Craft and Produce Market P3

## MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK

### Heart Foundation

### Yarragon Walkers

Starting at ROTUNDA,  
9:30am, in all weathers

Tuesday and Thursday:  
approx. 45 min town circuit



Enquiries Angela Greenall 5624 3545



### Baw Baw Arts Alliance

Station Gallery,  
Princes Highway.  
m.0490 173 103  
Wed-Sun. 10.30 - 4

EXHIBITIONS,  
GALLERY & SALES

Classes with Tutors - apply at Station

### Weekly drop-in sessions @ Trafalgar Station

Monday- Painting Group  
Tuesday - MmaD Group (mixed media)  
Wednesday- am -Clay group  
pm -Just drawing



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