



## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER No. 400 MARCH 2023

*Free, but your spare coins help cover costs. Thankyou all for the \$101.60 collected last month.*



## AN UNNECESSARY AND INCONVENIENT DRAMA

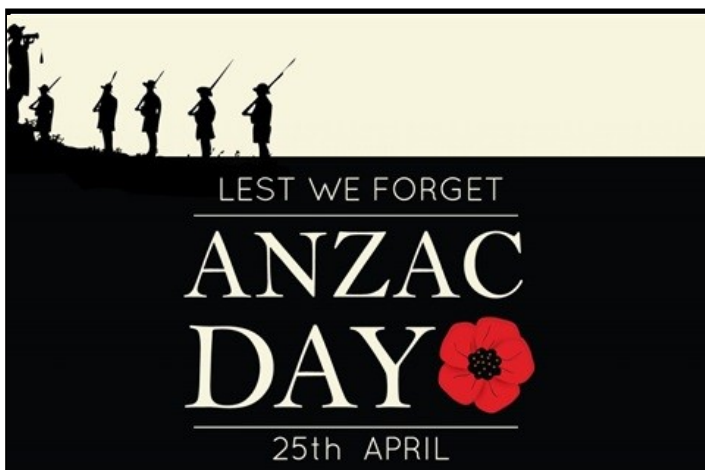
We in the Yarragon community are fortunate to have a dog park in town for all dog owners to use. There are two fenced areas that provide comfortable seating for owners, and interesting structures for our off-leash dogs to explore. There are poo-bag dispensers for those of us who have forgotten our own, bins for our dog waste, and watering points.

We are also fortunate to have an oval used for organised games and casual play, where we run, jump, and roll on the ground, with our eyes on the ball and each other, not on our next step.

But despite the clearly displayed 'No Dogs on Oval' signs, there are still dog owners who allow their dogs to defecate where we play. It takes less than a minute to collect your dog's poo, but significant effort and time to remove your dog's poo from our shoes, and the smell from our clothes, and perish the thought, if we're very unlucky, our skin!

Please observe the 'No dogs on the oval' signs. For only the effort of a few extra steps you can take your dogs to the off-leash areas where all the clean-up equipment is provided.

We have one of the best ovals in the area. Please keep it that way!



10:30am at the Cenotaph  
Waterloo Park, Yarragon.

Guest speaker **Paul Altamore**,  
local resident and RSL member,  
will reflect on  
the 100th anniversary of Legacy,  
the 50th anniversary of the formal declaration  
of the end of Australia's involvement in the  
Vietnam War,  
and the story behind our  
Anzac commemorations.

The **Yarragon Community Newsletter** is produced **monthly** by community volunteers, and **printed by easyaz** in Morwell.




**Editor:** Jude Conway  
(aka grumpy old woman!)


Newsletters can be picked up from:

- \* Post Office
  - \* Foodworks
  - \* Yarragon Pharmacy
  - \* Fozigobble Café
  - \* Lions on Mane Op Shop
- and viewed on [www.yarragonnews.au](http://www.yarragonnews.au)

To subscribe to e-newsletters, arrange advertising, and contribute articles *which must include your name and phone number*, you can write, email or phone:

 Yarragon Community Newsletter  
PO Box 209, Yarragon 3823

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

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Items for inclusion *which must include your name and phone number* can also be placed in any of the donation boxes.

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1/2 page: 13.8x19.05cm or 27.5x9.5cm	\$60
Full page: 27.5x19.cm	\$75

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**DEADLINE for  
May 2023 edition  
26 April  
12 noon**



# VALE ERIC MITCHELL

by Alison Butterworth



This month we were saddened by the passing of our member, Mr Eric Mitchell. Eric was a member for many years and an eager volunteer when needed. We will miss his wry sense of humour and his cheery smile.

Although Christmas comes but once a year, we have fruit cakes available all year round at the Op Shop. We have the 1.5Kg for \$19.00, the 1Kg for \$15.00 and the snack size (80Gm) for \$2.00. Not only are the cakes yummy,

they support our fundraising, which in turn supports our community.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> March we manned the sausage sizzle at Bunnings, Warragul. We sold over 600 sausages that day. We will be there again on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April so come on down and see if we can break our record.

## Lions Traditional Christmas Cakes



Remember the Lions Skin Cancer Checking caravan will be in Yarragon on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023. There are a few appointments left for the Saturday, and some still available for the Sunday. Please call 0493 591 214 for an appointment.

The caravan will be located near Howard Park, in the carpark between the Post Office and the Public Hall. This is also the site the Mobile Library uses.



*Saving lives through skin checks and skin care awareness*

## OUR COUNCIL AT WORK

By Roy Lindsay

A Planning Application has been submitted to Council for yet another residential development in Yarragon. This one is for an 18-lot subdivision at Hazeldean Road and shows a single access from Hazeldean Road into a double court backing onto Downton Park. Lots will range from 439 to 964 square-metres. This can be viewed as PLA0223/22 on Council's website.

Yarragon Township Plan - Public submissions are under consideration by Council Officers

Planning Amendment C145 and Planning Application Yarragon – Leongatha Road is under DELWP consideration as part of the Planning Minister process

The new footpath on the North side of Rodier Road between Loch Street and the Dog Park is in the final

stages of completion

Progress on other Yarragon projects include -

- 1) Former Primary School site Rollo Street – Formal design completion expected August 2023 Construction completion expected December 2024
- 2) Yarragon Trail – High priority sections and drainage—Gravel top-up, crossfall adjustments to minimise ponding. Completion June 2023
- 3) Loch Street reconstruction between Market St and Ti Tree Reserve—Design work is underway with surveyors operating on site last week. Completion end 2023
- 4) Vehicle bridge renewal Roberts Road and Factory Road. Completion July 2023
- 5) Reconstruction of Campbell Street - Final design has been completed



# THEY ARE REAL PEOPLE UNDER THERE!

By Tegan Brown, secretary and Community Safety Officer

Why do we wear masks and protective gear when fighting fires?

As volunteer firefighters, we are always taught that preservation of life is the number one goal. That number one life is always ours, then it is yours, as an injured firefighter can't save you.

Let's take a step back and have a look at what happens before a volunteer can enter your home, approach your vehicle, or access your shed to rescue you and put out the fire.

When our volunteers arrive on scene they are constantly assessing the risks, gaining more information about the situation at hand, and making a plan to attack



Photo by Melinda Kemp

the fire in the most efficient and safest way possible to reduce the spread of the fire. Our volunteers' number one goal whilst doing all these things is to rescue any persons trapped by smoky conditions or fire.

Our volunteers are knowledgeable in many aspects of fire behaviour and risks. One of the biggest risks associated with fighting fires is the smoke hazard. Smoke reduces the ability to see clearly and navigate safely on a fireground or within a home.

Smoke can irritate eyes and lungs. Smoke contains many toxic by-products and chemicals of the materials (wood, plastics, fuels) that are burning. Smoke is also very dangerous as it has low levels of oxygen and very high levels of carbon monoxide, and as most people will know, carbon monoxide is the odourless gas that can kill you if you inhale too much.

Prolonged exposure to smoke can reduce your performance, create fatigue, bring on asthma and other illnesses, alter perceptions and the ability to make sound judgements, and as mentioned already, cause death due to carbon monoxide poisoning.

Our volunteers have personal protective equipment to help protect themselves from the hazards of smoke. As well as

wearing protective clothing, they wear goggles, a P2 mask or Breathing Apparatus. Goggles protect our eyes from irritation caused by dust and other materials within the smoke. A P2 mask is designed to filter the dust and other materials out of the air to allow firefighters to breathe easier. A Breathing Apparatus is used to provide breathable air for protection of our airways while we are working in high risk environments. These high risk environments can contain any combination of high temperatures, low levels of oxygen, high levels of toxic substances, heavy smoke and dust, heat radiation from the fire and/or burning embers.

Our volunteers undergo specific training to wear the Breathing Apparatus. Once they have the qualification to use the Breathing Apparatus they train regularly to keep their skills up to date. Wearing a Breathing Apparatus means it is much safer to approach someone trapped in their car, find someone in a smoky house, or attack the source of the fire in a structure such as a shed.

**DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE?  
DO YOU WANT TO LEARN NEW  
SKILLS OR MAKE NEW FRIENDS?  
THEN COME ON DOWN AND MEET  
US ON A MONDAY NIGHT AT  
7.30PM, AT THE FIRE STATION.**

## YARRAGON POST OFFICE; *your bank in disguise*



- Deposit & withdraw cash
- Deposit cheques
- Check account balances
- Pay bills
- Organise travel money & insurance

*and post and collect your mail!*

# WHAT BIRD IS THAT ABOVE ME?

By Margaret Young



PHOTO: BUSH HERITAGE AUSTRALIA bushheritage.org.au

I would like to think it is a Wedge-tailed eagle. I haven't seen any for a while, although my neighbour says she saw a couple recently. When I first moved here about 14 years ago I often saw a pair of these magnificent birds (and I once saw five!) cruising on the updrafts over the Yarragon hills and farm land. I hope they have just gone further into the hills and bush in search of plumper rabbits dine on.

We don't often get the opportunity to see Wedge-tailed eagles up close, but some years ago I drove across the Nullarbor and came across wedge-tails dining on road kill. They are VERY big birds close up. Their long legs look like feathery pantaloons. Their body can be up to a metre in length and their wing span an amazing 2 metres or more - no wonder we can see them so high in the sky.



woofpurneyvet.com.au  
PHOTO BY LAURIE BOYLE on FLICKR

The females are actually bigger than the males. The 'fingered' ends of their wings and wedge shape of their tail

helps us distinguish them from Little Eagles and White Bellied Sea Eagles. Their colour changes from tawny black to blacker as they age.

Wedge-tailed eagles are found all over Australia. They build large stick nests lined with fresh eucalyptus leaves; on the Nullarbor I saw some huge stick platforms on small dead trees or bushes. They sometimes use several nests on rotation over the years - some as nests, and some as eating platforms. The female will lay 1-3 whitish ,blotched eggs streaked with red, brown or lavender - rather pretty, don't you think?

They mostly eat carrion but will also dine on rabbits, small rodents, and birds, diving on their prey and tearing it apart with their impressive talons and beaks.

The belief that Wedge-tailed eagles are a serious danger to sheep has been proven to be unfounded. So if you are fortunate to catch sight of these amazing birds soaring on an updraft high in the sky, just savour the moment.

*PS An update on how my new chooks are dealing with crows / ravens stealing their eggs. One chook lays really early before I have opened their house and the other two lay late in the morning after the crows have lost interest, but occasionally the crows will nab one. One chook has tried the hay stack in the shed a few times.*

COME AND JOIN US AT

**Yarragon Playgroup**

**YARRAGON HALL**  
Campbell St

- ✓ Wednesdays during school term
- ✓ 9.30am-11.30am
- ✓ Cost is \$5 per family and bring a piece of fruit to share (First visit is free)

FOR MORE INFORMATION FIND US ON FACEBOOK 'YARRAGON PLAYGROUP'

Or contact Jen on 0413 666 245

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7TH APRIL 2023

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Per ticket

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PLEASE USE YOUR NAME AS REFERENCE AND SEND US AN INBOX WITH YOUR PHONE NUMBER AND PAYMENT CONFIRMATION

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THE ROYAL CHILDRENS HOSPITAL



# THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT YEAR.

By Richard Polmear



Yarragon teams played against Trafalgar at Traralgon on the Grand Final on March 4th.

Bowlers from left to right:

Marjan Pazez, Murray Grigg, Harry Langres, Jarrod Grigg, Richard Chetland, Kevin McLaren, Bevan Romans, David Swingler, Richard Polmear, Ross McDermott, Peter Handley, Rhett Galley, Jason Roberts, Ethan Storer, Kevin Arnold, Sam Mazza, Gary Green, Gordon Wright.

Last month I advised that planning was underway for the Victorian Open with games scheduled at Yarragon Bowling Club on Friday 24<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Unfortunately, due to a significant reduction in the number of entries actually received, Yarragon Bowling Club only had games scheduled for Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March.

However the works to tidy the grounds and make the club look at its best were hugely successful. Thanks to the members and grounds people for the fantastic effort.

Last month I promised to advise the outcome of our Saturday Pennant team who were playing Trafalgar in the Grand Final.

Unfortunately for us, Trafalgar prevailed comfortably, and Yarragon will strive to go one better next year.

With the completion of daylight savings our bowls program moves into recess for the green to be refurbished over the winter period.

Our last event for the 2022/23 season is Presentation Night and

the Annual General Meeting being held Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May.

The last of this seasons Members Club Sponsors raffles was held 16<sup>th</sup> March with Rhett Galley winning a \$50 Warragul Country Club voucher, with a receipt from Yarragon Supermarket.

Our focus during the off season will continue on our projects to get a synthetic green and reduce our environmental impact, including: a large water tank to reduce water used on site as part of the synthetic green project, moving to all electric appliances to make full use of our 13kW of installed solar, and investigating the possibility of installing a battery.

These initiatives, coupled with the recently refurbished Clubrooms, are creating wonderful facilities for celebrations, work functions, presentations, etc.

Our facilities are available for hire with limited catering available. If you are a sponsor then you get discounted hire rates, including zero hire cost for gold sponsors.

Current sponsors for the 2022/23 season are:

Yarragon Pharmacy,  
The Shot House,  
Fitzgerald Concreting,  
Baw Baw Real Estate,  
Yarragon Lions Club,  
Yarragon Automotive,  
Yarragon Country Style Bakery,  
Fowler Street Dental,  
Captain Zap Electrical,  
Paul O'Toole Cartage,  
Neilson Funerals,  
Yarragon Foodworks,  
Trafalgar Auto Electrics,  
Trafalgar Tyre Service,  
Gippsland Fresh Wholesale,  
Vin Rowe Farm Machinery,  
Yarragon Rural Supplies,  
Warragul Country Club,  
Select Office Supplies  
Yarragon Post Office.

We also recognise the tremendous support that the Community/Bendigo Bank of Trafalgar and District has provided the Yarragon Bowling Club and encourage locals to support them.

*Thanks to all our sponsors and supporters.*

*Without you we would not exist!!!*

To contact the bowls club about sponsorship, games, or hiring facilities:

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

Phone (quicker response)  
0490 831 283

Our website is  
<https://yarragon.bowls.com.au>

Yarragon Hotel



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

## OPENING HOURS

Every day from 11am

Lunch 12 - 2:30pm

Dinner 5:30 - 8:30pm

Take-away 5 - 8pm

Bookings appreciated & recommended

Enquiries | 03 56342202



## BAW BAW SHIRE HAS SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES COVERED

Baw Baw Shire Council has teamed up with local youth organisations and community facilities to deliver an autumn school holiday program that's sure to keep Baw Baw's young people active and entertained. Commencing Tuesday 11 April, young people aged between 12 - 25 are encouraged to join in the range of free and low-cost events, activities and workshops. Here's what's on offer:

**Sunday 9th,**

### **Lil Easel Arts – Paint and Play**

Come along and enjoy a paint, play and egg hunt to celebrate Easter.

Location: Robin Hood Inn, Drouin

Time: 11:30am – 3pm

Cost: FREE

Ages: 5 – 25 years.

[Bookings are required.](#)

**Tuesday 11th / Thursday 13th / Saturday 15th,**

### **All Aboard Skateboard Session**

Come down to the Drouin Skate Park for a fun action-packed day.

No experience required.

Location: Drouin Skate Park, Civic Park, Young Street, Drouin.

Time: 10am – 12pm

Cost: FREE

Age: 12 – 25 years

[Bookings required.](#)

**Tuesday 11th / Thursday 13th / Monday 17th / Thursday 20th**

### **GippSport Holiday Program**

Join in the variety of games including a main sport as well as some small side games (eg soccer, finska, booce or basketball finska, booce).

Location: Warragul Leisure Centre

Time: 11am – 12pm

Cost: FREE

Age: 12 – 25 years

**Tuesday 11th,**

### **Marc McBride Art Workshop**

Marc McBride will paint as he explains the process of creating artwork from the ground up. Don't miss this opportunity to draw along with him and create your own work of art

Location: Drouin Library, 136 Princes Way, Drouin.

Time: 11:30am – 12:30pm & 1:30pm – 2:30pm

Cost: FREE

Age: 12 – 25 years

Limited spots available, bookings required.

[Click here to secure your spot.](#)

**Wednesday 12th / Monday 17th**

### **Art Workshop – Printmaking with Helen Timbury**

This art workshop will involve participants drawing a design, carving into soft lino and then printing their small block onto calico fabric and paper to take home.

No experience required.

Location: Warragul Goods Shed (building in Warragul train station car park)

Time: 10am – 12pm

Cost: FREE

Age: 12 – 25 years

Limited spots available, [bookings](#) are required.

**Wednesday 12th**

### **Little Wing Puppets presents 'The Fish that wanted to fly'**

Did you ever dream of doing something that seemed impossible?

The Fish That Wanted to Fly is about having the courage to pursue something even if it seems likely you will never reach it. In our story we meet a little fish whose lagoon is drying up. All the other fish have left, and she wants to learn how to fly so she can see them again.

Her friend, a hermit crab named Karramoko, sits by a stormwater drain and tells her it will never happen. She meets a Kingfisher who helps her and encourages her to keep trying. It's not until she meets a Cormorant, who offers to take her up into the sky that she flies for the first time. But will she make it back okay?

The tale is set in a mangrove swamp, and is about friendship, resilience and sustainability.

Duration: 35 minutes no intermission

Location: West Gippsland Arts Centre

Time: 10:30am - 11:05am

Cost: \$15 per ticket

**Thursday 13th / Thursday 20th**

### **Street Art Workshop**

Come along and complete a street art workshop. Guided by an artist with 20+ years experience. Each participant will receive a canvas.

Location: Drouin Library, 136 Princes Way, Drouin

Time: 12pm – 2pm

Cost: FREE

Age: 12 – 25 years

Limited spots available, [bookings](#) are required.

**Thursday 13th**

### **Watercolour Bookmarks**

Join Jenny for a fun activity! You'll be shown how to use watercolour pencils to paint flower designs on book-marks. All material provided. Wear old clothes as the activity can get messy. Activity is suitable for primary school and above ages.

Location: Drouin Library, 136 Princes Way, Drouin

Time: 10am – 11am

Cost: FREE

Registration is required. You can [book online](#), in person in the Drouin Library or by calling the Drouin Library on 5625 1564.



**Friday 14th / Friday 21st**  
**YMCA Inflatable Fun Day**

Come down to the Warragul Leisure Centre and enjoy some time on the giant inflatables.

Location: Warragul Leisure Centre

Time: 1pm - 3pm

Cost: \$2 additional charge on regular entry

Age: 5 - 12 years only.

For more information, visit Warragul Leisure Centre reception.

**Shows at 11am and 2pm on Tuesday 18th / Wednesday 19th / Thursday 20th / Friday 21st**

**Aladdin Jr Presented by Warragul Youth Theatre**

Disney's Aladdin JR. presented by Warragul Youth Theatre is based on the 1992 Academy-Award® winning film and the 2014 hit Broadway show about the "diamond in the rough" street rat who learns that his true worth lies deep within.

The story you know and love has been given the royal treatment! Aladdin and his three friends, Babkak, Omar, and Kassim, are down on their luck until Aladdin discovers a magic lamp and the Genie who has the power to grant three wishes. Wanting to earn the respect of the princess, Jasmine, Aladdin embarks on an adventure that will test his will and his moral character. With expanded characters, new songs, and more thrills, this new adaptation of the beloved story will open up "a whole new world" to enjoy!

Location: West Gippsland Arts Centre

Time: 11am & 2pm shows

Cost: Full: \$15, Concession: \$10, Youth U/18: \$10, Group 10+: \$10

Duration: Approximately 1 hour and 5 minutes, no intermission

[Book your tickets here.](#)

**Friday 21st**  
**Warragul Library Movie Screening**

Join in a free family-friendly movie screening.

Location: Warragul Library, 75 Victoria Street, Warragul

Time: 3:15pm - 5:15pm

Cost: FREE

All ages

Please contact the Warragul Library on 5622 2848 to find out what's showing.

Bookings are required, book your spot [here](#).

**Sunday 23rd**  
**Skate Park League Competition**

Come down to the Warragul Skate Park on Burke Street for a fun action-packed day. No experience required.

Location: Warragul Skate Park, Burke Street, Warragul

Time: 11am - 4pm

Cost: FREE

Age: 12 - 25 years

**Tuesday 18th**  
**Gippsland United Basketball Clinic**

Come along for some basketball fun with Gippsland United Players and Coached, including our U.S Imports, where you will learn new skills, play games and have the chance to win prizes.

Location: Warragul Leisure Centre

Time: 10am - 2pm

Cost: \$65

Ages: 5 - 16 years old

\*Participants will need to bring their own basketball, drink bottle and lunch.

[Secure your spot here!](#)

**Wednesday 19th**  
**Family Tai Chi**

Come along to Family Tai Chi where you will focus on flexibility, breathing, balance and stress relief.

Location: Warragul Leisure Centre

Time: 11:30am - 12:30pm

Cost: FREE

All ages welcome.

For more information, please visit reception at the Warragul Leisure Centre.

**Wednesday 19th**  
**Box Robots**

Let's make Box Robots! Recycling everyday material like boxes, old CDs, lids, egg cartons and lots of other items and craft materials. Invent and build your own box robot and decorate to take home.

Location: Warragul Library, 75 Victoria Street, Warragul

Time: 1pm - 2pm

Cost: FREE

[Registration is required for this session.](#)

If you need to cancel your booking, please log into your Eventbrite account or contact Warragul Library 03 5622 2848.

We have limited spaces available at some of our events, if you are no longer able to attend an event you have booked a ticket for, please let us know so that others don't miss out.

Myli will notify registered attendees via email of any changes made to this event via email.

**Please note that many of these activities have age restrictions, and require bookings to be made, and not always from the same site.**

**Go to <https://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/Latest-News/Baw-Baw-partners-with-local-organisations-for-school-holiday-fun> for all the booking details.**

# TREE MEASURERS WANTED

By Inge Mitchell



This is a call-out to the Yarragon community, to help measure and register Yarragon's significant trees.

Baw Baw Shire Council has established a Significant Tree Register. Currently restricted to trees on public land, trees on this register are protected by an overlay, so the potential impacts of road or building works on registered trees are assessed for impact before works are approved.

Remaining large trees, mainly eucalypts to the south of Yarragon, connect all of us to the history of our district. The hills to the south were filled with large gums and ferns. We think it is important that we know the tree assets in our neighbourhood, and have these trees recorded on the shire asset register for future protection.

Many of these imposing old trees are on public land near, and in, our town,

shading part of the Yarragon Trail.

Trail walkers know the most pleasant parts of the trail are the sections with trees. Trees are the lungs of the neighbourhood and make our lives better, providing shade, shelter and food for birds and bugs, underground life, rustling leaves, soil stabilisation, and much much more.

Alisa Fisher (*photographed above, with Ben the dog*) and Inge Mitchell have been measuring and recording details of trees along Murray Road. Unfortunately, our other interests compete with tree-measuring time. We would love to have a few more people to help us identify, measure and record the trees we have around us.

If you're an interested local who would like to join us from time to time, phone Inge on 0411 453 175.





# BUSY MONTH for ART LOVERS

By Carol Monson

Some readers may think Artists live and work, isolated from the wider community, producing works of Art that are then displayed for sale in galleries while they continue to create more works for sale.

This is far from the case for many creators who live to create Art with and for communities.

Gippsland Artist, Cheryl Cook, (pictured left) is one such Artist. Cheryl is an active member of the Baw Baw Arts Alliance and for the last 6 months, has been working on a commission for the Edward Hunter Bush Reserve Management to produce works of Art demonstrating the rich connection Art can have to nature.

She has worked to create Art using textiles painted with colour that has been extracted from native vegetation in the reserve. Each work is displayed in a particular location with careful consideration for the inhabitants of the bushland.

Don't miss the official opening of Cheryl's exhibition on Sunday, April 16, 2023, 3.00pm, Rotunda area,



Coalville Road, Edward Hunter Reserve, Moe.

Coming soon is the monster 'Easter Art Sale' run by the Arts Alliance in conjunction with Warragul Rotary Club. This will be an ideal opportunity to purchase original artworks and take them off the wall immediately.

All artworks will have been created in the last two years and not shown in a previous Easter sale.

This exhibition runs over Easter, Saturday, April 8 to Sunday, April 16, at the

Warragul Exhibition Hall. For more see <https://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au>

If you haven't yet visited the 'home' of the Arts Alliance at 'The Station Gallery', Princes Highway, Yarragon, take the opportunity to do so over the next month to see the latest exhibitions.

Exhibitions change every month and during April a local artist, new to exhibitions, will have her work displayed. Michelle Winter has a wonderful range of graphite drawings with minimal touches of colour hanging in the section known as 'The Wall'.

In the main gallery space, artists have responded to the theme of 'Evolving', a title meant to help Artists reflect on how their Art has evolved over time. Expect the unexpected.

For more information see <https://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au>



## WHERE TO NEXT FOR YDCA?

By Jude Conway, Vice-President

It's appropriate, from time to time, for organisations to indulge in introspection.

Any involvement in any group takes mental and physical energy, and it's understandable that members occasionally ask if it is a worthwhile investment for them.

Does the organisation's values align with their own? If not, can they influence those values, and if they can't, then what are they doing there? If yes, can they translate words into action, and do they have the energy and time needed to see good ideas through to fruition?

Do they have the courage to debate differences with people whose friendships they value, even if that means those friendships may not survive the conflict?

The debate around development C145, the farm re-zoning to the east of Rollo Street for a significant increase in house lots in Yarragon, has been time and energy consuming. Whilst many members of YDCA are pleased with the significant concessions negotiated, some members are disappointed with the outcome; with the developer, with council, and with the planning tribunal. But it seems that this particular 'horse' has been ridden as far as it can go.

So what's next for YDCA? When it is so much easier now for individuals to contact council (Meet the Mayor Mondays, Snap Send Solve, Have Your Say) is YDCA even needed as Yarragon's voice to council any more? When officers step down at our AGM in July, who will take their place, and when annual membership fees are due, who of the current members will pay?

YDCA's statement of purpose puts 'encouraging neighbourliness and a sense of community' first in importance. We've coordinated annual Australia Day celebrations, organised a high tea (8 years ago), and Yarragon Expo (last year). Where should we next direct our energies?

This is what will be debated at the next meeting or two. You know that if you want to add your voice to the debate, you are welcome.

**Tuesday 18th April, 7pm, Fire Station.**



New original artworks  
'Buy-off-the-wall'

Saturday April 8th - Sunday April 16th 2023

Warragul Exhibition Hall, 15 Howitt St

### 2023 OPENING TIMES

Opening Night Thursday April 6th 6.00-8.00pm  
10am - 4pm Saturday April 8th - Sunday April 16th  
Special Late Night until 9pm on Thursday April 13th

All details for artists [bawbawartsalliance.org.au](http://bawbawartsalliance.org.au)  
or call Prue on 0417 500 244



Baw Baw Arts Alliance and Warragul Rotary Club **Easter Art Sale** from April 8 to April 16, Warragul Exhibition Hall.

**April exhibitions**, 'Artists on the Move' exhibit in 'Evolving' and drawings by Michelle Winter, 'On The Wall' at 'The Station Gallery', Yarragon, Princes Hwy open from 10.30 am to 4.00pm, Wednesday to Sunday.

'Artspace's', **Trafalgar Railway Station**, open from 10.30am to 3.00pm, Tuesday to Friday, closes 12.30pm on Wednesday.

For more see [www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au](http://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au)



Baw Baw Shire Council is in the process of reviewing and updating the annual Community Grants Program and is inviting community feedback on the Draft Community Grants Policy and proposed Program Structure.

Each year, Council's Community Sponsorship and Community Grants programs award funding to a combined value of over \$200,000 and support nearly 100 community groups and Baw Baw ambassadors.

To ensure Council's Community Grants serve the current and future needs of the community, a Draft Community Grants Policy has been developed with feedback gathered from successful and unsuccessful past grant applicants and other Council's and grant providers to develop an understanding what best practice might look as well as opportunities for improvements to the policy.

The proposed program will see funding categories streamlined to reduce the timeframes between submitting applications and receiving an assessment outcome notification, while also expanding the types of projects that may be supported through the program.

Ahead of the updated program launch in July 2023, all community members are invited to help shape the program and the Draft Policy.

### Opportunities for feedback

All community members, including previous applicants and grant recipients, are invited to review the [Draft Community Grants Policy](#) and the proposed [Community Grants Program structure](#).

Feedback is welcomed via a [short online survey available on Council's website](#) until Monday 24 April.

To learn more about this consultation go to [Council's Have Your Say webpage](#).



From Monday, Baw Baw Shire Council will launch **Meet the Mayor Mondays**, personal sessions with Mayor Annemarie McCabe to discuss what's important to you and your local community.

**Meet the Mayor Mondays** is a new initiative designed to provide more access than ever before for residents to connect directly with Council. Via pre-booked 20-minute sessions each Monday, residents will have the opportunity to discuss the issues that matter to them directly with the Mayor in a personalised, one-on-one forum.

"We want to do everything we can to connect with our community and facilitate free and open conversations between residents and Council," says Mayor of Baw Baw Shire, Cr Annemarie McCabe.

"By providing these one-on-one sessions, I'll be able to hear all about local matters from locals themselves and gain a better understanding of their thoughts, ideas and concerns to ensure they remain at the forefront of Council.

"If there's something on your mind that you would like to discuss with Council, then I warmly invite you to book a session and come and have a chat with me."

The 20-minute sessions are available to all members of the public by pre-booked appointment each Monday at the Drouin Customer Service Centre at 33 Young Street, Drouin.

Appointments via zoom will be available for anyone unable to attend the Drouin office in-person.

How to book:  
Bookings must be made 5 days prior.

To make an online booking go to <https://bawbawshire.co/MeetTheMayorMondays>

or phone or email the Mayor directly:  
Ph: 0427 959 727  
Email: [annemarie.mccabe@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:annemarie.mccabe@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au)

Meet the Mayor Mondays supports Baw Baw Shire's existing 2023-24 [Council Pop-Up program](#) that will see Councillors and Staff covering events and markets across the Shire throughout the year to engage directly with the community in their local neighbourhoods.



A recent audit into Council's kerbside collection service has shown positive improvements across all waste categories, highlighting that Baw Baw residents are not wasting the opportunity to dispose of their rubbish correctly.

The audit investigated all of Baw Baw Shire Council's kerbside waste streams, including domestic garbage, recycling and garden waste, between 5 September and 16 September 2022.

The most significant reduction of contaminated waste was found within commingled recycling down to 11% compared to 14.88% in 2021. Similarly, recyclables incorrectly disposed of in regular garbage was also positively reduced from 12.83% to 12.16% in 2022.

Garden waste has also shown a reduction in contamination from 3.32% in 2021 down to 1.21%, further supporting Baw Baw's readiness for the introduction of FOGO, where food organics will be accepted in the garden organics bin, which is anticipated to be introduced across the Shire in 2024.

The audit has also revealed opportunities for improvement and further community education, particularly with regards to incorrect disposal of chip packets, shopping bags and soft plastics packaging, which are regularly found within commingled recyclable bins. Residents are reminded that soft plastics currently need to be disposed of in the garbage bin.

When disposed incorrectly, unacceptable items found in the green waste and recycling bins can contaminate recyclable product streams, potentially damage recycling processing equipment, and may lead to increased recycling processing rates for highly contaminated loads.

For more information about what can and cannot be placed in the recycling bin, residents are encouraged to refer to Council's [A-Z Guide to Recycling and Waste](#) or look it up on Sustainability Victoria's ['Can I recycle this?' online tool](#).

For all resident information on Waste Services, go to Council's webpage [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/Resident-Information/Environment-Recycling-and-Waste](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/Resident-Information/Environment-Recycling-and-Waste)

# Yarragon Book Fair

**SATURDAY 6TH & SUNDAY 7TH MAY**

SEE FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DETAILS



## THE COUNTDOWN IS ON

By Geoff Conway, Book fair coordinator

You may get the sense that the Book Fair Team are doing a bit of a 'count down' to this year's event.

For what its worth, as I write this there are only 37 days to go!

We have been delighted (and a bit overwhelmed) by our donors who have provided thousands of top quality books for our sale; so much so that we have had to close collections for this year as there is simply no storage space left in any of our sheds.

If you still have books you wanted to donate, we request that you hang on until after the 7<sup>th</sup> of May. If the event goes well we

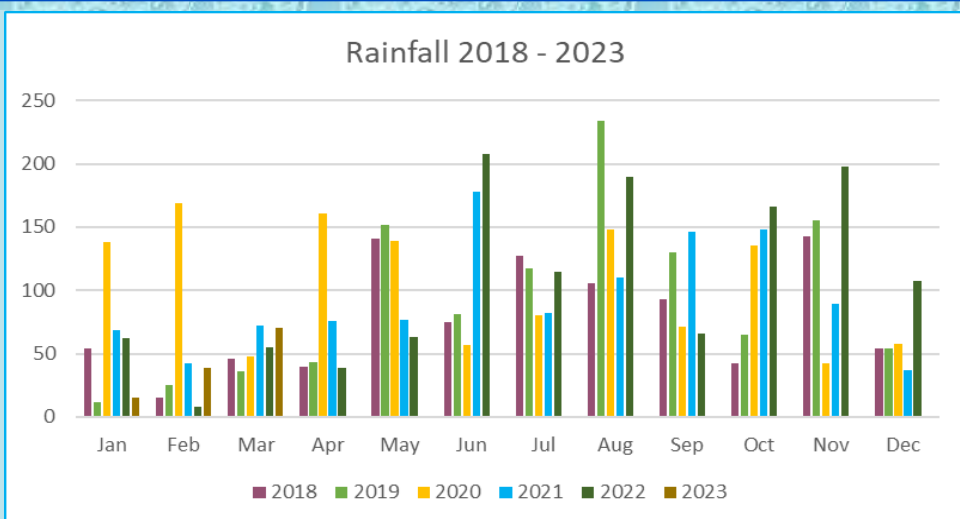
should have some room for them then.

We also wish to thank those community members who have offered to assist this year. Yarragon district is blessed with so many generous people.

If you would like to join us, either in setting up the week before, or on the weekend of Book Fair you would be very welcome. Rest assured there will be lots to do. Give Geoff a call on 0418 318 900 or email [yarragonfb@gmail.com](mailto:yarragonfb@gmail.com).

Yarragon's local fire brigade and school, the beneficiaries of the book fair profits, thank you.

Gippsland Water is already planning for a drier period after 3 years of the wetter-than-usual La Nina weather pattern. After a neutral phase for the next few months, it is expected that we'll go into a warmer and drier El Nino period. With that in mind, they're asking customers to be mindful of their water use.



Rainfall Record for 2023 and the five years prior, as recorded in McIntyre Road, Yarragon.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total to March	Total
2018	54	15	46	40	141	75	127	106	93	42	143	54	115	936
2019	12	25	36	43	152	81	117	234	130	65	155	54	73	1104
2020	138	169	48	161	139	57	80	148	71	135	42	58	355	1246
2021	69	42	72	76	77	178	82	110	146	148	89	37	183	1126
2022	62	8	55	39	63	208	115	190	66	166	198	107	125	1277
2023	15	39	70										124	

# REGULAR & TO DO

## MONDAY

### MOBILE LIBRARY

2:30–5:30 pm  
Yarragon Hall carpark



### FIRE BRIGADE

7:30pm at fire station,  
1A Murray St.  
Captain Ashley Smith  
0427 274 666  
yarragonfb@gmail.com



### BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

# YBA

Yarragon Business Association Inc

Last Monday of month.  
Venue varies;  
ph 0418 513 092

## THURSDAY

### BOWLS CLUB

Shady Creek Rd  
Ph: 0490 831 283



October to April, social game  
night 1st & 3rd Thursdays  
followed by a meal.

Meal orders must be placed  
by 5:30 on the Tues prior.

### MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK BAW BAW ARTS ALLIANCE

Station Gallery, Princes Highway.  
Ph: 0490 173 103

Open Wednesday to Sunday  
10:30 – 4:00 for EXHIBITIONS,  
GALLERY & SALES. Classes with  
Tutors – apply at Station

### Weekly drop-in sessions at Trafalgar Station

Monday / Painting Group.  
Tuesday / MmaD Group (mixed media)  
Wednesday / am Clay group,  
Wednesday pm / Just drawing.  
Thursday / Mosaic group.  
Friday / Fibres group

## TUESDAY

### CRAFT GROUP

9:30–12:30  
Uniting Church Hall,  
Campbell St.



Join us for craft and laughs.

### YDCA



Usually every 3rd Tuesday in  
CFA meeting room

Secretary Richard Polmear  
0407 347 545

**Next Meeting Tuesday 15 No-  
vember.**

Roberts Rd closed until bridge  
replacement completed.

Easter Art Show in Warragul,  
6th–16th [page 9]

Yarragon's Good Friday Appeal,  
culmination of a year's hard  
work, Friday 7th [page 4]

School Holiday activities;  
9th–23rd, [pages 6&7]

Lions Skin Cancer bus,  
15th & 16th [page 2]

Anzac Day, Tuesday 25th  
[page 1]

Yarragon Charity Bookfair  
May 6-7 [page 11]

## SATURDAY

### SILK ROAD COMMUNITY MARKET

1st  
Saturday,  
9:00am–  
1:00pm  
Grounds of  
Fozigobble  
Cafe



### CRAFT & PRODUCE MARKET

4th Saturday,  
9:00am–1:00pm  
Yarragon Public Hall



## WEDNESDAY

### GARDENING GROUP

10:00 or 10:30 to  
lunch time  
at the backyard of  
the Uniting  
Church,  
Campbell St.



Share your knowledge  
and learn from other gardeners.

### PLAYGROUP

9:30–11:30am at  
Yarragon Hall,  
Campbell St.  
\$5 per family and  
bring fruit to share  
Ph Jen : 0413 666 245



### LIONS CLUB



2nd & 4th Wed at  
St Jarlath's  
Catholic Hall in  
Rollo St.

President Bill Cropley  
0448 361 213.

Secretary Allan Logan  
0435 576 100

LIONS on MANE op shop  
Wed to Sun  
10:30am to 2:30pm.  
LIONS GARAGE SALE,  
Hann's Lane  
Every 4th Saturday, often  
more.

### LEARN TO TANGO

No partner or  
experience necessary.  
7-8:30pm  
Uniting Church Hall

## SUNDAY

### St Mark's Anglican Church

Loch St. 8:30am

### St David's Uniting Church

Campbell St. Service details  
on noticeboard at front of  
church.

### St Jarlath's Catholic Church

Rollo St. 10am Mass on 1st,  
3rd & 5th Sundays  
Parish Office 5633 1166