



## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER No. 412 APRIL 2024

*Free, but your spare coins help cover costs. Thankyou all for the \$121.55 collected last month.*

### YARRAGON STUDIO FESTIVAL A HUGE SUCCESS

Quotes from attendees, Photos by Christina Flann

Congratulations on the perfect running of the Yarragon Studio Festival. Everyone was amazed and thrilled by the whole event, the quality of the music programs, the choice of musicians and they were remarkably amazing! All the venues and the food. I heard only high praise from all the members in my group.

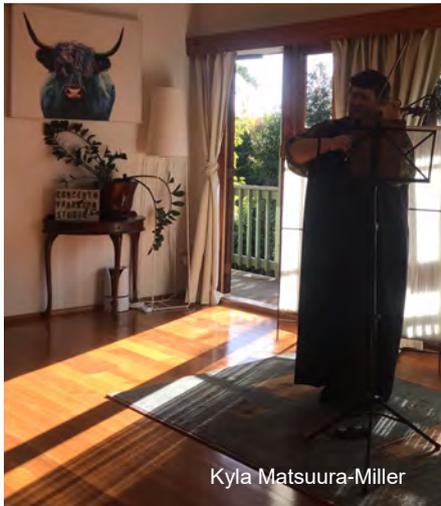
Thank you for making this event happen and on such a high. It will without doubt be eagerly looked forward to next year when it will be even bigger and better.

**Joseph Barake (Festival Guide and 3BBR Concert Hall Host)**

What a truly wonderful event! I thoroughly enjoyed each and every performance yesterday. The venue choice was spot on - the dairy was an amazing backdrop for Eliza's performance. The final showcase concert was truly fabulous.

Most exciting was the chatter and conversations over dinner as people caught up and made new connections. Well done on an amazing first festival!

**Emma Nicolson (Oscar's Music Teacher)**



Kyla Matsuura-Miller

Thank you so very much for an incredible day of music making. The solo concerts and especially the final concert were so fulfilling (and hilarious!!!). Heart full!

**Kyla Matsuura-Miller (Violinist)**

What a fabulous inaugural festival! Congratulations to you both and all involved. Thank you so much for the opportunity to hear such talented young musicians. The repertoire was really interesting too.

I came down from Melbourne with my partner and my sister who is visiting from London. It was a particularly special experience for her to hear amazing music in such a beautiful location - a wonderful community event and well worth the drive!

The organisation was faultless, Christina, and the Dutch Apple pie an unexpected treat (thanks Niels!)

We look forward to next year's festival - it's in the diary! [Ed: 1-2 March 2025]

Best wishes, **Charley, Maria and Paula**



Final Concert: Niels Bijl, Kyla Matsuura-Miller, Eliza Shepard, Stephen Cuttriss. St Jarlath's

What a perfect day it was for the inaugural Yarragon Festival which we enjoyed immensely; such skilled and talented musicians, interesting and varied venues, a great range of people, and thank god for the transportation of guests. It was a novel idea to showcase the talents of individual musicians at the same time as highlighting the beauty of the Yarragon area and providing the opportunity to meet enterprising people like Rachel and her husband, Bill Downie.

Our congratulations to all involved in a very successful day.

**Mary and Ken**

# REGULAR & TO DO

## MONDAY

### MOBILE LIBRARY

2:30–5:30pm  
Yarragon Hall carpark



### FIRE BRIGADE

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



### BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

New members welcome  
contact: yba3823@gmail.com



## TUESDAY

### CRAFT GROUP

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



Join us for craft and laughs.

### YDCA

TBA, CFA meeting room  
Secretary Richard Polmear  
0407 347 545



*Q: What can run but never walk, has a mouth but never talks, has a head by never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps?*

*A: A river.  
Oscar*

## WEDNESDAY

### GARDENING GROUP

10:00am or 10:30am 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

## 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 5:30pm on the Tues prior.

### *Oscarism of the Month:*

*I've got the reaction fish of a gold*

## SATURDAY

### CRAFT & PRODUCE MARKET

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



### SILKROAD COMMUNITY TRAFALGAR FARMERS MARKET

First Saturday of Every Month, 9:00am – 1:00pm  
Trafalgar Croquet Club, 25 Ashby St, Trafalgar



## SUNDAY

### St Mark's Anglican Church

See Page 7 for current meeting times. Usually at St David's Uniting Church: on the Second Sundays of the Month at 8:30am, and the Fourth Sundays of the Month 8:30am.

### St David's Uniting Church

Campbell St. Service details on noticeboard at church.

### St Jarlath's Catholic Church

YARRAGON  
10:00am  
Mass  
every Sunday;  
Trafalgar  
6:00pm Mass  
every Saturday  
Parish Office 5633 1166



### YARRAGON STUDIO CONCERT

3:00pm 14 April  
Michael Leslie - Piano  
with Niels Bijl - Saxophones  
www.yarragonstudio.com.au



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



**Co-Editor:**  
Debbie Churchill

Newsletters can be picked up from:

- \* Post Office
- \* Foodworks
- \* Yarragon Pharmacy
- \* Fozigobble Café
- \* Lions on Mane Op Shop



**Co-Editors:**  
Christina Flann and Oscar Bijl

and viewed on [www.yarragonnews.au](http://www.yarragonnews.au)

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 [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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**NEW DEADLINE for  
May 2024 edition  
21 April  
12 noon**

## WHAT BIRD IS THAT IN MY GARDEN?

By Margaret Young



I have been in my new place for about two weeks and haven't seen many birds yet! I have heard plovers from over the back fence, loudly express their displeasure.

There is a big green paddock, which I think will soon be built on, also the footy ground is close by, so there is plenty of opportunity for these birds to nest in inappropriate places and then complain when someone comes near.

I assume they are masked plovers, so called because they have a bright yellow wattle on their face, it looks like a piece of plastic, a la phantom of the opera. They have a spur on the shoulder, which is part of their wings.

One of my bird books tells me, in earlier literature, the northern ones were called masked Plovers and the southern ones were called spur winged plovers, the two groups overlap in mid Queensland, where interbreeding occurs. I wonder what the offspring are called?

Their other names are Australian alarm birds, spur winged or wattle plover, masked or spur winged lapwing.

Plovers are an average sized bird the ones that live in southern Australia (*Race novaehollandiae*) have a smaller yellow wattle, a smaller rounded black head, white neck, brown wings with black flight feathers.

Non-breeding birds can form large flocks, but in the breeding season solitary pairs can be very territorial, not just to other birds but humans as well, because they make their nests on the ground.



The nest is a scraped shallow cup of twigs, grasses, pebbles, or dry cow dung. They lay 3-4 yellow to olive, spotted, blotched or brown black eggs. Is it any wonder they get upset when we come close to a very well camouflaged nest and eggs. Thus the loud kerr-kick-ki-ki-ki and frantic flying around.



Plovers can also be found in swamps, paddocks with dams, beaches, airfields, orchards, gardens even on the flat rooves of factories. Hopefully I will catch a glimpse of them next time I peer over my back fence.

To the Editors

As a regular attendee at Council Meetings for the past five years or so, I have been a strong supporter of Councillors and Council Staff – all of whom I consider to be in rather thankless positions.

Lately, however, I feel many aspects of Baw Baw Shire Council – as distinct from Council Staff - have become a public embarrassment.

In September of last year I made a verbal submission to a Council Meeting stating -

*“it is my observation that Council has tended to involve itself in matters which I believe are outside the remit of Local Government, and which are not directly relevant to the needs of the community it exists to serve.*

*We have seen many cases of Inner-City Councils concentrating on so-called “social causes”, at the expense of ratepayer interests, and in investigating this further it is clear these matters are being pushed by the MAV – Municipal Association of Victoria – which appears to have an agenda different to the needs of ratepayers, and significantly more ‘detailed’ (and slanted) than Vic Government requirements and guidelines specifying the role of Local Government.*

*With this in mind, I call upon Council to continue to be wary of venturing into “social causes” which may interfere with Council’s raison d’être. By all means hold political and/or ideological opinions, but please separate them from Council work and decisions.”*

This suggestion has been ignored and recently readers of the Warragul Gazette and social media pages would have seen comments from certain Councillors and the usual suspects within Baw Baw feminist activists make outlandish claims about gender inequality in Council’s naming of places and Sporting Walk of Fame spots – even suggesting the re-naming of places. Rather than attempt to simply ‘balance the books’ by placing a gender quota of 70% on naming places or sporting walk of fame spots after females, I suggest Council stick solely to Merit-based decisions – anything else will simply devalue the honour.

In addition, at the International Women’s Day Mayor Annemarie McCabe, after bagging a number of experienced (male) Councillors, was quoted as saying “I want to see more woman than men (on Council), a feat never before achieved”.

To me this sounds more like an immature Spice Girls’ “Girl Power” message that any claim for equality.

Further, as Mayor of Baw Baw Shire, Cr McCabe should be trying to unite Council, not unfairly criticize or drive wedges between Councillors.

In regard to inequality and ‘gender paygap’, it is interesting to note that male Baw Baw Councillors average \$31,890 pa in allowances, yet female Baw Baw Councillors average \$54,483 pa in allowances.

Inequality? No, as the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are female, but this is no different to many of the Gender Paygap claims where DETAILS are not taken into account.

It is ILLEGAL in Australia to pay different rates for the same, identical, job when taking into account experience, responsibilities, etc.

Councillors, once again I ask you to put aside your political and/or ideological beliefs and work for the common good of Baw Baw Shire Ratepayers.

**Roy Lindsay**

To the Editors.

Could people please keep an eye out for European wasp nests on their walks, and notify the council of the location, so the nest can be eradicated. European wasps destroy our native bees, are dangerous and their nests can grow to the size of a car.

Here is a photo of our house on Yarragon Sth Road, after the storm last month. The top of the water tank landed on the roof and wrapped itself around the skylight which cracked.



**Karen Edwards**



## EDITORIAL

By Christina Flann

Thanks Roy, for your passionate letter. I very much wish that it were as simple as illegal things never happening :) It's also in the details here too. The Gender Pay Gap is not referring to a gap between people in exactly the same position, but the patterns across the working population.

“What's stopping the gender pay gap from closing? According to the WGEA, the gender pay gap is influenced by a number of factors which include female-dominated industries and jobs attracting lower wages, and conscious and unconscious discrimination in hiring and pay decisions.”<sup>1</sup>

Considering that 51%<sup>2</sup> of the constituents in Baw Baw are female and that the council has a policy on Gender Equality that says ‘At Baw Baw Shire Council, we are committed to seeing real change for women’, I would argue that it is very much the job of councillors and the Mayor to improve the representation of women.

[1 Marsh, S. \(2022\). Gender pay gap myth busting: Why it's more than 'equal pay', nine.com.au](#)

[2 id \[informed decisions\] \(2022\) Baw Baw Shire Population and Age Structure, forecast.id.com.au](#)

## PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP

By Christina Flann & Adam Wright

Adam has been let down in the past, having tried to get involved in local Yarragon community associations over the years. Unfortunately, the experience he had was that there were a number of people with their own business interests at heart, rather than the community. He and others experienced some disappointing behaviour that discouraged the younger generation from getting involved.

Hopefully, the PRG will be a more positive experience. So far, there is no adversarial atmosphere and everyone is able to have their say. I look forward to fruitful discussions and am glad that Adam is getting the chance to be involved that he feels he was denied in earlier years.

## REVIEW: A BLOODY GOOD SHOW

By Christina Flann

I was lucky enough to attend a performance of *Goodbye Aunty Flo* at the West Gippsland Arts Centre on Monday 25th March. This was a production by the Ilbijerri Theatre Company with three amazing women on stage: Lisa Maza, Georgia MacGuire and Kristel-Lee Kickett.

I have not laughed so much for a very long time. The show is by Nazaree Dickerson and is described as

**“A hilarious play created by mob for mob, exploring the ups and downs of the most natural stage of life for anyone who bleeds - menopause.”**



Lisa Maza played Aunty Flo herself and was a magnificent presence in a red velvet suit with a fan that bled via a fluttering red scarf at appropriate moments. One of the characters had organised a group called *Pause Preppers* that I would so love to join in real life.

While this was written for mob and initially toured to Community to explore women's business in relation to menopause, this is a universal human story and if it comes back to WGAC, I will take my husband and 12-year-old son to enjoy and learn from it too.

**“There is nothing more rare, nor more beautiful, than a person with a uterus being unapologetically themselves; comfortable in their perfect imperfection.”**

**Madison Connors of Yarli Creative, creator of the show's artwork**

## HISTORY OF YARRAGON STATION *By Inge Mitchell*

In October 1911 plans were being made by the State government to improve Yarragon's 'inadequate buildings' on the railway platform. Yarragon, first called 'Little Moe', next 'Waterloo', began to be settled.

No fanfare. No public celebrations when the station building was put into use by 31 May 1912. The station had become a busy centre for goods to and from farms and businesses and, of course for travellers.

By 2000 there was regular talk in Yarragon about white ants eating their way through the Station's structure, with very little prospect of this historic building surviving, unless thorough maintenance was undertaken. In approximately 2010 the Yarragon and District Community Association (YDCA) members and the general community, led by Mrs Shirley Westerberg, took the bull by the horns. For years, perceived obstacles to achieving the desired restoration of the building were Vic Track and perhaps Vic Rail.

President Shirley engaged with the man-in-charge of Vic Track and found some resistance. Mrs Westerberg co-opted the services of the owner, at the time, of Kenny's Flowers. The plan was to fill a large sheet of webbing with plastic flowers and drape this over the station building with a sizeable sign informing passing travellers that Vic Track was not willing to maintain a valued a heritage building. This proved to be a proposition that was less than appealing to the man at the top, who made an offer of money to restore the building. Shirley accepted this with grace, but aware of escalating costs when public works are carried out, she asked that Vic Track manage the money and a committee of community members, appropriate staff and technical people create the renovation plan and Vic Track pay for the work.

The YDCA, under Mrs. Westerberg's leadership, organised a three-day event to celebrate the restoration and the future long life of our Yarragon's station building. A Grand Railway Supper Ball was held on Friday 27 April 2012. At 11:00 a.m. on 28 April local and State and local politicians launched the much-appreciated, refurbished building along with a full weekend of activities including CFA, steam engine and Clydesdale horse displays, performances by four different bands, a display of Yarragon's history organised by Tini Cook and numerous side activities all ending at 4 p.m. on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April. For all her leadership in ensuring the station building would remain well in to the future, Shirley was awarded an Australia Day medallion in 2017. YDCA and the Yarragon community worked assiduously alongside Shirley to preserve our heritage.

To Mrs Shirley Westerberg's story. She was born Shirley Drake (related to Sir Francis Drake) in 1935 in Woodford Green, Essex. She was a noteworthy flight attendant, for a

limited time working for British Airways (BOAC). An entrepreneur named Freddie Laker offered her a job with his new airline, British United Airways. In this job Shirley travelled world-wide until she decided in 1964 to try travelling by sea. Her future husband, Sven, was the captain of Swedish passenger-cargo vessel that happened to have an available cabin for her, along with ten other passengers.

Shirley and Sven decided to live in Melbourne where Sven found a Swedish community with all the amenities of home. Shirley spread her wings by walking into a Qantas office, where she was offered a role in reservations. She followed this by securing a position at a 'country' hotel (as in 'country visitors' stayed here), "The Victoria", in Little Collins Street. To the dismay of Sven's fellow sailing officers, his wife refused to stay at home. She chose to work. No other officers' wives worked. Shirley's Victoria Hotel career lasted 12 years. The hotel still stands in Little Collins Street. Shirley worked for Hardy Brothers jewellers, in marketing for a number of years, following The Victoria, thoroughly enjoying this role.

From there into tourism, working for Latrobe Valley Tourism, for the former cities of Moe, Morwell, Traralgon and Traralgon shire. The Commonwealth Heads of Government (CHOGM) met in the Latrobe Valley while Shirley headed up L.V. Tourism. She assisted where needed dealing with many controversial sensitivities. Those funding shires soon learned that all the tourism attractions were in the former Narracan, Buln-Buln and Warragul shires, now the Baw Bulbul shire. The greatest beneficiaries refused to contribute financially and Latrobe Valley Tourism was shut down.

By then Shirley had moved to Womersley Cottage, near Yarragon, and actively volunteered locally, in YDCA, for the RSPCA, Vision Australia and at the Victorian Arts Centre.

Now widowed, our community leader has retired to Edrington in Berwick. For her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2025, Shirley will book a sky-dive in the Yarra Valley to celebrate and enjoy.



# YARRAGON CRAFT AND PRODUCE MARKET

By Anna Griffith

Another beautiful day in Yarragon, thank you to all who were able to join us at Waterloo park where we had over 60 stalls with a great variety, of art, craft, produce, and vintage items, with plenty of make it, bake it and grow it stalls as well. Each month we look forward to marketing, chatting and being in the community

**The next Yarragon Craft and Produce Market will be held on Saturday 27th April.**



# Upcoming events

18  
APRIL

Thursday 7pm  
GOOD SOLAR GUIDE

30  
MAY

Thursday 7pm  
REWIRING AUSTRALIA

27  
JUNE

Thursday 7pm  
KINDRED SPIRITS &  
REGEN GIPPSLAND

25  
JULY

Thursday 7pm  
CLIMATE ANXIETY



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[bbsn.org.au/events](https://bbsn.org.au/events)



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## PRG\* INTRODUCTIONS #2

Compiled by Christina Flann

**Renee Kemp** - Yarragon resident, Yarragon Hotel Owner, Yarragon Football Netball Club President, Yarragon Business Association Member



As a Yarragon resident, business owner and someone who is involved in the community I thought I should put my hand up for the Project Reference Group (PRG). I was a member of the Baw Baw Shire Council's Tourism Board and Business Advisory Board so have worked with Council on a number of occasions. I appreciate having a voice and like to represent other people in the community who may not have an opportunity to speak in these types of forums. I'm happy to take information to the PRG on behalf of other people and can be contacted via email [renee@yarragonhotel.com.au](mailto:renee@yarragonhotel.com.au).

In addition to the short intro last newsletter, **Kevin McLaren** is involved in many different activities. In terms of sport, these range from President of the Yarragon Bowling Club to Basketball coach, among other associated roles for which he has received awards. In the past he has also been involved in the Yarragon Football/Netball Club. He has an impressive career with the Navy, Air Force and Victoria Police. A long-term contributor to committees giving back to the community, such as local youth networks and the Gippsland Youth Suicide Task Force. He has been awarded the Paul Harris Fellow from Warragul Rotary as well as an Australia Day award from the Baw Baw Shire, both for services to the community.



**Inge Mitchell** - Hello I'm Inge Mitchell. I have always been interested in being actively involved with my community. With my young family I moved to Yarragon South in 1986, joined the newly formed Earls Road Landcare Group. Had a brief time on the Narracan shire council in the early 1990s, following a by-election. Fred, husband, and I started Sticcado cafe in Yarragon in 2000. During 14 years in business, I was a active member of the Yarragon Business Association. Joined YDCA after we sold in 2014. Spent a few years volunteering with the Yarragon fire brigade, which I really appreciated. Town Planning matters, such as Jasbe and participating on the Planning Panel for Waterloo for YDCA taught me a lot. Current interests include the Ratepayers Association and the Baw Baw Planning Alliance along with the Baw Baw Sustainability Network, of which I am currently the president.



\*Yarragon Project Reference Group see [www.bawbawconnect.com.au/yarragonprg](http://www.bawbawconnect.com.au/yarragonprg)

## BOOK FAIR IS A-COMING!

By Geoff Conway



The Yarragon Book Fair will be conducted on **Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th of May**. Only a few weeks away!!

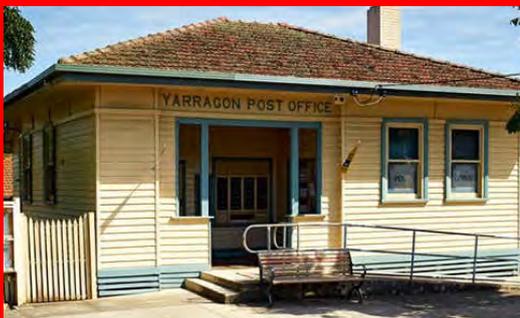
The Book Fair Team has been working with our wonderful volunteers for over 10 months, in their efforts to put on a worthy event. The Book Fair is not only a great fundraiser, but more importantly it allows us to showcase our community and demonstrate what life in a regional town is really like.

Collections have now been closed because there is simply no room left in the shed!

For those who would like to volunteer, you are more than welcome. **Give Geoff a call on 0418 318 900.**



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Organise travel money & insurance

*and post and collect your mail!*

## GERF: STILL BUSY

Media release

GERF is still very busy providing emergency financial support to Gippsland residents impacted by the recent storm event. GERF President Mr Andy Tegart said "The focus has been on supporting those whose property is uninhabitable or has suffered severe damage. We are also ensuring that vulnerable residents such as the elderly and those with special needs are provided with prompt support".

GERF receives referrals from the relevant local Shire or City and so far more than 30 families across Gippsland have been provided with financial assistance. Donations to the GERF Storm Appeal are standing at \$256,207.00 and already \$134,500.00 has been distributed.

Mr Tegart said "GERF is working very closely with local government recovery teams and we expect there will continue to be a regular stream of referrals over the next week or two, so GERF will continue to rely on the generosity of donors large and small. This event could eventually see up to \$500,000 in disbursements" he said.

GERF has been well supported by a large range of individual donors, some large corporate donations and very pleasingly a wide range of local community groups have responded to the appeal providing donations to assist

## WHAT ARE THE EDITORS UP TO?

By Christina Flann, Debbie Churchill & Oscar Bijl

**Oscar:** Checked out Traf High for next year!

**Christina:** Got a new job! Loving working at Habitat Creations in Moe.

**Debbie:** Finally sold my house in Allambee, soon to move to Yarragon, creating more art, reading "The Birdman's Wife."

We would like to thank Richard Polmear for his contributions to our newspaper, you can read his last bowling club report in this issue.

Thanks to the generous donation made to us by a lovely Yarragon lady who wishes to remain anonymous.

their local community members. We are particularly grateful to Ausnet Services \$100,000.00 and Community Bank Mirboo North \$50,000.00 for their substantial donations. All these magnificent donations will assist families right across Gippsland.

Donations to the appeal can be easily made via the GERF website [www.gerf.org.au](http://www.gerf.org.au) and all donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible. Mr Tegart said "Every dollar donated to the appeal is distributed to those who suffered property damage during the storm and individuals & businesses in Gippsland have always been very generous in their support. Your donation will be helping us to help others in their time of need".

The Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund has been supporting Gippsland residents impacted by natural disaster since 1978 and is run completely by volunteers.

[www.gerf.org.au](http://www.gerf.org.au)



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## VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT INQUIRY INTO CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Via BBSN

**Submissions Due: May 1, 2024**

Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee Inquiry into Climate Resilience

The LC Environment and Planning Committee invites submissions from individuals and organisations addressing the terms of reference.

This inquiry is focused on the main risks facing Victoria's built environment and infrastructure from climate change, and the impact these will have on the people of Victoria, including how the Government is preparing for these impacts, the barriers in upgrading infrastructure to become more resilient to the impacts, and the preparedness for future climate disaster events.

Submit online:

[www.parliament.vic.gov.au/get-involved/inquiries/climateresilience/submissions](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/get-involved/inquiries/climateresilience/submissions)



## WHAT TO DO WITH ALL THOSE UNRIPE TOMATOES

Recipe by taste



### GREEN TOMATO CHUTNEY

- 3kg green tomatoes, chopped
- 1kg onions, peeled and chopped
- 3 tablespoons cooking salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 3½ cups white or cider vinegar
- 1kg sugar
- 3 scant tablespoons curry powder
- 3 scant tablespoons mustard powder

Combine tomatoes and onions in a bowl, sprinkle with salt and mix well. Cover and leave to stand overnight.

Next day drain off the fluid. Place tomatoes and onions in a saucepan, add vinegar, pepper, sugar, curry powder and mustard. Bring to the boil, then reduce heat and cook for approximately one hour, stirring often, until the mixture reaches a chutney-like consistency.

Pour into sterilised jars and seal immediately. Eat immediately or store in a cool, dark and dry place for up to two years.



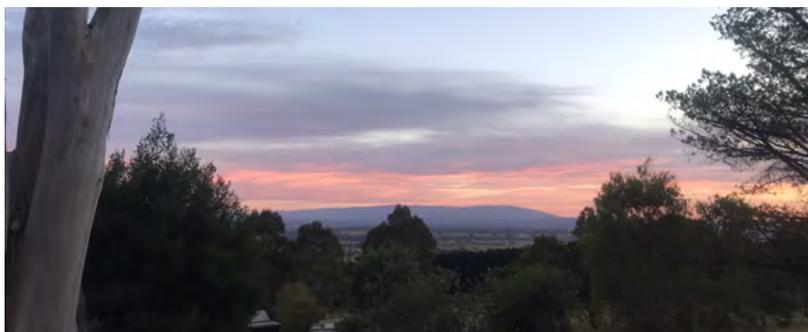
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12 INDUSTRIAL COURT  
YARRAGON



## WILDLIFE VICTORIA

By Deborah Churchill

I would like to share an experience I had last week while I was driving home, along the Yarragon/Leongatha Road. I came across an eastern grey kangaroo lying on the side of the road. I stopped to see if she was ok. On seeing me, she was startled and tried to get up to move away. I noticed her back leg was crushed, she could stand and managed to move off the road into the grass.



Duncan McCaskill

I called Wildlife Victoria and provided them with my GPS and information on the condition of the kangaroo. Then three large trucks came up the road which scared her and she disappeared down the steep hill, where I couldn't see her. I called Wildlife Victoria again to advise them that she had disappeared.

They still sent a team out to try and locate her. I received a text message about an hour later letting me know they had found her and she is no longer suffering.

In February alone there were 7,360 animals reported. Wildlife Victoria is a not for profit organization that has provided Victoria with a statewide wildlife emergency response service since 1989.

So if you see injured wildlife please call Wildlife Victoria on 8400 7300



## STRZELECKI BUSH WALKING CLUB

By Carolyn Dyke via Traf News, Trevor Colvin

The Australian Alps Walking Track is a 650 km trail which starts at Walhalla and finishes at Canberra. This trail was conceived in the 1970's to link several National Parks including the Baw Baw, Alpine, Kosciuszko and Namadgi. The track generally follows ridges and plains through some of the highest country in Australia. It is mostly very far from any town or settlement. You can join the track at many places between Walhalla and Canberra. Most walkers take between 6-7 weeks to complete the whole trail, but many people choose to complete shorter sections.

Here in Gippsland, we are fortunate to have access to several sections of the Australian Alps Walking Track on our doorstep. The Strzelecki Bushwalking Club has several leaders who have extensive knowledge of these local walks.

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February, Wendy led a group of eleven walkers over a section of the AAWT beginning at Stronach's Camp through to headwaters of the Thompson River and back around to Frangipani Saddle. Along the way walkers were treated to several sightings of Lyrebirds and other native animals. This is a very peaceful way to spend a Saturday walking amongst the many species of eucalyptus trees and tree ferns.

The SBWC regularly conducts bushwalks for various levels of ability, bike rides and kayaking events. The Strzelecki Bushwalking Club is very inclusive and has approximately 150 members.

Does this sounds like the type of Club you are interested in? Visitors are welcome to attend our monthly meetings at the Trafalgar Scout Hall on the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 7.00 p.m.

Further information is available on the website at [sbwc.org.au](http://sbwc.org.au), on our Facebook page or by contacting [publicity@sbwc.org.au](mailto:publicity@sbwc.org.au)



Strzelecki Bushwalking Club

# LION'S CLUB REPORT

By Alison and Glenn Butterworth



On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March we farewelled a much loved and respected member of the Lions family, Anne Robins. Although she was never an official Lions member, she was the wife of one of our longest serving members, Roy Robins. Anne was known for her superior cooking and catering feats as well as being an avid gardener and vegetable grower. She was mourned by her family and a large number of our local Yarragon Community. It was with great respect that we formed a guard of honour as her casket left the church.

The Lions BBQ in Howard Park has been given a facelift. Lions members have repainted the wood work (in Lions colours of Purple and Yellow) and the brass plaques are being removed to be polished back to their original look.

We were honoured to host five members of the Drouin Lions at our meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March. In turn, five of us Yarragon Lions were welcomed by the Drouin Lions on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March. This co-operation not only fosters good will, but we always learn something from each other. That said, it is always interesting to meet and interact with new people.

Those of you who are regular visitors to our monthly garage sale will notice the new set up in the garage.

We have sourced some new shelving which will make things easier to find. If you are looking for well priced books and DVD's, wander through to the yard at the back of the garage (weather permitting) and see what you can find. Our sale is on the forth Saturday of each month.

In the Op Shop we are starting the changeover from summer to winter stock. Watch out for our "specials" rack out the front of the shop. Donations of saleable goods are still being welcomed, so when you have that big clean out, don't forget us.



## ANZAC DAY AT YARRAGON

Anzac Day Ceremony will be held at the Yarragon Cenotaph, on **Thursday 25th April at 10.30 am.**

Guest speaker will be Barbara Kingwill who will be talking about the connections she has with the ANZAC commemorative traditions.

The Yarragon Primary school will be participating in the service.



'Rosella fly-by'  
acrylic on canvas, 91x61cm  
by Rachel Knoester

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Fine art - Flowers - Jewellery

Local artists; handcrafted works; Allambee Flower Farm flowers

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## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

By Tegan Brown, Secretary & Community Safety Officer

### Graeme Bruce, Treasurer

Graeme joined the Yarragon Fire Brigade in October 2021, after having a positive interaction with Brigade when he lost power and was offered a generator to get him through.

Graeme brings with him to the brigade years of experience in finance. He is a qualified accountant and has been the Treasurer since June 2022. Graeme joined the brigade because he wants to assist the Yarragon community and meet more people. He enjoys the convivial spirit and dedicated sense of duty of his fellow brigade members.



### Strike Team Insight from our Captain Ashley Smith

Recently several members from the Yarragon Fire Brigade were deployed on a strike team to assist our colleagues in the Beaufort area. Strike teams are a resource used by CFA involving 5 fire appliances and a Forward Command Vehicle along with approximately 25 personnel to operate on specific parts of a fire. Large fires such as the one in western Victoria require a large number of strike teams to protect the community. Strike teams are made up of people and appliances from a specific district within CFA and may be deployed for up to 3 days working 12+ hour shifts.

CFA personnel are trained to operate several types of appliances and work with fire fighters not only from our home brigade but other brigades as well.

CFA structure and its ability to assemble a large number of people and equipment in a short period of time is a credit to the thousands of volunteers willing and able to give their time to protect the Victorian community. We know that spending several hours commuting to a fire and working tirelessly for several days makes a tangible difference in protecting life and property.

Many people ask me why we are prepared to leave our homes and families and travel to the other side of the state. The answer is quite simple. CFA volunteers are very well trained, community oriented and willing to help others. We know that if a major fire were to ignite in our community we would get the support we need from other volunteers from around the state.



Buy new original artworks  
off the wall.

March 30 to April 7  
2024

Warragul Exhibition Hall  
15 Howitt St. Warragul

Baw Baw Arts Alliance  
with Warragul Rotary



Entries Open

[bawbawartsalliance.org.au](http://bawbawartsalliance.org.au)

green



Katie Grace

0429 429 630

[katie@greenesc.com.au](mailto:katie@greenesc.com.au)

Seniors ~ NDIS ~ Respite  
SOCIAL AND THERAPEUTIC HORTICULTURE

If you missed the work of the 'Creative Textiles' group from the Baw Baw Arts Alliance showing in the 'Station Gallery', Yarragon during March, you can catch some of their work at 'Through Life Physiotherapist', Warragul. The works have all been created using recycled garments, cut, stitched, printed, painted and will be on display at the Physiotherapist's rooms during April and May.

Two relatively new members are exhibiting work during April, Kathleen Kendall and Pauline Bailey. Whatever your Artistic preferences the work by these two, while very different, gives one plenty of food for thought. Kathleen first exhibited two of her stunning collage works in a recent exhibition using recycled materials. Although Kathleen works with a variety of mediums she is currently recycling a huge ten year collection of a glossy home decorating magazine that she cuts into intricate pieces.



Kathleen Kendall



These can leave the viewer in awe of the time taken to piece together the highly complex Artworks. Her inspiration comes from objects she collects or a colour that sparks an idea. Sometimes just looking at something in nature, such as lichen, helps her formulate an idea for her next wearable art outfit. The exhibition is aptly titled 'Turning the Page'.

Pauline Bailey, who has been shortlisted for several major art prizes in Australia, is exhibiting her work at the same time as Kathleen under the title of 'From Home to Home'. Pauline generally works in acrylic on canvas which is suited to her love of old buildings with character; weathered shopfronts, laneways, train stations, old signs. Many viewers will feel they have an affinity with the buildings Pauline paints and will be able to formulate a story for each painting.

While many of the Arts Alliance Artists exhibit in 'The Station Gallery' some also show their work more widely. Anita George, former president of the

Alliance, has an exciting show titled 'Words Within' coming up at the Gasworks Artpark, Graham Street, Albert Park, from April 15 to May 5. Anita's work is a fresh approach to using words and lettering within large scale paintings. Try to make her opening on April 20 at 1 to 3pm.



Handcrafted art  
by local artists

Wednesday to Sunday  
10:30am to 4pm

Station Gallery  
Princes Highway, Yarragon

Exhibitions Every Month



[bawbawartsalliance.org.au](http://bawbawartsalliance.org.au)

# ART UPDATE

By Carol Monson



**Baw Baw Arts Alliance**  
Yarragon Railway Station

OPEN Wednesday to Sunday 10:30 am - 4pm  
[www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au](http://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au)

**Wednesday 3rd April 2024**  
to  
**Sunday 28th April**





# YARRAGON BOWLS CLUB

By Richard Polmear

An update on our Pennant competition performance for the 2023/24 season:

Saturday Pennant Div4 finished 3<sup>rd</sup> on the ladder in a very tight competition. They played a home elimination final against 4<sup>th</sup> placed Yallourn North and lost in a close game. Yallourn North won the preliminary final against Traralgon but lost to Moe in the Grand Final. It was disappointing to lose to Yallourn North having defeated them in both home and away games during the season, but that's bowls and there is always next season.

Saturday Pennant Div6, a team shared with Thorpdale, finished 9<sup>th</sup> on the ladder of 12 teams and didn't compete in any finals.

Tuesday Pennant Div3 finished 4<sup>th</sup> in a tight competition. They played an away elimination final against 3<sup>rd</sup> placed Trafalgar which Yarragon lost. Trafalgar went on to win both the Preliminary Final and the Grand Final. The loss to Trafalgar wasn't unexpected as they proved to be the best team in the competition by winning the Grand Final.

Our Twilight Barefoot Bowls program runs on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month during daylight savings. For our offering of 7<sup>th</sup> March, we had 70 patrons and a good night was had by all. Next and final one is on the 4<sup>th</sup> April to complete our Twilight Barefoot Bowls program for this season. Come and join us for a bowl (no experience needed) a light meal and plenty of opportunity to socialise in a friendly environment. For those wishing to attend please notify the Club (on the Club's mobile) by no later than the Tuesday prior to the Thursday event they wish to attend. Only the first 70 patrons will be accommodated. Cost is \$15 per adult and \$10 per child. Twilight Barefoot Bowls program will resume with daylight savings in October

Our sponsor liaison officer, Denese Reynolds, is doing a wonderful job. Our sponsor program provides benefits to both parties, if you are interested contact Denese.

Please utilise the services of these businesses, when you have the need, as they are supporting their local community with sponsorships. We also recognise the tremendous support from the Community/Bendigo Bank of Trafalgar and District

During February 2024 all proceeds from the Yarragon Hotel meat & veggie raffle, held on Friday nights, have been allocated to the Yarragon Bowling Club. We have received \$1,500 for which we are very grateful. Again, this is a local initiative to support local sporting Clubs and your support is valuable to Clubs like our own. Tickets on sale from 5-7pm and members' draw. Our thanks to the Yarragon Hotel for this initiative and our inclusion.

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.

## Our sponsors for the 2023/24 season:

- Fonterra
- Fowler Street Dental
- Gift and Glamour
- Gippsland Food and Wine
- Gippsland Fresh Wholesale
- Neilsen Funerals
- Paul O'Toole Cartage
- Select Office Supplies
- The Cheeky Monkey
- The Shot House
- Town and Country Gallery
- Trafalgar Auto Electrics
- Trafalgar Tyre Service
- Vin Rowe Farm Machinery
- Warragul Country Club
- Westfalia
- Yarragon Automotive
- Yarragon Country Style Bakery
- Yarragon Foodworks
- Yarragon Lions Club
- Yarragon Pharmacy
- 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 (with limited catering available):

Email: [yarragonbowls@gmail.com](mailto:yarragonbowls@gmail.com)  
Phone (quicker response) 0490 831 283  
Website <https://yarragon.bowls.com.au>



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## 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

# TRAFALGAR HOLDEN MUSEUM HAS AN EXCITING YEAR PLANNED

By Glenda Jones via Traf News, Trevor Colvin

Our museum is going strong, with a number of events being developed for 2024.

We are planning a second "Ex-employee Day" for anyone who worked for General Motors Holden, or anyone who worked for one of the many businesses who supplied GMH in the production of their cars. If you're an ex-employee, know someone who would be interested, or would just like to hear some stories about what it was like to work for Holden, pass the message on.



The day is for everyone to attend, not just ex-employees. Keep a watch on our Facebook or Traf District News articles for the dates.

We are also in the early planning stages for our annual

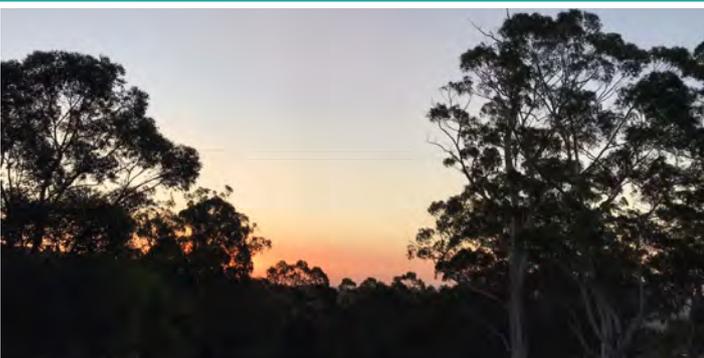
Route 69 event in October. It's always a great day, with a great range of Holdens, from the

first to the last models, brought in by our visitors. Then, about 11am many Holdens go on a 69 km drive around the beautiful scenery of Trafalgar and the Baw Baw Shire.

We had our annual Australia Day event to celebrate all Australian-made cars and had several hundred visitors attend, bringing cars from Ford, Toyota and of course, Holden. If it was built in Australia, it was welcome.

We are open seven days a week, from 10am to 5pm. If you've ever promised yourself a visit "one day", maybe you'll find the time to visit us this year!

Our museum is always getting new exhibits, so it's worth coming by every once in a while. We recently received the last Holden made police car. It was made for the highway patrol, and it has all the Victorian police paintwork, lights and sirens. Well worth a look.



## YARRAGON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

By Jim Whiley

**New Members Welcome**

**Contact email:**  
[yba3823@gmail.com](mailto:yba3823@gmail.com)

# The Norris's saved \$5,772 last year on their home loan!\*

All over Australia, homeowners are saving money with a free home loan health check.

How much could you save? Call the Trafalgar team on 5633 2783 to find out more.

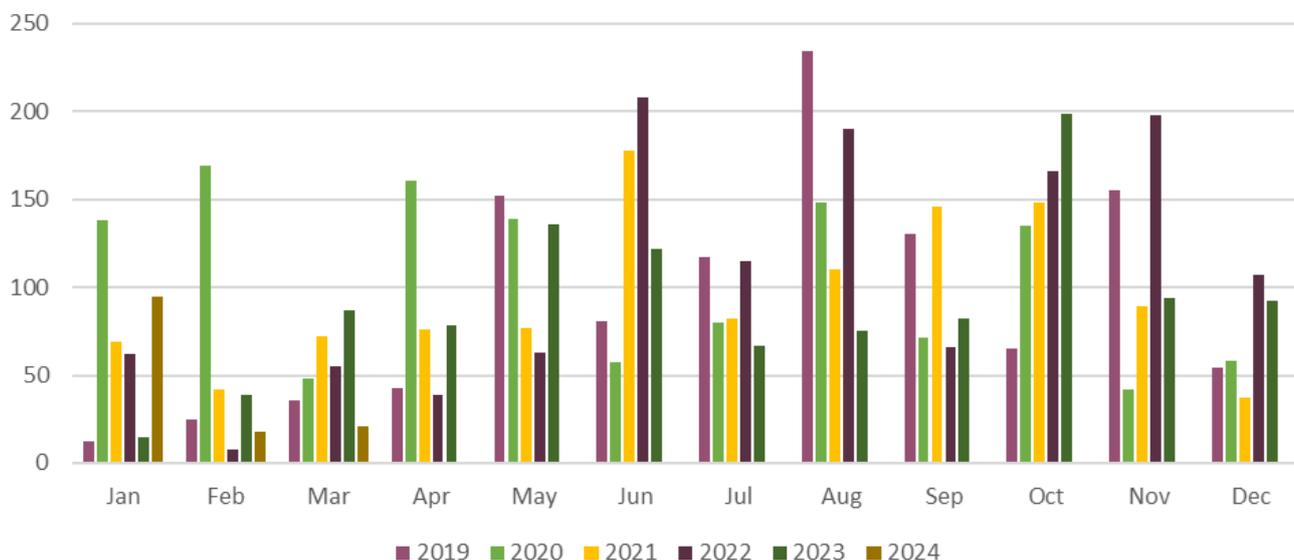
 Community Bank · Trafalgar & District



## Bendigo Bank

\*Amount saved was annual payments reduction on an owner-occupier home loan when repayments dropped by \$481 a month from lower interest rate and loan restructure. Actual savings will depend on individual circumstances. All loans are subject to the bank's normal lending criteria. Fees, charges, terms and conditions apply and are subject to change. Credit provided by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 Australian Credit Licence 237879. A1963170 OUT\_35714119, 05/03/2024

Rainfall 2019 - 2024



Rainfall Record for 2024 and the five years prior, as recorded in McIntyre Road, Yarragon.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	To Feb total	Total
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	87	78	136	112	54	75	82	199	69	92	141	1086
2024	95	18	21										134	

# YARRAGON FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

By Lilli Sim



The Yarragon Football Netball Club has had a huge off-season and we can't wait to get stuck into season 2024. So if you're a die hard Yarragon supporter, you better pencil in your diary to head on over to the Poowong Recreation Reserve on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024 for our Round 1 clash against the Magpies. You won't want to miss it!

For those supporters and community members who might not be able to join us for the first hit out of the season, we hope you can support us at one of the below games on our fixture for the month of April.

## SEASON FIXTURE – APRIL 2024

*Round 1: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024 v's Poowong (Away)*

*Round 2: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024 v's Neerim South (Home)*

*Round 3: Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024 v's Ellinbank (Away)*

*Round 4: Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024 v's Buln Buln (Home)*

## JOIN THE PANTHER ARMY

The Panther Army needs YOU!

Are you looking to show your support to the YFNC in 2024? By purchasing a Panther Army Membership you will be doing just that. As well as supporting our club financially, the Panther Army is just a really fun way of keeping in touch with past and present players.

Panther Army members receive free gate entry to all home games

Panther Army members and their children (no matter how many) play at Yarragon for free

Panther Army members are automatically entered into weekly cash draws year round (giving

away approximately \$14,000 per year)

Panther Army members enjoy access to specific club functions throughout the season

For more information on how you can join the Panther Army, please email us [yarrafnc@gmail.com](mailto:yarrafnc@gmail.com) or contact Rod Pollock on 0409 019 525.

## SEEKING FOOTBALL PLAYERS FOR UNDER 16'S & UNDER 18'S

If you know someone who would like to play footy, please reach out and send them our way.

No try-outs (or cuts)

Guaranteed game time

Option to play up

Able to take friendship groups

Easy to access facilities (train from school to ground)

Friendly club

If you would like to join a friendly, welcoming club who has a commitment to individual player development, please send us a message or contact;

Jo Keeble (Junior Football Manager): 0474 888 846 or

Michael Flegg (Junior Development Officer): 0439 141 266

## THURSDAY NIGHT MEALS

Our Thursday night meals are a club favourite and they return on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Save yourself the hassle of cooking and come on down to our social rooms and enjoy a two-course meal for only \$20.

ALL WELCOME!



# YARRAGON FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



# COUNCIL News.

## Be your streets new bin-fluencer!

Who knew an app filled with trash could be such a treasure? Baw Baw's new Waste App puts local rubbish and recycling information right at your fingertips.

Available to download for free on both Apple and Android, the new app allows you to set reminders, and provides heaps of handy tips to help residents learn more about waste, its impacts, and how we can minimise our own environmental impacts.

The app also contains useful information on local transfer stations, their locations and opening hours, as well as drop-off locations for people collecting for the Container Deposit Scheme.

To download the app today go to your App store, or alternatively visit [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/WasteApp](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/WasteApp).



Download now!



## ACCIDENTAL COUNSELLOR TRAINING IS COMING SOON.

In response to the severe weather events that have ravaged parts of Victoria the last few months, the Victorian State Government has provided Council with funding to deliver Accidental Counsellor Training for the community.

This training is designed to help build capacity among people to support others, create awareness, and enhance resilience in tough situations.

The training is free and will be provided through Lifeline Gippsland.

Accidental Counsellor Training helps people to recognise someone experiencing an emotional crisis or developing a mental health issue, and how to best respond to this.

Several sessions will run locally throughout May 2024. Further details to these will be available on Council's website and social media platforms in mid-April, as well as on the Lifeline Gippsland website.

For more information on Accidental Counsellor Training, visit [www.llg.org.au/mental-health-training](http://www.llg.org.au/mental-health-training).

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REMEMBRANCE DAY.

Baw Baw Shire Council will host a Candlelit Vigil on 1 May, to commemorate and acknowledge Domestic Violence Remembrance Day.

The vigil will be held at the West Gippsland Arts Centre, which will be lit up purple in honour of the occasion, and to show support for people impacted by domestic and family violence.

The entire Baw Baw Shire community are invited to attend the event from 6.00 – 6.45pm in the Forecourt of the Arts Centre on 1 May. Those attending are welcome to bring their own candle, otherwise one can be supplied.

You can also support the cause on social media by using the hashtags #LightACandle2024, #Vigil2024, #WeRememberYou, #NeverForgotten.



## LOOKING FOR YOUR PUUUURFECT NEW PET?

**Giving an animal their forever home is one of the most rewarding things that you can do.**

Baw Baw Shire Council currently has several delightful cats and kittens up for adoption. Could you be their next paw-esome owner?

Unconditional love and affection awaits, and there's plenty of other reasons that cats make great pets, including:

- They are low maintenance
- They are quiet and independent
- They keep your house pest-free
- They have long lifespans, and
- They're super cute!

So, what are you waiting for? If you could give one of these feline friends the lifelong home they deserve, head to our website and submit your application today!

Visit [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/AdoptionAnimals](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/AdoptionAnimals).

