



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER No. 409 DECEMBER 2023

Free, but your spare coins help cover costs. Thankyou all for the \$68.45 collected last month.

FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL IN YARRAGON

By Christina Flann



The Melbourne Food and Wine Festival Regional Edition kicked off in style for Gippsland in Yarragon this season with 'Down Home with Rachel and Bill'.

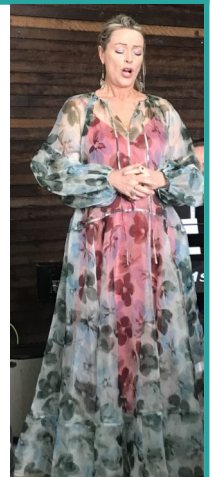
Rachel Needoba (Butterfly Factory Gippsland) and Bill Downie (William Downie Pinot Noir) opened up the dairy for an intimate food, wine and music event that was very quickly sold out. Luckily, my intelligent man held two of the tickets.

It was a beautiful day for enjoying a beautiful view with delicious accompaniments. Rachel's three cheeses, Monkey (I met the man this cheese is named after!), Chamela and St Ives, were perfect alone on crackers or captivating in the amazing dish including all three by Trevor, the Hogget Kitchen chef.

The fantastic new foodie addition to Warragul, Messmates, contributed delectable cakes and I know I went back for thirds.

Talking about concerts, the musical entertainment had something for everyone. Awe-inspiring opera from mezzo-soprano, Dimity Shepherd, to jaunty French tunes and hilarious songs by Richard Piper.

All in all, an incredible event .



Dimity Shepherd

I look forward to more in the future.



Bill's wine was amazing, as always. There were some older ones for tasting, including a 2013 that was very nice. I am still an absolute sucker for Cathedral, which Bill generously donates for our concerts at Yarragon Studio.



Rachel and Bill

URGENT!!

By Santa



My cheeky reindeer are hiding from me! How many can you find? I need all 27 to pull my sleigh. They don't all look the same, and some are in disguise!

(Identikits of reindeer and Santa portraits by forensic artist Debbie)



Katie Grace
0429 429 630
katie@greenesc.com.au

Seniors ~ NDIS ~ Respite
SOCIAL AND THERAPEUTIC HORTICULTURE

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

and viewed on 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

 0438 565 721



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

Business Card: 9x5.5cm	\$15
1/4 page: 13.7x9.3cm or banner: 6.9x19.05cm	\$40
1/2 page: 13.8x19.05cm or 27.5x9.5cm	\$60
Full page: 27.5x19.cm	\$75

Advertising space is available & **limited**. Please organise advertising with the editor, details above.

The remarks or views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editor, Committee of Management, or any volunteer involved in the production of this newsletter.

Although every effort is taken in the compilation and printing of this newsletter, no responsibility is taken for any errors that may occur.

**DEADLINE for
February 2024 edition
26 January
12 noon**

WHAT BIRD IS THAT IN MY GARDEN?

By Margaret Young



A pair of Grey Fantails are busy building a nest on my back veranda.



Photo by Alan Melville

They have chosen a thin branch/large stem of a big *Salvia* growing there, so I have to avoid walking along that part of the veranda. If I look like I am too close they bob about on the clothes line furiously chastising me with high pitched tweets and twitters.

The nest is the size of deep eggcup or tiny wine glass with a tassel of fine grass hanging below. I am watching from inside the lounge room as they meticulously build the sides of the nest higher using their beaks to weave in strands of spider web to hold in place scraps of fine grasses, bark, wood fibre and leaves. I have just had my Angora goats shorn so they might use a bit of the scraps of fleece lying in the paddock as well.

Grey Fantail's other names are Cranky Fan, Mad Fan Snapper, White Fronted or White Shafted Fantail and they can be found all over Australia. Their bodies are mid grey above with their breasts shading from sooty to cream. They have white eye brows and ear marks as well as white tips on their tails. If their tail is not spread out in its usual fan shape, at rest it will be tilting up while the wing tips point downwards.

Fantails have a very active, erratic flight pattern as they catch insects on the wing. You will often see them flitting around grazing cows and horses in the field, as their movement disturbs insects, and they will follow you as you work around the garden often getting quite close.

As well as our gardens and farms Grey Fantails can be found in forests and woodlands. Their trilling calls often sound to me like the sound your fridge makes when you leave the door open! So keep an eye out for these active little birds in your garden right now.

Stop Press!

The latest on the pair on my veranda:

A couple of days ago there was one tiny egg in the nest but next day **DISASTER!** The fragile branch/twig the nest was on had snapped at the base and the tiny egg was smashed on the concrete, The nest was OK, so I propped it up as best I could with minimal interference. Surprise! Another egg was in the nest the next day! The nest is quite deep but tilting sideways a bit. I will let you know more next time.



Also, remember the story last October about a Thornbill who built her nest in my shed in a bag I keep my brush cutter things in? Well, she is back. I moved the bag to another spot, but she has found it and built another nest in it. She raised two lots of babies last time so I hope I don't need anything from that bag for a while.

TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

By Tini Cook

Recently, Yarragon school friends from the 1950s, Florence Miles from Portland and Nellie Visser from Melbourne, had a lovely day catching up in Yarragon.

There was lots of talk, reminiscing, visiting their former homes, paying their respects to parents and siblings in the cemetery, cruising the streets and recalling who lived in each house back in the 50s & 60s. That was **how** it was back then, **everyone knew everyone** in the town. Very few people had cars, and the town was very self-contained, providing all the shopping, social and sporting needs of the community and even employment – for the men (women were not allowed to work after marriage!). There was always something on at the hall (pre TV) and lots on offer for kids as well as adults.

However, the highlight of the day was visiting their former primary school teacher - Yarragon's much loved Marj

Williams. Of course, Florence and Nellie still thought of her as 'Miss Green'.

Lively reminiscences and laughter filled the room as Marj, at 92, and Florence and Nellie, at 77, are all still quick with the quips.



Florence & Nellie with their former teacher Marj Williams.

In the early 1970s, Florence travelled overseas, working as a nanny and spending much time in Portugal.

She returned to Australia in 1975, met and married a farmer near Portland and over the years they made three trips back to Portugal to see her former charges.

Nellie married and moved to Swan Hill in 1970 and later to Melbourne. She too has travelled widely with numerous trips back to the country of her birth, Holland, after migrating with her parents and siblings and coming to Yarragon in 1951.

The Miles family have had a long and continuous association with Yarragon. Florence came to spend a week with her bedridden sister Margaret Green (no relation to Marj) who, with her husband John, moved back to Yarragon six years ago to be near their son Steven and daughter Karen, who have lived in Yarragon for a long time.

For many who grew up in Yarragon, there is often the pull to return.

AIRCRAFTWOMAN

By Tini Cook

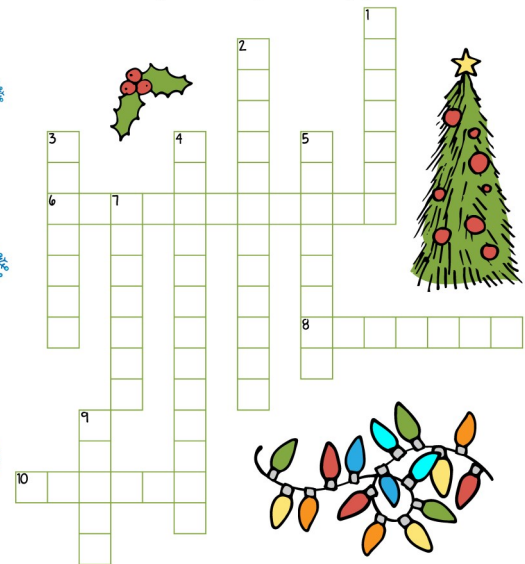
Florence Miles, who recently visited Yarragon, was named after her Aunt Florence Miles who is buried in the Yarragon Cemetery but whose portrait hangs in the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

This famous painting is by Nora Heysen who was the daughter of artist Hans Heysen and the first official female war artist in Australia in 1943.

Heysen selected to paint Aircraftwoman Florence Ethel Miles, 21, as she saw her as a 'young, forward lass'. Having a driver's licence before the outbreak of war (rare in those days for women), she became a driver during the war, serving in Queensland.



Christmas Crossword

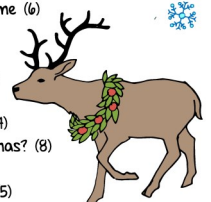


Across

6. What do you put up around the house at Christmas time? (11)
8. "We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy _____!" (3,4)
10. _____ Bells is a popular song at Christmas time (6)

Down

1. What does Father Christmas like to eat? (7)
2. What is the day before Christmas called? (9,3)
3. _____ the Red Nose Reindeer (7)
4. Presents go underneath the _____ (9,4)
5. What do you hang up the night before Christmas? (8)
7. What do reindeer like to eat? (7)
9. What is another name for Father Christmas? (5)



mamageek.co.uk

YARRAGON CRAFT AND PRODUCE MARKET

By Kathie Chalmers



The Yarragon Craft and Produce Market was held on Saturday 25th November, with the Community Hall filled with friendly stall holders and community members eager for a chat and some shopping.

There was a great range of handmade items and local produce as well as many varieties of plants.

The next market will be the twilight market on Friday 15th December from 4-8pm at Waterloo Park, with stall holders ready to meet you and share their ranges of crafts, vintage items and produce.

We will be joined by Santa and his Elf, two face painters and a great variety of stalls. It's a great market to visit and pick up some handmade gifts, Kris Kringles, teacher's gifts or items for your home and garden.

Thank you all for supporting the Yarragon Craft and Produce Market, we hope to see you on the 15th December and at the markets in 2024.

Keep up to date with stall holders at **Yarragon Craft and Produce Market** on  and 



PICNIC BELLS

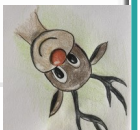
Found by Debbie on Trove

YARRAGON.

The drying effects of the east winds were plainly shown by both crops and pastures consequently the rainfall of Thursday week was very welcome. Both crops and pastures have freshened up wonderfully and a better yield of hay will result. The rainfall for the expired portion of the year is much below the average for the district and more would be very welcome.

An event of interest in the near future is a concert in connection with St. Mark's Church of England which has been definitely decided to take place on Wednesday the 9th inst. when a first class programme is to be presented for the modest charge of one shilling.

The scholars of the State school were treated to a picnic recently upon the occasion of the first ringing of the school bell by Mrs Banks, who when Miss Armstrong, one of the teachers stationed here for some time was mainly instrumental in the substitution of the present large bell for the cow bell formerly in use. The children thoroughly enjoyed the picnic.



DOWTON PARK TO GET NEW SEATS FROM BAW SHIRE

By Media Release

Downton Park Recreation Reserve Committee of Management – Purchase and installation of aluminium bench and park seating (\$5,000)



community grants



CREATIVE HARVEST 2024

By Amanda McLeod



Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 January 2024, 9am to 3pm both days. For more information, maps and tickets visit creativeharvest.org.au and follow on Facebook and Instagram @creativeharvestgippsland

West Gippsland's annual Creative Harvest: Edible Garden Weekend (January 2024) is an open garden trail with a difference. Its focus is on veggie gardens and growing your own food!

Explore 12 flourishing edible gardens growing healthy, sustainable food crops in spaces of all sizes from backyards to lifestyle farms. Grow your green-fingered know-how in a workshop. Chat with Gippsland artists and other creatives who'll



showcase their work in splendid garden settings.

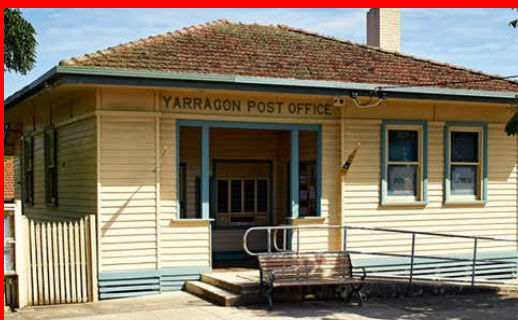
Be inspired, be encouraged and learn from like-minded gardeners who'll show you how you can 'do-it-yourself', no matter where you live. Creative Harvest is a family-friendly event.

creative Harvest
Where good things grow
27 & 28 January 2024

Join us for our annual edible gardens weekend in West Gippsland

MERRY-PEOPLE creativeharvest.org.au

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!

THOUGHTS FROM A LOCAL

By Roy Lindsay

Three years ago - December 2020 - was a big month for the town of Yarragon. It was on 8th December 2020 that the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) handed down its refusal to approve a massive fuel stop and restaurant proposed for the corner of Princes Highway and Hazeldean Road.



This was the second VCAT hearing on the matter, as some two years prior the applicant had originally proposed a McDonalds / KFC and Truck stop larger than the existing BP Officer.

Arguably, the Yarragon Community has never come together so quickly nor so strongly and the long-drawn-out fight started as a result of a Public Meeting in March 2018 until our victory in December 2020.

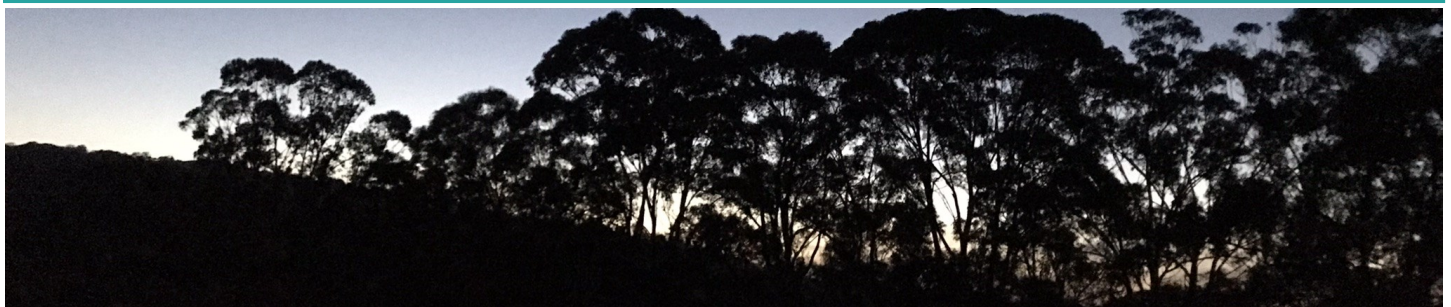
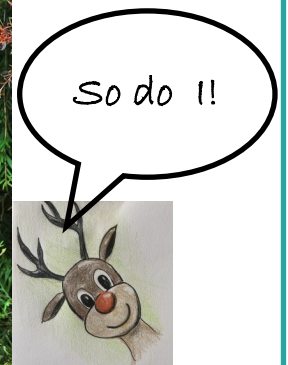
On each occasion, all nine Baw Baw Councillors were fully supportive of the Yarragon Community, as were Council's Planning Department who took the matter to VCAT and incurred significant legal costs on our behalf.

Locally, significant fund raising was necessary on both occasions, and thanks to an anonymous benefactor

picking up the costs for the second hearing, a small amount was left over for future Community use. The eventual VCAT decision stated "The proposal does not enjoy strategic support in this location. The (Planning) Scheme articulates the importance of coordinated and orderly planning for this township, including the development of infrastructure.... The scale and nature of the proposed use and development pre-empts this process and has the potential to undermine the directions of Yarragon expressed in the scheme".

It is believed the recent (November 2023) acceptance by Councillors of the *Yarragon Township Plan* further strengthens the 'Planning' aspect and hopefully this

matter is now closed.



SCRAPA
METAL RECYCLERS
OLD CARS PROPERTY-CLEANOUTS
TRAILERS FRIDGES WASHERS DRYERS
BIKES ROOFING IRON TANKS
MOTORS GEARBOXES CARAVANS
0407 364 104 FREE PICK-UP

YDCA

By Richard Polmear



During November the Baw Baw Shire Council finalised the Yarragon Township Plan for the next 15 to 20 years. This will be the subject of a meeting in the near future and an approach to Baw Baw Shire Council.

Members are reminded that membership fees are due. The cost is \$25 per person or \$30 per family. Please pay to Treasurer Jen. Members will receive updates from sub-committees between meetings.

The next meeting of the YDCA will be advised to Members but will be held at the Fire Brigade building, Murray St, Yarragon, commencing at 7pm.

OUR COMMUNITY BANK TURNS 20

By Debbie Churchill and Christina Flann



The Community Bank Trafalgar & District are celebrating. And they invited us at Yarragon News to help celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Community Bank Trafalgar & District. Debbie represented the newsletter and reported that there was a really good turnout (and delicious food!). The bank has put significant funds back into the community here. Thanks for doing a really good job, a celebration well earned. Certificates were awarded to different groups that benefited from the funding. And there was cake, everything is wonderful when there is cake.



Many sizes of Self-Storage
24 Hour/7 Day access
CCTV and security lighting
Automated secure access gate
Very competitive rates
Undercover caravan storage

0484 951 591

allinstorage3823@gmail.com

**12 INDUSTRIAL COURT
YARRAGON**

Celebrate the wonderful

However you celebrate, whoever you're with, may your Christmas be merry, always.

From the **Community Bank Trafalgar & District**

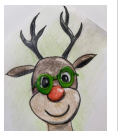
During the festive season our branch will close from **Saturday 23rd December**, and reopen **Wednesday 27 December**.

 Community Bank Trafalgar & District 5633 2783



 **Bendigo Bank**

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 (1746230-1789243) OUT_33084183, 20/11/2023



COUNCIL INFO

From Media Releases with commentary by Christina Flann

New things to have your say on

BAW BAW CONNECT
YOUR SAY, YOUR WAY.

ROADSIDE WEED AND PEST CONTROL.

A graphic with a purple and blue background. On the left, there's a 'BAW BAW CONNECT' logo and a speech bubble saying 'YOUR SAY, YOUR WAY.'. The main text reads 'ROADSIDE WEED AND PEST CONTROL.' in large, bold letters. On the right, there's a photograph of a paved road curving through a landscape with trees and a clear sky.

BAW BAW CONNECT
YOUR SAY, YOUR WAY.

HELP NAME LOCAL PLACES AND SPACES IN BAW BAW.

A graphic with a yellow and blue background. On the left, there's a 'BAW BAW CONNECT' logo and a speech bubble saying 'YOUR SAY, YOUR WAY.'. The main text reads 'HELP NAME LOCAL PLACES AND SPACES IN BAW BAW.' in large, bold letters. On the right, there's a photograph of people standing in front of a building with a sign that says 'Liza Pharaoh Pavilion'.

BAW BAW CONNECT
YOUR SAY, YOUR WAY.

BECOME AN ENVIRONMENTAL WARRIOR FOR BAW BAW SHIRE.

A graphic with a purple and blue background. On the left, there's a 'BAW BAW CONNECT' logo and a speech bubble saying 'YOUR SAY, YOUR WAY.'. The main text reads 'BECOME AN ENVIRONMENTAL WARRIOR FOR BAW BAW SHIRE.' in large, bold letters. On the right, there's a photograph of a dirt path lined with trees, with people walking and a bicycle in the distance.



Free 3 m³ green waste as part of the *Keep Baw Baw Shire Safe this Summer* campaign:

In case you missed the one in Traf (like I did and failed to put it in the newsletter, sorry!) There is still a chance for residents to drop off 3 m³ of acceptable green waste at Lardner Transfer Station – 10 am to 4 pm Sunday 3, Friday, Saturday 9 or Sunday 10 December. I might see you there...



In the electronic version you should, hopefully, be able to click on the images above to go to the full details on the council website. Trying something new in Publisher, crossing fingers.

WHAT ARE THE EDITORS UP TO?

By Christina Flann, Debbie Churchill & Oscar Bijl

Oscar

Completed an amazing pottery course at *The Gallery of Good* in Trafalgar with artist Ruth Bruten. Still reading *My Side of the Mountain* and loving it.



Christina

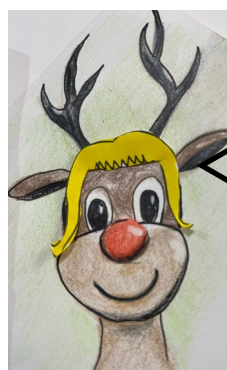
Currently reading *How to be Champion* by Sarah Millican and *Furiously Happy* by Jenny Lawson. I highly recommend both. In sad news, we are grieving our goofy rooster, Basil who protected his flock from a fox, but did not recover from his wounds. He was a good bird.



Debbie

Finishing entries for the recycled art exhibition at BBA Station Gallery.

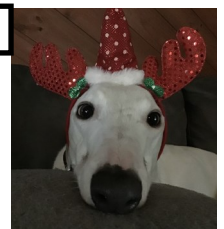
As your new editors we would love to have your input as what you would like to see included in your monthly newsletter, if you have any suggestions drop us an email yarragonnews@gmail.com, call Debbie on 0438565721 or place a small note in the donation box where you pick up your newsletter. Please note, there will be no newsletter in January. We look forward to delivering bright informative editions to you next year, and wish everyone a happy Christmas and safe and peaceful new year.



We're also all helping Santa find his reindeer. An obvious extension of being editors of a community newsletter.

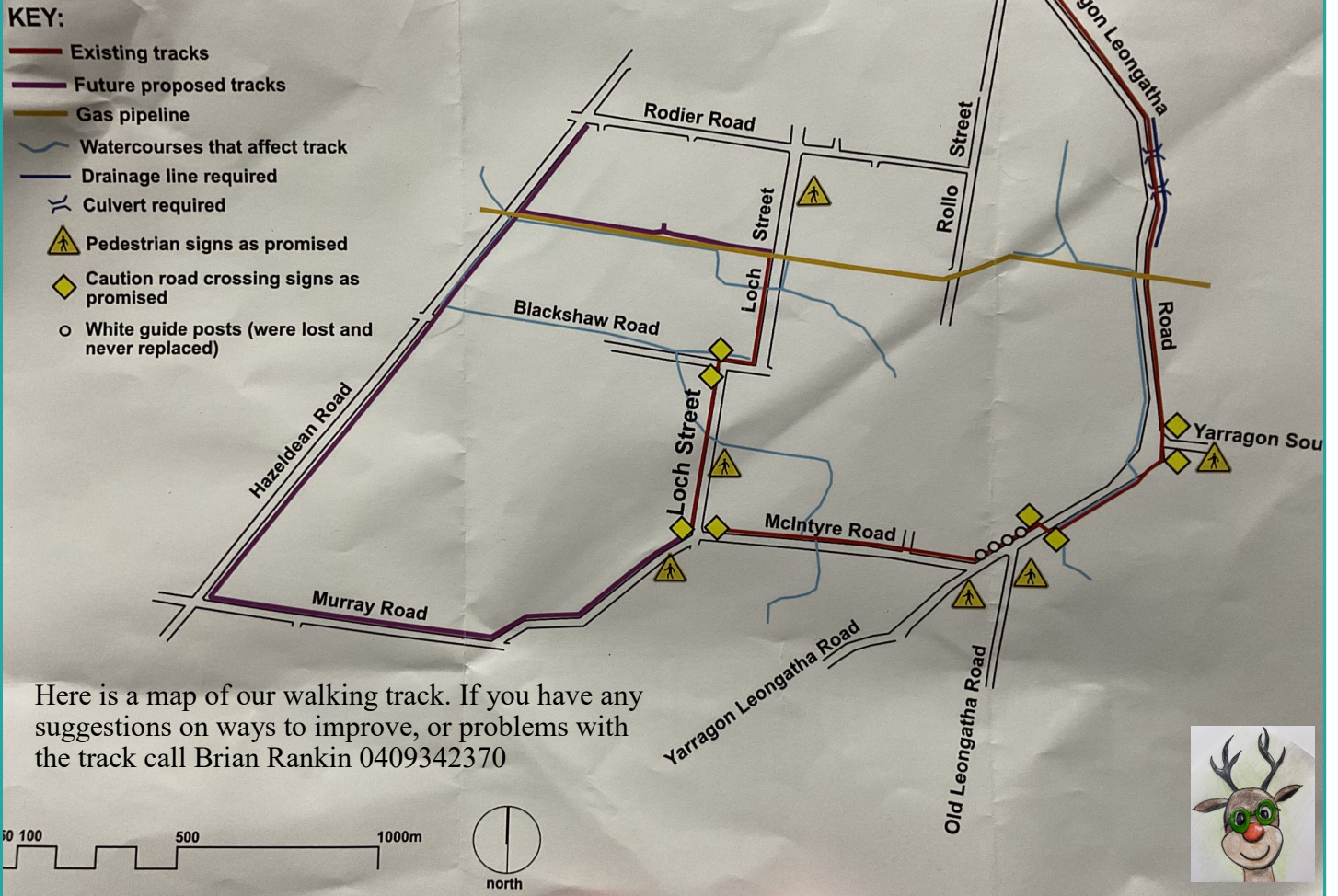
LOOK! There's one!

But does the greyhound with antlers count?



YARRAGON WALKING TRACK

By Brian Rankin



YARRAGON RURAL SUPPLIES

88 Waterloo Road, Yarragon VIC 3823
 (03) 5634 2125
 paul@yarragonrural.com.au

OPENING HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:30pm
 Saturday - 8:30am - 1:00pm

WE HAVE YOU COVERED THIS CHRISTMAS!



Every purchase over \$50 in December will go in the draw to win!

- First Prize - Silvan Prograde 8L Hand Sprayer!
- 2nd Prize - \$25 Gift Voucher
- 3rd Prize - \$25 Gift Voucher

Drawn before close of business December 22nd 2023

Merry Christmas

Come in for all your rural needs

these holidays!

- Potting mix
- Sugarcane mulch
- Generators
- Gift vouchers
- Knapsacks





COUNCIL News

MAYOR RE-ELECTED

Councillor Annemarie McCabe re-elected as Baw Baw Shire Mayor.

Baw Baw Shire Council has its first all-female leadership team since 2011, following the re-election of Cr Annemarie McCabe as Mayor alongside fellow West Ward Councillor Tricia Jones, who was elected as Deputy Mayor, at the Mayoral election on 14 November.

Cr McCabe said that she was looking forward to continuing to lead the Shire and advocate on behalf of its more than 60,000 residents.

"The Baw Baw Shire has seen some great outcomes over the past 12 months, and I look forward to working with the community to see what else we can do in the next year," Cr McCabe said.

"Advocacy and engagement are a growing priority for the Council, and the recent launch of Council's new online engagement platform Baw Baw Connect reinforces this."

Cr McCabe and Cr Jones will each serve a one-year term in their roles with the Victorian Council Elections to be held in October 2024.



FEEDBACK OPEN NOW!

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE FOR BAW BAW'S YOUNG PEOPLE.

Council's Youth Strategy aims to improve the experiences of young people living, working and visiting Baw Baw Shire.

Young people across Baw Baw Shire were consulted to help form the Draft Youth Strategy, and now is your final chance to have your say before it's finalised.

The draft strategy is now live on Baw Baw Connect and we want to hear more of your ideas before feedback closes on Wednesday 13 December 2023.

Jump online to www.bawbawconnect.com.au and use the ideas board to have your say.



Close date:
Wednesday
13 December 2023.



FEEDBACK OPEN NOW!

TIME TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON OUR SIX LOCAL PLAYGROUNDS!

Bellbird Park playground in Drouin, Toy Park in Longwarry and Apex Park in Traralgon are just some of the playgrounds identified by Council for refurbishments as part of the latest Playground Renewal Program.

Council's Playground Renewal Program replaces worn equipment and provides a

chance for the community to share their ideas on how it may be updated should budget allow.

The list of playgrounds up for renewal in 2023/24 are:

- Bellbird Park, Drouin
- Toy Park, Longwarry
- Downton Park, Yarragon
- Apex Park, Traralgon

- Noojee Riverside Playground, Noojee
- Briona Court Playground, Traralgon

Head to Baw Baw Connect today and have your say on these renewals before the consultation closes on 11 December 2023.



Close date:
Monday
11 December 2023.



Expressions of Interest NOW OPEN!

SUBMIT YOUR INTEREST TO JOIN A COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE TODAY.

Two of Baw Baw Shire Council's advisory committees have vacancies, providing a wonderful chance for residents to influence Council decision making.

Expressions of Interest are now open to join the Environmental Voice Advisory

Committee, as well as the Place Names Advisory Committee.

For more information on these committees and to find out what your role could be, visit www.bawbawconnect.com.au today.



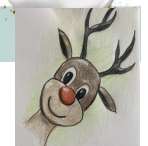
Close date:
Friday
15 December 2023.



W bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

E bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

T 1300 229 229



VALE BETTY ELLIOT

By Tini Cook

Many Yarragon residents will be saddened to hear of the death of former resident Betty Elliot who passed away on 25 November.

Betty, a lively lady, came to Yarragon when she married and in the 50 years of living here was involved in EVERYTHING:

- Secretary of Dowton Park Ladies Auxillary which played a big part in the fundraising and establishment of the football ground in the 1970s. She later wrote 'Dowton Park - The First Twenty Years'.
- Involved in the Athletics Championships held at Dowton Park.
- Secretary & Volunteer for 8 years at Headway, held in Yarragon's former Community House.
- Secretary of the Garden Club.
- Foundation member of Yarragon Primary School's 'Learning Assistance Program'; Tidy Towns; Neighbourhood Watch & Yarragon Village Art & Craft Show.
- She helped with the Community Newsletter in the early years, the Community Quilt, Dairy Fests and The Big Beanie.
- Wrote booklet 'Lest We Forget' about the WW1 veterans named on our cenotaph.
- Helped plant the thousands of daffodils along highway (later removed by Baw Baw Shire) and also helped paint the old fences at the cemetery.
- Was involved in the Australia Day celebrations, the 'World Masters Bike Ride' around Yarragon.
- A member of Yarragon's 'Care Group' and 'C.W.A.'
- Involved in the fight for clean water for Yarragon and kept scrapbooks of the newspaper articles of the two year battle.
- Took lots of photos of Yarragon's development over the years.

She had a wonderful way with words and wrote with wit and wisdom on many topics and compiled 'Recollections of Ferg' about Dr Ferguson, the only doctor servicing Yarragon, Trafalgar and District for some 45 years.

She managed all this whilst raising a family of four and running one of the Yarragon Milk-bars in the 1970s. As Thelma Kingwill commented, it was only through the work of people in the community that things got done back then.

Betty was great company, participated in local concerts, loved scrabble, lunches, cuppas and chats around the table.



20 years ago Betty moved to Queensland to be closer to daughters and grandchildren and "to escape cold Gippsland" but still kept in touch with many here.

Thank you Betty for all you did for Yarragon.

Our sympathies go to her children and grandchildren.



LION'S CLUB REPORT

By Alison and Glenn Butterworth



This last month has been very busy for our local Lions Club. We have donated and raised a new Victorian Flag in our main street. We did so because the old one was getting very tatty.

On 11th November, we were part of the

Yarragon Remembrance Day commemorations. Our President Bill Cropley was assisted by our members, James Geary and Roy Robins in laying the wreath on behalf of all Lions.

Also on the 11th, we did another Bunnings Sausage Sizzle. Once again we sold out of everything and had a very profitable day. A big thanks to Wayne for his organisation and the time he puts into getting the show up and running. Also a big thanks to the Lions members who volunteered on the day.

Our Op Shop has taken on a Christmas theme. We have loads of festive stuff, including clothing, platters, dishes, glasses, cups, cards, and lots of decorations. Come on in and make your day all jazzed up and festive. We will be closing for our Xmas break after drawing the raffle on Thursday 21st December 2023

The op shop elves have been working tirelessly all year sorting through all the donated goods so, unlike the North Pole, we are giving them a break for December. Unfortunately this means we are not able to accept your generous donations in December. However don't fret, we will be refreshed and back to work when we re-open on January 10 2024.

So at Christmas if you get a book you've already read, yet another pair of socks, or a shirt 3 sizes too big, bring it in!

Our raffle is getting close to being drawn. Tickets are still available at the Op Shop. Remember, you have to be in it to win it.



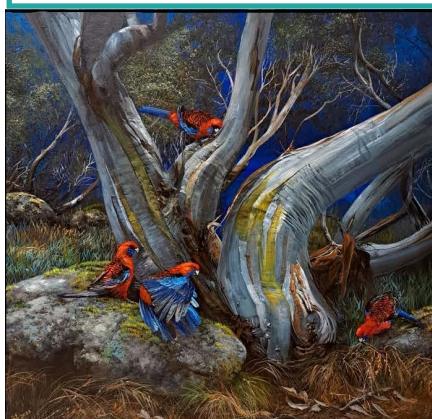
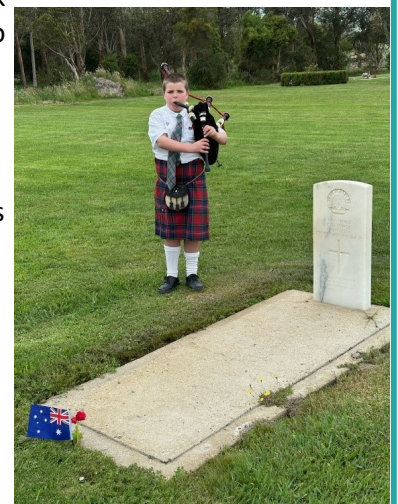
Finally, we the Lions Club of Yarragon wish the people of Yarragon and surrounds a Happy and Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.


YARRAGON CEMETERY TRUST

By Mel Kemeys

The Trust would like to congratulate West Gippsland Genealogical Society on the successful launch of their latest book paying tribute to WW1 service personnel from Yarragon with a special thank you to Beryl Weekley who conducted the cemetery walk, her extensive knowledge of every serviceman buried in the cemetery kept the visitors enthralled.

Also a special thank you our bagpiper James Craig, his rendition of Amazing Grace was stellar and you are welcome back any time.



 Wishing all a wonderful Christmas and a safe, happy new year

Fine art - Flowers - Jewellery

Local artists; handcrafted works; Allambee Flower Farm flowers

'Crimson Rosellas in the Snow Gums'
100x100cm, acrylic on canvas
By Helena Colman

Town & Country
Gallery
YARRAGON

Ph: 5634 2229

www.townandcountrygallery.com.au

OPEN 7 DAYS 10-5
(closed Christmas Day)



BARBEQUE SAFELY!

By Tegan Brown, Secretary & Community Safety Officer

As all Australians know, summertime = BBQ time.



Barbeques require ongoing maintenance as there is nothing like the lights and sirens of a fire truck to kill the barbeque party vibes.

Let's barbeque safely this summer by completing a few simple checks:

- Check the LP gas cylinder, if it hasn't been checked in over 10 years or is damaged – Go and get a new one.
- Check the hose to make sure it's intact and hasn't deteriorated over time – If it's not intact, then get a new hose.
- Check the connections to make sure they are tight and that the O rings are in good condition and not cracked or split. – Any damage? Then replace with new ones.
- Check for gas leaks in the hose or connections with soapy water. If you have a gas leak you will see bubbles when you turn the gas on. If you see bubbles don't use your gas cylinder or hose until repaired or replaced.
- Remove any excess fat from previous cooking to prevent fat fires.

General Barbeque Safety

- Never use them indoors or in a confined space as you will risk Carbon Monoxide poisoning.
- Cook with barbeque utensils and wear an apron to protect yourself from hot fat.
- Don't use barbeques in very windy weather as the burners may blow out, risking a gas leak.

Before you cook, do your BBQ checks and party safely.

Fire Danger Period (FDP)

As we are now in Summer, the FDP is rapidly approaching, the exact date is yet to be confirmed but likely to be this month. (A reminder that the FDP is not the same as a **Total Fire Ban.**)



Fire Danger Period (FDP)

CFA declares the Fire Danger Periods by municipality during periods of increased fire risk.

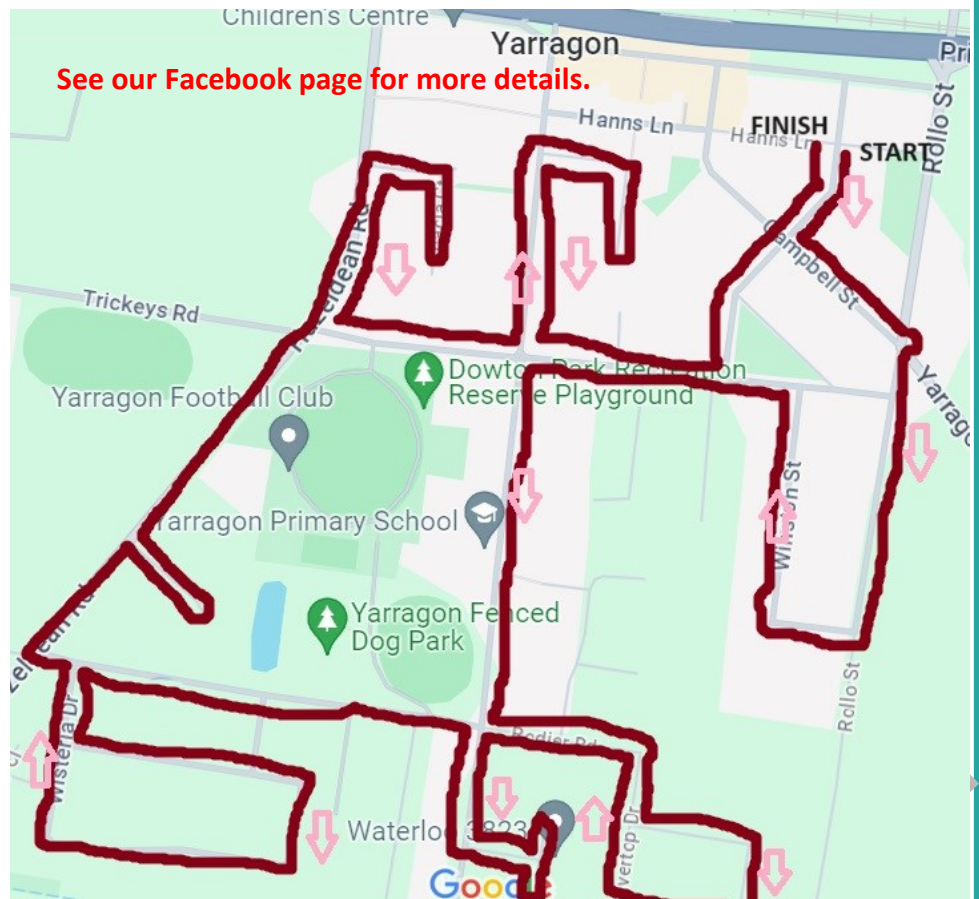
During the FDP any landowner wanting to burn fuel (light or heavy) will require a permit from CFA. We strongly encourage you to avoid this unless absolutely necessary. A reminder that outside of the FDP you are still required to register your burn off with ESTA and need to comply with the Baw Baw Shire council burn off conditions.

Not sure what you can and can't do? Look up all the restrictions that are in place during the FDP on at: <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/total-fire-bans-fire-danger-ratings/can-i-or-cant-i>

Thank you to our Volunteers!

Lastly, a huge thank you to all our dedicated volunteers for their time and commitment throughout this year to protect our community. We are truly grateful.

ANNUAL CFA SANTA RUN Monday 18th December





ART UPDATE

By Carol Monson



For most people December is the busiest month of the year and this is no different for members of the Baw Baw Alliance. Put the date of Monday, December 11 in your calendar when 'Art Down the Line' takes place. The brainchild of Anita George, painter, calligrapher and former president of the Arts Alliance, this is a chance to watch a fun, multimedia event based on the concept of an old style progressive dinner. Artists will start at Trafalgar Artspace in the former Trafalgar Railway Station precinct, sample, layer, play and paint then move on to Yarragon for lunch. At the park adjoining the Warragul Railway Station Artists will do more painting, stitching, sketching while you, the viewers watch.

The event is free for audience members at the railway stations and commences at 10.00am. For more information see <https://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au/>

The next date that is a must in one's diary is the Warragul Arts Market in Civic Place Warragul on Saturday, December 16 from 8.30am to 1.00pm. With more than 50 stalls operated by Artists, there is a huge range of quality, locally produced creative work available for you to purchase in time for Christmas.

Also during the month of December at 'The Station Gallery', Yarragon are two very different exhibitions. The larger gallery space will be hung with Art produced from recycled materials and objects. Expect Artworks from diverse materials such as clothing, rusty wire, teabags, plastic containers. Artists are only limited by their imagination. In the smaller gallery space known as 'The Wall', Artists Jeff Thege and Dale Plew are exhibiting their stunning black-and-white drawings under the title of 'Definitely This Time'. The exhibition has been long in the planning because both Artists have had to overcome serious hand injuries and worked extremely hard to produce time-consuming and intricate works of Art.

A little known venture for the Arts Alliance is the relationship with 'Through Life Physiotherapists', 100 Brandy Creek Road, Warragul, whose business has gallery space where Arts Alliance Artists exhibit their work throughout the year. Members of the public are welcome to visit the gallery and its regular displays. On display during December, 2023 and January, 2024 are the works of Calligrapher and Painter, Anita George, and Painter, Ingrid Thomas, pictured below.

Merry Christmas to all!



Baw Baw Arts Alliance

Selling handcrafted gifts by local artists

Station Gallery, Yarragon

Wednesday to Sunday 10:30am to 4pm

Artspace1, Trafalgar

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 10:30am to 3pm and Wednesday 10:30am to 12:30pm

bawbawartsalliance.org.au



Baw Baw Arts Alliance
Yarragon Railway Station
OPEN Wednesday to Sunday 10:30 am - 4pm
www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au

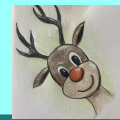
Wednesday 29th November 2023
to
Sunday 28th January 2023





YARRAGON BOWLS CLUB

By Richard Polmear



Progress is going well towards our 30 November targets for securing funding from Sport and Recreation Victoria, that Baw Baw Shire must apply for on our behalf, for an artificial green.

We have three key short-term targets to be met by 30 November: \$100k in our funding contribution (last reported at \$87k) - now reached ahead of time; increasing membership to a total of 60 members (40 at the start of October) - now stands at 71 members on the 22 November; preparing a winning submission – first draft is expected anytime with final submission due 13 December. We look like we are in good shape on those factors over which we have control.

How we are going on the competition green? Saturday Pennant Div4 have played 5 rounds with 2 wins and 3 losses to hold 5th position on the ladder of 8 teams. Saturday Pennant Div6, a team shared with Thorpdale, have also played 5 rounds with 2 wins and 3 losses and sit 10th on the ladder of 12 teams. Tuesday Pennant Div3 have played 5 rounds with 2 wins and 3 losses to hold 6th position on the ladder of 10 teams.

Our Twilight Barefoot Bowls program runs on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month during daylight savings. For our offering of 16th November we were at or near our capacity with 65 patrons. Future offerings are on the 7th December and 18th January 2024.

We have a member only Christmas function on 15th December with external catering and a capacity of 55. 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 by no later than the Tuesday prior to the Thursday event they wish to attend. Only the first 70 patrons can be accommodated. Cost is \$15 per adult and \$10 per child.

Member, Margie Arnold won the November sponsors draw with a receipt from Yarragon Bakery. Her prize is a \$25 voucher from Warragul Country Club.

Our next Bunnings BBQ is Friday 22nd December.

Our sponsor liaison officer, Denese Reynolds, is doing a great job. You will find her to

be very engaging and pleasant. Our sponsor program is designed to provide benefits to both parties, so if you might be interested contact the club.

Please utilise the services of these businesses, as they are supporting their local community with sponsorships.

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.



Not a portrait of Denese!

Thanks to all our sponsors and supporters.

Without you we would not exist!!!

Our sponsors for the 2022/23 season:

Yarragon Pharmacy,
The Shot House,
Yarragon Lions Club,
Yarragon Automotive,
Yarragon Country Style Bakery,
Fowler Street Dental,
Neilson Funerals,
Yarragon Foodworks,
Trafalgar Auto Electrics,
Trafalgar Tyre Service,
Gippsland Fresh Wholesale,
Vin Rowe Farm Machinery,
Warragul Country Club,
Select Office Supplies,
Yarragon Post Office,
Town and Country Gallery,
Gift and Glamour.
Cheeky Monkey,
Gippsland Food and Wine.
Westfalia.

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.

To contact the bowls club about sponsorship, games, or hiring facilities (with limited catering available):

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

[YarragonBowlingClub](https://www.facebook.com/YarragonBowlingClub)

Yarragon Hotel



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

TOWN PLANNING, SUSTAINABILITY AND YOU

By Baw Baw Planning Alliance – a committee of the Baw Baw Ratepayers and Citizens Association

- How does Town Planning impact on your day-to-day life?
- What is the role of Baw Baw Shire Council?
- What are your experiences like in dealing with Council?
- How can you get involved with decisions that affect you?
- How can you help Council serve you better?
- How can we help convince Council to use the tools in the Planning Scheme to deliver better outcomes?



Do your eyes glaze over when you hear words like sustainability or town planning? What's in it for you? Well actually, a great deal. We all would like to think that we will leave behind a legacy for our children or future generations. Putting it simply, sustainability is about meeting the needs of current generations without compromising the needs of future generations, while ensuring a balance between economic growth, environmental care and social well-being. We have to be able to strike a balance between these sometimes-conflicting goals. Where does Town Planning fit into this?

Town planning is the planning and design of all the new buildings, roads, and open space in a place to make them attractive, useable and convenient for the people who live there.

When planning is successful, it can provide protection for the environment, promote and facilitate regeneration, help create and sustain communities, and create new and exciting places by ensuring land uses are appropriately located and that:

- buildings and land uses do not conflict with each other
- the character of an area is not detrimentally affected
- development will not detrimentally affect the environment
- through sustainable practices future generations are considered in decision making
- places of heritage significance are not detrimentally altered or demolished
- sustainable practices improve our lives, protect our eco system.

If you live, work, learn, play or run a business in Baw Baw Shire you should be interested in planning because everyday decisions are being made at the local lot level, neighbourhood, town and right up the regional level which can impact on your ability to enjoy this great place.

Have you ever interacted with Baw Baw Shire Council on a planning matter whether as an applicant for a permit, an affected adjoining neighbour, a user of an open space or at a community forum or council meeting? What was that experience like for you? Was it positive, where you felt your voice was heard or was it not so positive?

Because the Shire and its elected officials and staff are responsible for the delivery of projects and services worth many hundreds of millions of dollars, your money, it's important to take more than a passing interest in local civic matters. Over the next few weeks, we will be presenting a series of articles about how the planning system and the Shire and its representatives are and sometimes aren't, delivering the best possible outcomes for its residents, businesses and visitors, to leave that well-founded legacy for the future. Council must make decisions based on the best available evidence.

At the highest level, Baw Baw Shire states on the Council website, its "Vision, Values and Mission" – in other words, the way it says it serves the people of this Shire. It also has a Customer Service Charter. Check these out and consider whether you feel the Shire is meeting and living these Commitments, Vision and Values as you read (and hopefully provide feedback on) our observations of the delivery or otherwise of some important elements in the Shire's Planning Scheme. It is important for all citizens to exercise their democratic right to speak out in an informed and respectful manner to help our local government to do its job and best reflect the needs and wishes of all.

Baw Baw Shire Vision, Values and Mission

Our Commitments

Through the Community Vision, Mission and Cultural Values Council commits to working towards the best possible outcomes for the Baw Baw community.

This is our shared aspiration for the long-term future of the Shire: to be Sustainable, Healthy and Thriving:

Council's Cultural Commitments:

Optimistic about our organisation’s ability to deliver quality services and projects to benefit the community.

Pragmatic by resolving issues and making the best possible use of our time, effort and resources.

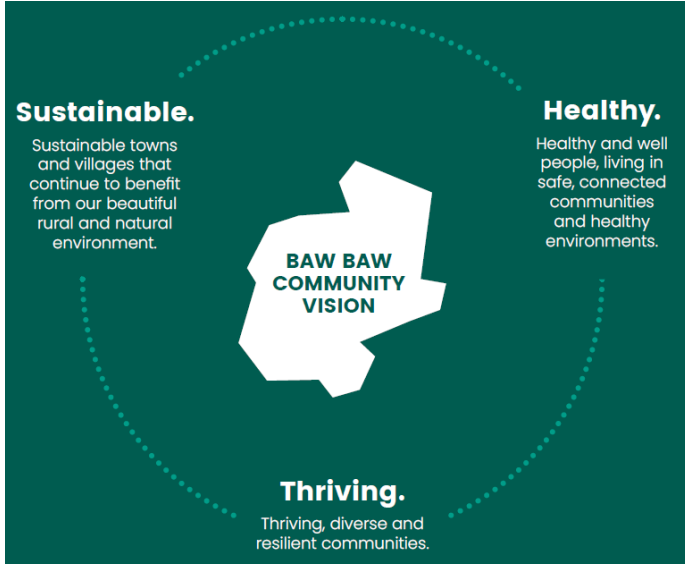
Respectful of our organisation and of the diverse views and perspectives of our community.

Supportive by valuing our team members, empowering them to be successful in their roles and investing in their growth and development.

Authentic by undertaking our work in an open, honest and transparent manner.

<https://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Our-Organisation/Vision-Values-Mission>

Contact: Inge Mitchell mobile: 0411 453 175



Our Mission

Council’s mission is to be leaders in delivering quality, innovative and community focused services today that make a difference for tomorrow.

GREEN YOUR THOUGHTS WITH NATURE-SCRIPT REFLECTION TIME

By Katie Grace



Some days can be quite overwhelming with tasks piling up, leaving me feeling drained by the end of it. Do you experience that as well?

Yet I find the days I make time to simply be still in nature, to be more satisfying and fulfilling.

The health industry has started recommending “nature prescriptions”; and I completely support the idea of taking purposeful time to breathe deeply and relax in nature to soothe the senses, rejuvenate the mind and nurture the soul.

I encourage you to find a comfortable, green space and dedicate 30 minutes a day to this practice.

Allow yourself to be fully present and take in the surroundings—the breeze, the sunshine, the fragrances, and the textures. Take some time to reflect on your experience, and jot down any feelings that arise in your journal.

For more information, please visit Dimity William’s website at www.natureourmedicine.com.



100% Sustainable! Made from plastic bottles

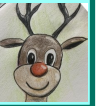


Photo by Inge Mitchell

On Thursday Inge Mitchell saw her first ever newly hatched cicada after 7 years in the ground. Can you find it too? Total length 75 mm with beautiful filmy wings. Hanging onto a rose bush in a garden on Earls Road.

CREATIVE YARRAGON ART GROUP

By Debbie Churchill and Christina Flann



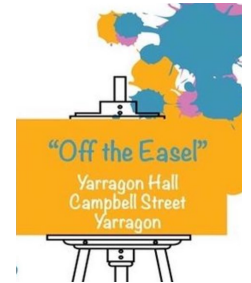
The *Off The Easel Exhibition* was a great success. This group of very talented artists presented their work for public viewing. The show was very well supported, with a steady flow of people all weekend. A lot of artworks were sold, as well as money raised for Baw Baw Food Relief.



Debbie won't say so herself, but her stall was particularly lovely. Oscar bought a beautiful notebook with an original bird painting on the front and my Mum bought a number of lovely cards. I was very tempted by the Alice in Wonderland artistic book-creation and, if it didn't sell, I might still follow that up. Oscar also bought a lovely picture of a cheeky cat by Coral (not pictured).



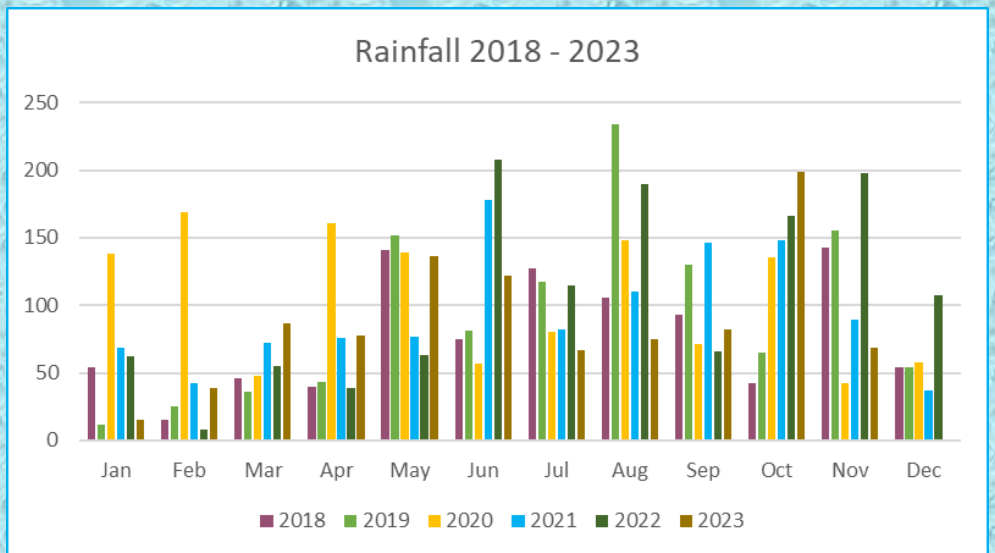
Standing from left to right: John, Sandra, Maxine, Margaret, Deb, Donna, Kim, Jan, Jeannie, and Susan. Sitting and holding a cat painting is Robbie, sitting with cool purple hair is Joan.



Q: What's the opposite of a single cycle?

A: A bicycle.

Oscar



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	To Nov total	Total
2018	54	15	46	40	141	75	127	106	93	42	143	54	882	936
2019	12	25	36	43	152	81	117	234	130	65	155	54	1050	1104
2020	138	169	48	161	139	57	80	148	71	135	42	58	1188	1246
2021	69	42	72	76	77	178	82	110	146	148	89	37	1089	1126
2022	62	8	55	39	63	208	115	190	66	166	198	107	1170	1277
2023	15	39	87	78	136	112	54	75	82	199	69		969	

LIFELINEDANCING

By Sonia Roberts

Linedancers Fundraiser for Lifeline raised **\$20,533!**

We have supported Lifeline since 2018 when they received around 1 million calls per year. Since COVID-19 that number has increased dramatically to a call every 30 seconds.



The Rebel Bootscooters, LV Country Lindancers and Ramblin Rose Linedancers fundraised throughout 2023 at Club Level and then joined together for a two day event at Newborough. An incredible effort by the Clubs culminating in the amazing amount raised.



Line dancers enjoying their well-earned Christmas break up at Yarragon



YARRAGON CRICKET CLUB

By Jake Borsato



The Yarragon Cricket Club is a passionate, community and family driven cricket club within the Warragul & District Cricket Association (WDCA). Downton Park consists of two synthetic cricket ovals, an electronic scoreboard, large clubrooms and a four lane training facility. We are a Good Sports level 3 accredited club.

The club also offers **Saturday night meals** providing the local community the opportunity to become involved with the club and have a fantastic meal while doing so.

For this current cricket season, the club is fielding 3 senior teams (Div 1, 3 & 5). The club is also fielding Under 12s team and the Woolworths Blast program.

So far, the best contributors with the bat have been Lahiru Jayakody scoring in excess of 200 runs in Div 1, Laytten Smith has taken 8 wickets in Div 1. In Div 3, Vaneet Singh has scored 150 runs and Harmanpreet Singh and Dilpreet Singh have taken 9 and 8 wickets respectively. In Div 5, Josh Butterworth is leading the bowling having taken 10 wickets.

If anyone ever wishes to become involved with the club, please contact club president, Jake:

0448 609 038 or jakeborsato@gmail.com.



Photo nicked from their Facebook page

REMINDER: 3 DEC YARRAGON VOLUNTEERS EVENT

By Barbara Kingwill

Thank you

A special acknowledgement and thank you event is planned for all the "unsung" heroes and helpers from the Yarragon service, sporting, and other community support groups. This community gathering will highlight and promote the vital work of volunteers.

The event includes free morning tea which will be held at the Market Street Park on Sunday 3rd December at 11am. This invitation is extended to all volunteers and their families within your group. However, during the event the various Yarragon service, support, and sporting groups will be acknowledged and to assist in this process it would be appreciated if you could please email kingwillbj@hotmail.com with the name/s of your group's nominated representative who will be attending.

This event has been sponsored by the local churches of St Jarlath's, St Mark's and St David's and supported by the Yarragon District Community Association. The idea was prompted by Yarragon newsletter articles and conversations about the challenges of finding volunteers who can serve our community. The churches hope this way of recognising groups and thanking individuals will foster a spirit of giving as a lead into the end of year and the Christmas season.

Please note - If the weather is unsuitable for this location the event will be relocated to a suitable hall and a notice will be placed on the Market Street Park building providing location details. If you require additional information, please contact Barbara Kingwill 0429 338 961.



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



ANNUAL CFA SANTA RUN
Monday 18th December

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



Did you find my reindeer for me?

Page 8 - 1 (dog)
Page 9 - 2
Page 10 - 1
Page 11 - 0
Page 12 - 0
Page 13 - 1
Page 14 - 2
Page 15 - 2
Page 16 - 0
Page 17 - 2
Page 18 - 2
Page 19 - 3
Page 20 - 2
Total: 27
Page 1 - 2
Page 2 - 1
Page 3 - 2
Page 4 - 2
Page 5 - 0
Page 6 - 1
Page 7 - 1
Page 8 - 1
Page 9 - 2
Page 10 - 1
Page 11 - 0
Page 12 - 0
Page 13 - 1
Page 14 - 2
Page 15 - 2
Page 16 - 0
Page 17 - 2
Page 18 - 2
Page 19 - 3
Page 20 - 2
does not count)



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:**

**Head shin pads =
Shoulders**

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

Currently meeting at St
David's Uniting Church, 7
Campbell Street, Yarragon at
8:30am on 2nd and 4th
Sundays. Also meeting on
Sunday 31 December at 11am
for a special NYE service.

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 3 December
Australasian Saxophone
Collective



Australasian Saxophone Collective

www.yarragonstudio.com.au