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Traf News



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SAINT LEO MAKES AFL DEBUT

By Liam Durkin

Former Trafalgar resident Leo Connolly made his AFL debut recently.

In what was something of a surprise debut, Connolly was named medical sub for St Kilda as a late inclusion for the injured Jack Billings in the Round 15 match against Richmond.

Connolly came on in the third quarter at the MCG, getting his chance when Nick Coffield was subbed out with a hamstring injury.

Connolly finished the game with 11 disposals and seven marks as the Saints recorded a 40-point victory over the reigning premier.

Having been emergency for a few weeks prior, Connolly's selection completed a remarkable turnaround, as in the space of a few hours he went from on the couch to the middle of one of the world's biggest stadiums.

"I was playing FIFA in the morning and Ratts (coach Brett Ratten) gave me a call and said that JB (Jack Billings) was still pretty sore and that I might be playing," he explained.

"I heard a few things from some of the boys during the day that JB was fairly unlikely to play. It was weird in a way, I felt like I was going to play but at the same time I thought JB would be able to get through the warmup.

"I mentally prepared to play throughout the day just in case I did have to, so it wasn't a rude shock if I was. I wanted to try and stay feeling as though I was playing just in case."

With half an hour to go before running out, Connolly's dream of playing in the AFL was realised when Billings ruled himself out.

As medical sub, Connolly got his strapping done as usual and completed the warm up, and was

also required to do additional running at quarter time and half-time.

While players are usually given a jumper presentation on debut, the lateness of Connolly's call-up meant there simply wasn't enough time.

Wearing the number 37, the same number St Kilda legend Tony Lockett started his career in, Connolly waited anxiously on the sidelines for his opportunity.

"I was ready to come on and I felt I was going to be able to impact the game. I think being able to prep during the day helped," he said.

"I was told just to warm up as Coffield went down into the rooms. After I got up and started running along the sidelines I couldn't really stop because I was that nervous, I didn't want to sit down because I couldn't sit still."

Connolly was told halfway through the third quarter that he would be going onto the ground, and before too long stepped foot onto the hallowed MCG turf.

Coming onto the ground with the Saints holding a decent lead, Connolly made his presence felt early, taking the game on with a running bounce.

Speaking of the experience, Connolly said it was a dream come true.

"It was unreal ... Friday night against the reigning premiers, at the G, up by five goals when I ran out there ... it's probably the best moment of my life," he said.

"It was a lot quicker than what I've ever played in but it was good that I came on when we were in control, I think that really helped me out a lot.

» CONTINUED PAGE 17



Former Trafalgar resident Leo Connolly during his first AFL game. (Photo St Kilda FC).

How to book a COVID-19 vaccination in Baw Baw

Eligible Baw Baw Shire residents can now book their COVID-19 vaccination on the phone or online.

Residents can book to have their vaccination at the COVID-19 vaccination centre at The Goods Shed, Warragul (located at the Warragul Railway Station car park off Alfred Street) by calling the Department of Health Vaccination Hotline on 1800 675 398 or visiting the website portal.cvms.vic.gov.au.

You can also book to have your vaccination at a participating GP clinic. A list of GP clinics offering the vaccine is available

at www.health.gov.au

The following people are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine:

- All adults aged 40 and over;
- Anyone aged 16 and over with an underlying medical condition or disability;
- All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 16 and over;
- NDIS participants aged 16 and over;
- Carers of NDIS participants of any age;
- Health care workers;
- Aged care and disability care residents and staff, and;

- Critical and high-risk workers including defence, police, fire, emergency services and meat processing.

Residents are encouraged to check their eligibility at www.health.gov.au.

The Warragul COVID-19 vaccination centre is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9am to 3.30pm.

West Gippsland Healthcare Group chief executive Dan Weeks urged those eligible to get the jab.

"Having your COVID-19 vaccination makes it much less

likely you will catch COVID-19, and means you are unlikely to pass it on to others," he said.

"You are 80 per cent less likely to be hospitalised if you do become ill with COVID-19.

"Getting vaccinated gives greater protection to our elderly, our frontline workers, and our immunocompromised family, friends and colleagues."

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Lockdown 5.0

By Liam Durkin

Only writing these words for the purpose of the paper acting as a historical document and knowing historians may need to visit the Traf News archives to reference what events took place in years to come.

The state was plunged into its third lockdown of 2021 last month.

At time of writing the lockdown was for five days from Friday, July 16.

Keith Cook elected to fill West Ward vacancy

Keith Cook was returned as a West Ward Councillor in a Victorian Electoral Commission Declaration of Polls on June 29 2021 following the resignation of Ben Lucas.

Councillor Cook was a valued member of the previous council and is well respected within the West Ward, which includes Drouin, Drouin South, Drouin West, Longwarry, Jindivick and surrounding districts.

He is also well known for his service to the Drouin community as a long-term volunteer and more recently as the Captain of Hallora and District CFA, and

a member of the Committee for Drouin, Rokeby and Crossover Friends Group, Warragul and District Historical Society and Drouin Rotary Club.

During his previous term on Council from 2016 to 2020, councillor Cook also served as chair of the West Gippsland Libraries board.

Mr Cook said it was an honour to again be a serving councillor.

"I'm really excited to join the old team, with some new members too, and be a part of it," he said.

Water corporations and universities partner to save energy

Gippsland Water is part of an innovative project aimed to save energy and reduce carbon emissions by using power intelligently.

Gippsland Water has partnered with GWMWater, Centre for New Energy Technologies (C4NET), and researchers at Federation University and RMIT University to explore smarter ways to use electricity.

Acting managing director Simon Aquilina said the results of the study could help Gippsland Water to save money on power bills and further reduce its carbon emissions.

bon emissions.

"This project builds on the work we've been doing to install solar panels at several of our facilities in the past few years," Mr Aquilina said.

"If the results show promise, this research can then be put into practice to result in real benefits for us and our customers."

The INFLEXION project involves tracking energy use at water and wastewater treatment plants and pump stations and developing an operating schedule that reduces energy use during peak demand periods, lead

researcher Dr. Rakibuzzaman Shah from Federation University explained.

"For instance, if you could make sure a pump station only operates during off-peak hours when electricity rates are lower, this will save money on the water corporation's power bill," Dr Shah said.

"It could also be scheduled to operate only when renewable energies, such as solar power systems, are powering the site.

"Another part of this project is to enable water corporations to feed electricity back into the

grid from their use of renewable energies and be paid for that, partially offsetting their energy costs."

The project will also help both water corporations to reduce their carbon emissions, as part of their commitment to the Victorian government's target of net zero emissions by 2050.

The INFLEXION project is funded by C4NET, GWMWater and Gippsland Water.



Councillor Keith Cook is congratulated following the Declaration of Polls.

Editor's note

When submitting letters to the editor please include full postal address, email address and contact number. Your privacy will be respected, your details won't be printed in the paper.

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St John's church repair progress report

By Jean Huffer

At time of writing (July 14), the concreting is finished and we will be moving back to the front of the church for Mass. Donations are still coming in and stand at \$90,000 approximately.

The project 'loose change' is still operating on the first week-end of each month, and also the

loose change jars continue to be filled and returned.

They seem small activities but last month raised \$406 and combined have so far added approximately \$2000 since Easter.

However there has been a couple of setbacks not budgeted for. We have had to renew the carpet, as the almost 40 year

old carpet could not be relaid - a whole 100 square metres!

Once again we are grateful for the help, kindness and support we are being given by the Trafalgar and district community.

Thorpdale spud festival aiming for 2023 start

By Barbara Butterworth

It was a sad decision to make but considering the lockdowns of 2020 and the possibility of immediate lockdowns up to December 2021 and a further 12 months henceforth, the call was made to cancel the 2022 running of the Thorpdale Potato Festival.

The festival committee met on Wednesday evening, March 2 2021 and it was the majority decision that we could not guarantee the extra special Thorpdale

Potato Festival that the district and state has come to expect with the then current COVID-19 restrictions still hanging over our heads. Although Victoria had up until recently experienced fewer outbreaks compared with other states, we cannot become complacent.

Remembering 17 happy community groups who shared over \$50,000 in funding from the proceeds of the 2019 Festival, we knew that it would be almost

impossible to replicate that wonderful assistance we were able to provide following such a difficult year for everybody in our community and the wider state.

We have however committed to hold regular meetings to focus on special areas of our festival that we feel need attention and to work on some extra special events that we are bringing to the festival in 2023 that will be even bigger and better.

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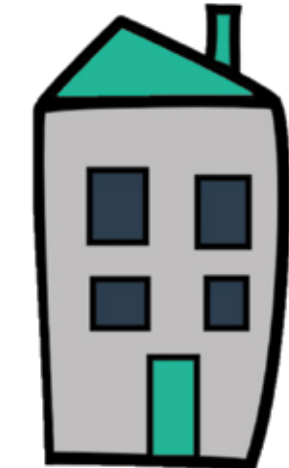
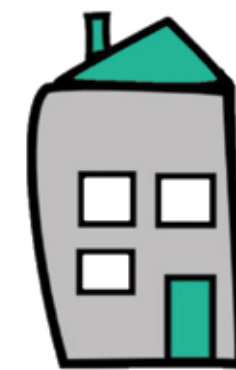


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the voice of the community

MEMBER 2021



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Farewell Phil for final withdrawal

By Liam Durkin

Community Bank Trafalgar and District Bendigo Bank branch manager Phil Drummond retired last month.

Mr Drummond served the role of branch manager with distinction for a decade, following corporate roles with Baw Baw Shire, Narracan and Warnambool councils.

As a community bank, where profits are distributed back into the local area, Mr Drummond said it was an honour to know the local branch had made a difference to Trafalgar and surrounding areas.

"It's terrific, and that is why I chose to work here, my values are around community and always have been," he said.

"I chose to come here simply because of the community focus of the bank rather than basking in the sun."

Mr Drummond said it had been great to work with a number of local groups, and pointed to the refurbishment of the Trafalgar and Yarragon railway stations as particular highlights.

"We've done a lot with sport-

ing clubs right across the region and a lot with schools," he said.

"I think the most important thing from my perspective is whilst the sports community is really important to rural areas, the arts programs and things we've supported are also really important because they give people an opportunity who aren't sporting minded to pursue other interests and we've been very focused on supporting art shows and performing arts programs with different groups over those years."

The banks support of local organisations and people has been reciprocated by the community, something Mr Drummond said he was appreciative of.

"We're very grateful to our customer base and the amount of business people are doing has been really strong," he said.

"I've enjoyed that, people have benefited from that and the community at large which has been great."

Mr Drummond came to Trafalgar in 1990, and said it was

amazing to see how far things had come in that time.

"The town has grown an awful lot, subdivisions east and south. The most recent subdivision when I turned up was in Victory Court and Centenary Drive which is not the newest part of town by any means now," he said.

"The book has grown here (at the bank) from just over \$80 million to just on \$180 (million) in the last 10 years so that is a substantial growth which is pleasing."

The bank employs a number of local staff, and has orchestrated a number of initiatives to help locals including scholarships for young achievers.

Mr Drummond will be succeeded by Hill End resident Torina Johnston, who has been assistant branch manager at the Warragul Bendigo Bank for the last four years.

Moving into retirement, Mr Drummond is looking forward to travelling and spending more time with his wife.



Community Bank Trafalgar and District Bendigo Bank branch manager Phil Drummond has retired after a decade in the job.

Walhalla railway back puffing

By Shona Vines

If you have ever taken a drive to Walhalla, chances are you have seen or maybe just heard the magnificent locomotive either at the station or making its way through the majestic landscape.

Like many others in the community, Walhalla Goldfield's Railway suffered greatly at the hands of the latest COVID shutdown and recent floods.

The damage from the floods was extensive with bridge damage, land erosion, electrical damage and not to mention the Thomson maintenance shed was flooded which made repair work longer and harder as they could

not access this area. With a lot of hard work from both contractors and volunteers the bridge work and earth works have now been completed and the all clear has been given to start the wonderful journey from Walhalla Station to Thomson Station once again. COVID has also been a devastating loss for the railway as the school holidays and weekend getaways are the biggest earners and they have missed out on these with lockdowns.

The history of the railway is an interesting one in which you can read on the website but in brief, there was an attempt to restore the railway in the 1970's but that

never got up and running. In 1991 the Walhalla Railway Taskforce was formed becoming Walhalla Goldfields Railway in 1993. By 1994 the train was taking a trip with passengers from Thomson Station up Stringers Creek to Happy Creek. The six bridges in the last kilometre of track was completed and opened in March 2002 which saw the train now run into Walhalla.

The whole track is four kilometres in length. There has also been a bushfire over the years which damaged part of the trestle bridge and caused another setback.

The whole of Walhalla Goldfields Railway is made up of volunteers, from drivers, guards to maintenance crew, everything is done from passion and a wonderful community spirit.

The volunteers are definitely not afraid of hard work and need to be commended for all their efforts over the years. Mark Livesay the marketing director/events for WGR has stated "we were almost about to start up again after the COVID shutdown and then the flood came, it was heart-breaking, it is truly touching the lengths the volunteers go to and we are forever grateful."

Mark is no stranger to knowing the lengths the volunteers go to, being one himself Mark used to drive six hours to volunteer his time until relocating closer to Walhalla and becoming the marketing director and events

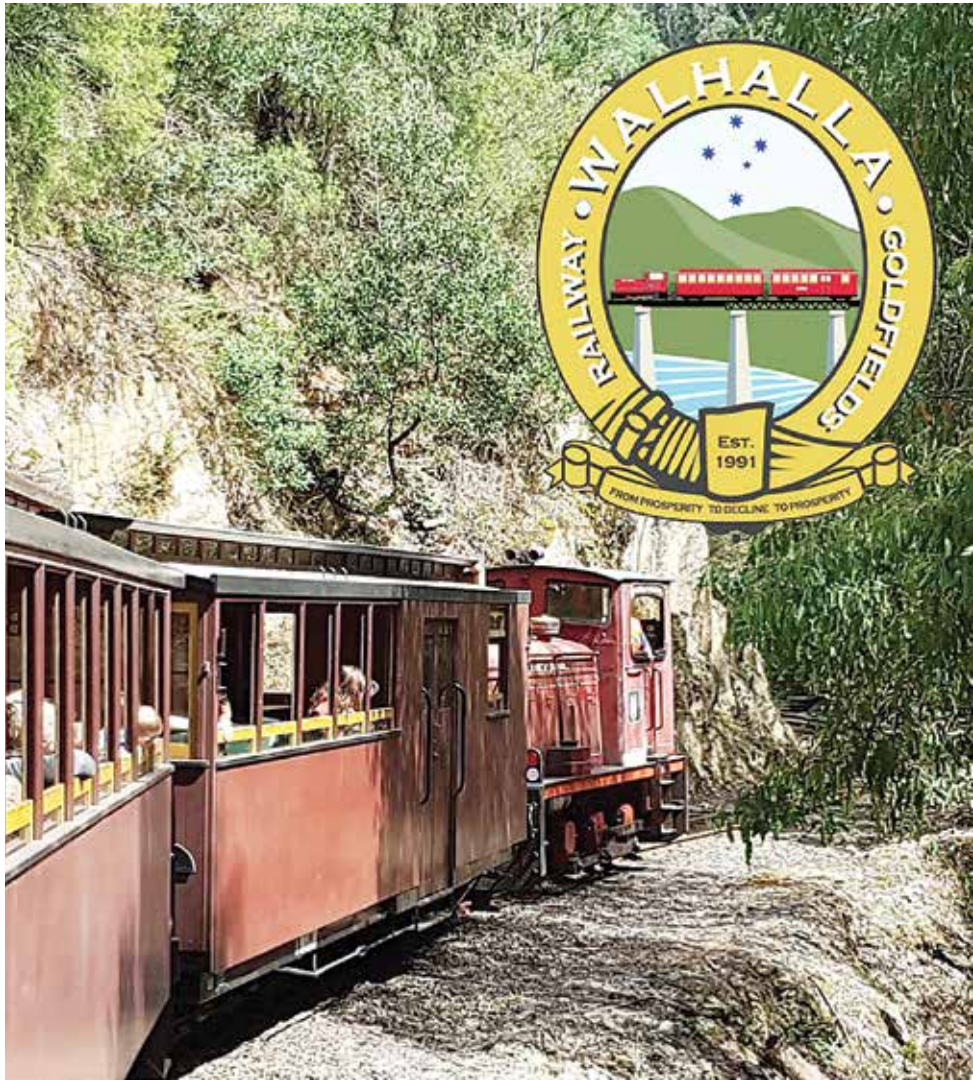
manager. That is a remarkable effort in itself.

It is not just time but also the donations given that keeps the railway going. Recently they received a Canadian \$20 in the mail, donations are worldwide and this truly is touching.

Next year there will be big celebrations to mark 20 years of the full track being open but until then you can just go for a historical ride or enquire about a special event.

The night train will also be running every Saturday night

in August at 6pm and 8pm. For more details or further enquiries about volunteering or to book go online to walhallarail.com.au, email office@walhallarail.com.au or phone 03 5165 6280.



Who are Trafalgar's leading citizens?

The citizen of the year committee wants you to start thinking of appropriate people who deserve to be recognised as Trafalgar's 2022 citizen of the year.

Talk to your friends and people in your network to decide on a person or persons you would like to nominate.

In doing so, consider how the person's actions have inspired you and contributed significantly to the Trafalgar community. This

could be through their voluntary community contribution, work or a combination of these.

The nomination form for this important community award will be published in the September and October Traf News publications.

Trafalgar Community Development Association (TCDA) commenced the Trafalgar Citizen of the Year in 2005 to recognise people who have significantly contributed to the Trafalgar community.

munity.

The award originally included the provision for posthumous awards, and in 2011, the youth award was added.

In 2005 and 2006, the award was presented as part of the Battle of Trafalgar festivities in October. The TCDA decided in 2007 to have it as part of the Australia Day celebrations. Consequently, no award was presented in that year; it being held over for a few months until Australia Day 2008.

- 2005 Dr William Ferguson (posthumous), Judy Bishop
- 2006 Mick Bourke (2014 awarded OAM), Dorothy Hoare (2010 awarded OAM)
- 2007 No award
- 2008 Ray Harris, Ernie Taylor (posthumous)
- 2009 Walter Sholl, Eileen Sholl
- 2010 Frank Gridley, Helen Robinson
- 2011 Sheila Ferguson (posthumous), Darren Wallace

- 2012 Dr James Brown (2014 awarded OAM), Tiffany Viney, Sarah Hartnell (Youth Award)
- 2013 Jean Huffer, Laurie Huffer, Zac Wallace (Youth Award)
- 2014 Jackie Neale, Georgia Farrell (Youth Award)
- 2015 Robin Sefton, Glenn Rodda, Lydia Jacka (Youth Award)
- 2016 Mark Judd, Troy Oates (Youth Award)

- 2017 Billie Pilch, Glenys Brennan, Michael Brennan, William Hornstra (Youth Award)
- 2018 Ray James (2018 awarded OAM)
- 2019 Bill Ringin, Liam White (Youth Award)
- 2020 David Wombat Lyons
- 2021 Peter Farmer, Cooper Burgess (Youth Award)

Council welcomes state funding to support recovery

Baw Baw Shire Council welcomed the announcement of financial support from the Victorian government to assist with recovery efforts in the wake of the devastating storms that recently struck the region.

The Victorian government's Council Support Fund will provide \$8.2 million in support to be shared by 10 councils, of which Baw Baw Shire Council is one.

The fund is designed to boost recovery capabilities in the shire. It can be used to employ additional recovery staff, onboard specialist contractors and provide targeted training support to help affected local communities recover.

Bushfire Recovery Victoria

(BRV) has been coordinating the state government's recovery efforts, and Baw Baw Shire council chief executive Mark Dupe met with BRV acting chief executive Carmel Flynn in Walhalla last month in what was one of the hardest hit localities in the shire.

Mark Dupe also met with the Victorian Emergency Management commissioner Andrew Crisp to discuss local impacts and the need for support.

Both of these meetings follow discussions between mayor of Baw Baw Shire councillor Danny Goss and the Victorian Minister for Roads and Road Safety Ben Carroll around the impacts and recovery support needed for the road network, particularly in the

northern areas surrounding Walhalla and the Mt Baw Baw Tourist Road.

Baw Baw Shire mayor Danny Goss said the package would help those in need.

"Council welcomes this crucial funding support from the state government to assist our recovery efforts," he said.

"There are regions in our shire that have been absolutely devastated and it's taken a big toll on residents and businesses.

"The level of direct dialogue we've had with the government and the key agencies about our local needs has been encouraging, as has the degree of inter-agency cooperation as we work through all the impacts.

"We look forward to working together closely as recovery efforts progress."

New mental health website for Gippsland

Have you ever experienced suicidal thoughts or lost someone to suicide? Do you have a family member or friend who has? Have you ever tried to find help for mental health issues online but not known where to start? Lifeline Gippsland has partnered with people with lived experience of suicide to develop a new website to help you find exactly what you need quickly and easily.

The new 'Gippsland Mental Health - Support Directory' is a one-stop shop aimed at improving people's awareness of and access to suicide prevention and mental health information, resources, and services.

Lifeline Gippsland chief executive Michelle Possingham said "there are many organisations available to people impacted by suicide or mental ill-health and a lot of resources and services available to assist them. However, what we heard from the Gippsland community was that it can be difficult to find that information when they need help, either for themselves or someone else".

Ms Possingham said "there is help out there for people who are struggling. It's important that we reach out for support when we need it and reach out to others who may need support. This website will help people to find information about organisations and resources that are reputable, reliable, accurate and up-to-date".

To access the website, visit <https://gippslandmentalhealth.org.au>

For 24/7 crisis support, call Lifeline Australia on 13 11 14.

Lifeline Text is also available from 12pm to midnight by texting 0477 131 114.

Please call triple zero (000) if life is in danger.

Funny Signs



Major milestone



It was a happy occasion for long time Trafalgar residents Otto and Beverley Nielsen, who recently celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary.

Investment in community infrastructure key to council's 2021/22 budget

Baw Baw Shire council has set a clear strategic direction for the year ahead with the adoption of its Annual Budget and key documents to deliver quality infrastructure and services to the community through existing programs, new initiatives and capital works.

The suite of key documents adopted at the recent council meeting include:

- Annual Budget 2021/22;
- Long Term Infrastructure Plan 2021/22-2030/31, and;
- Rating and Revenue Plan 2021/22.

Together, these documents map the direction for council activities in the coming year, one that is in line with community demand. \$854,000 of new projects and initiatives have been included in the Annual Budget following consideration to the 155 community submissions received during the consultation period.

The 2021/22 Annual Budget represents income of \$111.3 million, expenditure of \$90.6 million. This reflects a financially sustainable position and is a sound measure of council's ability to achieve service delivery objectives.

Council continues to make a major investment in infrastructure totalling \$38.7 million (plus projects carried forward from last financial year) comprising of

the following key highlights:

Roads

- \$1.5 million for gravel road re-sheets;
- \$1.2 million for over 170,000 square metres of roads re-sealed;
- \$2 million for the reconstruction of Weerong Road, Drouin, Wellwood Road to Longwarry Road, Stage 1 and Montague Road, Drouin, Main South Road to Parkview Road;
- \$1.5 million for over 20,000 square metres of road repairs;
- Over 650 metres of kerb and channel replaced;
- Extensive line marking, guardrail and signage replacement;
- \$550,000 to sealing and upgrade of Yulungah Road, Trafalgar (between Hillbricks Road and the start of seal);
- \$1.1 million for the final stage of the Warragul CBD streetscape works, with the upgrade of Queen Street between Gladstone Street and Victoria Street;
- \$1.95 for intersection safety improvements for Lardners Track/Lardner Road/Danes Road, Warragul and Sand Road/Princes Way, Longwarry North (subject to a successful grant application), and;
- The planting of approximately

600 advanced street trees. Recreation and open spaces

- \$6 million to commence construction of two additional basketball courts at the Warragul Leisure Centre;
- \$2 million to commence construction of a multi-use pavilion at Bellbird Park, Drouin;
- \$1.7 million to complete the construction of the multi-use pavilion at Trafalgar Recreation Reserve, Trafalgar;
- \$1.5 million of strategic land purchases in Drouin and Warragul;
- \$200,000 for sports lighting upgrades at the Hallora Recreation Reserve (subject to a successful grant application.);
- \$575,000 towards the implementation of masterplans at Bellbird Park, Drouin and Brooker Park, Warragul;
- 200,000 for sports and play-ground equipment including skate and BMX, as well as open space furniture replacement;
- \$100,000 towards the Hallora Recreation Reserve goals as well as the cross-country course equipment at the Lardner Equestrian Centre;
- \$125,000 to progress a feasibility study for the Logan Park Cycling Centre of Excellence project;
- \$180,000 towards the Place-making Program across three

smaller townships, and;

- \$100,000 towards public art-work.

Paths

- \$1.53 million on approximately 3.5 kilometres of new footpaths across the Shire as part of the Accelerated foot-path Program;
- \$500,000 on gravel and sealed path replacements, trip hazard rectifications, upgrades to meet Disability Discrimination Act compliance and pram ramp replacements;
- \$2.25 million to finalise the proposal for the Rokeby to Noojee Trail project and seek external funding support to begin the project;
- Future designs and investigations;
- Detailed design of two key road reconstructions in Trafalgar and Drouin, and;
- Designs to support external funding applications.

refurbishments of public toilets Shire-wide, and;

Drainage

- \$845,000 towards drainage upgrades on Copelands Road, Warragul;
- \$450,000 on open drain cleaning and roadside works;
- \$400,000 on pit, pipe and culvert replacements, and;
- \$100,000 on dam safety and wetland establishment works.

Bridges and major culverts

- \$990,000 towards the completion of the Roberts Road Bridge in Yarragon as well as three major culvert rehabilitations.

Operating expenses will increase by 3.4 per cent primarily due to employee expenses and new strategic initiatives such as a roads advocacy campaign, a feasibility study for council's depot, and Environmental Sustainability Strategy and additional funds for maintenance of local halls.

Baw Baw Shire Mayor Danny Goss welcomed the news.

"The 2021/22 Annual Budget will invest \$38.7 million towards important infrastructure projects

to support our growing communities while delivering over 100 important services, from waste management and open space maintenance to maternal child health care and library services," he said.

"I would especially like to thank the significant number of community members who took the time to make a submission and let us know what your priorities are.

"As a result of your feedback, council has allocated \$854,000 towards new projects in the budget and will continue to look for opportunities to include key projects in future planning.

"Community submissions are valued by council, and we are committed to listening and making changes when we can.

"Since the release of the Draft Annual Budget, council has received \$8 million in funding from the Victorian Government for the Warragul Leisure Centre Stadium Project and the Bellbird Park Multi-use Pavilion. This is a step in the right direction, and we'll continue to advocate strongly to both the state and federal government for continued support to deliver the projects that our community desperately needs."

Pat the Dog unveiled

By Carol Monson

At last members of the Baw Baw Arts Alliance's Mosaic Group, management committee and the public can revel in viewing the large sculpture 'Pat the Dog' in place outside the Station Gallery, Yarragon.

Pat's vibrantly coloured coat of tiles has been created by members of the Baw Baw Arts Alliance Mosaic Group and the public at various venues over the past two years. The Arts Alliance looks forward to the official launch of the sculpture this month.

Meanwhile do not miss the regularly changing Baw Baw Arts Alliance exhibitions at the Station Gallery, Yarragon.

All exhibitions commence at the beginning of each month. Coming up in August are two

exhibitions, one by well known artist Kat McLagan and the other by the Baw Baw Arts Alliance Print Group. Kat's eclectic range of work will be displayed in the space known as 'The Wall'. Expect quality jewellery and a range of lino-cut prints.

'Yarragon Print', an exhibition celebrating original, traditional and contemporary print-making, is designed to showcase the work of novice and established printmakers in Gippsland.

The previous exhibition in 2019 attracted a large number of entries, highlighting the need for such a display to take place. This is an ideal opportunity to celebrate and support the art of printmaking.

While static exhibitions are



The amazing Pat the Dog mosaic outside Yarragon station.

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New addition for RSL

The Trafalgar and Thorpdale RSL had a new handicap parking with wheel-

chair accessibility space installed last month.

The addition sits on the Con-

tingent Street side of the club rooms.



The new handicap parking with wheelchair accessibility space outside the RSL.

AROUND THE HISTORICAL Society

By Di Ireland

It has been gratifying to have requests from local businesses wanting photos to display on their walls. Some have requested images of the town they remember as they were growing up, others of the historical streetscape in the vicinity of their new business. Next time you have a coffee, visit the dentist or take a journey through the Holden Museum, look closely at the walls. We are always looking for photos, so if you have any you think could be of interest, don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

While the 99th edition of the Gazette is currently in production, planning is underway for the 100th Gazette which will be

published later this year. It would be interesting to hear from our readers what they might enjoy learning about, especially if you are new to the area and would like to know the history. You can phone Jean on 5633 1960.

After many years of research, John Hanley's book 'The Moe Swamp Yulungah & Trafalgar East: About the People, Postal and Telephone Services' has been published. This is available for purchase at \$25 from the Trafalgar Newsagency and the Variety Bookroom in Moe. It is well worth a read.

This month we are looking for names for a Deb photo from many years ago. Some names

are known, but no date or occasion has been found. Please phone Dianne on 0439 655 172 if you know anyone or anything.

The society is open to the general public on the first and third Friday of the month from 2pm till 4 pm. Other times are by appointment with Jean Huffer on 56331960.

The annual general meeting of the Trafalgar and District Historical Society will be held on August 19 at 7pm in the society's rooms in the old kindergarten on Contingent Street.

We would love to see some new faces.



The Trafalgar and District Historical Society is seeking names from this Deb ball. The date is unknown, but identifiable names are (back row) 1 unknown, 2 Shirley Armstrong, 3, 4 unknown, 5 Lynette Cook, 6 unknown, 7 Frances Webb, 8 Dorothy Petch, (front row) 1 Joyce Mynard, 2 Lorraine Gibson, 3, 4, 5, 6, unknown, 7 Mrs Maddicks, 8 unknown and 9 Myra Bourchier.

By Trafalgar solicitor Jade MacGregor

Contesting a Will

When making a Will, we are all free to leave our assets to people we wish to receive a benefit from our estate. This is a long-standing legal principle known as 'testamentary freedom' and forms the backbone of preparing and interpreting Wills.

Although 'testamentary freedom' exists, anyone making a Will in Victoria must consider there are certain people who should receive an entitlement under a Will. If a Will does not provide proper provision for that person, then they are entitled to bring a claim to the Supreme Court of Victoria seeking a benefit or even larger benefit of a deceased estate.

The category of people who can make a claim are referred to as 'eligible persons'. Examples of eligible persons include:

- The spouse or domestic partner of the deceased;
- A child of the deceased (including by adopted and step-children);
- A former spouse or domestic partner of the deceased (who has not finalised Family Law proceedings);
- A registered caring partner of the deceased;

- A grandchild of the deceased;
- A spouse or domestic partner of the deceased's child, where that child passes away within a year of the deceased's death; and
- A person who was a member of the deceased's household.

If you believe you are an eligible person, in order to be successful in a claim the you must also satisfy other criteria, including:

- The deceased had a moral duty to provide for them. This is determined by considering: your relationship with the deceased, how you and the deceased contributed to each other's lives, and whether there was any dependency between you and the deceased.

The distribution of the deceased's estate does not provide you with adequate maintenance and support. This is determined by considering: the size and assets of the estate; your personal and financial circumstances; your anticipated future needs; the status of your health; and whether you are able to provide for your own maintenance and support.

In order to make a claim, a

person generally has six months from the date that a Grant from the Supreme Court of Victoria is issued to lodge their application.

It is very difficult to bring a claim outside of this time-frame, so if you feel that you may be entitled to bring a claim, call one of our friendly Solicitors on (03) 5644 0000 or visit our website jmacgregorlegal.com.au to make an appointment and discuss your options.



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Winter program underway for bushwalking club

By Joanne Leviston

Winter has a broad program on offer at the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club which many members and a number of visitors are taking advantage of. One of the recent walks was led by Jim in Sweetwater Creek near Shady Creek.

The tracks zigzagged through different terrain and included a coral fern carpet in one of the areas.

Strzelecki Bushwalking Club is based in Trafalgar with monthly meetings held in the Scout Hall in Kitchener Street on the second Wednesday of the month.

Most members hail from Waragul to Traralgon with membership increasing significantly over the past 12 months.

Further information about the club is available on the website at sbwc.org.au, on our Facebook page or by emailing publicity@sbwc.org.au.



Michael, Larry and Jim among the coral fern on a recent bike.



The Strzelecki Bushwalking Club is based in Trafalgar and always welcomes new members.

Probus club is active

By Elly Fallon

It was big smiles all around when we were all able to return to Probus last month and great to be back among friends again after the lockdown.

Sadly in that time, we mourned the loss of two of our fellow probians, Betty McCulloch and Tom Nevell.

Betty had been part of our club since the year of its inception in 1993, so 28 years. She served on the committee in a number of capacities including two years as president. Tom was a keen probian member for 12 years. He passed away after a long illness. Our condolences to their families. We will miss them.

We welcomed two new couples this month, Rob and Ann Hoff and John and Susan Richardson. We also welcomed four visitors who hope to join us in coming months. Amazingly for a small country area we have 104 members on our books and most meetings see over 70 probians at our meetings.

Our speaker for July was Lyndel Djidurovic from Hearing Australia in Morwell. Lyndel proved to be a bright, bubbly speaker and so positive about hearing loss. She offered free hearing checks and brought along some technical aids to make life easier for those of us struggling to hear. We certainly are lucky with the continued advancement in technology today that helps us to live life to the full.

The earlier hearing loss is

picked up the better results you have in adapting to hearing aids.

Twenty one probians enjoyed a wonderful morning at the Trafalgar Holden Museum. We saw over 90 cars all in pristine order and so many other items of memorabilia made by Holden over the years. Neil Joiner established the museum in 2014 and together with his band of volunteers it has become a focal point in Trafalgar. Over the years it has expanded with a new heritage style building opened this year. This houses the 'Origins of Holden' display. The building is made up of a number of small stores from yesteryear. It certainly was an eye opener to see how many tools, mechanical items and saddle wear (many used in the war) Holden was responsible for. We were shown around by Jake and Bob (a probus member) who shared with us their knowledge and love of all things Holden. A special room was dedicated to the legend of Peter Brock. The museum has its own theatre and many interactive displays. We finished our morning with a barbecue put on by volunteers. The women in the group enjoyed the museum just as much as the men. What a tourism gem we have right here in town.

Meanwhile we have many events to look forward to with Probus friends this month including a mystery destination bus trip, garden club, walks, morning teas and the highlight of the month Christmas in July at the Trafalgar Golf Club. The golfing ladies always spoil us with a wonderful dinner and there are

almost 70 attending this function so fingers crossed no lockdown.

If you would like to know more about probus phone secretary Tina Phipps on 5635 2432.



Probus welcomed four new members recently in John and Susan Richardson and Rob and Ann Hoff, pictured with president John Attwell.



Probus heard from Lyndel Djidurovic, speaker from Hearing Australia in Morwell.



Probian during their visit to the Trafalgar Holden Museum.

Lions improvise amid restrictions

By Trevor Byrne

Trafalgar Lions Club president David Koschade reported that the start of his term as president seemed like a non-event as we Lions were unable to hold any meetings, let alone a changeover function. We did manage to start holding board meetings again though by having them in the wood shed on the weekends rather than at the community centre on the traditional Wednesday night.

We were fortunate to have firewood sales as one of our main fundraising activities as it

was the only activity we could continue with during lockdown. Sales were better than usual, probably because many people had to stay home. It kept the club going during that time.

We reluctantly had to cancel our swap meet for the first time since its inception due to ongoing restrictions, we hope to be able to hold it again this year on the November 21.

Once again we sponsored the student awards for the local schools. Supporting the youth of our community is an important

function of Lions.

We've had two flood appeal collections at IGA this year, one in early April for the New South Wales floods and another one in June for the flood and storm damage in Traralgon and surrounding areas. Thank you to everyone who helped with this.

Our most recent event was our Russ Turner Apprentice Encouragement Award. The winner was Blake Radford who works at Trafalgar Auto Electrics, we hope the award is beneficial to his progress in his career.



Lion Alan Eden is presented with life membership of The Lions Club of Trafalgar by Trafalgar president David Koschade (left) and immediate past district governor Graham Cockerell (right).



Trafalgar Lions new president Rhonda Bottoms exchanges bannerettes with installing officer immediate past district governor Graham Cockerell.



Trafalgar Lions board of directors for 2021/22. Alan Smith, Ian Bosma, David Koschade, Glenn Rodda, Kevin Morrison, Tony Mitchinson (front row) president Rhonda Bottoms, treasurer Olive Morrison, secretary Pat Tattersson, Julia Connell and Marianne Tyler.

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Defib at Holden museum

Trafalgar Holden Museum now has a defibrillator, thanks to sponsorship from Community Bank Trafalgar.

The defibrillator increases the safety of the museum's volunteers and members of the public. Most of the museums 60 volunteers are aged between 60

and 80 years-plus, as are many of the approximately 15,000 people who visit the museum in a normal (non COVID-19) year.

The 'bundle' that came with the defibrillator consists of: HS1 Heartstart Defibrillator, related accessories, 3D signage, and alarmed wall mount cabinet.

The defibrillator bundle was purchased through St John's Ambulance.

A training session was held on May 20 at the museum by its occupation health and safety officer, Matt Muscat, who took the many volunteers through the various aspects of resuscitation.



Community Bank Trafalgar's Christie Asbe (seated second from the centre) surrounded by many of Trafalgar Holden Museum's volunteers prior to the museum's occupation health and safety officer, Matt Muscat (at the feet of the dummy) giving his resuscitation demonstration, including the use of the defibrillator.

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Men's shed host guest speaker

By Frank Gridley

Trafalgar Men's Shed July meeting featured guest speaker Tom Camp.

Tom Camp is a director of Encore Living Trafalgar Retirement Village.

Tom spoke on the pros and cons of retirement living and talked about the development of the village and community centre which will be constructed within the next few months.

Tom Camp's first developed retirement village was Eastwood in Bairnsdale and now starting one in Paynesville.

A very interesting question and answer session took place with the members. The Traf Shed thank Tom for his time and talk.

Work continues at the shed and members have constructed a set of six bookshelves for a customer. A boat trailer and chook

house are now on the cards.

Bunnings barbecues assist with finance, thanks to those members who help.

Visitors are always welcome to our shed, which is open Monday's and Wednesday's from 9.30am to 3pm

We now have 37 financial members, and more are welcome.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams—Eleanor Roosevelt

Alberts Corner



Genius is 1% talent and 99% hard work — Albert Einstein

Trafalgar Holden Museum car of the month

By Bob Moss

Holden railway carriages commenced service as suburban cars on the South Australian Railway (SAR). The cars were first constructed as first class, second class or second class baggage vans. These were the most numerous class of cars of a uniform design operated by the South Australian Railways. A total of 35 first, 68 second and 27 second/baggage cars were built.

The cars were initially designed to match the cars built in 1908 for, and subsequently taken over from the Glenelg Railway Co. The first of the SAR built cars entered service in May 1912 and the last of the cars entered service in 1923.

Bodywork was by Islington workshops, A. Pengelley and Co of Edwardstown and Holden Motor Body Builders (who built

10 trains no's 469 to 472 and 481 to 486) between 1912 and 1913.

However there seems that Holden Motor Body Builders at this time was lacking the space, due to the factory being fully committed on other projects, so it seems that they may have built the Railway carriages in a little factory close to Williams Street.

As built, the cars varied little between first and second class. Interior fittings were painted in the second class cars while in the first class cars they were plated and mirrors were placed on the panels between the seats.

When the bodies had been completed they were taken to a SA railways facility and fitted onto the undercarriage.

The original rattan seats were replaced from 1938, the last one being replaced in the

early 1950's.

Various modifications were made to the cars over the years including the fitting of automatic couplings between 1934 and 1938.

The first class were eventually reclassified to second class but not before two cars were fitted out as first/second class

for use on the Glanville - Outer Harbor line.

In the 1960's the carriages were taken out of service, with many converted as ablution cars for rail workers but at least four were moved to Steamranger, a tourist railway at Goolwa. Others were used as spare parts or scrapped

With the opening and extension in 1923 of a new factory, it was required to have the means to convey their products to the wharves, so a rail station was built beside the factory for both workers and freight. It closed in 1992.

Holden Motor Body Builders purchased a further 22.5 acres

and a factory was built on it and as well as building 12,772 motor bodies they completed 10 railway carriages while in 1924 they built 22,150 motor bodies and 60 trams.



A railway carriage built by Holden.



Inside one of the carriages.

Students lose locks for great cause

By Liam Durkin

Trafalgar High School staff and students watched on as a trio of Year 9 students participated in World's Greatest Shave recently.

In a special assembly held on the penultimate day of Term 2, students Patrick Richmond-Miller, Oliver Grendon and Mieke Hankinson put themselves front and

centre, as locks of their hair fell to the ground for a special cause.

Patrick and Oliver had their heads shaved, while Mieke had virtually half her hair cut off after forming a number of pony tails.

The trio raised \$2000 for the campaign, far exceeding even their own expectations.

The group arranged posters to

be put up around the school and in local businesses, and also used social media to help spread the word.

Fellow student Nick Watt, who donated the most money to the campaign, was given the privilege of taking the clippers to Oliver's hair.

On deck to make sure the hair-

cuts weren't a total hack job were local hairdressers Jerri Calleja and Vanessa Ryan.

The students will now be braving the winter chill with their new looks, and said they would definitely be sporting a beanie more frequently.

Oliver explained how the idea came about.

"I made a joke 'we should go bald' and then Mieke organised it (World's Greatest Shave) and we actually went and did it," he said.

Mieke said having a lot less hair carried some perks.

"My hair feels a lot lighter and it's easier to move my head," she said.

"We researched how much

leukaemia affects the community, it just feels amazing to think we somehow got to the amount."



Trafalgar High School students Nick Watt, Patrick Richmond-Miller, Mieke Hankinson and Oliver Grendon before taking part in World's Greatest Shave.



Nick Watt does the honours of shaving schoolmate Oliver Grendon's hair.



Trafalgar High School Year 9 student Mieke Hankinson loses her hair.



Local hairdresser Jerri Calleja takes the clippers to Patrick Richmond-Miller.



Students Oliver Grendon, Mieke Hankinson and Patrick Richmond-Miller post shave.

St Joseph's talent show raises money for church repair

By Liza Marino

At St Joseph's Primary School, four students with big hearts came up with a goal to raise money for the St John's Catholic Church - Save our Church Fund.

These conscientious students, Ava, Ella, Ruby, and Kaitlyn are part of the Mini Vinnies team (supporting the Society of St Vincent de Paul Trafalgar Con-

ference). Together they scouted talent throughout the school and developed the idea to host a talent show.

This idea became the students mission, which spiralled into a whirlwind of excitement at St Joes! Together with learning support officer Sabrina Shaw, this idea developed to both entertain and raise money for the 'Save our

Church Fund'.

Participants donated a fee to enter the competition and on the day of the talent show, audience members, including students and staff, also contributed a donation. Together, the Mini Vinnies team raised a generous amount of money to contribute to the Save our Church Fund.

The talent show was an abso-

lute hit! Audience members were treated to an afternoon of magic with dancing, singing, comedy, science, art and much more. We especially congratulate Kiarah Shields taking out first place in the senior competition, singing a solo version of Elton John's Your Song, and Paddy Price for coming first in the junior competition for playing his guitar and singing Lights

on the Hill by Lee Kernaghan. The audience was enthralled by all the performances and the school was buzzing!

We are so proud of all the participants for having the courage and confidence to perform in front of an audience. The take home message from this talent show was that anything is possible if students put their minds

together, support one another and be brave!

The Talent Show is available to watch on YouTube by searching 2021 St Joseph's Got Talent.



Kiarah Shields took out first place in the senior ranks for the St Joseph's Primary School talent show.



Patrick Price won first place junior.



Junior award winners.

Trafalgar Primary artworks on display

Over the Queen's Birthday long weekend schools from the Tanjil Valley and district were invited to display their art works alongside an amazing array of adult works and participate in the 14th Tanjil Valley Art show in the Under 13 Youth Art section, held at the former Hill End Primary school.

Students from Trafalgar, Rawson, Willow Grove and Tanjil South Primary, as well as individual art entries showcased their artistic talent and put on a beautiful display for the public.

Approximately 35 pieces from across the year levels at Trafalgar Primary were chosen to represent our school with many taking home prizes and awards.

Among the winners was our own Ruby B who took home first place with a private entry of a Lyrebird.

As well as Ruby's beautiful entry several other works by students at Trafalgar were recognised and received encouragement awards. These were Xienna C, Erin T, Jett M and Matilda O.

Many students and their families ventured out to Hill End over the weekend to see their work and to view the show.

A selection of the students art work is displayed in these pages.

All students worked exceptionally hard on their pieces and should be proud of their efforts. Well done everyone involved!



Primary school breakfast club delivers

Last term our breakfast club provided 2134 breakfasts to our students. We are on the way to increasing this total for this term as we are now averaging around 75 students a day.

It is great to see so many students coming in to have something to eat or drink or just to say hello.

We also have many students wanting to volunteer their time in the mornings to help run the program.

We now have a white board

set up in the breakfast club room where students can choose a day that they would like to help.

Food Bank also provide us with food hampers for families in need. Last term we were able to support 23 families in the Trafalgar and Moe communities.

Our Food Bank order arrived recently and all classrooms have been provided with a box of apples, pears and bags of carrots. These are available to all students to eat during the day.

Last month we had the privi-

lege of a visit from the program coordinator of Schools Food Bank Victoria.

He was very impressed with how the program was running, how it has been set up and the number of students we are catering for.

We were overjoyed to be told that Trafalgar Primary School is one of the top three schools he has seen running this program.

We are so proud of this achievement and know that without the help of our sponsors,

volunteers, students and staff this would not have been possible.

Thank you to our team of volunteers who kindly give up their time to help us in the mornings. Extra hands are always appreciated. It is a great opportunity for our broader community to connect with our students and staff.

Duties range from making cheese toasties, cooking toast, helping serve breakfast, washing dishes and tidying up the dining and kitchen areas. We are very

keen to meet new parents and carers that are available to assist with breakfast club from 8am until 9.15am.

Any support would be appreciated whether it be daily, weekly, fortnightly.

If you are interested in volunteering, please phone the school office.

Thank you to our families who have donated tins of Milo and jam. It is because of your generosity that we are able to extend our

breakfast menu.

We are currently seeking donations of Milo as this item is not provided by Food Bank. Our students enjoy having a Milo in the morning and now with the colder weather approaching we will be adding a warm Milo to the menu.

Trafalgar Primary School breakfast club is open from 8.15am daily and receives great support from Gracie's Bakery, Trafalgar, Bella's Bakehouse, Trafalgar, IGA Trafalgar and Bakers Delight Morwell.

Probability in the medical world

By Dr Michael Kunze

Trafalgar Medical

Believe it or not, but in high school I was a bit of a mathematics nerd. I even went to Maths camp. But I always struggled with probability. I often struggle to translate a mathematical probability into a real life plan.

There's been a lot of talk about probabilities lately. Medically we've been assessing the probabilities in relation to the pandemic and the vaccines we have available for it. How probable is that we'll catch the coronavirus? How probable is it we'd get serious side effects from a vaccine? How probable is it that we'll get the vaccine of our choice?

We even know good answers

to these questions. In order: we're unlikely to catch the coronavirus at any given point in time, but without protection our odds become higher in the longer term. The odds of a serious vaccine side effect are very remote - not zero, but very close to zero. And we'll get our vaccine choice if we wait, but it'll probably be a while and there will be risks in the meantime.

And apart from pandemics, we deal with a lot of probabilities as doctors. For instance, a 60 year old man who doesn't smoke, and has perfect blood pressure and cholesterol has approximately a six per cent (one in 16) risk of a heart attack or stroke in

the next five years. If he smokes, or has high blood pressure, or has bad cholesterol levels this quickly increases to 12 per cent (one in eight). If he has all three risk factors his risk is 31 per cent (nearly one in three).

For a woman, her lifetime risk of bowel cancer is around four per cent. If she is obese her risk increases to five per cent, alongside other increased risks. Our risk of developing dementia is approximately 16 per cent over the age of 80. This increases to 24 per cent if we have regularly drunk more than 14 standard drinks of alcohol a week (and climbs higher the more we drank). Spinal cord defects occur in around 0.1 per cent of pregnancies, but this risk can be cut to 0.03 per cent by supplementing with folic acid at the time of conception. It

seems like everything can carry a risk: sugars, herbicides, illicit drugs, dyes, red meat, artificial stone, smoked or cured foods, fats, asbestos, plastics. The list goes on.

Then there are things which reduce the risk of one illness and increase the risk of others. Hormone replacement after menopause reduces the risk of bowel cancer but increases the risk of breast cancer. Sunlight increases the risk of skin cancer but decreases the risk of osteoporosis. Even smoking slightly reduces the risk of ulcerative colitis but increases the risk of pretty much every other disease.

So how do we manage these probabilities? One unhelpful way is to ignore them, and end up dealing with illness that could

have been avoided. Another problematic approach is to worry about every single risk, regardless of how big it actually is - this can be overwhelming.

I'd suggest that managing risks involves first identifying the risks in our lives. Then assess them. Are they likely over the course of our life? How bad is the outcome to you if it does happen? Some outcomes may be more unpalatable than others.

After this you can start planning ways to reduce the risk of the illness, or to reduce the severity of the outcome. For instance, regular bowel screening can prevent bowel cancers by detecting them before they occur, while regular mammograms allow us to detect cancers once they have already developed but before they have life threatening consequences.

Dog owners on high alert for liver toxicity

By Liam Durkin

Dog owners in the area are being urged to stay on high alert after a spate of deaths and hospitalisations across Gippsland recently.

Liver toxicity has been running rampant in East Gippsland, and now the disease has made its way to areas in the Latrobe Valley.

The common link between the cases is the dogs have consumed meat from the Maffra Knackery which also trades as Backmans Meats and Backmans

Greyhound Supplies.

It is believed dogs have been affected from as far as Seaford in the city's south-east to Raymond Island just off Paynesville.

Moe South resident Sue Graham, who has tragically lost a greyhound, said it was vitally important pet owners were extra cautious to avoid the same fate.

"People have heard about this meat but they think it is in East Gippsland - and it is not, I know from personal experience it is in

the Latrobe Valley," she said.

"The dogs stop eating, that's the first thing, it is very sudden that they stop. They're listless, they can be a bit lethargic, they can have excessive thirst or they can also not drink as well.

"If you're dog is doing that you really need to consult with a vet as soon as you possibility can.

"If you have any meat from the supplier in Maffra I would stop feeding straight away and wait until you hear an outcome

on the testing of it.

"It's created havoc within the East Gippsland pet community, it has the potential to blow out far and wide because wherever they deliver to people are potentially going to be affected by this."

Ms Graham had raw beef delivered from the Maffra Knackery around June 20.

She also added that a yellow tinge to the lips was a symptom of the disease.

Last month an "urgent prod-

uct recall" was called by a Bairnsdale pet food retailer relating to Bulk Coarse Meat 10 kilogram bags after "toxic meat" was found in East Gippsland.

"If you observe any signs of lethargy, illness or your pet is off their food, even a little, please contact your vet immediately," the retailer said in a Facebook post.

The meat in question has been described as looking like chopped up steak.

Pet food regulator PrimeSafe has been investigating the issue, and while it cannot order a mandatory recall of pet food, has asked the knackery to "issue a voluntary recall of the product."

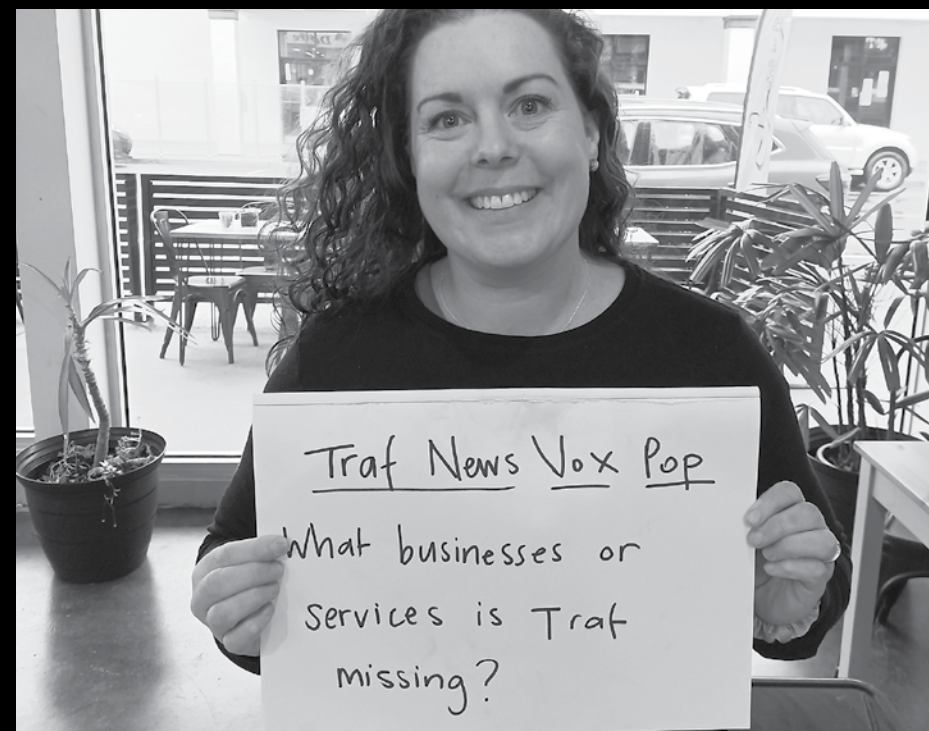
PrimeSafe became aware of the situation on July 2 from Agriculture Victoria.

If your pet is displaying any of the symptoms mentioned, please see a veterinarian as a matter of urgency.

VOX-POP

What businesses or services is Traf missing?

Question by Phoebe Hicks



Tim Bates from Trafalgar

Colin Proctor from Trafalgar

Marcus Barker from Trafalgar

A bike/walking path from Trafalgar to Yarragon

Turn the outdoor pool into an undercover heated pool and add a gym.

Better weather.



To keep our community up to date, we're bringing Council News to you online, on air and in print. For more information and updates, visit our Facebook, Instagram and website.



Keith Cook returns as Baw Baw Shire Councillor

Keith Cook has been sworn in as a Baw Baw Shire Councillor with a ceremony at the West Gippsland Art Centre.

Cr Cook was declared elected by the Victorian Electoral Commission on 29 June 2021, filling the extraordinary vacancy created by the resignation of former Councillor Ben Lucas.

Cr Cook is well respected for his service to the community, having previously served as member of the previous Council, a volunteer and Captain of Hallora and District CFA, a member of the Committee for Drouin, Rokeby and Crossover Friends Group, Warragul and District Historical Society and Drouin Rotary Club.

Your East Ward Councillors

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Cr Peter Kostos
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Cr Darren Wallace
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Find out what roadworks are happening near you

Would you like to know where the latest roadworks are taking place in Baw Baw Shire?

You can track the progress of maintenance works across the Shire via an interactive dashboard on the Council website. It provides real-time progress reports on what's happening in your area, as well as details of previous works in the past few months.

For more information, visit www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/OurRoadsYourRoads

How to book a COVID-19 vaccination in Baw Baw

Eligible Baw Baw Shire residents can now book their COVID-19 vaccination on the phone or online.

Residents can book to have their vaccination at the COVID-19 vaccination centre at The Goods Shed, Warragul (located at the Warragul Railway Station car park off Alfred Street) by:

- Calling the Department of Health Vaccination Hotline on 1800 675 398
- Visiting the website www.portal.cvms.vic.gov.au

The Warragul COVID-19 vaccination centre is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9am to 3.30pm.

You can also book to have your vaccination at a participating GP clinic. You can check your eligibility and a list of participating GP clinics at: www.health.gov.au



Snap, send, solve - it's that easy!

Have you found something that needs fixing? Report it directly to Council using the Snap Send Solve app for iOS and Android devices.

Please note: If the issue is an emergency it's still best to give us a call on 1300 229 229, especially outside of business hours.

Proactive approach sees improvements on the ground

Requests are down and efficiency is up as Council's proactive open space maintenance approach boosts customer satisfaction.

Maintenance requests have decreased almost 32% during peak periods, and 240 messages of appreciation and positive feedback have been received and logged between 1 June 2019 and 2 June 2021.

Make a donation to the Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund

Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund (GERF) has launched an appeal to raise emergency funds for our fellow Gippslanders impacted by floods. They act quickly to distribute funds to those needing help, so they can access emergency resources like food or temporary accommodation. To donate or register for a GERF grant, visit: www.gerf.org.au

Please note, GERF only accepts financial donations, being the quickest and most effective way to lend a helping hand. While they love seeing your generosity, they're not equipped to accept goods or services — for this please visit: www.givit.org.au



Farming News

Farm safety never takes a break

Nationals Member for Eastern Victoria Region Melina Bath was out helping to raise awareness of farm safety and farmer health and wellbeing during National Farm Safety Week last month.

“Growing up on a dairy farm I understand that vigilance regarding health and safety of farmers, their families and employees should never take a break”, she said.

“Being a farmer is more than an occupation, it’s a 24 hour, seven day a week commitment, performed in all weather conditions and regularly alone in remote locations.

“We also must look after the physical and emotional wellbeing of our farmers by talking about risk, seasonal pressures, stress, mental health, fatigue management and farm succession planning.

“In recent years drought, bushfire, flood and a global pandemic have all amplified risks on farms and the physical and mental pressures on our agriculture workers.”

National Farm Safety Week ran from Sunday, July 18 to Saturday, July 24 and aimed to highlight the complexities of farm safety.

Ms Bath said farmers are the lifeblood of communities, the essential work they perform as primary producers keeps Australians clothed and fed.

“Farmers face many high-risk situations daily. They operate

heavy machinery, handle unpredictable animals, use chemicals, perform strenuous labour and work in confined spaces - all in a constantly changing environment,” she said.

“Recent statistics tell us that agriculture industry accounts for 50 per cent of all Victorian workplace deaths, despite employing only three per cent of working Victorians.

“Understanding safety and assessing risk is an important topic most farmers take seriously, likewise, talking about the dangers and promoting safe farm work practices is a regular conversation worth having.

“Any serious ‘on farm’ accident is a tragedy and affects the individual and their family - an injured farmer is not a productive farmer.”

Ms Bath said the issue of farm safety was highlighted at a recent Nationals State Conference held in Gippsland.

“Fatigue and stress can be a contributing factor in accidents and illness for farmers, which is why it is vital to properly assess risk, but importantly to have regular check-ups with health care professionals,” she said.

“Undertaking regular training helps to better understand risks on farm and how to mitigate them.”

Farmers get their say on funding

For the first time in a decade, Australian dairy farmers will get a say on how much money is

invested in the industry services managed and delivered by Dairy Australia - an outcome sought and welcomed by Australian Dairy Farmers.

Last month the Levy Poll Advisory Committee (LPAC) recommended that a poll of all dairy farmers be held to set the future level of the dairy service levy, a levy that funds the range of Dairy Australia’s programs, including research and innovation.

“This is good news for dairy farmers,” ADF president Terry Richardson said. “They can now consider the current levy, or a potential increase, to ensure the investment in farmer rural research, development and extension meets their needs.”

LPAC members will now develop the voting options which will go on a ballot, including LPAC’s recommended option, expected by September 2021.

LPAC will continue seeking input and feedback from dairy farmers to determine the voting options, including a preferred LPAC option.

“As the voice of dairy farmers ADF is deeply committed to working with our members, LPAC, Dairy Australia and the broader levy payer farmer base to develop the voting options,” Mr Richardson said.

“Now that it has been decided to activate a dairy levy poll a comprehensive process of analysis, consultation and scenario planning needs to be undertaken to develop the voting options.

“It is essential that this process delivers clear and concise feedback from farmers, recognising the need of LPAC and the Minister for Agriculture to recommend one clear option when the levy poll is held in March 2022.”

Mr Richardson said the ADF was yet to form a view on the levy poll options that should be presented to levy payers.

“However, we do anticipate that an option to maintain current levels will be included in the levy poll, together with any options for an increase that LPAC may determine appropriate,” he said.

“The levy poll provides dairy farmers with the opportunity to have a say on an important investment that works to benefit their dairy farm businesses and advance the industry as a whole.”

VFF seeks next generation of industry leaders

The Victorian Farmers Federation is encouraging emerging industry leaders to nominate in the upcoming VFF Livestock Group and VFF Water Council elections.

The VFF Livestock group has called for nominations to fill five vacancies representing the regions of Glenelg, North Central, Goulburn Broken, Mallee and West Gippsland.

The VFF is also calling for nominations for VFF Water Council for the Central, Central North, Northern, Western and East

Gippsland regions.

VFF chief executive and returning officer Jane Lovell encouraged those interested to nominate themselves for the important positions.

“The VFF Livestock Group and Water Council respectively represent the interests of a huge number of Victorian farmers,” she said.

“By helping to express the views of farmers on important issues such as animal welfare, biosecurity, market access to ensuring fair water policy, these roles are at the forefront of the issues that matter most to farmers.

“I would encourage anyone interested to nominate for these important roles.”

Nominations for the roles have opened will be open until close of business Monday, August 9 2021.

Completed nomination forms must be lodged with the returning officer of the Victorian Farmers Federation, Farrer House, Level 3, 24-28 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000 or by emailing returningofficer@vff.org.au no later than 5pm, Monday, August 9 2021.

Ask a farmer

Farmers have thrown open their farm gates to invite Victorians to ask questions about how food and fibre is produced in the state.

Open Gate Conversations is a digital campaign that was launched in Melbourne last

month by Victoria’s Minister for Agriculture Mary Anne Thomas, president of the Victorian Farmers Federation Emma Germano and campaign ambassador Gorgi Coghlan.

The campaign aims to provide transparency on how Victoria’s food and fibre is produced. Through the Open Gate Conversations website, consumers can ask questions that will be answered by real farmers.

Research commissioned to inform the campaign found 61 per cent of Victorians felt they had low knowledge about farming practices in Victoria.

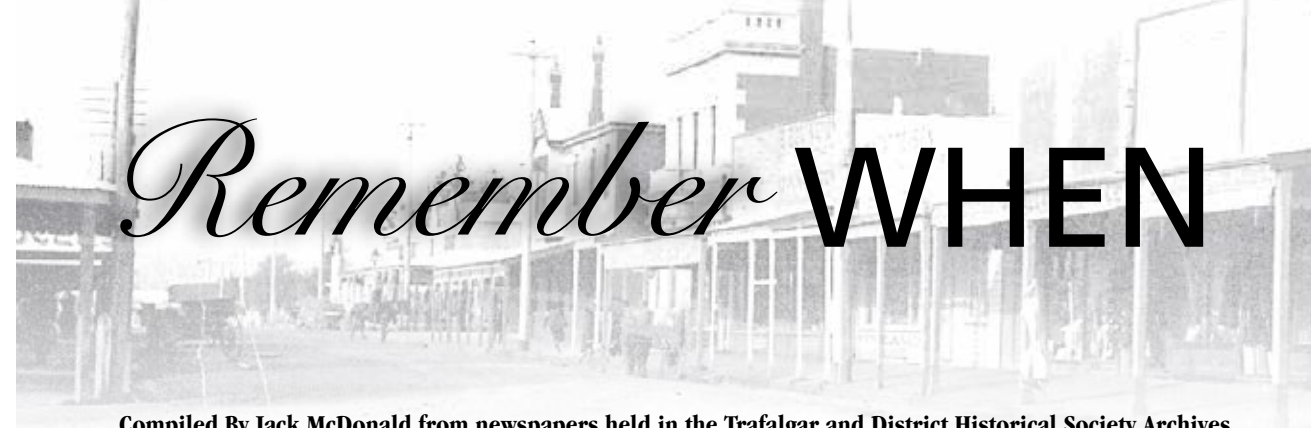
In the same study, 70 per cent of farmers surveyed considered it extremely important to farm in a way that met community expectations.

Ms Germano said it represents an important opportunity for farmers to listen to community concerns and be transparent about how farming is changing.

“Our customers rightly want to know how our food and fibre is grown and raised,” she said. “This is our opportunity to openly share what we do with the community.”

The research highlighted three key issues that raised concern amongst consumers: climate change, food quality and animal welfare.

To find out more about Open Gate Conversations, visit www.opengateconversations.org.au.



Compiled By Jack McDonald from newspapers held in the Trafalgar and District Historical Society Archives

Trafalgar, Yarragon & Yallourn News, August, 1931

August 6 – School Concert

The school concert at Hill End last week attracted a large crowd, the program being a long and varied one. Mr W. G. Espie, chairman of the school committee congratulated the head teacher (Mr Gibson) and his scholars, and also thanked the artists for their items. A dance followed and the ladies provided supper as a “wind up” to a great night.

Four Babies Christened

What must surely constitute a single church record for Trafalgar was the christening of four babies at the Methodist Church last Sunday morning. Those christened were: Willa Betty (daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Quill, of Trafalgar), Gwenda May (daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Cook, of Trafalgar), Joyce Claire (daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Whitton, of Trafalgar), and Dorothy Isobel (daughter of Mr and Mrs T. Ray, of Trafalgar).

Huge Crowd At Ball

A suitable reward greeted those ladies last Tuesday night, who had been working so hard for the West Gippsland Hospital, the hospital ball bringing a packed hall. Cars rolled up from up to 40 miles (65km) away until the hall was filled.

August 13 – Mouth-Organ Band

A public meeting was called for last Thursday evening at Trafalgar for the purpose of forming a mouth-organ band and minstrel troupe. The opinion expressed was that such a body would be a worthy acquisition to the town, and it was decided to form a Society.

Gippsland News, August, 1961

August 3 – Basil Ashby – Golf Champion

In a week-end of championships and records, the contest for the 1961 Trafalgar Golf Club Championship aroused most local interest. As was anticipated, the match between defending champion (Doug Hasthorpe) and the challenger (Basil Ashby) was closely contested, and the match was not settled until the 17th hole

where Basil emerged as the new club champion with a 2/1 victory. It is gratifying to see such a good club member take the honours at last.

Heifer Killed And Butchered

A roan heifer, valued at about 60 pounds (\$1765 today), was slaughtered on the property of Mr S. Charlesworth, of Trafalgar, at the week-end. The animal had been shot and its throat cut. Both hind legs had been taken off and it appeared that the butchering had been done by an experienced person or persons.

August 10 – Spectacular Debutantes

On Friday night last, the largest and most colourful crowd of people to attend any function in the Trafalgar Public Hall over the past two years were in attendance for the annual Church of England Debutante Ball. Debutantes and partners were: Misses Maxine Miller/Jim Hughes, Jean Robins/Geoffrey Cocksedge, Margaret Cooke/Ken Gamble, Dawn Morrison/Charles Pinch, Judith Nielsen/Robert Nielsen,

Heather Martin/Peter Collier, Elaine Vance/Malcolm Boyles, Joy Parke/Geoff Bechaz, Marlene Cook/Bruce Hill.

Flower girls were: Leanne Needham, Cheryl Brock, Carol Brock and Heather Thomson.

August 17 – Take Note

Mr L. Stevens, a representative of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, together with First Constable D. Morgan, visited the Trafalgar calf sale on Tuesday last, and kept a close check on the condition of all calves at the yarding, with the result that some six calves were rejected and the owners told to take them home.

August 24 – Yarragon Tennis Club

Livewire president, Jack Larkin informed a well attended special meeting of the Yarragon Tennis Club that the new courts on the Market Street Reserve, which were once a dream, have now become a reality. The committee has decided to erect three concrete courts running north and south on the land allotted by the Trustees.

August 31 – Trafalgar Car Club Dinner

An enjoyable evening was held

on Friday of last week when 40 members and friends of the Trafalgar Car Club held their first annual dinner in their new clubrooms in Seven Mile Road. Dancing was enjoyed prior to a break being called for the presentation of trophies. All present voted the evening a great success.

Ed. note: The new clubrooms were the former “Estenna Henna” boarding house which was opposite the Bowling Club.

Angling Club Formed At Thorpdale

At a meeting convened by Messrs. R. Mathewson and W. Gunn held on Monday evening, August 28, an Angling Club was formed at Thorpdale, and will be known as the Thorpdale and District Angling Club. A competition is to be conducted for financial members for the opening of the trout season on Saturday next.

Traf News, August, 2003

August – We Need Volunteers

The Traf News committee, at a special meeting last month, decided to call a public meeting of Trafalgar’s residents to ascertain if there is sufficient support by the Trafalgar community to keep the paper going. The workload imposed on a small group of people to produce the paper each month is gradually proving too much. If we don’t get sufficient active volunteers on the evening, the Traf News committee will recommend to the Trafalgar Community Development Association that the paper finish up. – Enquiries to Editor Mick Bourke.

Community Bank

The Trafalgar Community Bank is fast becoming a reality with the share subscription expected to have almost met its target of \$460,000 (\$675,750 today) by the time this paper goes to print. It has been an enormous amount of work for the organising committee, many of whom are now directors of Trafalgar and District Financial Services Ltd., the company established to manage the bank.

Trafalgar’s Skate Park

The skate park has finally opened, with Mr Justin Madden, Minister for Youth Sport and Recreation officially declaring the skate park open. The building of the skate park could not have oc-

curred without the determination of our youth, who have pushed for such a park over many years under the watchful guidance of the Youth Resource Centre through Dorothy Hoare, Carolyn Richards, Michael Fozard and others such as the Andrew Foundation with their generous donation.

Public Hall Facelift

Could there be a more suitable venue for a wedding reception, birthday, sporting or special event? Not now that the public hall has had a major facelift. The place looks fantastic, and we now welcome the whole community to enjoy the hall. With the assistance of Baw Baw Shire and a dedicated and committed hall committee, the hall has had new life breathed into it with some major works completed.

Hasthorpe’s And Scouts Raffle

Proudly supported by Hasthorpe’s Supermarket, Trafalgar Scouts are running “the best raffle ever” to help send local kids to the next Australian Jamboree in January, 2004. The winner of the raffle, will be allowed three minutes inside Hasthorpe’s to collect as many groceries as they can up to the value of \$1000 (\$1470 today).

Trafalgar Playgroup

Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers.... looking for something else to do with the kids? Kids bored at home? Need to get out of the house for a while? New in town and don’t really know anybody? Why don’t you come to the Trafalgar Playgroup? Playgroup is where children aged 0-5 and their carers come together to socialise, play and learn! Trafalgar Playgroup meets every Thursday morning, 10.00a.m.until noon at the Scout Hall in Kitchener Street during the school term.

Traf News Improves Community

One of the many results of a survey undertaken by Traf News earlier this year is that knowledge of what is happening in the Trafalgar community by its residents has increased significantly since the advent of the paper. Traf News administered the survey to ascertain whether it was meeting its aim which is to provide an avenue for communication with the community. The survey strongly suggests that it is achieving that goal.

CHURCH SERVICES

CATHOLIC PARISH

Father Bernie Krotwaar, Phone 5633 1166



St John’s Trafalgar, 54 Waterloo Road

Saturday Night Mass: 6.00pm
Sunday Mass: 10.00am
Weekday Masses: 9.30am (Tuesday to Friday)

UNITING CHURCH

Rev Moira Dodsworth
Phone 0447 957 772



St. Andrew’s Uniting Church, Trafalgar

Service times 9.15am Sunday, 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month
Sunday School 9.15am 2nd Sunday of the month
Coffee & Chat Thursdays 10.00am

St David’s Uniting Church, Yarragon

Service times 9.15am Sunday - 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month
Contemporary 5.00pm on the 4th Sunday of each month with shared tea to follow

St Stephens Darnum

Service times 11.00am on 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month

Please direct inquiries to Dee Crosby Phome 0409 933 104

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rev Anne Perryman, Phone 0493 088 370
or trafalgaranglican1@gmail.com



St Mary’s Church, Trafalgar

Wednesdays: 10.00am Quiet Service of Holy Communion by Extension 10.45: Cuppa n conversation
3.30 -5.00pm JAFFAS
Fridays: Youth Group is in recess.
Sundays: 9.30am Holy Communion & Sunday School on 1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays Family Service on 3rd Sunday of month.
9.30am Combined Parish Service on 5th Sunday

St Mark’s Church, Thorpdale

Mondays: 3.30 -5pm JAFFAS
Sundays: 11.00am Holy Communion - 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month

St Mark’s Church, Yarragon

Sundays: 8.30 Holy Communion, 1st, 2nd, & 4th Sundays Prayer, Praise & Proclamation on 3rd Sunday
JAFFAS is in recess

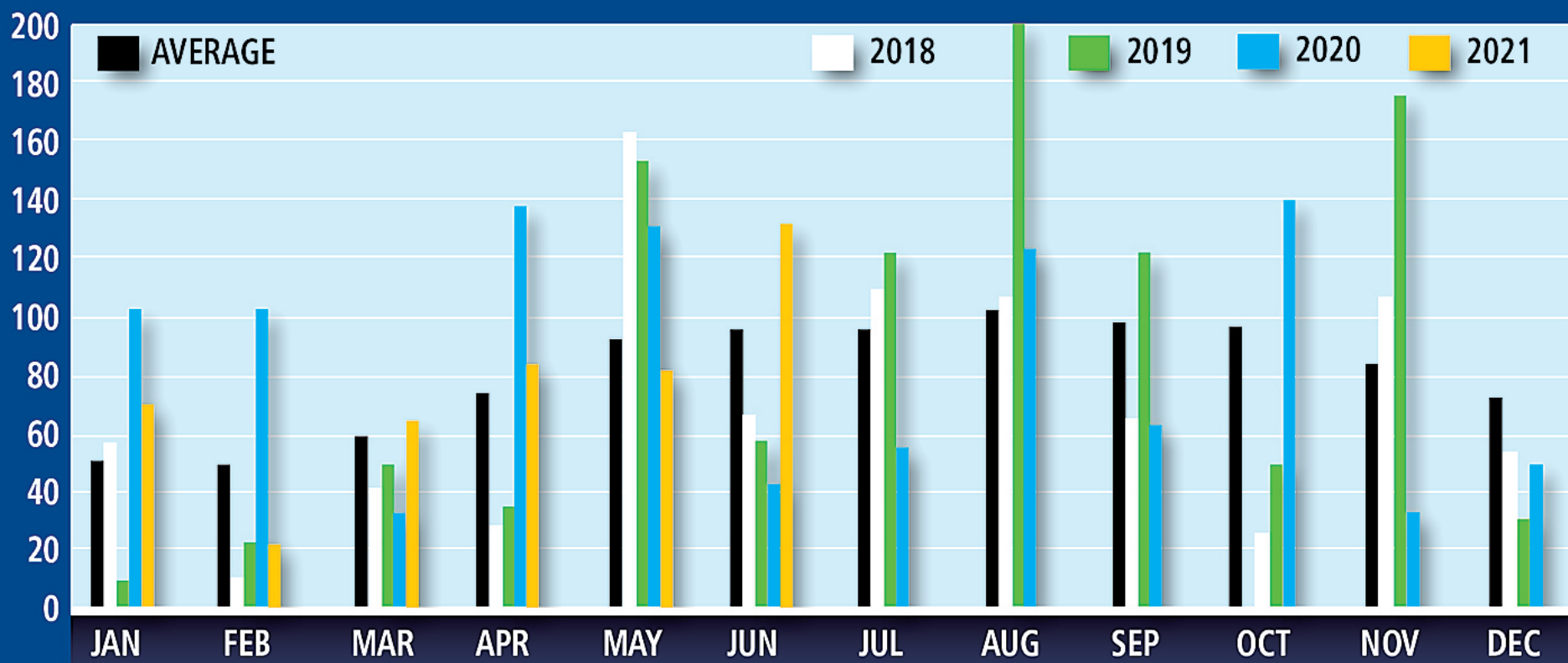
THORPDALE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH

Rev Frank Lees,
Phone 5634 6413 or 5633 2758



Every Sunday: 10am
Sunday School: (During service)
Bible studies: Thursday evenings

TRAFALGAR MONTHLY RAINFALL



This graph compares the monthly rainfall received in Trafalgar in 2021 with, 2018, 2019, 2020 and average monthly rainfall since records began.
The monthly rainfall for June 2021 is 131ml.

New direction for Gippsland League

Gippsland League and AFL Gippsland recently announced the Gippsland League would progress to a self-governance model for 2022 and beyond.

With the current service agreement between AFL Gippsland and Gippsland League set to expire on October 31 this year, the member clubs have been in discussion with AFL Gippsland over the last 12 months to explore what a self-governance model would look like.

In May this year the member clubs with the support of AFL Gippsland opted to move to a self-governance model in 2022 including reimplementing a board of management to govern the Gippsland League.

Gippsland League has been administered by the AFL Gippsland Regional Administration Centre (RAC) since 2015.

In 2017, the Gippsland League member clubs voted unanimously to move away from an independent board to a governance and administration model under AFL Gippsland and the AFL Gippsland Commission.

This model saw AFL Gippsland take on full responsibility for the leagues operations, financial decision making and governance.

Since 2017 the Gippsland

League has had a successful period off the field with the business operations developing into one of the strongest in country football.

Under AFL Gippsland, the Gippsland League has been able to stabilise and grow to a position where the league has heavily invested back in the member clubs, umpire associations and the on-field products.

The leagues current strong off field position has been a key factor in the decision to reimplement an independent board of management that will play a key role in continuing to grow the Gippsland League.

Member clubs indicated they would like to explore AFL Gippsland continuing the operational management of the league through the RAC, however, it was encouraged by AFL Gippsland that it was in the best interest of a self governing Gippsland League to also setup the business operations model for the league in 2022 and beyond.

“The time is right for the league to continue its growth and promote itself as the major league of the region” AFL Gippsland region manager Nic Fogarty said.

“It will be great to see the direction an independent board

will take the league on the

back of the off field and financial success Daniel Heathcote (Gippsland League league manager) has built over a number of years.”

AFL Gippsland's first two seasons administering the Gippsland League's business operations saw the league bounce back from deficits recorded in 2013 and 2014 to post consecutive profits of over \$90,000 without the alteration of any member club fees.

In 2017, after those two successful years, the league invested over \$140,000 into activities to benefit the member clubs including removing the league finals catering share, a reduction of member club fees, the implementation of a \$50,000 club grants program which all 10 member clubs accessed and the investment of an extra \$30,000 of association umpires from the Gippsland region to officiate club matches.

The league continues to invest in several initiatives yearly for the member clubs including continuing that investment in association umpires and other initiatives including officials apparel, equipment and theme rounds.

Despite the yearly rising costs of operations, under AFL Gippsland governance, the member club fees have not increased

since the amount set by the previous independent board in 2011.

Under AFL Gippsland the Gippsland League has also grown the profile of the 'Premier League'.

The League has grown the largest digital audience among the Gippsland football and netball competitions.

Another huge step forward in the digital space has been the creation and development of Gippsland League TV including the filming of weekly matches. The weekly filming expanded into having two matches filmed per week, a monthly live streamed match with commentary and two sets of weekly highlights packages.

In 2019 Gippsland League was the first country football league in the state to sign on with Premier Data to include full statistics of the two senior matches filmed per week.

The League also moved to have all Grand Final football matches live streamed and in 2017 and 2018 the A Grade netball Grand Final was live called by TRFM, an initiative that the league is hoping to continue moving forward.

Through AFL Gippsland's initiative in 2019 the league also moved to live streamed vote counts which was received with a

tremendously positive response from the member clubs.

The finals series and events have been another key area where the league and member clubs have seen development.

AFL Gippsland removed the Gippsland League's finals catering share and implemented a shared catering revenue system among all 10 member clubs to allow each club an equal opportunity to profit from the finals series.

Since its inception, over the three year period the system has seen over \$124,000 go directly to the member clubs on top of the hosting fees that each host clubs receives.

The centralised finals system was also adjusted to allow finals to be played outside Latrobe Valley, since 2017 finals have returned to Western Park Waragul, Maffra Recreation Reserve and Sale Oval.

Under AFL Gippsland there has also been record finals takings with each individual final recording their highest recorded gate taking including the 2019 minor finals series which saw the highest recorded overall gate takings for the five minor finals, demonstrating the continued growth and promotion of the League.

League manager and Trafal-

gar resident Heathcote, who has been involved with the Gippsland League over the past six seasons, played a large role in the transition of governance in 2017 to AFL Gippsland and currently sits on the five person steering committee to transition back to a self-governed system for 2022.

“Having the league in such a strong on field and off field position is a great place for the Gippsland League and the member clubs to be,” he said.

“The financial position of the league is a huge positive for the future of the Gippsland League and will help make some exciting initiatives possible.

“The league has achieved a lot in the past seven seasons and creating some goals and getting more people involved to help achieve those goals will be a big positive for the Gippsland League.”

The five-person steering committee includes Heathcote, Fogarty, Clinton Taylor (Moe Football-Netball Club vice president), John Schelling (Leongatha FNC vice president) and Shane Bennett (Maffra FNC vice president).

» CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“I thought we had a good week-and-a-half preparation, we really executed well and I think it showed.

“How we played was exactly how we want to play, it wasn't particularly pretty, but gets the job done and wins you games. It's good to see that we can actually play that way and hopefully we can finish the season off like that.”

Playing predominately in defence, Connolly said he was also called on to perform other roles.

“We had Jack Sinclair and Brad Hill playing in the higher tier because they wanted to keep them up there, running up and down the ground,” he said.

“As soon as Coffs (Coffield) went down I got a phone call from upstairs to play a little bit deeper than I usually would just to allow them to keep doing their thing but if those guys went off I'd have to slide up.”

During the match the running defender also rubbed shoulders with some high profile opponents like Dustin Martin, Trent Cotchin and Jack Riewoldt.

“That was bizarre, there was

a moment where we cleared the ball out of our defensive 50 and Martin was just running up the field and Dougal Howard said 'Leo go and follow Martin', so running alongside him was interesting,” he said.

Connolly also showed he was not afraid to stand up for himself, showing Richmond player Liam Baker — who then asked who he was.

Come siren time, it was appropriate Traralgon's Tim Membrey and Connolly embraced — a moment he said he would never forget.

“During the game I didn't have time to soak it in. As soon as the siren went I went up to Tim Membrey, he said to me 'how good is this? First game, Gippy boys on the G'... that's when it really hit me,” he said.

Fortunately, Connolly's family was able to get to the game, after being given the early word he might be playing.

“It was really good to see them after the game. Mum was pretty emotional, I think dad (Paul) was even pretty close to shedding a tear which is a first,”

Leo said.

Mother Mindy was understandably beaming with pride the following day at Ted Summerton Reserve watching younger son Aydan with Saints scarf in hand.

In a true showing of professional sport, Connolly's debut was quickly yesterday's news, as he had to complete extra running with St Kilda just 11 hours after the match finished because of the decreased load as medical sub.

Having grown up in Trafalgar, Connolly has not let the bright lights of AFL fame get to his head after being taken in the 2019 draft.

He still keeps close tabs with friends back home and even plays the odd game of cricket during summer for the Trafalgar Cricket Club.

At time of writing, Connolly has played four games for St Kilda and also kicked his first AFL goal in the Saints Round 17 win over Brisbane at Metricon Stadium.



A multit talented sportsman, Leo was also a gun cricketer for the Trafalgar Cricket Club, and still plays the odd game when he can. (Photo Latrobe Valley Express).



A young Leo Connolly in action for Trafalgar Junior Football Club.



Leo with mum Mindy in the rooms post-game.

Festival of cricket coming

By Liam Durkin

The Melbourne Stars affinity with the Latrobe Valley is set to continue, as the club announced last month it would play back-to-back Women's Big Bash games at Ted Summerton Reserve this season.

The Stars will descend on Moe to play the Brisbane Heat on Saturday, October 23 and the Hobart Hurricanes the following day.

In what is sure to be a huge coup for cricket in the region and countless businesses in the area, four of the WBBL's eight teams will be in Moe around the same time, as the Adelaide Strikers will also be playing games across the two-day event which is being branded a 'Festival of Cricket'.

This is the first WBBL game to be played at Moe and comes after Ted Summerton Reserve successfully hosted men's BBL matches in January and December 2019.

Melbourne Stars interim general manager Blair Crouch and wicketkeeper Nicole Faltum were on hand last month to formally announce the fixture at the Gippsland Regional Cricket Centre, Moe, which also saw the Stars run a clinic for South Street Primary School.

As a former local player, the event will carry even more significance for Faltum.

“I grew up playing for the Trafalgar Cricket Club so to play in front of home family and friends is something I'm really excited about,” she said.

“We're so excited to announce that we're coming to Moe for the WBBL, I know the whole group is really keen to get down here.”

Having finished runner-up the

previous season, Faltum said the team was determined to go again.

“We had a really successful campaign last season so we're 100 per cent hoping for another really successful season,” she said. “We've started training for our Victorian squads, a fair few of the girls are state contracted meaning we'll train with them and other states and then we'll all come together in a few weeks time to start our prep for WBBL.”

Some of the best women cricketers in the world are set to come to Moe, including Australian captain Meg Lanning who also leads the Stars.

Ted Summerton Reserve remains the only venue east of metropolitan Melbourne to have hosted BBL games and is one of just three regional venues to host such matches.

Crouch said previous BBL games at Moe had been well supported and the club was excited to meet more fans and members from across Gippsland.

“As a club we've had terrific support from across the Gippsland region. Having successfully hosted BBL matches in Moe before, we're really looking forward to bringing WBBL to the community for the first time,” he said.

“Led by our captain Meg Lanning, I know the players are excited about the opportunity to play in regional Victoria and inspire the next generation of cricket fans.

“The reserve is a top class facility that has provided a great platform for the competition in regional Victoria.”

Latrobe City Mayor Sharon

Gibson welcomed the news with great enthusiasm.

“Council is delighted to once again be hosting a national cricketing event,” she said.

“The community loved coming out to watch and support the Big Bash league on previous occasions, and I have no doubt that they will be welcoming again as they watch some of the best cricketers in Australia take to the field in Latrobe City.

“This is an opportunity to showcase the marvellous sporting facility that we have in Ted Summerton Reserve and for the people of Latrobe City and broader Gippsland to enjoy elite sport close to home.”

As well as the cricket games, the Stars will be have a very big presence in the community in the weeks leading in, with the club to go on a state blitz, visiting schools and promoting the game of cricket.

Former Trafalgar junior footballer Jess McGrath made his VFL debut last month.

McGrath was called into



Email: traftilttray33@outlook.com
MARINO: 0408 342 401

Soccer pitch receives lighting upgrade

New lights have been installed at Trafalgar Recreation Reserve's second soccer pitch, ensuring soccer players, parents, spectators, and volunteers can enjoy their sport with maximum visibility.

Completed in 2020, the upgrades were officially opened last month in accordance with COVID-19 restrictions.

As well as Trafalgar, Bellbird Park, Drouin also received a lighting upgrade. The \$500,000 project was jointly funded by Baw Baw Shire council and Sport and Recreation Victoria through the World Game Facilities Fund.

Baw Baw Shire mayor Danny Goss said the upgrade would help all concerned.

“Better visibility means a saf-

er ground for players and a better experience for the parents, spectators and volunteers on the sidelines,” he said.

“The lighting will allow for more participation at training and give clubs greater capacity to host evening training sessions or games, better serving our growing community.”

Wally's Words



Live your life to the fullest. You only get one
— Wally

Reflection

By Moria Dodsworth

Enjoying life.

I took my dog for grooming recently.

She pranced out of the groomers, announcing to the world that she was cute and pretty and happy to be alive. I smiled and so did most of those we met, even from behind a mask, and many bent to say hello and admire her.

Her cheerful attitude had results, she loves people.

Candy is a black Cocker Spaniel who approaches life with enthusiasm. The moment I open the door in the morning, a black streak zooms past me and a circle dance begins in the kitchen until she sits for barely 30 seconds to receive

her breakfast.

There is no place for grumpy, morning faces in our house. Even as I listen to the morning news, hearing the number of new COVID cases or more lockdowns or damaging weather events, life is not so gloomy because there is a warm dog cuddling on my feet (or my lap).

Sometimes we get so busy or involved in world events and daily catastrophes that we forget that there is a place for fun.

The pace of life and the need for economic production means that we don't always stop for a day of rest.

Candy reminds me that going for a walk and enjoying the sunshine on a cold day, or

even the effort of walking into a brisk wind which tells me that I'm alive, greeting strangers and friends out exercising, gives me a sense of peace and fulfilment.

A balanced life of work and fun gives us a sense of achievement, an inner peace and hope for the future.

Candy approaches life with a big smile and offers a hug and encouragement to all she meets.

As Snoopy the cartoon dog says “life looks better from behind a smile!”

Try it!

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Telling the complete
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 Open 10am - 5pm

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From the hard deck to the WBBL

IN more than 130 years of the Trafalgar Cricket Club, the Ships have produced just one professional cricketer.

That one professional cricketer happens to be a woman.

Nicole Faltum played junior and senior cricket for Trafalgar before making her way to the Victorian state team and more notably, to the Melbourne Stars where she has made strides as their first choice wicket keeper.

Nicole was back home recently, and was good enough to share some insights with Traf News.

(Questions by Liam Durkin).

What do you remember about playing cricket for Traf in your early days?

I've got some of my favourite memories playing for Traf Cricket Club. I got to play with some good mates and we were pretty successful when I played in both the under 14 and under 16 boys teams.

Was it hard being the only girl in the team?

At times it was but they were all my mates and those boys are some of the most supportive people still in my life at the moment. Throughout that time they were always so welcoming and always so supportive and made every decision I made really easy. They were so good to me and I was super lucky to have that group of boys to play alongside of.

There wouldn't have been too many girls playing cricket growing up?

I think there was only two or three in the actual league and there was only a few at the club.

So why cricket and not netball, tennis or basketball?

I played netball, soccer, I did taekwondo, I did pretty much every sport under the sun but I just loved cricket. I loved playing in a big team with some of my best mates and when I started playing for Victoria I made friends there that I just wanted to keep and that was practically why I started playing and why I still play. It's literally because I love it and get to play alongside some of my best mates.

Your dad still plays cricket for Traf as well as veterans cricket, the love of the game must run in the family?

Dads playing in what we like to say is the over 90s, he's still playing and he still loves it which is great.

How was it playing backyard cricket with two older brothers?

The boys actually didn't really want to play with me that much, they did every now and then but my mum was probably the one who did the most. I made my little sister throw to me a fair bit as well, everyone was pretty good though.

The pathway for women's cricket requires a lot of driving to Melbourne, your poor mum must have clocked up some serious ks?

I'm so appreciative of my mum still to this day, she does absolutely everything for me. I couldn't be in the position I am now or do anything that I did when I was younger without my mum. Growing up she drove me when I was still in school to trainings - the amount of hours in the car - I can't thank her enough for what she's done and the support that she still gives me to this day.

Women's cricket differs from the men in that most players still have day jobs. What's the training schedule and the workload like for you?

I'm state contracted so for the Victorian Women's team we train four days a week with Wednesday our day off. I'm working as an admin assistant at an accounting firm in Prahran and I'm also studying part time as well. The schedule is pretty busy and training takes up most of our day.

It must be amazing to think how much women's cricket has grown in a relatively short space of time?

It's incredible. Both locally here and in Melbourne as well, Victorian Premier Cricket is so much stronger now than it was a few years ago and I know there is heaps more girls playing down here in the Latrobe Valley so it's something that is really cool.

Do you think the WBBL has had a lot to do with that growth?

I think so. Especially now that it is televised young girls can actually see it. As soon as there is exposure to it the girls can see it and realise what they can do, it encourages them to play more.

You would have heard all the armchair experts say women's cricket isn't that good?

I would just say to people who say that look at people like

Alyssa Healy, Ellyse Perry, Meg Lanning, watch the way they hit the ball and compare them to some of the boys, I would arguably say that they are somewhat better. The more we do it, the more training we get and the more it even professionalises from here the better the standard is going to get.

It must be great to play alongside the Australian captain for

the Stars?

I absolutely love Meg Lanning, I love the way that she plays and thinks about the game and as a captain.

This might be hard to judge but could someone like Ellyse Perry play mens premier cricket?

I think they could for sure.

Being in the inner

sanctum when Australia won the Womens World Cup at the MCG must have been a great highlight?

It was massive. Some of my best mates played in that so it was so cool to go there and watch and be part of it. To be in the rooms after the game and to see their success and celebrate it with them was really special.

Did you get to meet Katy Perry?

I didn't unfortunately.

And something we all secretly wonder, is there any sledging in women's cricket?

Not really, it's more just funny banter and trash talk.



Trafalgar Cricket Club product Nicole Faltum in action for the Melbourne Stars.



Nicole Faltum (front row second from right) in her days playing for Trafalgar.

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By Liam Durkin

Trafalgar footballers and netballers put together strong and competitive performances across the board as the Ellinbank and District League season continued to materialise last month.

After the season was shut down for three weeks at the end of May, players and coaches had reason to believe the rest of the season would go ahead as planned once restrictions lifted, however, another lockdown just four weeks later put paid to that.

At time of writing the following matches were completed before lockdown 5.0 hit.

The Seniors completed victory in Round 7 over Lang Lang at home.

Trafalgar led at every change, but the visitors put up a good fight for the best part of three quarters. A four goal to no score last term ensured victory for the Bloods.

Damien Mann kicked five goals, while Dylan Farrell, Jake Nash, Austin Byrne, Blake Radford, Klay Butler and Darcy Brock were voted best on.

The Reserves broke away after half-time of their match with Lang Lang to win by 28 points.

Greg Kneebone, Tristan Marslen, Luke Williams, Rhain Ross and Jackson King put in solid efforts for their team.

The Under 18s put together a good four quarter display to defeat Lang Lang. The Bloods kept the Tigers to just two goals and had 18 scoring shots of their own.

Leading the way was Owen Zimora, Drew O'Brien, Oscar Robinson, Brodie Malady and Ruben Rouillon.

Netball action saw A Grade almost double their opponents score.

Rach Chapman was best on court, and received good support from Ella McDonald.

B Grade had a similar score line, with Lucy Findlay and Cass Wass the best performers. C Grade didn't get the same result, going down by just three goals. Cass Fry and Charlotte Farrell played well in a losing cause.

The Under 17s played a great game to come away with a hard fought eight goal win. Brandi King collected best on court honours while Tara Robinson and Paris Troughton also played well.

The Under 15s annihilated their opponents. Award winners were Lana Blackshaw, Hannah Davis and Keeley Lewis. Under 13s also won easily. Charlise Eerhard, Steph Burslem and Lucy Coulthard the most prominent.

Trafalgar got home against Longwarry in thrilling fashion in the Seniors by three points at home.

Playing the reigning premier, the Bloods trailed at every change except when it mattered most.

Down by nine points at three quarter time, Trafalgar peppered the goals in the last, kicking three goals and seven behinds to sneak home.

Best players were Dylan Farrell, Tyson Leys, Jake Nash, Klay Butler, Chris Kyriacou and Jace Butler.

The Reserves couldn't quite conjure up the same comeback, going down to Longwarry in an even contest by 13 points.

Dan Puglia, Josh Vosper, Tristan Marslen, Brady Heywood, Hayden Brock and Jackson King played well.

Trafalgar was well beaten by Longwarry in the Thirds.

Best players were Hardy Kenny, Ryan Dyke, Drew O'Brien,

Brodie Malady and James Orton.

A Grade gave their percentage a boost thanks to a big victory when they took down the Crows. Ellie Farmer and Ella McDonald did most of the damage. B Grade was also commanding winners. Sophie Farrell and Leah Liddel racked up plenty of touches.

C Grade lost a nail bitter by three. Maddie Rickard and Charlotte Farrell did well in trying to get their side across the line.

Under 17s went down but found good contributions from Tara Robinson, Jaimee Vosper and Georgia Hopkins. Under 15s got the job done. Hannah Davis, Keeley Lewis and Immy Smith were the best. Under 13s lost a close game by four goals. Mackenzie Rankin, Lucy Coulthard and Vagina Daley put in solid efforts.

Klay Butler played his 200th senior match against Ellinbank but Trafalgar unfortunately could not return with the points.

In a good-old wet weather slog, the Bloods and Eagles kicked just one goal each in the first half, and just five between them to three quarter time. Ellinbank was able to add four in the last to Trafalgar's three which proved to be enough as the final margin was just nine points.

Jake Nash was again in the best, along with Klay Butler, Connor Noonan, Dylan Farrell, Tyson Leys and Jace Butler.

The Reserves went down, with the margin getting further away from them in the last quarter when they failed to add to their score.

Grady McMahon, Tristan Marslen, Hayden Brock, who kicked three of the four goals, Harry Malady and Mitchell Smart were best.

The Under 18s had a disap-

trous last quarter, and watched a winnable game slip by.

Ryan Dyke, Matt Devon, Jacob Matthews, Hardy Kenny and James Orton got the nod as best.

A Grade met its mark in the form of Ellinbank, who won 52 to 41. Ellie Farmer and Ella McDonald were the best performers. B Grade lost by four goals. Georgia Mason and Cass Wass found themselves in the thick of the action. C Grade also lost, with the margin a sizeable one. Tessa Sneddon and Emily Sneddon battled hard.

The Under 17s won. Kate Hagley, Lexi Farrell and Matilda Matthews provided plenty of drive. Under 15s won by the barest of margins. Imogen Smith, Hannah Davis and Hailey Davis led the way to victory. Under 13s also won by the second smallest barest of margins. Mackenzie Rankin, Steph Burslem and Virginia Daley played their role in the win.

For the second time in as many weeks the Seniors went down in a low scoring grind, this time to Buln Buln.

Trafalgar and Buln Buln each enjoyed periods of dominance, but the Bloods couldn't quite sneak in front, going down by just two points. Jace Butler, Connor Noonan, Jacob Nash, Klay Butler, Matt Van Schajik and Darcy Brock played well.

Buln Buln won the inaugural Ryan Bishop Cup in the Reserves.

Scores were level at quarter time and three quarter time, but it was Buln Buln who was able to add three goals to one in the last to round out 13 point victors.

Best players for Trafalgar were Stuart Hiriart, Mitchell Smart, Karl Mutke, Rhain Ross, Jackson Noonan and Grady McMahon.

Another close match was seen in the Under 18s, and it was Trafalgar who came out on top with a three point win.

The Bloods fought back from an early deficit to secure their most memorable win for the season. Hardy Kenny, Dylan Thornby, Drew O'Brien, Ryan Dyke and Owen Zimora were instrumental in the win.

Netball action saw a clean sweep in the senior grades.

A Grade won by some distance, with Rach Chapman and Dani Davies prominent. It was a similar story in B Grade, as Samira Heffernan and Leah Liddel put in strong performances. C Grade won by 10, and was well served by Charlotte Farrell and Cass Fry.

Junior netball had the Under 17s play a hotly contested game that went down to the wire. Unfortunately from a Traf perspective that saw a four goal loss, but Lexie Farrell and Paris Troughton played great games, as did Kate Hagley.

Trafalgar won easily in the Under 15s, in a match that saw Imogen Smith and Hannah Davis play well, along with Tessa Farrell.

The Under 13s also won. Best players were Tahlia Hammond, Mackenzie Rankin and Steph Burslem.

Matt Swenson played his 250th Senior game for Trafalgar against Catani.

The team posted a big win for the occasion, with Swenson adding two goals of his own for good measure.

The Bloods led from start to finish and were able to give their percentage a boost as a result. Damien Mann finished with seven goals while Lochie Farrell kicked four in a best on ground effort. Others to perform

well were Dylan Farrell, Matt Van Schajik, Drew O'Brien and Keegan Tullett.

O'Brien rounded out a good Senior debut coming up from the Under 18s, getting in the best and kicking a goal.

It was a similar story in the Reserves, with Trafalgar getting a big win on the board. Under the astute coaching of Brendan Dawson the Bloods were rarely challenged.

Best players were Josh Moore, Christian Berquez, Jackson Noonan, Stuart Hiriart, Rhain Ross and Brodie Burgess who kicked five goals.

The Under 18s got to put their feet up thanks to the bye.

Netball action saw A Grade get the job done in a competitive outing. Dani Davies and Tara Potts performed well, as did Abbey Sneddon.

B Grade was also victorious, winning 61 to 47. Best on court was Lucy Findlay, Sophie Farrell and Cass Wass.

C Grade didn't have the same result, but found honest efforts from Cass Fry, Emily Sneddon and Shae Handley.

The Under 17s took some learnings out of their game. Lexi Farrell, Brandi Kink and Matilda Matthews collected the awards. Under 15s won 36 to 29 with Hannah Davies, Layla Makepeace and Lilly King prominent. Under 13s won by some distance. Tahlia Hammond, Virginia Daley and Ella Cosgniff stood out.



Klay Butler played his 200th Senior match for Trafalgar in Round 8. (photo Waragul Drouin Gazette).



Matt Swenson notched up 250 Senior games in the red and white last month.

Past players hold reunion

The Trafalgar Football Club Past Players and Officials Association held their annual reunion luncheon recently.

Players and officials from yesterday gathered for the Bloods home match against Longwarry on June 20.

The event was something of a double-act as last years lock-

down meant a reunion could not be held.

As such, premiership reunions were held for the 1991 senior and reserve teams, as well as the 2010 senior team.

The 1991 season was the first time Trafalgar won seniors and reserves in the same season. Alan Blaser kicked six goals in

the 20.18 (138) to 13.15 (83) win over Mirboo North. Rob Farrell also kicked five goals and league leading goal kicker Shane McGrath four to take his total to 105 for the season.

Some very worthy recipients were bestowed with high honours at the reunion.

Noel Stoneman was made a

life member after years of service. Stoneman played around 200 games for the Bloods from 1956 to 1967. He first joined the committee in 1991 and was president in premiership years of 1994 and 1995.

Stoneman has been a long time supporter and worker for the club and has served on the

past players and officials committee since it reformed in 2009.

The Hall of Fame also welcomed some new members in Adrian 'Ox' Bragagnolo, Geoff 'Spud' McMillan, Ian Gray, Luana Brock, Dave 'Bomber' Dawson and Kerry Malady.

This years Keith Browning Memorial Medal was awarded

to Carlo Minichiello. In a career spanning more than 35 years, Minichiello has been a familiar face on the gate across the decades.



Noel Stoneman speaks after receiving his life membership.



New Hall of Fame inductees Adrian 'Ox' Bragagnolo, Geoff 'Spud' McMillan, Ian Gray, Luana Brock and Dave 'Bomber' Dawson.



Keith Browning Memorial Medal recipient Carlo Minichiello.

By Sue Klemke

Tennis anyone?

The Trafalgar Tennis Club is looking for new members. If you would like to play juniors, seniors, mid-week ladies or night tennis then please contact the club by emailing traffennis@gmail.

Juniors play on Saturday morning in the Baw Baw Tennis Association. The BBTA is made up of clubs from West Gippsland and fields sections ranging from Section 1, the top

section, through to Section 9, the beginner's section.

If you are interested in playing junior tennis, come along to the registration session at the Trafalgar tennis courts (located on Contingent Street) on Friday,

September 3 between 5pm and 6pm.

Tennis is lots of fun, providing you with an opportunity to learn new skills and meet other people in the local community.

How can I book a COVID-19 vaccine in Baw Baw?

The COVID-19 Vaccination Hub has now opened in Warragul.

Visit www.health.gov.au to check your eligibility and see a list of participating GP clinics.

To book a vaccination at the Warragul COVID-19 vaccination hub:

Call 1800 675 398 or Visit portal.cvms.vic.gov.au

Did you know?

Having your first COVID-19 vaccination makes it **much less likely** you will catch COVID-19.

If you are vaccinated you are **unlikely** to pass COVID-19 on to others.

You are **80 per cent less** likely to be hospitalised if you do become ill with COVID-19.