

AUGUST 2020
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Traf News



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NEW MULTI-USE SPORTS PAVILION TO BE BUILT IN TRAFALGAR

By Liam Durkin

Supporting clubs in Trafalgar are set to receive a huge boost, after it was announced last month Baw Baw Shire Council received funding from the state government to construct a new multi-use pavilion at the recreation reserve.

A \$3.2 million pavilion will be constructed roughly behind the current soccer club facilities and will feature female-friendly changerooms and amenities, umpire facilities, storage, dedicated first aid room, boxing gym and social space.

Externally the pavilion will have public toilets, a veranda with outdoor spectator viewing space, a canteen and accessible car parking connecting pathways and landscaping.

The design has been developed with true multi-use flexibility and future planning in mind to service Trafalgar Victory Soc-

cer Club, Trafalgar Boxing Gym, Trafalgar Football-Netball Club and Trafalgar Cricket Club.

Last month's announcement marked a crowning achievement for many Trafalgar Recreation Reserve committees and user groups, who have fought a seemingly never ending battle to bring its facilities into the 21st century.

Countless meetings with council had ensued over the years, with numerous consultations, ideas and data sheets submitted in order to get to a stage where the money needed to complete a project could eventually be accessed.

In breaking the news, council made mention of the collaborative and unifying effort of all user groups and recreation reserve members.

A modernisation of the recreation precinct had its origins way back in 2004, and the work of

a few people is absolutely noteworthy in getting to a stage where construction can now begin.

Particular mention should be made of Dominic and Rosemary Turra, who had decided to sell their family farm next to Trafalgar Recreation Reserve at the same time that the Trafalgar community was negotiating with council to adopt a masterplan for the reserve. (As part of that masterplan, the reserve was to be re-named Trafalgar Recreation Precinct).

The Turra family had opportunities to sell the land at a higher price than that eventually offered by council, but declined such offers as it wanted to see the land used by the community. They did this without knowing whether or not council would eventually purchase the land.

The development of the recreation precinct could not,

and would not, have occurred without the initiative and commitment of the steering committee who were involved in the development of the strategic plan and the purchase of the adjoining land.

The Trafalgar community owes a great deal to the work of Mick Bourke OAM and Peter Williams, who led the process, and were supported by Larry Cutler, Kathy West and Jo Porter.

Their work was subsequently supported by other community members.

Undoubtedly the biggest winners of the new pavilion will be Trafalgar Victory Soccer Club, who will finally have change rooms of their own.

Club president Lachlan Wyatt said a new pavilion had been many years in the making.

"It's something we've been chasing for about eight years so

we're very satisfied that it got over the line," he said.

"There's been a lot of people behind the scenes.

"I've been president for four years and it was in my second week as president I really started making phone calls trying to get this on the agenda, so for me it's been four years of constant conversation but for Mark Judd and some of the other committee members it's definitely been a really long time coming."

The soccer club has well and truly been up against it since moving from Trafalgar High School in 2012, with its state-of-the-art on field facility completely juxtaposed with its ramshackle off field facilities.

"When we came across we were literally just given the two fields and four light towers," Wyatt explained.

"We were operating out of

tents for our canteen and essentially just running cold drinks out of an esky and a barbecue to get by.

"Since 2013 we've been operating out of the old buildings that we had over at the high school grounds as change rooms and that was our toilet block as well.

"We weren't even on the same planet as what everyone else had, everyone had established facilities and everyone had access to some form of showers, we haven't had that luxury in our history.

"We used the footy change rooms which was a nice touch but it's almost indescribable how different it is playing at Traf compared to every other facility.

"It's a really difficult way to operate and it's difficult to convince people to come and play

» CONTINUED PAGE 4



Artist impression of the future \$3.2 million multi-use sports pavilion in Trafalgar.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

In the July edition, I shared an opinion that we need to capture the positive stories of how our community is being resilient in this time of COVID-19.

I would like to shine a spotlight on one of these stories.

Antony and Flower purchased the 'Trafalgar Authorized Newsagency and Lotto' early in 2020 and took full operation just weeks before the government called the lockdown.

The newsagency has been seen as an essential business and stayed opened through out this challenging time, but it can't have been easy. Products have changed with a number of magazine and newspaper titles suspending publishing or ending

production totally.

This hasn't stopped the team for trying to find new streams of revenue with the most colourful being the addition of the sale of orchids among other plants.

But the true secret of success that Antony and Flower have during COVID 19 has been a warm smile and a friendly welcome.

Antony and Flower are welcome new faces to the main street of our town, and have faced the economic impact of COVID 19 bravely, a story worth capturing for the future generations of our town to look back on, when they wondered how 3824 faced this world changing period.

*David "Wombat" Lyons
Trafalgar 3824*

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CNAV
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
the voice of the community
MEMBER 2019

f
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Community Connection

Chris Nott — Sergeant, Trafalgar Police Station

From July 1, you will see more police out and about in the community as part of the CommConnect initiative across the Eastern Region of Victoria.

CommConnect is a different approach to policing. Officers (usually at Sergeant level) will be assigned to engage with key stakeholders in specific sectors

of the Police Service Area, more directly focusing resources to build stronger and more collaborative relationships.

Allocating ownership to a specific supervisor to keep our communities safe will increase presence and visibility and allow police to respond to and focus on victims and people in need in a more agile way.

As part of this process, local police are asking their communities what concerns they have regarding policing in their local suburbs and townships and ways in which police can better connect and support the community to address those concerns.

Each survey relates to a Local Government area, so please feel free to respond to the survey relevant to your area. Please know your information is totally confidential and will not identify you.

If you live in the area of Baw Baw Shire, please visit the below link and complete the short 2 minute survey.

<https://engage.vic.gov.au/victoria-police-community-connection-project/victoria-police-baw-baw>

SCAMWATCH

www.scamwatch.gov.au

Don't get scammed looking for a lockdown puppy

Australians have lost nearly \$300,000 to puppy scams this year, and scammers have been particularly targeting those seeking a furry companion during social isolation.

Scamwatch has seen a recent spike in puppy scams and in April reports were almost five times higher than the average, with losses on track to exceed the 2019 total of \$360,000.

"A lot of people are stuck at home and going online to buy a pet to help them get through the loneliness of social isolation," ACCC Deputy Chair Delia Rickard said.

"Unfortunately the rush to get a new pet and the unusual circumstances of COVID-19

makes it harder to work out what's real or a scam."

Scammers set up fake websites or ads on online classifieds and social media pretending to sell sought-after dog breeds and will take advantage of the fact that you can't travel to meet the puppy in person.

The scammer will usually ask for up-front payments via money transfer to pay for the pet and transport it to you.

"Once you have paid the initial deposit, the scammer will find new ways to ask for more money, and scammers are now using the COVID-19 pandemic to claim higher transportation costs to get across closed interstate borders or additional fees for 'coronavirus treatments'," Ms Rickard said.

"Unfortunately once you make the payments, the seller

will cease all contact."

The most common breeds reported were Cavoodles and French Bulldogs and most people contacted the scammers via an email address they found online.

"The safest option is to only buy or adopt a pet you can meet in person and if you cannot do that during the current lockdown restrictions, consider putting the search on hold," Ms Rickard said.

"Scam websites can look quite convincing, so try not to fall for the adorable puppy pictures they post, and remember, if the price looks too good to be true, it probably is."

"Research the seller by running an internet search using the exact wording in the ad and do a reverse image search for pictures of the specific puppy, as

ACCC

you're likely to be dealing with a scammer if you find matching images or text on multiple websites," Ms Rickard said.

"If you are in doubt, seek advice from a reputable breeders association, vet or local pet shop."

So far this year Scamwatch has received over 2,000 reports about COVID-19 scams and reported losses are now more than \$700,000.

"If you think you have been scammed, contact your bank or financial institution as soon as possible," Ms Rickard said.

More information on coronavirus scams is available on the Scamwatch website, including how to make a report and where to get help. <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/>



Gary BLACKWOOD MLA
Member for Narracan

Contact my office for assistance with any
State Government issue

ph - 5623 1960 e - gary.blackwood@parliament.vic.gov.au
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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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DEADLINE
SEPTEMBER EDITION:

ADVERTISING CLOSING - 12 AUGUST 2020
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Trafalgar motorists reminded to get tested

By Liam Durkin

Drivers entering Trafalgar from the east would have surely noticed the electronic display screen that has greeted them as they make their way through the town recently.

The screen acts as a physical reminder to all passing through about the need to get tested if displaying any symptoms of coronavirus.

Rotating messages simply display the following words: Unwell?/Get Tested/Stay Safe.

The most common symptoms

of coronavirus are fever, dry cough and tiredness.

The most serious symptoms are difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, chest pain or pressure and loss of speech or movement.

On average it takes five to six days from when someone is infected with the virus for symptoms to show, however, it can take up to 14 days.

People with serious symptoms must seek medical attention and always call before visiting a doctor.

ing a doctor.

COVID-19 testing is available at a number of respiratory clinics in Gippsland.

The two closest for Trafalgar residents are in Warragul and Morwell.

The Warragul clinic is located at 197-199 Sutton St and to make an appointment call 5642 666.

The Morwell clinic is located at 185-189 Princes Dr and to make an appointment call 5191 9321



The electronic sign situated on Princes Hwy facing West Bound traffic into town

West Gippsland Hospital staff tests positive

Two of Baw Baw Shire's three coronavirus cases in early July were staff at West Gippsland Healthcare Group, but one was on leave at the time and had had no link to the hospital for a number of weeks.

WGHC announced on Saturday, July 11 that a staff member had tested positive to corona virus. Chief executive Dan Weeks confirmed the third case listed in Baw Baw's weekend statistics also was a staff member.

However, he stressed the second staff member had been on leave since the end of June and had not been at work during that time.

He said it appeared the second staff member had caught corona virus through community transmission and "nothing on the face of it suggests there has been a link to the hospital."

On government advice, Coindra Lodge nursing home was locked down to visitors because of the vulnerability of residents. Testing of all staff was introduced in an effort to retain community confidence in staff.

Mr Weeks said for the protection of the employee, he could not reveal what department the staff member worked in. "The number of people the employee worked with prior to becoming

symptomatic was very, very low," he said.

"We have tested patients who were in hospital when our employee worked prior to becoming symptomatic."

Source: Warragul and Drouin Gazette.

Wally's Words

I went into a shop and I said, "Can someone sell me a kettle." The bloke said "Kenwood" I said, "Where is he?"
— Wally



New podcast series launched

Local journalist Liam Durkin has used the spare time of late to launch his own podcast.

The podcast, started last month, has a focus on telling the stories of everyday people from across Gippsland and aims to provide some insightful entertainment along the way.

With audio the next medium after print, Durkin said delving into the podcast world had been sometime in the making.

"I'd had the idea for a while and it's more or less just been a transition from what I've been doing," he said.

"I had been doing printed interviews for Traf News which people seemed happy to partake in so a podcast was probably the next step."

So far, episodes have featured a number of prominent local identities that many Traf News readers might know.

Episodes are around 30 to 60 minutes in length with a simple back-and-forth question and answer format.

Durkin said early indications had been positive, with the immediate goal now to expand.

"Surprisingly the feedback has been pretty good," he said.

"It's not perfect by any means but hopefully whoever chooses to listen to episodes finds them somewhat interesting."

"I've always been interested in history and think it's important to bring to light where people have been and what they have achieved."

"Everyone has a voice and a story to tell and a medium such as a podcast gives people an opportunity to share it."

The podcast series is available on Spotify and can be found by searching 'The Original Go-

Getting Podcast'.

Available episodes:

- Kevin Hogan: Readers will probably remember the late-great Kevin Hogan as the voice of ABC Gippsland sport. In this episode, recorded before his passing last November, Kevin talks about his career with South Melbourne in the VFL, his time with Sale Football-Netball Club, and his more than 50 year involvement with sport in Gippsland.
- Brian McKenzie: Many Traf News readers may have been taught by Brian McKenzie in days gone by. Away from the classroom, Macca has also been involved with a number of local sporting clubs and was also president of the Gippsland League for a period. These days, he can often be found having a hit at Trafalgar Golf Club.
- Gus Eaton: The former games record holder for the Moe Football-Netball Club, Gus

Eaton played over 300 games for the Lions and is one of the few survivors of the clubs last senior premiership. Gus was also a junior coach for many years and still gets down to most home games at Ted Summerton Reserve.

Brad Law: Those in the local construction game probably know or have worked with Brad Law. As the Law of Law-Somerville Industries, Brad has been at the helm for many years and has also given dozens of youngsters their start as apprentices. His willingness to give back to the community has also seen him serve football, cricket and racing with distinction, as well as his current role as a Latrobe City councillor.

If there are any potential podcast candidates you know of that would make for good listening, please phone Liam Durkin on 0402 556 338.



Local journalist Liam Durkin has started a podcast series. The podcast episodes are available on Spotify.

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» CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
at a senior level without having anywhere to really get changed and have a shower.”

Understandably, the situation has not left a favourable reflection on the club, with Wyatt saying the road had been rocky.

“It led to a lot of off-field battles with us and other clubs and the league,” he said.

“The league had to constantly bend the rules to keep us in because technically, according to the constitution, you need to provide showers and sufficient change rooms for every field you have.

“We were pretty well behind the eight ball the whole time.”

Despite this, the new pavilion should signal the start of a new dawn for the club, with Wyatt believing the benefits would be far reaching.

“We’d like to think it’s going to help us attract more players,” he said.

“Just having an established facility, the fields were always top notch, but I think it’s really enticing as a player to play at places with the best facilities and we’ll be able to offer that.

“Looking at the whole thing

overall I’d say we will have the best facility in the area.

“I’ve always had the view our pitches were the best, and now with the new facility, the lights, the pitches, we’re essentially complete.

“We’ve got everything we need now, so there’s nothing stopping us trying to develop and becoming as successful as we can.”

Another organisation to benefit will be Trafalgar Boxing Gym, who will occupy space in the pavilion.

With a steady and passionate membership, those frequenting the gym will be looking forward to stepping into a new facility.

Boxing Gym representative Sarah Rosse said having a new space would allow the sport to flourish in the Trafalgar district.

“The Trafalgar Boxing Gym is so pleased with the announcement of this new pavilion,” she said.

“Being an all year round sport, a new boxing gym will highlight this sport further within the Gippsland region.

“This new pavilion provides us with opportunities to build our membership base, further

support women’s inclusion in sport and work in partnership with other clubs for collaboration and community events.”

The boxing gym has also been used by Gippsland Power in the past, and this arrangement should be strengthened once boxers move into their new home.

The news was met with much excitement from Trafalgar Football-Netball Club, with a post on the clubs Facebook page describing it as “a great win for Traf”.

“We’d like to thank the Trafalgar Recreation Reserve committee and the other clubs that we share the reserve with on their hard work in lobbying for these upgrades,” part of the post read.

“A big thanks also to the Baw Baw Shire and local MPs for securing the funds to develop sporting facilities in our town.”

Initially the pavilion will help junior football and cricket mainly with storage options, and will eventually be utilised in full once a second oval is completed.

Area to the north of the soccer facility has been touted as the most practical location for a second oval. The space is currently

a paddock and has been used as a car park in the past.

The Trafalgar Cricket Club also welcomed the news on its Facebook page.

“This announcement is a great outcome for the Trafalgar and wider community and importantly each of the clubs of the Trafalgar Recreation Reserve,” part of the post read.

“We look forward to using these facilities in the future which will benefit our members and our club.”

It is reasonably expected a second oval will provide a long awaited turf wicket square for the Trafalgar Cricket Club.

The turf wicket saga, confined to the status of ‘running gag’ at the cricket club for many years, now appears an actual realistic possibility.

Interestingly, club records point to discussions of a turf wicket at Trafalgar from more than 80 years ago.

Players have often joked about exactly what kind of pitch a Trafalgar curator would prepare, with some suggesting they would be entitled to creating at least a few green seamers or ragging turners as retribution.

The pavilion project is being jointly funded by a \$500,000 grant from Sport and Recreation Victoria’s Female Friendly Facilities Fund and the \$2.7 million balance by Baw Baw Shire Council.

The Thorpdale community will also benefit, with funding announced to install new light towers at the town’s recreation reserve.

The new lighting will bring the oval in line with AFL lighting standards and allow local clubs to train and play in a safer, well-lit environment and improve flexibility to take training and matches into the evening.

The new lights should give scope for future events such as the annual Potato Festival to extend into the night with a possible fireworks display.

Baw Baw Shire councillor Darren Wallace said the new facilities would help local clubs thrive.

“Local sporting clubs will soon be able to enjoy new quality and accessible facilities to help them grow and thrive now and into the future,” he said.

Eastern Victoria MLC Harriet Shing congratulated all involved

in seeing the projects come to life.

“This boost will go a long way to support the growing number of people across Victoria keen to get involved in local sport and recreation,” she said.

“The Victorian government is giving communities like ours the facilities they need so more locals can play the sports they love.”

Works will commence following the tender award, with delivery to take place over two years.


All works are due for completion by mid-2022.

For a full history of the Trafalgar recreation precinct, turn to page 23.

Authors note: understanding the sensitivity and longevity surrounding the subject of the above article, every effort has been made to provide those involved with the credit they deserve. My sincere apologies for any oversights.



Baw Baw Shire councillor Darren Wallace, with Trafalgar Victory Football Club vice president Mark Judd, Cr Michael Leaney and Deputy Mayor Peter Kostos holding plans for the new multi-use sports pavilion



Cr Darren WALLACE

East Ward Councillor
Baw Baw Shire

Contact me for all your Local Government Issues
Roads – Rates – Rubbish – Recreation – Planning
ph. 0476 000 053 email. Darren.Wallace@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

I Authorised by D.Wallace 3 Corymbia Crt Trafalgar 3824

Alberts Corner



Our task must be to free ourselves by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature and its beauty. – Albert Einstein



Kennedy – Betty The President, Management Committee and Members of the Trafalgar-Thorpdale RSL Sub-Branch mourn the passing of our esteemed Affiliate Member Betty Kennedy and offer their sincere sympathy to the family RIP

Trafalgar Primary Early Learning Centre ready to go

Local families can look forward to a more straightforward school drop-off with the new Trafalgar Primary Early Learning Centre ready to open for term three.

Co-located at the Trafalgar Primary School, the new centre will provide up to 132 places for

three and four-year-old kindergarten programs.

Councillors, Officers and other key stakeholders recently toured the facility to see the final fit-out of the modular building.

Mayor Cr Danny Goss said that the larger facility is a win for families “As the Trafalgar com-

munity continues to grow, having a larger facility like this is a great win for local families with the high school, primary school and now the Early Learning Centre all conveniently located together on School Road.”

The State Government provided \$1.8 million towards the

centre as part of the 2018-2019 Children’s Facilities Capital Program Major Grants.

The Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA), with the modular buildings arriving onsite in December 2019, delivered the project.

Council contributed a further

\$150,000 in funding to construct eight additional car parking spaces and \$85,000 towards completing the kindergarten fit-out.

Mayor Cr Danny Goss continues “We’re also pleased we’ve been able to fund the additional car parking upgrades to the site

and the final elements of the building fit-out that will see this project through to completion.”

Staff have been moving from the old kindergarten during the July term break ready to commence delivery of service from the new building.



Trafalgar Primary Early Learning Centre is open.



Cr Michael Leaney, Cr Darren Wallace, Deputy Mayor Cr Peter Kostos, Mayor Cr Danny Goss and Cr Mikaela Power tour the new Trafalgar Primary Early Learning Centre.

All abilities adventure playground for Blue Rock Lake

All abilities adventure playground will soon be built at Blue Rock Lake in Willow Grove, one of the region’s most popular fishing spots.

The \$325,000 project will be delivered in partnership by Southern Rural Water and Baw Baw Shire Council with funding support from the Victorian Government’s Boosting Recreational Water Use Initiative.

Southern Rural Water representative Terry Clapham stated “SRW is delighted to work with

Baw Baw Shire in delivering this exciting project which will benefit local communities and the many visitors who come to Blue Rock Lake for recreation.”

Works are set to begin at the recreation area off Old Tanjil Road in July and are expected to be completed by September.

The playground will feature equipment for all ages and abilities, including: A triple bay swing set, a large accessible multi-play frame, a maxi slide, sensory features and play panels, two in-

ground trampolines and musical chimes.

The car park, fencing and pathways will also be upgraded to link the toilet facilities and shelter areas to the new playground and increase accessibility.

“We are very grateful for the funding that has made this project possible, which will benefit the Willow Grove community and visitors to Baw Baw Shire for years to come,” said Deputy Mayor Cr Peter Kostos.

“Blue Rock Lake is one of the most popular fishing spots in our region and will now become an even better destination year-round, especially for families and visiting groups. It will be the perfect place for visitors to stop for a break on their way to explore the region, or stay for a day of fishing, boating or kayaking on the lake.”



Visit the **St Joseph’s School - Trafalgar** Facebook page for a virtual video tour

Enrolment Packs available at the school

Please contact the school for a personal tour

Phone: 5633 1151

Email: principal@trafalgar.catholic.edu.au

www.trafalgar.catholic.edu.au





IT’S TRUE

Croatia was the first country to recognise the USA in 1776

Save the date for Council pop-up sessions

A new series of Council pop-up sessions are about to get underway. All community members are welcome to attend and will be able to meet with and share any ideas or concerns they might have with Councillors, members of the Executive team and staff. Council pop-up is an outreach program that aims to bring Council closer to communities in both rural and major townships. The sessions offer an open-communication platform for

community members to discuss ideas, ask questions and provide feedback directly to Council. East Ward Cr Darren Wallace said “All community members are invited to come along to Council pop-up sessions and ask any questions they might have. Each session is a great chance for us understand the key issues and opportunities in communities across the Shire, especially those beyond the major town centres.” Originally planned for earlier

in the year but postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions, Council pop-up will visit Yarragon on Monday 7 September. Physical distancing measures will be in place at the session to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all attendees. No appointments are required, however, all attendees will need to provide their contact details on arrival.

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 2021 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. 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

Community Bank grand helps clean up dust at Trafalgar Men’s Shed

Stephanie Paul

The Trafalgar & District Community Bank has once again demonstrated its support for local organisations by providing a new \$23,000 grant to Trafalgar Men’s Shed. Phil Drummond, Branch Manager, Trafalgar & District Community Bank said the Shed continues to be a vital meeting place for local men and facilitates creative activities which enhance physical, emotional and social-well-being, something which has never been more important than in the current environment. “By supporting the local Men’s Shed, Trafalgar & District Community Bank is supporting an important local institution that is making a real difference to many men’s lives - young and

old.” Eric Johnson, President, Trafalgar Men’s Shed, said he was very thankful for the new financial support given to the Shed by Trafalgar & District Community Bank. “This \$23,000 grant has enabled the installation of a new dust extraction unit which will create a dust-free workplace for the 35 or more volunteers that regularly make use of the space to make and fix all sorts of useful items for the local community,” Mr Johnson said. “The Trafalgar Men’s Shed is mostly a woodwork group, but since relocating into our new shed in Wellington Street, we can now also offer metalwork, welding and computer training.



Eric Johnson, President, Trafalgar Men’s Shed, Corrie Koppen, Shed Secretary, and Phil Drummond, Branch Manager, Trafalgar & District Community Bank.

Crime rate increases

Yvette Brand

Complacent attitudes towards locking vehicles and homes is being blamed for continued increases in crime statistics across Baw Baw police service area, particularly thefts from cars. Crime Statistics Agency figures released in mid-June showed a 7.5 per cent increase in recorded offences for the 12 month period ending 31 March. There were 4838 offences recorded for the period, up 7.5 per cent from 4502 for the same period last year. Two positive results were in crimes against the person which dropped 7.6 per cent and family violence incidents were down 10.5 per cent. Warragul senior sergeant Peter Shallard said the family violence unit had been in place in Baw Baw for several years and was working closely with victims. He said their work, particularly in targeting recidivist offenders, had driven the statistics down which was a positive result. The two hotspot areas continue to be thefts from cars and burglaries. Thefts from cars was the highest recorded offences with one third of the total thefts being thefts from cars at 558 offences. The statistics showed a 19 per cent increase in thefts from 1263 to 1508 compared to the previous 12-month period, while bur-

glaries increase a massive 69 per cent. Up from 314 to 533. Sen Sgt Shallard said community members were complacent and needed to be re-educated on the need to lock their vehicles, garages, sheds and homes. “It’s not an issue that we as police can deal with on our own, we genuinely need the community to do more. “If the community isn’t prepared to help us, we are fighting a losing battle. “We get sick of seeing the statistics and it’s frustrating that the overwhelming number of thefts are unlocked vehicles. “People are targeting these vehicles because they know they aren’t being locked. “Offenders move around at night targeting unlocked vehicles, garages, sheds and even houses. Its not opportunistic, it is absolutely targeting unlocked vehicles and homes,” he said. Total crime across the region has more than doubled in the past 10 years, jumping 148 per cent since 2011 when 1946 offences were recorded. The breakdown of offences across the three main towns was 2035 in Warragul, 1431 in Drouin and 372 in Trafalgar. More than 1400 of the offences occurred at homes, while 682 occurred on a street or footpath and another 242 in driveways. Sen Sgt Shallard said the up-

Review of speeding hotspots

Yvette Brand

Speed limits at a “dangerous” intersection in Trafalgar are finally being reviewed. Local police, Baw Baw Shire Council (council) and Trafalgar residents have been calling for safer speed zones at the eastern end of Trafalgar for years. The Princes Hwy intersection at Davey Drive has been deemed an accident hot spot by police who said it was a “dangerous area” that was monitored closely. Regional Roads Victoria (RRV) has announced it will review speed limits at the eastern end of Trafalgar, on both east and west bound lanes. Transport Department regional director (eastern) Sara Rhodes-Ward said the organisation knew the community shared its concerns about some drivers failing to obey posted speed limits along the Princes Highway, at both the Davey Drive and Anzac Road intersections. “We’re undertaking a speed limit review around these intersections and we’ll keep the community informed as we progress through this process,” she said. The department’s speed limit review includes a proposal to extend the existing 60 kmh speed zone in the vicinity of Davey Drive. Currently, west bound traffic drop from 110kmh to 60kmh 200 metres east of Davey Drive. A ‘60 ahead’ advisory sign is located 500 metres before the intersection but there is no 80kmh transition. A serious collision at the intersection in March has heightened community calls for something to be done.

Baw Baw highway patrol leading senior constable Mark Hrynyszyn said police were concerned motorists using the Davey Drive intersection were at high risk of being seriously injured or worse because of vehicles exceeding the speed limit travelling west bound. “We have raised concerns with VicRoads over this matter and have advocated for this to be completed as priority. This is a dangerous area and as such we monitor it closely.” Leading sen const Hrynyszyn said the area was constantly policed and he was disappointed motorists continued to disobey the speed limit. “We will continue to prosecute offenders found flaunting the speed limit. “We want vehicles approaching the intersection to be well and truly under the speed limit by the time they get to Davey Drive and fully support the reduction in speed limit getting pushed back as far as needed to achieve this. “If this saves one person from serious injury or worse, it’s worth it,” he said. The Trafalgar Chamber of Commerce and Industry also has called for community feedback on the matter. Chamber president Scott Draper said the chamber did not have a position but urged Trafalgar residents to have their say. Mr Draper said the chamber had discussed a number of options in the past and a lot of ideas had been put forward including removal of the railway crossing at Davey Drive, a roundabout and traffic lights. He said it needed to be 60km/hour on both east and west bound lanes in that area. While the road is managed by RRV, shire community infrastructure director Cohen Van der Velde said council had lobbied for a speed reduction at the intersection. Mr Van der Velde said council wrote to RRV in July last year requesting the east bound speed limit be reduced from 80kmh to 60kmh and an 80kmh transition be introduced on the west bound lane. He said crash history at the site showed a fatal collision at the Princes Highway/Hardy Drive intersection in July 2016, and a serious injury collision at the Davey Drive intersection in November 2017. “Council is committed to reducing road trauma throughout the shire, and our advocacy is based on the crash history,” he said. The speed limit review process involves several stages and will include engagement with key stakeholders, technical assessment and various levels of approvals, which may take up to several months before a resolution is reached. A range of factors will be considered including pedestrian and vehicle numbers, road design and the type of road, the local environment and crash history when undertaking a review of a speed limit. The community can provide feedback to the department via: easternengagement@roads.vic.gov.au Source: Warragul Gazette

Frank Gridley

Mens Shed welcomes defibrillators

Trafalgar & District Community Bank and Trafalgar Rotary have supplied defibrillators for Trafalgar, Thorpdale and Yarragon. The Men’s Shed have placed them at Trafalgar Hotel and Thorpdale and Yarragon Bakeries. The De-

fibrillators are alarmed for security and available in emergency. Trafalgar Men’s sheds monthly meeting welcomed Mr Gary Blackwood as our guest speaker. Mr Blackwood spoke on several subjects, electricity future, v-line rail transport,

country fire brigades, COVID-19 virus relating policies for Gippsland constituents. The members had a very interesting question and answer session on all subjects, we all thanked Gary Blackwood for his interest.

The shed had a grand opening of our dust extractor unit. The extractor is working well and will be a big contributor to our members health. The opening was conducted by Mr Gary Blackwood and Mr Phil Drummond of Trafalgar & District Community Bank. The Trafalgar Men’s Shed thanks the Trafalgar & District Community Bank for the assistance to obtain the extractor. The Trafalgar Men’s Shed is still open and sanitized daily so we hope to continue with local jobs to work on. Visitors are always welcome on Mondays and Wednesday’s between 9.30am and 3pm.

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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

May as well be here we are as where we are -Australian Aboriginal saying

AROUND THE HISTORICAL Society

No sooner had we begun the return to our usual activities than life turned upside down again with a further lockdown. The Annual General Meeting for the Trafalgar & District Historical Society is normally held in August, but at the June General Meeting it was decided to postpone this until February 2021. Until then, working bees will continue where possible and hopefully the August General Meeting will proceed on August 20 at 2pm in the old Kindergarten building. Research can be undertaken if it is relevant to the local area, although a small fee of \$20 is requested. The collection of photos the Society holds is large and copies can be made, again for a fee. A number of shops in the town have some of these prints on display. The latest edition of the Gazette is now on sale and can be purchased for \$4 from the Post Office, the Newsagency and Ed-Comp Computer Services. The

Gazette has an interesting article on Mt Speed Quarry which has been a major employer for the district. Well worth a read! Should you wish to contact the Society, you can call Jean Huffer who is our Archivist on 56331960 or 0438090338. For membership details, contact Glenys Ralls on 0427331594

July 2020 95 \$4.00

IN THIS ISSUE

The Mt Speed Quarry Trafalgar

Job Wilson with Wheelbarrow. Circa 1920. Hoppers, (holding bins) built by Tom McCrorey. (Photos courtesy of the Wilson Family)

Funny Sign

Trafalgar Holden Museum

car of the month...

Bob Moss

2005 HOLDEN SPECIALVEHICLE COUPE

The HSV Coupé is a high performance iteration which was produced by Holden Special Vehicles from 2001 to 2006. It was originally based on the Monaro V2 series but did not carry the Monaro name.

As in the case of the Commodore-based HSV sedan range, the Coupé's body was built at the Holden manufacturing plant in Elizabeth, South Australia, and then transported and modified at HSV's Clayton production facility.

The initial range consisted of two models, the GTO and GTS, which were differentiated by

their engine and exterior design. The entry-level GTO was originally powered by a 255 kW (342 hp) Chevrolet LS1 V8 engine, whereas the GTS had a Callaway C4B V8 engine rated at 300 kW (402 hp)

In May 2004, HSV launched the new luxury-oriented Coupé4, which was essentially a modified GTO fitted with HSV's first all-wheel-drive system and cost \$89,950. Due to powertrain limitations, it was powered by the older 270 kW (360 hp) LS1 V8 engine. The all-wheel-drive system was developed in-house by HSV.

Conjecture surrounds the total number of Coupé4s built,

claimed to be 134 units (28 Series III models; 106 VZ; 6 pilot cars) of which 20 were exported to New Zealand.

The Z Series facelift of October 2004 aligned the GTO's engine output to the other HSV Z Series models. It featured a 6.0 L; 364.1 cu in (5,967 cc) LS2 V8 engine, rated at 297 kW at 6,000 rpm and 530 N of torque at 4,400 rpm also found on the C6 Corvette, a boot-mounted fuel tank, dual exhaust pipes, new bonnet scoops, and revised manual and automatic gearboxes.

In line with the announcement made by Holden in July 2005 about the Monaros end of production, HSV again released

a GTO LE from April 2006

The Signature Coupé (with a total production of 70 units), was announced in July 2006 and for sale in August 2006. This model would be the last Monaro GTO and last two door coupe' manufactured in Australia. This signature model retailed for \$83,990 plus on road costs when new and gained HSV's top of the line AP racing brake package sunroof and unique paint scheme as standard. In recognition of the significance HSV also reversed the order of build numbers with the last signature Coupe off the manufacturing line receiving a #1/70 rather than HSV's conventional numbering

system.

The VZ Sedan's production started August 2004 and ended on July 2006 but the Utility model continued till August 2007 and the panel van to September 2007

Sales of the VZ failed to match those of the preceding VE due to rising fuel costs and the increasing sales of small cars.

Currently there are two of these cars on display in the Museum.



Brock lives on at Traf

Michelle Slater

The King of the Mountain lives on at the Trafalgar Holden Museum with a display of cars that were driven by the late and great motoring champion Peter Brock.

The museum is borrowing a selection of five classic cars driven by the nine-time Bathurst legend, which are on loan from the collection of motoring fan Terry Dowd.

Trafalgar Holden Museum president Neil Joiner said the collection represented a "nice snapshot" of Brock's motoring history.

"These cars hold a lot of significance and we are pleased to have

been offered them," Neil said.

"It makes for an interesting collection and an important part of motoring history. He was such an Australian icon."

The display includes Brock's first-ever "paddock bomb", an Austin 7 that he bought for five pounds and learned to drive around his parent's farm as a youngster.

It also includes the first car he ever raced, an Austin A30, in which he took out the original donk to install a Holden 186 engine that was so big that he had to cut out the firewall to fit it in.

Brock's famous Torana which took him around to win the 1974

Australian Touring Car Championship is on show.

Neil said one of the more significant items was an FX Holden, which Brocky raced at Goodwood in England in 2006, the same year he was killed in a car crash, as well as the EH Holden that he had planned to race in the UK the following year.

"The fact he was a Holden man adds so much more significance for us here at the Holden Museum," Neil said.

"And the fact Peter Brock and Holden are no longer with us is a sad state of affairs, and it adds so much more interest to the collection now that Holden is no longer."

Neil said he hoped the Brock collection would be at the Trafalgar Holden Museum for at least the rest of this year.

Source: Latrobe Valley Express



Paying homage: Trafalgar Holden Museum president Neil Joiner with Peter Brock's famous Torana



Austin 7: Peter Brock's paddock bomb as a kid, believed he was driving at age 8 or 9. He chopped the body off with an axe and removed the brakes



1964 EH Holden: This car was being done up to be raced at Goodwood for the year 2007, but Peter Brock passed away before its completion

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XU1 Torana: The legendary Peter Brock won the Australian Touring Championship in 1974 driving this now iconic car
Photo credits: Photos by Hayley Mills

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RSL continues live Facebook streaming

Mark Walsbe

During the Covid pandemic, Trafalgar-Thorpdale RSL has started successfully live streaming Friday at 5pm to their Facebook page.

The doors are now open for Friday sippers again to members only, numbers inside the hall are limited with seated service.

The live streaming gives the community a way of staying in touch with the RSL, without having to attend.

Over the last few months, the RSL has had special presenters discuss various topics. Former

Royal Australian Navy Sailor service member Marcus Barker explained the White Ensign and the different cap badges that you may see.

RSL memorabilia officer and former Australian Army service member Chris Johnson talked about military families, and RSL affiliate member Kathy Geisler presented the RSL charter, which established the RSL.

President of the Trafalgar-Thorpdale RSL Ray James OAM has also covered many topics, from different uniforms, hats

and caps to the crosses of remembrance and lest we forget crosses.

During August, 2020 the RSL will be live streaming on every Friday at 5pm, also Saturday 15 in remembrance of the end of World War 2 and Tuesday 18 for Vietnam Veterans Day.

The local community is encouraged to follow the Trafalgar-Thorpdale RSL Facebook page, tune in to the live feeds and more.



Kathy Geisler discussing the RSL charter



Marcus Barker displaying the White Ensign flag

Bunnings decision undermines regional communities

A decision by Bunnings to discontinue selling timber sourced from Victorian Forests will cost local jobs and undermine employment in regional Victoria.

Shadow Assistant Minister for Forestry, Gary Blackwood said the decision was premature given that a court case that lead to the decision by Bunnings was subject to appeal.

"Bunnings has shown they are happy to walk away from Victorian timber jobs based on a court case which I am reliably told is subject to an upcoming appeal.

"Their discontinuation of all timber supply from VicForests before that process is complete

is a knee-jerk reaction that will have significant ramifications for our regional communities, local harvesters, contractors, haulage and machinery operators."

Australian sustainable forestry is certified with the worlds largest certification scheme, Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). Most Australian Forestry practices are readily available online or by enquiry, with complete transparency. Yet Bunnings seems to have abandoned Australian integrity for extreme green environmentalism.

"Victoria has world leading harvesting and management practices and by potentially mov-

ing to less regulated markets, Bunnings is telling consumers they would rather cheaper products that helps their bottom line, than Victorian product that supports local jobs" continued Mr Blackwood.

"As Victoria battles with COVID-19, recovers from drought and bushfire, now more than ever Victorian retailers should support Victorian suppliers.

"It is a very sad day when a company the size of Bunnings is influenced by a handful of inner-city Greens and prepared to undermine Gippsland jobs before a full appeal by VicForests is concluded," said Mr Blackwood.

Some businesses must deny entry to city visitors

A Gippsland eatery took to social media last month to advise customers that it will be denying entry to people from metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire, it states.

"We will be adding the taking of post codes to our COVID admin and may require proof of residence by way of ID (driver's license)," it advised.

"We are still able to seat 20 people from regional Victoria."

The denial of entry by businesses to those from the lockdown zones seems to be a little-known requirement under new directives.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services website, business owners outside metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire who run a business that is restricted inside these areas "have additional responsibilities".

These business owners must

use reasonable endeavours to satisfy themselves that their customers do not live in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire, it states.

This can be confirmed using a driver's license or other relevant forms of ID. Dining establishments will continue to be required to record the name and phone number of customers and staff who stay longer than 15 minutes.

A local barista said they became aware of the new requirement and was certain her staff had been following the new rules.

"We know about 99 per cent of our customers, and if we don't recognise them we engage them in conversation to establish where they are from and ensure all the COVID requirements are met," she said.

"On Saturday we had one family from Melbourne who

were returning home from holiday.

"They established where they had been holidaying and where they were returning to. So all the record-keeping was done. "Especially people we don't know, we talk to."

Victoria Police can issue on-the-spot fines of up to \$1652 for individuals and up to \$9913 for businesses for refusing or failing to comply with the emergency directions, refusing or failing to comply with a public health risk power direction or refusing or failing to comply with a direction by the Chief Health Officer to provide information.

Fines of up to \$20,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for businesses are possible through the court system.



Business owners outside metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire who run a business that is restricted inside these areas must use "reasonable endeavours" to satisfy themselves that their customers do not live in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire.

Students create visual art masterpieces

Trish Mulqueen – Principal St Josephs Primary School

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School has introduced an Accelerated Visual Arts program to build on students' personal learning. The aim of this program is to provide specific students, who have been identified as having strength in Visual Arts, the opportunity to increase their skill

development and explore their creativity.

Selected students are invited to join a weekly session of 1 hr duration over a period of 5 weeks. In these sessions the students make choices about what they want to explore and create.

The teacher/ mentors act as

facilitators and are accessible for skill development and discussions about the specific artwork or needs when required.

Students decide what they want to create and how they will go about doing so. Research using their Chrome books and iPads is encouraged. They might work on

one piece for 5 weeks or different artworks over the 5 weeks.

A portfolio of visual art skill development will be kept as a resource for each student to use as they see fit.

The aim is for students to free up their own ideas and not feel the pressure to follow a prescribed

art lesson. This class is designed to build their confidence and trust in themselves as artists and learners and therefore confidence in their ability to learn and be proud of their own abilities.

Rather than producing a wonderful piece of art these classes are designed to build students

who are proud of themselves and their own creativity.

Building self worth, resilience, persistence and the desire to challenge themselves and explore ideas is the goal.



Grade 3 student Aiden with his spectacular visual arts creation



Kai from grade 5 hammers away at his project



Grade 5 artist Owen, is sanding off his project



A Mack Dog masterpiece by Kody in grade 6



For Micab in grade 5, visual arts is 'bear'able



Senior students Kody, Oscar and Josh creating together

New youth and family worker at the Anglican Church

Sue Jacka

The Trafalgar Anglican Church welcomes Prue Cavanagh, who will be working with our children and young adults. Prue comes from Warragul and has a passion for work with

young people.

Prue has had experience at Forest Edge camp in Neerim East and brings lots of energy and passion to both Jaffas; our after-school program for primary

school aged kids on Wednesdays and Youth Group; for high school aged young adults which meets on a Friday evening.

We look forward to her time with us.



Prue Cavanagh the new youth worker at Trafalgar Anglican parish

Scouting returns to Trafalgar

Rick Bradley

First Trafalgar Scout Group were able to open their doors to face-to-face Scouting again in July, after 4 months.

We are only allowed 20 youth in the hall under the current regulations, so scouts are meeting on a Tuesday and Thursday evening at

their usual time, as there are over 30 scouts in the Troop.

Joey's and Cubs are at their normal meeting times on a Monday evening.

Over the lockdown period Scouting in general turned to Zoom to engage their members

in online Scouting. 1st Trafalgar Scouts were no exception with a good response from all sections. The youth were often set tasks to complete and then show the rest of the section what they had achieved in subsequent 'meetings'.

During a Joey's meeting we had them wash their hands before entering the hall. A special hand wash was given to them once inside. It glows under a special torch to show them the parts of their hands they missed.

With all sections growing in

numbers we are always looking for adults to help out either as a leader or just an adult helper. If you are interested then email gl.1sttrafalgar@scoutsvictoria.com.au

We are also taking Joey's 5-7 years old and Cubs 7-10 years

old. The Scout Troop is at the maximum given the number of leaders available.



Joey Scouts were practicing good hygiene by washing hands before entering the hall



A special handwash that glows in the dark to show the Joey's how much of their hands they missed

Newly appointed school leaders

Sonia Lombardo

It is with great excitement that all students recommenced on-site learning at St Joseph's, Trafalgar.

Our new student leaders are Charlie Donald, Tayla O'Neill and Patrick Kennedy who are proud to be chosen to lead our school into Term 3.

At St Joseph's senior students have the opportunity to lead the school and this provides a chance to show their individual strengths and leadership skills.

Our school also warmly welcomes Sabrina Shaw, our newest Learning Support Officer. Our students have already introduced themselves to Sabrina and helped her to settle into her new role.



Term 3 appointed school leaders Patrick Kennedy, Charlie Donald, Tayla O'Neill



St Josephs new Learning Support Officer Sabrina Shaw

Ruth's selfless gift of life

Without even knowing it, Trafalgar's Ruth Fozard gave a selfless gift of life when she died in January.

Ruth died suddenly following a cerebral brain haemorrhage. Her husband Michael and family were in shock.

But, they had an opportunity to ensure Ruth could continue to give a gift of life through organ donation.

June 15 would have been Ruth's 70th birthday. In celebration of her life, Michael wanted to share his last journey with her in the hope it will inspire others to consider organ donation.

Ruth and Michael had more than 55 years together. As with all marriages, he said they had their good times and bad.

"The sudden death of Ruth was a shock but an awakening to the fragility of life and it's unpredictable," he said.

Michael and Ruth, who own Fozigobble Café in Yarragon, had been to an appointment with their bookkeeper on 16 January.

At 4.15pm Ruth began to feel unwell. She had some pain in her head and was finding it hard to communicate.

Michael rang triple zero and an ambulance arrived within 10 minutes. She was taken to West Gippsland Hospital where she underwent brain scans.

By 6pm, the emergency department doctor explained to Michael there was nothing they could do to save Ruth - the bleed in the brain was too massive for any chance of survival.

"After some minutes the doctor asked me about my feelings on organ donation. Under the circumstances I immediately said that I would.

"Ruth and I had discussed the subject on a number of occasions and we both saw it as a great gift for a person. But like

many we had not registered our interest or desire to be organ donors," he said.

Ruth was transferred to St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne to allow for the organ donation process.

Michael sat with Ruth. "The hardest thing was that as I was sitting at the bedside, Ruth was on a ventilator and was breathing and her body was warm."

"Looking at her I felt that she was just asleep. It was now Friday 17th January and it had been a roller coaster ride."

The Donor Life personnel met with Michael to explain the process and support him through the next stage of his journey.

"As time went on I was reflecting on our life together and the good times and the challenging times.

"Ruth was my 'rock' and she never gave up on me but sadly I was now in a position of confusion. All I could do was hold her hand and hope in some way we were still connecting.

The operation to remove her organs was scheduled for the following day.

"The care and understanding of all the staff at the hospital was amazing and very supportive of my state of mind.

"I was fortunate in that I was still able to hold her hand, see her breathing and run my fingers through her hair. It was a long goodbye, but then the time arrived for me to say farewell to a great person and one that gave everything to me and the world at large," he said.

So began Michael's next experience with Donor Life and the process that followed.

Shortly after, he received a letter from the group thanking him and the family for the gift to a number of recipients. Also included was a print of Ruth's hand

and two lockets of her hair.

The letter thanked them for Ruth's gift of organ and tissue donation.

"On behalf of these recipients and their families, we would like to once again thank you and your family for your kindness and generosity in providing the opportunity of improved health and quality of life through the gift of organ and tissue donation.

The adult lady who received Ruth's liver is making a slow but steady recovery and remains in hospital. She has weathered a few setbacks but remains extremely grateful to Ruth and your family for your generosity

"Ruth's corneas were donated to two adult women who lived with severe vision impairment. They are both now doing very well and are extremely grateful for the gift of restored sight and for the ability to lead a life free from the restrictions of impaired vision," the letter said.

The letter gave Michael and his family comfort. Donate Life regularly contact him, to check in on him and provide ongoing support.

"It is a simple process to give the gift to those in need and you will also reap the benefits of such a decision.

"Life can be uncertain but we can all make it better and longer in, other ways by registering to be a donor is one such incredible way of achieving this," Michael said.

Source: Warragul Gazette

Ruth Fozard, who died in January was an organ donor. Her husband Michael has shared the story of her death and her donation



Probus welcomes new members

John Attwell

The Probus club is still in hibernation but we are still keeping our contact with members alive and well. The important thing for all members is to keep in contact with family and friends and Probus members are good at that.

We welcome into the club several new members who had

completed their admission process but could not be formally inducted. These new members are - Merv Moon, Bob and Wen Venables, Kaye Moore, Pamela Moore, Tom and Pam Pinkerton and Mick and Carol Bourke. Welcome to all and we will complete the formal induction when meetings start up again.

Our July monthly newsletter, with six pages, has gone out to members and it makes excellent reading with a few stories, jokes and news.

It is good to see that our Community Bank is still open for business and keeping up it's good work in the community. The Bank has again supported

our club with sponsorship of our newsletter, which it has done for several years now.

It is so important to us so that we can still keep our newsletter going and get out to members even in this period of difficult times. Thanks to Phil Drummond and his team.

Our Committee met in late

June in the club rooms and members were sitting at a safe distance in a circle to hold the meeting. President Carol Achterdenbosch chaired the meeting with 13 members of the Committee present to discuss how we can prepare for the future of Probus.

It was agreed that it will be

some time before normal activities can resume and we will meet again in September to assess the situation.

We hope to be able to hold a picnic or BBQ in December at a suitable outdoor venue.



Peggy Fisher, Lyn Jones, Deirdre Crawley, Joan Hobson, Glenda Jones and Ros Mynard



Frank Achterdenbosch, Carol Achterdenbosch, Elly Fallon, Tina Phipps, and Bob Jones

KEEPING OUR
LOVED ONES SAFE
KEEPS US TOGETHER

It's up to all of us to keep our friends and families safe.

- No more than 5 visitors at your home.
- Outside the home, families and friends can meet in groups of up to 10.
- If you do have to see people, keep your distance. No handshakes or hugs. Maintain good hygiene. Don't share food or drinks.
- If you're feeling unwell - you must stay home. Don't visit friends and family. Don't go on holiday. Don't go to work. Stay home.

And if you have symptoms - get tested.

This is a wake up call. We cannot be complacent.

STAYING
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US TOGETHER

For details go to vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS

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Reflection

Rev Sue Jacka

Many of us have been taken aback by the racism shown by a few throughout the pandemic. If you were to ask most Australians if we are racist, we would answer, "Of course not!" This answer is a little simplistic ; it's only true for conscious acts of hatefulness toward a person of a different

race. I have come to realise there's a much deeper level of racism over the worldwide Black Lives Matter campaigns and the ensuing disputes about statues of people now seen to have been racist. This has been in Gippsland too, with controversy over whether to remove statues commemorating Angus McMillan.

Why keep statues that condone the genocide of our first nations peoples? But should they be removed since they do tell at least part of our story? There is a need to tell our history honestly, with both aspects being taught to our children. We should be celebrating that our indigenous history is the oldest living culture, far sur-

passing the ancient Egyptians and Sumerians – yet little is taught about this in our schools. Prejudice can be built into a society's systems and structures because of such silences. Disadvantage and difference become normalised. The COVID period of remote learning has highlighted the differences in outcomes for

those who have computer and internet access and those who don't; often indigenous and migrant families have been severely disadvantaged. I would hope that the Australia of the future is a more equal land where all people are treated with respect. Let us then not become complacent when racist speech or

actions occur, but acknowledge when we speak from a position of privilege. And those McMillan statues? Rather than tear them all down, I'd like to see narrative signage which gives the whole story.



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

The Trafalgar & Yarragon News, August 1930

7 August 7 – Cows Like Music

A dairy farmer in Gippsland has installed a wireless in his milking shed, and is fully satisfied with the results of his experiment. He says the only time the herd refuses to respond to the music by an increased flow of milk is when static comes over pretty bad. If his idea catches on with the cow cockies of Gippsland, the wireless is in for a big boost.

Police Practice Shooting

On Monday last district police assembled at Moe and tried their hand at revolver shooting, the performances being of a high standard. Firing at a small bulls-eye at 20 yards, Constable Suckling of Trafalgar secured a score of 48 out of a possible 50.

Cards and Dancing

Another of the series of euche parties and dancing was held in aid of the Catholic Church on Monday evening last. Visitors were present from many parts of the district. Dancers had a thoroughly enjoyable time, the music and floor being excellent. A splendid supper was also provided.

Community Singing

Great success attended the initial effort of the Mothers' Club at the Yarragon School in community singing. The hall was well filled and the singing commenced punctually. The audience soon recovered from their initial shyness and it was not long before all were joining lustily in the well-chosen popular chorus songs such as "Two Little Girls in Blue", "Good Old Jeff", "Swanee River" and "Kentucky Home".

The Gippsland News, August 1960

4 August – Trafalgar On T.V.

Trafalgar will be in the T.V. headlines next Sunday when ABC Channel 2 will film the Trafalgar Car Club's Hot Rod and Mud

Scramble. A very large and enthusiastic crowd is expected to be in attendance at the new track which is situated off Kenny's Road, east of Trafalgar. Many drivers have been cleaning, painting and polishing their Hot Rods for this occasion.

Trafalgar Youth Club Meets

The monthly meeting of the Trafalgar Youth Club was held at the clubrooms on Monday. It was decided to conduct a grand annual display night during Community Youth Club Week when the public will be invited to witness a display of physical training, marching, etc.

Enjoyable Cabaret Ball

On Friday night last, the Trafalgar Infant Welfare and Kindergarten Committee held in the public hall, what they hope will be an annual event – their "Kindergarten Capers Cabaret Ball". It was a most successful night, both socially and financially. Paintings by the children of the kindergarten decorated the hall and many a laugh was had at this great show of contemporary art.

18 August – Action Needed

The almost total disregard on what is right and what is wrong by some of our more youthful members of the community calls for some action by the proper authorities. In particular we refer to the numerous up and coming "Marshals Dillon's" we appear to have in this town.

As if roads are not numerous and wide enough, many of these riding enthusiasts appear to take special delight in riding their stately steeds along the footpaths of our streets and nature strips. Isn't it time someone did something to enforce the rules of the road for horses as well as motor vehicles? We well remember a little persuasion by means of the introduction of a little leather – both by boot and strap – which did much to permanently win the respect of certain authorities in years gone by. Would the same tactics not have a similar effect today.

25 August – Narracan Shire Young Farmers Club

A very interesting and informative talk by Police-woman Senior Constable Jones of the Victorian Police Force, who is stationed in Morwell, was enjoyed by members of the Narracan Shire Young Farmers Club at their last meeting held in Trafalgar.

Senior Constable Jones explained the duties of policewomen, of which she is one of 50 in Victoria, and related experiences both amusing and sad. The meeting prior was followed by a visit to Giles' butcher shop where members were shown how to break-down a bullock.

This was ably explained by Messrs. Ken Giles and Barry McGrath. The annual snow trip was held on Sunday last to Mt. Baw Baw, when members who attended had a good day in the snow.

Traf News, August 2002

August – Brigade Celebrates 75 Years

On Saturday 13th July 2002, the Trafalgar Urban Fire Brigade celebrated its 75th anniversary at a function held at the Trafalgar Bowling Club in Seven Mile Road which was attended by over 90 people.

Captain Danny Mynard welcomed members, their families, and invited guests to this special occasion in the Brigades history. The night was a great success with historical photographs shown and service awards presented to members including two Life Memberships – one to Robert Tattersson, (30 years) and the other to Benjamin Rowney, (54 years). The Brigade was established in 1927.

Community Bank

Bendigo Bank has accepted our submission for the establishment of a Branch of Bendigo in Trafalgar. The work will now kick off for the Committee and we seek any other interested party to be part of this very exciting project. The next step will see us looking for a location, due diligence process, and the formation of a company structure.

Construction Of Skate Park

Construction of the new skate-park to be built behind the Baw Baw Technology Centre in Trafalgar is due to start this month. The project will cost an estimated \$90,000 (\$132,700 today).

The State Government's Sport and Recreation Department has given the Baw Baw Shire \$50,000 (\$73,700 today) for the skate-park with council adding a further \$40,000 (\$59,000 today).

Football Juniors Community Service

A different approach to football training was taken recently by the Trafalgar Fourths

(Under 16) football team when its players made their own way to the top of School Road to the Davey property for a day of firewood cutting.

Our local butcher and football legend, Greg ("Bags") Lincoln dropped a large dead tree, cut some of it up and the boys got stuck into splitting and stacking the wood. "Bags" organised team contests such as cross-cut saw races and log carrying up and down the hills.

The boys cut, stacked and delivered over 12 cubic metres of firewood during the day. The wood was then distributed throughout the community free of charge.

Church News

There was a good deal of Rev-elry at the Criterion Hotel in Trafalgar on Thursday night, July 24. The Rev Judy, the Rev Tom, and the Rev Marilyn were dining out with a large gathering of parishioners from the three congregations. People from Trafalgar and surrounding towns saw nearly 100 people chatting and laughing away, with the atmosphere revved up for a good night out.

Everyone agreed that the ecumenical movement in Trafalgar and district is alive and well and that we should make sure that we get together again – maybe next winter.

CHURCH SERVICES

CATHOLIC PARISH

Father Bernie Krotwaar, Phone 5633 1166



St John's Trafalgar, 54 Waterloo Road

Vigil Mass: 6pm (Saturday)
Saturday Night Mass: 6.00pm
Sunday Mass: 10.00am (2nd/4th Sunday)
Weekday Masses: 9.30am (Tuesday to Friday)

St Jarlath's Yarragon, Rollo Street

Sunday Mass: 10.00am (1st/3rd/5th Sunday)
Transport availability, Neighbourhood Outreach, Home visiting
Please phone Julianne now at the parish office on 5633 1166

UNITING CHURCH

Rev Helen Prior, Supply Minister
Phone 0401 911 124



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 Sue Jacka, Phone 5633 1021
0409 757 170 or tulycavan@dcsi.net.au



St Mary's Church, Trafalgar

Sundays: Holy Communion and Sunday School 9.30am
Wednesdays: Holy Communion, a quiet service 10am
Cuppa and conversation 10.45am
JAFFAS after school program 3.30 - 5.30pm

St Mark's Church, Thorpdale

First Sunday of the month:
Breakfast after service 8am
St Mark's Church, Yarragon
First Sunday of the month: Service 8.30am
Other Sundays: Holy Communion 8.30am
Tuesdays: JAFFAS after school program 3.30 - 5.30pm

THORPDALE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH

Rev Frank Lees,
Phone 5634 6413 or 5633 2758



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



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.

Council Meetings

The next Council Meeting will be held from 5.30pm on **Wednesday 5 August** at the West Gippsland Arts Centre. The purpose of the meeting is to hear submissions relating to the draft 2020/21 Annual Budget and revised Council Plan.

Members of the community are welcome to attend, however, registration is required. All meetings are live streamed via the Council website.

To register go to bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/Council-Meetings

Careers

Working with Council offers diversity and inclusiveness, career development opportunities, and a flexible and satisfying work environment. See current vacancies on the Careers page on Council's website.

Contact us

You can contact Council via phone on **1300 229 229**, via email at bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au, on social media or via Live Chat on our website.

Sustainable Living Guide Available

Council has released a Sustainable Living Guide, which includes practical information to help you achieve a more sustainable lifestyle.

The guide covers a range of topics, including:

- Building and renovating
- Energy and solar
- Transport
- Waste
- Water
- Garden design and growing produce.

For a copy of the guide please visit the **Environment, Recycling and Waste** page on the Council website.

Information sessions for prospective 2020 Council election candidates

Local Government Victoria will host mandatory online training sessions in August for prospective candidates. In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, prospective candidates must complete this mandatory training to be eligible to nominate for the election with the Victorian Electoral Commission. For more information visit bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/candidatetraining

In addition to the mandatory training, there are a variety of optional information sessions for candidates available.

Stand for Council
Monday 10 August, 10am – 12pm
Friday 14 August, 10am – 12pm

Hosted by the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), the free online sessions will provide prospective candidates with information about the role and purpose of Local Government, the responsibilities and expectations of a Councillor, and the electoral process.

Register at bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/candidatetraining

Women Leading Change
Thursday 6 August, 6pm – 7.30pm

Hosted by the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA), this free online workshop is designed for women considering running for Council and candidate development.

Register at bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/candidatetraining

Candidate Information Sessions
Wednesday 29 July, 9am – 11am
Monday 24 August, 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Hosted by former Baw Baw Shire Mayor Ruth McGowan, the free online workshop is designed to assist participants from diverse backgrounds with information on how to plan and deliver a campaign ahead of the election.

Register your attendance via email to governance@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

Maternal Child Health Appointments

Appointments at our Warragul, Drouin and Trafalgar centres are now available.

There is to be one parent/ carer plus child per appointment. Families are asked to wait in their car until the nurse calls them.

If you or any member of your household is unwell (fever, sore throat, runny nose, cough, shortness of breath), or has been in contact with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 please contact the team on 5624 2540 to reschedule your appointment.

COVID-19 Community support hub

A dedicated online information hub has been established on Council's website to house all useful COVID-19 related information including changes to Council services and information to access support.

Help to stop the spread

Wear a mask when you are outside your home and you cannot physically distance.

Stay safe by washing your hands, keeping at least 1.5 metres from other people, and staying home if you feel unwell.

If you have any COVID-19 symptoms, no matter how mild, you should get tested and stay home.

The Gippsland Primary Health Network Warragul Respiratory Clinic, at 197-199 Sutton Street, is one of six Respiratory Clinics across Gippsland where you can get tested.

To make a booking, visit the Gippsland Primary Health Network website gphn.org.au or call 5642 6666.

Immunisation session times and locations

Warragul
15 August, 9.30am – 11.00am

Drouin
3 August, 9.30am – 11.00am
12 August, 4.30pm – 6.00pm

Trafalgar
25 August, 5.00pm – 6.30pm

For location information and what to bring to the session, please visit the Council website.

Have your say, Baw Baw!

Have Your Say is an opportunity to provide your thoughts, feelings and ideas on a range of Council projects, strategies, policies and activities.

To view the current consultation opportunities go to bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay

Your East Ward Councillors

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

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

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

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Influenza and shingles vaccinations

By Elle Crighton, Nurse Practitioner and Midwife



Vaccinations have been available for over 200 years. Vaccinations significantly reduce the burden of disease, world-wide. Immunisation programs prevent 2.5 million deaths each year worldwide.

Australia has a compressively funded immunisation program which we should all be very proud of; amazing outcomes have been achieved with some diseases no longer present in our communities or occurrence of presentation of these diseases is very rare.

The National Immunisation Program is a schedule of immunisation given at specific times from birth to adulthood. The National Immunisation Program funds influenza vaccination:

- Children 6 months-4years; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 6 months and older; Pregnant women; Adults 65 year and older; and People with a chronic condition which increases the risk of influenza disease, severe asthma, lung or heart disease, diabetes or low immunity.

All people over 6 months of age are recommended to have the influenza (flu) vaccination each year. Flu vaccine does not protect against COVID 19, but it does reduce the risk of influenza, flu can be fatal so think about getting your annual flu vaccine if you have not already. Private flu vaccination is now available at Trafalgar Medical.

Herpes Zoster (Shingles)

The National Immunisation Program funds Zostavax (zoster vaccine) to help prevent herpes zoster (shingles). Since 2016 person aged between 70-79 can access Shingles vaccine free.

Shingles occurs when a person has previously had varicella (chicken pox) and there is a reactivation of varicella -zoster virus. Shingles often presents with a very painful rash. The rash usually has multiple vesicles in the same area. The vesicles/pustules are raised which have a sac of clear fluid, they can appear like a blister. The painful rash is referred to as post-herpetic neuralgia, this affects the nerve fibres and skin.

Often people describe the neuroglia pain as burning, stab-

bing or shooting pain. The neuralgia pain often lasts longer than rash. Some people experience the rash resolving and the neuroglia pain lasting for 1-2 months or longer than 1 year.

The current evidence suggests the incident of shingles increases with age, as does the serious complications such as post-herpetic neuralgia. Those who reach the age of 80 have a 50% chance of developing shingles. Having the shingles vaccine reduces the risk of developing shingles by 51% and the reduces the risk of neuroglia pain by 67%.

The shingles vaccines is contraindicated for immunocompromised people, if you are unsure regarding the contraindication ask your Doctor, Nurse Practitioner or Nurse.

Zostavax is a live vaccine. Zostavax is formulate on the varicella (chicken pox) immunisation .

Zostavac is 14 times stronger to boost the immune response. The immunisation is a single dose of zoster vaccine. There is currently no recommendation for a booster vaccine.

Treatment

Herpes zoster (Shingles) is a viral infection and there is no cure for the infection.

If the rash develops seek medical advice in a timely manner. Depending on the clinical presentation your Doctor or Nurse Practitioner may prescribe antiviral medication for shingles within 72 hours of the rash appearing. Current evidence does suggest a reduction in pain and duration of the rash if the medication is commencing within 72 hours of shingles, blister rash appearing. Rest as much as possible.

Simple pain relief may help,

regular paracetamol or aspirin. Avoid overtreating the rash with creams.

Is herpes zoster (shingles) contagious?

Yes, but is only considered mildly contagious. Shingles will only be spread if someone has direct contact with the fluid inside the shingles blister.

Trafalgar Medical is locally owned and managed, we have appointments available every day and are taking new patients. We are again offering face to face consulting for those who do not have any symptoms of COVID-19 or you can have the option of a telehealth consultation.

Please call 5633 2211 to make an appointment or book an appointment online with Hotdoc or via our website www.trafmc.com.au . We also have a Facebook page which provides updates.

Farming News

VFF backs calls to support poultry farmers

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) is backing calls to support contract poultry farmers who are under extreme price pressures from processors and the supermarkets.

VFF president David Jochinke said that although chicken was the most popular protein choice for Australian consumers, the popularity on dinner tables was not benefiting contract growers.

“We know Australian’s love a cooked chook but the growers simply aren’t seeing any benefit at all from the increase in demand,” he said.

“In the last decade the price of lamb, beef and pork has steadily risen but the retail price of chicken has been flat.”

According to ABARES, between 2008 and 2017 the retail price of chicken decreased from 551c/kg to 534c/kg, while beef, lamb and pork all rose.

“The problem is twofold. On the retail front supermarkets are keeping chicken prices low, while the closure of a number of Victorian processors has limited competition and choice for growers. The situation really is dire for a large number of growers,” Mr Jochinke said.

The ACCC recently indicated they would look into complaints of an unfair trading environment in the chicken meat industry but the VFF believes this does not go far enough. The VFF is backing the call for an ACCC inquiry into the poultry meat industry.

“Let’s not beat around the bush on this. We know there are serious competition issues in the chicken meat industry and it’s time for the treasurer to bring in the ACCC to investigate,” Mr Jochinke said.

Murray Basin Rail Project an opportunity to boost

rural jobs

The Victorian Farmers Federation says the Murray Basin Rail Project (MBRP) is a critical opportunity to fill the rural job void created in Victoria as of result of the COVID-19 pandemic and is calling on the Victorian government and the commonwealth to deliver the project originally as promised.

VFF grains group president Ashley Fraser said research conducted by the Grattan Institute highlighted that rural Victoria and in particular the Mallee electorate has been hit hard by job losses recently and he says building the project would not only boost rural jobs, but also help position agriculture to lead the economic recovery.

“Now, more than ever, the Murray Basin Rail Project needs to be delivered as originally promised,” he said.

“Rural Victoria is crying out for major infrastructure projects to stimulate the economy and provide much needed local jobs. This is a nation-building project and a no-brainer to give the green light.

“This project is also key to unlocking the agricultural potential and prosperity of North West Victoria and Sunraysia and will help Victorian agriculture and the grains industry lead the nation’s economic recovery.”

Mr Fraser said the VFF was promised the standardisation of the Sea Lake and Manangatang lines in 2014 and is deeply concerned about the potential impact for farmers and industry in the region if the works aren’t completed.

“We supported the project as it was slated in 2014 and we support it today, but that support is for the full project as promised, including the standardisation of the Sea Lake and Manangatang lines,” he said.

“Failure to standardise the Sea Lake and Manangatang lines

would effectively isolate them from the rest of the Victorian and interstate network, including the Inland Rail, which goes against the benefits of the entire project.

“The Murray Basin Rail Project was always about growing capacity, improving efficiency and providing better access from Victoria’s key grain and horticulture growing regions to major ports. We must not lose sight of this and now is the time to do the job properly.”

Indonesia-Australia trade deal provides savings for dairy exports

All tariffs on Australian dairy exports into Indonesia will eventually be scrapped as part of a new economic partnership agreement between the two countries, providing millions of dollars in savings for Australia’s dairy industry.

The Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA), which comes into force today, will build upon the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agree-

ment (AANZFTA) by immediately removing existing tariffs on skim milk powder, whole milk powder and grated and powdered cheese. Remaining tariffs on liquid milk will also be phased out by 2033, giving Australian dairy a competitive advantage over major dairy competitors in that market.

Importantly, the agreement will also address non-tariff measures. Peak dairy industry body, the Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC), welcomed the deal, saying it will create a closer relationship with one of Australia’s largest trading partners.

“As Australia’s close neighbour with strong existing ties with our dairy industry, launching IA-CEPA will enhance the naturally emerging opportunities that are presenting themselves in Indonesia,” ADIC chair Terry Richardson said.

“This is a positive result for the Australian dairy industry and we thank Trade Minister Simon Birmingham and the Australian government for delivering this outcome.”

The IA-CEPA and AANZFTA will together provide an estimated saving of over A\$10.5 million

in tariffs that would otherwise be levied on Australian dairy exports to Indonesia if neither agreement was in force.

Indonesia is a large and growing importer of dairy that is becoming more important for Australian exporters, ranking only behind Greater China and Japan as Australia’s third largest dairy export market on value terms.

In 2018-19, Australia exported 56,647 tonnes of dairy to the Indonesian market, valued at A\$192 million.

Border restrictions on Victoria

As the states borders were shut down last month, VFF president David Jochinke had this to say:

“Following announcement by the Premiers of NSW and Victoria regarding border closures between the two states, the VFF commenced urgent conversations with Ministers and government agencies in both states to ensure this decision does not impact our industry or supply chain,” he said.

“We have been in constant

discussions with the Cross Border Commissioner, the Minister for Agriculture in Victoria, her office, Agriculture Victoria and our counterparts at NSWFA.

“The NSW Health Minister issued a Public Health Order in which agriculture and freight for commercial purposes will be allowed to move, freely, across borders.

“While a permit will be required, VFF is pleased that agriculture is specified in the Order.

“Our industry is a critical service and this is clearly acknowledged in this Public Order.

“In the meantime, we have also focussed on the tightening of restrictions by South Australia and are seeking urgent clarification on this matter.

“Our industry is a critical service.

“Importantly given the circumstances more broadly for Victoria, it is our industry that will be pivotal to the economic recovery of our state.

“Victoria’s regional economy is worth \$76 billion. Our overall importance in that context must not be underestimated.”

August is Dental Health Month

Dr Gee Tawfik



It’s that time of year again!

We’re lifting lips, wiping aside whiskers, peering at pearly whites, gawking at gums, checking cheeks and monitoring mouths.... It’s Dental Health Month!

During the month of August we’re promoting awareness of dental health in our companion animals. We’re offering Free Dental Health Checks* and discussion about how to optimise your pet’s oral health.

Did you know that dental and gum disease is closely linked to other diseases of the body. Bacteria in the mouth can enter your pet’s circulation through a dis-

eased mouth. They flow through the bloodstream and lodge in the tiny blood vessels of the liver and kidneys. Sometimes, they can lodge on the fine valves of the heart and grow in colonies, causing the heart valves to become thickened and scarred.

According to the Australian Veterinary Dental Society, more than 80% of dogs and 70% of cats over the age of three years have dental disease. The disease process most commonly identified is periodontitis (inflammation of the gums and tissues around the teeth). What are you doing to protect your pet’s dental health? There are many options available to support and care for the teeth and gums in dogs and cats, so even the fussiest pet will surely find something suitable.

Clinic Cat Pumpkin has already had his dental check. He was a little disgruntled, but sat very still and was quite patient for his examination. Pumpkin has a history of dental disease

and in June this year, he went under a general anaesthetic for a full clean and polish. Since then, the team here have managed Pumpkin’s dental health through the regular use of Greenies and Hills TD (“tooth diet”) dry food. This month Pumpkin has scored highly on his dental health check sheet and will continue to be spoilt with plenty of Greenies treats to chase around the waiting room.

Your pets oral health is an important part of his overall health and wellbeing. Our vets are available this month for dental health checks to help identify any early problems and help your pet with a plan to promote optimal dental health.

* Please note, free dental check involves visual examination and dental care discussions without sedation. Procedures and treatments are not included in the free dental check.



Trafalgar Mobile Library still mobile

Emma Faucett

- How to borrow - Holds can be collected from the mobile library, or our mobile library staff can select items from the shelves for you. Some wait times may apply during busy times while Lynn serves each patron. The library is operating on it’s usual schedule.
- Is casual borrowing/brows-

ing available - Browsing is not currently permitted on the mobile library, however it is available in our physical library branches.

- How to Return - Items can be returned to the mobile library. All returned items will be quarantined for 72 hours, so there will be a delay in

items being removed from patrons cards.

- Are we still delivering to vulnerable patrons - West Gippsland Libraries is still offering our home delivery service for our patrons who are unable to access the library. This is a range of hand collected items picked by staff

members and sent via Australia Post. For further information, contact the Northern Mobile on 0408 595 296 or see our website for details wgrlc.vic.gov

- Tech advice - WGL is now offering over the phone Tech Talks for advice on how to use our e-resources (such as

audio books and online resources). A 20 minute phone call can be booked with a librarian who will talk you through using our services.

- Online services - The library is offering online Storytime, Baby Rhyme Time, and STEM sessions for children. These are regularly published on

the West Gippsland Library Facebook page and website. We also feature author talks, sustainability sessions, book reviews and staff interviews.

The above information is correct as of 16 July, unless the state imposes further restrictions in the coming weeks.



Fill in all the squares so that each column, row and each of the nine 3x3 squares contain all digits from one to nine.

Easy								
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Traf Victory to play in GSL

by *Nathan Weatherhead*

Trafalgar Victory FC will be embarking on a new journey this season when they return to the Gippsland Soccer League in 2020.

The club has been around since 1996, but was predominantly junior focused, before forming a men's team for the then named GSL.

They competed in the central Gippsland (old GSL) competition from 1996-2012 where their Men Reserves and second division sides won the league titles in that final year.

In 2013 however the club had to either play seniors and reserves in the Latrobe Valley Soccer League, or not play at all, forcing a move into the southern league, which is now known as the GSL today. Mark Judd, a life member and vice-president at the club said that after going back and forth over the last few years, the side is ready to settle in.

"We are really looking forward to joining the GSL again and hopefully having some success. Long term, it's a better fit for us and we ideally want to maintain our juniors, we've seen a couple go to other clubs lately and as a club we want to retain them really," Judd said.

One of the biggest pulls for

the club to return to the GSL has been on field success, often having to compete in the IVSL against bigger towns such as Traralgon, Sale and Bairnsdale.

Trafalgar struggled to match it with their opponents and only managed a few wins between the senior and reserves side, which prompted a change.

"On field isn't the be all and end all, but we do have a lot of young guys playing and losing games, which can be a bit tough on the morale. We struggled to maintain competitiveness in the men's, however our girls were still very strong, finishing top three," Judd said.

The team has this time approached the GSL with the full intent to make the move a long-term transition into the league.

With the side previously having a strong junior line up, Judd said he hopes to see numbers return to the levels they were.

"We've had a strong junior program, but it's dwindled a little lately. Maybe this new league and some on field success will help drive that back up."

The club will also be boosted by the announcement of the plans for a new facility on site, which will see brand new change rooms, amenities and social areas for spectators.

"I think first and foremost this will help a lot in retaining and attracting players to our club. You can't attract quality players if they have to change in their cars or go home after training still muddy," Judd explained.

Now, Trafalgar will be scouting their new GSL opponents, seeing the likes of Drouin, Phillip Island and Inverloch appearing on the new fixture for the side.

They will be fielding two men's teams, a senior women's team, an under 12s junior side as well as MiniRoos, with fingers crossed they will see a full quota of under 16s, 14s and 12s in the future.

"It's very much a developing and growing league and I think it's got real potential. I'm really confident with the move and it's a really good fit for our philosophy of "football for everyone" as a club going forward," Judd said.

While the season was meant to begin on July 26 for juniors, and August 2 for seniors, recent announcements that contact sport will be ceasing for over 18 competitions has caused the GSL to cancel the season.

Despite this, Trafalgar remain excited and ready to take the next step when 2021 rolls around.



Trafalgar Victory Football Club vice president Mark Judd is excited for what the future holds.

Cricket club begins training

By *Liam Durkin*

The Trafalgar Cricket Club commenced preseason training last month in preparation for season 2020-21.

With a state-of-the-art indoor cricket facility now available in Moe, the club made full use of the convenience on offer by booking the venue for some sessions.

The new Moe facility is certainly a welcome luxury, as in years gone by the club has been forced to travel as far as Doveton in Melbourne's outer east to access the same resource.

Speaking at the official opening late last year, former Trafalgar and now Melbourne Stars player Nicole Faltum said the facility would be a great asset to

Gippsland cricketers.

"It's incredible, I am just looking around and I am in awe," she said at the time.

"To have something like this in a rural area is incredible and I think it will be so good for the development of many cricketers to have access to something like this."

The centre boasts five indoor

lanes and also has provision for outdoor turf wicket training to be undertaken.

In line with Covid restrictions, only five people were permitted per lane.

All going well, the cricket season will commence in early October.

The Trafalgar Cricket Club fields both senior and juniors

teams.

New players and families are always welcome.

For more information, join the clubs Facebook group (Tra-

falgar Cricket Club Ships), email trafalgarcricketclub@gmail.com or phone club secretary Liam Durkin on 0402 556 338.



The Trafalgar Cricket Club trained at the new Regional Cricket Centre of Excellence in Moe last month. Former Trafalgar player and current Melbourne Stars wicket keeper Nicole Faltum (right) is pictured with Cricket Victoria chief executive Andrew Ingleton, Eastern Victoria MLC Harriet Shing and Latrobe City mayor Dan Clancey at the official opening of the centre last year (photo Dylan Arvela).

Morrow moves north to get footy fix

Even a border shutdown and worldwide health pandemic has not stopped one local football loving family from playing competitive football this season.

Former Trafalgar footballer Sam Morrow, along with brother Tyler and cousin Ben, have headed up to Port Douglas to play for the local team.

The trio are playing for 'the Crocs' in the AFL Cairns competition, and have settled in after making the journey north. They will be in Queensland for the next three months playing a 14 round home-and-away season and if all goes well, four weeks of finals.

The Morrrows (Ben, Tyler, Sam and Juzzi) were all set to play at Moe this year before the season was canned.

Brothers Sam and Juzzi have both had stints at Trafalgar, Tyler has played for Victoria Country and Ben is a 200 game Moe veteran and former senior captain.

Speaking from Port Douglas, Sam Morrow was good enough to provide a few insights.

(Questions by Liam Durkin).

You blokes must really love footy. How has this all come about?

The week before the Gippsland League had the pin pulled Ben actually hit me up one night after training. His mum had told him Port Douglas were on Triple M promoting the oppor-

tunity to come and play. It was a bit of an offhand remark but little did he realise I'd actually follow up on it a week later after the league was finished. I rang the Port Douglas coach and asked if he needed a few players and he couldn't get enough of us.

How much time did you have to make up your mind before the border was shut down?

The coach rang us and we were still sort of umming and ahing, not sure if we were going to come. He rang us on a Tuesday night and said 'fellas, you'll need to leave tomorrow morning if you want to come and play because the borders are closing at 12 o'clock on Friday'. So we made our decision at 8pm on Tuesday and were in the car at 8.30am on the Wednesday. We beat the border shut down by half a day.

How did you go about letting work know at such late notice?

It was very late notice. I had a few weeks lined up with a shut at Longford so I pretty much had to pull the pin on that just to come up and play footy. We've started to organise some work up here now but it's been a lot of juggling trying to get up here.

If we were to take you back a month

would you have had any intentions of playing footy this season?

We (the Morrow's) always wanted to play this season, we were very excited, very keen to run around and have a kick. Did I think we were going to end up in Port Douglas? No.

So there's no connection to Port Douglas? No family or anything?

None whatsoever. I've been to Cairns once in my life but that's the only time I've ever really had anything to do with the place.

I take it the climate is a lot different, very tropical?

The first game I played was the first time I've ever got sunburnt playing footy. I reckon the game is probably close to 20 degrees warmer than what we normally play this time of year at home.

Have other people from interstate converged on Port Douglas that are keen to play a game of footy?

They were saying we had 10 plus recruits play across the first game in both grades, with another 12 to come in, so 22 players from Victoria are in Port Douglas.

And the old cliché, what's the standard like?

It's definitely a bit more free-flowing than I expected. There's not a lot of stoppages, there's quite a lot of clean football.

The grounds themselves are they comparable to any down here in Gippsland?

They are probably a little bit smaller in size but in terms of ground coverage they are in pretty good knick.

How's the body feel after a game of footy with such a long layoff?

Very stiff. Two days after the game muscles were sore and body was in a fair bit of pain. Obviously not playing for so long it takes a bit to get used to. The sun plays a very big factor up here.

What are the Covid protocols in place for playing footy up in Queensland?

Only 10 allowed at a time in the change rooms. Keep your one and a half metres distance when you're not playing, at breaks and so on. Same as back in Victoria, bring your own water bottle and hygiene is massive. There is quite a few things in place, but they seem to be coping with it. It's second nature to

want and get around your mates but you just have to really bring it to the front of your mind that you need to think about things a bit more.

All this doesn't take away from the physicality on the field?

Not at all. Come siren time it's game on, everything as normal.

Has there been any negativity toward Victorians from other states?

Definitely no prejudice where we are.

Has there been anyone you've bumped into from Gippsland?

Only one so far, Brayden Wilson from Mirboo North.

Now we cant's mention Port Douglas without mentioning its famous golf course. Have you been out for a hit yet?

Not yet (as of July 14) but I managed to snag myself a voucher for 18 holes and a cart so no doubt we'll be having a run around there at some stage.

On a lighthearted note to finish, being an avid Richmond supporter can you

explain where you have been when Richmond has won its last two flags?

There seems to be a correlation with Richmond winning flags and me being overseas. In 2017, I was sitting in the middle of a river in Thailand and I couldn't get to a bar to watch it live. I told everyone 'don't message me, don't talk to me, I don't want to hear a single thing about it until I get back to the pub to watch the replay' and then I came into a reception spot and my phone blew up and I already knew the result before I'd even seen the game. Last year I was in Serbia and managed to get up and watch that one live. It was 5am in Serbia and I made sure I had a beer when the boys got over the line. A little bittersweet on both occasions.

The AFL Cairns competition comprises Cairns, Cairns City, Centrals-Trinity Beach, Manunda, North Cairns, Port Douglas and South Cairns.

AFL players to come out of AFL Cairns include Charlie Dixon (Gold Coast and Port Adelaide), Courtney Dempsey (Essendon) and Che Cockatoo-Collins (Essendon and Port Adelaide).



Wanting to get something out of the season, well known local sparky and former Trafalgar footballer Sam Morrow made the move to play in Port Douglas last month. Photo Credit: Hayley Mills

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Pure trivia from Trafalgar Cricket Club

By Liam Durkin

With the inactivity of late, here are some anecdotes from the history of the Trafalgar Cricket Club readers might find interesting.

First ever game: the first match to involve cricketers from Trafalgar is believed to be a friendly game played against Thorpdale on Saturday, December 8 1888.

Games record: John Asmussen holds the senior games record with 368 and counting. Graeme Rankin holds the A Grade games record with 305.

Inaugural el presidente: the first recorded president of the Trafalgar Cricket Club was Dr Frederick Lloyd, who served from 1893-94 to 1895-96.

Most service: John Weymouth is the longest serving official in the clubs history, with 11 non-consecutive terms as president. Weymouth had two stints in the top job, serving four and then seven seasons from 1947-48 to 1950-51 and then again from 1954-55 to 1960-61.

Exclusive group: across more than 130 years only 16 people have been inducted as life members of the Trafalgar Cricket Club, they are: Richard Errington, John Weymouth, George Browne, Vic Jean, Alan Rankin, Laurie Rankin, Ben Rowney, Raymond Burgess, Neil Grimshaw, Graeme Rankin, John Asmussen, Alan Blaser, Craig Nicholas, Brett Smart, Craig Nielsen and Rod Cheateley.

Here, there and everywhere: the Ships have played in a number of leagues across its history, namely: Warragul and District Cricket Association, Central Gippsland CA, Latrobe Valley and District Cricket League, Moe and District CA, Trafalgar and District CA, West Gippsland CA and Thorpdale and District CA.

More than one Trafalgar: there has been a number of Trafalgar cricket clubs established in the local area. Records show there was a club in Trafalgar East and Trafalgar South. When numbers permitted, there was also two Trafalgar Cricket Club teams that competed in A Grade, one just named Trafalgar and the other named Trafalgar Greens. Trafalgar Blues also competed in A Grade at a time. Believe it or not there was also a Trafalgar Ladies Cricket Club that competed in 1937-38.

A place to call home: the current Trafalgar Cricket Club clubrooms have been in place since the early 2000s. The rooms were purchased from Fowler and Sons and also had a life in the old town of Yallourn previously.

Award namesakes: the club awards the following trophies and medals at the end of the season in honour of various club dignitaries: The Ray Burgess Perpetual Trophy for Best Club Person/s, the Alan Rankin Memorial Trophy for first grade batting aggregate, the Richard Err-

ington Medal for first grade best and fairest, the George Browne Memorial Trophy for club champion, the Ben Rowney Medal for under 16 best and fairest and the Geoff Johns Award for under 14 batting.

200 club: players to have played more than 200 senior cricket matches for Trafalgar are: John Asmussen (368), Graeme Rankin (328), Craig Nielsen (309), Alan Rankin (300+), Laurie Rankin (250+), Alan Blaser (244), Christian Burgess (227) and Vic Jean (220).

Greatest player: Alan Rankin is generally regarded as the greatest player the club has ever seen. Rankin scored 27 A Grade club centuries and made over 10,000 A Grade runs for the club. In total he made more than 60 centuries at club and league level and was selected in 15 All Gippsland XIs.

Quarrets: the most consecutive premierships won by the club in a single grade is four. The third XI won the Warragul and District premiership in every season between 2004-05 and 2007-08 and the under 16s won each season from 2015-16 to 2018-19.

A premiership with pil-lows: in the 1919-20 first grade grand final it was said Richard Errington made a century with pillowes taped to his chest as he had come straight from hospital after having his appendix removed.

Perfect 10: only one player has taken all 10 wickets in an innings in the clubs history, but it was taken on the biggest stage. Lester Tattersson took 10-28 in the 1949-50 first grade grand final against Warragul Blues.

Double tons: there has been four double centuries made by players, all in first grade. They are: Rhys Holdsworth (228), Lester Tattersson (209), Richard Errington (202 not out) and Robert Young (201 not out). David Bremner Senior holds the record for the highest individual score in other grades, with 181 in the thirds.

From forfeit to flag: the 2007-08 season started with a forfeit and ended with a flag for Trafalgar in the thirds. The team won every game after Christmas on their way to the title.

Out of the ground: Keith Alger and Ric Minichiello have reportedly hit the two biggest sixes at Trafalgar Recreation Reserve. Alger hit a six onto Waterloo Rd that landed on the train tracks whilst Minichiello hit a bomb that went over the old ticket box.

Highest score in association history: Trafalgar holds the record for the highest score in the history of the Central Gippsland CA with a mammoth total of 525 against Yallourn Yallourn North in 1997-98.

Lowest opposition scores: Trafalgar has dismissed its opponent for less than 10 runs on three occasions in first grade.

Hill End was bowled out of seven in 1893-94, Yarragon for seven in 1950-51 and Narracan for nine in 1930-31.

Never too old: at 45 years of age, Jasin Hopkins became the oldest person to take a first grade five wicket haul for the club in 2016-17 with figures of 7-30. Billy Pace also brought up his maiden century at 55 years of age in C Grade in 2019-20.

Ships abroad: in the mid-1990s the club jetted off to Fiji to compete in a competition known as the 'Compton Cup'. One can only imagine what went on over there.

Classic catch: whilst there is sure to have been many miraculous takes over the years, the best catch this writer has seen was taken by Brodie Burgess during the 2019-20 season. Playing at Traf on a wet day, Burgess seemed to defy the laws of gravity and intercepted a full blooded cut shot and dived full stretch to his left in gully and plucked the ball out of mid air with one hand. The fridge was well and truly open.

Only one: strangely enough, Trafalgar has only won a single premiership in second grade. Captained by Alan Blaser, the title came in 2004-05 with victory over Western Park.

Three centuries in one day: Trafalgar ended at 4-490 against Newborough in A Grade in 2012-13 with James Blaser (141), Rhys Holdsworth (147) and Brendan Dawson (104 not out) all scoring tons.

Close calls: Trafalgar has become famous for always keeping players and spectators on edge. In the 2000-01 A Grade semi final Trafalgar defeated Morwell by a single run. In the 2004-05 B Grade semi final Trafalgar was 8-67 chasing Drouin's 7-213 but was able to escape with a draw and go through to the grand final after being the higher ranked team. In 2014-15 Trafalgar made finals by 0.093 per cent in A

Grade and went on to win the flag outright.

Main rivals: although they no longer compete against each other, historically Trafalgar's fiercest rival is Drouin, with the hostility stretching back to at least the 1940s. Yarragon is also the traditional rival. Trafalgar has formed rivalries with an 'us versus them' attitude toward traditional powerhouses throughout its existence.

Won outright after losing 6-0: a very strange scorecard against Moe in A Grade in 2013-14 saw Trafalgar win outright despite losing 6-0. After Moe was dismissed for 112 in its first innings, Trafalgar was 4-156 before the last six wickets fell without a run being added. Moe then declared in its second innings with a lead of 126, of which Trafalgar was able to chase down before time ran out in under 30 overs.

Son of God: in a match against Trafalgar, Nathan Ablett made quite the scene by batting in a sombrero.

Finding form: in the 2015-16 B Grade season, Trafalgar had won just four games after round 15. The team then won four of its last five games to pinch a place in the finals.

Prior commitments: in the 1949-50 first grade grand final, Trafalgar player Reverend Bill Morgan was a late arrival to the match as he had been conducting a wedding.

Miracle on grass: Trafalgar pulled off arguably the greatest sporting upset in history in 2012-13 when it defeated seven time reigning premier Moe in an A Grade match with a side that featured four players under 19 and nine players who had played less than 20 A Grade games. The team that went down in club folklore that day was: Jackson Noonan (captain), Graeme Rankin, Scott Moorhouse, Rob McPherson, Co-han Lee, Jacob Baldassa, Damien Mann, Heath Grimshaw, Jayke Atkin, David Bremner Junior and

Liam Durkin.

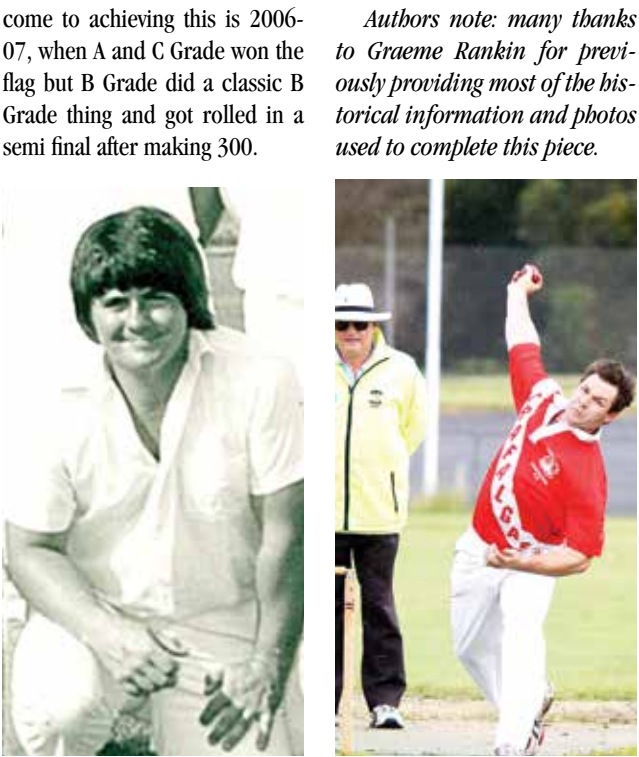
Father and son combine: to this writer's knowledge and research, there has only been one recorded instance of a father taking a catch off his sons bowling in A Grade, which came in 2014-15 when Mark Wynne took a catch off Blair Clymo.

Won premiership without playing grand final: Trafalgar has won four premierships without a grand final taking place. Three have come in A Grade, where the team has been minor premiers, and one in C Grade. A Grade titles have been won in 1902-03 (likely before grand finals were introduced), 1914-15 and 2019-20. C Grade was awarded the premiership in 2019-20 as the higher ranked team.

Still chasing: the one accomplishment that has so far eluded the club has been a clean sweep of premierships from firsts to thirds. The closest the club has come to achieving this is 2006-07, when A and C Grade won the flag but B Grade did a classic B Grade thing and got rolled in a semi final after making 300.

Greatest performance: In terms of winning from the most impossible position, the greatest team performance in the history of the Trafalgar Cricket Club is the 1951-52 first grade grand final against Warragul Blues. After electing to bat first, Trafalgar was bowled out for just 49. Warragul Blues then established a lead of 52, before Trafalgar made 137 in its second innings, led by opening batsman Clarrie Swenson who scored 70. Warragul only needed to chase 86 to win the premiership, but Trafalgar defied all odds and bowled Warragul out for 75 to win the flag by 10 runs. Noel King bowled the Ships to victory with figures of 7-16. Members of that famous team were: George Browne (captain), Col Collins, Graham Johnston, Eric Donaldson, Stan Reagan, Noel King, Reverend Ken Raff, Vic Jean, Ken Smith, Phil Marino and Clarrrie Swenson.

Authors note: many thanks to Graeme Rankin for previously providing most of the historical information and photos used to complete this piece.



Keith Alger is said to have hit a six at Trafalgar onto the train tracks.

Craig 'Olly' Nielsen leads the all-time club wicket aggregate with close to 300 scalps.



Trafalgar and Drouin have locked horns in many classic battles over the years. Pictured is Gary Edwards negotiating Drouin speedster Ben Thomson in the 2006-07 grand final.

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History of the Trafalgar recreation precinct

THE Trafalgar Recreation Reserve received a grant of \$6000 in 2004 from the (then) Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) to develop a plan for the reserve.

The Trafalgar Community Development Association (TCDA), through Mick Bourke OAM as its president, approached Peter Williams, president of the Trafalgar Recreation Reserve committee, to see whether the recreation reserve would consider taking a far-reaching approach to this planning process.

This was agreed to by Mr Williams and DSE.

Subsequently, a steering committee representing various community groups was established, and it went to work undertaking a considerable amount of consultation with the Trafalgar community, and with local and state government agencies.

Indeed, there were endless meetings and discussions with numerous people and organisations over three years leading up to council endorsement of the plan and purchase of the land.

The steering committee involved in the development of

the precinct strategic plan and purchase of the land were: Mick Bourke OAM (chairman), Peter Williams (Trafalgar Recreation Reserve), Larry Culter (Trafalgar Equestrian Park), Joanne Porter (Trafalgar Public Hall) and Kathy West (Yarragon Basketball Club).

Others involved for a short period in 2004 were: Andy Ross (Trafalgar Victory Football Club) and Sally Sewell (Hockey). Later on, Fiona Beckley (TCDA), Lisa Strong (Trafalgar Polocross), Neil Carolyn (Trafalgar Bowls), Luana Brock (tennis and netball), Paul Christian (soccer) and local resident Ian Murphy became involved after the plan had been accepted by council.

Council representatives on the steering committee at various times were Cr David Balfour, Kerry Irwin, Cr John Durrant and Cr Bill Harrington.

After significant community consultation during 2004, the steering committee prepared a 10-year strategic plan for a recreation precinct, which was released in February 2005. This plan was put to Baw Baw Shire Council in April 2005, with a

recommendation that a more detailed plan occur.

Land adjacent to the current recreation reserve coincidentally (and naturally, very conveniently) became available in 2006. The steering committee made representation to Council in September 2006 for the latter to buy the land. Council needed a great deal of persuasive argument before it decided to purchase the land in the latter part of 2006. Once purchased, council then needed a great deal of persuasive argument by the steering committee to not immediately sell off half of that land to recoup some of the purchase cost.

As an aside, it should be noted that had there been no community recreation plan, the Trafalgar community would have been in no position to put a proposition to Council to purchase the land. The TCDA commenced community strategic plans in 2003, at which it prepared its first plan for the period 2004-07, which identified, amongst other things, the need for future planning of Trafalgar's recreational needs: outcome five-to improve access to, and the standard of,

sport and recreational facilities.

Following the recreation precinct strategic plan, a number of other reports were undertaken, including the Baw Baw Shire Recreation Strategy, the 2030 Trafalgar Land Use Strategy and the Baw Baw Equestrian Strategy. Each of these referenced the proposed recreation precinct in one way or another. A 2014 Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Masterplan was dedicated to the precinct.

Council was approached in March 2007 by Greyhound Racing Victoria (GRV) to see whether it was feasible for a greyhound facility to be built in Trafalgar. Council, primarily through its CEO Glenn Patterson, and the recreation precinct steering committee (which had, by this time, expanded to include Kerry Irwin and David Balfour from Council) worked together to build a case supporting such a facility on the proposed recreation precinct. Unfortunately, the GRV pulled out at the last moment, which had the effect of delaying the development of the Masterplan by 14 months or so. It was very difficult for the community members of the steering

committee during that period as the discussions with GRV were confidential, and therefore, could not be passed onto the broader community.

With the adoption of the Masterplan by the steering committee in December 2008 and its decision to forward the Masterplan to Council for its subsequent adoption, the steering committee decided, in early 2009, that it was appropriate for it to hand over responsibility of the precinct's implementation and management to a committee of management consisting of representatives of the precinct's user groups and the community. This occurred in April 2009.

Particular mention should be made of Dominic and Rosemary Turra, who had decided to sell their family farm next to Trafalgar Recreation Reserve at the same time that the Trafalgar community was negotiating with council to adopt a masterplan for the reserve. (As part of that masterplan, the reserve was to be re-named Trafalgar Recreation Precinct).

The Turra family had opportunities to sell the land at a

higher price than that eventually offered by council, but declined such offers as it wanted to see the land used by the community. They did this without knowing whether or not council would eventually purchase the land.

The development of the recreation precinct could not, and would not, have occurred without the initiative and commitment of those people who were involved in the development of the strategic plan and the purchase of the adjoining land, in particular Mick Bourke OAM and Peter Williams, who led the process, and were supported by Larry Culter, Kathy West and Jo Porter.

Their work was subsequently supported by other community members.

The Trafalgar community is indeed indebted to the tireless work of all who have pioneered and lobbied to see the modernisation of the recreation precinct come to fruition.

New Gippsland cricket club formed

By Liam Durkin

AN exciting new venture in local cricket was given the green light last month, with Yarram and District affiliating with the Traralgon and District Cricket Association.

The new south Gippsland club has been created by amalgamating all clubs that competed in the Alberton Cricket Association.

In its heyday, the ACA had close to 10 clubs, with the competition comprising Devon, Devon North, Tarraville, Bingenwarri, Yarram Colts, Toora, Welshpool, Woodside and Won Wron.

However, dwindling work opportunities and an ageing demographic in the area meant that slowly over time clubs struggled to find sufficient numbers.

Recently, things really got a head in season 2018-19, when only four clubs made up the entire competition.

The situation only worsened last season, when the ACA was forced into recess when only three clubs could muster enough players.

Of the three remaining ACA clubs, Devon opted to enter a third grade team in the TDCA, whilst Tarraville and Devon North stood out for a season.

Devon had a successful entry into the TDCA, taking out the premiership last season. Interestingly, Devon also won the ACA premiership in 2018-19, meaning

the clubs last two seasons as a single entity netted premierships in two different leagues.

New Yarram and District Cricket Club president Brett Gay said action had to be taken before cricket in the Alberton region completely drifted off into oblivion.

"The writing was on the wall so we had to do something," he said.

"We've still got a lot of good cricketers around that are enthusiastic so we wanted to do as much as we could to support them and get something going.

"We tried to survive as a five-team comp for a while and then a couple more clubs started to struggle so we had to stop playing."

With Devon already getting a taste for the TDCA, Gay said the Bombes foray had proved the workability of a south Gippsland team playing in the Traralgon area.

"Devon going to Traralgon created a pathway and opportunity for teams to come over and travel," he said.

"In the last 12 months a lot of people have done an enormous amount of work.

"At the Traralgon and District AGM they all voted us in and we're all pretty excited to have a new club.

"We really appreciate Traralgon and District giving us the op-

portunity and welcoming us with open arms."

Fittingly, the Yarram and District Cricket Club will be nicknamed the Pelicans and have blue as its main colour, in keeping with the nickname the ACA team had when it played representative cricket and travelled to Melbourne for Country Week.

The Pelicans will field three senior teams in the TDCA from firsts to thirds and will be based at the Yarram Recreation Reserve. The team will be boosted by the signing of former Rosedale-Kilmarnock and Toongabbie big hitter Anthony Scott, who will be charged with seeing that the new kids on the block are competitive in their first outing.

A number of Yarram-based players wanting to play A grade played in the TDCA last season, and now that there is a club closer to home, the incentive should be there for the club to have strong numbers in all three grades.

Whilst some may wonder how players from the ACA will go transitioning from playing all one day matches to some two day matches, it must be noted that the ACA did play 70 over games not that long ago.

In further good news, the club hopes to have a five turf wicket square installed at Yarram Recreation Reserve.

Club secretary Ashley Taylor

said he had been liaising with various stakeholders.

"I've been in discussions with Wellington Shire and also started communications with Cricket Victoria so hopefully the three parties can come together and find a way of getting a turf pitch at Yarram," he said.

"We're in the process of applying for a grant to upgrade the nets as well to allow for extended run ups."

As sporting teams and mergers in the Alberton region seem to go hand-in-hand, Taylor said all old ACA hostilities had been shelved for the betterment of cricket.

"We had some really good rivalries and battles between clubs down here over the years but everyone's now united," he said. "The one thing was even though we were playing for different cricket teams, we all basically played footy together and socialised together.

"We all know each other away from the cricket field so it was easy to put aside any on field rivalry that there was in the past."

With the ACA dating back as far as the 1830s, the history of all clubs will be preserved with matches played at existing grounds in Tarraville, Bingenwarri, Devon and Alberton West on a rotating basis.

Memorabilia will be kept at the traditional home of clubs,

whilst it is expected the impressive ACA premiership shield will find its way to a permanent display at Yarram Recreation Reserve.

The shield is one of the best in Victoria, and measures over one metre high and one metre wide.

Traralgon and District Cricket Association secretary Nick Scammell said the idea of having a Yarram based team join the TDCA had its origin some three years ago.

"We first met them when the Gippsland Cricket region invited all the leagues to have a chat," he said.

"Within the region there is two strong football sides in Yarram and Woodside boasting numbers in the lower grades."

Once Devon came into the TDCA it was seen as a pioneering move in setting the wheels in motion for what has become the Yarram and District Cricket Club.

Now that Yarram and District has joined the TDCA, the league will be a seven-team competition across all three grades.

In a further show of positivity, the Gormandale Cricket Club has already mooted the idea of playing for a cup when it plays Yarram and District.

It is unconfirmed yet whether former Bingenwarri Cricket Club stars Graeme Stoneman and Ben Doran have been signed by the

new Yarram club.

TDCA clubs:

Ex Students, Toongabbie, Traralgon Imperials, Traralgon Rovers, Glengarry, Gormandale, Yarram and District.

Yarram and District Cricket Club Home ground: Yarram Recreation Reserve.

Grounds of opportunity: Alberton West Recreation Reserve, Bingenwarri Recreation Reserve, Devon North Recreation Reserve, Tarraville Recreation Reserve.

Yarram and District Cricket Club Amalgamates: Devon, Devon North, Tarraville and Bingenwarri Cricket Clubs.

Previous Alberton Cricket Association clubs:

- Woodside Cricket Club (in recess since 2016-17).
- Yarram Colts Cricket Club (in recess since 2018-19).
- Toora Cricket Club (in recess since 2018-19).
- Welshpool Cricket Club (in recess since unknown).
- Won-Wron Cricket Club (in recess since unknown).

Mid Gippy cancels juniors, but some reprieve for Traf teams

By Liam Durkin

The Mid Gippsland Football-Netball League junior competition was cancelled last month.

Junior players aligned to Mid Gippsland and Alberton clubs suffered the same fate as their senior counterparts.

The embattled Alberton League had joined the MGFNL's juniors for 2020, in what was

seen to be a trial run for a potential full-league merger by the start of next season.

Fish Creek, Toora, Meenyan-Dumbalk United, Foster, Stony Creek and Tarwin would have played in junior competitions this season alongside current MGFNL clubs.

A trio of venues had been allocated to host matches across

an eight round season. Given there could not be an even matchup of games due to the reduced number of rounds, the ladder was to be generated based on percentage of games won and not win-loss points.

Mid Gippsland spokesperson Rob Popplestone said that due to concerns about the worsening COVID situation, the decision

was made to quit the season in the best interests of its players, volunteers and parents.

"Sadly, the public health emergency has dramatically worsened," Mr Popplestone said.

"Although, Gippsland is not yet under stage three restrictions, there has been a worrying increase in cases in our catchment of Baw Baw, Latrobe and

South Gippsland.

"Many of our junior teams are members of the Central Gippsland Junior Football League.

"This league cancelled its junior competition due to the worsening situation."

At time of writing (Thursday, July 16), the only league in close proximity to Trafalgar that

is going ahead with juniors is the Gippsland League.

In some consolation, Trafalgar and Yallourn Yallourn North arranged a two match series for its under 18 footballers, whilst Trafalgar's under 17 and under 15 netballers are competing in the Moe and District Netball Association.



Trafalgar Junior Footballers celebrating their premiership in 2019

More league recommendations released

By Liam Durkin

The seemingly never-ending saga of league changes in Gippsland football and netball was again a major discussion point last month, after recommendations from the Gippsland 2025 Strategic Plan were officially released.

The 45-page report from Melbourne-based boutique strategy consultancy firm ColganBauer reached affected leagues and clubs early last month.

The timing of the release of the report raised a few eyebrows, as leagues were grappling with decisions to go ahead or abandon seasons at the same time.

Colloquially known as the 'G25', the main bone of contention from the report was the integration of the Alberton and the Mid Gippsland football-netball leagues to create a 15-club competition in time for next season.

As expected, the report was met with a "you can't do this" response from Mid Gippsland supporters, while Alberton clubs remained tight lipped.

Frustratingly, the proposed merger of Alberton and Mid Gippsland was virtually the same recommendation as the one AFL Gippsland handed down some 18 months ago.

Given that two reviews from two different organisations have concluded that a Mid Gippsland-Alberton merger is the best option for the future of football and netball in the region, many believe the proposal must push ahead.

Alternatively, some believe the AFL Victoria has simply undermined ColganBauer and manipulated a recommendation to

suit their best interests.

In the time since it was first proposed, MGFNL clubs have fought passionately to stop a potential merger with the AFNL and won, while all six current AFNL clubs eventually sought affiliation with the Ellinbank and District league.

The fall-out has left battle scars from both camps, and a potential union could take even more time to come to fruition.

The MGFNL reached a stage last month where it acknowledged it would have to "seriously consider" amalgamating with the AFNL, and given it was willing to incorporate its juniors into the MGFNL, could perhaps be a sign that change is imminent.

It must be noted that the MGFNL had not entirely ruled out helping some AFNL clubs from the start, and had always maintained it was prepared to bring three across.

Should another three clubs join the MGFNL it would take the league up to 12 clubs, thus eliminating the bye created since the departure of Yarragon to the EDFNL.

Given its close proximity to MGFNL clubs such as Mirboo North, Thorpdale and Boolarra, it would appear Meenyan-Dumbalk United, Stony Creek and Foster were clubs earmarked as suitable candidates.

MDU and Stony Creek were both accepted into the MGFL last August before the move was blocked by the AFNL.

The continual toing and froing has clearly not been healthy, and it appears inevitable there will never be a decision that will

appease everyone.

Under the proposed 15-team competition of the merged Mid-Gippsland-Alberton, more teams would have the chance to play finals.

"A final eight structure will ensure more teams play finals, increase the number of finals played to nine – which should also improve the financial health of the competition," part of the report read.

The report forecasted low to no growth in central and southern parts of Gippsland and that "the amalgamation of the two leagues under the Mid Gippsland governance of the MGFNL will improve the financial position for all members".

Naturally, travel was the main concern from MGFNL supporters, although to many this has become a largely irrelevant argument given the majority of players don't actually live in the towns they represent and any player who is keen enough to play for their club is going to travel regardless.

Those making the near two-hour drive from Boisdale to Orbost to play in the East Gippsland FNL will surely be calling double standards.

The ColganBauer report also recommended that divisional football be created in western Gippsland by 2025.

While the recommendations don't affect the North Gippsland league, the report listed shifting some clubs to the NGFNL among changes to be considered in the future.

Internal footy withdrawals

By Liam Durkin

Surely this writer is not the only one who is missing spending part of a Saturday night navigating their way through SportsTG to see what happened across various grades and leagues on a particular round?

Internal dialogue when checking scores generally goes something like "that's a paddlin" upon seeing one team dish out a flogging, "did they get up?", before checking in vein if an underdog team had something to celebrate, or "that's massive for them" after seeing either a slight upset or landmark win in a teams season.

Delving deeper into the finer details of each game, most people would surely think the following at some point: "they must have had a few out this week" after looking at a team list, "surely he's too good to be playing twos" after seeing the same name pop

up weeks on end, and "is he still playing? He would have to in his 40s at least" when seeing that an old but familiar name has drifted forward to kick a cheeky goal.

Speaking of goals, no forward will ever admit it but they all do it, when they check other games to see if their spot on the leaderboard is in danger.

"Am I still on top?", "should stay there for another week, we're only playing such and such", "hopefully it rains when they play a good team".

And of course, everyone knows the best six players listed aren't always the ones that had the most impact.

Scrolling through the best players can often be a painful exercise.

"Don't know what game they were watching", "thought old mate was very stiff to miss out", "seriously, who does the vote cards?".

At least in a couple of months we will be able to resume checking the scores on MyCricket every Saturday night this cricket season...hopefully.

"They are no chance of chasing that."

"Few lbw's in this game."

"How does he get wickets?"

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