

MARCH 2021
EDITION NO. 236
www.trafnews.com

Traf News



PRICELESS



**MENTAL HEALTH
HUB OPEN**

P7



**SIENNA'S ACTS OF
KINDNESS**

P11



**CLYMO WITH THE
BIG GUNS**

P19

NEW ERA FOR TRAFALGAR VETERINARY CENTRE

When veterinarian Dr Gee Tawfik arrived in Trafalgar in 1990 with his wife and two young daughters he was expecting a five year tree change and an opportunity to practise what he loved most – large animal vet work.

That was the promise he made to his young city raised wife. Instead, the warm welcome, the sense of community and beautiful Gippsland surrounds saw Gee and his family settle for the next 28 years and be active community members and add three more children to

their brood.

In July 1991 Dr Gee went into partnership with Dr Peter McCourt and during the next 27 years, they expanded the clinics offering small and large animal care to Trafalgar and surrounding areas. What has been the heart of the clinic is always putting the pets and large animals and their owners front and centre of care.

In 2018 Dr Gee became sole owner and with the support of the team continued quality animal care. He renovated the clinics in Trafalgar and Newbor-

ough, added a distinctive logo that incorporated the heritage of Trafalgar and expanded services however what has always been the success of the practise is never losing sight of what's important.

"The clinic team is passionate about providing the best animal care and we are a work family," Dr Gee said.

"I am proud of the community support we have provided over the last 30 years and last year, the year we never want to repeat again, showed the true strength of the clinic vets and nurses who

worked through the difficulties and challenges and continued to provide the best animal care, day in day out."

After 31 years and at the age of 62, grandfather for the first time to a beautiful little girl, Dr Gee has decided to slow down and pass on the reins to two of his team members Jared Waddell-Smith and Jackson Chuo.

Jared has just entered his 13th year with the practice. Despite his parents wishes for him to return to Tasmania to be their own personal vet, he is excited to continue providing veterinary

care to our local community.

Jackson joined our team in 2018. He and his partner Alinda have loved Trafalgar so much that they have decided to stay. Jackson is a keen surgeon and has been a fantastic addition to our clinics.

"This is an exciting time for my wife and I as I slow down a little, enjoy doing some locum work but hand over the reins to two incredible vets who I know will take the clinic to even bigger and better things," Dr Gee said.

"I may have been the sole owner for the last three years,

however I have never felt that at the clinic – it has always been a team effort, a sense of family and shared vision.

"I am happy and confident in leaving the clinic in the capable hands of Jared and Jackson."

"When my wife and I arrived in 1990 to Trafalgar it was with a firm five year plan. 31 years later, we are finally leaving – this is testament to the wonderful life Trafalgar has given us.

"Thank you to Trafalgar and the surrounding communities for the life we have had."



Well known Trafalgar veterinarian Dr Gee Tawfik has banded over the reigns at Trafalgar Veterinary Centre.



Jackson Chuo has taken over the clinic alongside Jared Waddell-Smith.



Jackson Waddell-Smith has been a vet in Trafalgar for more than 10 years.

23 Middle Road Trafalgar
phone 5633 2076
www.propaintbodyworks.com.au

PROPAIN
bodyworks

INSURANCE WORK BODY REPAIRS
RESTORATIONS FLEET WORK



Strzelecki Realty

Real Estate Agents
77 Princes Hwy,
Trafalgar VIC 3824

Phone: (03) 5633 2858
admin@strzeleckirealty.com.au
www.strzeleckirealty.com.au



AMG ELECTRICAL
0402 949 424

Servicing Your **Electrical** Needs

www.amgelectrical.com.au
Switchboard upgrades, LED Lighting
replacement. Breakdown service 24/7.

Simon James
Plumbing
0499 259 080

Gas appliance repairs

Service and carbon monoxide testing
Taps, Toilets, Hot Water Systems and
all your general plumbing needs.

Local roads set to be resealed around Traf

A total of 148,000 square metres of road surfaces will be resealed this year, after council awarded a tender for the works at its meeting on Wednesday, February 10.

Sections of 16 local roads across the shire will be resealed to improve safety and access for road users as part of council's annual Road Resealing Program.

The contract for the works was awarded to Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd for the total sum of \$930,136.15 (excluding GST), following a tender process in 2020.

The annual program works to

improve road surface conditions by spraying bitumen onto a road pavement and then rolling in a layer of uniformly sized stones to create a new surface.

Asphalt works will also be carried out on five local roads with a total area of 8000 square metres, providing a new 40 millimetre thick surface. The asphalt surfacing works will be completed under Council's Civil Works Contract by specialist asphaltting contractors.

Council allocates funding each year as part of the Capital Works Program for targeted road resealing works. The se-

lected roads are prioritised by road asset condition data and assessed by council staff.

Baw Baw Shire deputy mayor Michael Leaney welcomed the announcement.

"The Road Resealing Program will improve the safety and lifespan of rural roads across the shire, with a particular emphasis on Yarragon, Trafalgar, Darnum and surrounding localities this year," he said.

"Our residents have told us that the quality of our roads needs to be prioritised, and we're working hard to make sure we deliver this."

Resealing works will take place in the following locations:

- Drouin South, Campbell Rd, from Main South Rd to 255m along (end of seal);
- Trafalgar East, Heartsridge Rd, from Millers Rd to North Canal Rd;
- Allambee Reserve, Mirboo Yarragon Rd, from chainage 3490 to chainage 3913;
- Allambee Reserve, Mirboo Yarragon Rd, from chainage 8940 to chainage 9101;
- Narracan, Narracan Connection Rd, from Coalville Rd to Schofields Rd;
- Trafalgar East, North Canal

Rd, from Richards Rd to Embletons Rd;

- Shady Creek, Old Sale Rd, from Honneckers Rd to Yarragon Shady Creek Rd;
- Shady Creek, Old Sale Rd, from Webbs Rd to Beards Track;
- Trafalgar, Old Sale Rd, from Willow Grove Rd to Davey Rd;
- Willow Grove, Old Tanjil Rd, from Willow Grove Rd to Gate/Fence;
- Darnum, Railway Avenue, full length of the road;
- Darnum, Streibergs Rd, from Allambee St to the end of the road;

- Trafalgar, Waterloo Rd, from Goodings Road heading towards Trafalgar for four km;
- Yarragon Yarragon Shady Creek Rd (Yarragon), from Sheehan Road to Sillars Rd;
- Yarragon, Yarragon South Rd, from Yarragon Shady Creek Rd to Murray Rd, and;
- Yarragon South, Yarragon Leongatha Rd, from chainage 8758 to chainage 13566.

Residents located along these roads whose access will be affected during the works will receive a letter from the contractor at least seven days before the works begin.

Farwell to parish leaders postponed

The farewell celebrations scheduled to be held Sunday, February 14 for Sue and Ross Jacka from the Trafalgar Anglican church had to be postponed after the state was placed in a five day lockdown last month.

All going well, St Mary's

church plans to have the rescheduled farewell on Sunday, March 7 following holy communion from 9.30am.

Sue and Ross Jacka have served close to 12 years and shared an extensive ministry to the community.

WIRED ONE ELECTRICAL

- Domestic • Commercial
- Rewires & Additions • New Homes
- Energy Efficient Lighting Solutions
- Installation of TV Antennas & Additional Outlets

Ph: 0427 299 271
Craig McGarrity - wiredelectrical@cloud.com

A Little Patch of Country

Watch our windows for weekly quilt specials! Up to 50% off!

63 Princes Highway, Trafalgar
Ph: 5633 2311

Community shares in \$182,000 of grant funding from council

A number of community groups in Trafalgar and surrounds will benefit from council delivering more than \$182,000 in Community Development Grants to support 35 non-profit organisation, groups, and associations in Baw Baw Shire.

Council endorsed the successful applications at its meeting last month.

Ranging from sports clubs to recreation facilities to community groups, the recipients all share one common theme: their grant funding will go towards projects, programs and equipment that make a positive contribution to our community.

The 35 successful projects were allocated funding across three categories:

Environment: two projects;

Equipment purchases: 22 projects, and;

Minor Capital Works: 11 projects.

All applications went through a rigorous assessment process, being evaluated against funding conditions and criteria, and then scored to determine their success and amount of funding.

Baw Baw Shire mayor Danny Goss wished to congratulate each group on their successful applications.

"Council is proud to support these community projects that will deliver immediate benefits to the groups and organisations that make Baw Baw Shire a better place," he said.

"We look forward to seeing the finished projects and wish all of the successful applicants the best as they begin the delivery

stage."

The successful projects were:

Environment

Committee for Drouin: birds of Drouin and District booklet, and;

Mt Worth and District Land-care Group: Roadside weed control in the Strzelecki Ranges.

Equipment Purchase

3BBR Community Radio; Baw Baw Equestrian Centre: portable cross-country jumps; Baw Baw Food Relief: forklift for backs;

Baw Baw Sustainability Network: tradies trailer and fit out; Drouin Bowling Club: equipment for the Incredibowls and This Girl Can programs; Drouin Cricket Club: live score project;

Drouin Football Club: goal nets project;

Erica and District Historical Society: archival storage; Erica Community Facilities Committee of Management: mow and save;

Fairview Village: art gallery space project;

Gippsland Football Club: moveable Goals - Trafalgar Soccer Precinct;

Hallora Recreation Reserve: mower purchase;

Neerim Memorial Hall Committee of Management: mower; Riding Develops Abilities: IT upgrade;

Thorpdale Mechanics Institute Reserve: replacement of chairs;

Trafalgar Bowls Club: bowling green mower;

Trafalgar Victory Football

Club: portable soccer (Abel) goals;

University of the Third Age: defibrillator;

Warragul and District Netball Association: team uniforms and equipment;

Warragul Swimming Club: sun smart shade system;

West Gippsland Hockey Association: portable scoreboard, and;

Warragul United Soccer Club: new portable goal;

Warragul United Soccer Club: new portable goal;

Warragul United Soccer Club: new portable goal;

Drouin Hawks Netball Club: replacement storage shed - Drouin Recreation Reserve netball;

Ellinbank Badminton: Ellinbank Badminton Club kitchen and clubroom upgrade;

Hill End Mechanics: recladding of the west wall above supper room;

Neerim South Recreation Reserve: storage shed floor;

Nilma North and Lillico Memorial Hall: instant gas hot water kitchen, disability barbecue and concrete area;

Totoora Road Community Centre: refurbish main hall area (floor, stage, and pews);

Thorpdale Recreation Reserve: bringing the nets to life again, and;

Warragul Community House: outdoor deck.

Men's shed back open

By Frank Gridley

The Trafalgar Men's Shed has reopened for 2021.

Hopefully for all the year will be better as last year was a disaster because of the virus. In 2021 we are doing ev-

erything possible to remain open on Monday and Wednesday. The shed has been cleaned and is disinfected, sprayed after use, hand sanitiser is everywhere, and all members have facemasks. Some

of us look better with masks on but your name tends to vary a bit.

The shed is in full swing doing community projects and any requests for repairs to chairs and furniture, we are at present mak-

ing tables and seats for a rail trail that had their previous tables and seats stolen.

During our clean up we found some excess tools and equipment for sale at best offer prices.

We also have an antique six shelf chest of drawers. Anyone is welcome to come and inspect goods on Monday or Wednesdays from 9.30am to 3pm.

We welcomed some new

members last month and if anyone can come and see our shed and have a chat and cuppa you are always welcome.



EVERY TEST HELPS US KEEP CATCHING UP WITH MATES

Every test keeps us on top of this virus.

And keeps us doing the things we love.

So even if your symptoms are mild,

or you've been tested before, every test helps.

STAY SAFE STAY OPEN

For testing locations visit [CORONAVIRUS.vic.gov.au](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au)

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



Traf News

Traf News is a monthly publication aimed at providing news, entertainment and information to the people of Trafalgar.

Traf News is published by Traf News Inc
2800 copies of Traf News are distributed each month

OFFICE

Phone 5633 2591
107 Princes Highway, Trafalgar VIC 3824
Traf News, PO Box 25, Trafalgar, 3824
Email: admin@trafnews.com
Website: www.trafnews.com

Editorial and advertisements can be submitted via our website or by email: articles at articles@trafnews.com and advertisements at advert@trafnews.com

Both editorial and advertisements can be posted to PO Box 25, Trafalgar 3824.

©Traf News 2021

ISSN 1444.1608



MEMBER 2021



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

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.

EDITOR Liam Durkin, Mark Walshe

ARTICLES

ADVERTISING: SALES Shona Vines

GRAPHIC DESIGN Sarah Mangion

FINANCE Reagan Montgomery

DISTRIBUTION/FOLDING

editor@trafnews.com

articles@trafnews.com

0458 563 331

advert@trafnews.com

layout@trafnews.com

finance@trafnews.com

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: John Freyne

VICE PRESIDENT: Vacant

SECRETARY: Tina Hambleton

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Quentin O'Keefe

TREASURER: Rod Cheatley

HR: Tina Hambleton

PLANNING: Vacant

POLICIES: Vacant

COMMITTEE MEMBER: Sue Pye & Tom Pye

ADVERTISEMENT COPYRIGHT

Traf News Incorporated being the publisher of Traf News ("the newspaper") is the owner of the copyright in all advertisements (including artwork) prepared by the servants and/or agents of the newspaper on behalf of its advertisers. Neither the newspaper's advertisers nor any person on their behalf are authorised to publish, reproduce or copy in any manner, any of the said advertisements (including artwork) without the prior written licence of the newspaper.

DEADLINE
APRIL EDITION:

ADVERTISING CLOSING - 12 MARCH 2021
ARTICLES CLOSE - 12 MARCH 2021

Train station investigation launched

V/LINE investigated an incident involving school students crossing the tracks ahead of the 2:24pm train from Southern Cross to Traralgon last month.

The service arrived at Trafalgar on Monday, February 8 at a different platform to the platform displayed on information screens at the station due to a data fault with the information screen system.

Following investigations into the incident, the system was altered and the screens at Trafalgar Station displayed the correct platforms for all trains arriving at the station.

A V/Line spokesperson said it sincerely apologised to pas-

sengers, who were waiting on the other platform and unable to board the service due to the information system fault.

"Safety is our number one priority at all times and this incident is something we are taking very seriously," they said.

"Trains can come from either direction at any time so under no circumstances is it safe to cross the tracks through the station pit and we urge all passengers to ensure they only cross the tracks at designated level crossings."

"We're completing a thorough investigation into the incident and will be doing everything we can to help ensure it does not happen again, which includes analysing our data systems and

meeting with the school."

The only safe way for pedestrians to cross railway tracks is at a designated pedestrian crossing by obeying the warning signs and crossing when it is safe to do so.

V/Line's regional manager met with Trafalgar schools the week of the incident to work through what happened and to discuss the safety concerns also placed a staff member at Trafalgar Station in the afternoon to monitor the situation as a temporary measure to help students safely use the service.

High Country Offroad featured in national magazine

Sbona Vines

We are all familiar with common sports, like football, cricket and tennis but did you know out the back of Trafalgar on a property called Bindaree, there are some extreme and insane 4x4's that get together and do a sport called, Winch Challenge?

Local Trafalgar resident Scott Alison, and owner of Trafalgar business High Country Offroad, was recently featured nationally in 4x4 Australia magazine with his Toyota FJ45 Landcruiser, which he custom built over 2 years.

This is a sport of pure love, time and patience. There is a lot of effort that goes into making sure the vehicle is prepared to go through harsh terrain and obstacles at great speed and that the winch is in A1 condition to pull 2.2 tonne up steep rugged cliffs. Then they crash, break stuff and

occasionally roll the car, only to fix it all and do it again.

It is not possible without a team of dedicated people. Scott is lucky to have his own fabrication business, High Country Off Road, in which he does ute chops, roll cages, bar work and much more, this makes it easier to maintain this sport. Scott mentioned "The winch challenge is a team sport; Aj Scuba has been a tremendous help and he is my mechanic at the events. Aj and the team work on the truck in dust, mud, rain, heat and at quick speeds to get the job done and the car back out to race."

Scott also thanked his sponsors like Red Winch, Maxxis Tyres, Road Runner Off Road, Yukon Enterprises, JTX Lighting, Swat Suspension, Grant Fowler Signs and NJV 4x4 who without them, he wouldn't have been able to build the car required to

race.

Recently Scott competed in the High Mount Guy Ultimate 4x4 Challenge at Bagshot and came second, with only a few points in it. This was a great achievement and makes all the hard work well worth it.

There are several of these events all over Australia and they all encounter different terrain from red dust to sandy beaches. Most events have spectator tickets so if you are curious, get along to an event which gives you an opportunity to see some exciting off road motorsport.

To see a clip of what it is they do, go to YouTube and search 4x4 Australia and click on Scotts feature video "Wild Toyota FJ45 winch truck", or grab the February edition of the 4x4 Australia magazine from the Trafalgar Post Office.



Scott Alison spent 2 years building his FJ45 truck ready for the winch challenge sports



Going offroad with High Country Offroads Toyota FJ45



A train arrived at a different platform to the one displayed on information screens at Trafalgar Station last month.

Why listing with John Kerr Real Estate Trafalgar gives you a ...



HOME GROUND

ADVANTAGE



Left: Peter Heathcote feeling at home as a former Trafalgar Football Club player at the Trafalgar Football/Netball Club grounds.

Right: Simone Clymo is the current President of the Hill End Football/Netball club.

John Kerr Real Estate Trafalgar are proud sponsors and supporters of the Yarragon, Hill End and Trafalgar Football/Netball clubs and wish these teams all the best of luck for the coming season, with a special shout out to the Trafalgar Football/Netball club as they make their debut in the Ellinbank & District League.

"The name John Kerr Real Estate has a long standing association with local football & netball clubs due to the significant impact these clubs provide to our community from a connectivity and social perspective."

Peter Heathcote.

Our direct involvement with our local community also keeps us connected with people wanting to buy and stay in the area, with 60% of our buyers being local-these social connections are so important when it comes to selling your home.

When it comes to looking after your investments-our knowledgeable rentals team have the home ground advantage of being able to keep a close eye on your properties.

"The convenience of having an office in the town, tended by local agents, means that we are advantaged by our on-the-ground presence and local area knowledge and can attend to our clients' needs in a swift and efficient manner."

Anthea Wood



JOHN KERR

Real Estate

Trafalgar



Back to lockdown briefly

By Liam Durkin

Victoria was plunged into stage four restrictions for five days last month.

Premier Daniel Andrews made the announcement at 1pm on Friday, February 12, and from 11.59pm that night a vice was clamped around the state.

Dubbed a COVID-19 circuit breaker lockdown, Victorians were given only four reasons to leave their home: shopping for essential items, work if they couldn't do so from home, exercise within five kilometres of home and for two hours a day, and care giving.

The use of masks was also reinstated, with people required to wear them indoors and outdoors.

Health authorities were responding to a United Kingdom strain of the virus which they said was hyper-infectious and moved quickly.

In the minutes following Mr Andrews' announcement, shoppers rushed local supermarkets to stock up on supplies.

Gippsland sporting bodies responded quickly, cancelling or postponing all events held across the five days.

Anti-lockdown agitators also came out of the woodwork.

In Morwell, a man was heard screaming disparaging remarks about Daniel Andrews outside the office of Gippsland MLA Russell North.

Several council services were

temporarily altered or suspended.

Customer service centres in Drouin and Warragul remained open in a remote capacity. Customers were encouraged to reach council by phone, live chat and email.

Household waste and kerbside hard waste collections continued as normal. Transfer stations remained open with physical distancing limits in place and masks required.

Kinder enrolments continued to operate online or over the phone.

Family day care still operated with strict hygiene protocols in place in accordance with government requirements.

Council supported parent groups and playgroups continued to operate virtually.

Libraries and mobile libraries closed, with home deliveries, online chat, tech talks, online programs and events continuing to be available for the community.

Services temporarily suspended or closed were: advisory committee meetings, committee of management meetings, council pop-ups, council-managed bookable spaces, public events on council land, council's community bus, camping grounds, and leisure centres and pools.

The West Gippsland Arts Centre closed, with online presentation of performances and events continuing to be made available

for the community.

Council staff continued to work from home where practicable.

Face coverings were required to be worn by all employees, contractors and delivery staff at all times while on council sites and out in the community.

Baw Baw Shire mayor Danny Goss said it was vital residents did the right thing.

"As we enter the strongest restrictions faced by Baw Baw Shire so far, I would like to remind our community of how far we've come and encourage you to take care of one another over the next five days," he said.

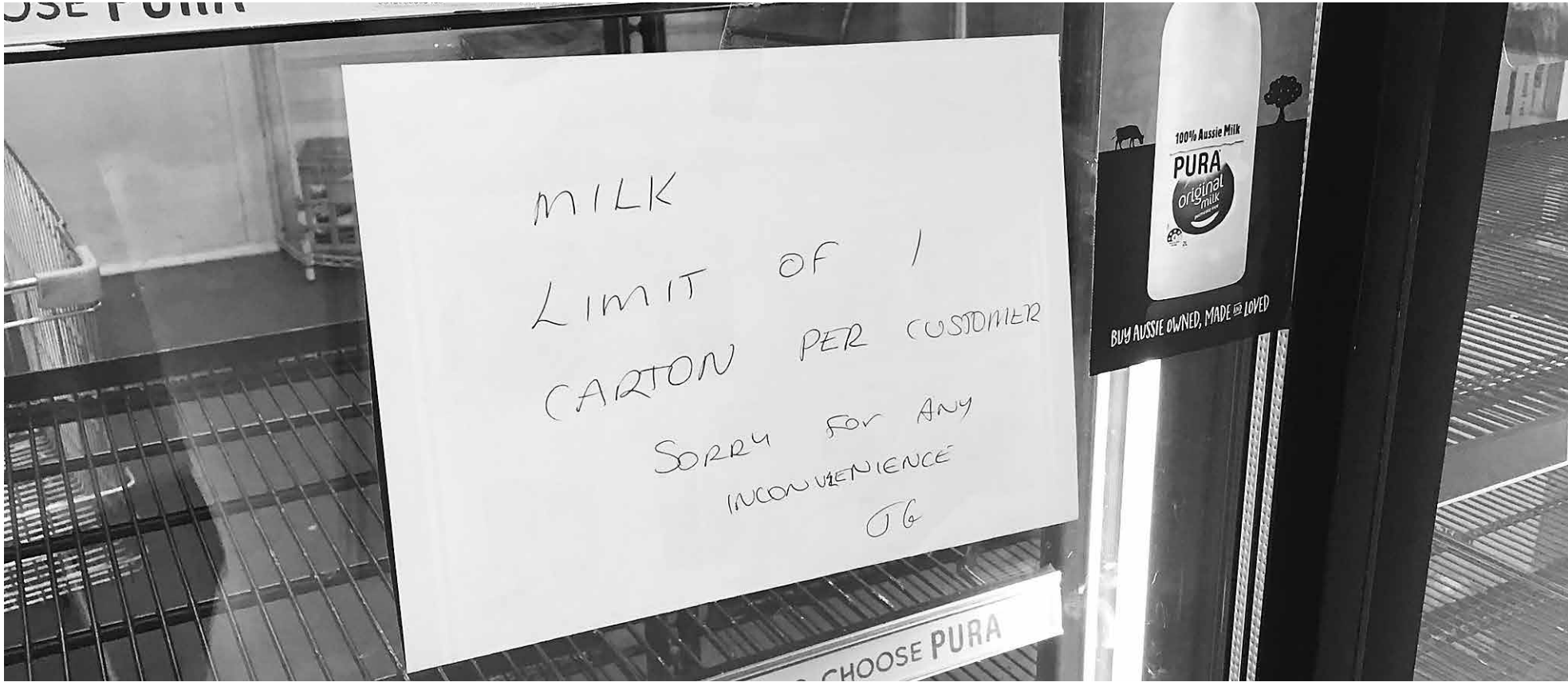
"Council is watching the situation closely and will respond

accordingly to ensure we are able to support our community in a safe way."

Although the lockdown was very short in the scheme of things, many questioned the logic of allowing the Australian Open to proceed, as well as labelling AFLW an 'essential service'.

It is believed health authorities are preparing for a third wave, and people should not be at all surprised if or when it does come.

For the most current updates and restrictions for Victoria, visit <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/>.



Purchasing limits were placed on items such as milk at Trafalgar IGA during the lockdown.

What is a Power of Attorney? And do I need one?

By Trafalgar solicitor Jade MacGregor

A Power of Attorney is a legal document that allows you, the principal, to appoint a nominated person or persons, the attorney, to make decisions about your personal and/or financial affairs.

The attorney can be given limited powers such as signing cheques or documents for the purchase or sale of a property.

They can also be given broad powers to deal with all financial and personal matters if the principal is unable to do so due to being overseas or incapacitated. The attorney must be someone that is trusted to act in the principal's best interests as there are serious legal consequences for abusing the power.

To make a Power of Attor-

ney you must be aged 18 years or older and have decision making capacity.

I generally see that once the need for a Power of Attorney arises, the principal has already lost

decision making capacity or is incapacitated. In this instance, an application must be made to VCAT for a ruling on who can act as an attorney. This is both costly and time

consuming and should be avoided if possible. This why it is always best to be organised and have a Power of Attorney prepared before it is needed.

Get in touch with J

MacGregor Legal today to arrange an appointment for the preparation of a Power of Attorney.

J MacGregor Legal can be found at 95 Princes Highway, Trafalgar.

Email jade@jmacgregorlegal.com or phone 0421 467 270.

WILLIAMS
WASTE
Liquid Waste Specialists
14 Melaleuca Drive,
Trafalgar East
Mobile: 0418 560 171
Phone/Fax: 03 5633 1991

JADE MACGREGOR
E: jade@jmacgregorlegal.com
P: 0421 467 270
W: www.jmacgregorlegal.com

Celebrating Young Achiever Award nominee

Mark Walsbe

Trafalgar CFA firefighter, and Junior Fire Brigade leader, Haylee Oates has been nominated for the The Seward Dawson Community Service and Social Impact Award. The nomination was made in 2019 for the 2020 Young Achiever Awards, which were postponed due to Covid, and carried into the 2021 awards.

The award recognises young people serving their communities through social enterprise and volunteering.

Haylee said “I have been volunteering with the Trafalgar Junior CFA Brigade since 2018.

The young adults that are in the program are the ones that have benefited from the program. As I have seen them grow into more confident mini leaders.”

The Seward Dawson Award celebrates young social entrepreneurs, community service workers and volunteers who are dedicated to the needs of others and who seek innovative solutions to address social issues.

They offer friendship, hope, education, support and inspiration to those who need it most. No matter what challenges are facing the community, these young people are first to put

their hand up and are passionate about making a difference. “My achievements are measured when the young adults I mentor, take steps in bettering themselves or going outside their comfort zones. It’s the small achievements that matter the most” commented Haylee.

Young achiever Award nominees are not only at the forefront of caring and accomplishment but are also contributing to the community by achieving their goals through hard work and perseverance and are wonderful role models for us all.

We congratulate all nominees

and wish them the best of luck with judging on Wednesday 3 March 2021. Finalists will be presented, and winners announced at an Awards Gala Presentation Dinner on Friday 16 April 2021.

One of the category winners will also be named the 2021 Victorian Young Achiever of the Year

and will receive a magnificent state trophy.



CFA Junior Leaders Haylee Oates and Mark Walsbe with Junior Fire Brigade members



Trafalgar CFA juniors with leader Haylee Oates

Plenty on in arts world

By Carol Monson

The creative arts world is alive and well in Baw Baw Shire despite COVID-19. Members of the Baw Baw Arts Alliance are still producing art in a range of media from mosaics through to felt, paintings through to mixed media works, poetry and photographs. Depending on COVID restrictions at the time you read this article all groups will be operating out of the arts spaces at Trafalgar Railway Station. For further details see <https://bawbawartsalliance.org.au>

Some people may think the Baw Baw Arts Alliance is just for those creating visual works of art but it is much more. If you are a writer or wish to be, join the inclusive group that meets during school terms to share their writing. This collaborative, self-directed group uses time each Wednesday between 10.30am and 12.30pm at Arts Space 1,

Trafalgar Railway Station to hone their writing skills, read their work and listen to others.

All exhibitions at the Station Gallery, Yarragon Railway Station, are changed over at the beginning of each month so do not miss the March exhibitions. Liz Harbridge’s exhibition, ‘Elementals’, is a wonderful display of her ability to repurpose textiles into wearable art. Painter, Lorraine Parnell, is exhibiting her paintings of rural Australia on the gallery space known as ‘On the Wall’, in Yarragon.

While static exhibitions are a feature of the Arts Alliance’s work every now and then a special event takes place. This year, in place of the usual ‘Ficifolia Art Show’, a grand ‘Easter Art Sale’ will take place over a nine day period from Saturday, April 3 to Sunday, April 11 at the Warragul Exhibition Hall, Howitt St, Warragul. This ‘choose, buy, take

home’ art sale is a collaborative effort between the Baw Baw Arts Alliance and the Rotary Club of Warragul. For further details on how to submit work or opening hours see the alliance website.

2020 was a year many organisations went into recess so this year we hope things will be different. Having run some successful summer arts markets since COVID restrictions were lifted at the end of 2020 the Arts Alliance’s Winter Market will be back in the Fountain Room at the West Gippsland Arts Centre on the third Saturday of each month from April through to August.

This will be your chance to see and purchase the art produced during a hard year of lockdown.

We hope you enjoy the exhibitions and visit the markets to share the passion for art that artists in the Baw Baw Shire have.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Peace of mind is as free as the air: Drink it, enjoy it, and take it with you. It’s always there if only look in the right place. – Rev.AjahnBrahmavanso

TRAF NEWS SUDOKU

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

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 6 | 5 | | | 7 | 9 | | 4 |
| 8 | 9 | | | | | | 3 | 6 |
| | | | | | | | 2 | |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | 5 | |
| | 4 | 1 | | | | | 6 | 3 |
| | | | 4 | 6 | | 3 | | 2 |
| 2 | | 6 | 8 | 9 | | | 1 | |
| 9 | | | | 7 | 1 | | | |

Hard

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 7 | 3 | | | 5 | |
| 2 | | | | | | | 3 | 8 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | 5 | 8 | | | | | |
| 6 | | 7 | | | | | | 9 |
| | | | | | 4 | 1 | | |
| | 8 | | | | 6 | | 4 | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | 3 | 5 | | | | | 7 | |

Mental health hub opens

By Tessa Randello

A new hub for mental health and wellbeing opened its doors in Trafalgar last month.

Owners Jason and Kerry Rantall said they never envisaged their Facebook support group would lead to the opening of Bettermentall Together Health and Wellbeing Hub.

The timing of the opening was very special for Mr Rantall in an anticlockwise, who suffers from his own mental health issues.

“Four years ago I started some changes, I quit smoking and started running to fill the void and distract myself while I gave that up,” he said.

“Three years ago, in July, I gave up alcohol, because I was an alcoholic ... I treated my mental illness with alcohol all my life.

“This all started from nothing, we did not really think anything like this was going to happen, we both still work fulltime and have seven children between us.”

Since he quit smoking, Jason has run an assortment of marathons and ultramarathons to

raise money for Mindful Aus, one of the organisations they have now paired with to establish the Trafalgar Hub.

Bettermentall Together Health and Wellbeing Hub has also partnered with homelessness charity, Christmas on the Streets.

The couple started a Facebook support group to share their experiences about three years ago, it soon became an in-person group that met monthly.

Kerry Rantall said the services they provided “just grew from there”.

“We decided to start a support group, we started with a Facebook support group and then started doing a face-to-face support group to share Jason’s story and share my story from being the support person,” she said.

“You find people don’t want to talk about it in a normal setting because there is a stigma associated with mental illness.

“Then, we started coffee and chat mornings and brainercise which was exercise in the park

and a chat after that.

“We took the plunge to open up this shop ... we just wanted it to be better mental together, and it’s for anyone really. We found there was a gap between people deciding that they need that help, and the six or eight weeks they had to wait before they were able to get in and see anyone. We want to be there to chat in that in-between place, in collaboration with Mindful Aus.

“We can’t do everything ... we want to be able to refer people to different places that have great services as well.”

Bettermentall Together Health and Wellbeing Hub also offer a range of services including; mental health first aid training, lived experience workshops, one-on-one mentoring, online support groups, laundry days, new clothes and food and sanitary products for people in need.

Bettermentall Together Health and Wellbeing Hub is located at 4 Contingent St.



Kerry and Jason Rantall opened Betterment All Together last month.

First job? You can be brilliant with money

Visit us in branch or at bendigobank.com.au/firstjob. You’ll learn heaps.

Bendigo Bank

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 Australian Credit Licence 237879. 1538756-1538749 (1/2/20)

Help monitor Narracan platypus

By Rhonda Hastie

Do you want to help monitor platypus numbers in the Narracan Creek catchment as part of an exciting project that seeks to conserve this iconic species?

Narracan Landcare Group has recently received a grant from Energy Australia Yallourn to assess how this iconic species is faring in the area.

To kick off this process the group has invited Geoff Williams, director of the Australian Platypus Conservancy (APC) to

present a platypus information session on Sunday, March 21 starting 10.00am at the Narracan Hall (401 Narracan Connection Rd).

Geoff will highlight what makes the platypus one of the world’s most unusual mammals and outline its conservation needs. He will also discuss ways in which various monitoring techniques can potentially be used to keep track of numbers including the Australian Platypus Monitoring Network (APMN), a

‘next generation’ citizen science program that helps track population trends.

For further information phone Rhiannon Weber from Narracan Landcare Group on 0429 840 712, or Geoff Williams from the Australian Platypus Conservancy on 03 5416 1478 or 0419 595939.

Those wishing to get in touch can also email platypus.apc@westnet.com.au



Geoff Williams Director of the Australian Platypus Conservancy will give a presentation in Narracan this month.

HOWARD'S
TRAFALGAR MECHANICAL REPAIRS
TRAFALGAR MECHANICAL REPAIRS
For all your mechanical repairs from the smallest engine to the family car or 4WD
Damien Howard
11 McCrorey Street, Trafalgar 3824
Phone: (03) 5633 1399
Mobile: 0429 331 399
Fax: (03) 5633 2686
Email: hmr@hotmail.com

COVER ALL
EXCAVATIONS & LANDSCAPING
2.5 EXCAVATOR (TIGHT AREAS)
• Tree removal • Stump grinding
• Site clearing • Post holes • Waste removal
PAUL 0421 566 956

Journalist back working local

Local journalist Liam Durkin has returned home to commence work at the Latrobe Valley Express.

Durkin spent the last two and half years writing for the Gippsland Times in Sale, covering stories in the Wellington Shire.

Prior to that he completed his undergraduate in professional writing and journalism at Deakin University.

He has also been one of the volunteer editors at Traf News since 2017.

"Traf News got me my start in the industry so as a small token of appreciation I'm happy to continue assisting getting a paper out each month," he said.

Classifying his writing and personal style as a blend of avant-garde and pragmatism, Durkin was hopeful his skills

would help contribute to a positive reading experience.

"You want people to feel like they are there in the thick of the action," he said.

"Take local sport for example. A lot of reports virtually just repeat what the scoreboard says, which is just so boring and lifeless.

"If people want to read about who got in the best or made runs they'll check SportsTG or My-Cricket.

"Journalism needs to go beyond this, after all the whole concept of journal-keeping is to not only record events but thoughts as well.

"That's why Keith Anderson at the Gazette has been one of the most read local footy authors for so long, because he provides interesting anecdotes that add

depth to the stories he tells."

While still relatively young, the 26 year old believed he was ready to contribute strong stories.

"I've learnt that the best story is the one at least one person specifically doesn't want to read," he said.

"In Sale I was also given probably the most accurate words of wisdom on not only work but life.

"I'm guessing this applies to anyone who has served on a committee, in customer service or in business – 98 per cent of people either don't care or think you are doing a good job, but it's the two per cent that cause all the problems."

If you have a story idea or would like to collaborate, email ldurkin@lvexpress.com.au or call 03 5143 4436.



Local journalist Liam Durkin has returned home to work at the Latrobe Valley Express.

Trafalgar Lions cook Australia Day breakfast

By Trevor Byrne

Trafalgar Lions were once again catering for the Australia Day breakfast under the stewardship of Lion Graham McKenzie. Fortunately the Trafalgar Lions club have a six by three metre marquee which proved to be handy when the showers arrived.

Separate barbecues cooked eggs, bacon and sausages outside while the toast was prepared in the kitchen at the Trafalgar Public Hall.

Lion Graham McKenzie had the situation well in hand and with the Lion members assisting,

were able to dish up a warming breakfast for around 60 people who turned up to welcome Peter Farmer, Trafalgar's Citizen of the year and Cooper Burgess Trafalgar's Youth of the Year.

Guest speaker was Dr Michael Kunze who spoke on the year that was in the medical centre.

After the presentations, speeches and singing of the national anthem, everyone was provided with their breakfast, one table at a time.

Elsewhere, at an evening event held at the Trafalgar Bowling Club,

charter members Lions Bob Hoare, Max Erbs, and Graham McKenzie were presented with their well deserved 50 Year Monarch Awards by their club president David Koschade. It would be impossible to guess how many thousands of hours these three Lions members have contributed to the Trafalgar community.

At the first Monday morning assembly at Trafalgar High School, first vice president Rhonda Bottoms presented last year's Dux of Trafalgar High School Ethan Bertoli with his award of \$500 and certificate.



Charter members Lions Bob Hoare, Max Erbs and Graham McKenzie were presented with their 50 Year Monarch Awards by President David Koschade recently.



Ian Bosma, Kevin Deursbury and Roger Watkin cooked the bacon, while president David Koschade and Tony Mitchinson looked after the eggs on Australia Day.



Lions first vice president Rhonda Bottoms presents last year's Dux of Trafalgar High School Ethan Bertoli with his award.

Lions to clean up Australia

The Lions Club of Trafalgar will be holding a Clean Up Australia Day event in Trafalgar on Sunday, March 7 from 9am to midday (COVID regulations permitting).

For further information and updates see the Trafalgar Lions Facebook page or call David on 0428 331 157.

Trafalgar Self Storage

• Open 7 days a week, 365 days a year

2 Sale Yard Road, Trafalgar

Call Strzelecki Realty
Ph: 5633 2858



Strzelecki Realty

Bushwalking club to celebrate anniversary

By Jo Leviston

This month's meeting of the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club will focus on our upcoming 30th anniversary celebrations and memorabilia.

Strzelecki Bushwalking Club celebrated its inaugural meeting in March 1991. The three founders were Phil Dickinson, Glenn Campbell and Martin Chatfield and their images, designed by Anne Lorraine, are depicted on the club logo.

Anniversary celebrations will take place on March 27 and 28 with a number of favourite walks at Mt. Worth and surrounding areas, along with dinner on Saturday night.

Past members are welcome and are invited to get in touch with the club.

It has been a busy summer of activities for the club, with a number of day walks and extended walks as well as cycling

and paddling fun being enjoyed by many members.

The club is based in Trafalgar and holds its monthly meetings on the second Wednesday, where possible, in the Scout Hall in Contingent St.

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



Figuratively cutting the cake with a walking pole at the 20 year anniversary of the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club at Darnum Hall are Peter Ryan, Anne Lorraine (representing the first president Phil Dickinson), Richard McNeil (2011 president), David Holroyd, Ed Dyt, Robert Bentvelzen and Ron Cann.



Do you know this woman? The Trafalgar and District Historical Society needs help identifying this photo dated October 1987.

Thorpdale pub to become distillery

The iconic Travellers Rest Hotel, Thorpdale is set to enter an exciting new phase as a distillery.

With the pub commencing bar meals last month, the rumour mill was rife about the

possibility of a distillery being established as well.

Reports of a distillery were confirmed by a local journalist from a well known potato growing family scouting the area.

The journalist was told the

pubs basement would house the distillery.

Naturally, given Thorpdale's rich history as a potato growing area, potato vodka is expected to be created on the premises.

More to come ... maybe.



A distillery is set to be established at the Travellers Rest Hotel, Thorpdale.

AROUND THE HISTORICAL Society

By Dianne Ireland

Help is wanted by the Trafalgar and District Historical Society, as a number of members, most of whom are aging, are not as proficient in the field of social media as is necessary in 2021.

Many other societies have an online presence and it is difficult for us to keep up. We have some great resources which would make a welcome addition to some of the online forums on Gippsland history.

We urgently need someone with the time and expertise to help us develop a website and to create and administer a Facebook page.

If you can help in either or both of these tasks, please phone Jean Huffer on 5633

1960 or 0438 090 338.

So much of our working bee time has been devoted to sorting through numerous photos which have been donated, many of them unnamed. To this end, each month we will publish a photo or two in the hope someone can provide names.

This month we have a group photo and an individual. On the back of the dancing girls is written Dancing School Display: Song and Dance Routine by Traf Girls, Friday 3/12/1965 Traf Public Hall.

The other photo is dated October 1987 and marked Ron.

If you can solve either of these puzzles, please phone Dianne on 0439 655 172.

At a recent working bee we

welcomed Jim Crowe who left with a photo album given to us by the Apex Club. Jim's task now is to name as many photos as possible! If you are an old Apexian, expect a call! Many thanks to Jim for the generous offer of his time and knowledge. If you would like to help in any way, please get in touch with Jean on the above number. Working bees are held between 2pm and 4 pm on the first and third Friday of each month at the old kindergarten premises.

Contact details for the Society can be found in the Gazette, copies of which are still on sale at the newsagency and the post office.



The Society is also seeking the names of people in this photo from 1965.

Trafalgar High welcomes new teachers

By Wombat Lyons

Trafalgar High School has started 2021 off successfully and welcomed a number of new faces to our team, we hope the community welcome our new teachers:

- Clay Beasley – Maths and Science
- Daniel Born – Maths, Science and learning specialist
- Sarah Sandford – English and Humanities
- Holly Entwistle – English and Humanities
- Antony Chandler – Maths and Science
- Allison O'Connor – Humanities
- Liam Vale – Humanities and English
- William Rotor – Humanities and English
- Kirstin Richards – Humanities and English

Additionally we have also employed two trainees: Tijana Kaczowski in an education support

role and Matt Devon in kitchen operations who will learn these industries with us and Les Blacker has been employed at the start of the year in the maintenance role.

So let's meet these new staff in more detail, this month we will meet Allison O'Connor from humanities and Antony Chandler from maths/science.

Allison has been working in the racing industry as a Strapper for a Racehorse trainer & Pharmacy Retail before teaching and her teaching career has included Teaching abroad in London, while Tony has always been a teacher and jokes "This century has mainly been at Neerim District, Pakenham and Mary MacKillop CRC." Allison is a fan of Japan, "its culture is very different to Australia's. Their food, diverse landscapes, traditions in the arts, and language are fascinating." She told us, while Tony reflected on staying closer to home stating "Victoria- so much to see and still to see."



New Traf High teacher Alison O'Connor



New Traf High teacher Antony Chandler

Preferring to start his day with a nice cup of coffee, Tony has recently finished reading 'Troy' by Stephen Fry. This reading choice reflects his passions for Education and History. Allison is passionate about Horse Riding and the environment and said she has been really inspired by the work of Jimmy Stynes, Founder of the Reach Youth Charity. "his mentoring of troubled youth and inspiring of the next generation of leaders will never leave me", At the start of her prefect day, she would be found Horse riding in the hills.

We hope you will make all our new staff feel welcome to the community of Trafalgar, asked for the first impressions of the school Alison replied "The great work around Respectful Relationships and the Grow 4 Learning program" and Tony "How friendly everyone is. Everyone is positive and greets me warmly."

AB in the Valley

Australian cricket legend Allan Border was in the Latrobe Valley recently, shooting an episode for the 'On Tour with Allan Border' television series. The series has a strong local connection, and was created by former Morwell locals Jason Kennedy and Michael Hoogzard, who are the programs executive producers. Kennedy has also been the man behind the fishing lifestyle program Fishin'Trip for many years. 'On Tour with Allan Border' sees the man known as AB in his first ever national television hosting role, where he heads up a new and exciting caravaning show. In the show, Border

guides three generations exploring different parts of the country. Over the eight week series, AB leads three teams of caravan explorers from different age groups to challenge themselves to find the best Australia has to offer. Places featured in the Latrobe Valley episode included Old Gipps town, Powerworks, Latrobe Regional Gallery, Morwell National Park and Morwell Driving Range. Joining Border on the show is fellow Australian cricketer and crowd favourite Merv Hughes.

The former Australian captain said the hospitality afforded to the filming and production crew was exceptional. "We would like

to thank the Latrobe City Council and all the local businesses, activities and attractions that featured and worked behind the scenes," he said. "Without your support this episode would not have been made possible". During the running of the series there are weekly prizes for viewers, including the chance to win an Allan Border signed cricket bat each week.

Allan Border played 156 test matches and is regarded as one of the greatest ever Australian test captains.

The Latrobe Valley episode aired Saturday, February 27 at 11.58am on 7Mate and can also be viewed on 7Plus.

Environmental projects receive backing

The state government is funding 20 new and innovative volunteer projects, including creative ideas to restore koala habitat and the use of new citizen science technologies, to inspire even more Victorians to volunteer for nature.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio recently announced more than \$300,000 through round one of the Volunteering Innovation Fund, which provided up to \$20,000 for each successful project.

The \$2 million fund supports conservation projects by helping with the costs of training, delivery and equipment, making sure people from all walks of life are able to volunteer in parks and forests.

Among the successful bids was for a number of volunteer engaged track cleaning activities on the Australian Alps Walking Track will be given a literary boost, with Bushwalking Victoria funded to

host authors at a series of book readings in the Baw Baw National Park.

A koala habitat restoration project in Dromana was also given funding, which will get volunteers with the Mornington Peninsula Koala Conservation Landcare Group and local students planting a diverse range of mid-story and canopy species.

The Warrnambool Coastcare Landcare Network will be hosting volunteer groups from kayaking and boating clubs, fishing groups and schools - alongside scientists from the Nature Glenelg Trust - to collect data on the biodiversity of swamps within the Belfast Coastal Reserve.

Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater will run a series of activities in the Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve informed by the Wurundjeri calendar. The activities for adults from recently arrived migrant backgrounds, families, vulnerable teens and tertiary stu-

dents are aimed at connecting people and nature.

And a project to gather valuable marine data will be hosted by ReefWatch in a variety of coastal locations.

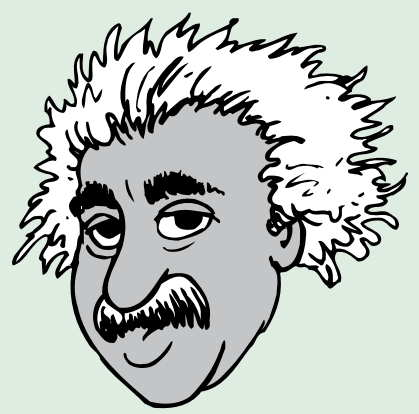
Recreational anglers and underwater enthusiasts will be invited to marine bio-blitz events with professional snorkel instructors providing anglers with equipment, knowledge and skills to become marine citizen science volunteers.

For a full list of successful projects, visit parks.vic.gov.au/vif.

Groups keen to apply for round two of the fund can visit parks.vic.gov.au/get-into-nature, with applications opening on Thursday, March 11, with funding of up to \$50,000 available per project.

For round two, the public will be invited to vote for their favourite projects through Engage Victoria.

Alberts Corner



If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough.
– Albert Einstein

Traf High says thanks to Sue

By Wombat Lyons

As Reverend Sue Jacka prepared to leave Trafalgar to take up ministry at St Mary's Morwell, Trafalgar High School took the

opportunity last month to thank Sue for her volunteering around the school community.

Sue has been a key supporter

of the twice weekly breakfast program at Trafalgar High School among other projects over her 12 years in Trafalgar.

Sue attended the term one school assembly where she was thanked by principal Jane Mersey for her volunteering, in response

Sue shared with the students her philosophy that the parish of Trafalgar was bigger than St Marys Anglican Church and takes in all the community.



Trafalgar High School leaders Oscar Robinson, Chloe Rees, Dylan Gauci and Rori Koppen with Reverend Sue Jacka.

Acts of kindness

By Shona Vines

As I work in a local café, I find myself blessed to have the most amazing and interesting customers. Some are just travelling through and most are locals, but one thing that never changes is the fact that I have many conversations every day, and this is how we get to this wonderful story of community spirit.

Sienna Moscato is an everyday 14 year old teenager who loves her netball and going to school and being with her friends, there is however one difference.

Sienna is very passionate about her community, the environment and motivational speaking. In June last year the school THINK program gave all the students an opportunity to do something they love, and 'Acts of Kindness' was her choice. Sienna said she had spare time during COVID so decided to pop on her gloves, grab a garbage bag (which are sustainable I must add) and clean up the streets of Trafalgar.

During her time collecting rubbish Sienna stated there were

some people who would thank her for what she was doing. On top of collecting rubbish Sienna went around to her neighbors and took them fruit and checked up on them to make sure they were okay and if they needed any chores or shopping done. She also wrote letters to the residents at Andrews House as they were not allowed to have many visitors during COVID. Sienna even received letters back which made her happy. Sienna goes out of her way to thank others for doing helpful things around town and recently thanked Seth O'Brien for doing his part in taking his neighbour's bins in.

Sienna uses TikTok, posting motivational talks and environmental messages. With so much media these days we hope that if you can get the message across, motivate and give hope to just some people, it would be great.

I asked Sienna what she would like to do when she grows up and she said "I hope to continue to be a motivational speaker, share God's love, do humanitarian aid work

and own my own business." I have no doubt that Sienna will continue to change the world and be very successful and happy in all that she does. Sienna has an amazing passion for life and has time to talk to anyone and is full of compassion.

For some of our community member's, life can be lonely. Maybe we can all take a leaf out of Sienna's book and check on our neighbour's. Maybe their lawn isn't mowed because their mower broke and they can't afford to fix it, maybe they have injured themselves and cannot get to the shops or do everyday chores and sometimes they may just want a chat. If there is one thing to take from what Sienna has done, it is to stop and think and not be so judgmental.

We will be organizing a Sienna's Saturday Sity Sweep with more details to come next month. This is to encourage our community to come out and help clean up the neighbourhood.



Trafalgar teenager Sienna Moscato has been a shining light for positivity in the community. "The worst thing in the world is thinking that someone else is going to save it," Sienna said.

Everything you need to know about the COVID vaccine

By Dr Pete Verbeek

Trafalgar Medical

What's the deal with the vaccines?

At present there are two different vaccinations coming to Australia – The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccination and the Oxford/Astrazeneca vaccine. Both of these vaccinations have different manufacture, storage and efficacy rates with I will detail below. That said, both vaccines have been shown to prevent death or serious infection from COVID-19 in 100 per cent of cases of those people vaccinated, which is truly remarkable.

The first vaccine that will be available in Australia will be the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccination, which needs to be stored at minus 70 degrees up until administration, and is made in Europe. Australia has secured 20 million doses of this vaccine, but not all at once. This vaccine will be given in two doses three weeks apart, and priority will be given in the first instance to quarantine workers, front line healthcare workers and some aged care staff/residents. These will be given only out of hubs (likely hospital based) given the complexity of

storage and administration of the vaccine.

The second vaccine, the Oxford/Astrazeneca vaccine, is able to be produced in Australia and can be stored and given much like all the other vaccinations we give regularly (i.e. the flu vaccine, or childhood immunisations). This vaccine is less effective than the Pfizer vaccine at preventing infection from COVID-19, but is still 100 per cent effective at preventing severe illness or death. Australia has secured 50 million doses of this vaccine and this is what the majority of us will receive in two doses four weeks apart.

Why did we start vaccinating later than the USA and UK? Hasn't Israel already vaccinated half of their population?

In Australia for any medication or vaccination to be able to be sold and administered it must be registered with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). This is equivalent to the FDA in

the United States and the MHRA in the United Kingdom.

In many other countries where their response to COVID-19 has not been as successful, and their infection rates are high, their drug authorities have approved emergency authorisation for the COVID-19 vaccine. This means it has not undertaken their usual full regulatory process but a judgement call is made based off the information at hand to make a more rapid decision.

In our amazing country, Australia, we have been fortunate that the general public and those in charge have listened to the advice of the public health experts and have been able to keep our infection rate very low – one of the best in the world.

As a result, our TGA has been able to take their time and go through all the evidence of the safety of the vaccines. The fact that both vaccinations have been approved means it meets their strict standards of safety and can be safely administered to the public. The TGA is independent of the pharmaceutical industry so

makes its assessment without influence from the companies that make the vaccines.

But hasn't it been rushed? Don't vaccines normally take years to develop?

The effort to find effective vaccines for COVID-19 has been an unprecedented scientific achievement. Labs all across the world have been racing to make a vaccine that will change the face of the pandemic. One of the most helpful factors behind this has been the assurance of ongoing funding and the ability to sell the final product.

Usually when vaccines are being developed the first trial phase is completed, then a cost-benefit analysis is done along with applications for more funding and the hope that they can get through. This happens with the second and third trial phase as well.

The difference for the COVID-19 vaccine has been being able to run the next trial phase as soon as the safety of the last phase has been completed, compressing the usual years long process into less than a year.

So it's safe, but are there side effects?

So far, the side effects from both vaccines can vary from local redness and a sore arm, to mild flu-like symptoms. They should go away in a few days and reports from the United States and United Kingdom seem to list symptoms that are quite mild. Some people may also report a headache, fever or feeling tired.

Can pregnant women or children have the vaccine?

At present the vaccination data has only been done in non-pregnant adults. As such at this stage vaccination when pregnant is not recommended, but trials are underway and this advice may change in the future. Vaccination for children is likewise still under investigation, so more advice will come as time goes on.

Once I have it can I take off my mask?

Not yet, it will take some time for enough of the population to become vaccinated to a point where community transmission is very unlikely. Even though the vaccines prevent severe illness and death, if you catch mild disease you may still spread it to others who have not yet had their vaccine or cannot have the vaccine for medical reasons, risking the minimal community transmission we all worked for and endured months of lockdown to achieve.

What's it going to cost me?

Nothing! The COVID-19 vaccination is free for all Australians.

When can I get it?

There is a staged process of vaccination, based on risk of contracting the virus or complications from infection. Each stage starting two to three weeks apart.

Phase 1a: quarantine and border workers, frontline at-risk health workers, residential aged care and disability staff, residential and disability care residents.

Phase 1b: adults over 70, all other health workers including GPs, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, younger adults with a medical condition, critical and high risk workers such as police, fire and emergency services, and meat processing workers.

Phase 2a: adults over 50 years, continuing on phase 1b with other high risk critical workers.

Phase 2b: balance of adult population and catch up of any unvaccinated Australians from previous phases.

Phase 3: people under 18, if recommended.

Will I be able to get my vaccination in Trafalgar?

Trafalgar Medical has submitted an application to be able to offer the vaccine from stage 1b onwards (only hospitals/specific government hubs can offer 1a), to this end we will be aiming to offer COVID-19 vaccination if we are approved.

Bookings at this stage are going to be online via a centralised federal booking system. More information will be available through the Trafalgar Medical Facebook page and website as we find out.

Trafalgar Medical is locally owned and managed, we have appointments available every day and are taking new patients. Please call 5633 2211 to make an appointment or book an appointment online with Hotdoc or via our website www.trafmc.com.au.

For regular updates follow us on Facebook.



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 on Wednesday 10 March at 5.30pm in Fountain Room at the West Gippsland Arts Centre.

All community members are welcome to attend. Bookings are required due to COVID-19 restrictions and can be made via the Council website.

All meetings can be viewed via live stream on the Council website.

See what's on the agenda for the next meeting on Council's website.

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.

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

Subscribe today!

Want more news? Sign up to receive this bulletin and fortnightly Council Meeting Snapshots straight to your inbox at bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/Subscribe



Cinema Pop Up is coming to Trafalgar Primary!

11 – 14 March
Trafalgar Primary School
Gates open from 7pm

Watch family favourite movies under the stars over four nights with Cinema Pop Up.

Tickets are only \$5 for adults and kids are free, with bookings essential.

What's showing?

The Croods: New Age
11 March

The Emperor's New Groove
12 March

Turbo
13 March

The Breakfast Club
14 March

The pop-up roadshow will feature movies, music, a candy bar with popcorn and snacks, and a bar for the adults.

Bring along a picnic, blankets and low chairs.

Tickets are only \$5 for adults and kids are free, with bookings essential.

Visit cinemapopup.com.au to book your tickets now.

Supported by Toyota, TAC, the EJ Whitten Foundation and Baw Baw Shire Council.

What's coming up at West Gippsland Arts Centre

West Gippsland Arts Centre is *back to live*, bringing you a range of shows to enjoy in 2021.

- The Travelling Wilburys Sessions**
Saturday 6 March
- Elvis – If I Can Dream**
Saturday 20 March
- Beauty and Beast performed by the Victorian State Ballet**
Sunday 21 March
- Jimeoin**
Saturday 24 April
- Wicked performed by Warragul Theatre Company**
Friday 21 May to Saturday 29 May

For more details and to book tickets visit www.wgac.com.au



Women in Gippsland

Celebrate International Women's Day this March

7pm-9pm Tuesday 9 March
West Gippsland Arts Centre

Join Women in Gippsland and Baw Baw Shire Council for this special International Women's Day event.

The theme for this year's International Women's Day is #ChooseToChallenge.

Keynote speaker Sarah Davidson – author, entrepreneur and host of Seize the Yay podcast – will share her message about finding the 'yay' in work, rest and play.

You will also hear from a panel of incredible Gippsland women who have all chosen to challenge – whether that's the status quo, gender bias, or structural inequality.

Tickets are priced at \$14, representative of the current gender pay gap in Australia, and all proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to local non-profit organisations.

Book your ticket now at www.wgac.com.au

Let's create a community vision for Baw Baw Shire

What are your priorities for Baw Baw Shire for the next thirty years?

Over coming months, there will be a range of opportunities for you to be directly involved in designing a new Community Vision for the Shire, including focus groups, open surveys and a community-led panel.

This Community Vision is a big deal – it will be led by you and will directly guide the development of the Council Plan 2021-2025 and Financial Plan 2021-31.

For more information visit bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/CommunityVision

Clear unwanted clutter with a free hard waste collection

Baw Baw Shire residents looking to clear out any unwanted items from around the house are encouraged to book their free annual kerbside hard waste collection.

All households can book one free on-demand kerbside waste collection each year for up to two cubic metres of waste. This offer is available to all households in Baw Baw, whether you own or rent your property (commercial, industrial and vacant land excluded).

Bookings can be made by calling WM Waste Management on 1800 969 278.

You can exchange your kerbside collection for free disposal of up to two cubic metres of hard waste at any Council operated transfer station.

If one collection isn't enough, bookings for additional paid kerbside hard waste collections will open from 9 – 26 March for collections to take place between 12 – 23 April. Please note, fees do apply.

For more information visit bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/hardwaste



The long awaited COVID vaccine will soon be available.

VOX-POP

"Where are you most looking forward to travelling when COVID restrictions ease?"

Cub scout Alex Jacobs



Dan Towb of Trafalgar

"My Mum is having her 80th birthday in England. When we get the chance to travel we will be heading there."



Naomi Landmeter of Trafalgar

"Probably interstate to see some family members."



Lisa Ramsey of Moe

"Anywhere that's not home."

Trafalgar Holden Museum

Salutes the ute

Holden SS club day

Bob Moss

The Trafalgar Holden Museum held a 'Salute the Ute Day' on Australian Day to recognise the fantastic contribution that the ute has made to Australian motoring.

The ute is an interesting piece of Australian history, and its history dates back to the 1930s. Mr Laurence Hartnett, who was the manager of General Motors Holden at the time, believed that Holden's modified Chevrolet Coupe ute was the first Australian ute.

At around the same time a

farmer's wife in Gippsland wrote to the Ford people to request if they could produce a vehicle that the pigs could be taken to market during the week and the family to church on Sunday.

In January 1951 the 48.215 Holden ute was released and here at last was a vehicle that the pigs could be taken to market during the week and the family to church on Sunday.

Unfortunately the weather on Australia Day this year was wet which kept many at home, but still about 250 people came to

celebrate the day in spite of the weather. A great day was had by those who attended.

The museum sponsored a trophy in memory of Graeme Hayward and Shannon's representative selected Ms Alison Parkinson's newly restored HZ Holden ute. Alison purchased the car on Australia Day two years ago and she undertook a full restoration.

The result is a great example of the Aussie icon.

Bob Moss

The Trafalgar Holden Museum hosted the SS Holden Club from Melbourne on Saturday, January 24 and fortunately the weather was kind to us on the day.

A total of 43 SS vehicles attended and the club members enjoyed a festive day culminating with a sausage sizzle (supplied by Murphy's Meats, Trafalgar) and award presentations.

The Trafalgar Holden Motor Museum's 'car of the day' was presented to Matty Allens VY SS green sedan. This award is in remembrance of Graeme Hayward.

Graeme won the museum's award some years ago for the SS ute of the day with his VR SS Commodore. Unfortunately Graeme passed away and he donated his SS ute to our museum.

The other prizes were awarded to Damian Ruddell for his VL SS wagon and Russell Stephens VL SS Sedan.

All the vehicles were beautifully presented and provided a great display in front of the museum on Waterloo Road.

This is an annual event with the SS club however, it was cancelled in 2020 due to the virus.



A restored HZ Holden ute on display at the Trafalgar Holden Museum.



Members of the SS club in front of the Trafalgar Holden Museum's own SS ute.



Damian Ruddell's award winning VL SS wagon.



This VL SS sedan, owned by Russell Stephens, won high acclaim.

Farming News

Collaborative approach to land management needed

The Victorian Farmers Federation is urging the Victorian government to commit to its side of the Landcare pledge and start working with farmers again to help support and recognise the major role primary producers play in preserving and managing the local environment.

VFF land management chair Gerry Leach said the recent plan to introduce dingoes into areas of Crown land goes against existing funding to eliminate wild dogs elsewhere in Victoria and demonstrates how far some decision makers have strayed away from the proper management of land.

"What was intended to be a working relationship between government and landholders to work together to undertake important work that was beneficial to both farms and the environment is now confused," he said. "There's a real urban community myth that Crown land is properly managed, and farmers are somewhat environmental vandals. Anyone who works the land will know this could not be further from the truth."

Mr Leach said farmers need to know the government is committed to managing its land properly. "Despite the 'Protecting Victoria's Environment - Biodiversity 2037' plan recognising pests and weeds as a threat to biodiversity, there is very little funding to any Crown land manager to even meet their obligations under the Catchment and Land Protection Act," he said.

Mr O'Brien said it was critical the state government provided reassurance to farmers. "These farmers are very productive, but you can't farm without water and they need to

"The VFF has previously advocated for a \$20 million funding allocation per annum to each Catchment Management Authority to undertake their duty to support private land holder action, but no funding was forthcoming. "If the government was serious about the risk of invasive species to biodiversity, biosecurity and the economy they would make every government land manager include in their annual report to Parliament how they have met their responsibilities to manage pest plants and animals under the Catchment and Land Protection Act."

"It's our responsibility as farmers to adequately manage pest weeds. "That job is only made harder when Crown land that is supposed to be properly maintained by the government is left to grow-out and weeds begin to set seed and invade the landscape."

Farmers concerned over where mine fill water will come from

State opposition leader Michael O'Brien was in the region recently, meeting with farmers reliant on irrigation water from the Latrobe River.

With uncertainty surrounding exactly where water to fill the Hazelwood mine will come from, talk of using water from the Latrobe River has local irrigators anxious.

Mr O'Brien said it was critical the state government provided reassurance to farmers. "These farmers are very productive, but you can't farm without water and they need to

be assured that the government won't be taking water that should be theirs or water that should be for the environment, and putting it into abandoned mines down at Hazelwood," he said.

Mr O'Brien said it was a "critical issue".

"We know there is an issue with rehabilitation of the Hazelwood mine sites, but the question is where is that water going to come from?" he asked.

"And we're certainly here to say it cannot come at the expense of our farmers.

"The government needs to give the community certainty.

"It's really important for everyone in Gippsland that relies on farming and agricultural activity.

"We need to know how the government is going to resolve this issue with the old Hazelwood mine sites.

"We don't want to see any subsidence, but you cannot afford to take water away from our farmers or even our environment to put down old mines."

The Latrobe River Irrigators group, formed last year, believes the best course of action would be to allocate existing water currently held in the Blue Rock system toward farmers.

Latrobe River Irrigators chairman Angus Zilm said this would enable farmers to grow more crops, and grow more food and fibre "which ultimately would be better for the economy in the broader Gippsland area".

"We're concerned that water is not being used for productive use," Mr Zilm said.

"If the mines were to use that water and put it into the pit, then

we would not have our reliable water - and that would be detrimental to irrigators along the system.

"It would affect all the crops they grow, it would affect their viability and ultimately their ability to employ staff and the flow-on benefits for the region.

"We are extremely reliant on the river.

"A lot of the farmers use irrigation water to create a season, so we'll irrigate right through the summer or we'll start a season off in the autumn or extend a season a bit longer in the spring - we just simply can't do it without irrigation water.

"It's vital to make sure we can guarantee yields."

Gippsland South MLA Danny O'Brien agreed more had to be done to help farmers, adding there was scope to further develop the agricultural sector in the area.

"Certainly one of the great opportunities is the vast amounts of water that is unused in the Latrobe system that could go to expanding irrigated agriculture in the central Gippsland area," he said.

"It's a really good opportunity to help us transition as the power stations close - there are good, long-term sustainable jobs and industries in irrigated agriculture and horticulture.

"I'm really pleased that we've been able to convince the government there's merit in that and there is work happening on it now.

"The important thing is that the government mustn't throw that away by having any of the Latrobe water go into pit lakes in

the mines.

"I think we can work through the solutions - and I understand the difficulty and complexity of maintaining stable landforms around the mines - but we certainly don't want to see any of that unused water going into pit lakes.

"That water should be going into expanding irrigation in the region, creating more jobs for Gippsland."

Hazelwood operator ENGIE plans to begin filling the mine void this year, which could take decades.

In a statement, an ENGIE spokesperson said ENGIE Hazelwood's approach to filling the mine void had been "designed to manage environmental concerns, and will not affect the access or entitlements of any other water user in the short or long term".

"We continue to discuss future water source options like recycled and desalinated water with government and relevant regulators," the statement read.

In December, government documents revealed there would not be enough water in the Latrobe River system to create pit lakes out of the Latrobe Valley's mine voids under forecast climate scenarios.

Near record Victorian grain harvest puts pressure on regional roads and rail

The VFF says more funding is needed to ensure Victoria's crumbling regional road and rail freight infrastructure can cope with future increased freight as this season's bumper grain harvest highlights the network's

shortfalls.

VFF Grains Group President Ashley Fraser said a recent ABA-RES report has forecast this season's harvest to be one of the largest the industry has seen.

"We're expecting the second largest grain harvest in Victoria's history," he said.

"While this is a fantastic result for growers and our regional economy, it will no doubt put immense pressure on our already strained regional road and rail freight networks as it goes from paddock to market.

"Regional roads continue to crumble and freight trains crawl to port at a huge cost to industry.

"Our freight rail network is critically under-maintained and the urgently needed Murray Basin Rail Project is already two years overdue."

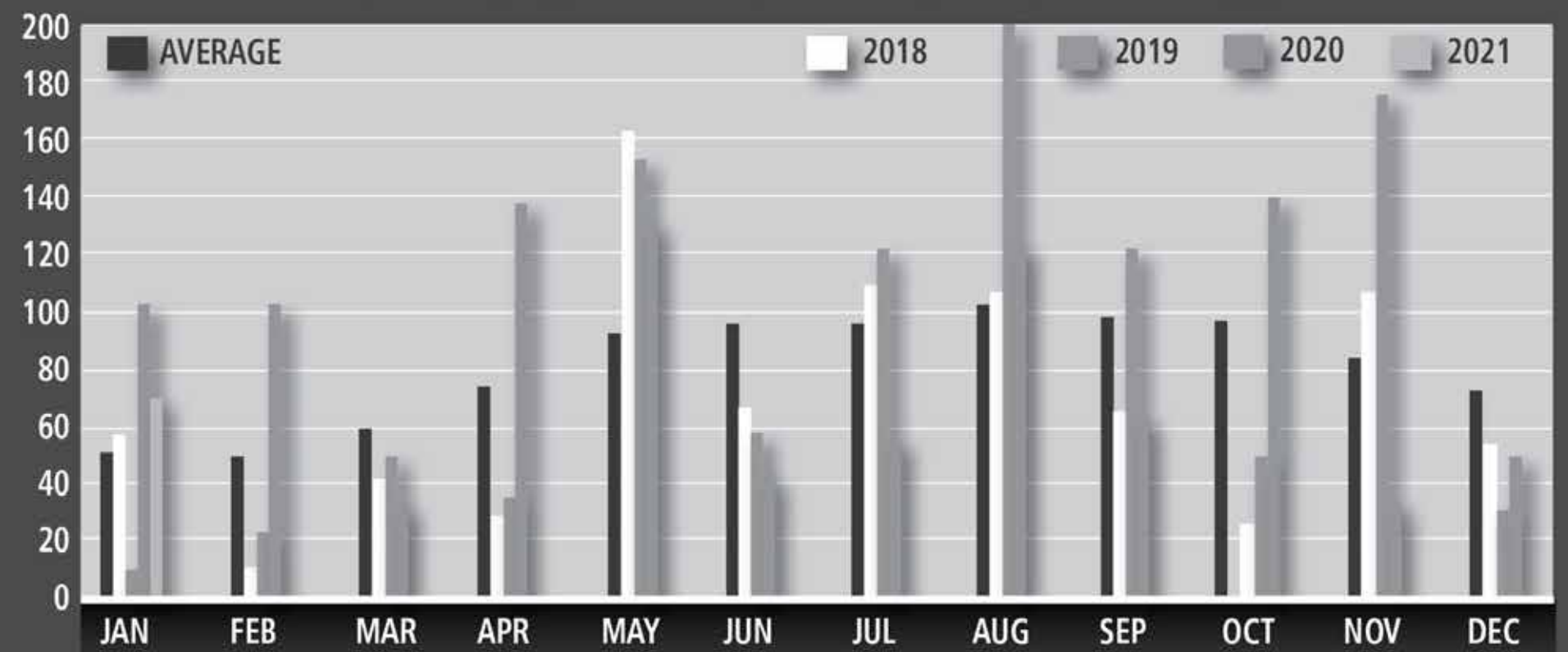
Mr Fraser said investment in rail freight was essential to get trucks off roads and reduce Victoria's future road maintenance and upgrade bill.

"On certain sections of track, trains have been reduced to a maximum speed of 20 kilometres per hour. Time is money and many operators have made the decision to transport produce on our roads," he said.

"This is forcing more trucks onto the roads, with the potential for 10,000 B-double trucks of grain using the roads each month.

"We are calling on the government to do the planning now to ensure this year's budget invests big in regional Victorian freight infrastructure and plans for the future."

TRAFALGAR MONTHLY RAINFALL



This graph compares the monthly rainfall received in Trafalgar in 2021 with, 2018, 2019, 2020 and average monthly rainfall since records began. The monthly rainfall for January 2021 is 69.25ml

Trafalgar High School

Year 7 2022

Information Evening

7pm, Wednesday 24th, March

Sports Centre—Trafalgar High School

- View facilities and learning areas at the school.
- Discuss with teachers the work undertaken and the opportunities each learning area provides.
- Make an informed choice regarding secondary school in 2022.



Further information or enquiries may be directed to Mr. Jack Brown or Ms. Rachel O'Hea on **5633 1733**.

Trafalgar High School
Principal: Ms. Jane Mersey

TRAFALGAR HOLDEN MUSEUM

Telling the complete
"HOLDEN STORY"
Open 10am - 5pm

Like us on Facebook - Trafalgar Holden Museum

Ph: 5633 1684 74 Waterloo Road Trafalgar

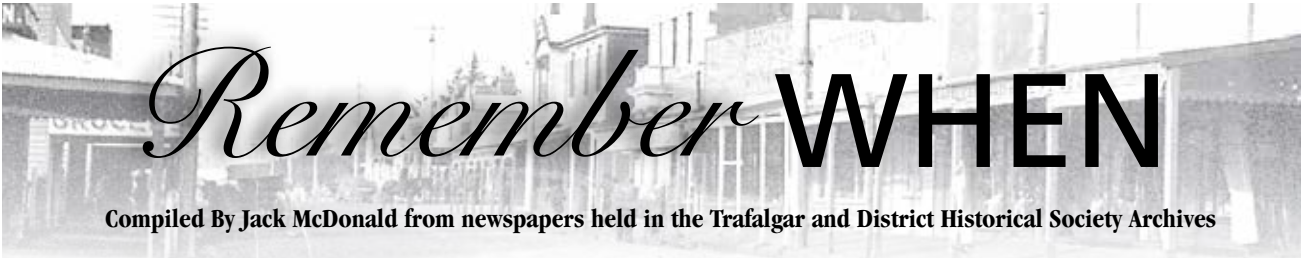
Wally's Words



Everything is connected... no one thing can change by itself.

Antenna • Satellite • Data • Phone • NBN • TV Mounting

Goodies
TV & COMMUNICATIONS
0437 745 136
E: enquiries@goodiestv.com.au
W: goodiestvandcommunications.com.au
Home Theatre • Commercial MATV • Professional AV



Trafalgar, Yarragon & Yallourn News, March, 1931

March 12 – 12,000 Tons Of Briquettes A Day

The most important plant extensions yet made by the State Electricity Commission commenced last week when the new presses at the enlarged Yallourn briquetting factory were “run-in”. The daily production of briquettes will be increased until the full output of 12,000 tons is reached in about a month.

A Whopper Sunflower

In a recent issue of the “Sun” newspaper appeared an account of a large Sunflower 7 or 8 feet high (2.1-2.4 metres), and asking could it be beaten. Yes – Mr J. Birch, Trafalgar’s well-known station-master, showed a “News” representative a monster Sunflower that was growing in his residential property. Beautifully proportioned, it stood 12 feet (3.7 metres) high – the immense head being 2 feet 1 inch (0.6 metre) in diameter. Now, can anyone beat that?

Yarragon Cycling Club

Cycling in Yarragon at present is on a wave of prosperity, and public interest is increasing more and more each week. Next Saturday the club will hold a 25 mile (40 km) open handicap for a gold medal, which is being donated by Mr. B. H. Chapman of Trafalgar.

March 19 – Thorpdale Diggers

The Thorpdale branch of the Returned Soldiers’ League is a live body and has been very active of late. “Ladies’ Night” is fixed for 8th May. When a similar function took place last year it was considered to be one of the best socials ever held locally.

Gippsland News, March, 1961

March 2 – No Quorum At Football Meeting

The present lack of interest in the doings of the Trafalgar Football Club was instanced on Friday evening last when the annual meeting called for 8 p.m. at the Memorial Hall, had to be adjourned owing to insufficient members being present to legally conduct the meeting..

Trafalgar Footballer Signs With Carlton

Ray Crockett, son of Mr and

Mrs Ron Crockett, of Trafalgar, who is now training at the Police Barracks in St. Kilda Road, has finally signed to play football with Carlton. Carlton secretary Alen Cowie made six 156 mile (251km) return trips to Trafalgar to impress upon Crockett the advantages of wearing a Carlton guernsey.

March 16 – Ex-Residents Re-Union

It is believed that the attendance at the Trafalgar and District Ex-Residents’ Re-Union and picnic at Mordialloc on Sunday, 5th March was a record.

Trafalgar-ites were early arrivals and secured the most favoured positions, but no matter where one looked somebody connected with the old town could be seen.

“Latrobettes” Retain Title

Twenty-one teams of girls participated in the Gippsland Marching Girls Championships held at Bairnsdale last Sunday. The Trafalgar “Latrobettes” contested and again retained the title of Champion “Midgets”.

March 23 – Impressed Officials

Having his first training run with Carlton on Thursday last, Ray Crockett, former centre half-forward for Trafalgar, greatly impressed officials. One of the tallest men on the field at 6 feet 3 inches (1.9m) tall Crockett showed good speed for a big man and kicked excellently.

“Back To Yarragon”

Yarragon at the moment is a hive of activity preparing for the “Back to Yarragon” celebrations at Easter. Over 800 invitations have been handled by energetic invitation secretaries Mesdames Marie Larkin and Joyce Tulloch. So far the percentage of acceptances is a little short of 100 per cent.

Trafalgar Kindergarten News

At the last committee meeting of the Trafalgar Infant Welfare and Kindergarten it was decided to conduct the fortnightly euchre party in the Fire Brigade Hall to help keep the Centre on a sound financial basis. The Pre-School Centre is subsidised by the Maternal and Child Welfare Department and a small fee is charged for each child.

March 30 –

Budgerigar Championship

One of the keenest budgerigar breeders in the district, popular Trafalgar butcher, Mr Bill Atkin, again proved his ability and expert knowledge when his entry in the Pied section of the budgerigar show held recently at Caulfield, took out the Victorian Championship title for the second year in succession. Bill, who has some 300 birds in his collection at his home in Anzac Road, is to be congratulated on his success.

Shire Entertains “Latrobettes”

On the eve of their departure for Tasmania to compete in the Australian Girls Marching Association championships, the Trafalgar “Latrobettes” were guests of the President and Narracan Shire Councillors during a break in proceedings at the council’s monthly meeting at Trafalgar on Monday last. Cr. Jim Balfour, M.L.A. (Shire President) welcomed the team, and after speaking of their fine record wished them every success. Note: The “Latrobettes” were placed 7th in the championships.

Traf News, March, 2003

March – Editorial Discussion Paper

The committee of the ‘Traf News’ has for some time been concerned about the sustainability of the paper. Its small committee has remained largely unchanged since initial planning began to develop the paper in mid 1999. Currently the committee is required to manage both the future of the paper plus the normal monthly editorial and advertisement content of each monthly edition. This is too much. Consequently, both areas are suffering. The discussion paper will hopefully point the committee in the right direction for the paper to continue uninterrupted when people on the committee change.

Townscape Redevelopment

The Victorian State Government, under its Timber Towns project, last year announced an allocation of \$500,000 (\$729,000 today) for the development of Trafalgar. With additional funding from the Council, the money will be used to enhance the appearance and infrastructure of the town.

Vale Clarrie Swenson

Clarrie (Fuzzy) Swenson died at his home in Morwell on the 28th February. Clarrie and his wife Hilda (dec.) resided in Trafalgar when he came to take up the position as playing coach of the Trafalgar Football Club. Clarrie, a former Collingwood and Hawthorn player, and a returned serviceman, came to Trafalgar in 1949, working at the Trafalgar Milk Supply. Clarrie was also a playing coach of the Thorpdale Football Club. He received the Rodda Medal in 1950 and was runner-up in 1951. He was also a talented cricketer.

Trafalgar Freemasons Appeal

All those people who kindly donated bicycles to the Trafalgar Masonic Lodge Bicycle Appeal will be pleased to know that over ‘one hundred’ bikes were given away to needy children and families in the district over the Christmas period. Ron McCrorey has another 30 bikes and parts in his shed waiting to be repaired and distributed. A hearty and sincere ‘Thank You’ is extended to everyone who responded to this appeal.

Trafalgar Kindergarten

In the Annual Report to the Kindergarten, the outgoing president Jenny Bayles stated that 2002 had been a great year watching the children grow more independent and confident. A big ‘thank you’ must go to Director Barbara Melvin and assistant Maree Cairns for providing the children with an interesting and fun program and managing to make each individual child feel good about themselves.

Youth Resource Centre In Crisis

Members of the Youth Resource Centre, Rotary Club and TCDA met recently to discuss the future of the Youth Resource Centre. Narelle Williams, the hard working development officer appointed to the Centre has recently resigned. The Centre has been very successful since it commenced in 1997, and currently runs a number of programs for Trafalgar’s youth. These activities are in danger of collapsing if a replacement for Narelle cannot be found. Rotary, the TCDA and the Centre’s Management are all working towards finding a solution to obtaining long-term appropriate funding to keep the Centre open.

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 tullicavan@dcsi.net.au



St Mary’s Church, Trafalgar

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sundays: | Holy Communion and Sunday School |
| | 9.30am |
| | 10am |
| Wednesdays: | Holy Communion, a quiet service |
| | 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 |

Rooster flocks to 150 games

Trafalgar cricketer Rhys Holdsworth ticked off another milestone recently, playing his 150th first grade match.

Here, the man known as Rooster provides a few anecdotes from his career so far.

(Questions by Liam Durkin).

Starting in the early 2000s at Traf, the great Alan Blaser came to you and said “you’re batting at six all season no matter what”, that must have given you a lot of confidence?

That was awesome as a kid. No matter what you made you knew what you were doing week in week out. It was really good by him. He was my first real captain and he did a great job for not only myself but a lot of juniors that came up during that period so I owe a lot to him.

From there things progressed fairly quickly and you found yourself playing district cricket with St Kilda. Was there any connection there?

My first senior Gippsland Cricket League game at Warragul I was first year out of juniors. I made a half century and Mark Ridgeway was there watching and he was the St Kilda coach and there was a connection there, my family knew him and he offered me the chance to go down there and play.

Everyone that has come across Mark Ridgeway seems to have a story. Was he as tough as everyone says?

He was a brilliant coach. Demanded a lot out of the players and the players reacted and did what he said basically. To coach a club like St Kilda and get the results he did was a pretty great effort.

St Kilda is one of the big clubs in premier cricket and home to some absolute superstars like Warney, Michael Klinger and Rob Quiney. Did you get to rub shoulders with any of those blokes?

Funny enough my first ever game in the ones I got to play with Klinger, Quiney, Nick Jewell and Michael Beer. It was a pretty good experience.

You’ve said Klinger is the best batsman you’ve seen?

Klinger and Quiney were streets ahead of anyone that I’ve seen. Just the way they hit the ball stood out. Lots of people have probably seen that video of Kohli hitting the ball in the nets, it’s similar to that. They just have a crisp sound.

You must have clocked up a lot of kilometres playing district cricket?

I’d take my cricket bag to school at Marist Sion on top of the hill and walk from school to the train station, catch a train to Flinders St and catch a tram up to the ground, walk in and do the same home. My mum and dad and nan and pop also drove me around a lot so I owe a lot to them.

You made a scarcely believable double ton in A Grade as a 16 year old which

is still a Warragul and District Cricket Association record. Can you talk us through that?

It was pretty random to be honest. We were playing Yarragon at Yarragon and I always batted first drop that season (2006-07). I was in early and the first 50 I made was just rubbish, absolute rubbish, I got dropped a couple of times in gully but then after that it just clicked. I was pretty much hitting a two every ball because I was only young I could barely hit fours. I remember the shot to bring up 200 was just this awful dab pull shot like what Warner plays and he goes out on. I would say I’ve played better innings. Be nice to make another one.

So a few flags, three in the firsts, one in the seconds, and also something of a forgotten premierships – 2010 Kookaburra Cup. That would have to be one of the best wins in Traf cricket history?

Definitely. We roll up to Bundy (Bundalaguah) near Sale and we’ve just barely scraped together a team and we’re up against Nathan King who played state cricket. So we win the toss and bat, we get in there and King is just steaming in, zipping them past blokes heads. We ended up getting through it and made 160. Funny story in that game, Jarrod O’Meara was playing and he rolls out there with no helmet on and King is probably bowling 140 kilometres an hour and we’re just like “what are you doing? You are asking for a death wish mate”. Second ball King has just zipped one past his head and we’re like “he is going to get killed here”, so we ended up running out a

helmet to him. That was one of the stupidest things I’ve seen. Then in the second innings we actually bowled really well. The way we won the game, they were coming back for the second and my brother (Jack) ran them out from the boundary and we ended up winning this Kookaburra Cup, which is one of the best things you can win in club cricket. That team was just so random. If you ever get a chance to go down to the Traf Cricket Club, it’ll be on the wall, have a look, and you’ll just be like “how did these blokes win?”

You’ve played in Warragul District, Traralgon District and Central Gippsland/Latrobe Valley. Is there much difference between the three?

That is a tough question. I only played a handful of games in Traralgon. I would say the league we are in now (LV) is stronger than Warragul, the teams have just got a bit more depth. There are a lot of good players in Warragul but you play on turf every week over here.

You are also heavily involved in representative cricket. No one really took it seriously until you became captain in

2013-14. Was that a matter of pride for you?

You need to keep testing yourself to get better. During that period it was just getting left to rot a bit. I played a couple of games the year before and I was like “this is ridiculous”. I was lucky Central Gippsland offered me the captaincy and Wirzy (Yallourn Nth legend John Wirz) took on the team manager role and he did a really good job. In the end I just thought I’m not going to go around chasing blokes to play, so we got a squad together that wanted to play and just went “alright, we’ll pick our best team out of this squad and whatever happens happens”.

I’m surprised you haven’t gone overseas to play a season yet?

I always wanted to. There was a period when I was 24 to 27 I had teams emailing me all the time to go over. It just never eventuated with work. It would be nice but it’s one of those things, it’s a bit hard. It could definitely still happen, the connections are there.

And a humorous story to finish, you did play one game on the MCG?

Played one game, yes. This comes up a lot in conversa-

tion. It was under 18 Coca-Cola Cup (state championships). We (Gippsland Pride) made the grand final at the MCG, we had a great team, captain was Ryan Allen, we had Greg Munro, all great players and I actually had a pretty decent week with the bat. So I come in, roll out there thinking “how good is this”, looking around and I’m just like “this joint is massive”, as high as you can see is this stand and there is just no one in it so it’s pretty creepy. Anyway, one of the blokes that was already in was notorious for run outs, I wasn’t the first one he’s burnt. He’s just hit one straight to backward point and started sprinting down the pitch and I’m there like “oh, I have to go here”. I was out by half a wicket easy, and I’ll tell you what, that is one long walk off the ground for a diamond duck. Let’s just say that bat is no longer with us.

I will say one thing you’re a pretty good sport whenever that gets brought up.

Ah well what do you do? How many blokes can say they’ve made a diamond on the MCG.

To listen to the full interview with Rhys Holdsworth, visit The Original Go-Getting Podcast on Spotify.



Trafalgar Cricket Club captain Rhys Holdsworth played his 150th first grade game recently.

Race to cricket finals heats up

By *Liam Durkin*

The month of February saw remarkably tight ladders across all three senior grades for the Trafalgar Cricket Club.

With finals just around the corner in the Latrobe Valley and District Cricket League, the Ships firsts, seconds and thirds have gone into most, if not all, games in the last few weeks knowing there is plenty riding on each result.

Matches scheduled to be played between Saturday, February 13 and Wednesday, February 17 were abandoned due to the five day state wide lockdown.

The lockdown made it the second such time cricket was cancelled due to coronavirus, with the end of the 2019-20 season abandoned for the same reason.

While rain is generally the main reason cricket is called off, matches can also be called off if the temperature reaches 38 degrees (40 in first grade), or if the wicket is deemed unfit for play.

The abandoning of cricket due to a worldwide pandemic certainly belongs in the list of anomalies.

Another unique time local cricket was called off was in ear-

ly 2014 due to smoke from the Hazelwood mine fire.

On that occasion, Trafalgar was halfway through a two day match in Maryvale, but the game was abandoned after players were clearly having difficulty breathing.

The firsts hovered around the middle of the competition until a few weeks ago, when the ladder was changed overnight following a rule change governing the allocation of points for a team that has the bye. Under the old rule, the team that had the bye was awarded the maximum number of points achieved in that round, but given the potential for the rule to give an unfair advantage to certain teams, was corrected to awarding the same number of points to each team for a two day bye (six points) and a one day bye (four).

As a result of the rule change, Trafalgar dropped from fourth to fifth earlier this month.

Amazingly, at one stage Trafalgar was fourth on the ladder but also equal last, while on another week was last but only one win off third.

While such an even competition reflects a strong and viable competition, the motivation has

been there for Trafalgar on two fronts: mainly, to reach the finals, but also to make sure it doesn't finish last and get relegated.

The firsts match against Morwell ended in a draw after no play was possible on the second week due to 30 millimetres of rain falling the night before.

On day one Trafalgar made 164.

Aydan Connolly scored 33 and Ryan Bishop 28 to be the top scorers.

The Ships then had Morwell 2-32 at stumps which would have set up an interesting second day.

In the game against Latrobe an astonishing 102 overs were bowled on day one.

Rhys Holdsworth made 30 before taking 3-47 with the ball.

Jackson Noonan took 3-50 off 24 overs.

In the second innings Brodie Burgess got some batting practise in and made 27.

The seconds proved it's never over until it's over against Newborough.

Defending 9-141 at home, Newborough was 3-118 before the spin of Christian Burgess and Jarryd Kilday, who had made 28 with the bat, instigated a dramatic finish.

The Bulldogs lost their last seven wickets for 18 runs as Burgess (4-36) and Kilday (3-7) did the damage. Damien Mann did the bulk of the work early, taking 2-26.

It was the Billy Claridge show against Latrobe, as he and Fred Dyke got the team to a commanding total. Zack Brown (4-36) and Steve Asmussen (2-24) did the rest with the ball.

The game against Traralgon West saw runs to Rhain Ross (67) and Jasin Hopkins (26).

Wickets to Kingsley Rajasingham (3-35) and Brent Claridge (2-8) saw the pair make a contribution in the thirds game against Willow Grove, but like the match the week before up at Mirboo North, their efforts were in vain.

Claridge smashed multiple sixes in a lone hand innings of 70 against Churchill, in the same match Kevin Hennessy took 3-10.

The under 16s won a low scoring game out at Willow Grove.

It was an effort in itself to get a game underway, and not only that, to get a full game in given there was 30 millimetres of rain on the Friday night. The Ships posted under 100, but

their opponents were bundled out for less as the presence of Mitch Claridge back in the team inspired them to great heights. Billy Claridge made 32 and took 2-9, while Owen McLeod-Agland kept things in order with 2-14.

Louis Hennessy took 2-18 against Morwell.

Very tight bowling on day two saw the Ships to victory over Churchill in the under 14s.

Trafalgar batted first upon winning the toss and ended up compiling 6-139 from their 40 overs. James Pace top scored with 35 from 46 balls which included seven fours. Others to reach double figures were Louis Hennessy (15) and Beau Asmussen (13).

A direct hit run out from Tyler McDermott got Trafalgar off to an ideal start in their fielding effort, while everyone that came on to bowl kept things tidy. Bailey Fallon took 2-8 off four. Liam Smith (1-7) also got in on the act and Zak Larkin only conceded four runs in as many overs. It was a very good team performance over a side who had only lost one game prior to playing Trafalgar.

The under 12s returned for the new year with a win over Morwell.

Bowling first, the Ships kept Morwell to 4-42 from their 20 overs.

James Burke took two wickets to lead the way, while Charlie Hennessy took one.

The batting was excellent as every player retired, meaning Traf did not lose a wicket.

The Ships finished on 0-108 with top scorers Olly White (16 not out), Brodie Gauci (12 not out), Jasper McQualter (10 not out) and Charlie Hennessy (10 not out).

The team then defeated Yallourn North with Olly White the star of the show, making 45 not out from just 16 balls.

Striking at 281, Olly, along with Brodie Gauci who made 20 from 22, helped the team post 3-138.

With the ball, Trafalgar bowlers all found good areas, only sending down three wides for the innings. James Burke took 2-5 to be the best performed bowler.

Others to get wickets were Quinn Asmussen, Dante Moscato, Sam Jones and Jasper McQualter.

Billy blasts his way to ton

By *Liam Durkin*

Trafalgar cricketer Billy Claridge had a match to remember last month.

Strolling to the Trafalgar Recreation Reserve wicket in the fifth over, the youngster walked off 35 overs later with a score of 123 next to his name.

It was Claridge's maiden century at any level of cricket, and he also entered the record books as the second youngest player to make a senior century in the history of the Trafalgar Cricket Club.

Playing Latrobe in second grade, the 16-year-old whacked

nine four and four sixes to help take the Ships to a total of 6-246.

Not one to die wondering, he brought up triple figures with a six over backward square leg.

Speaking of his innings, Claridge said things materialised pretty quickly.

"I had no idea what I was on," he said.

"I was seeing them well from the start and my approach was pretty much just hit the ball as it comes."

This 'see ball hit ball' mentality has served Claridge well so far

in season 2020-21, and he hasn't been afraid to play his shots regardless of who is bowling.

On debut in A Grade earlier this season, Claridge brought up the winning runs with a boundary, while he played the role of pinch hitter to make a run-a-ball 25 in the last game before Christmas.

In a good sign, he has also shown his ability to change gears, evidenced by a half hour stint against Churchill when the team needed to bat out for a draw.

As primarily a strokemaker, it is perhaps unsurprising Claridge identified Australian limited overs captain Aaron Finch as one of his favourite players to watch.

"I just go about it (batting) myself," he said.

"My go-to shot is probably over mid-wicket."

Playing second fiddle at the other end for most of the Claridge onslaught was Fred Dyke, who scored something of a forgotten 76.

The combination of youth and experience put together a

194-run partnership for the third wicket.

It was a good weekend for the Claridge family, with Billy's dad Brent making 70 for the Trafalgar thirds and younger brother Mitch returning from injury.

As an added bonus, his mother was there to record the moment he raised the bat.

Trafalgar Cricket Club youngest-ever senior centurions

- 1. Lester Tatterson, 16 years one month, 152 vs Lilloco 1935-36
- 2. Billy Claridge, 16 years

four months, 123 vs Latrobe 2020-21

- 3. Rhys Holdsworth, 16 years nine months, 228 vs Yarragon 2006-07
- 4. Leo Connolly, 17 years three months, 110 vs Yallourn North 2018-19
- 5. Brodie Burgess, 17 years nine months 22 days, 104 vs Morwell 2017-18
- 6. James Blaser, 17 years nine months 24 days, 123 not out vs Longwarry 2006-07.



Billy Claridge entered the record books last month, becoming the second-youngest player to score a senior century for the Trafalgar Cricket Club.

Clymo makes premier firsts debut

Trafalgar cricketer Blair Clymo made his Victorian Premier Cricket debut for Casey-South Melbourne last month.

Clymo batted at number eight and scored a stylish run-a-ball 31 as the Swans lost to a star-studded St Kilda by 34 runs at Casey Fields.

The right-hander hit two fours and a six during his 42-minute stay at the crease.

The St Kilda line-up featured test players Marcus Harris and Peter Handscomb as well as former Sheffield Shield wicketkeeper Adam Crosthwaite.

Amazingly, the last game Harris played before taking to the field against Clymo was a test match.

Clymo played alongside Sri Lankan legend Tillekaratne Dilshan, who joined Casey-South

Melbourne earlier this season.

The Saints posted 8-199, a target which proved beyond the Swans despite the best efforts of Clymo, Dilshan (30) and Devin Pollock, who top-scored with 31.

Clymo, who started this seasons campaign with Trafalgar in the LYDCL due to coronavirus restrictions before returning to Casey-South Melbourne when they were lifted in November, has been with the Swans for the past five seasons.

He has progressed through the ranks from the fourths to the thirds and then the seconds.

Clymo earned a first grade call-up after scoring 271 runs at 33.9 in the seconds this season.

Clymo became the fourth Trafalgar cricketer to make it to first grade level in premier cricket, following Aubrey Johnstone (South Melbourne 1926-

27), Robert Young (Collingwood 1968-1969) and Rhys Holdsworth (St Kilda 2007-08 and Casey South Melbourne 2008-09).

Clymo was part of a successful core group of junior players at Trafalgar, many of whom have gone on to great things in their sporting endeavors.

Players in Clymo's cohort include Melbourne Stars wicket keeper Nicole Faltum, St Kilda footballer Leo Connolly and Trafalgar Cricket Club first grade premierships players Brodie Burgess, Liam White, Riley White, Aydan Connolly and Zack Brown.



Trafalgar cricketer Blair Clymo debuted for Casey South Melbourne in Victorian Premier Cricket first grade last month.

Heteronyms of March

The insurance was invalid for the invalid in his hospital bed

The wind was too strong to wind the sail around the mast

Funny Sign



**TRAFALGAR**
DENTAL CARE

Get season ready!



Protect your teeth and jaw with our custom-fitted mouthguards

Call: 5633 1185

Or book online:

www.trafalgardentalcare.com.au

65 Main Street, Trafalgar

TRAFALGAR
Tyre Service

Contact us for all your
Tyre and Battery Needs

Road side & farm service

- Free rotation every 5,000 kilometres
- Free pick-up and drop off of your car
- Free safety check

Peter & Nathan Dart
110 Contour Road
Trafalgar 3824
Phone: 5633 1097
Peter: 0488 134 313
Nathan: 0423 330 369

BF GOODRICH

MICHELIN

TOYO TYRES

For Performance, Quality & Value

TRAFALGAR
TILT TRAY HIRE



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

Spud shed 7am to 7pm

Specialise in organic fruit and veg and products.

Local potatoes, meat and dairy.
Locally made cakes and biscuits.
Lots of fresh fruit and vegetables.
Honey plants and a lot more.
Ph 56 239100

Return to play guidelines published

By Liam Durkin

AFL Victoria published an updated return to play document last month.

With local football-netball clubs set to commence the practice match period this month, and with the actual season only five weeks away, the most recent guidelines will give administrators plenty to think about.

At time of writing (February 14), there is a patron cap of 1000 people in place for outdoor community football training, games and programs, and a density quotient of one person per two square metres applies if electronic record keeping is used. If manual record keeping

is used, the density quotient is raised to one person per four square metres.

There will be limited access to changerooms, with only players and essential staff permitted. Essential staff have been listed as coaches, team managers and trainers, meaning parents and spectators will not be able to enter changerooms under the guidelines.

Although indoor spaces like pavilions and club rooms are permitted to open, it is recommended people refrain from spending lengthy periods inside for the purpose of socialising.

In terms of hygiene, alcohol-

based hand sanitiser must be available for all team training sessions and on the interchange bench, which players have been encouraged to use prior, during and following training and games.

A red line has been put through high fives and handshakes, while players will need to bring their own drink bottle.

The majority of protocols pertained in the latest return to play document are similar if not identical to the one released last season, while many points are now common place in everyday life such as social distancing, establishing entry and exit points

and staying home if unwell.

Given local football-netball matches generally attract a few hundred people, it is unlikely the 1000 person cap will be enforced during the home and away season.

As with any sporting body, the return to play guidelines from AFL Victoria will be in line with state government restrictions at the time.

While there are rules in place, just how practical they will be remains to be seen. Punters can say with some degree of certainty that if kids are having a kick during a quarter time break in Boolarra or Meeniyan people

will turn a blind eye to it.

Where things could really get tricky is if clubs have Melbourne based players who might be stuck in a hotspot suburb, or if local players have visited a cluster area and need to quarantine.

All going well, teams in the Traf News readership will start their seasons on April 10.

Trafalgar begins life in the Ellinbank and District League against Yarragon away.

The Bloods first home game is on April 17 against Neerim-Neerim South.

Mid Gippsland clubs Hill End and Thorpdale will get to face some new challenges as six for-

mer Alberton clubs have joined for 2021.

Thorpdale are home to Yinanr while Hill End make the trip to Foster in the opening round.

In the Gippsland League, Moe will play Morwell at Ted Summerton Reserve to start their campaign.

Players are becoming anxious to start the season, as for many they have been training 15 months in preparation for one game. Those 15 months have surely felt like three years to some.



There is likely to be a cap on the number of spectators allowed at local football-netball this season.

Have a degree? Fast track your way to a career in teaching.

vic.gov.au/TeachTheFuture

VICTORIA
State Government

**TEACH
THE
FUTURE**

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne.