

NOVEMBER 2020
EDITION NO. 233
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Traf News



PRICELESS



**MORE POLICE
FOR TRAF**

P9



**A SCHOOL YEAR
LIKE NO OTHER**

P13



**CRICKET SEASON
BEGINS**

P22

REMEMBERING SABRINA

By Shona Vines

Colourful, loveable, helpful, inspiring, unique, friend, considerate, cheerful, amazing, crazy, compassionate.

When I asked the people who knew Sabrina Pabst, to sum her up in one word, these were some of the answers.

Sabrina loved everyone and she had a unique way of making you feel happy, even if you were having a rough day. Her presence would just brighten a whole room and her laugh was infectious. I can only say those who knew her were truly blessed.

Sabrina was first introduced to Trafalgar and surrounds in 1976 when she travelled to Moe for study to become a mothercraft nurse, and as we all know she was very successful in doing so.

This is where she met Wayne, the love of her life. They were to marry in 1982 at Wayne's parents property here in Trafalgar. Their first son Joshua was born in 1984 and then Nicholas in 1988.

Sabrina then gained a daughter-in-law Tegan and three beautiful grandchildren Nate, Sophie and Leo.

She was their one and only Gaga, and always will be.

Over the years Sabrina worked at Traralgon and Moe hospital, as a nanny, ward clerk, in childcare centre, (where I was lucky enough to work with her and learn from her), she was even the nit nurse at the high school, I would say later in life that head lice would be too scared of the colour to go near her hair.

Sabrina then worked at Latrobe Community Health Service and from there she started her own business 'Mums and Bubs'.

Sabrina truly was the best at her job and this was because she deeply cared.

I recently sat with Wayne for a chat and he said, "our life was a wonderful ride, she was a beautiful person and I loved our adventures. Everywhere we went Sabrina would talk to everyone, people were just drawn to her".

Sabrina had her health issue over the years, including a troubled birth that nearly took her, cancer, heart problems and migraines, but you would never know as she was so positive through it all and kept fighting, her smile hid all her pain.

We can truly learn something from Sabrina and that is how to be grateful and positive, no matter what.

Wayne and the family wish to express their sincere appreciation to all who have been there for them and the well wishes and community support.

On Friday, October 2 Sabrina's life was celebrated as we said farewell.

With help from the community we made the town colourful with balloons.

Thank you to all the people who added colour to their homes, businesses or themselves to give her the bright send off she deserved.

I would like to say a special thank you to Dr Magdy Demetry and Rosie Misarua for helping with the cost of the balloons, and Rosie, Gabby and Liv for helping set them all up.

We can't see you anymore Sabrina but we know you are still with Trafalgar in spirit.

So goodbye for now our Angel, until we meet again.



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Council services reopen

A number of council services are now open to the community, with safety precautions and protocols in line with government requirements.

In Trafalgar, the Community Service Centre (Senior Citizen Hall) on the Princes Highway is open for immunisation sessions, as is the one in Warragul at Warragul Early Learning Centre (48-62 Bowen St).

In order to adhere to physical distancing requirements, there may be a limit placed on the number of visitors at each location. As a result, you may be asked to wait in your car until your appointment.

The Drouin Customer Service Centre is also open.

For the safety and wellbeing of visitors and staff, hand sanitising stations, social distancing floor markers and safety screens are in place at the front counters. All visitors and staff are required to wear an appropriate face mask at all times.

Residents can also get in touch via phone, email, Live Chat and other online channels.

In terms of libraries, click and collect services are available at all libraries in Baw Baw Shire, including the Northern Mobile Library. Libraries reopen from Wednesday 21 October.

For more information about available services and requirements for each specific location, please call West Gippsland Libraries on 5622 2849 or visit www.wgrlc.vic.gov.au/service-update.

For animal adoptions, Baw Baw Shire residents can access animal adoption viewing sessions, by appointment only. COVID-19 hygiene practices, including the wearing of face masks and social distancing must be adhered to at all times during appointments.

The Warragul Leisure Centre outdoor pool is now open for lap swimming, but bookings are required via www.warragul.ymca.org.au

To minimise the number of people in council offices at any one-time, current remote work practices will continue for many council staff.

Baw Baw Shire chief executive Mark Dupe said it was great to have a number of facilities back up and running.

"I'd like to thank Baw Baw residents for their patience and understanding over the last few months," he said.

"While our customer service counters have been closed, we have still been in close contact with the community, with more than 1000 Live Chat interactions and 7766 incoming phone calls during the month of September.

"The reopening of Warragul's outdoor pool has already been well received, with more than 600 patrons using the pool in the first week.

"While we are all keen to get back to some semblance of normality, I ask that all members of our community respect the rules that are in place – we've all got to do our bit to ensure we can enjoy these services together."

A dedicated online information hub is available on council's website with useful service updates and information to access support at www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/Coronavirus.

Letters to the Editor

A Tale of Two Shires

Mick Bourke OAM, Trafalgar

Moir Shire Council, in northern Victoria, recently involved its community in designing motifs for each of its towns' signs. Baw Baw Shire Council, on the other hand, unilaterally designed a generic sign for each of its towns.

The outcome shows a much more interesting and inclusive approach by Moira Shire Council to each town's identification than our recent, very bland shire signs, both town entrance and flags.

Interested readers can type 'Moir Shire motifs' into their favourite search engine to see the outcome for each town in that shire.

You will notice that Moira Shire has encouraged the residents in each of its towns to come up with a design that the residents believe identifies their respective town. The residents, therefore, have ownership of their town's new signage.

This is an initiative Baw Baw Shire must take up, even acknowledging that it has just completed its very bland re-badging of its towns' signs.

Regarding Baw Baw Shire's flags in each town, I do not recall driving into any other town in my various travels across Australia which has flags that 'advertise' the shire to which it belongs rather than the individual towns within it.

Gas led recovery debatable

Dan Caffrey Latrobe Valley Sustainability Group

Most people would have heard about the Morrison government's plans for a gas-led recovery from the COVID recession which requires billions of dollars of taxpayer money to be diverted to the struggling gas industry. They claim that it will provide dispatchable electricity to back up variable renewables, bring down electricity prices and lower our carbon emissions as big coal plants are pensioned off.

However, all three claims are highly disputable. Gas is a finite resource and using it to supply a large part of our electricity demand is simply wasteful. Pumped hydro and big batteries and even hydrogen storage based on wind and solar could do the job and will never need replacing as the resource is unlimited.

As for the point about gas bringing cheaper electricity, it is simply impossible as it is the most expensive form of generation at the moment and will require vast areas of Australia to be fracked. As a case in point, a recent report from AEMO, has estimated that the cost of gas from the Narrabri fracking project in New South Wales will cost up to \$9.36 per gigajoule (GJ), even though Santos (the project proposers) say that this figure is \$6.80/GJ.

Australians used to pay about \$3 to \$4/GJ before 2015 when we started exporting gas from QLD. Because fracking is expensive, Australians will not see any reduction in prices as the export prices are always greater than this and Santos and other companies will resist any reservation policy to reserve gas for local use. Their production cost is simply too high.

As for lowering our carbon emissions, gas is still a fossil fuel and even though it only produces about a third of the emissions of brown coal when burnt, the fugitive emissions make it almost as detrimental to the climate. Methane has about 100 times the climate impact as the same amount of CO2 over 20 years.

However, Scom's plan does not end with using the gas as back-up electricity supply. They also have plans to build a pipeline to bring gas from the fracking operations in the Northern Territory to Queensland and most of this would be for export. Other gas infrastructure including drilling valuable Victorian farmland for the precious little gas here and another four big fracking operations around the country.

As the rest of the world is powering away from fossil fuels, why does this country have to continually be the laggard in technology that could stop the destruction of the natural world and lead to better, more healthy futures for our children and grandchildren.

Does PM Morrison really want a legacy like the one he is planning? I am sure he would be appreciated a lot more if he ditched the big fossil fuel donors and acted in the interests of the population rather than his big industry backers.

Changes to infrastructure in town

By Liam Durkin

Drivers passing through Trafalgar recently would have noticed a couple of developments taking place.

The Caltex service station to east bound traffic has stopped operating, whilst a new dental practice is being constructed in amongst the main strip of shops facing the Princes Highway.

The closure of Caltex Trafalgar leaves the town with two service stations, although both are

Snakes slithering around Traf

As the days become warmer, snakes are beginning to emerge from their winter hibernation to bask in the sun and search for food and mates.

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning says most snake bites occur when people try to capture or kill them.

People who see snakes are advised to keep calm, move away

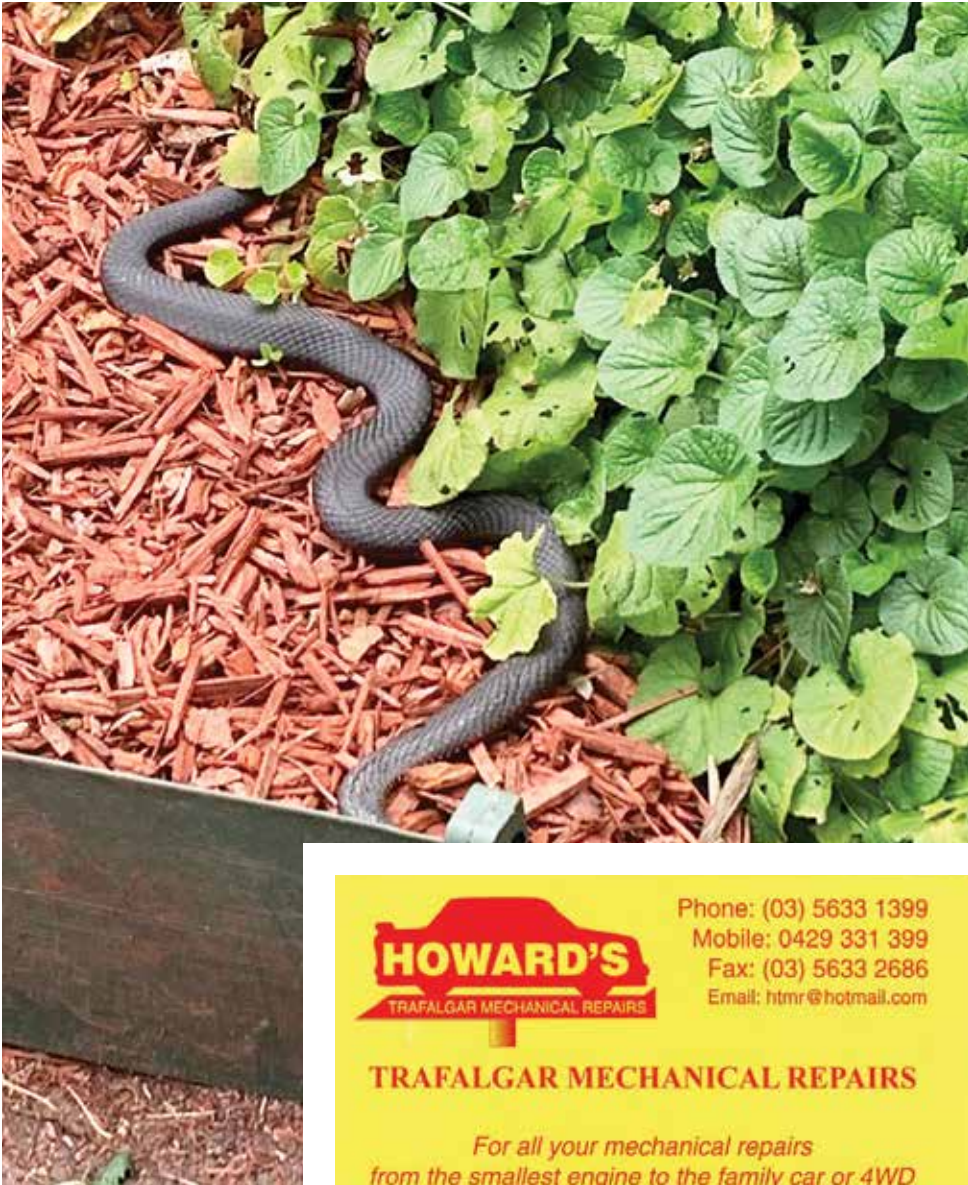
Support over the past several years."

The Caltex move follows other corporations who have left town in recent years, most notably ANZ, who closed its Trafalgar branch in 2018.

Interestingly, Maffra, a town of similar size to Trafalgar, will also lose its ANZ in coming weeks.

"We have handed the premises back to the landlord.

"We would like to thank the community of Trafalgar for their



Local resident Marcus Barker snapped this photo of a visitor he had recently.

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The Caltex service station to east bound traffic has stopped operating, whilst a new dental practice is being constructed in amongst the main strip of shops facing the Princes Highway.

The closure of Caltex Trafalgar leaves the town with two service stations, although both are

to west bound traffic. A Caltex spokesperson thanked the local community for its business over the years.

"Caltex has decommissioned its service station in Trafalgar after reaching the end of the lease agreement," the spokesperson said.

"We have handed the premises back to the landlord.

"We would like to thank the community of Trafalgar for their



Trafalgar Caltex has been decommissioned.



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ADVERTISING CLOSING - 12 NOVEMBER 2020

ARTICLES CLOSE - 12 NOVEMBER 2020

Three times unlucky

Yvette Brand

Burgled once, burgled twice, burgled three times.

That was the disbelief for the owners of a Trafalgar business last month when they were the target of three burglaries in a matter of days.

Sport 2 Street clothing store is now reeling in the thousands of dollars damage and stolen stock after thieves smashed windows, caused extensive damage and fled with scooters and clothing.

After opening just 11 months ago and then facing a roller-coaster of retail shutdowns during COVID restrictions, the family owned business is beginning to question "why us."

The silver lining last month was the overwhelming community support that left them lost for words.

At about 12.50am on Sunday, 4 October, two offenders were captured on security footage at the Contingent Street shop smashing their way into the store.

Abbey Hammond said the offenders appeared to make a bee-line to the back of the store to remove two Envy Prodigy scooters on display on the back wall.

Security footage showed the offenders then grabbing selections of clothing, mainly menswear, which they stuffed into a large bag.

In the early hours of the following Tuesday morning, offenders returned to the premises.

Attempts to kick in the front glass panels failed, but the force of their attempt caused part of the internal ceiling to collapse.

Abbey said from the security footage, it appears the offenders were scared off when the ceiling fell in and ran from the scene.

Not deterred, offenders returned later Tuesday night. Baw Baw criminal investigation unit (CIU) detectives said the offenders used a sledge hammer to smash their way into the store.

With two large bags, including a bag on wheels, offenders worked their way around the store, grabbing clothing.

The mounting damage bill, cleaning up glass and dust throughout the store and the stolen property left the owners shaking their heads with disbelief.

But, Abbey said community support had been overwhelming.

"We are so, so overwhelmed by the massive community support. People we don't even know have been offering to come and help us clean up, tradies have offered to help get the shop open.

"We have had the bakery give us treats, someone paid money at the café for us to have coffees through the week and we even had someone say they had a holiday house we could use if we needed to get away.

"And we have had so many messages of support from people, some that aren't even customers, and people have been buying online," Abbey said.

Baw Baw CIU detectives are investigating the burglaries and believe the two offenders were likely the same offenders on the three nights.

One male was wearing a black hoodie with unknown white branding on the back, black pants, a cap and tan work boots.

The second offender, presumed to be male, was wearing a black hoodie, black pants and brown coloured shoes.

Source: Warragul Gazette

Probus club ramble going again

By John Attwell

After eight long months it was great to see some members of our club head off to Blue Rock Dam for a good walk around the loop at the dam which was bathed in sunshine plus strong winds.

It did not matter about the weather because it was so good to see Probians getting together and having a catch up chat and a good walk.

We were able to have a coffee and cake at the general store at the midway point before returning to the carpark at the picnic area.

There were nine members plus Ron and Liz Bowley's dog Benji, which is a good start up for our monthly walks.

Our committee met in late September to assess what progress we can make towards moving ahead with more activities for the club. At this stage with limita-

tions on numbers who can attend gatherings and social distancing requirements it will be sometime before we can plan for meetings and most other activities.

We are still hopeful of having some form of gathering before Christmas, maybe a picnic. The committee will meet again this month to decide further.

Our parent group Probus South Pacific are keeping in touch with all members via newsletters and are keeping us informed about all the new ideas some clubs are doing to cope with COVID safe activities.

It is interesting to see the differences between clubs in different states as to the sorts of activities they have. Some have meetings and some have a mix of face-to-face meetings with some members attending via Zoom.

Probus Clubs are very creative and some of the ideas devel-

oped for online activities include Friendship Trivia, Virtual Bingo, Virtual Chess, Armchair Travel Rally, and instructions on how to become a Creative Probian and design your own game. October had a week for 'Get Online Week' in Australia but most people are already online because here in Victoria there isn't much else to do for some people.

We have had the first of an annual event for Probus Day which was on at the start of last month and some clubs had special events for their area.

Toowoomba in Queensland had a Probus flag flying at the local council offices and Geraldton in Western Australia were sponsored by a local charter company for flights over their city. What can we think of for our club next year?



Wayne and Barb Butterworth, Anne Brennan and Ron and Lyn Jones preparing for the walk.



Lyn and Ron Jones, Anne Brennan, Iris Pywell, Liz and Ron Bowley and Wayne and Barb Butterworth enjoy a coffee at Willow Grove.

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Bird of the month

Former Trafalgar resident and Trafalgar Cricket Club player Peter Goldstraw is also an avid bird watcher.

In this installment, we see the Eastern Koel.

Found in the thick foliage of trees, the Eastern Koel is often difficult to spot, but easy to hear.

The Koel's distinctive "wirra wirra wirra" call sounds day and night and it feeds on native and other fruit.

Some birds have even been known to migrate all the way from New Guinea.



A female Eastern Koel in dense foliage at Melbourne Zoo.



An Eastern Koe.

St Joseph’s burglary

A Moe man was arrested and remanded in custody following a burglary at St Joseph’s Primary School, Trafalgar on Sunday, 11 October. The incident occurred at about midday. Two men in the school grounds were seen by a staff member who was at the school. Police allege the offenders stole a cricket bag containing sports equipment from a sports

storage shed in the school grounds. Three police units and an ambulance attended. The 35-year-old Moe man was arrested for burglary and possession of drugs. He was remanded in custody to appear at Latrobe Valley Magistrates’ Court last month.

Source: Warragul Gazette

Local podcast episode update

A number of episodes have been added to local journalist Liam Durkin’s podcast series since the last issue of Traf News.

Daniel Earl

In this episode, Early talks about his journey to becoming senior coach of the Gorman-dale Football-Netball Club and the challenges ahead for season 2021.

Clinton Taylor

The man known as The Reverend has multiple things on

his plate, and as such, covers a range of topics in this episode, from football, politics and everything in between.

Mitchell Stanlake

After completing a marathon for mental health, Mitchell ‘Swan’ Stanlake talks about the experience, as well as his own well-travelled football career.

If there are any locals readers think would have a good story to tell, please let Liam Durkin know on 0402 556 338.

Episodes are available on Spotify by searching *The Original Go-Getting Podcast*.



Stolen property recovered

Police are trying to locate the owner of two tool boxes and a tool bag containing Milwaukee and deWalt power tools. Assortment of power tools and charges with batteries has been located.

Any assistance to Sgt NOTT at Trafalgar 5633 1188.

IT’S TRUE



A study in 2010 found that it takes an average of 17 months and 26 days to get over divorce. That is the time it takes to resolve contentious issues such as child custody, property problems and money worries.



Tool box recovered



Tool box recovered



Tool bag recovered

By Carol Monson

The Baw Baw Arts Alliance is slowly reopening according to the current restrictions.

This means both the ‘Artspaces’ at Trafalgar and the ‘Station Gallery’, Yarragon are open for business.

During November the ‘Station Gallery’ will have a vibrant display of mosaics and ‘On the Wall’ Heather Brimblecombe will display her meticulously planned and executed felt works.

The ‘Artspaces’ at Trafalgar will reopen as a retail space only until the art groups are able to recommence.

All the items for sale have been created by members of the Baw Baw Arts Alliance so it will be a wonderful opportunity to purchase early Christmas gifts and support members of our community.

‘Artspaces’ is open from Monday to Friday from 11.00am to 3.00pm each day except for Wednesday when it will close at 12.30pm.

Meanwhile, despite restrictions on group numbers outside, the community art project, sponsored by Regional Arts Victoria, mosaic artists are doing their best to complete ‘Pat the Dog’.

Locals began creating multi block tiles for Pat’s coat well

before COVID-19 appeared. This coat has been ready to be tiled in place since June but COVID restrictions started on the day a professional tiler had been organised to assist.

When the restrictions eased enough the coat went on. The mosaic group assisted the tiler to work, and along the way learnt a few tips.

Working without the tiler now, the group has put on white tiles for Pat’s fur, and black tiles for the eyes and nose are being placed.

It is hard, backbreaking work.

The community group hopes to finish all of the area below the coat in the next week, and then put up scaffolding so that work on the head can be completed.

The concrete block Pat will eventually sit upon, called the plinth, has not yet been started.

In spite of the delays, and the slow work with social distancing, the mosaicers are still ever hopeful that Pat will be completed in time for the Christmas Exhibition at the ‘Station Gallery’, Yarragon.

The Baw Baw Arts Alliance is a not for profit community group and always has a number of other organisations to thank for financial support including the Baw Baw Shire and Vic

Health. Local artist and member of the Arts Alliance, Bec Vandyk, is managing a new project in conjunction with the shire’s Cultural Development Officer, Karen Whitaker-Taylor.

The project, ‘Live-Well, Come-Share’ is designed to engage small communities of Baw Baw residents who may be isolated by culture, health or mobility issues, age, or other daily life challenges, and connect them with other community members through art as a medium of expression and personal growth.

Because of restrictions on face-to-face activities the project is currently providing an online series of workshops called ‘The Melting Pot’ on Sunday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm. The series has been such a success to date that the next stage is for participants to meet in outside venues under the leadership of a local artists.

Artist Jeannie Haughton will lead this next component and has been given limited production rights by Graeme Base to use his book, ‘Uno’s Garden’. It is an exciting prospect that will enable community members to make puppets and models based on the book, draw and paint, take photographs with some local imagery, create an outside

Local dairy history captured

Graham Goulding

The Trafalgar Butter Factory was successfully operating by the early 1900’s and claimed to be one of the most advanced factories in the state.

In 1905, the Moe Dairy Co-operative started operations in competition with Trafalgar. Another competitor, the Trafalgar Milk Supply Factory, opened in 1920.

Over the following decades each factory would compete for their milk supplies from the local dairy farmers. The dairy industry also experienced continuing change which resulted in challenges for the managers of the factories.

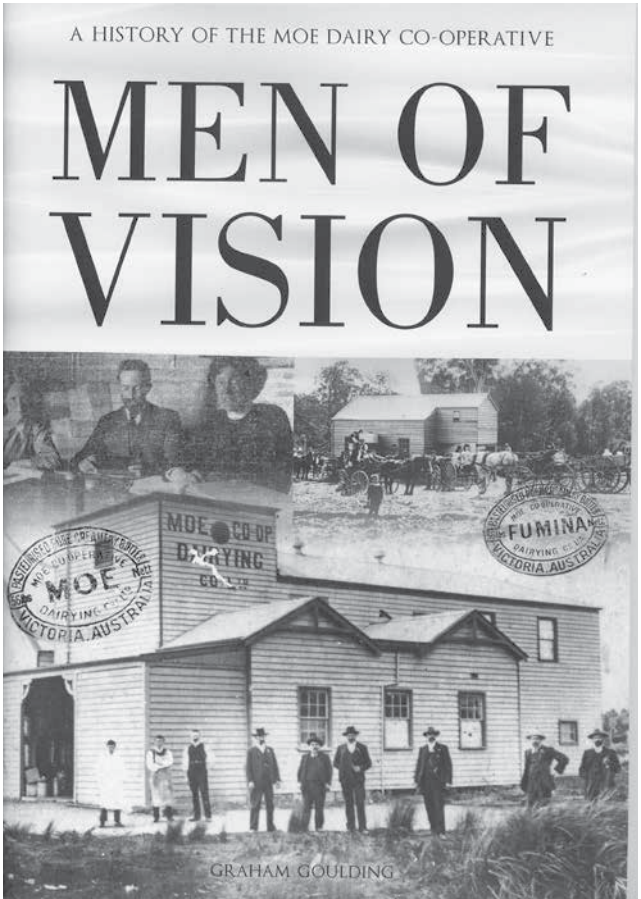
In 1942 the Trafalgar Butter Factory closed and in 1943 the Milk Supply Factory was taken over by Petersville. By the 1980’s, Moe was facing a significant problem - it was a small operation in a time when factories had to merge into larger enterprises to achieve the necessary economies of scale.

By the 1980s, Petersville management assisted the Moe Co-op by taking their excess milk supply. They might have merged except for the fact that Moe was still a co-operative and Trafalgar was a proprietary company operation. In the end both factories would close.

Moe merged with Drouin and by 1986 the entire Moe operation had ended. Petersville closed in 1990.

A history of the Moe Dairy Co-operative has been published by the Moe and District Historical Society and describes the success and ultimate closure of the Moe Co-op.

Copies are available at the Variety Bookstore in Albert St Moe.



A new book detailing the Moe Dairy Co-operative has been published.

Station gallery back open

projection and sound recordings and most importantly, develop new skills.

For more information, or to become part of the project,

please email the Project Manager and Artistic Director, Bec Vandyk at artsandhealthgipps@gmail.com, Karen Whitaker-Taylor, Cultural Development Officer, Baw

Baw Shire at Karen.Whitaker-Taylor@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au or Jeannie Haughton on haughton@cdsi.net.au.



Mosaic artists are again completing their ‘Pat the Dog’ works this year.

Bushwalking club back in action

Jo Leviston

Spring is in the air and the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club is delighted to be back on the track.

Since COVID restrictions were eased club leaders were prepared with a number of var-

ied walks which have been enthusiastically received by members.

Morwell National Park, the Baw Baws, Walhalla, Port Albert and Wilson’s Promontory have already been visited with Mt

Worth, kayaking and a number of bike rides and other walks fast approaching.

Further information is available via the website sbw.org.au, via Facebook or by emailing Jo at publicity@sbw.org



Snow to contend with for Strzelecki Bushwalking Club members.



Michael, Martin, David and Jean enjoy a walk at Mt St Gwinear.

Gippsland radio born in Trafalgar

Trafalgar's little known history as the birthplace of radio in Gippsland was brought to light last month, after the region's first radio station, 3TR, celebrated 90 years on air.

TRFM and Gippsland Gold began life as 3TR on September 29, 1930, but its roots go back even further.

Trafalgar Radio Club was tinkering with low power broadcasts as an 'experimental' station in 1929.

Operated by Frank Berkery, it was known as 3FB.

However it wasn't long before the amateur service developed into a fully licenced commercial radio station, relaunching as 3TR

in 1930.

It was Gippsland's first radio station, at a time when there were only four in Melbourne and two others in regional Victoria.

Archibald Gilchrist from Melbourne station 3DB led the Trafalgar Radio Club in this new endeavour, but it soon became apparent that changes were

needed for 3TR to be commercially viable.

Gilchrist bought 3TR from the club in 1932 and moved it to Sale.

With studios in Stawell St then York St (Princes Highway), 3TR remained there for the next 57 years, providing music, news and sport for listeners across central

and east Gippsland.

The station grew through the war years, the era of radio serials and quizzes, then the birth of Top 40 music.

The next big change came in 1989 when 3TR made another move to Traralgon.

Then in 2002, 3TR became two stations — splitting into

3TR-FM and Gippsland Gold, which both still operate today.



A plaque in Contingent St commemorating the site of the original 3TR radio station.



Be a leader. Become a teacher.

Become a teacher to lead us into the future, and inspire who comes next.

vic.gov.au/TeachTheFuture





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More police for Traf

Yvette Brand

Trafalgar is to receive two extra police officers.

A significant injection of police resources across the Baw Baw police services area is expected to target an upward trend in crime statistics over recent years.

In the biggest ever rollout of additional police across the region, extra resources have been allocated at Warragul, Drouin, Trafalgar and Neerim South stations.

The rollout is further supported by specialist divisional police, including a crime scene unit, working across the division.

Superintendent Mick West said the additional resources meant Baw Baw was getting a "really improved service."

"We are now getting the resources to combat the crime and we are more pro-active."

"A significant increase in general duty officers allows us to bolster the frontline, which means the community will notice a more visible police presence," he said.

Two additional sergeants and seven senior constables have been allocated to Warragul while Drouin station has an additional sergeant and one leading senior constable.

Two additional senior constables have been allocated to Trafalgar and one senior constable at Neerim South.

Baw Baw criminal investigation unit also has two additional detectives and two additional highway patrol officers over the past 12 months.

He said population growth and crime trends were among the criteria used in a Victoria Police formula for allocating resources.

Supt West said the additional resources across the division, which includes Baw Baw, Latrobe and Bass Coast, enabled a divisional response to crime.

"We want to make the division responsive so if there is a run of crime here, we can bring down resources from Latrobe."

"It's about getting police resources to where our hot spots are or where the high harming, high crime is occurring."

"We've never had the staff to be pro-active. Having two divisional vans and a sergeant on night shift is long overdue."

"It's a real safety thing. It means if there is a critical incident we can increase safety and decrease risk," he said.

Supt West said the new resources had already provided a

substantial boost to policing efforts across the local community.

He said the clean-up rate of crime across Baw Baw was first rate, "they've been really kicking goals."

Supt West said extra detectives across the divisions allowed them to set up a serious crime investigation unit to target serious crime offences.

"These extra resources will facilitate more proactive investigations and a refined and timely response to existing and emerging crime themes," he said.

Over a three-year period, Supt West said 110 people had been deployed across the division.

In March, it was announced the Baw Baw, Bass Coast and Latrobe police service areas would receive 79 additional police over the coming 12 months.

Nine additional shared divisional resources, including crime scene services and criminal investigators are also being rolled out.

An additional 18 shared divisional police will begin by April next year, including crime scene services and highway patrol members.

Source: Warragul Gazette

Wally's Words



Instead of monitoring this call for quality purposes, how about you just listen to what I need and fix it. – Wally



6-8 Seven Mile Rd TRAFALGAR (03) 5633 2062

CHARGE INTO SPRING

THE POWER OF REDARC



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ELECTRIC BRAKES
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THUNDER LUCIDITY
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HTX2

NEW & IMPROVED

Alberts Corner



Pure mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas.
– Albert Einstein

ON THE BEAT WITH TRAFALGAR POLICE

Sergeant Chris Nott – Trafalgar Police Department

The article is designed to assist the community with local issues and share our goals of community safety, wellbeing and working together to make Trafalgar and surrounding communities a great place to live, work and raise a family.

By developing our approach to community engagement Trafalgar Police aim to increase community participation, communication lines and create confidence in our community to report crime, incidents and unusual behaviour to police.

Items to consider recording are: lawn Mowers, Brush cutters, Drills / power tools, Chain saws, Specialised tools, Vehicle trailers all sizes.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR SHED OR GARAGE HAS BEEN BROKEN INTO

Contact local police.

Reports will be taken and if possible, police will attend to assess for forensic value.

Don't disturb the scene unless police have given you the all clear.

Police will want to know when this occurred and between times and dates. How did the offenders get in. What did they take and if possible as already stated last month makes, models and serial numbers of items stolen are a huge help for police investigations.

DUE TO THE NATURE AND LOCATION OF FARMS, SHEDS, GARAGES THEY ARE EASY TARGETS. GENERALLY, NOT LOCATED CLOSE TO RESIDENCES AND MAYBE DEPENDING ON THE PROPERTY BE ISOLATED. THIS STRATEGY IS TO HELP MAKE THINGS A LITTLE BIT MORE DIFFICULT FOR PEOPLE TO GAIN UNAUTHORISED ACCESS.

ROAD SAFETY

Approaching the festive seasons and with the potential for people to not have COVID restrictions stopping them from travelling let's all be mindful of being SAFE on the Roads.

No drink driving, if you plan on having a celebration or a drink, think about how you will get around in advance and make the necessary arrangements. Police will be zero tolerance on this issue.

No driving whilst using mobile phones. This practice is highly dangerous and with the increase of road users over the summer period Trafalgar

Police will be displaying a zero-tolerance to any road user who is found using a mobile phone whilst driving.

Police would also like to remind all rural producers of the importance of adhering to all road rules whilst driving tractors and to remain vigilant as to the responsibility of driving a large slow-moving piece of machinery that requires the user to display the upmost of safety practices.

Fines- SLOW DOWN on the roads, don't make us issue you a speeding fine. With the increase in holiday traffic we will be enforcing speed.

Drive safely and consider others.

COVID 19

As I compile this article metropolitan Melbourne are still locked down to stage 4 restrictions. For us in Regional Victoria we are now seeing restrictions relaxed. Please adhere to the restrictions so we can all get back to normal sooner rather than later. Info on the DHHS website for anyone who needs to clarify what they can and can't do.

POLICE ASSISTANCE LINE (PAL)

For non-urgent crime and events, you can report using the PAL. Call 131 444 or go to police.vic.gov.au

The following can be reported, THEFT, LOST PROPERTY, PROPERITY DAMAGE, PARTY SAFE, ABSENCE FROM RESIDENCE. This gives our community another platform to report to police without feeling the need to speak directly with us at Trafalgar. All reports will come back to our station for actioning.

Positivity at primary school

By Liam Durkin

With less than 50 days left in the school year, Trafalgar Primary School students are well and truly making up for lost time over the last few months.

Kids have enjoyed reconnecting with each other, and some warmer weather of late has meant they are able to expend their energy on playgrounds and sporting fields.

School captains Marli Edwards, Shannyn Marx, Brodie Gauci and Sofia Davis reported plenty of smiling faces amongst pupils,

"Everyone's excited to be back working with each other, seeing friends and teachers again," Shannyn said.

Primary school aged students do not have to wear masks, even those aged 12, although there are

still many restrictions in place, such as a ban on music classes involving singing and the playing of woodwind and brass instruments.

For Grade six students, graduation plans will also be modified this year.

As Sofia explained, some traditional activities won't be going ahead.

"We normally do this thing we're everyone puts their hands up and all the Grade sixes run through it, but we might do it with balloons," she said.

The remote learning initiative has also varied from person-to-person, with students such as Brodie on campus most of the time.

"Me personally I was at school [so it wasn't as bad]," he said.

Fellow student leader Marli said whilst "it would have been

a lot better if we did it at school" the experience overall wasn't too daunting.

"It's been okay considering we've done it all at home," she said.

With primary school children at a critical age in terms of mental development, Trafalgar Primary School principal Cameron Nicholls said student wellbeing had been front of mind.

"During the period of remote learning our staff onsite continued to provide a significant care for a significant number of students every day," he said.

"Some students thrived (in remote learning) and some found it much harder," he said.

"But in each case the most important thing is our staff knew where every student was and now that students have returned to

school, we are just working as hard as we can to make sure everybody continues to grow in their learning.

"For primary aged students they are less independent than the secondary's and they really need to be instructed in all the things to complete their work – what tasks to do, in what order and when to take breaks.

"We were providing a significant degree of pastoral care for the young people in our community while their parents worked.

"I describe Traf as a 'dormitory town', many people who live in this great place travel for work, so because they work extended hours, when you add travel time, it requires their kids to have care here at school."

The school has not let the pandemic stop other developments

taking place, with various 'another day jobs' now ticked off the list.

"We don't want to waste a crisis, so with the students out of the school we've tried to make the most of them not being here," Mr Nicholls said.

"A schools not really a school without kids, but we've been able to get in and do some of the facility works that we needed to.

"We got the breakfast club up and running, refurbished the library, built a new adult learning centre, and brought in a whole lot more IT infrastructure which will set our kids up to be better off in the future."

The breakfast club is of significance, and has been established to provide students with a hearty meal to start the day.

With the addition of a before-and-after school care facility

ready for next year, Trafalgar will have a true educational precinct from kindergarten right through to year 12.

Fittingly, the high school, primary school and kindergarten are all located on School Rd.

Mr Nicholls wished to praise the work of all staff and students in being so adaptive this past year.

"I've been really proud of the extra effort the staff have put in, in terms of making sure we're looking after all the kids," he said.

"I just get excited to come to work and watch the kids grow in their learning.

"To watch the success of the staff facing that adversity and still see students grow in their learning has just been fantastic."



Trafalgar Primary School leaders Brodie Gauci, Shannyn Marx, Sofia Davis, Marli Edwards and principal Cameron Nicholls were thrilled to welcome back on campus learning last month.



School staff welcoming students back with balloons and bubbles.



Macy and Aurora enjoy exploring the newly refurbished library.



Education support staff Belinda White and Melissa Marsden serving up a before school feast at the breakfast club.

A school year like no other

By Liam Durkin

Students across the state returned to the classroom last month for take-two of face-to-face learning.

Term four officially began on Monday, October 5, and will run until Friday, December 18. Schools reopened in late May, but were again forced to shut when the second COVID-19 wave hit.

For those completing Year 12 exams, the return to the classroom has presented a mad dash to the finish line, with Victorian Certificate of Education exams scheduled virtually straight after the General Achievement Test (GAT).

The GAT is usually held in the middle of the year, meaning the 2020 cohort is well and truly in a class of its own.

With one eye turned to entering the big wide world next year, Trafalgar High School students will be gunning to put months of challenges behind them when they sit their final exams – which for most means starting with the three hour English exam on Tuesday, November 10.

Trafalgar High School captain Cooper Burgess said he would be looking to draw on the experience of the GAT when taking his English exam.

"It was good to have the practice of the GAT because we're there sitting for three hours and I really used it as a practice for the English exam, because they're around the same time," he explained.

plained.

Cooper said whilst the year had been hectic, it was pleasing to see teachers and students supporting each other.

"We call our year 'The COVID Year' so compared to any other Year 12 year we've had it a lot harder," he said.

"We've been at home for six months, our whole cohort has done well.

"The teachers have done well keeping in touch with people.

"Teachers got set students they called every week so I think that helped.

"I got a call from Ms McQualter who is my maths teacher every week and it just helped with how I was feeling – it wasn't about school, it was how you are coping.

In order to help fellow students and promote important messages, Trafalgar High School leaders organised days for BeyondBlue during the year.

Once students returned to the classroom, Cooper said the joy amongst all on campus was palpable, especially on the face of principal Jane Mersey.

"The most excited is Ms Mersey, she says when we first got back just having the noise of the whole school here just makes her happy," he said.

Year 12 student Kirra Gill was equally excited to be back learning face-to-face.

"It's really great, it just gets us all together again as a team," she

said.

"It's really hard being at home behind a computer and a microphone.

"At school it is definitely easier to contact your teachers and get involved in all the work and catch up."

During the lockdown Kirra said morale amongst students had been pretty good all things considered, and all involved deserved a pat on the back for their efforts.

"We worked together as a team through the COVID-19 situation and we've all been very supportive of each other this year," she said.

"I think we've gotten through it pretty well and I think we should all be proud of ourselves for getting through it."

"Knowing we had that support there did help you to succeed further."

Support has been a key pillar in the eyes of school captain Grady Ruiter, who believed the events of the last few months had inadvertently had a galvanising effect on students.

"It's a year no one expected, but it's brought us a lot closer to each other," he said.

"As much as we are far away, as much as we are in different houses where we live, I think it's the camaraderie and the 'we'll get back one day' and it's pushed us through to where we are today.

"We're all very fortunate to be where we are today and see our friends and say 'how are you go-

ing?', 'how are you dealing with it?'"

As well as school, the class of 2020 has also had to go through an excruciating wait to enjoy so many things that happen when you turn 18, such as getting your licence or going out.

Surely most, if not all, have often thought how different life would have been if they were born just a year later.

Whilst year 12 students Lucy Findlay and Nyah Makin conceded there had been the odd meltdown during the year, everyone was resting easier knowing the finish line was within reach.

"I'm really glad to be back, I've missed everybody," Lucy said.

"Learning from home was definitely a lot harder than I thought it was going to be."

Naturally, all Year 12s will be looking forward to their rites of passage, although 'muck up day' remains in the air.

Trafalgar High School principal Jane Mersey praised staff and students for their ongoing commitment and resilience in a year that had been anything but normal.

"Our mantra has been 'we need to be flexible and we need to be kind'," she said.

"We talk about our bookends in school, Year Sevens and our seniors, because really in many ways it's been the biggest impact for our Year Sevens and seniors.

"Our Year Sevens were only

onsite six or seven weeks and then they were off and then back in and off again, so they've had very limited onsite experience in their first year of high school.

"And of course our senior students, our Year 12s, it has been quite emotional for staff and students.

"We want what's best for our kids and we want those rights of passages to be celebrated because it is a great achievement, they've got through 13 years of schooling and we want to be able to celebrate with them."

As a government school, Ms Mersey said those higher up had adjusted well with the curveballs thrown.

"I think the department has done a pretty amazing job," she said.

"We are all beholden to the advice of the chief medical officer, so they've acted upon that in an as timely manner as possible and within the guidelines that they have.

"I think people have done an exceptional job across the board – doesn't mean we haven't been frustrated at times – but I think across the board people have done an exceptional job."

While there is speculation university entry rankings will be lowered because of the challenges the class of 2020 has had to deal with, Ms Mersey said it was difficult to ascertain at this point in time.

"It's really hard to know," she

"Some universities have been doing early offers, we've got a few students already who have received early offers so they're pretty pleased.

"Each university is managing it in a different way.

"But we are hoping they (universities) also take on that flexibility mantra and are realistic for our students this year."

When asked where COVID ranked among the challenges she has faced in her career, Ms Mersey said in no uncertain terms it belonged at the top of the list.

"This has absolutely been the biggest challenge without question," she said.

"I say that without hesitating.

"I'm a pretty experienced principal, I've been a principal for quite a number of years now.

"There's been challenges in terms of technical issues and school operations.

"On any given day we could have 900 people onsite, so it's always been at the forefront of my thinking, keeping people safe and keeping people well, but still having business as usual as much as possible.

"The hardest bit has been seeing the impact on our students."

VCE students will be revising hard over the next few weeks, until the exams conclude at the end of the month.

St Joseph's 'Front Door' Project

By Sonia Lombardo

The St Joseph's Trafalgar Primary School ISO/lockdown project began last month.

An idea borrowed from other communities across the world, our school hopes to capture the resilience and togetherness in our school families throughout this period of forced isolation in 2020.

A book and poster for school families and future generations will be created and made available at the end of the school year.

Already our St Joseph families have begun to send in

photos of themselves as a family unit, standing by their front door or gate.

It certainly has been bringing joy to staff at school as they collate them, may they also bring you such joy!

Trafalgar High School students will sit their VCE exams this month, following months of remote learning due to the pandemic. Pictured are year 12 students and school leaders Grady Ruiter, Cooper Burgess, Kirra Gill, Lucy Findlay, Nyah Makin and principal Jane Mersey.



Cathomen family.



Eerbard family.



Hicks family.

New paediatric continence service at Trafalgar Primary Care

By Julie Rogalsky



Clare Fyfield, Paediatric Continence Nurse Consultant has joined the team at Trafalgar Primary Care (TPC) offering a private continence service for young children who experience bedwetting and soiling.

Clare, a Trafalgar local, has 47 years experience as a nurse of which 18 years were worked as a continence nurse specialist. Earlier this year, Clare decided to retire, however COVID-19 made her rethink this decision and as such, she decided to continue her career in a private capacity offering a specialist service tailored to the needs of young children and their parents.

According to Clare “children’s bladder and bowel issues are not going to stop occurring during lock down. Parents need a lot of support and guidance to help their children through these difficult times.”

Due to COVID restrictions, Clare is conducting initial consultations and monitoring via Zoom and when it is safe to do so, will offer face to face consults by appointment at TPC.

During these uncertain times, Clare has embraced remote consulting as a model of service delivery which is safe, convenient and accessible. Clare commented “it is certainly a very different way

to conduct children’s continence assessments but so far it has been very successful and we are getting some great results.”

Self-referrals are accepted in addition to referrals from a GP or paediatrician. This is a private service, therefore there are no rebates available through private health or Medicare.

If you would like more information, phone Clare on 0492 950 644 or via email at clarefyfield@bigpond.com

Other service providers who work from TPC include: Baw Baw Radiology offering X-ray, ultrasound and echocardiogram, The Podiatry Group, Warragul Osteopathic Clinic, Clinical Psychology, Hearing Australia, Access Telehealth and Mental Health Nursing.

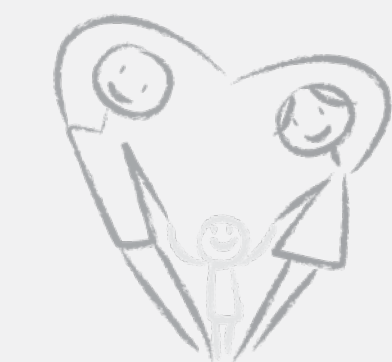
Most of the other services are now offering face to face consulting.

If you would like further information phone TPC on 5633 2986.

Trafalgar Medical is locally owned and managed, and has 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 the website www.trafmc.com.au.

For regular updates follow Trafalgar Medical on Facebook.



Clare Fyfield
Paediatric Continence
Nurse Specialist

Paediatric continence nurse Clare Fyfield is now available at Trafalgar Primary Care.

Ear infection in pets

By Dr Gee Taufik



Ear infections are a common reason pet owners will seek advice from their vet.

Recognising an ear infection and seeking advice early can be critical in achieving a quick and successful outcome.

Ear problems can be frustrating to treat, they often can wax and wane and knowing when to finish treatment can be difficult due to the shape of our cats and dogs ear canals.

Warm moist ear canals, with little ventilation, make an ideal environment for infection to establish. Bacteria and yeast can multiply in a warm, waxy, moist environment, contributing to inflammation. Ear infections can progress from the outer ear, to the middle and even inner ear if the ear drum is ruptured.

Inner ear infections can cause issues with a dog or cat's ability to hear.

What are the signs of ear infection?

Does your pet shake their head a lot? This may be because their ears are inflamed, itchy or sore.

Other symptoms of ear infections are:

- scratching ears;
- smell from ears;
- discharge from ears;
- sore ears (won't let you touch

- them);
- red or swollen skin around the ear or on the 'pinna' - the ear 'flap' (should be a healthy pink);
- a tilting of the head to one side or the other (inner ear infection), and;
- different pupil sizes or a raised third eyelid (the small lid in the inside corner of the eye).

What causes ear infections?

Allergies: there is a strong link between allergic skin disease and ear inflammation. Often ear infection is the first symptom of underlying skin disease.

Foreign bodies: grass seeds can get stuck in your pet's ear and cause pain and inflammation making the ear sore and irritating to your pet.

Humidity: moisture in your pet's ears encourages yeast and bacteria to grow.

Narrowed ear canals: some breeds of dogs have narrowed ear canals making drainage from the ear and ventilation difficult. These breeds of dogs getting ear treatment into the right part of the canal to get a quick resolution can be tricky.

Parasites: mites are often a cause of ear infection in young animals. They can irritate their ears, and often have a dark brown discharge from the ears.

What to do if you think your pet has an ear infection?

Make an appointment at your local vet clinic. The vet will examine your pet from top to toe including a focus on the ear ca-



Photo by Bianca Ackermann on Unsplash

nals. They will use an otoscope to look into the ear canal and take swabs to analyse what type of infection is present.

Your vet may suggest a small sedation for your pet to avoid the pain, clean the ears, examine the ear drum, apply the appropriate

medication for the affected ear and can show you how best to apply this to the ear canal.

How you can prevent ear infection?

Check your pet's ears regularly and look for signs of an

infection (discharge or odour or swelling or pain from the ear) then consult your veterinarian.

Also, regular cleaning using an ear cleaning fluid. Your vet or vet nurse can show you how to properly clean your pet's

ears.

And finally, never use cotton buds or other products in your pet's ears as this could cause further damage to the ears.

Familiar face back in town

By Liam Durkin

The MacGregor name will stay in Trafalgar for another generation, with Jade MacGregor now working locally as a principal solicitor.

Jade recently returned home with her husband and young family, and has since set up her own law firm – J MacGregor Legal.

Come January, J MacGregor Legal will be based in the old post office, continuing a long lineage of MacGregor's to work in Trafalgar, after her family ran the local panel beating business for many years.

Jade was born and raised in Trafalgar, attending Trafalgar Primary School and Trafalgar High School.

She then studied at Deakin University in Geelong and graduated in 2015 with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and Bachelor of Commerce with Distinction majoring in Finance.

After being admitted to the Supreme Court of Victoria as an Australian Lawyer in 2015, Jade

worked in a boutique law firm in Geelong, gaining experience in wills and deceased estates, conveyancing and property transfers and commercial law.

In coming back to her hometown, Jade said she wanted to provide affordable and professional legal advice and services.

“I’m here to make a business and help out the community where I can,” she said.

“The idea is I’m starting off two days a week, obviously if I’ve got enough work I’ll increase it, but it’s mainly just to have something that fits in with my family dynamics and while the kids are young to have some work to do.

“It’s very hard to work part time in a law firm, especially big law firms where you’re expected

to meet budgets, so that’s why I decided to open my own business.

“My practice areas are mainly property, so conveyancing, purchases and sales of land, houses, commercial real estate, as well as transfers, so between spouses or superfunds, and then wills and estates so preparing wills, powers of attorney, administering deceased estates.

“The only court work I really do is family maintenance claims which is where someone brings a claim against a deceased estate for not being provided for or not being provided for enough.

“People can come to see me for any enquiries for property, so if they are looking at selling, looking at buying, I’m happy to look over contracts and section 32s for them.

“If they need to update a will, or never had a will, they’ve got a family member who has passed away and they are an executor, I can help with the estate.

“Landlords around here for retail leases as well, I can do loan agreements between family members, where people are lending money, those kinds of things.

“I’m happy if people need things certified or witnessed to just give me a call and stop by, I’m not going to charge for any of that kind of stuff.”

Despite only being 29, Jade has already been involved in some notable landmark wins for clients.

“We had a case in Geelong where we acted for the Polish Association of Geelong,” she explained.

“They were having quite a few issues in their membership base with theft and whatnot.

“We were in court for about

a year and a half and it got to a point where we were successful for our clients and they ended up inviting us to their Christmas luncheon as their honoured guests.”

With Trafalgar growing and developing rapidly, Jade’s advice to those thinking of entering the market was to really think things over before making any decisions.

“If you are looking at buying or selling, especially purchasing, you should always have a solicitor look over your contract before you sign anything,” she said.

“People can also get into a bit of strife by signing things and then thinking they can get out of them later when they can’t.

“With everything that is going on, loans aren’t being handed out like lollies anymore, so I’d advise people to take it steady and not just sign up for a home thinking that they will get a loan.”

Now that she is back in Trafalgar, Jade said she was excited about the new venture and establishing a strong rapport with those in the community.

“I’m sure most of the teachers at the high school will be able to recognise me, my mum is a big part of the golf club, and dad spends a fair bit of time at the Holden Museum,” she said.

“I’m fairly young, not the typical solicitor who works in wills and estates. I’m not here to make megabucks, I’m just hoping to start up a business and hopefully get to a point while my kids are at school that I’ve got enough full time work to make a living.

“Just come and have a chat and I can give some advice to help out.”

J MacGregor Legal can be reached on 0421 467 270.



Jade MacGregor has returned to Trafalgar to start her own business.

AROUND THE
HISTORICAL
Society

By Dianne Ireland

With no meetings or working bees, the Trafalgar and District Historical Society has still remained busy and despite the restrictions imposed for COVID 19, the editorial committee of the Society has been able to produce the latest issue of the Gazette.

The feature article is from a family history compiled by Tini Cook called A Pioneer's Story – Thomas Davies. This is a fascinating read and provides an insight into the struggles, resilience, bravery and tragedy

endured by these early pioneers.

This article is accompanied by some great photos too. Another interesting story is that of Raymond “Digger” Fowler, another stalwart of the district who began Fowlers House Removalists. Again, an inspiring story with some great photos.

Many thanks to all involved in the production of this Gazette which is available for \$4 at the newsagency, the post office and EdComp.

Errata – Moving Robertson's House should read Moving Robertson's House.

The latest Gazette from the Trafalgar and District Historical Society is now available.

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Farming News

Dairy wins in budget

Australia's dairy industry will benefit from tax cuts and a cash splash aimed at boosting jobs and growth in regional industries over the next four years, announced in this year's federal budget.

Peak dairy industry group the Australian Dairy Industry Council praised the federal government's plan to stimulate economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, adding the government's initiatives help facilitate key outcomes of the Australian Dairy Plan and deliver on key priorities identified in the ADIC Election Policy Platform.

"The dairy industry has just released an industry-wide strategy to improved profitability, productivity and unity over the next five years. Many of the measures announced in the federal budget help achieve these goals," ADIC chair Terry Richardson said.

The government's flagship \$74 billion JobMaker package includes many initiatives designed to increase consumer spending, increase the size of the workforce and create incentives for business investment.

Key measures for the dairy industry include:

- Businesses with turnover up to \$5 billion can write off assets until June 2022;

- Businesses can carry back tax losses from the 2019-20, 2020-21, or 2021-22 income

years to offset previously taxed profits in 2018-19 or later income years;

- Businesses employing a new staff member over and above their usual headcount will receive \$200 per week if they hire an eligible employee aged 16 to 29 years or \$100 per week if they hire an eligible employee aged 30 to 35 years;

- \$1.5 billion has been provided over five years from 2020-21 to support the Modern Manufacturing Strategy which is focused on building competitiveness, scale and resilience in the Australian manufacturing sector. Food and beverage manufacturing are one of the government's six priority industries; and

- \$328.4 million has been provided over four years from 2020-21 for a package of measures to improve the ease of doing business for agricultural exporters.

Investment in building and modernising regional infrastructure is also a key priority in the budget:

- \$2 billion over 10 years from 2020-21 for the development and delivery of a 10-year rolling program of priority water infrastructure investments that support agricultural output, increase water security and build resilience;

- \$269.9 million over four years (and \$9.8 million per year ongoing) for a package to achieve a sustainable and certain

future for Murray-Darling Basin communities, industries and the environment;

- \$155.6 million over four years for a package of measures to support farmers and communities in drought, including \$50 million to extend the On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme;

- \$187.6 million over four years from 2020-21 to support investment in energy generation with a particular focus on gas;

- \$100 million over two years to facilitate Regional Recovery Partnerships with states, territories and local governments; and
- \$30.3 million over two years to extend Round One of the Regional Connectivity Program to support the delivery of reliable, affordable and innovative digital services and technologies in regional Australia.

Gippsland leads increase in national milk production

National milk production is set to increase this season, as favourable weather, lower input costs and relatively firm farmgate milk prices support some of the best dairy farming conditions of recent years, according to Dairy Australia's October Situation and Outlook.

This will be the first annual increase in national milk production in three years — with Tasmania, Gippsland and South Australia leading the charge.

Increased milk supply in most regions is also supporting 'cautious optimism' for improved farm profitability.

The report highlights significant changes in consumer purchasing habits resulting from COVID-19.

While food service and route channel sales have declined because of reduced hospitality sector activity and travel, retail dairy sales have been fuelled by increased levels of home cooking and baking.

Supermarket sales of butter have surged 18.2 per cent, cheese by 6.4 per cent and plain Greek yoghurt by seven per cent in volume in the past 12 months, with larger value packs preferred over single serve items.

By contrast route channel sales of flavoured milks in convenience and petrol stores fell 19 per cent.

Dairy Australia senior industry analyst Sofia Omstedt said two different stories were emerging for the current season.

"One tells the tale of consistently improving conditions at the farmgate and a positive flow-on impact on milk production. The other reflects depressed global economic growth, disrupted dairy demand and significant shifts in consumer purchasing habits from COVID-19," he said.

"From a farmgate perspective, several things are going well, as input costs ease, confidence rebounds, and milk pro-

duction continues to grow.

"Whilst the story is far from finished, this year could finally provide the industry a much needed breathing window and farmers the time to build up equity again."

Global supply of dairy is reported to be mounting with supply growth picking up in the Northern Hemisphere, and milk supply in the US and New Zealand exceeding expectations.

Record-breaking year for MSA program

A record-breaking 3.8 million cattle were graded through Australia's globally-recognised eating quality grading program, Meat Standards Australia (MSA) in 2019-20, representing 46 per cent of the national adult cattle slaughter and an increase of 3 per cent points on the previous year. It's the highest number of cattle graded in a year since MSA's inception in 1998, according to the 2019-20 MSA annual outcomes report. By volume, Queensland continued to process the greatest number of MSA graded cattle with 1.8 million head, while South Australia had the greatest MSA proportion of the state slaughter with 90 per cent MSA graded. Victoria showed the greatest growth with an increase of 17 per cent of cattle being MSA graded. In 2019-20, 4.3 million sheep followed MSA pathways,

representing 22 per cent of the national lamb slaughter and a 2.5 per cent point increase from 2018-19. A total of 64 per cent of these lambs went into MSA trademarked brands. By volume, South Australia processed the greatest number of MSA lambs at 1.7 million head and had the greatest proportion of the state lamb slaughter following MSA pathways at 78 per cent. MSA Program Manager David Packer said the latest MSA Annual Outcomes Report demonstrated the value MSA continued to deliver to producers and Australia's red meat industry. "MSA delivered an estimated \$172 million in additional farm gate returns to MSA beef producers in 2019-20," he said. "In 2019-20, the average price differential for young non-feedlot MSA cattle was 27 cents per kilogram hot standard carcass weight, compared to the same non-MSA graded cattle according to over the hook NLRS reports."Based on the average carcass weight of 279kg of MSA cattle in 2019-20, MSA beef producers potentially received an estimated \$75 per head in additional returns for young, non-grainfed cattle and \$35 per head for cattle that met grainfed specifications. "Non-feedlot cattle represented 38 per cent of MSA graded cattle, and feedlot cattle represented 62 per cent of MSA graded cattle."



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

Council Meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 5.30pm in the Fountain Room at the West Gippsland Arts Centre.

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.

Please note: Council meetings are currently closed to the public due to COVID-19 restrictions.

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.

Early Bird Prize Draw Winners

Congratulations to Janice and Richard Younger from Neerim South for winning the \$1,000 Early Bird Prize Draw for paying their rates in full by 30 September.

Janice and Richard were the lucky winners out of a pool of almost 5,000 local households.

This incentive has been run in accordance with the Declaration of Rates and Charges.

The annual incentive will once again run next year.



Warragul Leisure Centre reopening information

The Warragul Leisure Centre will reopen the indoor pools from Wednesday 4 November for recreational swimming and swimming lessons.

Hydrotherapy sessions will also be available for 1:1 patient/Allied Health Care worker sessions.

The 50-metre outdoor pool will see an increase to the hours of operation for lap and recreational swimming for all members of the community.

More information about opening times, bookings and COVID operational restrictions will be available soon.

For updates, please visit the Warragul Leisure Centre website **www.warragul.ymca.org.au** or call 5623 4017.



Baw Baw Business Recovery Service available

Council has introduced the Baw Baw Business Recovery Service in response to COVID-19. The service offers a dedicated resource to help you navigate through all the information available to ensure you obtain the right assistance.

To contact the Business Recovery Service, email **economic.development@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au** or call 1300 BAW BAW.

Immunisation session times

Warragul
2 November
9.30am - 11.00am

11 November
4.30pm - 6.00pm

21 November
9.30am - 11.00am

Trafalgar
24 November
5.00pm - 6.30pm

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

Australia Day Nominations Now Open

Nominations for the 2021 Baw Baw Shire Australia Day Awards are now open. This is a great chance to acknowledge those who go above and beyond to make our community a better place.

Nominations can be made in three categories:

Citizen of the Year

A person who had made a noteworthy contribution during the previous year, and/or given outstanding service to the community over a number of years.

Young Citizen of the Year

A person aged under 25 years who has given outstanding service to the community.

Community Group of the Year

An organisation or group who performed a service to the community, raising funds for a charity, event or project.

For more information and to nominate, please visit **www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/AustraliaDayAwards**

Nominations opened today and will close at 5.00pm on Sunday 29 November 2020.

Award winners will be announced at the Australia Day Awards Ceremony in January 2021.



Save the date for free green waste drop-off days

To help prepare your property for the upcoming fire season, Council is offering FREE Green Waste drop off days at selected transfer stations.

Neerim South Transfer Station

20 and 22 November,
10.00am - 4.00pm

Erica Transfer Station

22 and 23 November,
12.00pm - 4.00pm

Trafalgar Transfer Station

28 and 29 November,
10.00am - 4.00pm

Lardner Transfer Station

5 and 6 December,
10.00am - 4.00pm

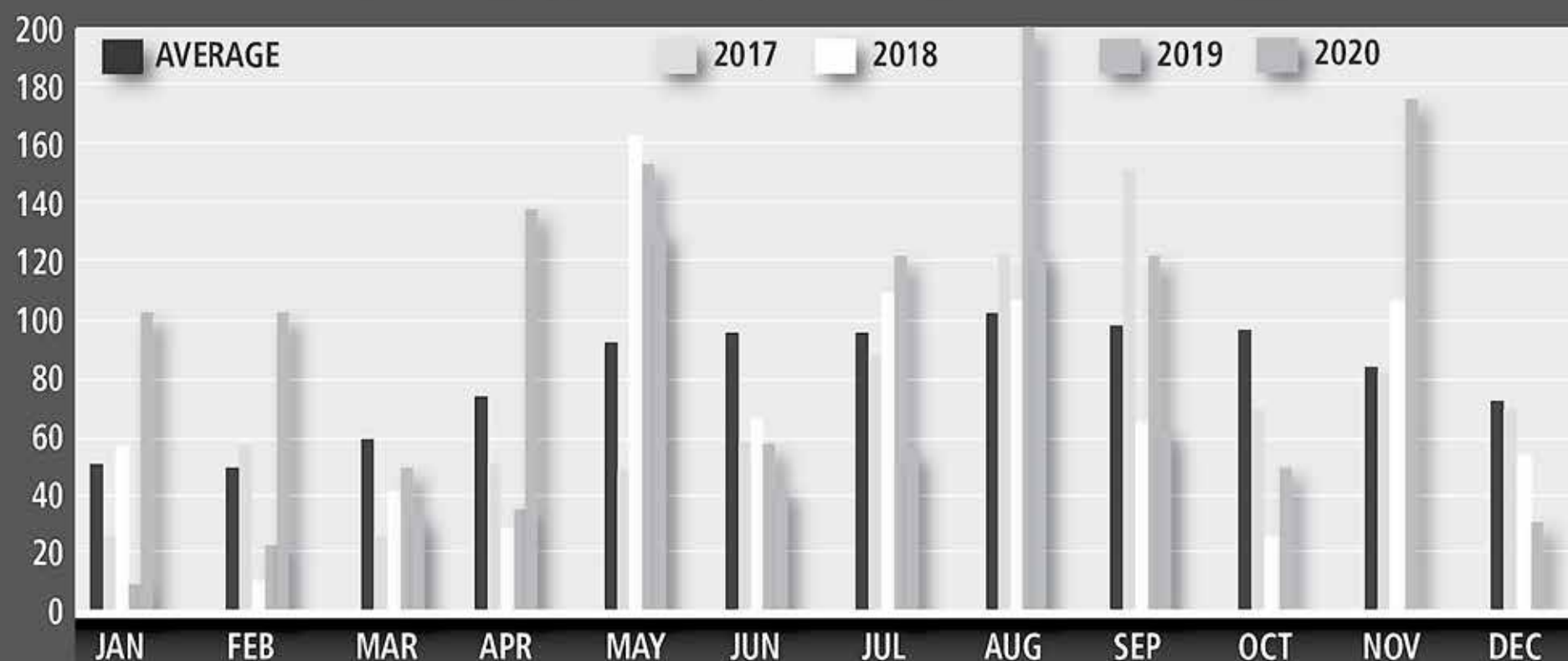
Handy information

- Up to 3 cubic metres per household only.
- Available to all residents - property owners and tenants.
- Bookings not required - simply present proof of residency i.e. current driver's license or rates notice.
- Must be delivered in residential vehicles and trailers (commercial vehicles will be charged at the standard rate).

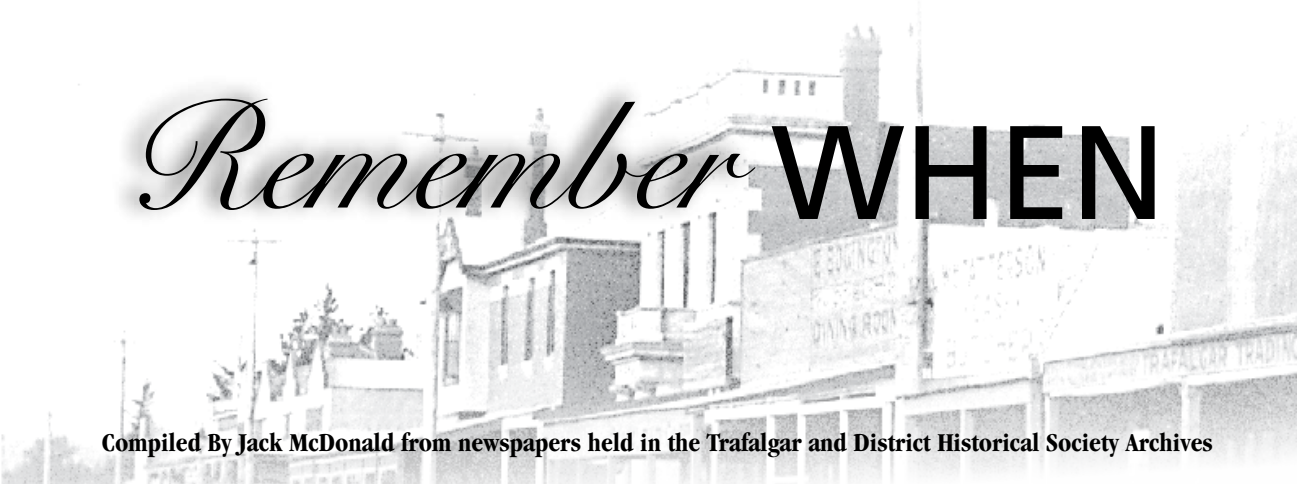
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TRAFALGAR MONTHLY RAINFALL



This graph compares the monthly rainfall received in Trafalgar in 2020 with, 2017, 2018, 2019, and average monthly rainfall since records began. The monthly rainfall for September 2020 was 64 ml



The Trafalgar & Yarragon News, November 1930

6 November – St. Mary's Croquet

The St. Mary's Croquet Club at Trafalgar was opened last Saturday in bright sunshine.

The picturesque surroundings of green trees and sweetly perfumed flowers, acted as a fitting back-ground to the pretty frocks of the vast concourse of ladies present. Competitions were played and proved highly enjoyable.

Community Singing At Yarragon

Community singing will be held at the Yarragon hall on Tuesday, 11th November, when a good program has been arranged, and many artists will assist.

A song competition for children under 14 will be held in connection with the community singing. A dance will follow and supper will be provided.

20 November – Please Write In

We want all the people to write into this paper. Send in jokes, short stories, little interesting incidents that happen in your daily lives – any thing that you think would be interesting to other people.

Don't think that you are too young, or too old, because we want this paper to be as interesting as possible to everybody.

Flying Popular

District folk got plenty of thrills last week-end when an aeroplane was giving exhibitions and passenger flights at Trafalgar.

The plane, a Moth, was piloted by Capt. Barlow. Arriving on Saturday afternoon, a good crowd soon gathered around to witness and take part in the fun.

The 'plane 'looped the loop', nose dived and did all sorts of stunts.

The Gippsland News, November 1960

3 November – Trafalgar Boys' Jump Record

John Ward, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Alan Ward of Trafalgar, provided the highlight of the Trafalgar-Moe School Sports

Associations fourth annual meeting at the Moe Oval on Wednesday of last week when he gave a brilliant display to win the high jumping with a leap of 4 feet 9 and a half inches (146cm), and shatter the old record by 4 and a half inches (11.4cm).

Thirteen-year-old John, who has trained keenly at the Trafalgar State School under the watchful eye of teacher Ian White, has improved by 8 inches (20.3cm) since last year.

10 November – Big Bang Up

As is usual at this time of the year, our town "went bang" over the week-end, and in most cases Junior's weekly allowance, plus a certain amount of Mum and Dad's coin, found its way into the hands of the cracker vendors to help celebrate Guy Fawkes Day.

Bonfires were easily discernable in all parts of the town and one and all had a grand time as bangers, cart wheels, whizzers, sky rockets and the like all exploded with much gusto to the delight of the younger fry.

17 November – Trafalgar Girl Enters Convent

Mary, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs S H Ward, of Con-tour Road, Trafalgar, on Sunday last, entered 'Our Lady of Sion Convent' at Sale.

She took with her the best wishes of a large number of friends and acquaintances.

Work For Asian Students

The Trafalgar Rotary Club has received requests from at least three Asian university students to work in the local district for the Christmas vocation.

Any type of work would be acceptable, whether on farms or in other industries. The Rotary Club considers this is a very real way of extending friendship to the various Asian countries.

Holiday For Legacy Children

Each year, 24 boys and girls, who are under the care of Melbourne Legacy, are very kindly taken into our homes in our local district and given a fortnight's holiday in the country.

Central Gippsland Group of Legacy will be very grateful to hear from anyone who will give

these children a holiday in their homes during that period.

24 November – Trafalgar Golf Club Achievement

Last week-end a dozen enthusiasts completed the last link in the scheme for supplying water to all putting greens on the Trafalgar Golf Course.

At about 3.30 the scheme was given a trial run and very soon water was flowing from 18 taps with very good pressure.

Thus the dream of some 10 years became a reality. With the installation of the water supply the Trafalgar Golf Club must now be ready to take its place amongst the leading country clubs of Victoria.

Traf News, November 2002

November – "Battle Of Trafalgar"

Trafalgar's recent "Battle of Trafalgar Festival" – the third in the current multi-day format, was another resounding success.

Almost 20 events were held over the eleven days of the festival involving a number of community groups and clubs.

More than 40 people took the opportunity to walk through the Uralla Nature Reserve and the number of young people there was particularly pleasing to the Reserve Committee.

Once again there was something for everyone and the festival's committee was very pleased with the result.

Skate-park For Trafalgar

It is particularly pleasing to see that Trafalgar's youth will soon have their skate-park, with the Baw Baw Council recently approving its development.

The skate-park project has been driven largely by the town's youth under the auspice of the Trafalgar Youth Resource Centre over a period of some years.

The youth have grasped the opportunity to be involved in the decision making process of the project, deciding upon the appropriate design of the skate-park and investigating the various sites around the town.

Trafalgar Student Wins Award

The 2002 Language Teacher

Award winners in each of the nine languages taught in Victorian schools were announced at a function at Parliament House in Melbourne on 9th September.

Ian Mynard, a former student at Trafalgar Primary and Secondary schools, was successful in winning the Indonesian Teacher of the Year Award, and was presented with a certificate on the night.

He also wins a three-week study excursion to a University in Yog, Jakarta. Ian's parents are Joan and Bob Mynard of Trafalgar, who were also invited to the award ceremony.

Trafalgar's Christmas Spirit

With Christmas just around the corner now is the time to start preparing for this year's 'Best Christmas Decorated House' as part of the 2002 Christmas spirit festivities. Families are asked once again to nominate or be nominated for the best Christmas decorated house in the town.

Induction Of Rev. Obersby

On the opening night of the recent "Battle of Trafalgar Festival" another important event for the community took place at St. Mary's Anglican Church in Trafalgar.

The official installation and induction of Reverend Marilyn Obersby as Rector of the Parish of Trafalgar was presided over by the Bishop of Gippsland, Jeffrey Driver, and was attended by over 150 people from the three parish centres, (Trafalgar, Thorpdale and Yarragon) plus many Gippsland clergy, family and friends from Sydney, and from many parts of Gippsland.

Marilyn is our 22nd Rector, and the first female to be appointed to the position.

Civic Reception For Netballers

Trafalgar's A Grade netball team was recently invited to a civic reception by the Baw Baw Shire Council in recognition of the team's premiership victory in September.

It has been a good couple of months for Kerry Malady, who played in the World Masters Games in October with a group of girls from Gippsland when they won a Bronze medal.

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

St Mark's Church, Thorpdale

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

THORPDALE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH

Rev Frank Lees,
Phone 5634 6413 or 5633 2758



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

Trafalgar Holden Museum car of the month...

Bob Moss

Holden and WW2

The Tiger Moth was first built in the United Kingdom in 1931.

During WW2 the Australian De Havilland Aircraft Co at Mascot, near Sydney, manufactured 1070 Tiger Moths, with engines built by GM-H at Fishermans Bend, Melbourne. Of those, 732 went to the RAAF with the remainder exported to other overseas training schools.

Although the Tiger Moths were the RAAF's basic trainers, a number were painted in camouflage colours and used by Army cooperation units in Papua New Guinea. At the end of the war many of the delisted RAAF Tiger Moths were sold to civilian aero clubs while others were purchased for agricultural crop-dusting or spraying.

The Tiger Moth two-seater trainer was a relatively simple, easy to fly biplane, but required skill to fly them well. The aircraft had no flaps, no brakes, no electric starter, few instruments, and used a tail skid. With its open cockpit and the wind in your face it was 'old school flying'.

Australian production of the 130 horsepower Gipsy Major Series I engine was planned in 1939 following the start of the war and the rapid expansion of pilot training required for the

Empire Air Training Scheme.

Thrust in the Australian produced DH-82A is provided by an inverted four cylinder engine made in the 1940's by GMH. But there is quite a story behind this. De Havilland Australia was producing the DH 82A Tiger Moth trainer in Sydney and the supply of engines from overseas could not be guaranteed.

General-Motors-Holden's Limited were the lead contractor for the Gipsy Moth program but problems emerged when the drawings supplied were found to lack details required for production and even worse, were apparently intended for French use as the measurements were in metric units which required the conversion of thousands of dimensions to imperial units then in use.

De Havillands bought two engineers and two engines to Australia to assist with the project. About 85 different subcontractors made parts for the Gipsy Moth and each received drawings and the appropriate component from one of the two imported engines which had been dismantled for this purpose. Twenty sets of parts were built for testing. Of these sets, two were selected as the proof samples, one full set was kept by GMH and the other approved

component was returned to the subcontractor as a proof sample for that part. GMH assembled and tested the completed engines at Fishermans Bend, Melbourne.

This was the first engine of any type made by GMH. The first locally built engine (serial no. T.1) was tested by the CSIR Division of Aeronautics in May 1941. From 1931 to 1944 some 8868 Tiger Moths were built under licence from the De Havilland Aircraft Company with about 1085 being built at Bankstown, New South Wales.

The inverted design placed the crankshaft at the top of the engine and provided three benefits:

Firstly, the propeller was lifted further from the ground meaning that the under carriage could be shorter.

Secondly, there was a better view from the cockpit, as the cylinder heads were no longer obstructing the pilot's forward vision.

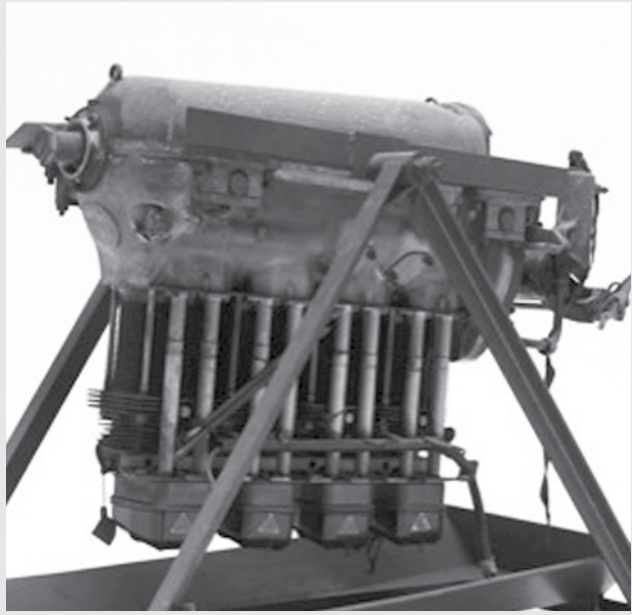
Finally, the higher position of the propeller better aligned the thrust down the centre of the air-frame making Tiger Moths more stable in flight.

On the down side an inverted engine did lead to prodigious oil consumption of up to four pints every hour.

Also, GMH manufactured the wing assembly. About 1300 Gipsy Moth engines were built in Australia as one of the more extensive wartime production projects. GMH was proud of the project and the completion of the 1000th engine in 1944.

The Tiger Moth was used to train nearly every RAAF Spitfire pilot in WW2 and is still regarded as one of the best 10 planes ever made.

Specifications: inverted eight valve four cylinder Gipsy Major, 73 octane ULP, 130 horsepower (97 KW), compression ratio 5.25:1, maximum 2100 rpm on take-off, cruising speed 75 knots, stall speed 40 knots, empty weight 1180 lbs and gross weight 1825 lbs.



The engine in its normal, vertical position.



The Tiger Moth in RAAF markings.

Reflection

Rev Sue Jacka

Leading in times of crisis

This pandemic and the responses to it from our elected leaders have caused me to reflect on decision making when the country faces a long-term crisis situation. By and large, most people I talk with are very pleased that Australia has managed to avoid the widespread infection rates that have been evident in countries similar to our own- like North America and currently across many countries in Europe. No-one likes the restrictions we have! However people seem generally to realise that in times of crisis the whole community has to work together to create a safe environment. People have been quite cross that outbreaks have been caused when Melbourne based people have travelled to regional areas, unaware that they had the virus, but still self focused enough to break the rules by eating out or having a hair-cut.

And yet as the pandemic continues, we are no longer seeing the various elected parliamentarians working together for the common good. A weakness in the Westminster system has become apparent as it is based on an oppositional style where time is usually helpfully spent arguing the pros and cons of a situation, checks and balances are established and unfortunately (and less helpfully) denigrating the 'other side' to gain votes. A more collaborative style is needed now! Perhaps this would also help address other huge issues facing Australia- like climate change and homelessness.

I am encouraged by the account in the Hebrew Scriptures when Jerusalem's city wall was rebuilt in the face of significant opposition because all the people 'committed themselves to the common good', see Nehemiah 2:18

May our leaders also seek the common good!



Vox Pop By:
Trafalgar 1st Scouts
Xander H

VOX-POP

Tell me one great thing about Trafalgar?



Karen Mowat of Trafalgar

"I think it's got to be the people"



Jess Gunn of Trafalgar

"Everybody in the town is super friendly and encouraging and supportive"



Kellie James of Warragul

"It's where I grew up"

A decade of Mid Gippsland grand finals

By *Liam Durkin*

Every club that was affiliated with the Mid Gippsland Football League and Mid Gippsland Netball Association won at least one grand final in the past decade.

A number of memorable and not so memorable contests ensued, which are sure to live on in the memory of all involved.

The senior football grand final has had some close finishes, with single figure margins between 2012 and 2014, and again in 2017.

Trafalgar and Mirboo North dominated large parts of the decade in senior football, taking out four of the first five flags on offer, whilst adding another one in the back end for good measure.

Flags were shared a bit more in the second half of the 2010s, as a different premier was crowned each year.

Senior premiers in the 2010s were: Trafalgar (2010), Boolarra (2011), Trafalgar (2012), Mirboo North (2013), Morwell East (2014), Mirboo North (2015), Newborough (2016), Mirboo North (2017), Trafalgar (2018) and Yallourn Yallourn North (2019).

A Grade netball premiers in the 2010s were: Morwell East (2010), Thorpdale (2011), Morwell East (2012), Morwell East (2013), Mirboo North (2014), Mirboo North (2015), Thorpdale (2016), Trafalgar (2017), Newborough (2018) and Yinnar (2019).

The under 18 football competition was under the microscope at many times during the decade, as clubs saw fluctuating playing numbers.

Even as early as 2010 only seven teams took part, before the number of teams remained healthy at nine or the full quota of 10 between 2011 and 2016. Things then dropped off dramati-

cally to seven teams in 2017, five in 2018 and alarmingly, just four in 2019.

The 2010s also brought about a substantial period of change for Mid Gippsland, as the local sporting landscape changed dramatically.

It is unlikely anyone in their right mind back in 2010 would have envisaged that by decades-end six clubs from the Alberton region would join, and two, possibly three, Mid Gippsland clubs would leave.

Here we look back at Mid Gippsland grand finals from the 2010s, specifically for clubs in the Traf News distribution area of Trafalgar, Thorpdale, Willow Grove and Yarragon.

2010

Trafalgar went back-to-back in the seniors, with a comprehensive 13.19 (97) to 6.10 (46) victory over Morwell East.

The Hawks led by two points at quarter time, but the Bloods came out after the main break and slammed on five goals to one in the third to take control.

Rhys Holdsworth kicked five goals for the winners in an arguably career peaking performance.

Trafalgar under 16s won the premiership in amazing fashion by one point, with the game not decided until after the final siren.

Hill End made the under 18 grand final but went down in a close encounter by seven points against Newborough.

2011

Trafalgar looked certain to make it a hat-trick of senior titles after making the grand final with an unblemished 19-win-zero-loss record.

However, Boolarra stunned everyone on grand final day to take out the premiership.

Yarragon won a premiership

in the under 16s with victory over Boolarra.

2012

Trafalgar exorcised its demons from the previous year, defeating a highly fancied Newborough 10.3 (63) to 8.8 (56).

Both teams kicked six goals in the second half, with the Bloods hanging on in a pulsating finish.

2013

Yarragon featured in the under 18 and under 16 grand finals.

The Panthers accounted for Thorpdale in the under 18s, but went down to Yinnar in the under 16s.

Mirboo North took out the senior premiership by four points.

2014

Trafalgar won the D Grade netball title with a 35 to 24 victory over Morwell East.

Mirboo North won another epic senior grand final, this time by just a single point.

2015

Trafalgar made two grand finals but went home empty handed, with the under 16 football team going down to Newborough and the B Grade netball side losing to Morwell East.

Yarragon made the under 18 grand final but lost to Mirboo North.

Yinnar won the senior premiership against Yallourn Yallourn North.

2016

Thorpdale took out the A Grade netball premiership with a 47 to 34 win against Mirboo North.

Trafalgar also won a netball premiership in the under 17s, defeating Yinnar. The Bloods under 15s made the decider but lost to Yallourn Yallourn North.

Newborough claimed the senior football premiership over Yallourn Yallourn North.

2017

Trafalgar broke a 15 year drought in A Grade netball, defeating Morwell East in a heart stopping 40 to 37 win.

The Bloods under 15s also won the premiership, but D Grade had to settle for second.

Thorpdale finished the senior home and away season a game clear in second, whilst in a bizarre set of arrangements, Trafalgar missed the finals by percentage but won the same number of regular season games as eventual premier Mirboo North.

The Tigers came from no-

where to win the flag by two points against Yinnar.

Remarkably, a one-point loss to Yinnar in the last game of the season meant the Bloods missed the double chance.

Trafalgar made the under 18s grand final but lost to Newborough.

Hill End had success in the under 16s, getting the job done against Yinnar.

2018

Trafalgar came back from five goals down to defeat Yinnar in the senior grand final 12.12 (84) to 9.14 (68).

The Bloods slammed on six goals to one in the final term to overcome a 17 point three quarter time deficit.

Klay Butler barnstormed the team to victory with multiple clearances in the final quarter to be judged best afield.

It was a prolific day for Trafalgar, who also took out football premierships in the under 18s and under 16s, and a netball flag in the under 17s.

The Bloods under 18s very nearly torched a 35 point lead at the final change but hung on to win by three points against Newborough.

Thorpdale A Grade made the grand final but went down in a

close contest by two goals to Newborough.

Trafalgar B Grade and C Grade made the grand final, but could not get over the line.

2019

The coldest grand final in recent memory saw Trafalgar represented in eight of the 10 grades, including all four senior netball grades.

Trafalgar made it back-to-back under 18 flags, whilst the B Grade netball team took home the holy grail.

Trafalgar fell short in A, C and D Grade netball, as well as reserves football, in a close game decided by nine points.

The Bloods under 16s also went down, as did under 17 netball.

Hill End became the feel-good story of the senior football competition, making its first grand final since 1981.

In all the years of watching local sport, this writer has never seen as much neutral support for one team as there was for Hill End in 2019.

The Hill Men lost the grand final to Yallourn Yallourn North but won plenty of admirers in the aftermath.

Bloods granted Ellinbank wish

The Trafalgar Football-Netball Club will play in the Ellinbank and District Football League and Ellinbank and District Netball Association next season, after being given the green light to leave the Mid Gippsland Football-Netball League.

The Bloods signalled their intent to breakaway from the MGFNL in July, referencing a lingering sense of "significant uncertainty" with regard to the state of play under a touted merger of the Mid Gippsland and Alberton leagues, which has since come to fruition.

But the move was stopped in its tracks last month as their application to leave the competition was rejected by members clubs in a seven-two vote.

The club appealed the decision with AFL Victoria and was subsequently granted permission to defect from the MGFNL.

In a post to Facebook, the club executive announced the news "with much excitement".

"Unfortunately, we were denied disaffiliation from MGFNL and subsequently submitted our notice of appeal to AFL Victoria," it said.

"We are so excited for the opportunity this gives our juniors and a return to having four games of football each Saturday.

"This was not a decision we took lightly and we wish the new MGFNL competition prospers into the future.

"We now look forward to creating new rivalries in our new

home to the west."

MGFNL publicity officer Rob Popplestone said the feeling among the league executive in the wake of the news was one of "significant disappointment".

"I guess it's also (a feeling) of surprise, especially given AFL Gippsland and AFL Victoria were so set on having all six Alberton clubs join MGFNL and so adamant that a 15-team competition could work," Popplestone told The Latrobe Valley Express.

"For a lot of time, against our own best judgement over a period of time, we put in some really hard work and thought we could make this competition work.

"To have the 15 finally get together and within a month AFL Victoria allow a club to go out ...

goes against everything we were working towards."

The departure of Trafalgar leaves Mid Gippy with 14 clubs, but that could soon become 13 with Yallourn Yallourn North expected to follow suit.

The Bombers also declared they were looking to depart the league in July.

Popplestone maintained AFL Victoria's decision to green light Trafalgar's departure flies in the face of its G25 Strategy recommendation the Mid Gippsland and Alberton leagues unite to form a 15-team competition.

"What this has done has created some uncertainty with other clubs, and they'll now be thinking 'well does this mean we can go wherever we wish?'" Popple-

stone said.

"If we felt as soon as we agreed to allow six clubs to join the MGFNL that they would then allow some clubs to leave ... contradicts our whole intention to make a strong 15-team competition.

"But 14 clubs will roll up the sleeves and do the hard work we intend to do to make this competition successful, but you don't want to be starting a new league by having clubs jump off before you've even had an opportunity to get it off the ground."

The league now fears a dangerous precedent has been set for other clubs to consider moving competitions.

"I don't think there's any question a number of clubs are

now weighing up their options and are trying to source what might be best for their clubs, but we maintain we've got the best interests of football in our region at heart," Popplestone said.

"At the end of the day if you use this scenario in a team situation if you've got a player who doesn't want to play you're better off to let them go.

"At the end of the day you've got to wish them good luck and you hope they reflect in years to come that maybe they made the wrong decision."

Source: Latrobe Valley Express.

Prizes on offer for Good Sports clubs

The Alcohol and Drug Foundation is encouraging Good Sports clubs across the country to enter this year's Good Sports Awards, for a chance to receive cash prizes and national recognition for building healthy and inclusive club environments.

Nominations are now officially open for the national awards, which shine the spotlight on community sporting clubs and volunteers within the Good Sports program, that are passionate about community, their members and making their club the very best it can be.

"The national Good Sports Awards celebrate Australia's best local sports clubs and volunteers who work tirelessly to build and maintain healthy and family-friendly environments," Alcohol and Drug Foundation chief executive Dr Erin Lalor AM said.

"This year we've seen many inspirational Good Sports clubs going above and beyond to keep members connected, engaged and healthy, despite coronavirus restrictions.

"These clubs have shown just how much they really care about their members, and we strongly encourage them to nominate.

"Even if your club's season has been cut short this year due to COVID-19, celebrating your wins and achievements is the perfect way to boost club morale and keep members feeling proud and connected."

Entering the awards is easy, and Good Sports clubs may qualify for multiple categories. Winners will receive \$1000 for their club. This year's categories are:

- Club of the Year;
- Club Champion;
- Healthy Eating Club of the Year;
- Healthy Minds Club of the Year;

- Junior Club of the Year;
- Safe Transport Club of the Year;
- Rookie Club of the Year, and;
- Tackling Illegal Drugs Club of the Year.

Nominations close at midnight on December 1 and can be submitted via the Good Sports website at <https://goodsports.com.au/awards/>. Winners are set to be announced at a ceremony early next year.

In Victoria, Good Sports is funded by the Australian government and Transport Accident Commission and managed by the Alcohol and Drug Founda-

tion.

The core program offers clubs free tools, resources and practical support to implement policies around alcohol management, tobacco, and safe transport.

"Good Sports is working with almost 10,000 community sports clubs across Australia to build a healthier sporting nation. The program encourages systemic changes in club culture to promote long-term positive health outcomes," Dr Lalor said.

"Community sporting clubs that role-model healthy behaviours are leaders in their com-

munity and play an important role in reducing and preventing harms from alcohol and other drugs."

Good Sports is proven to reduce risky drinking at participating clubs by 37 per cent and has seen a reduction of alcohol-related accidents among Good Sports club members and supporters by 42 per cent.

For more information about Good Sports and the Good Sports Awards visit <https://goodsports.com.au>.

Morwell East to remain in Mid Gippy

By *Liam Durkin*

Former Sale City player Nick Grainger would have had a few nervous moments at the thought of playing against his old side recently, after rumours circulated his current club, Morwell East, was on the move to the North Gippsland Football-Netball League.

After Yallourn-Yallourn North members voted to formally seek a move to the NGFNL, word quickly got around that the Hawks were looking to do likewise.

Morwell East reaffirmed its commitment to the new Mid Gippsland Football-Netball League last month, following Boolarra, which also found itself needing to squash rumours about its future.

For players like Grainger, who signed up to new clubs at the end of 2019, they have faced the bizarre prospect of waiting two years to debut.

The medium-sized forward

said it had been a long waiting game.

"With pre-season starting late 2019 and having April 2020 as the expected first game it felt like ages away, now an extra year on top, I just want to be playing already," he said.

In preparing for 2021, Grainger said he undertook to find out a bit about who he would be coming up against, especially the six clubs that had come across from the Alberton FNL.

"I checked how far away all the clubs were, as everyone I have heard from said it is a lot of travel," he said.

"I haven't seen any teams in that comp play before, so it will all be new to me."

While there is still the unknown factor about what the overall standard will be like, Grainger said early impressions at his new club didn't provide too

much cause for concern.

"The skills at training have been similar at Morwell East as

to what they were at Sale City," he said.

Morwell East was formed in

1973, coinciding with a construction boom in the town around that time, and has com-

peted in the MGFNL ever since.



Former Sale City player Nick Grainger will avoid playing against his old side in 2021.

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Jubilant Trafalgar netballers after the 2017 A Grade grand final.

Trafalgar celebrates winning its most recent senior football premiership in 2018.

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Trafalgar Cricket Club shirt numbers 2020-21

#	Name	23	Liam White	55	Quinn Asmussen
1	Liam Durkin	25	Daniel Heathcote	56	Aaron Aloyts
3	Zack Brown	26	Kaleb Chapman	64	Dante Mosquito
4	James Pace	27	Lachie McGrath	65	Jaxx Ryan
5	Owen McLeod-Agland	28	Louise Hennessty	68	James Burke
6	Rhys Holdsworth	29	Paul Connolly	69	Brodie Gauci
7	Connor Daste	30	George Smith	70	Beau Asmussen
8	Billy Claridge	32	Justin Hopkins	73	Oliver Hennessy
9	Craig White	35	Harry Hopkins	78	Jasper McQualter
11	Mitch Claridge	38	Scott Moorhouse	88	Callum Nash
14	Billy Pace	43	Brent Claridge	89	Toby Radford
15	Jackson Noonan	44	Riley White	91	Blake White
16	John Asmussen	48	Brodie Burgess	93	Jordy Chapman
17	Ryan Bishop	49	Mark Wynne	98	Darren Brown
19	Aydan Connolly	50	Charlie Hennessy		
21	Dennis Dyke	52	Oliver White		
22	Matt Hives	53	Sam Jones		

A very different cricket season

By Liam Durkin

The start of the 2020-21 Trafalgar Cricket Club season went from slow crawl to mad dash eight weeks ago, after an announcement from the state government that outdoor non-contact sport could resume. The announcement caught most by surprise, who just one week prior were confined to the fact that the cricket season would probably have to wait until December.

With the news coming to hand, players and officials contemplated what might be happening, as formal training sessions were hastily assembled and the start of the cricket season was all of a sudden within touching distance.

The Trafalgar Cricket Club has faced a mountainous workload in the lead up to the 2020-21 season, and many people behind the scenes have been working hard liaising with council, getting squads together and providing relevant education to players, coaches and volunteers.

Although the restrictions present a challenge, they are workable and sure as hell beat the alternative which is simple: no cricket at all.

As the season commenced last month, all involved were at least grateful the game of cricket could actually be played in some capacity.

Due to printing deadlines, there are no reports from the Ships first lot of games.

The Latrobe Valley and District Cricket League opted for a staggered return to play across the grades, with A Grade commencing first in senior cricket to see how things went with the regulations in place.

All A Grade matches will be played as one day games until the Christmas break, with the view to play two day matches in 2021 should case numbers be at a point where it is highly unlikely the season would be compromised further.

The IVDCL will play a cross-conference system in the top flight this season, with teams from the Premier A division and A Grade division competing against each other for the first

time in the competitions history.

Trafalgar has welcomed top order batsman Blair Clymo back from Casey-South Melbourne for the first part of the season until city restrictions ease.

The Ships second grade team has begun its season, and are enjoying being back out on the park. The thirds will begin in coming days.

Junior cricket is also in full swing, with the under 16s, under 14s and under 12s all back playing.

It has certainly been tough for kids and parents this year, so hopefully playing some cricket will bring a smile to a lot of peoples face.

The Trafalgar Cricket Club has taken every precaution and is strictly following the guidelines in place.

Due to current restrictions, the senior squad has had to arrange training for three nights a week to keep numbers capped at required levels.

The clubrooms are limited to a maximum of 10 patrons, as is the outdoor deck.

Appropriate signage has been erected at the club, including a QR code for players and officials to sign in and out of.

The way in which matches are played has taken on a whole new look.

At the coin toss, captains are not to share physical team sheets, and whoever supplies the coin shall toss and pick it up.

Those scoring must maintain 1.5m social distancing at all times, and wipe tablets or pens before use and each time a new scorer is required.

The fielding team must not huddle prior to getting into position, and once the game starts, the bowler is to place either their hat, vest, jumper or sunglasses at the top of their mark, on the boundary, or behind the wicket keeper. If the ball strikes any of those objects, the umpire shall signal 'dead ball', as opposed to the ball striking a helmet behind the wicket-keeper, which will remain a five-run penalty.

Players, umpires, scorers and coaches must sanitise their hands every 10 overs, and the

same rule applies to the ball, which must also be wiped and cannot have any sweat or saliva applied.

The bowling team captain must wipe the ball in sight of the umpire or junior coaches at an underage game. If the captain is the wicket-keeper, a designated person must complete the task.

The ball must only be touched by the players, and if it is touched by a day-dreaming spectator picking it up from the boundary at a junior game, it must be cleaned immediately.

At the fall of a wicket, the ball must be placed next to the stumps at the bowler's end ready for the next delivery and also cleaned.

If the umpire is asked to inspect the ball they must immediately sanitise their hands before and after.

Players must not high five, hug or come closer than 1.5m when celebrating a wicket, and must not spit or block one nostril to clear the other at any time.

There is also no communal after tea, so players are required to bring their own or duck down the street to the bakery or a take-away outlet.

On a positive, spectators are allowed at all matches, but must not be in groups of more than 10 and follow social distancing.

A worst case scenario would require the club to restrict activity.

The detection of a positive COVID-19 case in the club will result in a standard public health response, which could include quarantining a whole team or large group, and close contacts, for the required period.

Facilities may be closed on the instruction of the local public health authority or Chief Health Officer.

Where there is a positive case, the player or official must notify their club immediately. The club must then notify the public health authority and their association, who will notify Cricket Victoria.

If restrictions return and no play is possible before January 21, the season will more than likely be cancelled.



Trafalgar Cricket Club under 12s with coach Liam White.

More to life than footy

By Liam Durkin

Former Gippsland Power captain Josh Cashman is kicking goals — even though he hasn't played a game for five years.

Having led Gippsland Power and spent some time in the VFL, a possible AFL career was shelved in 2015 when the lure of becoming a professional musician eventually won out.

Since then, the 25-year-old has worked hard honing his craft, and is now living the life supporting the likes of Tash Sultana, Ocean Alley and John Butler Trio.

Now barely recognisable from his football days, Josh has enjoyed some radio airplay on Triple J with the release of his single Twenty Five, from his debut album .

After deciding to head down the music path, Josh said he had well and truly left the football life behind.

"I don't really follow footy a lot anymore. Football's not in the picture at all — it's just all music right now," he said.

"As a youngster I always thought that football would be my forte.

"I feel like I was always destined to do football, it was always a hobby, but when I moved up to Melbourne, originally to play in the VFL, I just started putting a bit more time into music and it naturally evolved into what is now my full time career."

While footballers and musicians aren't often mentioned in the same breath, Josh found early success in both fields during his formative years in Gippsland.

With guitar in hand, Josh performed in local record shops as a 15-year-old, and also won Battle of the Bands at his school.

His football also blossomed, with the sport his main priority during his teenage years.

"Growing up music was just kind of there, something that I really enjoyed doing and footy was something I was a bit more passionate about as a kid," Josh said.

"But as life went on a little bit music became more of that passion and that's why I followed through with it, I think I was better at music than I ever was at football and I'm glad that I'm doing music now for sure."

Thanks to his parents' taste in music, Josh had a solid grounding in classic rock from artists such as Pink Floyd, Fleetwood Mac, Tom Petty and AC/DC, which all contributed in shaping his current sound.

When asked to describe his music, Josh believed his style fell

under the alternative soft harmonies banner.

"I'd say my music is indie-folk-rock, in that pretty chilled territory," he said.

"I can't imagine my music offending too many people, it's pretty easy listening."

Josh spent three years at Gippsland Power, and was elected captain for the 2013 season, and also played alongside future AFL players Tim Membrey and Carlton co-captain Sam Docherty.

"Sam Docherty was my mentor when I was a bottom age back flanker, he was the top age back flanker," Josh explained.

"I loved my Gippy Power days, they're memories I'll always have forever. That was a massive highlight of my younger years, being able to captain the regional team was cool."

After then moving to Melbourne to play with Williamstown in the VFL, Josh said the ambition for music meant he had to make the decision to leave football behind.

"At the time that's all I knew, that's all I was ever working towards, this massive football career and it wasn't until I was 18 and moved out of home and you start learning about life, how to pay bills, how to pay rent, getting a real job out in the real world," he said.

Funnily enough, one of Josh's first gigs as a musician came thanks to Gippsland Power teammate Will Hams, who was playing for Essendon at the time.

"I was playing at a few open mic nights and friends parties and that lead onto one of my mates Hamsy, who got drafted to Essendon, got me to play at the Essendon Mad Monday one year," he said.

"Then I released a song in 2014, and after that some people started coming to nights and I got offered some paid shows at places like The Esby, it was more of a word of mouth thing that evolved to signing for a booking agency who then got me a bunch of work and then introduced me to a lot of other artists.

"I guess a domino-effect kind of happened from there to releasing quite an adequate amount of music and just learning a lot along the way.

"I feel like things really started to look like this is probably what I'm going to do when I got an international support to go over to USA and support Tash Sultana.

"At the start I was a little bit star struck thinking, 'wow I can't believe I'm supporting this per-

son', or 'this person is sending me messages on Instagram', but as time goes on you realise they're also just other artists doing they're own thing and so am I. After you meet them you kind of realise you're likeminded in a way trying to achieve the same thing.

"It was from there that I felt 'hang on I'm going over to another country to tour and perform my songs in front of crowds'.

"I loved every feeling I had doing those shows, hearing people singing songs that I've made is a pretty cool feeling."

In the last few years, Josh has sold out shows in Melbourne and has also performed at festivals around Australia.

As Josh explained though, it has certainly been no bed of roses or pleasure cruise.

"I've been in and out of different day jobs helping fund it all. You spend a lot more than you earn unfortunately but that's just the way the cookie crumbles," he said.

For any aspiring Gippsland musicians hoping to go down a similar path, Josh encouraged all involved to keep producing as much work as they could.

"They're so much talent in Gippsland, a lot of musicians that I went to school with are musicians now," he said.

"There is so much amazing talent that comes out of our area it's been really nice to see a lot of bands stick at it."

With the AFL national draft looming, Josh's story may serve as a case in point that it's not the end of the world if your name doesn't attract the attention of professional clubs.

"Pretty much from 15 onwards it was just footy, footy, footy. That's all I thought I was ever going to do," he said.

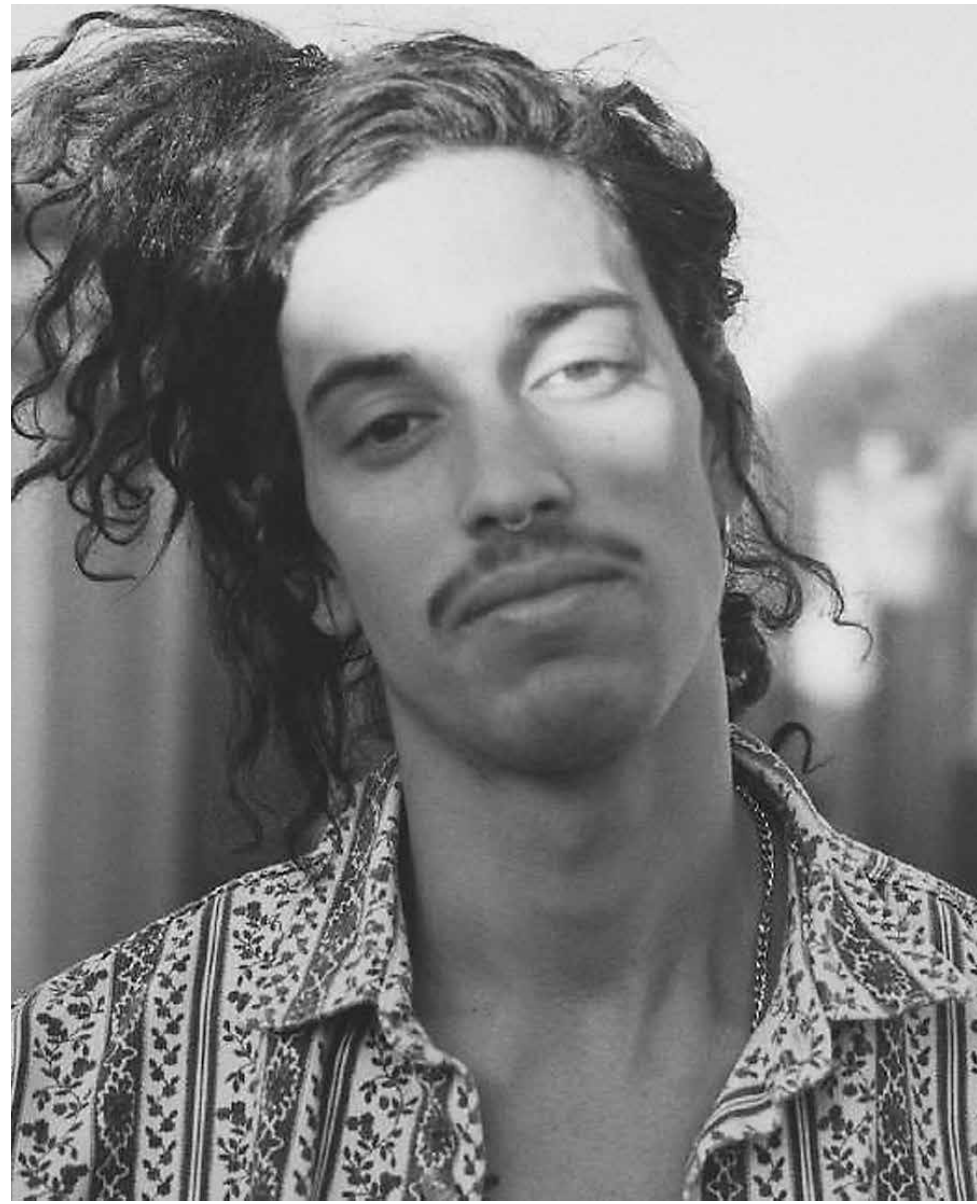
"Now I'm 25 and a full time musician. It just goes to show so much can change for a lot of people, I've got a lot of mates who got drafted who are in completely different fields of work now.

"What you associate yourself with is what you're put into.

"Footy for me was what I was circulated into, now I feel the exact same way about a completely different career.

"What I learnt was that there was a lot more to life than just football. I was lucky to have music as my main passion and my career at the moment."

All going well, Josh will follow in the footsteps of another former VFL footballer turned musician, Vance Joy.



Former Gippsland Power captain Josh Cashman recently released his debut album.

Hotshots to begin at tennis club

Thanks to the Trafalgar and District Community Bank, the Trafalgar Tennis Club will be launching a Hotshots Program for kids aged five to 12 starting

Tuesday, November 10 to give kids an introduction to tennis.

For more information or to enroll, please phone Luke Bryant on 0408 567 087.

The club will also undertake another six week program in January/February 2021.

Funny Sign



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

It's no good crying over spilt milk; all we can do is bail up another cow.
Joseph Chiefley, Prime Minister.



A new season is underway at Trafalgar Cricket Club.

Learn golf by Christmas at Trafalgar Golf Club

After a hugely successful women's golf coaching program in Spring 2019, the Trafalgar golf club are again running this program but this time opening it up to all men and women of all ages and abilities.

Last year, 22 ladies enjoyed eight weekly sessions coached by community and professional instructors to learn the basics of golf.

The program gave them the skills and confidence to enable them to develop their game and play the Trafalgar golf course independently.

As part of Golf Australia's 'Get into Golf' program, beginners and social golfers are encouraged to come and try the game in a relaxed atmosphere.

This year, the program will be run over seven sessions at a total cost of \$50.

If you have your own golf clubs bring them along, or else equipment will be provided to participants free of charge for the duration of the program.

Club president Stewart Cluning explained that spring is the best time to enjoy the Trafalgar course and the after work day-light saving program is tailored for busy people to get some exercise, meet new friends and learn

a game that they can play for life.

Last year, we focussed our program on female

participation but this year we have the whole community in our sights.

It's a great game for

families and we are seeing couples and families using the course more than ever as other sporting pursuits

are temporally restricted. For more information and to book for the program, phone the

Trafalgar Golf Club on 03 5633 1110, visit our Facebook Page

or email admin@trafal-gargolf.com.au.



Trafalgar Golf Club will again run the 'Get into Golf' program. (Photo taken pre-COVID restrictions).



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