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Traf News



PRICELESS



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BREAKFAST CLUB A WINNER AT TRAF PRIMARY

By Leanne Davie

Run in partnership with Foodbank, this free program has been providing a healthy, nutritious breakfast to our primary school students since last year, and serves between 80 and 120 students a day.

With extra support from Trafalgar IGA, Gracie's Bakery, Bella's Bakehouse, Morwell's

Bakers Delight and our school community, we are able to provide students with a variety of healthy, Victorian grown or manufactured breakfast foods.

These include toasted cheese sandwiches, oats, muesli, Milo, Vita Brits, wholegrain Cheerios, Weeties, milk, baked beans, spaghetti, canned fruit, fruit cups,

fresh fruit, toast with Vegemite, honey or jam.

The Breakfast Club provides an inclusive, welcoming environment where all students in the school are welcome and positive relationships are being built between peers, staff and parent/guardian volunteers.

Student leadership is also

encouraged where students can assist with running the program.

We have several students who now arrive early to school to help set up and serve breakfast.

The Breakfast Club extends further than just toast and cereal. Foodbank also supplies our school with food care packages for vulnerable families. So far we

have provided over 50 packages to families in our school community. We regularly have students helping us in their lunch breaks to pack and organise these packages.

We are now taking this program one step further and holding a school community food drive where families can donate

non-perishable goods which will be distributed to families in need. This will allow us to reach out and support many more families.



The Breakfast Club in full swing at Trafalgar Primary School.

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Council shows improvement in 2021 Community Satisfaction Survey

The 2021 Community Satisfaction Survey results were released recently, providing insight into Baw Baw Shire Council's high performing areas, areas for improvement and overall performance.

The Community Satisfaction Survey is conducted annually by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions on behalf of participating councils. The survey compiles the community's feedback on the following performance measures:

- Council's overall performance;
- Community consultation and engagement;
- Advocacy, lobbying on behalf of the community;
- Decisions made in the interest of the community;
- Condition of sealed local roads in the area;
- Customer service, and;
- Overall council direction.

This year two new measures were introduced in value for money and waste management. The survey period was February 19 to March 5 2021 and 400 residents and ratepayers over 18 years of age were selected at random to take part.

A breakdown of the results was as follows:

Overall performance

Council received an overall performance index score of 54, a five-point improvement on the 2020 result. Overall performance is at its highest level since 2014.

Scores showed an increase across each of the performance areas when compared to the pre-

vious 12 months, demonstrating that council is on the right track towards better meeting the expectations of the community.

Council's largest score improvements were in the 'overall council direction' and 'community decisions' categories, indicating that the community understands, and importantly, approves of council's vision.

High performing areas

Waste management was the area where council performed best, receiving an index score of 69. Within this area, council performed significantly higher than the large rural group average and in line with the state-wide average.

Community consultation and engagement was council's second highest performing area receiving a score of index score of 53, equal to the peak rating achieved in 2014.

Areas for improvement

Council received an index score of 45 in the performance area of 'local sealed roads'. This represented a four-point improvement on last year's rating, and an all-time highest rating in this category. In comparison to the state-wide and large rural group, council remains rated lower than average in this service area, however the signs are positive that council's increased investment in roads maintenance is having a positive effect.

Council received a lower index score of 52 in the performance area of 'lobbying' when compared to the state-wide average score of 55. Council's performance ratings in this service area

have been progressively restored over the past two years.

Overall, the results point to improving community satisfaction with council's performance, and council together with councillors remain focused on continuing to improve its service to the community.

The full 2021 Community Satisfaction Survey can be found on council's website at the Community Satisfaction Survey page.

Baw Baw Shire Deputy Mayor Cr Michael Leaney said the survey results indicated a number of things.

"Community satisfaction surveys provide us with comparisons against similar sized councils within the state. One of the challenges with this is our comparison group does not always share similarities to Baw Baw. We are classed as 'large rural,' however we know that in many ways, Baw Baw Shire is passing towards a more 'peri urban' shire with our growing population centres," he said.

"Therefore, the comparison with other rural shire's is no longer valid with this change over time.

"Importantly, the overall performance of the shire has improved in all areas. Perhaps not as fast as we would have liked in certain areas, however we must remember these figures go up and down all within a few percentage points of each other.

"While it's very hard to move the dial, we are moving the dial piece by piece."

Residents snap a solution for Baw Baw Shire

Across Baw Baw Shire, eagle eyed locals are ensuring that dumped rubbish, fallen trees, vandalised signage and damage to local roads are being reported quickly and repaired promptly due to an easy to use customer service channel.

Through its partnership with Snap Send Solve, issues that may once have been regarded by residents as time consuming to report are being quickly addressed by the shire via a unique app.

For residents, it's just a matter of snapping a photo on their phone, clicking send and being notified when the problem is solved.

The partnership between the shire and Snap Send Solve recently celebrated its third anniversary and is now generating a remarkable 5000 reports a year from the community.

The unique characteristics of the picturesque Baw Baw Shire, which covers 4000 square kilometres, creates a unique mixture of rural, regional and suburban issues.

The northern half of the shire is heavily forested and includes

the Mount Baw Baw National Park, part of the Great Dividing Range.

To the south, the shire is bounded by the Strzelecki Range while the central region is concentrated around the more densely populated town of Warragul.

Only 100 kilometres south-east of Melbourne and serviced by the Princes Highway and the busy Gippsland railway link, Warragul also 'enjoys' the challenges of being an outer suburban growth area.

The partnership with Snap Send Solve has resulted in the shire offering yet another avenue to report issues for its diverse community.

In a ground breaking initiative, the shire recently launched a 'Hidden Treasures' hunt encouraging residents to download the Snap Send Solve app and submit photographs of public art across the shire.

Almost 200 public art pieces were uncovered, ranging from murals and sculptures to art-

wrapped electricity boxes, miniature mosaics, carvings and

creative bollards.

Snap Send Solve chief executive Danny Gorog said that Baw Baw Shire was an "outstanding example" of why the service is now assisting more than 600 councils, shires, supermarkets, water, power and telecommunications authorities.

Since 2010, almost two million reports have been made through Snap Send Solve by the community across Australia and New Zealand, with reports growing by more than 200,000 per year.

Mr Gorog said Snap Send Solve is popular and effective because it is simple.

"Instead of trying to find out who is responsible for handling an issue and then attempting to contact them, simply use the free app to photograph the problem and Snap Send Solve will automatically send the report to the responsible authority," he said.

"Snap Send Solve empowers everyone with a phone to be the eyes and ears of their community."

By LIAM DURKIN

Westbound drivers on the Princess Highway entering Trafalgar in the last three months have more than likely become agitated by the sudden drop in the speed limit.

Vehicles cruising at 110 kilometres an hour are suddenly required to slow down to an abrupt 60kmh.

Although the new speed limits were implemented in early June as a safety mechanism following a number of fatal crashes and near misses at the notorious Davey Dr intersection, they have caused a great deal of confusion to some residents, who see it as illogical to go from driving at top speed to basically half in a matter of seconds.

Trafalgar resident Dave Matthews has spoken up in opposition to the speed limits, and believed there was better options on the table. "As you come into Trafalgar and hit that 60 zone you should be doing 80," he said.

"When you come into town they have a '60 ahead' sign, even if they just put an '80 ahead' there it would make a difference, then you are down to 60 and you continue through ... that makes sense." Mr Matthews said the new limits had the potential to cause further crashes - contradicting the reason they were lowered in the first place.

"All they (the new limits) are doing is creating impatience. There are accidents happening because people have no idea what speed cars are coming at," he said.

"They assume it is 80, but they are all over the place and can't judge it."

Mr Matthews is not alone in calling to have speed limits in the area around Davey Drive addressed, while it can be said with some certainty that the majority of people driving along that stretch of road at 60kmh will attest to the number of cars that go past well over the limit.

Locals have suggested things such as a roundabout or traffic lights as a more suitable alternative, or simply creating an 80km buffer beginning at Kennys Rd in Trafalgar East 2.5kms away.

Baw Baw Shire Council has campaigned for a reduced speed limit at the exit encompassing Davey Drive since a fatal crash at the site in 2016 and serious injury crash the following year.

As the third biggest town in the shire and one of the fastest growing in the region, Baw Baw Mayor Cr Danny Goss said the new limits reflected this change

in Trafalgar.

"Council is committed to reducing road trauma throughout the shire. Trafalgar is growing, and with that growth comes increased traffic and more pedestrians - these changes will improve safety for all road users. We want kids to be able to walk or ride to school safely," he said.

"There have been several serious crashes at the Davey Drive/Princes Highway intersection and this reduced speed limit means traffic will be able to exit Davey Drive safely, with oncoming traffic approaching at reduced speeds.

"Baw Baw Shire director community infrastructure Cohen Van der Velde said the limits were in place to meet road standards.

"Council has been made aware of residents' concerns with the speed reduction travelling westbound into Trafalgar," he said.

"The existing speed reduction measures have been managed by Regional Roads Victoria in accordance with the current guidelines. "

There has been suggestions to introduce transitional regulatory speed limits (buffer zones) where the speed is reduced in 20kmh increments, however this

approach is now not a current road standard and as such is being phased out. "

Council recommends customers lodge a request with RRV advising the Traffic and Road Safety team on the raised issues with the need for further investigation.

"Department of Transport Director of Gippsland Region Sara Rhodes-Ward said the new limits allowed vehicles to turn out of side roads more safely.

"We have listened to community concerns about the safety of the Princes Highway near Davey Drive and the new speed limit is a better fit for the road at that location," she said.

"Transitional speed limit ahead signs are in place to give drivers adequate warning and time to slow down.

"Speed limits are subject to a rigorous review process and assessed on a case by case basis. Factors considered include the

road conditions, traffic volume, types of road users and crash history to ensure set limits are appropriate.

There was four crashes along the Princes Highway from December 2014 to December 2019 in the vicinity of Davey Dr that tragically resulted in the loss of one life and two people being seriously injured.



Trafalgar resident Dave Matthews believes a drop from 110 to 60 kilometres an hour along the Princes Highway coming into the town is illogical.

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Council to continue aged and disability services transition

Baw Baw Shire council is proceeding with the decision reached in March 2020 to transition out of delivering direct care aged and disability support services from June 30 2022.

The decision to withdraw from these services was due to significant state and federal reforms in the aged and disability sectors. The reforms involve major changes to the way home support programs are funded, planned and delivered. Their aims are to increase the number of service providers, and create more choice and flexibility for consumers. As a result of the reforms the role of local government in delivering direct care services has been reduced.

At the time of the decision in 2020 council had proposed to maintain the delivery of Meals on Wheels, assessment service, property maintenance, social support groups, carer support, community transport and volunteer programs.

However, council has since received advice from the state government that council's intention to maintain delivery of some services does not align with state government policy for the community services sector.

As a result of the state government position, council has made the difficult decision to cease delivery of all services to people aged under 65 and Aboriginal people under 50, and Carer's Support Programs from June 30 2022. Council will continue to deliver Meals on Wheels, assessment services, property maintenance, social support groups, community transport and volunteer programs to people aged over 65.

This transition will directly impact three staff who will be supported by council and will receive their full employment entitlements.

Council has commenced work to make sure all impacted clients (approximately 190) will have access to another service provider that can provide continuity of care should it be required.

Council will continue to support existing clients to understand the choices available and to transition service arrangements when required. Impacted clients will be reached by council in advance of any changes to services.

The decision to withdraw from these services mirrors that of other councils in Victoria

and Gippsland who are going through or have gone through a similar process.

Council remains committed and will be exploring what services it can deliver to support people that need assistance and to ensure they remain connected to the wider Baw Baw Shire community.

Baw Baw Shire councillor Tricia Jones said it was a difficult decision.

"Council's service provision within the aged and disability sector has changed as the state government has changed the program delivery," she said.

"We understand this transition from council led services taken over by private providers will be a difficult one for the many recipients involved.

"As always, council is fully committed to making sure our residents have ongoing access to a range of quality providers and the continuity of the services that they need.

"I thank all staff impacted by these changes for not only their dedication to their work, but their commitment to caring for members of our community".

The Victorian Information Commissioner's report into delay in the disclosure of government documents under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Vic) (FOI Act) was tabled in the Victorian Parliament last month.

"Delay can fundamentally undermine the public's right to access information. The passage of time causes information to lose currency, accuracy, relevance and impact," Information Commissioner Sven Bluemmel said.

Have your say on domestic animal management

Baw Baw Shire council is inviting the community to provide feedback on the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025.

The four-year plan outlines council's services, programs and policies for managing domestic animals, and explores areas that can be enhanced to better manage animal issues in the community.

The plan seeks to outline the needs and expectations of pet owners and the broader community to ensure people and pets can live safely and happily together within the shire.

The plan has been drafted in line with Animal Welfare Victoria guidelines, and incorporates the findings of a review of the previous plan and feedback received from key stakeholders.

Some of the key topics covered in the Plan include:

- Promoting and encouraging responsible pet ownership;
- Minimising the risk of dog attacks in the community;
- Addressing overpopulation and euthanasia rates for dogs and cats;
- Encouraging the registration and identification of dogs and cats; and,
- Effectively identifying and managing all declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs kept within the municipality.

To review the draft plan in full, and to get involved and provide your feedback, visit the Have Your Say section on council's website.

This round of consultation is open until Friday, October 8

2021.

Baw Baw Shire councillor Darren Wallace said the information gleaned from the public would be of great help.

"Now more than ever we're relying on our domestic animals to keep us sane during periods of lockdown," he said.

"Through the public consultation phase and ultimate adoption of the plan, we will get a better understanding of how council can support our residents with their pets.

"Let's get this out for public consultation, listen to what our residents want and ultimately look to adopt a final policy to become an even better place where our animals and humans can co-exist."

Information Commissioner calls for a wide-ranging review of Victoria's Freedom of Information law

Between 2015 and 2020, the proportion of FOI decisions made on time in Victoria declined from 95 per cent to 79 per cent.

"This is a concerning trend that must be arrested and reversed," Mr Bluemmel said.

The investigation examined the extent and causes of delay at Victoria Police, the Department of Justice and Community Safety, the Department of Transport, Alfred Health and Frankston City Council.

The investigation found that

the causes of delay included re-sourcing issues, process, technology, culture, communication and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Information Commissioner made 16 recommendations to address these causes.

The Commissioner also identified areas where the FOI Act itself is contributing to delay and recommended a broad-based review to ensure the Act reflects modern public administration and the digital information environment.

"The FOI Act has not been substantially reviewed or reformed since it was passed in 1982," said Mr Bluemmel.

"My investigation has identified a need for the Act to be modernised.

"A robust FOI system where decisions are made in a timely manner increases government transparency and enhances the long-term health of our democracy."

Keeping Baw Baw's nature strips safe with clear guidelines

Baw Baw Shire council recently adopted the Urban Nature Strip Guidelines to outline the kinds of modifications residents can make to nature strips while ensuring they remain safe and accessible.

When choosing to modify a nature strip it is important to ensure that the changes will not create safety issues for the community or impact councils' and other organisations' assets above or beneath the ground.

The guidelines explain the functions of nature strips in the environment, the maintenance requirements for residents and

the options available for modification. They provide clear guidance on what can and cannot be done, while ensuring traffic and safety guidelines are met.

Before beginning any modifications, residents should familiarise themselves with the guidelines and complete an Application for a Nature Strip Modification Permit form, both of which can be found on council's website.

Some options to modify nature strips include, but are not limited to:

- Replacing grass with drought-tolerant varieties that may re-

quire less maintenance;

- The addition of council approved low growing plants, and;
- The use of permitted types of ground coverings such as mulch (assessed on a case-by-case basis).

To view the guidelines in full or to complete an online application, visit council's Crossovers, Road Reserves and Asset Protection webpage.

Council encourages residents who have previously made modifications to their nature strips to get in touch via phone or email if they have any queries.

Baw Baw Shire Mayor Cr Danny Goss said he hoped the guidelines would help alleviate the confusion surrounding nature strips.

"We understand that in the past it has been challenging for residents to know what is allowed when it comes to modifying nature strips," he said.

"These guidelines take out the guesswork by providing clear direction on what you can and cannot do while meeting safety and accessibility requirements."

Lions hold junior public speaking competition

By Trevor Byrne and Trish Mulqueen

Junior public speaking gives students in primary schools the chance to develop their abilities to speak in public and gives the students self-confidence.

The school competition was postponed three times this year because of COVID.

The topic for Grades 3/4 this year was 'my favourite animal in the zoo is ...?' The topic for Grades 5/6 was "what do you think is the most incredible invention in the world?"

Narracan Primary School judging was held on July 30. Winners were Chantelle Walters (Grade 3/4) and her topic the Tasmanian Devil. Rubin Vickery won the Grade 5/6 competition talking about electric cars.

Trafalgar Primary School judging was held on August 18. Winners were River Tomski-Booker (Grade 3/4) and the topic hyena. Mayuri Guhadas won the Grade 5/6 competition talking about aviation.

St Joseph's Primary School, Trafalgar judging was held on August 18. Winners were Summer Parise (Grade 3/4) on the topic pygmy possum, while Charlise Eehard won Grade 5/6 speaking about the electric light bulb.

On September 1 the Trafalgar

Lions Club competition was held via Zoom. Thanks to David Koschade who organised Zoom. The judges were Sue Pye, Kelly Moon and Glenda Mynard.

The students talked about the same topic as they did in the school final.

Winners were Summer Parise and Charlise Eehard, both students from St Joseph's.

Half a dozen students from St Joseph's participated in the Lion's public speaking contest.

As well as Charlise Eehard and Summer Parise, the students who participated were Ethan Paul, Kiarah Shields, Remy Schelfout and Thomas Kennedy.

The students all worked extremely hard putting together a speech to present to their peers.

Summer and Charlise will now progress to the district round competing against other schools in Gippsland.

St Joseph's wished to thank the Lion's Club for having a fantastic program which builds student's confidence in public speaking.

Trafalgar Lions are waiting to be advised when the finals are to be held. Due to the COVID situation, it may have to be held via Zoom.



St Joseph's Grade 3/4 student Summer Parise talking about her favourite animal in the zoo, the pygmy possum.



St Joseph's Grade 5/6 student Charlise Eerberd will progress to the district round of the Lions public speaking competition after winning the local competition.



Summer Parise (Grade 3/4) and Charlise Eerhard (Grade 5/6) won the Trafalgar Lions Club junior public speaking competition recently. The winners are pictured with Rhonda from the Lions Club (behind), Pat Tattersson (Lions Club) and Sabrina Shaw (St Joseph's).



St Joseph's students who participated in the Lions Club public speaking competition are (back) Ethan Paul, Kirah Shields, Charlise Eerhard, (front) Summer Parise, Thomas Kennedy and Remy Schelfout.

Helmet safety highlighted

The importance of wearing a helmet while riding a bike was heightened last month, after an 11-year old Trafalgar boy was struck by a truck.

Fortunately the boy was wearing a helmet, which avoided a much more serious injury.

Had it not been for the helmet, the young boy might not have survived.

It is law for all bike and scooter riders to wear a helmet in Victoria when riding on roads, on bike paths, in bike lanes, in recreational parks, in car parks and on footpaths.

Police can stop riders and issue a fine or a warning for not wearing an approved bicycle helmet.

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Baw Baw Sustainability Network elects office bearers

The annual general meeting of the Baw Baw Sustainability Network was held recently via Zoom.

All office bearers were all re-elected: Malcolm McKelvie, (president), Inge Mitchell (vice president), Carol Rowley (treasurer) and Krista Mountford (secretary).

General committee members in Wendy Savage, Ken Savage, Ian Southall, Geraldine Bate, Anthea

Merson, Margaret Oliver, Steve Walsh, Anda Mcmillan, Michele Geoffrey and Gabriel Hakim were also reelected.

The network welcomed a new committee member in Peter Kingwill. Bernie Rowley did not re-nominate and after 14 years on the BBSN committee and will be greatly missed.

Bernie was a founding member of the Baw Baw Sustainability Network and has made many

valuable contributions to the organisation.

Bernie won't be on the BBSN committee anymore but will continue to assist the organisation in other ways.

At the conclusion of the AGM a panel of homeowners discussed their journey to improving comfort and energy bills in their homes, which was followed by questions to the panel.

Earthquake strikes Victoria

A magnitude 5.9 earthquake shook Victoria Wednesday 22, September 2021 at 9.15am.

Geoscience Australia reported the earthquake hit at 9.15am with the epicentre around Woods Point, about 120km north of the Latrobe Valley.

Reports say the earthquake struck at a depth of 10km.

Geoscience Australia announced the earthquake had been revised from 6.0 down to a 5.9.

It also reported a significant 4.0 aftershock 15 minutes after the initial shake.

Geoscience Australia had warned there was a possibility of further aftershocks for weeks, and the potential risk of further earthquakes.

The earthquake also impacted the Traralgon railway line.

Trains on the Gippsland line were stopped and replaced with coaches while crews carried out track, bridge, station and signalling inspections along the entire line.

VLine urged passengers to check its website and social media for updates.

Seismology Research Centre chief scientist Adam Pascale said he estimated this was the biggest earthquake in Victoria for the

past 30 years.

Mr Pascale said scientists were still analysing local data as it was coming in.

"The main thing for people to realise is to get under cover

if they feel a strong tremor such as a table and hang on to protect themselves from any falling debris," Mr Pascale said.

The quake was felt as far away as Sydney, Wagga Wagga, Canber-

Father Bernie moves to retirement

St John's Trafalgar parish priest Father Bernie Krotwaar retired to Andrews House, Trafalgar recently.

Father Bernie has been struggling with health problems for some time and decided it was time to make the move.

He has been ordained for 25 years. He has been replaced by Father Bernard Buckley.

Elsewhere, at last report donations for the refurbishment of St John's Church had reached \$100,311.14.

The red carpet has now been

replaced by a grey/blue carpet and the body of the church is restored to its former positioning with the altar back in its usual place.

Public Hall holds annual meeting

The 2021 annual general meeting of the Trafalgar Public Hall was conducted recently with some committee members on the phone assisting the team to maintain COVID-Safe requirements. The gathering marked the 2020/21 year which had been a time of change for the hall.

Four volunteers of the hall resigned from service, Jo and Gerg Porter, Shona Vines and Robyn Jones and were thanked for their commitment to the hall over the years. Overall the hall had a financial loss but it would have

been a lot worse without the Baw Baw Shire Council maintenance grant to cover two urgent plumbing repairs and the careful management of the team to ensure costs were reduced.

"The hall was proud to report any booking affected by COVID restrictions were refunded in full," said bookings officer David 'Wombat' Lyons.

President Tanya Stanley reported "the new 2021/22 year has started with some kind donations from Trafalgar Lions Club, IGA Trafalgar and private donors

to help offset current impacts from not being able to hire or fundraise".

While fundraisers like having a band perform at the hall can not be booked at this time, the committee is moving ahead and looking at a raffle as bills like water, power and insurance roll in.

The committee would be keen to hear from people who can assist with the raffle or other fundraising to our email trafalgarpublichall@gmail.com

Remembering a Hall of Fame

By Liam Durkin

Trafalgar woman Marge O'Donnell saw some of the biggest names in rock 'n' roll history during their halcyon days.

Artists such as Chuck Berry, Buddy Holly, Little Richard and Sammy Davis Junior came to Australia in the 1950s, bringing with them no shortage of hit songs and no shortage of screaming fans.

While she might not have known it at the time, the performers would go on to become genuine legends of the music scene, and fortunately, Ms O'Donnell has kept programs from the shows all these years later.

The programs tell the stories of the stars, and also offer a great deal of nostalgia as one flips through the pages.

Reflecting on the time, Ms O'Donnell said it was magical to see the megastars of music in the flesh.

"I saw people I'd only heard about, only ever listened to either on the big LP records or on the radio, they weren't ever on TV in those days ... we didn't even have a TV," she said.

"To go and see them at Festival Hall in Melbourne, it was a very special time. Groups of us as friends used to go, it was just really fantastic.

"It felt like waves under our feet," she said.

"Our stock fell off the shelves ... all the lights were going around for a bit."

The SES confirmed there was

no tsunami threat as a result of the earthquake.

Source: Latrobe Valley Express

Pubs remains shut

While dining restrictions in the hospitality sector were marginally lifted last month, many businesses across the region decided to remain closed.

The Criterion Hotel was one such establishment, which joined a long list of venues that determined a patron limit of 10 people indoors and 20 outdoors wouldn't be a viable set of ar-

rangements to continue operating under.

Local business owners say the new rule change was not profitable and must be reconsidered.



Locals will be looking forward to getting back to the Criterion Hotel when restrictions allow for more than 10 people indoors and 20 outdoors.

The TCDA will start meeting again

The Trafalgar Community Development Association will return to meeting after lockdowns and restrictions limited 2020 and 2021 meetings.

While the TCDA carried out its key functions in this period including running Australia Day celebrations in 2021 and starting the 2022 awards process, the key role of advocating for the needs of our community to places such as VLine, Baw Baw Shire and the state government can only occur with meetings to collect and discuss the view points in our area.

Past president of the TCDA David 'Wombat' Lyons will lead the TCDA into 2022 as interim chair ahead of an election process in the new year.

An attempt to restart meetings on the September 9 this year was affected by restrictions, but October should offer the community a better opportunity.

The meeting will be held on the October 14 2021, 6.30pm at the Trafalgar Public Hall to allow social distancing and if the limits on gathering numbers are still in place at a level affecting the

meeting, an online attendance option will be made available using zoom.

Topics for this meeting are Australia Day 2022 plans, 2022 is 110 Years of Trafalgar Railway Station, how do we want to mark this event? Town growth and vision for library services. Share with your friends and family who call 3824 home.

To help with planning, RSVP your attendance to wombatlyons@yahoo.com or 0409 015 662.

History of local telephone services book now available

Those wishing to get a copy of John Hanley's book 'The Moe Swamp, Yulungah and Trafalgar East: About the People, Postal and Telephone

Services', can do so by visiting the Trafalgar Newsagency, IGA Trafalgar, Need2Read Warragul and Variety Bookworm in Moe. The author can be phoned on

0483 150 369.



Marge O'Donnell saw some of the biggest names in rock 'n' roll at Festival Hall in the 1950s.

TRAF NEWS SUDOKU

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

Easy

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Bushwalking club makes treks in Tyers

By Jo Leviston

Group activities offered by the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club have filled quickly when restrictions allowed.

Walks in the Walhalla surrounds and Mount Worth went ahead while unfortunately the popular snowshoe shuffle and an extended week long base camp on the Great South West walk was

cancelled, along with a number of other day walks.

Recently, Michael and Martin led a popular walk from Knott's Siding to Tyers Junction via Crazy's Crossing. It was disappointing to see that the bridge across the Tyers Junction had been destroyed in the recent storm.

Club meetings are generally

held in the Trafalgar Scout Hall on the second Wednesday of the month (unless restrictions apply), commencing at 7.30pm with visitors welcome.

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



Strzelecki Bushwalking Club members at Crazy's Crossing on a recent trip.



Bushwalkers take a well-earned lunch break in an idyllic location.

Quite a sight

Trafalgar residents may have noticed a huge rainbow that swept the town last month on September 13.

A quick Google of 'how are rainbows formed?' tells us they are created by light striking water droplets.

This photo was taken at the back of the Traf News offices as dusk set in.



A majestic rainbow in Trafalgar last month.

Probus offers great company

By Elly Fallon

The past month has seen all Probus events cancelled bar one that just happened to fall in the one week we were open in August.

Thirteen happy Probus members visited the Moe Heritage Park for morning tea and a tour of all the buildings of long ago.

We had a great morning and were shown around by our very informative guide, Kaye dressed beautifully in period costume. Set on eight acres the buildings date back from the 1840s through to 1930s and though none of us in the group were born in that period we all had memories of similar buildings and stories from childhood days.

Probus members have had to celebrate milestone birthdays without family and friends this year. In September we sent our best wishes to Margaret Clarke who turned 90 and to Neil Phipps and David Swinger who celebrated 80 years young.

This month with not much to report on I thought I would give readers an insight into the activities available within the club. After all when lockdowns finish we will not want to stay home. We will want to enjoy the company of others, have a laugh and a chat. So for people over the age of 60 in our community this could be your answer.

Probus meets in the Bowling Club in Ashby Street Trafalgar on the first Thursday of each month at 10am. You will be welcomed at the door by two Probus members who will help you through the signing in, present you with our visitor's badge, the latest newsletter and show you to a seat.

The first half hour is a traditional meeting with the latest in upcoming events. We then have a break of about half an hour to have a cuppa, a delicious morning tea and a catch up with our Probus friends. During this time members can also borrow books from our 'mobile' library. Donations of books for our library are always welcome. Bev our

friendly library lady will look after you. Then comes the hour we all look forward to, our guest speaker. Guest speakers come from all walks of life. They are informative and entertaining. Many members then meet in town for lunch and so a night off from cooking.

During the month there are a number of activities that you can take part in. Something for everyone. Morning teas are held in the local cafes on the first and third Thursdays of the month. Our walking club meets on the second Wednesday of the month and travels to a nearby destination for a walk followed by a cuppa. Some walks are in towns and some in natural bush areas. None are strenuous.

This year we commenced a garden club that meets on the third Monday morning of the month to share gardening ideas and solve garden problems. Members often give away extra plants or bulbs they have propagated. They also hope to visit gardens and nurseries.

On the fourth Tuesday of each month, we have a dine out lunch which is always very popular and supports pubs and restaurants in the area. Last but not least is our monthly bus or car trip which is a day visiting landmarks further afield and includes morning tea and lunch. Sometimes this trip might be to a show in Melbourne like Moulin Rouge. As you can see, when you join Probus, you could actually find something to do each week during the month if you wished.

So for all those retired or semi-retired people in the district come along and join us. You will find something that appeals to you plus some much needed company. We have 103 members at present, many from surrounding districts, so plenty of people to make you welcome.

Ring our secretary Tina on 5635 2432 or speak to any member of the Probus Club to find out more.



Trafalgar and District Probus Club members during a recent trip to Old Gipps town.



Probus Club members are shown through an old-timey school classroom.

History of Halloween

Samhain (Halloween) has its roots in the pagan traditions of Ireland and has been an important date since ancient times. Marking the end of the harvest and the beginning of winter, Samhain (pronounced 'Sow-when') roughly translates as 'Summer's End'.

The people of ancient Ireland believed that the year was divided into a light half (beginning at Bealtaine) and a dark half (beginning at Samhain). Each day was seen as beginning at sunset and so the new year was also thought to begin with the arrival of the darkness, at Samhain.

Written about in some of Ireland's earliest literature, many important events in Irish mythology happen during or begin at, Samhain. In addition, there are a number of ancient monuments, some built over 5000 years ago, that are aligned with the sunrise or sunset at Samhain.

Although its date is now fixed on the October 31, Samhain would have originally fallen on the astronomical cross-quarter day, midway between the Autumn equinox and the Winter solstice. The other cross-quarter days are Imbolc (February), Bealtaine (May), and Lughnasadh (August), all of which are ancient festival days.

In the mid-8th century, Pope Gregory III moved the date of 'All Hallows Day' from May 13 (the date of the Roman festival of the Dead) to November 1, possibly to coincide with the festival of Samhain. The night before 'All Hallows Day' then became known as 'All Hallows Eve' which was then shortened to 'Halloween'.

Despite the 'Christianisation' of this ancient festival, in Ireland at least, Samhain still retained many of its pre-Christian traditions. It was seen as a liminal time, when the veil between this world and the otherworld was lifted, allowing the Aos Sí (faeries or spirits) to pass through. In order to appease these spirits,

people would leave food for them outside the house.

A fruit cake called Barm Brack is traditionally served at Samhain, inside which, symbolic items were hidden. A person's future was foretold by the item they happened to find in their slice; for example, a ring meant marriage and a coin meant wealth.

The dead were also honoured at Samhain. The souls of those who had died since the previous Samhain were thought to revisit their old homes, one last time, before leaving for the otherworld. Often, places were set for them at the table and a chair put by the fire to welcome them.

Bonfires are also traditionally associated with Samhain when all fires would be extinguished and re-lit from the Samhain bonfire. These fires were deemed to have protective and cleansing powers with various associated rituals.

'Mumming' or 'guising' (disguise) was also a popular custom. People, especially children, would dress in costume with

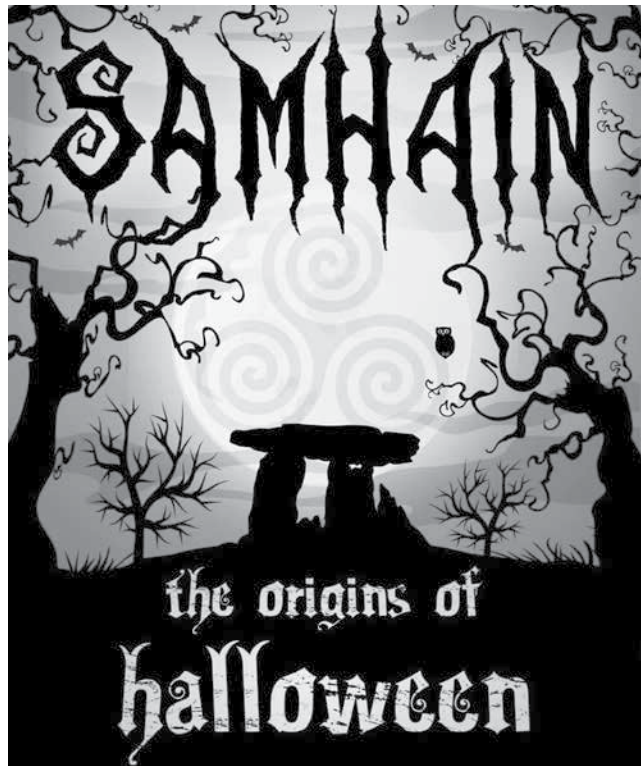
faces blackened from the sacred bonfires to mimic the dead and offer protection from the supernatural forces at large during Samhain.

During the 1840s the potato blight forced nearly one million people to emigrate from Ireland to the United States, taking their Samhain/Halloween traditions with them. The earliest references to Halloween appeared in America shortly afterwards and since then it has become one of that country's major holiday in a somewhat altered form.

The early Irish settlers to Australia, both free and convict, don't appear to have carried the tradition to Australia as it's only been in recent years that it has started to gain some momentum, mainly through its commercialisation by the larger stores.

With all the cross commercialisation of the modern Halloween, we should all try and remember the origins of this ancient festival day.

Oíche Shamhna Shona Daoibh: Happy Halloween.



Many readers may be interested in the true origin behind Halloween.

AROUND THE HISTORICAL Society

By Di Ireland

The recent annual general meeting of the Trafalgar & District Historical Society fortuitously fell between two lockdowns which enabled our meeting to go ahead. For the next 12 months, our committee consists of:

President: John Weymouth; treasurer: Glenys Ralls; secretary: Dianne Ireland; archivist: Jean Huffer; publicity: Jack McDonald; Magazine sales: Glenys Ralls. The Magazine/editorial committee is Jean Huffer (editor), Julie McCulloch, Jack McDonald, John Weymouth, Graham Hill, and Glenys Ralls.

Many roles filled by few people,

with a warm welcome for anyone who would like to join in. Working bees remain on the first and third Fridays from 2pm till 4pm at the old kindergarten building in Contingent Street. The next general meeting will be held Thursday, October 21 at 7pm also in this building. Enquiries can be made through Jean Huffer on 5633 1960

Can you help? With new development on the western end of Trafalgar, queries have been made about the post war subdivision on the eastern end of town, in particular Brown, Ward, Evans and Gibson streets. There is some speculation that

Gibson Street housed workers from the Butter Factory. If you have any details or photos of the original houses in these streets, phone Dianne on 0439 655 172. There has been rapid change in the town since the 1980s and it is sometimes difficult to keep up. Your help would be most appreciated.

Gazette Number 99 is now on sale at the post office and newsagency for \$4.00 and has an interesting article called The Story of Trafalgar Petrol Stations 1902 - 2021. Make sure you purchase a copy.

New COVID testing site in Moe

The Moe Senior Citizen's Centre is (as of September 14) operating as a COVID-19 testing site.

Latrobe Community Health Service (LCHS) will offer testing Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 11am as a replacement for the Moe Kmart carpark drive-through option which closed in July due to occupational health and safety concerns for staff.

Locals are able to park their cars nearby and walk in for testing if they are experiencing symptoms, however minor, are a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case or have been to an exposure site listed on the

Victorian Department of Health website.

Testing is free but attendees are asked to bring a Medicare card with them if possible and face masks must be worn at all times. Appointments are not necessary.

Latrobe City Council worked closely with LCHS and the Department of Fairness, Family and Housing to secure the new Moe/Newborough testing location.

Council will also work with users of the Senior Citizen's Centre on alternative arrangements in the interim.

LCHS will manage the service at the site, which is located at 45

Langford Street, Moe.

Latrobe City Mayor Sharon Gibson urged those with symptoms to get tested.

"We understand the importance of readily available COVID testing sites across our municipality as cases rise across the state and threaten regional Victorians," she said.

"We encourage all local residents who have symptoms of any kind to make use of the new facility at the Moe Senior Citizen's Centre and play your part in keeping our community and your loved ones safe."

New event set to drive recovery throughout Erica and surrounds

Baw Baw Shire Council has partnered with engaged community residents to deliver The Erica Country Expo, a full day, family friendly and community led event set to take over the Erica Recreational Reserve.

The event was originally scheduled for Saturday, October 2, but has been postponed to Saturday, January 15.

The event will feature a range of entertainment including wood chopping and chainsaw wood carving competitions, bike stunt shows, wine tastings and much more. Kids will be spoilt for choice with fun activities to explore including face painting, a petting zoo, rides, and entertainment shows.

The event is a welcomed tourism initiative that will encourage visitation and stimulate economic activity within the shire's eastern region. The Erica Country Expo will provide a vital boost for local businesses and tourism operators facing the ongoing

disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic and devastating aftermath of the recent bushfires and storm events.

The event, having been delayed from COVID-19 restrictions, will mark the first in a series of community led events within the region's east, as part of ongoing recovery support designed to reconnect the local communities and revitalise community strength.

The series of events and activities is supported by the Community Recovery Fund provided under Category C of the Commonwealth Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements and delivered by Baw Baw Shire Council in collaboration with the local community planning committee.

All money raised from the event will go towards the planning and delivery of future community led, recovery building events.

Interested attendees are en-

couraged to pre-purchase their tickets via the ticketing website found by Googling Erica Country Expo, or by searching the same name on Facebook.

Baw Baw Shire deputy Mayor Michael Leaney encouraged those interested to get along.

"It's been a torrid time for the tourism industry and community in the far east of the shire over the past 30 months," he said.

"Bushfires in 2019, ongoing COVID-19 shutdowns and recent floods and storms have been a real challenge for this remote and isolated part of the shire.

"It's therefore so wonderful that community members and local businesses have combined in an amazing spirit of resilience to pull together the Erica Country Expo.

"I hope that the wider community will support this fabulous initiative and come along to see and enjoy what this part of the shire has to offer."

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Fowler's famous trucks find a home in Hall of Fame

A pair of famous Trafalgar trucks are now on display at the National Road Transport Hall of Fame in Alice Springs.

The two trucks were donated to the Hall of Fame, as part of a special delivery by local business Fowler's Asphalt, in honour of the late Digger Fowler and his brother Wayne, who formed the well respected house removal business Fowler and Sons of Trafalgar with their father Monty.

Most readers will remember the old Fowler and Sons tin shed next to the supermarket.

The trucks became legendary during their time in the Fowler

and Sons fleet, both working almost every day, winching and rescuing all sorts of things.

If there was an emergency, these trucks were called.

The truck known as 'Old Albert' was especially iconic, with its strength a telling hallmark.

If you were familiar with the local trucking industry or the Fowler and Sons business, you would have no doubt heard a story or two about Old Albert.

It was said Old Albert would 'go anywhere and do anything'.

Possibly the most memorable story came about when Old Albert successfully outdid a haulage truck many times its size in



The famous Fowler's trucks, including the one known as 'Old Albert' on their way to the Road Transport Hall of Fame in Alice Springs.

Have you enrolled your child in school yet?

St Joseph's P.S. Trafalgar welcomes you and encourages you to enrol now to secure your spot.





Take the opportunity to organise a virtual interview with our Principal.

Please phone 5633 1151 for an appointment.

Enrolments now open for 2022

www.trafalgar.catholic.edu.au 58 Waterloo Rd, Trafalgar

Why join the Men's Shed?

Thinking of joining the Trafalgar Men's Shed and want to know what goes on every Monday and Wednesday from 9am to 3pm? Well the good news is we came out of lockdown last month and opened on Monday, September 13 with members observing COVID safe practices.

Our membership fee is \$60 for the period July 1 2021 to June 30 2022. A pro-rata annual subscription does apply based on the remainder of the financial year. The fee is necessary to cover the cost of insurance while you are in attendance in case of need. Being a member gives you the right to attend general meetings, vote and be heard. Also a daily attendance fee of \$2 will cover the cost of coffee, tea and biscuits consumed during the day.

You can participate in wood-work and metal work projects, small engine repair and the internet is available if you are not computer literate this is a great opportunity to 'be connected', this is an Australian government program aimed at increasing the confidence and skills and online safety of older Australians when

What is the purpose of Men's Sheds?

The main purpose of men's sheds is to provide for the health and wellbeing of the men attending the shed. Assisting to reduce the social loneliness, isolation and depression caused through unemployment, retrenchment, retirement or other life changing conditions, sheds provide a safe and friendly environment where men can talk, learn new skills and be part of a bigger community and be involved in meaningful activities and projects.

using the internet. There are blokes here willing to help.

We have all heard the word roadmap more often than not lately, well this is our roadmap to a membership at the Trafalgar Men's Shed:

Come along on a Monday or Wednesday between 9am and 3pm for a visit and we can guarantee a friendly welcome. The president Bruce Heywood or secretary Corrie Koppen will give you a tour of the premises and answer any questions you may have. Take your time to make up your mind, attend for a couple of weeks getting to know the members and what we offer before deciding to join. Your membership, your skills and your story will be important to us.

We look forward to seeing you at the Trafalgar Men's Shed.



Now is a great time to join the Trafalgar Men's Shed.



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Superannuation, life insurance and their nominations

By Trafalgar solicitor Jade MacGregor

Superannuation and life insurance often gets overlooked when it comes to estate planning.

Many people assume superannuation and any life insurance benefits will automatically pass to their spouse or children or become part of their Estate. This isn't always the case, and the benefits may not be distributed as per your wishes unless you submit a valid binding death benefit nomination.

Superannuation and life insurance are dealt with as separate entities of an Estate by the trustee of those policies with its own set of rules and will not be directed by a Will or the Executor of an Estate.

Legislation governs that, if nominating individuals, they must be classified as a dependent. A dependent is defined as:

- Your spouse (including a de facto spouse);
- Your children (including an adult child, an adopted child or a step-child);
- Anyone who is financially dependent on you at the time of your death; or

- Anyone with whom you have an interdependency relationship and one or more provides the other with financial support, domestic support and personal care with at the time of your death.

If you nominate someone outside of the class of dependants (such as your siblings or friends) then the nomination will be invalid. The trustees then have full discretion to distribute the funds to the Estate or any dependent that they choose.

When nominating a person or persons to receive your superannuation, there are generally two nominations that can be completed: a binding or a non-binding death benefit nomination.

Non-Binding Death Benefit Nomination: Who you nominate to be your beneficiaries is an expression of wishes to the trustee and is not binding on them to distribute to that person. The trustee has the discretion to pay the benefits to whomever they choose, if their choice is within the rules noted above.

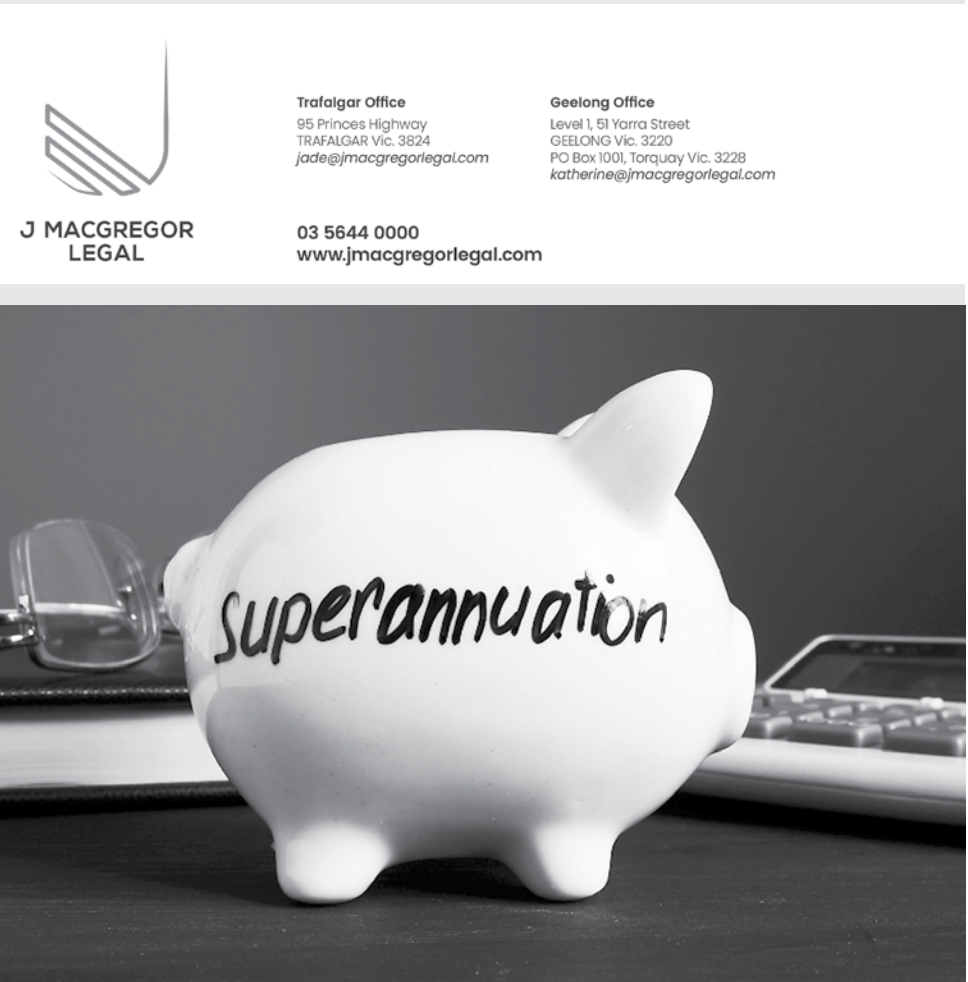
Binding Death Benefit Nomination: Who you nominate to be your beneficiaries is binding on the trustee (provided it is considered valid in the first place).

A binding nomination can also be either: Non lapsing or lapsing nomination. A non-lapsing nomination means the nomination will remain binding until it is changed through lodging another nomination. A lapsing nomination means the nomination becomes non-binding after a certain period (usually three years).

The risk with a lapsing nomination is that if it is not regularly checked and re-lodged the nomination could become non-binding on the trustee.

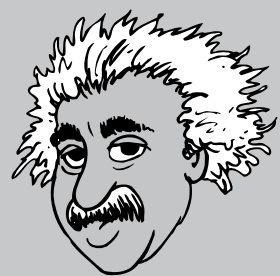
As part of our review of your estate, we check your superannuation and life insurance to ensure your nomination is valid, binding and up to date. We take the time to sit with you and understand your wishes and ensure your legal documents reflect this.

If you wish to know more, please reach out to one of our friendly staff.



Speak to the team at Jade MacGregor Legal about your superannuation needs.

Alberts Corner



*Logic will get you from A to Z;
imagination will get you everywhere.*
– Albert Einstein

Heteronyms of October

The insurance was invalid for the invalid in his hospital bed

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

Reflection

By Sue Newcombe, Anglican Parish of Trafalgar

Cavaliers, grandchildren and the dogs breakfast

I've just been conned.

No, I haven't fallen prey to one of those awful phone calls telling me that my internet is about to be disconnected unless I pay a bill right now, or that I am about to be arrested for tax evasion, I'm awake to them.

I've been conned by Ruby and Erin, my Cavaliers. I went out earlier to pick up two teenage grandchildren for home schooling at my place, it seems they concentrate better under their grandmother's eagle eye, or to quote Rumpole of the Bailey 'her indoors' with the alarms set for lesson times.

When I got home with said grandchildren and got them set up in their 'schoolroom' with laptops and alarms set, the two furry family members began a ritual morning break-

fast prance and dance routine. What to do? Surely they had been fed by him who has gone for a coffee? Bowls were washed and in the cupboard, bench tops were clear. Coffee man was incommunicado, nothing for it but to somewhat reluctantly feed the by now vocal furry ones. What a great con job they did on me, as yes, they did get two breakfasts this morning!

Have you ever been conned, or wronged in any way? How did it make you feel, how did you cope? I recently copped an earful of verbal abuse from someone who was having a bad day, was unwell and who was feeling unloved. This person got over it a few hours later but being at the receiving end took me much longer. Not for the first time I had to step back until the storm abated. I was able to speak to a trusted friend about how I was feeling, and

how to cope with this situation in the future, and that got me thinking about the cold callers I have been rude to on more than one occasion. How must it be for these people who quite likely receive many responses such as mine each day? I am reminded of the old saying 'count to 10' - in my case perhaps that needs to be to 100 - but the principle is a good one. Hasty actions or hurtful words can cause not only the person on the receiving end to feel bad and put down, but also cause us to feel bad or even guilty at our unkind words or behaviour. I'm working on this by counting to whatever number it takes, a silent prayer for inner peace and patience followed by a walk with the 'two breakfast' dogs.

So far, so good.

National Water Week poster competition is on

Gippsland Water's National Water Week poster competition is on again, giving students the chance to get creative and reflect on how they can care for water and country.

This year's National Water Week theme is 'Caring for water and Country', which aims to recognise and deepen the under-

standing of the connection First Nations people have had with water and land for over 65,000 years.

Local primary school students have been invited to create a poster reflecting how they can care for water and country now and in the future.

Individual prizes are up for

grabs and the winning school will receive \$500 to put towards a sustainability project.

National Water Week makes a splash across Australia in the third week of October each year.

This year it will be held from October 18 to 24.



Yarragon Primary School students won \$500 to put towards a sustainability project for their school last year. Pictured are Annabelle, Courtney, Melissa Rock (principal) and Miscba.

R U OK? Day at St Joseph's

By principal Trish Mulqueen

St Joseph's Primary School community asked R U OK? This year the message is 'R they really ok?' In pandemic times this question is even more important.

Because when it comes to our friends, family and colleagues, do we really know how they are doing? As close as we might be, sometimes it is hard to tell. So, stay connected and make asking R U OK? part of your everyday.

That way, if they are struggling with something big or something small or maybe nothing at all, they'll know you care. Are they really ok? Ask today. Learn how to ask at ruok.org.au because a conversation could change a life.

To acknowledge R U OK? Day, staff at St Joseph's School Trafalgar were presented with care packages. Some staff had their packages delivered to their homes as they were working

from home and others participated in the event at school in COVID safe conditions.

The care packages included each staff member's favourite hot and cold drink, chocolate treats and home baked goodies provided by the parents and friends group (special thanks to Lauren, Ruby, Kylee and Narelle).



Jen Gavin and Taryn Maxwell-Garratt during R U OK? Day.



Lucy Martiniano, Carmen Farrell and Sonia Lombardo spread the important message for R U OK? Day.



Enjoying their care packages are staff at St Joseph's, Trafalgar, from left Emma Poore, Vicki Cook and Raelee Hill.

Wear It Purple Day at Trafalgar High

Wear It Purple Day is an annual LGBTQIA+ awareness day especially for young people and was celebrated virtually recently by the Trafalgar High School community given remote learning arrangements.

"COVID-19 restrictions threw a small spanner in the works of

our student representative council and student leadership trying to organise a Wear it Purple Day," Trafalgar High School's student welfare manager David 'Wombat' Lyons said.

"But their ideas that included make purple stress ball and having guests from Headspace Morwell can be saved up and occur

in 2022."

Instead, the students and staff of the school wore purple at home, sending in photos for publishing on the school's Facebook page and school newsletter.

"(Wear it purple) is a day to celebrate LGBTQIA+ youth," principal Jane Mersey said.

"We are very pleased with the

positive response of our students to this day.

"This helped our students see that our school needs to be a safe and supportive place for all. Everyone is to be accepted and has a right to feel safe, regardless of their gender identity. We are a welcoming community."

With a theme in 2021 of "Start

the conversation...keep it going", Trafalgar High School's Student Leadership and council will continue to look at how community events like Wear it Purple day and IDAHOBIT Day are marked in the school community.

Mr Lyons said the students did a fantastic job in pivoting the 2021 to a virtual event on short

notice.

Trafalgar High School is a lead school in delivering the Respectful Relationships initiative and joined the Victorian Government Safe Schools in 2010 with a focus on a safe and inclusive school environment.



Year 7 student Erle Hornby in her purple attire.



Trafalgar High School assistant principal Jemi Hopkins wears purple.



Health and PE teacher Jeffrey Connolly shows the purple power.



Year 7 student Patrick Davies brings out some purple.



Year 9 student Nadia Davies gets into the purple spirit.

Traf High asks R U OK?

By Wombat Lyons

For R U OK? Day, which occurred on Thursday, September 9, Trafalgar High School marked the national mental health promotion day as a school community reinforcing

the importance of staying connected with friends, family, and colleagues with students, staff and the wider community.

From themed word searches to staff PD webinars, the day was

marked by students who were both working remotely and onsite. The school, which has offered Teen Mental Health First Aid to all Year 10 students already in 2021 and will offer Year 8 students the

program in term four, has participated in a wide range of mental health promotion activities.

"It's such a pleasure to see the confidence growing in our community to support friends and

family with mental health," principal Jane Mersey said. "Events like R U OK? Day and Teen Mental Health First Aid support our community to genuinely ask friends and family are you okay?"



Year 7 student Jack Garven with his R U OK? Day wrist band.



Year 8 students Kyen Jenkins, Riley Clariage and Lincoln Riley give the thumbs up for R U OK? Day.

Traf Primary is eco-friendly

By Leanne Davie

At Trafalgar Primary School we are passionate about our environment.

As part of our student leadership team we have a team of Environmental Captains: Sophie, Aston, Kim and Rachael.

These Environmental Captains meet regularly with their coordinator to plan and organise projects and programs to support sustainability at the school.

One of our major projects has been implementing soft plastic recycling.

Each classroom has been provided with a bin for collecting the soft plastic waste that we find in our lunch boxes.

Our Environmental Captains then collect the contents of these bins and it is taken to pick up points at our local supermarkets. From here it is collected and recycled into things such as park benches and playground equipment.

At Trafalgar Primary school we also have a composting system and several raised garden beds around the school.

Groups of students have been involved in planting and caring for vegetables in these gardens.

The students have enjoyed watching the seedlings grow, flower and produce vegetables.

During periods of remote learning our students attending on-site supervision at school have been involved in building bird houses using recycled timber and helping with tidying and maintaining the gardens around the school.

Pictured: Trafalgar Primary School students busy at work in the compost system.



Anxiety

By Dr Michael Kunze



No one likes being anxious. But these days we have a lot of anxiety going around. It can be in response to all kinds of things: Work issues, family problems, health concerns, lockdowns, social situations and so on. Anxiety feels awful. Our hearts race, our breathing quickens, we sweat, our nerves tingle, and we feel nauseous, restless and scared or angry.

But anxiety is a useful part of how we function.

To illustrate the purpose of anxiety it can be useful to picture yourself living 50,000 years ago, in a time where we didn't have all the tools and trappings of modern life. You're roaming the forest looking for some plants or small animals to eat. As you pass into

a small clearing you see a large carnivorous animal, let's say a thylacoleo. You feel anxious, which is a good thing.

If you didn't feel anxious you might stop to admire the thylacoleo's very muscular front legs with its sharp retractable claws, and its rows of blade-like teeth. If you didn't feel anxious you would likely quickly become the thylacoleo's dinner. From your viewpoint this is a poor outcome.

However, becoming anxious sets our bodies into fight or flight mode. There are two options for survival - run away or fight this meat-eating megafauna. The physical responses of anxiety help with this. Our hearts and lungs increase their function to get oxygenated blood to our muscles. Sweating will help cool us as we

exert. Our reflexes sharpen. We lose interest in seeking food. And our emotions tell us to either flee or battle.

See, anxiety is useful.

The problem with anxiety is that there aren't many 130 kilogram carnivorous marsupials around anymore, so the physical effects of anxiety are no longer as useful.

In 21st century Australia most of the threats we face will be threats to our relationships, to our sense of sense, to our social or financial standing, or to our belief system.

When we are physically challenged by a large animal, fighting or fleeing is sensible. When we are emotionally challenged by our family or colleagues this will almost certainly be unhelpful. Instead, we should try to use our smartness.

Even when we're most anx-

ious there's always that smart part of our brain that can analyse and think it's way through the challenge. You just need to give it a chance to be heard over the anxious part.

If you find yourself getting anxious try to stop before you act. Remember that your anxiety may present as anger (as a wise puppet once said "fear leads to anger"). Ask yourself whether the fight or flight response is going to be helpful, or whether you need your smartness in this situation.

Sometimes we need to calm down the anxious part of our brain before the smart part can get to work. There are many ways to achieve this. Exercise can be very handy, as it uses all those physical elements of anxiety and puts them to a positive use. Listen to some music that you enjoy or that you know calms you down. Prayer or meditation can be useful. Or use

a brief mindfulness technique, such as controlled breathing or progressive muscle relaxation. Technology can also help: Smiling Mind is a useful phone app which you can use to reduce your feelings of anxiety.

So far we haven't considered some of the other things that can lead to ongoing problems with anxiety. Factors such as alcohol and drug use can make anxiety worse, despite people feeling that they help them in the short-term. Traumatic experiences can make us more prone to anxiety, especially in our formative years. Physical illnesses can make us more prone to anxiety, and some people just have stronger anxiety responses, which would have been helpful in the days of thylacoleos.

Medication can play a small role in managing anxiety, but the best management is to under-

stand your anxiety, to appreciate the benefits it gives you, and to learn ways to let the smart part of your brain work through things.

Psychologists are experts in this area and can help you to develop these skills. Your GP can help you get in touch with a psychologist through a Mental Health Plan. If you're struggling with anxiety, please reach out and ask for help.

Trafalgar Medical is locally owned and managed, we have appointments available every day and are taking new patients.

Please call 5633 2211 to make an appointment or book an appointment online with Hotdoc or via our website at www.trafmc.com.au.

For regular updates follow us on Facebook.

New Vets welcomed at Trafalgar and Newborough Veterinary

Dr. Jared Waddell-Smith



We would like to welcome some new team members at Trafalgar and Newborough vets.

Dr. Katrin Sievers brings with her years of experience in mixed practice in the Latrobe Valley area, and she has already been warmly received by many of our clients since starting with us in early August.

Katrin grew up in Namibia in southern Africa, moved to Australia to study Veterinary Science at Melbourne University, and has made Gippsland her home ever since. Growing up she spent a lot of time on her grandfather's cattle range in Namibia and also camping southern Africa. She does have some experience in treating African wildlife including Zebra, Springbuck, Hyenas and Rhino.

She loves mixed practice and the variety and adventure it brings with it. She is a keen surgeon but also loves consulting and caring for small animals. She knows that

it takes a lot of trust to place the care of a beloved pet in the hands of their vet and strives to deliver great clinical care and empathy to her patients.

Katrin is also fascinated with dairy farm operations and while she enjoys caring for the individual animal, she has a special interest for herd health and wellbeing.

As a keen dressage rider, she is also confident around horses!

In her free time Katrin loves going on outdoor adventures with her three daughters and being active. She enjoys baking too and is always keen to try new recipes. She loves catching up with friends, having a great time and sharing food.

Katrin loves developing a close relationship with her clients and getting to know them better. Currently Dr. Katrin is available for

surgery on Mondays, consultations on Thursdays, farm visits on Fridays, and at our Newborough branch on Tuesdays. If you haven't met her yet, make sure you say hello and give her a warm welcome!

We also welcome a new receptionist Amanda Williams and a trainee veterinary nurse Charlotte Farrell.

Amanda grew up in Drouin

and has years of experience in customer service. Being a keen pet owner with 3 dogs and a cat, she is excited to bring her customer service skills to a veterinary clinic environment.

Charlotte grew up on a local dairy farm and joined us in August. She has been quickly learning the day to day activities of a vet clinic and has been a wonderful addition to the team.

Our current veterinary team consists of:

- Dr. Jared Waddell-Smith and Dr. Jackson Chuo (practice owners)
- Dr. Kerrie Piper (member in veterinary behaviour and pharmacology)
- Dr. Alinda Zhang
- Dr. Charli Killen
- Dr. Katrin Sievers



From left: Katrin, Amanda and Charlotte ready to look after your pets



The Trafalgar and Newborough Veterinary clinic team

TRAFALGAR TILT TRAY HIRE

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

TRAFALGAR HOLDEN MUSEUM

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

Like us on Facebook - Trafalgar Holden Museum

Ph: 5633 1684 74 Waterloo Road Trafalgar

CELEBRATE AN INSPIRING TRAFALGAR CITIZEN TRAFALGAR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

NOMINEE'S DETAILS *(Details of the person you are nominating. Please provide as much information as possible)*

Title: Mr [] Mrs [] Ms [] Other SURNAME: FIRST NAME:

Street/postal address

Town: Postcode:

Contact number: Email:@.....

If you are nominating more than one person, please complete a separate nomination form for each nominee

TRAFALGAR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR CATEGORIES *(Please select the appropriate category)*

[] Citizen of the Year award

[] Youth Citizen of the Year award *(aged 25 years and younger)*

SELECTION CRITERIA

Attach separate A4 sheet(s) of paper explaining in no more than 1000 words how your nominee's actions have inspired you and contributed significantly to our community. This could be through their voluntary community contribution, work or a combination of these. Please address your nomination to the following criteria:

- The role(s) or area(s) the nominee has excelled
- How the nominee has demonstrated service worthy of recognition
- The impact of the nominee's contribution on the Trafalgar community in a particular field(s) or group(s)
- The period of time the nominee has made that commitment to the Trafalgar community If possible, include dates of service.
- How this person stands out from others
- Has the nominee's contribution been recognised elsewhere (e.g., in the media, by other awards, professional/interest groups or through local government)?

NOTES:

- The nominee must be, amongst other things, a resident with the 3824 postcode – see Rules of Entry for all rules
- The judges may seek additional information from the nominator at their discretion

NOMINATOR'S DETAILS *(Please complete your details)*

Title: Mr [] Mrs [] Ms [] Other SURNAME: FIRST NAME:

Street/postal address

Contact number: Email:@.....

GUARDIAN'S DETAILS *If you are nominating someone for the Youth Citizen of the Year, please have his/her guardian agree to the nomination by completing their details*

Title: Mr [] Mrs [] Ms [] Other SURNAME: FIRST NAME:

Street/postal address

Contact number: Email:@.....

[] I do not wish to be identified as the nominator *(Please tick if you do not wish to be identified)*

WHERE TO SEND THE NOMINATION

Send the completed nomination and supporting details (A4 sheet(s)) to:

Trafalgar Citizen of the Year, TCDA, P.O. Box 70, Trafalgar 3824

Applications close on 31 October 2021. Unfortunately, late nominations cannot be accepted

WHEN WILL THE WINNER BE ANNOUNCED?

The award winners will be announced at next year's Australia Day celebrations in Trafalgar

RULES OF ENTRY

- Nominations must be received by 5pm on 31 October 2021
- Nominees will be judged on actions and contributions made that have had a significant impact on the Trafalgar community (including all areas within 3824 postcode)
- Nominations must be the original work of the author and be factually correct to the best of the author's knowledge. The author may obtain information from other people in the preparation of the nomination
- Nominees must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia and be a resident, or contributes to the community, within the 3824 postcode
- Nominees are not restricted by age except for the Youth award which is open to all young people under the age of 25 years as at 31 October 2021. All other Rules apply to Youth award nominees
- The winner (or their guardian) of the Youth Citizen of the Year award will be required to produce a birth certificate if considered necessary by Trafalgar Community Development Association Inc (TCDA)
- All nominations (including any supporting documentation) become the property of TCDA
- The final judging of nominations will be conducted by a panel of judges appointed by TCDA
- If the judges consider there are no suitable nominees in either category, no award will be made for that category
- The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into
- Details of nominations of award winners may be published in local newspapers and in local media such as radio, etc
- Each nominator assures TCDA that it is the owner of the information in the nominations and has not breached any person's rights, including copyright
- By lodging this nomination, the nominator:
 - the nominator agrees to the above rules; and
 - if it is a nomination of the Youth of the Year award, by completing the guardian's details, the nominator has received the consent of the guardian for the youth to be nominated

..... / /
(Nominator's signature) (Date)



Council News.

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.



Exciting opportunity for the creative arts community.

Council has a \$20,000 grant available to support the commissioning of a mural project. The mural is to be publicly displayed within a Council owned space or on private land (with appropriate permissions).

Interested community members and groups wishing to make a submission are invited to complete and submit the **Expression of Interest (EOI)** form available on **Council's website**.

All submissions will be assessed by Council's Arts and Culture Advisory Committee, who will select the successful submission.

The expression of interest is open and will close on **Monday, 18 October 2021**.

To submit an EOI visit www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/CommunityArtGrant.

Your East Ward Councillors



Cr Michael Leaney
Deputy Mayor
0476 000 119
Michael.Leaney@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au



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



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



Support local and let someone else do the cooking!

We've made it easier to explore all your favourite cafes and restaurants here in Baw Baw.



The Baw Baw Eat Explore website is your guide to all the local eateries and picnic spots within the region.

All you have to do is scan the QR code, pick a location and browse through all nearby dining options available

Head to www.bawbaweatexplore.com.au and begin exploring.



Your voice will help shape the future of Baw Baw.

Council is currently seeking public feedback on a number of topics that will impact the community and future of Baw Baw.

The following are currently out for consultation:

- Environmental Sustainability Strategy
- Warragul and Drouin Design Guidelines

Your feedback will help Council better understand the needs of our community, now and into the future.

Visit www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay to take part and have a say on the matters that mean most to you.



New Date set for Erica Country Expo.

Due to the ongoing public health concerns impacting the State, the Erica Country Expo will take place on the new date of **Saturday 15 January 2022**.

Attendees can still expect a full day of entertainment and fun for all ages.

All event information can be found at www.facebook.com/EricaCountryExpo.

Book your paid hard waste collection.

A full list of approved items can be found on www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

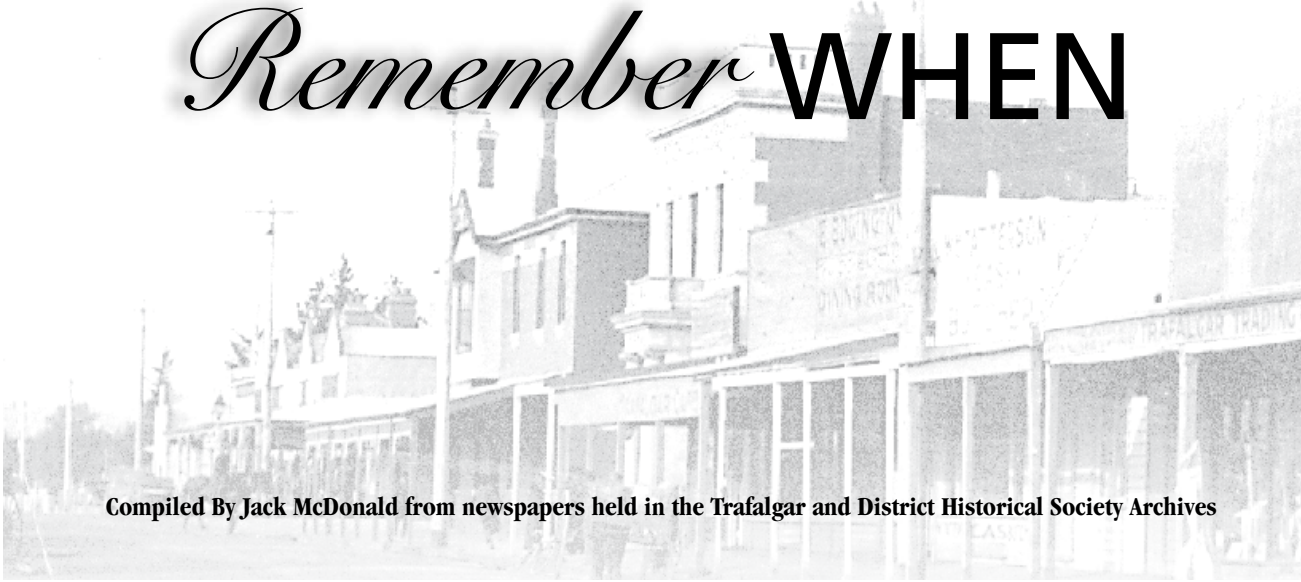
The maximum limit of hard waste is **2 cubic metres**.

Payment of **\$67.20** is required at time of booking. (\$33.00 for pensioners)

Collections will take place from **8 to 19 November**.



Bookings open from **4 October to 22 October** and can be made through Council's Customer Service Centres or by calling **1300 229 229**.



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

Trafalgar, Yarragon & Yallourn News, October, 1931

October 22 – Nice View

A trip through the hill country of Allambee and Childers at the present time is a sheer delight. The roads are good, and the country is draped in a mantle of green pasture, interspersed with patches of brown where fresh soil has been turned.

District Riflemen In N.S.W.

A number of district riflemen made the journey to New South Wales for the 66th annual prize meeting of the National Rifle Association of N.S.W. at the Anzac Range (Liverpool). Competitors from the Trafalgar Rifle Club were: J. Stephen, S. W. McIntyre, A. Clarke and E. Ashby.

October 29 – Yarragon Cycling Club

The Yarragon Cycling Club held a 17 mile (27.4km) race last Saturday. A fair field faced the starter, and resulted in a surprise victory for veteran rider H. Ridgeway who won easily by two minutes. Next Saturday the club will hold a race from Yarragon to Trafalgar, then to Darnum and finishing at Yarragon – about 18 miles (29km).

Swimming Pool For Thorpdale!

If early action is taken, and an unemployment grant is successfully applied for, the Thorpdale and district unemployed will be given work on a structure that will be an acquisition to the town.

Cricketer's Ball

The Narracan Cricket Club's ball held on Friday was one of the most enjoyable dances held in the Narracan East hall for some time. Bright music by Taylor's orchestra kept a large crowd of dancers on the move until a late hour.

Gippsland News, October, 1961

October 5 – New Bank For Yarragon

The Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Ltd. are demolishing their present premises in Yarra-

gon and are erecting a modern brick building in its place. This will certainly enhance the appearance of the Main Street, and reveals that this Company has confidence in the future of this small town.

Will You Be In It?

The attention of all energetic and civic minded citizens of Trafalgar and district is directed to a notice appearing in the advertising columns of this issue calling for volunteers to assist at a monster working bee to be held at the Trafalgar Cemetery on Saturday and Sunday next. An all out effort to improve the untidy nature of the cemetery will be made to improve the grounds which have been neglected for many years.

October 12 – New Licensee For Hotel

New members to our community are Mr and Mrs Bill Tucker and family who, on Monday last took over the Criterion Hotel at Trafalgar from the Amnitzboll family. Mr Tucker comes from Wonthaggi with the reputation of being a good publican and citizen.

Local Marching Girls

In connection with the 1st anniversary celebrations of the Chadson Shopping Centre, the Victorian Girls Marching Association and Traders combined to stage a colourful display comprising marching girls from all parts of the State. The Trafalgar "Latrobettes" competed in the junior section (midgits) whilst the senior team, the "Hi-Lites" took part in the senior grade.

Shady Creek Hall Opened

Over 350 people attended the ball commemorating the opening of the extensions of the Shady Creek Hall on Friday, September 29. Cr. Jim Balfour, M.L.C., performed the opening ceremony. Fairy lights decorating the grounds around the hall welcomed the large gathering from far and wide.

October 19 – Boer War Veteran Passes

The last of this districts' Boer War veterans crossed the bar on Wednesday of last week whilst an inmate of Prince Henry's Hospi-

tal, Melbourne. He was Mr John Jesse Hasthorpe, of School Road, Trafalgar. Born at Tanjil in 1876 the late Mr Hasthorpe had come to Trafalgar in 1918, and engaged in dairy farming. At the turn of the century he joined the expeditionary forces when Australia sent a contingent of men to fight in the South African war.

A Nuisance

(To the Editor of the "News") Sir, - May I, on behalf of several other residents, use the columns of your paper to lodge a protest against the noise created by a certain group of young folk who regularly hold meetings at a church hall in the town. The noise they create when leaving the hall is getting beyond a joke and if they persist I will have to refer the matter to the proper authorities. Yours etc., "Early Riser".

Apex Helping Youth

Trafalgar Apex is conducting a survey of the activities of, and facilities for the young people of the town. The purpose is to find out what needs to be done for the youth of the town and to see which of these needs Apex can help to satisfy.

Traf News, October, 2003

October – Bank Opening Nearer

Trafalgar and District Community Bank Chairman Frank Hernadi said: "Prospective staff were interviewed and the response to the advertisement was overwhelming, a large number of applicants showed interest in both the Manager's and Customer Service Officer positions". Share applications have reached \$495,000 (\$722,000 today) with 322 shareholders. Long-time resident of Trafalgar, Ozzie Mills said: "It is a real red carpet occasion to have the local community provide a long term business for themselves".

Enjoys Traf News

Dear Editor, - After over 30 years in the Trafalgar district we moved to South Australia and I cant tell you how much we look forward to having the Traf News sent to us each month to absorb all the news from home. We really

hope that August was not the last issue of a terrific local newspaper. Keep up the excellent work that you all do and I look forward to the next issue. — Jan Edmanson, Modbury, S.A.

Trafalgar High School Play

"The Outsiders", based on S. E. Hilton's novel, was recently performed by students from the Trafalgar High School at the Trafalgar Public Hall. The play concerns two opposing groups of teenagers and, while written in the 1960's, contains issues highly relevant to today's society. Congratulations to all cast and back-stage members on a great production.

Angels Exceed Expectations

To all Guardian Angels who participated in knitting garments for World Vision – Trafalgar Pharmacy would like to say 'thank you' and invite you to a morning tea on Tuesday, 21 October at 10.00am in the pharmacy. The number of garments has well and truly exceeded our expectations with 540 being knitted this year. This is 437 garments more than last year as we have a total of 63 knitters this year.

Medals For Taekwondo

Students of Trafalgar Taekwondo performed extremely well at two recent events rewarding them for their dedication and solid training during the winter months. The competitions were Brahmas annual competition held in Drouin, and Changs annual competition in Springvale. The nine Trafalgar competitors won 21 medals – a terrific effort.

Local Boy For UK Soccer Tour

Young Shannon Mathews of Trafalgar has been selected to tour the UK with the Gippsland International U/13 squad. Shannon has been playing soccer since he was six, playing for the under seven team in Claire in WA until he moved with his family to Trafalgar a few years ago. Shannon is very excited by the prospect of playing overseas, not only representing Australia, but also the local town of Trafalgar.

CHURCH SERVICES

CATHOLIC PARISH

Father Bernard Buckley, Phone 5633 1166



St John's Trafalgar, 54 Waterloo Road

Saturday Night Mass: 6.00pm
Sunday Mass: 10.00am 2nd & 4th Sundays
St Jarlaths Yarragon
10.00am 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

UNITING CHURCH

Rev Moira Dodsworth
Phone 0447 957 772



St. Andrew's Uniting Church, Trafalgar

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

St David's Uniting Church, Yarragon

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

St Stephens Darnum

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

Please direct inquiries to Dee Crosby Phome 0409 933 104

ANGLICAN CHURCH

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



St Mary's Church, Trafalgar

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

St Mark's Church, Thorpdale

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

St Mark's Church, Yarragon

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

THORPDALE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH

Rev Frank Lees,
Phone 5634 6413 or 5633 2758



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

Farming News

Nominations open for new VFF committees

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) has opened nominations for a number of newly formed policy committees.

The committees are: Farming Systems, Infrastructure and Transport, and Workforce and Social Infrastructure.

VFF returning officer Jane Lovell said the new committees had been formed to improve the organisation's ability to respond to the issues that matter most to farmers.

"These committees are going to advise on issues such as animal welfare, biosecurity, roads, fuel security and labour," she said.

Ms Lovell said this was an excellent opportunity for VFF members to be involved in shaping government policy both in Victoria and federally.

"We are asking members to put their hands up to contribute to VFF policy development and help to shape the future on topics such as animal welfare policy in Victoria or help to solve the devastating labour issues facing the agricultural industry."

Nominations for the positions of members and chair of the committees close at 5pm on Thursday, October 7 2021.

More information about the committees and nomination forms can be found on the VFF website.

rally for those most in need

Victorian egg farmers have begun donating pallets of local eggs to help feed thousands of in need Victorians as part Foodbank Victoria's ongoing efforts to distribute much needed emergency food relief associated with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Victorian Farmers Federation Egg Group president Brian Ahmed said the first pallets of donated produce arrived at Foodbank Victoria distribution centres last week.

"Victorian egg farmers will donate at least two pallets of eggs per week for 10 weeks to help those struggling to put food on the table," he said.

"If you stacked them on top of each other, it's roughly enough to scale the height of Melbourne's Eureka Tower more than 30 times.

"The steady supply of eggs during this time will help ensure a guaranteed stream of produce to help meet the current demands and for the weeks and months ahead.

"As an industry we have an important role to play as a major provider of food and fibre to those struggling to put food on the table.

"It ties in with the VFF's recently launched 'Farmy Army' initiative that helps coordinate a response for farmers and communities in their time of need anywhere in Victoria."

Foodbank Victoria chief executive Dave McNamara said the

donations would be put to good use.

"This is yet another amazing show of support from the farming community," he said.

"A brilliant source of protein that can be incorporated into so many different dishes for those doing it tough. More importantly, it solves one of the age-old quandaries ... clearly on this occasion, the Eggs are coming first!"

The VFF encourages any farmers looking to get involved in the 'Farmy Army' initiative to visit its website.

Industry launches new traceability guideline for Australian dairy

The use of technology to give dairy farmers a clearer view of transactions in the value chain got a boost recently with the launch of a guide for traceability in the supply chain.

During the eighth meeting of the National GS1 Traceability Advisory Group (NGTAG), Australian government senator Susan McDonald officially released the Australian Dairy Traceability Guideline.

GS1 Australia and Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) welcomed the announcement, signalling the second output of the Australian government grant for the implementation of ADF's Blockchain and Traceability Framework.

"Improving the transparency of information flow through our supply chain is critical to address power imbalances, identified by the ACCC and the senate's Rural and Regional Affairs and Trans-

port References Committee, of which the senator is deputy chair, in their dairy inquiries," ADF president Terry Richardson said.

"Trust is the foundation on which supply chain participants, from farm to shopping basket, rely.

"Traceability underpins trust. It enables us to provide assurances about what we produce, process, and sell.

"This is what makes the launch so important to dairy farmers, and the industry as a whole."

The traceability standards in the guideline provide a common approach for the Australian dairy industry to identify and track product as it moves through the supply chain, capturing and sharing information of relevance to producers, transporters, manufacturers, retailers, exporters and government.

"Openly sharing information also helps industry to protect our clean, green and safe food image, and, importantly, reduce our costs to compete more aggressively in local and global markets," Mr Richardson said.

"Without open, transparent and secure information systems in our value chain Australia's dairy farmers, processors and exporters will be competing on world markets with one arm behind their back."

Mr Richardson said the common language for traceability in the guideline will improve communication across industry.

"It puts everyone on the same page and in doing so it increases efficiency across the value chain.

It will help everyone in the sector implement traceability and improve safety and market access," he said.

The traceability guideline has been developed based on specialist technical advice from GS1 Australia, as well as a series of industry supply chain workshops and validation with a global food company.

Chief executive of GS1 Australia Maria Palazzolo said this was a great initiative:

"I commend the Australian government for their assistance, support, capacity building and the innovation they are fostering within Australian agricultural supply chains and particularly the support for our primary producers" she said.

"This is a great example of federal government alignment as these guidelines complement the National Freight Data Hub led by the Department of Infrastructure, given both initiatives are based on the same underlying global data standards for supply chains.

"The guidelines also support federal government initiatives to simplify trade systems via export regulatory reform and a more automated exchange of trade documents."

Seasonal worker extension welcomed

The VFF recently welcomed the state government's extension of the Seasonal Worker Programme and Pacific Labour Scheme, saying it's a small step towards filling the more than 24,000 workers needed for the

upcoming peak season.

VFF president Emma Germano said the 1500 additional workers are sorely needed once again this year on Victorian farms.

"It's a small, positive step in the right direction towards filling our huge workforce labour holes," she said.

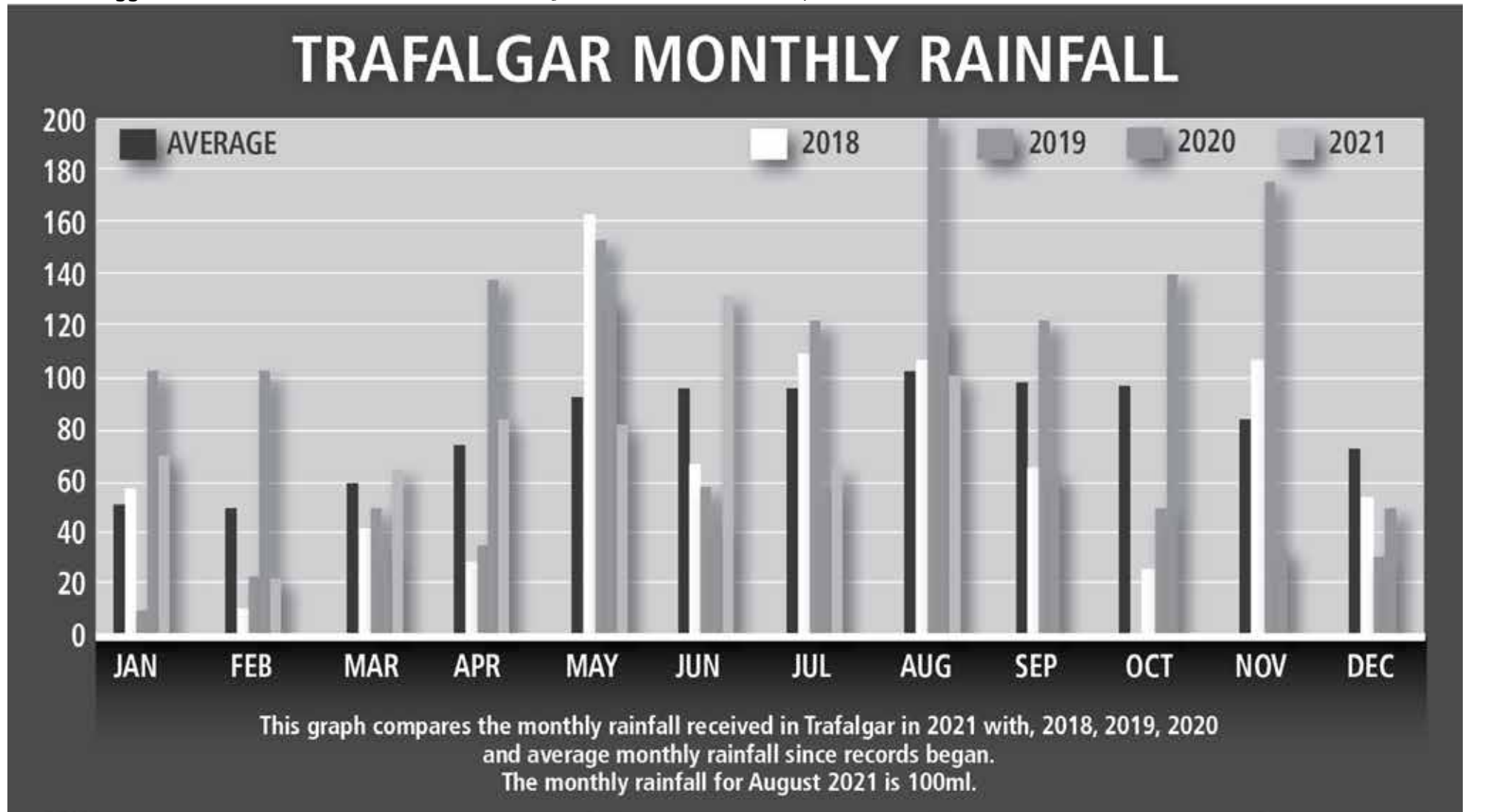
"It's a drop in the ocean compared to what we need, but they will be very welcome for the growers who take them on.

"The fact that farmers are willing to pay \$2000 each for their quarantine highlights how important these workers are."

Ms Germano said the focus must remain on governments delivering an urgently needed quarantine plan for the immediate future.

"There's no hiding the fact that we still don't have the required quarantine facilities needed to host the numbers of worker our industry needs. We're more than 18 months into this pandemic and it's still no clearer if or when our governments will commit to providing a road map to COVID normal," she said.

"We need a plan and we needed it yesterday. Our produce doesn't grow overnight, it takes months and months of forward planning and growers need to know well in advance if they'll have workers on hand to harvest produce."



Trafalgar Holden Museum car of the month

By Bob Moss

Remembering Les Holden

Leslie Hubert Holden was born on March 6 1895 in East Adelaide to travelling businessman Hubert William Holden.

Les was the nephew of Henry Holden, who later founded the Adelaide-based firm Holden's Motor Body Builders with his son Edward. The family later moved to New South Wales.

Holden enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force on May 26 1915, and was posted to the 4th Light Horse Brigade as a private. He departed for Egypt aboard the transport A29 Suevic on June 13. Serving as a driver, first in the Middle East and then on the Western Front, his mechanical ability and sense of adventure led him to volunteer for the Australian Flying Corps (AFC) in December 1916. After qualifying as a pilot in England, he was commissioned a lieutenant and posted to No. 2 Squadron flying the Airco DH5

Because the Airco DH5s was handicapped as a fighter by engine problems and low speed, the No. 2 Squadron was employed mainly in ground support

duties. During the fog-shrouded opening day of the Battle of Cambrai on November 20, Holden bombed and machine-gunned a German communications trench from altitudes as low as 6.1 or 9.1 metres. He returned to his forward airfield with his plane "a flying wreck", in the words of the official history of Australia in the war.

A brace of close calls gained him the nicknames 'Lucky Les' and 'the homing pigeon'. He was recommended for the Military Cross on December 3 for his actions of November 20. The award was promulgated in the London Gazette on February 4 1918, and the citation appearing on July 5 read:

Holden claimed his first aerial victory while No. 2 Squadron was still flying DH5s, before it began converting to Royal Aircraft Factory S.E.5s in December 1917. On February 18 1918, he shared in one of the unit's first two victories in the S.E.5, helping send a German Albatros down in a spin. He claimed another three aircraft shot down over the following month, giving him a total of five victories.

Promoted to captain in March 1918, Holden was posted to England in May as a flying instructor with No. 6 Squadron. His unit was part of the 1st Training Wing. Holden briefly took command of No. 6 Squadron from July 25 to August 11. He was awarded the Air Force Cross, promulgated on June 3 1919, for his skill as an instructor.

He was discharged from the AFC on August 18 1919. After demobilisation he became the Sydney manager of Holden's Motor Body Builders, the Adelaide Company formed by his uncle HJ Holden, but Les yearned for a career in aviation. In 1928 he purchase a de Havilland DH.61 Giant Moth. He named it Canberra, and used it to start a charter operation out of Mascot Aerodrome in Sydney.

Holden became a national celebrity in April 1929 when he successfully undertook an aerial search of the north-western Australian wilderness to locate Charles Kingsford Smith and Charles Ulm, after the pair had gone missing on a flight from Sydney to England in the South-

ern Cross.

In September 1931 Holden made what was probably the first flight from Sydney to New Guinea, and began a successful air-freight business there. He returned to Sydney the next year to purchase extra aircraft and formed Holden Air Transport.

On September 18 1932, Holden was travelling as a passenger aboard a New England Airways DH.80 Puss Moth from Sydney to Brisbane when it crashed at Byron Bay in northern New South Wales, killing him instantly. Investigations determined that the Puss Moth had gone down as a result of wing failure caused by aileron flutter.

A crowded memorial service for Holden took place at Sydney Church of England Grammar School on September 20; he was cremated that afternoon at Rookwood Cemetery, where 18 aircraft piloted by friends and associates overflew the chapel.

His father Hubert carried on operating Holden's Air Transport Services, floating it as a public corporation and serving as chairman until 1936 when the company was closed down.



Les Holden in the cockpit of the SES plane.



Holden as a civilian pilot.

Season called to an end for football and netball

By Liam Durkin

The Ellinbank and District Football League called off its season for senior football on September 2.

The EDFL said it had "no alternative" given the AFL Victoria COVID framework guidelines that require a 14 day training period for umpires and players prior to the commencement of football as seniors last played on July 10.

While lockdown in regional Victoria was lifted recently, the EDFL crossover with metropolitan Melbourne remained a sticking point, which ultimately undid plans for senior finals to be held as the city was still in lockdown.

Previous plans dictated Saturday, October 2 would be the final day EDFL senior finals would be played.

With metro lockdown not scheduled to finish any earlier than September 23 and the provision for a two week training period (if it was allowed), the earliest the grand final could be held was October 9.

"As we played half a season it is very disappointing there was not a satisfactory conclusion to the senior season however all persons involved with senior football cannot put up with the uncertainty of indefinite lockdown extensions any longer - hence the season is called off," the league said in a statement.

Junior football and netball has also been cancelled.

The EDFL announced if junior football did not commence as planned with two preliminary finals on September 18, the EDFL Board of Management would put up a few plans to maximise the opportunity of playing both preliminary finals. Among these and to buy a little bit more time the league said it was prepared to play the preliminary finals on either September 24 or 26 and the grand final on October 2 - if not before (if possible).

However for matches to go ahead after September 25 (as the juniors would not have played for five weeks since August 14) there needed to be a minimum seven day training period permitted in advance of the game as per the AFL Victoria COVID Framework guidelines.

Trafalgar finished its first season in the EDFL in second position on the senior ladder behind Ellinbank.

The Bloods reserves ended in fourth.

Trafalgar's A Grade netball team finished second, and like the footballers, trailed Ellinbank, while B Grade also came second and C Grade ended its season in fifth.

The Mid Gippsland Football-Netball League also called its senior season off last month.

The MGFNL made the recommendation at a meeting with clubs. The recommendation was carried by a majority vote of clubs.

However, clubs also agreed to

pursue all reasonable options to allow junior football and netball to return in some capacity provided a finals series can be completed by October 2.

The junior season has since

been called off.

The MGFNL works on a delegates system, meaning member clubs vote on matters, as opposed to a board structure where elected officials make decisions.

Hill End ended the season on top of the ladder in senior football. Thorpdale ran ninth of 13 teams.



Hill End finished the Mid Gippsland season on top of the ladder, but was unable to contest for a premiership after the season was abandoned. (Photo Latrobe Valley Express).

Budgie left stranded

Trafalgar umpire Steve Buhagiar has been left stranded on 999 games.

The man known as 'Budgie' had been eyeing off the four figure mark back in July, but his milestone has now been denied twice due to ongoing lockdowns and cancelled matches.

He had hope to get the game

over and done with on August 21, but community sport was given the heave-ho the night before.

Buhagiar ran his first game as a field umpire way back in 1984, and of the 999 games so far, 23 have been grand finals with 16 senior deciders in that lot.

When asked what it took to be a good umpire, the Latrobe Val-

ley Umpires Association stalwart said fitness and concentration were some of the keys.

"Be confident with what you do, when you blow the whistle you're not going to change your mind - be confident with what you've paid," he said.



Trafalgar umpire Steve 'Budgie' Buhagiar is still on 999 games.

Panthers coach signs on again

Brad Wheller will again coach Yarragon in 2022.

Wheller is well known in the Yarragon community, and the club said he was "committed

to the long term growth and success of our club".

The task Wheller faces in resurrecting the Panthers fortunes is a great one, as the team went

win-less in senior football this season.



Brad Wheller will return to coach Yarragon next season.

Connolly recommits to Saints for two years

Trafalgar's Leo Connolly will be tied to St Kilda for the next two seasons, after signing a contract extension recently.

Connolly was rewarded for his contributions at senior level, keeping him at the Saints until

the end of 2023.

Debuting as the medical substitute in round 15, Connolly played a further six matches at the back end of his season, with his elite foot skills and poise seeing him become a part of St Kilda's long term future.

"We're really pleased to be able to extend Leo's stay at RSEA Park," St Kilda head of list management James Gallagher said.

"Leo's ability by foot is something we're all excited to see develop further in the future."



Trafalgar footballer Leo Connolly inked a two-year deal with St Kilda recently. (Photo AFL).

Traf netballers claim league titles

Trafalgar netballer Samira Heffernan won the Ellinbank and District Netball Association B Grade best and

fairest recently.

Teammate Alesha Hallinan finished equal runner up best. Fellow Trafalgar netballer

Hannah Davis won the leagues 15 and Under best and fairest.

Funny Sign



Junior football award winners

Trafalgar junior footballers Tom Matthews, Lucy Coulthard and Sienna Paul took out awards at the Central Gippsland Junior Football League awards night recently.

The league vote count saw Tom Matthews become joint win-

ner of the Under 15 best and fairest, while Lucy Coulthard took out the Under 13 female player of the year.

Sienna Paul also capped off a great season, finishing as joint runner-up in the Under 13 female player of the year.



Tom Matthews won the Central Gippsland Junior Football League under 15 best and fairest.



Lucy Coulthard was awarded the Under 13 female player of the year.



Sienna Paul finished runner up in the Under 13 female player of the year award.

Get into golf

There has never been a better time to get into golf and the Trafalgar Golf Club is making it as easy as ever to do just that.

The suitably named Get into Golf program is set to return this month, with the first of six weekly sessions teed up for Thursday, October 21.

The one-hour sessions commence after work from 5.30pm and are designed to provide a fun, social and interactive introduction to the sport, regardless of age or ability.

Activities are delivered in small groups and focus on giving participants plenty of opportunities to explore basic skills and build confidence in preparation to hit the golf course.

The cost for the six sessions is \$70 per person. The club can also provide clubs and equipment as needed.

Certified Australian Professional Golfers Association instructor Craig McIntosh will lead the program, with support from fellow local golfers keen to share their love for the game and show a welcoming and friendly atmosphere is par for the course.

Trafalgar Golf Club president Stewart Cluning said golf was a great way to get active and embrace a healthy lifestyle and to connect with people in a safe, family friendly and inclusive environment.

"This program is designed to inspire not intimidate potential new golfers and with the days

getting longer and warmer it's a great after-work activity," he said.

"We've had participants come in with no idea how to hold a golf club but after six weeks they were confident enough to play the course independently with their partners or friends."

Women's only, men's only and mixed groups are also available to learn the game in a relaxed and pressure-free environment.

Registrations for the Get into Golf program are now open and can be made at www.surveymonkey.com/r/getin2golf

For more information, phone GippSport on 5176 3020 or email info@gippsport.com.au

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Pavilion starting to take shape

The new multi-use pavilion at the Trafalgar Recreation Reserve is nearing completion.

Costing \$2.8 million, the new pavilion will serve soccer, football, cricket and boxing.

Trafalgar resident Jeff Thege

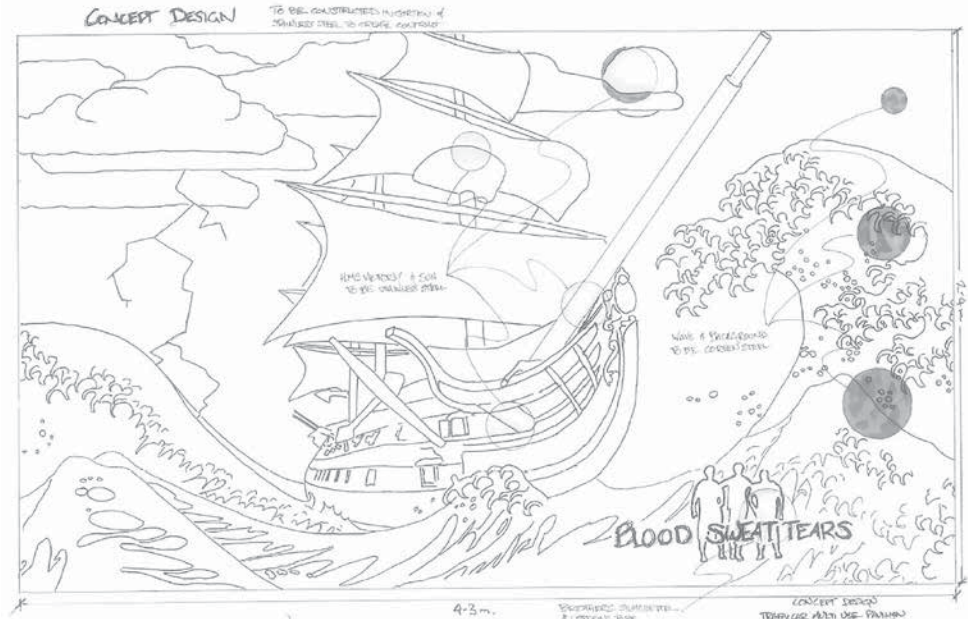
recently won a tender to have an artwork designed by him erected in the new pavilion to properly acknowledge all users and the generosity of the Turra family - the original owners of the land.

The completed pavilion will be a landmark moment for a

number of recreation reserve users who have lobbied for close to two decades to bring Trafalgar's outdated sporting infrastructure in line with the 21st century.



The new multi-use pavilion, facing northeast.



A concept drawing of what the new pavilion artwork, designed by Trafalgar resident Jeff Thege, will look like.

Wally's Words



"If the problem can be solved with money, it's not that important."
— Wally

Ships hoping new bats are a cut above the rest

Some Trafalgar Cricket Club players will be wielding a certain brand of bat this season.

The Ships got their hands on the blades thanks to networking with a bat-maker with some ties to the club.

The bats have been handcrafted in Hertfordshire, England by Josh Gurney, brother of former Trafalgar coach Nick Gurney.

Carrying the label Morton and Carson, the sticks were recently 'Shipped over' so to speak.

With cricket played by so

many people around the world, the acquisition of the bats is another great example of how cricket connects people across the globe.



Trafalgar Cricket Club players Rhys Holdsworth, Jackson Noonan and Liam Durkin with their new bats shipped over from England.

Willow Grove recreation reserve broken into

Local football-netball clubs have become the target of vandalism recently.

Police are appealing for witnesses and more information in relation to break-ins at Hill End Football-Netball Club and Yallourn Yallourn North Football-Netball Club.

Police believe the two incidents are connected.

It is alleged three people, understood to be two males and

one female, forced their way into the Hill End FNC's rooms in Willow Grove during the early hours of Saturday, September 4.

Damage was reported to the canteen window roller-shutter and internal doors.

Food was allegedly stolen before the trio left the scene.

Police believe the three then travelled to George Bates Reserve, where they forced entry into the Yallourn Yallourn North

FNC's rooms.

Police said nothing was taken from the scene.

The trio were all wearing hoodies, face masks and gloves.

Anyone with information regarding either incident is urged to phone the Latrobe Crime Investigation Unit (CIU) on 5131 5000, Baw

Baw Police on 5622 7111 or Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.



Vandals allegedly stole food from the Hill End Football-Netball Club canteen early last month.

Traf News

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Traf news needs someone for the distribution of the paper each month.

This role involves monthly arrival of the paper from the printer, sorting of the paper for relevant rounds, delivery of the paper to local businesses, as well as monitoring all staff that deliver the paper.

There is also one round of residential deliveries, which is a paid component of the role.

For more details, call Scott Draper on 0419 537 369

By Liam Durkin

Cricket on the horizon

The Trafalgar Cricket Club is preparing in earnest for the season ahead.

While the season usually starts in the first week of October, for obvious reasons this has not been the case this year.

At time of writing (September 15) a start date for season 2021-22 has still not been announced, although the club is working toward starting on Saturday, November 6.

Training is in full swing, while off the field some major projects have been completed.

Most notably, the club nets have received a much needed upgrade.

The old astro was ripped up recently, while the outskirts of both wickets were dug out.

The nets have carried with them a certain degree of character over the years, and would surely have to be one of the more primitive set-ups in local cricket, highlighted by the number of balls that fly through holes either in the back cage or underneath the bottom railing on any given training session.

For those batting, the general rule of thumb is that the netball rooms are either long off or long on, and must be cleared to reach the rope.

The old scorers table has also been replaced by a nice timber top donated by Brent and Tania Claridge.

It would be anyone's guess

as to how long the old scoring table has sat on the Ships' deck, although there is a good chance it was there when the club was established over two centuries ago. To think of the number of scoresheets that have been completed on that desk.

As the season draws closer there is general excitement about what is to come and everybody is looking forward to contributing with either bat, ball or barbecue tongs.

Trafalgar will again field three senior teams and junior teams in Under 16s, 14s and 12s.

Coming off the back of a competitive yet inconsistent 2020-21 season, the Trafalgar Cricket Club is expecting performances across the grades to display the Ships trademark blue collar spirit as the club seeks further premiership glory.

The club receives great support from local businesses and spectators who follow the teams around the district for which it is extremely grateful. Sponsors and supporters allow the club to execute its core business which is to provide a place for people to play and enjoy cricket.

If anyone is interested in joining a great family club, please phone club secretary Liam Durkin on 0402 556 338, email trafalgarcricketclub@gmail.com, or visit the clubs public Facebook page.



The nets at the Trafalgar Cricket Club are being upgraded.



The nets in their old state, minus the pitch coverings.

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