

OCTOBER 2020  
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# Traf News



PRICELESS



ERIC JOHNSON CALLS  
TIME AT MENS SHED P6



HEALTH P14



NEW ERA FOR  
MID GIPPSLAND P23

## COMMUNITY BANK KEEPING LOCAL RESIDENTS CONNECTED

Stephanie Paul

The Community Bank Trafalgar and District has further supported the local community by providing sponsorship to the Trafalgar and District Probus Club for the production of their monthly newsletter.

The Trafalgar and District Probus Club is a community group that is comprised of 105 local retired citizens. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the club has been unable to meet since March. However, with the assistance of the local community bank the club has been able to continue publishing their monthly newsletter and stay in touch with their members.

Phil Drummond, branch manager at Community Bank Trafalgar and District said that the community bank was proud to support the newsletter which enabled local retired residents to keep connected during a difficult time.

"Given the current circum-

stances it's very important that we as a community continue to look out for and communicate with each other and ensure that everyone is okay," he said.

"We're delighted to be able to play our part through our community bank sponsorship and help our older folk stay connected."

The newsletter is printed and posted to members each month which ensures members stay up to date with Probus news.

Members of the Trafalgar and District Probus Club said that they look forward to receiving their newsletter each month and without the Community Bank Trafalgar and Districts support it would not be possible.

For further information please phone Community Bank Trafalgar and District on (03)5633 2783 or visit [bendigobank.com.au/branch/vic/trafalgar-district-community-bank-branch/](http://bendigobank.com.au/branch/vic/trafalgar-district-community-bank-branch/)



Christie Ashe from Community Bank Trafalgar and District, with Trafalgar and District Probus Club member Margaret Parton and secretary Elly Fallon welcome last month's announcement.

## ST JOSEPH'S STUDENTS GOING GA GA!

By Sonia Lombardo

A new 'Ga Ga Pit' has been installed in the playground at St Joseph's Primary. Students and staff are looking forward to calls of 'Ga, Ga...' ringing throughout the school.

Yes, that is correct, Ga Ga, a high intensity, energetic game played in an octagon shaped Gagasphere. This pit was built by our capable Grade Four students, Ben Plozza, Jason Black-

shaw and Lucy Cathomen under the careful guidance of Roman Cathomen (parent and owner of Allambee Camp, where students first discovered the joy of Ga Ga).

This game originated from Israel in the early 1970s and is a great equaliser in school playgrounds where every student has a chance of success.

A ball is thrown high in the air with the word 'Ga' shouted,

when the ball lands another 'Ga' can be heard before the fun begins. Players can hit the ball with their hand, below the waistline of other players and the ball must not touch the players or they are instantly out of the game.

We thank Roman Cathomen, Ben, Jason and Lucy for their time building this pit and look forward to many riotous games of Ga Ga in future years.



St Joseph Primary School Grade Four students Jason Blackshaw and Ben Plozza busy constructing a new playing area at the school.

» FOR MORE TURN TO PAGE 12

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# A note on this issue

Some technical glitches which threatened to derail the publication of the October Traf News were fortunately remedied without too much disruption to the usual order of things.

A public acknowledgment is in order for Mick Bourke OAM, who worked around the clock to ensure we got back

up and running. Mick's work behind the scenes must have been beyond agitating at times, so we thank him sincerely for his efforts.

We hope you enjoy this issue and all that Traf News has to offer.

Mark Walsbe and Liam Durkin  
Traf News Editors.

## Alberts Corner



*Perfection of means and confusion of ends seem to characterize our age.*  
— Albert Einstein

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# Traf News

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MEMBER 2019



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# Letter to the Editor

## COVID -19 and education

Nathan Street, Trafalgar High School

COVID-19 has been a huge problem in the past half of this year.

It has devastated everything from jobs to even leaving home. But a really big issue is what the youths are going through

because they can't even go to school. They are struggling with school this year and are not getting a proper education and face to face learning.

Not getting face to face learning is detrimental to a kid's development and life because from all years of schooling it has an array of problems from when they're in Prep, they need to develop social bonds and

learn basic tasks all the way up to Year 12 where not being at school makes it very hard to learn and pass.

COVID-19 hugely effects our schooling and makes youths much more likely to fall far behind because there's no one there to motivate them to work. There's also another big problem! Some kids aren't in a good family position and school

is a getaway from all that and serves as a place to be safe and talk to someone as well. So, to summarise, COVID-19 has destroyed a year of schooling for all kids and has made kids fall far behind and many important skills that aren't talked about so often.

# Local council elections to be held via post

Voting in local council elections in Victoria, during October 2020, will be by post.

The Victoria Electoral Commission will post ballot packs to enrolled voters between Tuesday, October 6 and Thursday, October 8 2020.

The ballot pack will contain:

- a ballot paper attached to statements and photographs lodged by the candidates in your council or ward;
- a ballot paper envelope with a flap;
- voting instructions, and;

- a reply-paid envelope.

## Completing and returning your vote:

Follow the instructions on the ballot pack and make sure your completed vote is in the mail or hand-delivered to your election office before 6pm on Friday, October 23 2020.

Local mail clearance times vary. Check your local mail clearance times so your vote is in the mail on time.

## Who must vote?

You must vote if you are a state-enrolled voter as at 4pm on

Friday, August 28 2020.

You must also vote if you are a council-enrolled voter in the City of Melbourne as at 4pm on Friday, August 28 2020.

If you do not vote, you may be fined.

Traf News would like to thank the nine Baw Baw Shire Councillors elected in 2016 on a job well done and wish them luck if they are standing for re-election in 2020.

Central – Cr Joe Gauci

Central – Cr Mikaela Power

Central – Cr Danny Goss (mayor)

East – Cr Peter Kostos (deputy mayor)

East – Cr Michael Leaney

East – Cr Darren Wallace

West – Cr Tricia Jones

West – Cr Keith Cook

West – Cr Jessica O'Donnell



**Gary BLACKWOOD** MLA  
Member for Narracan

Contact my office for assistance with any State Government issue

ph - 5623 1960 e - gary.blackwood@parliament.vic.gov.au  
3/24 Mason Street, Warragul 3820

Funded from Parliament's Electorate Office and Communications Budget.

## Editor's note

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

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# Gippsland's sewage tested for COVID-19 particles

Gippsland Water is taking part in a groundbreaking national project using wastewater sampling to detect and help slow the spread of coronavirus.

Wastewater can hold clues to the presence of coronavirus in communities where there are no known cases.

People who have had coronavirus may shed the virus or virus fragments on used tissues, off their hands and skin when washing, and in their stool.

The virus breaks down and viral fragments enter wastewater through bowls, sinks and drains, and travels through the sewerage network. While viral fragments may indicate that people within a community have or have recently had coronavirus, it can take several weeks for people to shed the virus which is well beyond their infectious period. Sewage monitoring may become more valuable as an early detection tool as the number of new infections

detected through routine testing reduces.

Gippsland Water managing director Sarah Cumming said the organisation was pleased to be playing an important role in helping to keep Victorian communities safe.

"While the project is in its early stages, testing wastewater may provide an early warning as to where the virus might be present in the community," Ms Cumming said.

"Ultimately, this may help inform policy makers and health authorities to slow the spread.

"We're taking weekly samples at our Moe and Warragul wastewater treatment plants, and at the Gippsland Water Factory.

"Samples are then sent to the laboratory to be analysed for the virus and that data is used to inform the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services in its efforts to control the virus."

Coordinated by Water Research Australia, the ColoSSoS



A Gippsland Water employee collects samples at a wastewater treatment plant.



A helicopter landing and take off made quite the scene at Trafalgar Recreation Reserve last month.

# Yarragon off-leash dog park receives funding

Baw Baw Shire will build a new fully fenced off-leash dog park at Dowton Park Reserve in Yarragon, after successfully receiving funding from the Victorian government.

The \$177,000 project will be fully funded through the Victorian government's 'Building Works' package, which is providing \$2.7 billion towards projects across the state.

The park will be one of 10 dog parks built in regional Victoria this year, offering the community and visitors with a secure open space for dogs to play, socialise and learn.

Dowton Park's existing off-leash area will be fully upgraded within the next year to include a range of features, including different zones to cater for dogs of different sizes and behaviours.

A variety of dog-friendly design elements will be installed, including mounds, rocks and agility equipment.

Pathways, trees and garden beds will also be integrated into the design for shade and green space, along with drinking water (for dogs and humans), shelter, signage, bins and seating.

Baw Baw Shire deputy mayor Peter Kostos said it was welcome news for Yarragon.

"This is a great outcome for the Yarragon community and visitors to the region, who'll be able to let their dogs enjoy some off-leash freedom in a safe space," he said.

"Council is grateful for fund-

ing support from the Victorian government to deliver this valuable project that will create a fantastic facility and help to boost the local economy."

Council will begin the design phase of the project this month, with construction planned to take place in early 2021.

The new dog park will be the fourth fully fenced premium dog park in Baw Baw Shire, after council officially opened parks in Warragul, Trafalgar and Drouin in June.

For more information, visit [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/dogparks](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/dogparks)



The existing off-leash area at Dowton Park Reserve in Yarragon will be upgraded to a fully-fenced dog park.



Community Bank · Trafalgar and District

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## International Space Station passes over Childers

By Ian Murray MBE

Onlooker got a glimpse of the International Space Station as it flew over Childers last month.

A clear night on Sunday, September 6 saw the International Space Station well lit and arrive over the Leongatha region, pass

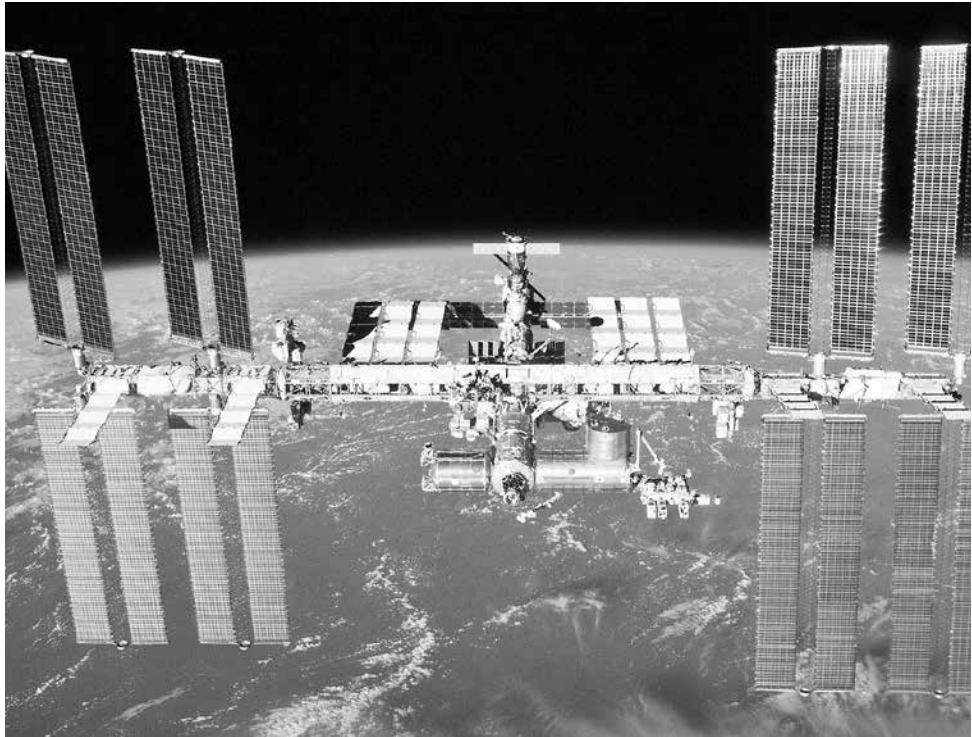
over Childers as scheduled at great speed, and then depart towards the Canberra region.

It was scheduled by NASA to pass Childers again at 7.08pm under ideal viewing conditions the following day.

The International Space Sta-

tion provides a platform to conduct scientific research, with power data, cooling and crew available to support experiments.

It is also a staging base for possible future mission to the Moon, Mars and asteroids.



The International Space Station flew over Childers last month.

## Improved parking is recommended

An urban design framework (UDF) adopted for Trafalgar has outlined a number of recommendations to improve car parking in the town.

Planning Panels Victoria said master planning should be undertaken as a priority given the critical role the publicly owned car park has in revitalising the town centre.

The panel considered a number of submissions relating to parking and the potential loss of access to the central carpark from Contingent Street and limiting access to it from McCrory Street.

This would have included closure of access to the carpark at the back of the Criterion Hotel and its bottle shop access points from Contingent Street.

The submitters argued this would detrimentally impact the function, safety of drivers and pedestrians, delivery and rubbish removal access and the commercial viability of the bottle shop and other businesses fronting Contingent Street, which rely on the access through the adjacent carpark area.

Trafalgar Chamber of Com-

merce supported the carpark access concerns and also raised concern about the potential removal of the public toilets in Contingent Street, which are replaced in the Trafalgar UDF map with paved areas and seating.

The panel said while the council carpark was an integral feature of the commercial core, it was “unappealing and unsafe due to the lack of formal pedestrian paths and crossings.”

“The interfaces to this car park are also considered poor, with inactive back-of-house presentations across the north and south.

“There is considerable opportunity for a consolidated design response to upgrade the public realm and prioritise pedestrian movement and function throughout the commercial core,” the panel said.

The UDF proposes a range of directions to ensure the carpark is more welcoming and functional for pedestrians with formalised crossings and linkages.

Recommended measures include:

Development of new built form along the edges of the car

park spine where they contribute to an improved pedestrian environment;

Create a strong new east-west pedestrian connection through the town centre along the southern edge of the car park spine, including wide footpaths capable of accommodating mobility scooters, prams and cyclists;

Restrict vehicle access from Contingent Street to car park and integrate new public plazas and paved outdoors; and,

Reconfigure the car park to optimise car park numbers and implement new planting areas and canopy trees between parking bays.

The panel said the UDF provisions did not look to remove existing access points and suggested new development fronting Princes Highway and Contingent Street to access parking from Depot Lane.

In assessing any proposal, the panel said Baw Baw Shire Council would need to consider the impact on existing properties, pedestrian networks and loading areas or private parking areas.

Source: Warragul Gazette

## Traf's greatest storm?

By Liam Durkin

The wild weather which lashed Victoria on Thursday, August 27 2020 will surely go down as one of the biggest storms the state has seen.

A fast moving cold front brought damaging and ferocious winds that virtually shook trees until its branches could take no more, as dozens fell across the district.

The storm came at around 6pm in the Trafalgar area, with lightning and deafening thunder heard throughout. Winds averaged 60 to 70 kilometres per hour, with peak gusts of about 100 kmh in some areas.

Gippsland SES volunteers were inundated with calls for assistance. During the 24 hours to 8.30am on the Friday, the SES received hundred of calls in the region, mostly for help related to trees down across roads and damage to buildings.

A VICSES spokesman said volunteers had cleared around 80 per cent of requests by Friday

morning. He said loose branches that may have been dislodged could continue to come down with more strong winds because of the wet ground.

Across the state, the emergency service received more than 3200 calls for assistance. Ausnet Services worked around the clock to get everything back to normal, after the violent weather caused the worst storm damage to its network since 2003.

Power outages affected more than 120,000 homes and businesses across Ausnet's network, which spans from the eastern New South Wales Victoria border to the coast, and includes some of Melbourne's eastern suburbs.

An Ausnet spokesman said the large volume of calls into 132 500 at the same time during the peak of the storm resulted in some delays for some residents seeking assistance.

“We thank the community for their patience and for the hard work of all the emergency service-

es telecommunications authority operators,” he said.

Ausnet reminded people to stay away from fallen trees and power lines, and to report damaged or fallen power lines on 13 17 99.

The Department of Health and Human Services confirmed people can travel to a friend or family member's house if a power outage affects health or safety, or the health or safety of someone in the same house.

Roads heading out of Trafalgar resembled a game of Mario Kart, with countless obstacles for drivers to overcome. Such was the treacherousness of the environment, drivers could not see more than one metre in front of their vehicle at some points.

*Was this Traf's greatest storm? Let our newsroom know by emailing articles@trafnews.com.*



## West Gippsland Arts Centre finds new ways to entertain

West Gippsland Arts Centre has found new ways to engage with the community and support the arts industry after temporarily closing to the public due to COVID-19.

From mid-March, a diverse range of online content has captured the attention of audiences across the region and beyond, with live performances, behind-the-scenes videos and challenges for the community to participate in.

The first feature was the Be Kind Rewind Film Festival held during the April school holidays. The festival invited local families to put their own spin on a scene from their favourite movie and share the video. Seven films were submitted and screened on the page, receiving high levels of engagement from the community.

There are plans for the festival to run again later this month during school holidays with a new

theme.

Starting in June, the Ghost Light Series kicked off with a performance from local musician Wilson Blackley live on the stage at the Arts Centre. The performance was streamed through Facebook and attracted more than 3000 views. The series has continued throughout the past month, featuring artists Maddy May, Meg Doherty and Matthew Fagan.

Baw Baw Shire manager Arts, Culture and Events Rob Robson said it was great to continue to engage with audiences across the region. “The core business of the Arts Centre is providing our community with the chance to enjoy and share performances, and the need for the sort of escape this offers has never been greater,” he said.

“Being able to serve up a whole range of experiences for

our audience through digital media has been fantastic and we are fortunate to have so much local talent and capability to draw on.”

West Gippsland Arts Centre's regular email newsletters have featured a calendar of upcoming content to allow subscribers to schedule in time to enjoy live-streamed performances via Facebook. Performances from the Sydney Opera House, Arts Centre Melbourne, The Australian Ballet, Shakespeare's Globe in London, National Theatre (London) and from the local Theatre Gippsland network have been shared so far.

Community members are encouraged to follow the West Gippsland Arts Centre on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. Visit the website [www.wgac.com.au](http://www.wgac.com.au) or subscribe to the newsletter for regular updates.



Local performer Wilson Blackley is interviewed by Baw Baw Shire Council's manager Arts, Culture and Events Rob Robson in early June as part of the Ghost Light Series.

## Baw Baw Shire Council postal election

Your council, your vote



### Check the mail for your ballot pack

Ballot packs containing voting material will be mailed to enrolled voters from **Tuesday 6 October 2020**.

This is a postal election only.

If you do not receive your ballot pack by

**Friday 16 October 2020**, please call 1300 108 480 during office hours to arrange a replacement.

### How to vote correctly

You must complete your ballot paper correctly for your vote to count. Put the number 1 in the box next to the candidate you most want to see elected, then number ALL the other boxes in order of your choice. You must number EVERY BOX and only use each number once.

### How to return your completed ballot paper

Follow the instructions on your ballot paper to complete your vote. To return your completed ballot paper, put it in the ballot paper envelope then use the reply-paid envelope provided or hand-deliver it during office hours to:

The Goods Shed, Warragul Railway Station  
3 Alfred Street, Warragul

### Voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory for all voters who were on the State roll at 4 pm on **Friday 28 August 2020**.

You may be fined if you do not vote — this includes homeowners and tenants.

You are encouraged to vote, but you will not be fined if you don't vote, if:

- you live outside this local council area OR
- you are enrolled directly with the Council to be on the voters' roll for this election.

## Your completed ballot pack must be in the mail or hand-delivered by 6 pm\* Friday 23 October

\*Local mail clearance times vary. Ballot packs must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Don't risk a fine.

State-enrolled voters can register for free VoterAlert SMS and email reminders at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)

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Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

@electionsvic



Victorian  
Electoral  
Commission

## Community sponsorship applications open

The first round of Baw Baw Shire council's 2020-21 Community Sponsorship Program is open for applications until November 1.

This year three rounds of funding will be available across two categories: community events and ambassadors.

The ambassador category supports groups or individuals in representing the shire in achievements in their areas of interest, which could include arts, sporting, academic or environmental endeavours. Up to \$500 is available for individuals and \$1500 for teams.

The community event category supports the delivery of youth events and programs, one-off events and new and existing events in Baw Baw Shire, with up to \$5000 available. Potential applicants are encouraged to think creatively about how they can engage the community with their events while we continue to be impacted by COVID-19.

As part of the application process, community groups will be required to get in touch with Council's Events Coordinator for guidance on event plan-

ning and public event permit and insurance requirements.

To be eligible for funding, applications must be presented by not-for-profit incorporated organisations that are delivering activities in Baw Baw Shire, or are supporting an individual/team member who are residents of Baw Baw Shire.

Community events will be assessed for achieving connectedness and inclusion, leading towards positive social outcomes and overall merit.

A second and third round will open in January 2021 and April 2021.

Community events may still be 12 months away but can still be planned for and are eligible to receive funding.

Activities can also be delivered through an auspice arrangement, providing the edibility criteria is met and a separate auspice application is made to council. This information is available on council's website.

For more information or to apply for sponsorship funding, visit [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/CommunitySponsorship](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/CommunitySponsorship)

### TRAFALGAR GOLF CLUB INC



NOTICE OF SPECIAL  
GENERAL MEETING &  
2020 ANNUAL  
GENERAL MEETING

Please be advised that Trafalgar Golf Club Inc will be holding a Special General Meeting and 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) at 7.00pm and 7.30pm respectively on Wednesday, 28th October, 2020.

If necessary, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the 2020 AGM will be conducted online via Zoom. Full details of the Special General Meeting and Club AGM will be posted on the club website at <https://www.trafalgargolf.com.au/club-news/>

Adrienne Cornish  
Secretary  
[secretary@trafalgargolf.com.au](mailto:secretary@trafalgargolf.com.au)

## INGE MITCHELL

I.M. THE candidate



Authorised by Inge Mitchell, 464 Earls Road, Yarragon South 3823

EAST Ward Baw Baw Shire

FOLLOW MY JOURNEY ON



# Eric Johnson calls time after 12 years as Men’s Shed president

By Frank Gridley

Trafalgar Men’s Shed held their annual meeting on August 5, after a nice lunch supplied by Jack Vos for the election of office bearers.

Our president for the previous 12 years stated he would stand aside for business reasons. Eric Johnson has been an excellent president from the shed guide hall days and guidance on the formation on the new Wellington road shed through difficult times and has been appreciated by all shed members.

Eric’s hay shed still supply’s us with tools, equipment and a never-ending supply of wood.

New president is Mr Bruce Heywood, vice president Mr Graeme Beary, secretary Mr Corrie Koppen, treasurer Mr John Aldrich (both reelected) and assistant treasurer Mr Doug Womersley.

The Shed received sad news of the passing of Mr Stan Kelly, our eldest member. Stan was our fireman, always early to light up and keep members warm. Stan was always in atten-

dance at Bunnings barbecues. Members sympathy and condolence go to Stan’s family and friends RIP Stan Kelly.

The Men’s Shed wish to thank Loy Yang B Power Station for a donation of \$1000 for tools and equipment. Members are still doing community projects, many at their own homes. Movable power tools are stored at members homes for security.

# Probus Club still waiting

By John Attwell

All Victorians are waiting for good news and the opening up of normal activities and our Probus Club is waiting to be released from hibernation as well.

This article is being written on the first day of ‘stage three’ for rural Victoria with some restrictions lifted but there is still a long way to go before Probus will get back to having meetings and are able to do all the activities that make the Probus ‘Fun, Friendship and Fellowship’ motto to live again.

Our Welfare officer Glenda Mynard has supplied an article for our Probus newsletter which is summed up as follows ‘The stage three lockdown is getting

old and quite frankly I’ve had enough. I’ve discussed the matter over a cup of coffee with the kitchen sink and we both agree that the experience is draining’. I think this sums up what we all feel.

Congratulations to members Ross and Leonie Pethybridge who welcomed their first great grand-daughter who was 8lb 9oz Matilda Jayne Duff/Pethybridge.

We should consider other Probus Clubs activities especially the Albury-Murray Club who have members from Albury and Wodonga and cannot meet together but look across the river and wave. They go on walks on each side of the Murray. Also consider the Hobsonville Pro-

bus Club of New Zealand which formed in December 2019, just ready for Corona, and now has 65 members. Well done to them. There is also a Nutters Probus Club in New Zealand but we won’t go into that or the Bear-brass Probus Club in Melbourne.

Many of our members have been very busy during the lockdown including Barbara Butterworth who is our newsletter editor doing a great job putting together and issuing our monthly newsletter.

Sharley Smith our treasurer had her 70th birthday and celebrated with a Granny Smith birthday cake, complete with a worm.



Sharley Smith celebrating her 70th birthday.



Trafalgar Probus Club member Barbara Butterworth building up their firewood pile at home in Thorpdale.

Arfa Khan

# Many faces of Traf during lockdown

Trafalgar is a vibrant and resilient community. Community resilience during COVID has been remarkable. Resilience can be understood as the sustained ability to use available resources to respond to withstand and recover from adverse situations. I believe everyone has been deeply impacted by the lockdown. Peoples businesses have been closed, jobs lost, mental stresses and home schooling. Families juggling with everything at once but all this didn’t deter our resilient community to share a smile and share good will gestures with the fellow community members.

I would like to share some Personal experiences and share different faces of Traf during lockdown.

Amidst all this Traf community worked and helped each other to bounce back and shared a smile with their big positive gestures to brightening each other’s day.

During lockdown different families put teddies in the windows to cheer up children. Initially, my daughters were scared to go out even for walk around town. My neighbour said, “tell them to check the Teddy sitting in our window”, that encouraged them to come out of the house and walk around the town looking for teddies and counting them.

The other neighbour had also put teddies in her window facing towards the girls room to brighten their spirit.

The children drew messages in their driveways with different messages like “stay inside stay safe and keep smiling”.

Lot of freebies around the town could be spotted. Communities members had placed basket with free fresh produce stating ‘take what you want and spread smiles’

There was a basket out there with books, magazines to take

with a notice “DVD’s, Books, Puzzle Books to enjoy -Have a good day”

Friends had dropped books, colours, plants, food and sent letters brightening up our day.

One of the most important things was, that neighbors looked out for each other.

My beautiful neighbor Jo and Rose stitched facemasks for our family.

It had been a tough time for all of us staying inside and not meeting friends and families. The main medium of connection with the families was Social media. Facebook, phone calls but this doesn’t replace the human connection. Our neighbour Jo came up with innovative idea our family and her family had our social distancing cuppa from two different driveways following SOPs.

Big round of applause go to local school for giving education to our children in such difficult times .

Salute to all the people who worked as initial service providers and worked during this crunch time.

The pain and suffering during this pandemic is undeniably real for everyone. The behaviour we have seen in our communities will be reflected and will be replicated in our children’s behaviour. As we continue to navigate uncharted waters, let’s all stay calm, consistent and remember resilient kids become resilient adults and ultimately build resilient communities .

Thanks Traf for being so resilient.

Arfa’s children Adeena 9 and Aleena 7 had the following note:

This is the longest we’ve stayed home. This might be the same for a lot of other children, but the lockdown for corona virus started on the 22nd of March but stopped in June.

Daniel Andrews thought it would be best for Victoria so the coronavirus wouldn’t spread

but, now it’s worse.

Anyway, once homeschooling started our mum, Arfa, decided she would make her own timetable for us, which went on for weeks until the day our teachers

called and said that our classes would have google meetings and we did not do mums timetable .

We did cooking and we also made a few dishes that were, Dragon fruit cake, Skittle cook-

ies and making a few traditional foods like samosas and khathai (kha-Thai).

We spent the last six months doing homeschooling and walking around the town with masks

on and enjoying looking at other people’s teddies.



Adeena and Aleena out for some lockdown exercise

# Bird of the month

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

In this installment, we see the sea-eagle, found in beaches, inlets, streams and lakes, the sea-eagle feeds on fish. It


can travel up to hundreds of kilometres upstream. The photos show a pair of adult birds, and a juvenile.



A majestic sea-eagle.




A sea-eagle and juvenile.



Vox Pop By:  
Vanessa H


# VOX-POP

What is one Positive thing you’ve experienced during isolation?




**Leigh Marino**  
Owner Zingarelli Pizza

“Being at home and spending more time with my wife and beautiful daughters”



**Lara Williams**  
Manager Coffee Life

“I’ve got to do a lot more reading”



**Phoebe Hicks**  
Cub Scout Leader

“I’ve learned how to bake sour-dough bread”



## Spoonville connects Traf

As communities look to stay connected in a time where staying apart is the new normal, an initiative that has many tapping into their creative side continues to pop up around the region.

Around the country, Spoonvilles have been popping up alongside roads, schools and parks for people to contribute to and show off their creative side during lockdown.

The Robinson family from Trafalgar have jumped on board the Spoonville phenomenon, starting their own village in Trafalgar to help bring some joy to their community.

Kellie Robinson said she

heard about the idea from a friend in Melbourne and thought it was a great way to put a smile on many faces.

"She rang me and thought it might be a good activity for our kids to start, so we bought some spoons from Kmart and had a craft afternoon. We wanted to make it a little out of town, because it's a really nice walk out there," Kellie said.

Located just past the primary school on School Road in Trafalgar, residents have had the opportunity to walk past and see the spoons standing tall alongside the path.

The Trafalgar Spoonville has now seen many more additions,

growing from nine spoons the family created, to nearly 20 in a short period, with hopes to see many more added.

"The kids enjoy going for a walk each day to see if it has been added to. I've had a lot of messages from people saying they are hoping to add to it too," Kellie said.

The popular community driven initiative has seen many other Spoonville villages pop up throughout the region, with many children spending an afternoon bringing their spoons to life before placing them with the others.

Source: Warragul Gazette



Maya (11) and Fletcher (eight) Robinson of Trafalgar had fun creating a Spoonville village and now enjoy going for a walk along School Road to watch their village grow.

## Wheelie kind deed helps neighbours

Nathan Weatherhead

During the coronavirus pandemic, some residents' bins have been going out more than themselves but remembering to bring them in has been helped by a kind-hearted boy in Trafalgar.

Fifteen-year-old Seth O'Brien, who has non-verbal autism, began bringing in his neighbours' bins in March when COVID-19 hit Australia. He has continued his Tuesday afternoon good deed ever since.

The job, which takes him around 20 minutes, has been a mainstay for Seth when he returns from Warragul and District Specialist School where he is in Year 9.

"One day we were in the middle of home schooling and he saw the truck come, he went and got the bins, then headed off down the street and brought in the neighbours too," mother Susan O'Brien said.

"I was a little worried about what the neighbours might think, but most know Seth and he's had a really good response from them. He's had a few thank-you notes and gifts as well, with most leaving the bins out for Seth to bring in," Susan added.

It's not just residents on his street in Trafalgar who have recognised the great work from Seth, with Susan's niece posting a photo of him collecting the

neighbours' bins on the popular Bin Isolation Outing Facebook page, with the photo receiving over 7000 likes and 2000 comments.

"She messaged me and said Seth had gone viral, he's had encouraging messages from all over the world, from the UK to America. It's overwhelming to see the comments and support for him,"

Susan said.

For Seth, his non-verbal autism doesn't stop him communicating the importance of kindness during this time, and every Tuesday afternoon you will find him demonstrating that as he wheels in his neighbours' bins.

Source: Warragul Gazette



The kindness pandemic has spread through a Trafalgar residential street where 15-year-old Seth O'Brien (right) has helped his neighbours by bringing in their bins each day. His mum Susan said many neighbours have left Seth notes and gifts for his kindness. Photo: Michael Robinson

## Local podcast series episode update

Some new episodes have been added to the podcast of local journalist Liam Durkin since the last issue of Traf News.

Episodes now available are:

### Joining Forces

A look at how six clubs from the Alberton Football-Netball League have found their way to the Mid Gippsland-Football Netball League for the 2021 season. Featured in this episode are Stony Creek FNC president Mark Le Page and MGFNL publicity of-

ficer Rob Popplestone.

### Peter Moody

A discussion about the somewhat uncommon world of men in netball.

### Scott Pendlebury special

A chat to a number of people close to the Collingwood champion about his upbringing and how he has gone from a kid in Gippsland to the Magpies games record holder. This episode features parents Bruce and Lisa,

older brother Kris, Gippsland Power legend Peter Francis and the late-great Kevin Hogan.

### Josh Cashman

Former Gippsland Power captain turned musician, now touring with the likes of Tash Sultana, Ocean Alley and John Butler Trio.

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

**AUTO VALUE**  
TRAFFALGAR  
PARTS, WORKSHOP & ON SITE SERVICE

**CHARGE INTO SPRING**  
THE POWER OF REDARC

**ELECTRIC BRAKES**  
**LIGHTFORCE BATTERIES**  
**THUNDER LUCIDITY**  
**REDARC**  
**NARVA**  
**GME**

**HTX2**  
NEW & IMPROVED

COLLINS – Elizabeth  
Affiliate Member 1467895  
The President, Management Committee and Members of the Trafalgar-Thorpdale RSL Sub-Branch Inc. mourn the passing of our esteemed member Elizabeth Collins and offer their sincere sympathy and condolence to Kevin and the entire family.

REST IN PEACE

## AROUND THE HISTORICAL Society

By Dianne Ireland

In the September issue of the Traf News, Around the Historical Society featured photos from the Apex Club.

In amongst the photos and minute books from this club was a minute book entitled Henpexians 1963 –to 68. I wonder what 2020 Apex members think of this as a title for the female members?

At the preliminary meeting

of the proposed Apex Club of Trafalgar on May 14 1958, 23 'prospexians' were in attendance. The club was admitted to membership in the association of Apex Clubs on March 26 1959.

So much fascinating history is held in these old records which need to be added to our catalogue.

If you would like to help

with this or any other projects, please phone Jean Huffer on 56331960.

Working bees have been on hold but hopefully can resume soon. Our October meeting, scheduled for the 15th, is yet to be confirmed.

The next issue of the Gazette is well underway, so keep an eye out for it in the Newsagents, Edcomp and the Post Office.

## Missing names found

By Jean Huffer

Trafalgar and District Historical Society had a great response to the call for names of the Apex Club

photo in the last issue of Traf News, and wishes to thank all readers who followed up.

The photo was taken

around 1984 and featured incoming Apex president Vic. Hill with his new board members.



Trafalgar Apex Club circa 1984, pictured left to right are Ian Davey, John Clarke (at rear) Tony Cabill (now deceased), Murray Turner (at rear, half face), Vic Hill, Nick Wiering, Darryl Bartlett and Bruce James.



## "Think about who you love, then think about them in ICU."

For Sarah, who's been battling coronavirus for nearly 8 weeks, being separated from her two little boys, has been heartwrenching. On top of coronavirus attacking every one of her body systems, intense pain and acute breathing difficulty, she still has no idea when she will be well enough to see her boys. Sarah's hope is that by us all doing the right thing, no one else will have to experience the heartache her family has.

Please, play your part and help stop the spread of the virus. If you have symptoms - please get tested. Payments of \$450 are available to help you stay home and wait for your test result.

To learn more of Sarah's story  
go to [vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS](https://vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS)

STAYING  
APART KEEPS  
US TOGETHER



Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



# Traf's spring blossom

Marjorie O'Donnell sent these great photos in of magnolia trees around Trafalgar.

Reader photos are always welcome. If you have any you would like to share with the Traf News readership please email [articles@trafnews.com](mailto:articles@trafnews.com).



Spring time in Trafalgar.



Magnolia trees are blossoming around town.

Plenty of colour.

# Baw Baw Food Relief helping locals

Jan Morton

## Who we are

The Baw Baw Food Relief is a Not-for-Profit organisation set up as there was a need to distribute emergency food to families and individuals in the Baw Baw Shire. It has been operating successfully for 17 years.

The emergency food relief centre assists families and individuals having trouble providing their family with basic food items. There is a large range of foods, hygiene products, pet food & drinks, as well as a Drop-in Centre and Pastoral Care.

The Mission is to provide food, friendship, and practical support to those experiencing food insecurity and in need of assistance.

The Vision is to provide hope and a better future for families

and individuals in the Baw Baw Shire Community.

## How we can help you

For anyone in need of emergency food assistance the first step is to register their details at the Food Relief Reception. If you live in the Baw Baw Shire, and have a Health Care Card/Pension Card or can show evidence of hardship you are most welcome.

During Covid-19 the operating hours vary depending on which Stage the area is in, but the Volunteers are working and can ensure no one will not go hungry. The Centre is the largest emergency food relief agency in the geographic region of Baw Baw Shire and operates five (5) days a week from 10am to 2pm every weekday (Monday to Fri-

day).

The long running centre has become a respected business which has a proven emergency food relief infrastructure, at an established location.

Food deliveries arrive each week, the shelves are stocked with wholesome, nutritious fresh and non-perishable food. There is frozen goods and your fur babies are catered for with dog and cat food supplies.

Being a Not-for-Profit organisation means every dollar raised goes straight back into buying groceries to feed the community suffering food insecurity.

The centre has experienced a significant growth with people requiring assistance. Already this year there has been an in-

# New playground for Willow Grove Rec Reserve

It was the end of an era for the iconic playground at Willow Grove Recreation Reserve last month, after it was removed to make way for a new and improved model.

More than 30 years after they built it, the towns rec reserve

committee demolished the playground next to the netball courts, with many of those who pulled it down the same people who constructed it.

A new playground will be erected thanks to a Baw Baw Shire Council Placemaking Grant

and a rec reserve co-contribution.

David Balfour, Ron Mether, Norm Mether, Hank Fiddelaers, Marty Slade, and Bill Taylor worked to dismantle the old playground.



The old playground at Willow Grove Recreation Reserve came down last month.

crease of 20% on last year's figures.

These figures are worrying and with Covid-19, food insecurity has impacted all towns in Gippsland as a whole. Right now, it may feel impossible to predict what the world will look like next week, let alone next year.

## Volunteers

The Volunteer program offers people an outlet for them to give back to the community.

They may have worked for many years in different jobs and the centre is very privileged to benefit from their life experiences.

They provide skills including cooking, cleaning, sewing repairs, retail, office skills and drivers.

It is a place where they can be part of an extended family. A place to come and have fun and laughter – the laughter is contagious.

There are social get togethers, where volunteers have a chance to mix and make new friends.

It is an uplifting environment.

Volunteers are a valuable work force. If you would like to Volunteer, please phone to make an appointment to come in and fill

out an application form. Induction days are Wednesdays & Thursdays between 10am and 2pm.

Watch our Facebook posts on: [www.facebook.com/baw-bawcombinedchurchesfoodrelief.com.au](http://www.facebook.com/baw-bawcombinedchurchesfoodrelief.com.au)

for all our updates on what is coming up with Baw Baw Food Relief.

If you are requiring assistance with shopping, Baw Baw Food Relief may be able to help and can be contacted at:

Baw Baw Food Relief  
6/11 Pearse Street, Warragul  
VIC 3820  
Ph: 03 5622 3891  
[info@bawbawfoodrelief.org](mailto:info@bawbawfoodrelief.org)



Staff still helping local families during Covid

# Baw Baw Arts Alliance in virtual world

By Carol Monson

Many organisations have spent time wondering when they can meet face to face and how they will navigate the logistical difficulties caused by lockdowns.

The Baw Baw Arts Alliance is one of the many structures that has had to manage Zoom for an annual general meeting.

Recently the Baw Baw Arts Alliance Annual General Meeting was held via Zoom, putting the new committee in place for the years 2020 to 2021.

Thanks must go to Councillor Mikaela Power for overseeing the installation of the new committee of management that consists of president, Anita George, vice president, Ingrid Thomas, treasurer, Prue Barbridge, secretary, Carol Monson, ordinary committee members, Sue Murphy, Marlene Ogden, Janet Wylie, Bec Vandyk and Carrie Dupe.

A number of invited guests accepted the invitation to be present to hear what the Arts Alliance has been able to achieve in the last twelve months which includes putting exhibitions and sales on line.

Invited guests who generously gave of their time included Shire chief executive Mark Dupe, Mayor Danny Goss, Deputy Mayor Peter Kostos, Phil Drummond, Bendigo Bank Branch Manager, Christine Holland, Chair of the Community Bank of Trafalgar and District Board, Karen Whitaker-Taylor, the Baw Baw Shire

Cultural Development Officer, Emma Ballingall, Arts Editor of the Drouin and Warragul Gazette and Maree Wallace, life member of the Baw Baw Arts Alliance.

The meeting was memorable for the presentation of two life membership certificates to former committee members, Jessie McLennan and Sally Alsop. The criteria for such an award are continuous membership of the Alliance, serving on the management committee for a minimum of four years and a significant contribution to the advancement of the Arts through BBAA.

The formal meeting was followed by a presentation from artist, Bec Vandyk. Bec recently initiated a project that has received financial support from Vic Health. The initial project proposal was to involve community members from the Baw Baw Shire in the creation of artworks that tell personal stories of time and place.

In developing a comprehensive project Bec has been supported by Karen Whitaker-Taylor, the shire's Cultural Development Officer, Councillors Mikaela Power and Jessica O'Donnell, both members of the shire's Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee.

The project titled 'Live-Well, Come-Share' will enable Bec, as project manager, to engage with small communities of Baw Baw residents who may be isolated by culture, health or mobility issues,

age, or other daily life challenges, and connect them with other community members through art as a medium of expression and personal growth.

Given the restrictions that COVID-19 community protection measures have placed on face-to-face meetings, the project has been adjusted in the short term to reach out to the community in isolation. The initial outreach will use an online space to encourage interaction.

A series of fortnightly art-based sessions online, called The Melting Pot, will be freely available to all Baw Baw residents. Each session will be a combination of a guided, creativity-sparking activity, an exploration into cultural and historic topics to guide inspiration, and a 'show and tell' between participants to encourage expression within a supportive environment.

The Melting Pot online series will be a good place to begin a conversation, for all artists and community members who would like to be involved.


For more information, or to become part of the project, please email the Project Manager and Artistic Director, Bec Vandyk at [artsandhealthgipps@gmail.com](mailto:artsandhealthgipps@gmail.com) or Karen Whitaker-Taylor, Cultural Development Officer, Baw Baw Shire, [Karen.Whitaker-Taylor@bawbaw-shire.vic.gov.au](mailto:Karen.Whitaker-Taylor@bawbaw-shire.vic.gov.au)

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IT'S TRUE



A seventh grader in Florida won her school science fair by proving there are more bacteria in ice machines at fast food restaurants than in toilet bowl water

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.

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# ON THE BEAT WITH TRAFALGAR POLICE

Sergeant Chris Nott

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

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

## FACEBOOK

Did you know the Baw Baw Police Service have an EYE-WATCH page?

Can I please request people to like this page on their account so that the articles will appear on your social media feed. Articles help local police with investigations where the community can help solve crime and help locate any missing people. Community assistance is much appreciated. You can call Trafalgar police or crime stoppers with any information 1800 333 000.

## RECORDS / LOGS / PHOTOS

Any item that is owned should be logged on the computer or dairy listing serial numbers. If possible take photographs of your possessions that you value. These measures are great for identifying property lost or stolen. Serial numbers and warranty cards etc can be photographed and stored for possible value later on.

## REMINDER- CRIME PREVENTION

I recommend that the community take time to swap contact details with your neighbours. Speak with them about security issues, take time to tell them when you work OR are on holidays. This approach can be very productive in having another set of eyes

watch over things and alert any suspicious behaviour. It is amazing how many of us just don't communicate with our neighbours. Look out for each other. Elderly people especially require contact and that little bit extra concern.

## ENGRAVE VALUABLES

Mark all your valuable items with identifying symbols or words. Any item can be marked and if it becomes lost or stolen it can be easily identifiable to the police. Farm machinery, big ticket items like Motor bikes, boats, jet skis etc once marked in a secret location can be identified for life. Keep one step ahead of the crooks. Marking can help identify any property that maybe recovered later down the track. Even make a scratch in a strategic location can assist with identifying people's property at a later date.

## REMINDER- CRIME PREVENTION

Stay Safe  
Regards  
Sergeant Chris NOTT.

## KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOUR

Know your neighbours. Your chance to make a difference. It is important that we always lock cars, homes and rural buildings even though we are a country community we are still vulnerable and unfortunate-

ly opportunistic people will take advantage of our relaxed country lifestyle. We are still finding people are victims of this crime. Please lock up cars and properties and secure valuable items, don't leave them in the car.

## COVID 19

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

## POLICE ASSISTANCE LINE (PAL)

For non-urgent crime and events, you can report using the PAL. Call 131 444 or go to [police.vic.gov.au](http://police.vic.gov.au)

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







# Communication is the path to shared understanding

By Dr Michael Kunze



Every year I learn a little bit more about getting older. Some of this is personal experience, but I also continue to be educated about ageing by my patients, both at the medical centre and at Andrews House.

I find it interesting that many of my younger patients are afraid of getting old, seeing it as a stage of life where you lose your abilities and are just awaiting death. This does not match my experience of old age. While changes do occur in our bodies, our later decades can be richly active and fulfilling.

One theory which may explain the difference in views is Erik Er-

ikson's theory of psychosocial development. Erikson proposes that different stages of life have different goals, and different things that add value for the individual. For example, for most teenagers a key goal is to establish a sense of personal identity, with the key question being 'who am I?' and fidelity or loyalty being a core virtue. Social relationships will be particularly important at this younger age. However, for people in their 70s or 80s the key goal is a sense of personal integrity, with the key question being 'have I lived a meaningful life?'. Wisdom and reflection become more important. Because different things

are more important at different ages, it is not unexpected that there will often be disagreements across generations.

For example, my job as a GP involves helping people identify their problems and providing advice about potential solutions. My role is usually not to enforce any particular action, but to assist my patient in developing a plan which will meet their own health goals. When I do this with older patients, it is not uncommon for me to find that their adult children are concerned that they are making the 'wrong' decision. For instance, they are concerned that their parent may be making decisions which put them at increased risk, or that their parent should be more actively addressing their illnesses. It is usually a

good thing when they express these concerns, as it allows us to explore the reasons for their concern (it's usually love), and to find a common understanding of the patient's goals. Sometimes the surprising thing is that the family have not attempted to discuss their feelings and fears openly beforehand.

Communication is the path to shared understanding. It's important to share time discussing life's day-to-day challenges. It's also important to discuss the larger questions of life, such as what makes us happy, and what we value now and in the future. This can guide our actions.

No matter how old you are, it is valuable to discuss with your loved ones what your goals are for the future. This can be writ-

ten in a document called an Advanced Care Directive (ACD). Sometimes referred to as a 'living will', an ACD provides a legally clear outline of what care you would want if you are incapable of decision-making at the time.

It is also valuable to appoint someone who can speak on your behalf in this situation, a Medical Treatment Decision Maker for medical decisions, and an Enduring Power of Attorney for financial and legal decisions. Information about how to do this can be found at [www.publicadvocate.vic.gov.au](http://www.publicadvocate.vic.gov.au).

I've seen a lot in 2020 which reminded me of a quote attributed to Mahatma Gandhi: 'the measure of a civilization is how it treats its weakest members'. This year has been particularly hard

on the poor, the unemployed, the sick, and the elderly. Take some time to reach out to those who might need you, and don't be afraid to ask for help if you could use it.

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

Please call 5633 2211 to make an appointment or book an appointment online with Hotdoc or via our website [www.trafmc.com.au](http://www.trafmc.com.au).

For regular updates follow our Facebook page.

## Short Nosed Dogs

By Dr Kerrie Piper



Popular dog breeds do seem to cycle with the years. In the 1960s it was the Afghan Hound and Standard Poodle. The 1970s made the German Shepherd Dog popular and in the 1980s everyone wanted a spaniel. Labrador numbers surged in the 1990s and as we hit the 2000s the 'designer dogs' really took off.

Today we're seeing the brachycephalic breeds rise in popularity - French bulldogs, Aussie bulldogs and Pugs among others. As we're coming into the warmer months, we need to discuss some of the characteristics of these breeds that mean their care does need to be carefully considered.

Brachycephalic is a descriptive term stemming from the Greek words for short (brachy) and head (cephalic). Your wild-type dog head shape has a muzzle length about equal to the skull length. Some dogs have noses that are a little bit shorter such as the Staffordshire Bull Terrier and the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel and some breeds have been bred to have close to muzzle length at all such as Pugs and Pekinese.

The changes in the bones and soft tissue of the head of these dogs can be quite spectacular. From the outside, we see their squiddy little faces and round wide eyes, so they retain their

cute juvenile features. If you look closer, from the outside you can also see their nostrils are often a different shape to other varieties of dogs. Brachycephalic breeds usually have nostrils that aren't open and round but narrow and slit like, with some individuals so severely affected that their nostrils close when they inhale.

The soft tissue doesn't shorten up as well as the bony features, leaving folds of extra tissue on their faces as well as in airways.

When brachycephalic dogs spend their lives breathing in with an increased effort, the increased amount of force over time causes changes to their throat. Mature and senior brachycephalic dogs are at increased risk of airway collapse. They are also at risk of digestive upsets such as regurgitation and vomiting as a secondary problem caused by breathing with increased force.

With summer just around the corner, we must be vigilant. Dogs need their airways to regulate their body temperature. With impaired airway function, brachycephalic breeds can start to show signs of heat stress very quickly and they deteriorate at a faster rate than other breeds.

So what can you do? If you own a brachycephalic breed, watch them sleep. A normal dog at rest, when sleeping peacefully, takes about 15 to 20 breaths a minute and you will barely notice the effortless rise and fall of their chest. A dog who is having difficulty breathing will seek out places to sleep where they can keep their head elevated, neck extended and often they lie with their chin down rather than on their sides. Their respi-

ratory rate may be greater than 20 and the effort is apparent, even at rest. They snore more often, some dogs unable to sleep without snoring. The wheezing and coughing you hear when they are excited are common in

these breeds, but are a symptom of airways which are partly occluded.

Research has shown that most young brachycephalic dogs love to play. They have been timed to want to play for about

10 to 15 minutes. After corrective airway surgery, these dogs go on to play for in excess of 20 minutes and have more frequent play sessions than prior to surgery.

If, after reading this, you sus-

pect that your dog may be having some difficulties breathing, let your vet know. There are things we can do to help.



# Trafalgar Holden Museum

## car of the month...

Bob Moss

It might be a far-flung nation many miles from General Motors' Detroit headquarters, but Holden's design centre in Australia is the only other facility in the world capable of taking a concept from the drawing board to a full-size rolling prototype.

And that ability was most recently demonstrated in spectacular style in the 2016 Opel GT concept that debuted at the Geneva Motor Show.

Its design had been conceived in Germany and lead by GM vice president of Design Europe Mark Adams, but when the two-dimensional work was done, the team handed it over to Australia to breathe life and substance into the GT.

The Opel's birthplace was hammered home by the first official photos released ahead of its public appearance in Switzerland, which proudly used the Melbourne city skyline as its backdrop and even featured parts of the old Holden factory on Fishermans Bend.

Initially, muscle car fans were hopeful that the GT might offer the first glimpse at the rear-drive V8-powered car that GM presi-

dent Stefan Jacoby had promised but on closer inspection, the GT turned out to be a bantamweight sports car.

Rather than a monstrous eight-cylinder under its bonnet, the GT has five fewer cylinders and just 1.0 litre at its disposal. Output from the three-cylinder is a diminutive 107kW and 205Nm of torque, but thanks to a sub-1000kg mass, the little Opel can get to 100 kilometres an hour in less than eight seconds.

Transmission is also tailored to the driving purist, with a sequential six-speed gearbox that sends power from the front to the back axle via a mechanical limited-slip differential.

Mechanicals, figures and facts aside, the Opel really excels in its styling with a true elegant coupe profile but outlandish features.

For a start, its red front tyres courtesy of Hankook are unapologetically conspicuous and tie into the flash from tail-lights, through the window profile to the front wheel arches. The signature is not just a blatant show floor head-turner and actually pays homage to the company's 1928 MotoClub 500 motorbike,

which also wore red rubber.

Its GT moniker is woven into the bespoke tyre tread and the space between the pair of centrally mounted exhaust tail pipes, as well as the leading edge of the doors and the ends of the dashboard to proudly display the Opel's model name when boarding.

Opel's design team crafted the GT into a largely seamless body, with its smooth curves broken only by its red stripes and a barely visible door shut-line. Its door skin blends unbroken into the window pane, which is transparent from the inside but appears almost completely opaque to people outside the car.

Okay – so the Opel GT might not have been penned on Australian turf, but it was Holden's prototype team that gave it form, and we can't help thinking that there is just a little red dirt in those fabulous front tyres.

Holden was given the assignment to build the show car on behalf of General Motors' European division Opel. Some of the technology, however, may not make it to showrooms, such as the cameras instead of door mir-

rors, and the Opel GT concept car was hand-made by Holden designers in Port Melbourne before being air freighted to Switzerland for the motor show.

The photos might look European but that's the Melbourne skyline in the background; they were taken on top of Holden's

employee car park.

While the design of the Opel GT was completed by GM's styling studio in Frankfurt, the Australian team brought the concept car to life, building it from scratch based on computer images of the car sent from Germany.

(On March 2017 General Motors was acquired by Groupe PSA)

**Please note: unfortunately the 'Route 69' will not be held this year due to the present travel restriction**



# Reflection

Rev Sue Jacka

**Shaping peace together**

The International Day of Peace was celebrated on September 21st across the world. This year of course it was a series of online events. The theme of 'Shaping peace together- your peace, our peace, world peace' resonates with me. I like it because it acknowledges that our individual concerns and hopes really do matter, but are also part of a much larger picture: the local and broader community and ultimately across the nations.

2020 has certainly been a year when peace has been tested. COVID and the consequent restrictions have shattered many people's understanding of a peaceful life. The Black Lives Matter movement has caused terrifying riots in the USA while injustices against black people continue unfortunately in Australia as well as the USA. And while our attention is diverted by the pandemic, some nations exert their power and the urgency to deal with the environment that we all recognised as the country burned through summer seems to have been relegated to 'we'll get around to that one day' status. These things all destroy peace for many people.

It's been said that you cannot have peace without justice. Maybe one positive thing we can do while in this nether world of the pandemic is to work towards peace. That may mean looking after our own mental health and supporting those nearby or dear to us. Recognising the importance of peace and justice in the wider community, it may mean writing to a politician to encourage them to take action on something that destroys peace either for you or a broader social justice issue which impacts on others. If we work together we can enable peace to take shape.

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**VOTE #1 Teresa MITCHELL**

**East Ward**

**Baw Baw Shire Council Elections**

Voting closes Friday 23 October 2020

Authorised by Teresa Mitchell, PO Box 892 Werribee 3030

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## 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 .....

Town: ..... Postcode: .....

Best 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 2020.** 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 2020
- 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 2020. 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)



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

### **Council Meetings**

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

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

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

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

### **Careers**

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

### **Contact us**

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



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

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

**Please note:** If the issue is an emergency requiring immediate action (a tree across a road, downed power lines, wandering animals, etc) it's still best to give us a call on 1300 229 229, especially outside of business hours.

## Council News.

### **Silage wrap disposal fee introduced at Transfer Stations**

Due to shifts in the global recycling industry, a viable processor for recycling silage wrap is no longer available. As a result of this, a charge of \$25 per cubic metre has been introduced along with a \$10 fee for purchase of bulka bags (holding one cubic metre). This is to cover the cost of landfill disposal.



### **Free hard waste collection service available**

Baw Baw Shire residents are able to book one annual at call kerbside collection per financial year at no cost (conditions apply). The service allows for the kerbside collection of up to two cubic metres of acceptable hard waste placed within the front property boundary.

**This service is available to residents living at the property—whether owner or tenant (commercial, industrial and vacant land excluded).**

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

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

If you find that you need a second hard waste collection, Contact Council directly between 5 - 23 October and we can arrange one for you - please note, fees do apply.

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



### **Warragul Leisure Centre outdoor pool now open**

The Warragul Leisure Centre's 50-metre outdoor pool is now open for lap swimming and gentle exercise.

Up to 50 patrons are allowed in the pool at any time, with spectators and carers required to maintain social distancing and wear masks at all times. A range of other safety measures are in place, including temperature checks and booking requirements.

For more information visit the Warragul Leisure Centre website **www.warragul.ymca.org.au/participate**

### **Immunisation session times and locations**

**Warragul**  
5 October, 9.30am - 11.00am  
14 October, 4.30pm - 6.00pm  
17 October, 9.30am - 11.00am

**Trafalgar**  
27 October, 5.00pm - 6.30pm

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

### **Hardship Policy updated for COVID-19**

A COVID-19 Hardship Policy Addendum is in place to support community members and businesses facing financial hardship as a result of the pandemic.

Eligible ratepayers experiencing financial hardship can apply to defer their 2020/21 rates and enter a payment plan with Council without incurring interest.

For more information visit **bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/rates** or contact Council on 1300 229 229.



### **Four ways you can support our local businesses**

**Buying local:** Shop online with local businesses. Lots of our local businesses have a website for shopping online and lots of great products on show via their Instagram and Facebook pages.

**Buying a gift card:** Buy one now and enjoy it later. It helps businesses keep cash flowing and it'll be a great reason to get out and celebrate.

**Showing love:** Send your favourite local businesses a message, or leave a review and show our businesses how much they mean to us.

**Treating yourself:** Never has there been a better time to enjoy a meal or treat from your favourite place - give them a call, many places are offering pick up or delivery.

### **Subscribe today!**

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

*As of the date of signing, the Chief Executive Officer has certified that this material is not considered to be electoral material in accordance with Council's Governance Rules made under the Local Government Act 2020, Civic Place, Warragul.*



# Farming News

## Aussie red meat still gets thumbs up across the globe

Despite the Australian red meat and livestock industry experiencing one of the most challenging years on record in 2019, Australian red meat continues to be recognised as a high quality protein of choice across the globe.

That's according to the Australian red meat and livestock industry State of the Industry Report 2020, produced by Meat and Livestock Australia, and released last month on behalf of the Red Meat Advisory Council and red meat industry.

The report provides an overview of Australia's red meat and livestock industry, including figures on production, consumption, exports, the economic significance of the industry and key issue snapshots.

MLA managing director Jason Strong said the report highlights the resilience of Australian red meat producers in the face of both domestic and global challenges.

"Drought intensified across the eastern states with the Bureau of Meteorology officially declaring 2019 as the hottest and driest year on record in Australia," Mr Strong said.

"Cattle and sheep producers were forced to de-stock, driving the national herd and flock to historical lows. The national bushfire crisis further tested the resilience of many producers."

Mr Strong said despite the challenges, Australia's red meat industry was in good shape.

"We were the largest exporter of sheepmeat and the second largest beef exporter after Brazil in 2019, accounting for nearly a quarter of total red meat traded," Mr Strong said.

"In 2018-19, domestic and export sales of red meat totalled \$28.5 billion.

"Red meat exports accounted for \$17.2 billion and domestic sales contributed \$11.3 billion.

"Red meat and livestock exports increased 16 per cent year-on-year and 43 per cent higher than 2013-14 levels.

"China's position as a key market for Australian red meat continued to grow, with the outbreak of African Swine Fever driving demand for protein to the market. China's market share of Australian beef exports in 2019 was 27 per cent, followed by Japan with 23 per cent and the United States with 22 per cent."

Mr Strong said Australia remained one of the world's largest consumers of beef and sheepmeat, with per capita consumption sitting well above the

global average, while total global consumption of meat has been steadily increasing over the past 20 years.

"In Australia, plant-based protein consumption accounts for 0.3 per cent of fresh meat volume sales, compared to red meat which makes up over a third of total volume of sales," Mr Strong said.

The number of red meat and livestock businesses in Australia has remained relatively stable over the past five years, experiencing a minor decline in 2018-19 of three per cent to about 77,500 businesses.

"Despite this, industry turnover of red meat and livestock recorded a notable increase over the same period, while industry value add and employment levels in the red meat sector remained stable at a time when the industry was suffering one of the worst droughts on record," Mr Strong said.

Mr Strong said COVID-19 had created heightened uncertainty and volatility in the global marketplace, resulting in a shift in consumer needs and purchasing behaviour throughout 2020.

"An increased number of consumers are seeking products that are deemed trustworthy, healthy and of a high quality," Mr Strong said. "While the long-term economic impact of COVID19 will no doubt be severe, Australia's standing as a provider of high quality red meat product, both domestically and globally, has somewhat sheltered the sector from the worst of the economic fallout."

## Second most valuable year on record for ag exports

The value of Australian agricultural exports reached \$50.1 billion in 2019/20 — the second most valuable year on record — despite a year-on-year decline of \$601.4 million, according to Rural Bank's Australian Agriculture Trade 2019/20 report.

The slight decline marks the end of nine years of consecutive growth, but shows the resilience in the value of agricultural exports in the face of drought and more recently, the COVID-19 pandemic.

Export values remained within the \$49.9 to \$50.7 billion range over the past three years.

China accounted for 30.3 per cent of total export value, continuing to be the critical market for Australian agriculture.

Australia's top five export markets were China, Japan, the United States, South Korea and Indonesia.

In 2019/20, China overtook

Japan for the first time to become the top market for Australian beef, partly filling a protein gap caused by the outbreak of African Swine Fever.

Following the imposition of tariffs on barley, farmers will continue to closely monitor the relationship between Australia and China with further sanctions likely to affect agricultural and viticultural exports. Rural Bank chief operating officer Will Rayner said all states except Western Australia recorded growth in the value of agricultural exports but seasonal conditions and the global recovery from COVID-19 will be the two key factors for the remainder of 2020/21.

"Australian agricultural exports continue to be strong despite COVID-19, and in most states agricultural export values are forecast to grow," Mr Rayner said.

"Victoria remained Australia's highest value exporting state at \$13.7 billion in 2019/20, while Tasmania's agricultural exports have exceeded \$1 billion for the first time.

"Early 2020 saw some much-needed rain in the eastern states, which has meant improved prospects for farmers in both broad-acre industries and horticulture.

"We expect to see growth in cropping values, while livestock exports are likely to decrease as producers focus on restocking.

"While agriculture as an essential sector has held up well through COVID-19, some industries have been significantly affected.

"Demand for seafood, wine, wool and red meat will continue to feel the effect of food service closures and a weaker economy.

"Easing COVID-19 lockdown restrictions, both domestically and internationally, will be key to increasing demand for these sectors." Livestock experienced the

largest growth rate in 2019/20, with the value of cattle exports increasing by 16.6 per cent (\$2 billion) and sheep increasing 3.3 per cent (\$141.7 million).

Other growth industries include cropping with an increase of 2.4 per cent (\$180.7 million), dairy at two per cent (\$50.6 million), sugar at 9.8 per cent

(\$149.8 million) and fruit at 11.1 per cent (\$154.2 million). Commodities that experienced a decline in export value include cotton (which fell \$1.6 billion), wool (\$1.3 billion), seafood (\$88.4 million), nuts (\$48.4 million), wine (\$46.2 million) and vegetables (\$15.8 million).

Rural Bank's Australian Ag-

ricultural Trade 2019/20 report focuses on the volume and value of Australian agriculture to major global markets on a state, national and commodity level.

To view the full Rural Bank Australian Agriculture Trade 2019/20 report, visit [www.ruralbank.com.au/trade](http://www.ruralbank.com.au/trade)

## Upcoming Baw Baw Shire Council Elections

October 24 will see Baw Baw Shire Council elections held, by postal vote.

Trafalgar is the hub of the East Ward and is about to expand rapidly. New and upgraded sports facilities are already on the way and will aid this fast-growing area of Baw Baw Shire.

I am again nominating to be one of your East Ward Councillors.

I have had over 12 years of experience as a Councillor with a heavy focus on both the rural and residential communities.

Now retired, after having 46 years in the livestock industry, I am still farming. I hope you can again show confidence in me to represent you for the next four years.

### Vote 1 Peter Kostos

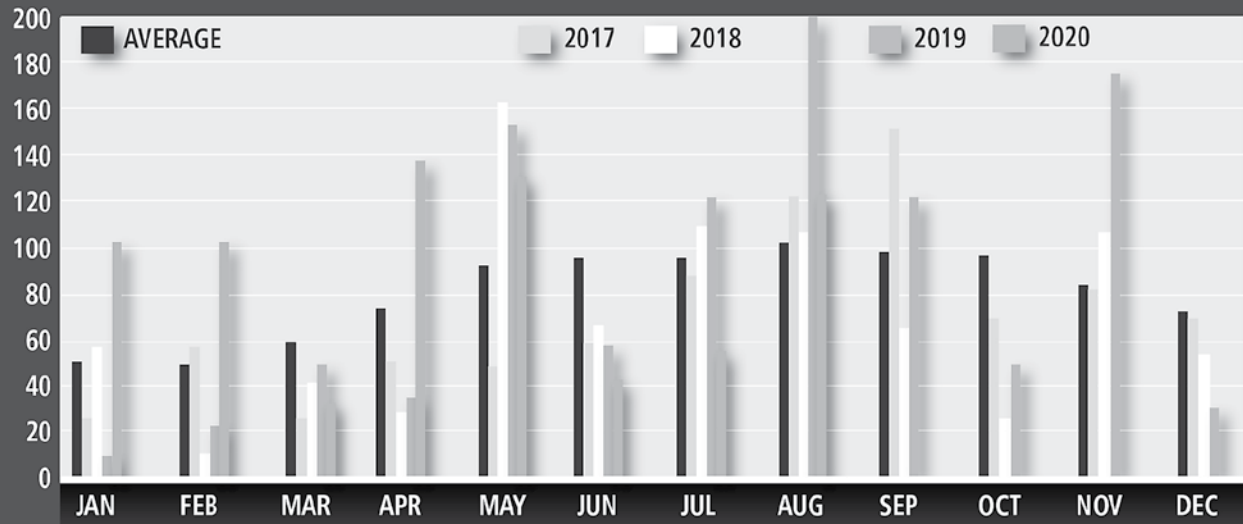


Major achievements this year;

- New road maintenance contractor, situated in Trafalgar
- Doubling of road maintenance contract to \$8 million
- New multiuse facility for Trafalgar recreation reserve
- Upgraded lighting and electrical system for Thorpdale recreation reserve

Authorised by Roy Lindsay, Yarragon Leongatha Road, Yarragon

## TRAFALGAR MONTHLY RAINFALL



This graph compares the monthly rainfall received in Trafalgar in 2020 with, 2017, 2018, 2019, and average monthly rainfall since records began. The monthly rainfall for August 2020 was 121.5 mm

# New tennis hitting wall coming

A number of new projects and initiatives were included in Baw Baw Shire council's 2020-21 annual budget recently, including the allocation of \$8000 to construct a tennis hitting wall in Trafalgar.

More than 200 community submissions were received dur-

ing the budget consultation process.

This included 92 early submissions received in November-December 2019 identifying the community's top priorities for council, and 146 submissions during the formal budget exhibition period held in June-July

2020 in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.

A total of 26 submitters spoke in support of their respective submissions at the Special Council Meeting on Wednesday, August 5 2020.

# Move to reduce use of the whip

Racing Victoria is seeking to reduce the use of whips during horse races across Australia.

RV wants a national framework to transition the industry to an ultimate prohibition on use of the whip for purposes other than to protect the safety of horses and jockeys.

RV will propose, from 1 January 2021, riders are only permitted to use the whip on a maximum number of occasions throughout the entire race and never in a horse's consecutive strides.

RV is proposing the maximum number be between five and eight occasions per race.

The current Australian rules of racing permit the use of the whip a maximum of five times in non-consecutive strides prior to the 100 metre mark and at the rider's discretion in the final 100m of a race where its use in consecutive strides is permitted.

RV chief executive Giles Thompson said making progress on whip reform was important to retain the sport's existing audiences and ensure it's an attractive option for future fans and employees.

"It is critical that jockeys are permitted to carry a whip to ensure their safety and jockey safety is something that we will always advocate," he said.

"We want to reduce the number of times the whip can be used in Victorian racing, and indeed nationally, from 2021.

This would be an important step in the right direction for our industry, one that recognises the progression of community attitudes in the decade since padded whips were first introduced.

"Britain (seven times per race), Ireland (eight), France (five), Germany (five) and key states in the USA (six each in California and Kentucky) have either implemented or announced significant reductions in permitted whip use and have seen great competitive racing continue. At this time Australian racing has been left behind when it comes to reforms on whip use.

"The industry will always be best served by a national approach to whip reform and this is something that we desire, however to this point that has not been achievable. We believe that prompt progress on whip reform is in the best interests of Australian racing and we are encouraging the Racing Australia board and other states to join us in making meaningful steps this year."

RV will be seek a vote on the matter during the Racing Australia board meeting in November.

Australian Jockeys Association chief executive Martin Talty questioned the lack of consultation with its members before RV's announcement. "This is a topic that needs sensible and

informed discussion across all stakeholders, not just jockeys but trainers, owners, breeders and punters," he said. "Australia is a key member of the Asian Racing Federation and to compare this initiative with countries such as Britain, Ireland, Germany, France and the US and not to world leaders such as Hong Kong and Japan is grossly inaccurate. The fact is the most successful horse racing jurisdictions in the world are in Hong Kong, Japan and here in Australia."

Talty confirmed the AJA's position was that the current rule in Australia was both sensible and appropriate and should be maintained.

RSPCA Victoria chief executive Dr Liz Walker welcomed the announcement from Racing Victoria.

"RSPCA Victoria remains firm that the ultimate outcome should be that whips are not used for the purpose of enhancing performance due to the pain and distress inflicted on horses. This would ensure that racing performance is not determined by inflicting pain through whipping but rather by sound breeding, quality training and outstanding horsemanship," she said.

"Other countries have already introduced handsandheels racing and we encourage the Australian racing industry to do the same."

# Cup heading to Gippsland

A number of popular tourist towns which many Trafalgar residents head to for holidays will play host to 2020 Melbourne Cup Tour.

Marlo, Buchan and Mallacoota will join 24 other towns and cities across Australia that will be part of the 18th annual tour, which will see the magic of the 'People's Cup' shared with towns and communities across the nation.

As a result of the COVID-19 travel restrictions, this year's tour will be a combination of physical and virtual visits. The Victoria Racing Club hopes to conduct Victorian visits this month in person, restrictions permitting. The tour will visit Marlo on October 11, Buchan on October 12 and Mallacoota on October 13.

Marlo Hotel owner Russell Bates said he was looking forward to being part of the tour, following a tough year for the

town.

"As well as visiting the Marlo Hotel, the cup tour will also engage with students from primary schools in Marlo and Orbost as well as residents at Lochiel House," he said.

"Everyone is very excited and looking forward to the visit."

Marlo, Buchan and Mallacoota will each be part of the Melbourne Cup Tour National Sweep, which will see 24 rural and regional destinations allocated a barrier for the big race on November 3.

The town which draws the barrier of the winning horse will be presented with \$50,000 to put towards a charity for a local community initiative. Bunyip took home the \$50,000 donation last year and put the money towards several community initiatives including assisting with the rebuild of community facilities following the Bunyip State Park fires in March 2019.

"This has amplified the importance of community and connectedness. "In the year of the 160th running of our great race, we are looking forward to connecting with people in a very modern way.

"To be able to share stories, celebrate favourite moments, whilst raising much needed funds for a large range of worthy causes."

Each town will also receive a special memento of the cup's visit, with a mini trophy being gifted to the community.

VRC chairman Amanda Elliott said it was more important than ever to share the magic of the iconic trophy with Australians.

"This year has been exceptionally challenging for all Australians. Devastating drought and catastrophic bushfires, as well as a global pandemic have contributed to a sense of isolation, uncertainty and in many cases financial hardship," she said.

"This has amplified the importance of community and connectedness. "In the year of the 160th running of our great race, we are looking forward to connecting with people in a very modern way.

"To be able to share stories, celebrate favourite moments, whilst raising much needed funds for a large range of worthy causes."

Each town will also receive a special memento of the cup's visit, with a mini trophy being gifted to the community.



The Melbourne Cup will visit some Gippsland towns this month.



## Wally's Words

*Breaking news: A man has died after falling into a vat of coffee; it was instant. – Wally*

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# Our son Scott

The biggest football club in the country and Gippsland are now explicitly linked, thanks to the efforts of Collingwood superstar Scott Pendlebury, who last month broke the club games record.

With the benchmark previously held by Tony Shaw, Pendlebury was able to rewrite the record book in the last round of the 2020 home and away season when he ran out for game number 314.

Pendlebury spent his youth in Gippsland and still has strong links to the area, so much so that his premiership and Norm Smith medal lives in his hometown.

Here, proud parents Bruce and Lisa Pendlebury provide some generous insights into the career of arguably Collingwood's greatest ever player.

(Questions by Liam Durkin).

**So your son is now the Collingwood games record holder. Have you had a chance to reflect on how great an achievement it is?**

You see the journey that he's been on to get to where he is today, not many people achieve it, the dedication and the commitment that he shows is totally professional and it's just a credit to him and I suppose his family as the support network as well. (BP).



Scott Pendlebury's premiership jumper, premiership medal and Norm Smith medal.

**How many games would you go to watch him play during a normal season?**

Probably 90 per cent (LP). I work offshore but Lisa goes as often as she can, we've got the other two playing (Kris and Ryan) as well so we try and share the workload and get around to them all. (BP).

**As has been well documented Scott was a basketball prodigy, can you tell us a bit about the young Scott Pendlebury?**

His dream was to go to the AIS, that's all he wanted to do, watching the NBA and Rhys Carter from Sale, he looked up to Rhys, so that's all he wanted to do. He was just striving to get there, working hard, training, just never stopped. (LP).

**With three boys in the house sport would have just been a way of life?**

(Sigh) It never ended! They were so competitive in everything they did. (LP).

**And a lot of travelling no doubt?**

Lots of travelling all over the state, not only the state but Australia. The other boys ventured down that path as well. Lisa took a big chunk of that which was a

huge effort. When Lisa's parents were alive they went along for the ride as well and were super proud. (BP).

**How were his Gippsland Power days?**

He was accepted in without actually training, they were fairly keen on him to play. He was so gifted and driven. (BP).

**Has the precision timing and awareness that are hallmarks of his game always been there?**

He's always had it. I don't think basketball or football has made him any better at it, he's just one of those freakish kids that can see stuff unfold probably before it actually happens. (BP).

**So draft night 2005, where were you and how was the reaction?**

We were just at our house, the five of us, watching it on the computer. The computer crashed so we never actually heard his name get read out. I got a text from his manager back then to tell him. (LP).

**Who took him under his wing when he first got to Collingwood?**

Paul Licuria, he was one of the best and hardest trainers so Scott was sort-of tagged up with

him. Mick Malthouse said 'we're going to take your boy and turn him into a man'. (BP).

**Collingwood around that time was starting to make a move, could you tell it was a team on the rise?**

They were coming off the other side of playing in those two consecutive grand finals (2002-03), they had some good picks and I thought they were going to play finals for a fair while. They had a really good list and a lot of it was Gippsland talent – Dale Thomas, Jarrod Blair, Tyson Goldsack, and Leigh Brown. (BP).

**What was the buildup to the 2010 finals like?**

Their year was pretty solid, they were the best team in it by a long way, that doesn't always equate to playing in a grand final but you could just see they were pretty hungry and they wanted to break that hoodoo of 20 years. You could see the way they played, they played for each other. (BP).

**How was it sitting there on Grand Final day watching it all unfold with the draw and the confusion?**

It was pretty nerve-racking. Scott wasn't well that day, he had gastro and didn't tell anyone,

didn't tell Malthouse because he probably would have said 'no, you're not playing'. I suppose in one way they were lucky to make a draw but the following week they pumped them and he got the Norm Smith. (BP).

**What a day that must have been?**

We were walking up Swan St and all you could hear was 'Collingwood', it was amazing. (LP).

**And in the time since he's virtually done it all, club captain, multiple All-Australians and Copeland Trophy's. Do you still pinch yourself a bit?**

At times you do but the standard that he sets himself is so high and he really doesn't expect anything less. He's very driven and very passionate. (BP).

**I take it Collingwood, Eddie and co have been great to you guys?**

They've been a very good club to our family. Anything we need we go and see them and they're always forthcoming. (BP).

**Who would you say his closest mates are at Collingwood?**

He was pretty close to Swanny and those guys that played in that

midfield. Luke Ball is a ripping guy and he speaks highly of Luke. (BP).

Ben Reid and Tyson Goldsack. Over half the team went to his wedding. (LP).

**Away from football what are some of his interests?**

Family, eating, his favourite thing is eating, as soon as we have lunch it's 'what am I going to have for tea?' or 'where are we going to go for tea?', and he stays in close contact with his pals from Sale, he looks after them, for the grand final he gets them tickets. (LP).

**How does it feel going to the footy and seeing so many kids with the number 10 on their back?**

(Chuckle) You think 'golly they're supporting my boy'. The little kids idolise Scott, friends send videos 'go Pendles', 'go Pies', it makes you feel really lovely. (BP).

**Is there anything left on the bucket list?**

I would just love for him to be a premiership captain, that's my wish for him. (LP).



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

**The Trafalgar & Yarragon News, October 1930**

**2 October – Bachelors Entertain Ladies**

In a whirl of gaiety and sparkling radiance, hosts and guests presented an exhilarating scene at Trafalgar last Monday evening, the occasion being a complimentary social.

The bachelors of Trafalgar and district decided to invite the ladies of this district to a complimentary social, and on the day of the social, a large number of hosts assembled at the hall to "clear the decks for action".

With the hall decorated with streamers, ferns and gum tips friends assembled and danced to the captivating strains of Skinner's Orchestra.

Hearts were care-free, eyes were glistening with the joy of the night – and ripples of laughter interspersed with harmony.

The hosts were true Cavaliers, one and all, and dancing continued until about 3am, when happy young people left for home.

**9 October – Scotch Lassies**

The fortnightly meeting of the Trafalgar branch of the Presbyterian Girls' Fellowship was held on Tuesday evening last, the attendance again being very good.

The progress of the branch has been remarkable and the membership is now 41.

It is a fine thing for such a large number of girls to work together in such an amicable spirit – and this will have a far-reaching affect on the community life of Trafalgar.

**16 October – Attacked By Bull**

When Mrs Davis, of Trafalgar, was attacked by a bull early on Saturday morning last, her cries for help were heard by Mr A D Smith, of Trafalgar.

He attacked the infuriated animal with a waddy and eventually drove it off. Mrs Davis had to receive medical attention. Mr Smith is to be highly congratulated on his plucky rescue.

**The Gippsland News, October 1960**

**6 October – "Eager**

**Beavers" Meeting**

The annual meeting of the Trafalgar "Eager Beavers" was held at Mrs R Jolly's home on Saturday last.

This band of willing young workers who played a big part in raising money for the Trafalgar Swimming Pool last year will continue with the good work and have arrangements well in hand for many more fund-raising efforts in the near future.

Last year the "Beavers" contributed the grand sum of £310 (\$9185 today).

**Ex-Residents Social Evening**

The Trafalgar ex-residents were lucky to strike a nice warm evening for their Show week social, held on Tuesday evening of last week in the Federation Insurance Building in Melbourne.

After welcoming the visitors the President (Mr Roy Faulkner) asked all to stand for two minutes silence in respect of those who had passed away during the year.

Those present then split into two parties – one playing cards in a separate room, the others dancing and singing in the Main Hall.

**13 October – Trafalgar Golf Links**

In 1949 a group of enthusiasts organised the purchase of 101 acres (40.8 hectares) of bush country on the "Bayonet" country north of the town with a view of creating a golf course.

Hard work and a lot of enthusiasm has resulted in a bush paddock being converted into an 18 hole golf course of championship qualifications, held in high regard by many of the best golfers in Gippsland.

The second stage of development has now been reached and on Sunday, October 23, a monster working bee will go into action to lay 6000 feet (1828 metres) of water mains to the putting greens.

A dam, with a capacity of approximately half a million gallons has been built and is full of water.

**20 October – Youth Display At Trafalgar**

On Thursday night of last week a spectacular display by the youth of Trafalgar was staged in the public hall.

Held in conjunction with Com-

munity Youth Club Week, male

members of the Trafalgar club gave a display of balancing, tumbling and gymnastics. Senior and Midget marching girls, all members of the T.Y.C., also gave displays.

During the evening two "old faithfuls" in the persons of Mr J Wood and Mr R McInnes were presented with Youth Club Life Membership badges for their outstanding support of the club.

**27 October – Thorpdale Progress Association**

On Friday, 14th October, a public meeting, convened by Cr E A Guy, was held at Thorpdale to discuss the formation of a Progress Association.

About 30 people attended and decided to form the Thorpdale and District Progress Association. It was felt that much could be done to improve Thorpdale and district.

Long range projects were: The provision of a town water supply; comfort station, and the sealing of Childers road.

**Traf News, October 2002**

**October – Traf News Survey**

The Traf News committee will be undertaking a random telephone survey within the next few months to gauge the effectiveness of the paper.

We have a substantial amount of anecdotal evidence that suggests it is providing a positive community service to Trafalgar and district.

One of the questions to be asked is would people continue to read the paper if it was not provided free of charge. For the past few months, we have, at best, operated at break-even.

**Asbestos Identification Laboratory**

A new Asbestos Identification Laboratory in Trafalgar will provide a professional asbestos management service to local businesses and homeowners as well as creating employment opportunities for local graduates.

The Hazcon laboratory is one of Trafalgar's largest employers with 18 staff members – many locals and graduates.

Managing director Peter

Attwood said the laboratory situated at the Baw Baw Technology Centre on the Princes Highway in Trafalgar was an ideal location.

**Craig's Guardian Angels**

Trafalgar and District's Guardian Angels have been busy for the past four months knitting garments for distribution by World Vision to orphaned babies in developing countries around the world.

Trafalgar's supervising Angel, Carol Bourke, from the Trafalgar Pharmacy, said that the result of the 25 knitters in the program's first year at Trafalgar was excellent. "In our first year of the programme, 100 garments were knitted and forwarded to World Vision for needy orphans".

**Death Of Dr. Tim McArdle**

Our local community has been devastated by the tragic death of Dr. Tim McArdle on Wednesday 11th September.

Dr McArdle helped to deliver over 700 babies in his 17 years in West Gippsland and was very well regarded by all the local community.

There were at least 700 people present at the Requiem Mass held in Warragul.

**Food And Families At Kinda**

The restaurant theme has continued throughout term 3 at the Trafalgar Kindergarten. The children have been treated to Asian cooking, and even ate their food with chopsticks!

The other international food was Mexican burritos. As well as learning about the food, the children also learnt about how Mexicans dress, and even learnt the Mexican 'hat dance'.

**Trafalgar Pony Club**

The Trafalgar Pony Club has been lucky with the weather over the winter months. The rallies have been great fun under the leadership of the new District Commissioner, Paul Templeton.

The club is growing in membership all the time and currently has 21 riding members. Rallies are held on the first Sunday of each month and new members are always welcome.

## CHURCH SERVICES

### CATHOLIC PARISH

Father Bernie Krotwaar, Phone 5633 1166



**St John's Trafalgar, 54 Waterloo Road**

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

**St Jarlath's Yarragon, Rollo Street**

**Sunday Mass:** 10.00am (1st/3rd/5th Sunday)

**Transport availability, Neighbourhood Outreach, Home visiting**

Please phone Julianne now at the parish office on 5633 1166

### UNITING CHURCH

Rev Helen Prior, Supply Minister  
Phone 0401 911 124



**St. Andrew's Uniting Church, Trafalgar**

**Service times** 9.15am Sunday, 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month

**Sunday School** 9.15am 2nd Sunday of the month  
**Coffee & Chat** Thursdays 10.00am

**St David's Uniting Church, Yarragon**

**Service times** 9.15am Sunday - 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month

**Contemporary** 5.00pm on the 4th Sunday of each month with shared tea to follow

**St Stephens Darnum**

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

Please direct inquiries to Dee Crosby Phome 0409 933 104

### ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rev Sue Jacka, Phone 5633 1021  
0409 757 170 or tullicavan@dcsl.net.au



**St Mary's Church, Trafalgar**

**Sundays:** Holy Communion and Sunday School

9.30am

**Wednesdays:** Holy Communion, a quiet service

10am

Cuppa and conversation

10.45am

JAFFAS after school program

3.30 - 5.30pm

**St Mark's Church, Thorpdale**

**First Sunday of the month:**

Breakfast after service 8am

**St Mark's Church, Yarragon**

**First Sunday of the month:** Service 8.30am

**Other Sundays:** Holy Communion 8.30am

**Tuesdays:** JAFFAS after school program 3.30 - 5.30pm

## THORPDALE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH

Rev Frank Lees,  
Phone 5634 6413 or 5633 2758



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



# Farewell to Alberton

By Liam Durkin

The Alberton Football League was established in 1946, a year after World War 2, replacing the Alberton Football Association.

In its early years the league comprised eight clubs, including rural localities Carrarjing and Hiawatha who were known as the Ramblers. The other six foundation clubs of the AFL were Devon, Foster, Toora, Welshpool, Woodside and Yarram.

Most of the clubs were based in what was then the Shire of Alberton. The Carrarjing and Ramblers had a brief existence, and by 1952 both clubs had disbanded.

Woodside enjoyed great success during the late 1940s and early 1950s, winning six consecutive premierships from 1947 to 1952. Fish Creek, who had joined the AFL in 1953, made an instant impact by claiming 11 flags from 15 consecutive grand finals between 1953 and 1967.

Even during this time there was talk about the future of football in the region, with some suggestion a merger between Alberton and the South Gippsland Football League would harness the sport moving forward. When the SGFL disbanded in 1968, Stony Creek and Meenyan-Dumbalk United, who had merged in 1964, joined Alberton.

Welshpool won a hat-trick of titles from 1969 to 1971 and

became the first AFL club to go through as premiers and champions in 1970. Throughout the 1970s the AFL competed as a neat 10-team competition with Devon, Foster, Toora, Welshpool, Woodside, Yarram, Won Wron, Stony Creek, MDU and Yarram competing against each other during the season.

The next two decades brought about a period of change, as some clubs merged and the AFL welcomed new clubs.

In 1982, Won Wron and Woodside joined forces, and the Tarwin Sharks were welcomed in 1988 after forming that year.

The league underwent a major expansion in 1996 after the Bass Valley-Wonthaggi league wound up, and also saw the biggest intra-league merger when four clubs came together.

Devon and Welshpool, which had merged in 1995, combined with Won Wron-Woodside to form the East Coast Allies in 1997, which was renamed Devon-Welshpool-Won Wron-Woodside a year later.

From there, Daylston, Wonthaggi Rovers, Inverloch, Korumburra and Bena joined the AFL as part of a major restructuring by the then Victorian Country Football League.

After the turn of the century, Korumburra and Bena merged in 2001 and was known as the Bulldogs until 2014 when it changed

to the Giants. Phillip Island and Kilcunda-Bass joined from the western division of the West Gippsland-Latrobe FL in 2005, a league which was to become the Gippsland League when Wonthaggi Power joined five years later.

By that stage Wonthaggi Blues and Wonthaggi Rovers had combined to form the Power, but was ordered to leave the AFNL by the VCEFL in 2010 as they were deemed to be too powerful to compete against clubs from smaller towns.

Just prior to this, a section of DWWWW left to form Woodside and District to compete in the North Gippsland Football-Netball League in 2008.

In 2014, Yarram left what by then had become the Alberton Football-Netball League for the NGFNL, and then two years later the AFNL lost Phillip Island, Kilcunda-Bass, InverlochKongwak, Dalyston and Korumburra-Bena to the newly-formed West Gippsland Football-Netball Competition.

The AFNL ran as a seven and six-team competition in its final years between 2017 to 2019, before the remaining AFNL clubs were accepted to join the Mid Gippsland FNL in time for season 2021.

## Strongest minor league in Gippsland?

While it is totally subjective, many believe that until recently, the AFNL was the best standard in Gippsland outside the major league.

With 14 clubs making up the league in 2009, the competition would no doubt have been a lot more cut throat for teams trying to make finals. Fixtures would probably have been harder for some teams as well as it would not have been possible to play every team twice in an 18 round home and away season.

During the 2009 AFNL season the top six teams played finals, with a minimum 11 wins needed to qualify.

The next two teams which missed out still won nine games, which is often enough to play finals in a standard 10-team competition.

In 2013 the AFNL was Gippsland's highest ranked minor league on the community football rankings ladder, and in 2016, (the last season before five clubs left for West Gippsland) it knocked off Riddell and District in interleague, a league which has access to a lot of city based players given its close proximity to Melbourne.

A number of prominent Gippsland League players got their start in the AFNL, including Leongatha's Chris Verboon, who came from Stony Creek and last year was adjudged the Gippsland

League's Most Valuable Player.

Ironically, Alberton and Mid Gippsland played each other in the 2012 instalment of inter-league, perhaps indicating the two leagues have shared similar capabilities for a number of years.

## Local legends

As well as those who have gone on to forge professional careers, there are many players that have played in the Alberton region who have been genuine bush champions in their own right.

A player that stands out is Gary Clavarino, who won four league best-and-fairest medals, including three in a row between 1965 and 1967 playing for Foster.

Toora's Frank Salmon set a goal kicking record that will take some beating, after sending through a remarkable 34 majors against the Ramblers in 1952.

All in all, there has been 25 occasions where a player has kicked a century of goals in the AFNL.

Goal kicking machine Rod Tack registered the most goals in a season with 135 for Wonthaggi Power in 2006.

## Gone on to the big league

The Alberton region has produced a number of prominent

AFL players, many of whom became household names during their professional careers.

Richmond used its first pick in the 1989 draft to take Anthony Banik from Won Wron-Woodside.

Andrew Dunkley played in a senior premiership with Devon before playing 217 games with Sydney, and Wonthaggi's Jarryd Blair played in Collingwood's 2010 flag.

For a town of less than 1000 people, Fish Creek has been home to some prominent players, including Barry Standfield, who played 111 games for Footscray and Adelaide, and cult hero Wayne Weidemann.

With long blond hair and a resemblance to a Viking warrior, Weidemann was a fan favourite during his seven seasons at Adelaide during the 1990s and the crowd would collective cry 'Weed' whenever he went near the ball at home games.

Current day AFL players from Alberton include Carlton co-captain Sam Docherty, who grew up in Phillip Island, West Coast premiership player Nathan Vardy, whose portrait is up in the DW-WWW clubrooms, and Xavier Duursma who hails from Foster.

Duursma returned home last year and was on hand to help with presentations at the 2019 AFNL grand final.



Future AFL number one draft pick Anthony Banik (centre) walks off the ground after kicking three goals on debut at 14 years of age for Won Wron-Woodside seniors in 1987.

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# Alberton and Mid Gippsland: amicable union or forced marriage?

By Liam Durkin

Whilst a settling down period has occurred since news was handed down that six Alberton Football-Netball League clubs would be joining the Mid Gippsland Football-Netball League for season 2021, there is still a degree of trepidation from many about the overall workability of potentially 14 teams making up one competition.

Even the most staunchly anti-Alberton people are now resigned to the fact it is going to happen, whilst those who have been dragged through the mud for the last few years are happy to at least now have some clarity over the situation.

In the eyes of many it should have happened two years ago, and the countless toing and froing only delayed the inevitable.

Just how practical it will be remains to be seen, but surely those involved would want to at least give it a chance to succeed rather than dismiss it from the outset.

Now that it is upon players, officials and clubs, they will be able to get on with the game.

Here, a few people close to the action provide their thoughts.

*The move of the Trafalgar Football-Netball Club to the Ellinbank and District Football-Netball league occurred after this issue of Traf News went to print. A full report of the move will appear in the next Traf News.*

## Mid Gippsland clubs view

As three of the closest clubs to the Alberton region, Yinnar, Mirboo North and Boolarra Football-Netball Clubs were all welcoming in their acceptance of the six AFNL clubs.

Yinnar president Dean Soares said his club was not at all apprehensive in expanding the league.

"It can only improve the Mid Gippsland Football-Netball League, it will breathe a bit of new life into our competition," he said.

"We're very receptive, excited, we've been pushing the agenda for all six clubs to come across.

"We're not concerned about the travel factor or anything like that.

"There's probably a couple of members that have got some questions but we haven't had any negative feedback come back to us at an executive level so we're ready to go."

Mirboo North FNC was also excited to see some new teams

join.

In an online post, the clubs scribe, writing under the pseudonym 'Rover', said it would be good to see rivalries from a by-gone era return.

"The Mirboo North Football Netball Club is delighted Alberton's six clubs have joined the Mid Gippsland Football Netball League," Rover said.

"The addition of Fish Creek, Foster, Meenyan Dumbalk United, Stony Creek, Tarwin and Toora lifts the MGFNL to a 15-team competition for the 2021 season.

"As well as shaping up to Fish Creek, Foster, Tarwin and Toora for the first time, Mirboo North is especially excited to resume battles with MDU and Stony Creek after more than five decades.

Mirboo North last competed against MDU and Stony Creek in 1968 in the South Gippsland Football League that also included Korumburra, Leongatha, Poowong and Wonthaggi.

It was a similar story at Boolarra FNC.

In an online statement the club said the new arrangement would help solidify football and netball in the area.

"We would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new clubs in our now 15 team strong comp and look forward to the new exciting Mid Gippsland FNL competition," the statement read.

## Played in the old league

With more clubs and more places up for grabs in the finals, spectators can expect a higher standard as players go head-to-head next season.

Players and coaches will hopefully get into preseason soon to prepare for the semi-inaugural 'new Mid Gippy'.

Having played in the previous nine team competition, Newborough defender Alex Skinner said he was optimistic about how the new league would stack up.

"I think deep down most people knew that eventually changes were going to be made to the MGFNL," he said.

"I am pretty content with the decisions that the league has made and am super excited to get stuck into it in 2021.

"There has been a bit of talk about it happening for the past couple years.

"When I first heard the idea of the Alberton clubs joining I wasn't a huge fan. I didn't like the idea of changing a league that I grew up around, but after time and once they announced

it would be happening in 2021 I came to terms with it and was happy with the decision.

"A bit of change is actually good, and it will make the league more competitive than what it has been in the past few years."

Given the layoff, Skinner said ultimately people were just eager to play football and netball again.

"I, like most, am just keen to be able to get back out there and play the sport that we all love in 2021," he said.

"I'm not entirely fussed on who we play against, I just want to be able to play football again.

"There isn't one club in particular that I'm looking forward to competing against, but it is a good opportunity to challenge against six new clubs that I'm unfamiliar with.

"Although the league changed, it is just a new chapter in the history of Mid Gippy, ever since the league was created, teams have always come and gone over the years."

The Bulldogs will be hoping to climb the ladder next season under the tutelage of Moe legend Peter Ainsworth as senior coach.

Despite the dark shadow that has lingered over the last few seasons, Skinner believed this did not take away from what was happening whilst playing at Newborough.

"Personally I don't think the uncertainty of a potential merger distracted us from what was happening on the field," he said.

"Having a young and developing squad we were focused on improving each week and growing together as a team.

"I don't think the idea of the Alberton clubs really distracted us from that. We really grew as a young group and look to 2021 to be more competitive than previous years.

"I know that this time around we are all pretty motivated and excited to get back out there."

## Coming to the new league

For players that signed up to new clubs at the end of 2019, they will face the bizarre idiosyncrasy of waiting two years to debut.

One such player that fits this category is Nick Grainer, who has crossed from Sale City to Morwell East.

The medium-sized forward said it had been a long waiting game.

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

ready," Grainger said.

Upon finding out the new clubs were joining, Grainger said he undertook to find out a bit about who he would be coming up against.

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

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

Whilst there is still the unknown-factor about what the overall standard will be like, Grainger said early impressions at his new club didn't have too much cause for concern.

"The skills at training have been similar at Morwell East as to what they were at Sale City,"

he said.

## Had a foot in both camps

Taking an unbiased view, former Trafalgar and Devon-Welshpool-Won Wron Woodside player Cohan Lee believed the survival of clubs in Gippsland was more important than Mid Gippsland players and parents getting up in arms about extended travel times.

"Surely Mid Gippsland players could do a few extra miles to save clubs not too dissimilar to them," he said.

"What if the shoe was on the other foot?"

## Would this solution have worked from the start?

An alternative view that surprisingly never really took off might have actually contained more merit than it ever received, as it does make sense on a lot of levels.

It's irrelevant now but some of us love to play devil's advocate, so would winding up the MGFNL and having Trafalgar and Hill End join Ellinbank and District to make that a 12 team competition, Yallourn Yallourn North, Newborough, Morwell East and Yinnar go to North Gippsland (14 clubs) and Mirboo North, Boolarra and Thorpdale join Alberton (nine clubs, possible 10 if DWWWW came back), have been a viable option?



NOVEMBER 1 2018 - 3:00PM

# Game over for Alberton

Liam Durkin

*The writing was on the wall for the Alberton Football-Netball League for a long time.*

# Salary cap cut

Total players payments for Gippsland League clubs will fall from \$150,000 to \$120,000 next season.

AFL Gippsland last month announced reduced salary caps across the region, with the pressures of the coronavirus pandemic among the factors considered. In the North Gippsland Football-Netball League, the salary cap was reduced from \$80,000 to \$65,000.

The player points structure across AFL Gippsland senior leagues will remain the same as they were to be for this season, which didn't go ahead.

In the Gippsland League,

total points will range from 38 for reigning premier Maffra to 44 for Morwell, Traralgon and Warragul, who finished at the foot of the ladder with four to six wins.

The player points systems encourages clubs to select players who they developed or had been part of the club for many years. The higher the level a player took part in recent seasons, the more points that player is worth.

Trafalgar has often promoted local players in its sporting teams, and given this day and age of absurd player payments and mercenaries, can be proud of recent successes.

Trafalgar Football-Netball Club won a senior football premiership in 2012 with a team of local players – 90 per cent of whom had also played juniors at the club.

Close to 80 per cent of players who have played in the last three first grade premierships won by Trafalgar Cricket Club have also been Trafalgar residents.

Last season's premiership was of particular note, with only one player not from the 3824 postcode, 10 of the premiership 11 also either went to school or grew up in Trafalgar.

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# Cricket club elects office bearers

By *Liam Durkin*

The Trafalgar Cricket Club held its annual general meeting online last month.

The meeting saw a number of committee members reelected for the 2020-21 season and also welcomed some new faces.

Having served as president for the last two seasons, Craig White accepted the senior vice presidency, whilst Billy Pace again took on the role of junior vice president.

Melanie White was reelected treasurer in one thousand-millionth of a second, in what will be her seventh term in the job.

Mel has given the club more than outstanding service over many years and is by far the longest serving female on the clubs executive.

The incumbent secretary was also reelected to the post and will again be working on an 'I'm happy as long as you're happy' basis.

With stability at board level a key pillar of club success, it is probably no coincidence that the Trafalgar Cricket Club has only had three secretaries in the last 15 seasons and has also won three first grade premierships in that time.

Returning general committee members Brent Claridge, Paul Connolly, Scott Moorhouse, Rhys Holdsworth, Christian Burgess and Mark Wynne are also back for the new season to help out, and will be joined by new committee members Zack Brown and Liam White. The phrase 'new' is somewhat superfluous however, as the above mentioned names have all either served previously or sat in on committee meetings in the past.

Following the annual general meeting, Daniel Heathcote was elected president.

Heathcote will have a fair bit on his plate as president and senior assistant coach, and now holds the unique distinction of being the only person in the clubs history to have served as president and senior coach.

All eligible members of the Trafalgar Cricket Club interested in joining the committee are always more than welcome. Some may find it surprising to learn just how much goes into getting teams on the park every week.

All senior Trafalgar teams will face a double entendre this season. A and C Grade will be challenged with not only qualifying for finals and going deep but also proving their worth in the higher division, whilst B Grade will be tasked with having a successful season and earning promotion again.

Trafalgar also has a strong

junior cricket program and will field teams in under 16s, under 14s and under 12s this season.

Zack Brown, Billy Pace and Liam White coached junior teams last season and have put their hands up to coach again.

Coming off the back of a very satisfying 2019-20 season, the Trafalgar Cricket Club is expecting performances across the grades to remain strong as the club seeks further premiership glory.

At a recent meeting, the club reappointed 2019-20 senior premiership playing-coach Jackson Noonan for a second season.

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

**Player registration is now**

**open and has moved to a totally online platform for this season.**

**To register to play cricket for Trafalgar Cricket Club,**

**visit [playcricket.com.au](http://playcricket.com.au) and enter 'Trafalgar Cricket Club' in the search bar.**



*Jackson Noonan has been reappointed senior playing coach of Trafalgar Cricket Club for a second season.*

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