

Traf News

February 2022 – Edition 246

www.trafnews.com

Follow us: @trafnews



NEWS

Memories of Traf

PAGE 7



SPORT

A landmark pavilion

PAGE 10



SPORT

On the rinks

PAGE 17

MARIANNE IS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Marianne Tyler is Trafalgar's Citizen of the Year for 2022.

Marianne is a valued Trafalgar citizen, known well for her long service as a volunteer with many local organisations. A friendly, dedicated community person, she has earned the respect and friendship of many community groups.

As a Trafalgar Lions Club member for 18 years, Marianne has received the Melvin Jones Fellowship and the Win Tyquin awards, acknowledging her exemplary humanitarian efforts.

This has included leadership service and consistent coordination and management of fundraising activities for Lions Club projects and Andrews House.

Marianne is an active member of Trafalgar Opp Shop and Trafalgar Cemetery Trust, and has given her time to support the Trafalgar High School's boys cooking program, plus the Youth Resource Centre and Trafalgar Boxing Gym fundraising ef-

forts.

Her consistent commitment and participation are commendable and highly regarded.

When told of the award, Marianne was very excited, and said, "I want to thank my family, Bob, my husband, and children Jarrod and Raina, the volunteers at the Lions Club and Trafalgar Opp Shop for helping me and making Traf a wonderful place to live. I also thank all of the friends I have made here".

"People make a community; without them we have nothing. Thanks to those who nominated me; you don't realise what friends mean to you until something like this happens".

Marianne went on to say that she loves Trafalgar and the way its residents help each other in times of need, especially now.

"I love selling raffle tickets. You get to meet so many people not only from Traf, but people passing through and I love to talk, so it's great fun.

"Doing the Andrews House Christmas barbecue for the Lions and with the Trafalgar Fire Brigade dressed up as Santa and his helpers are two of the highlights of my year. Selling raffle tickets for the Andrews House Christmas raffle is another".

Marianne concluded by saying Traf is a great place to live.

Previous Trafalgar Australia Day award recipients are:

- 2005 Dr William Ferguson (posthumous), Judy Bishop
- 2006 Mick Bourke (2014 awarded OAM), Dorothy Hoare (2010 awarded OAM)
- 2007 No award
- 2008 Ray Harris, Ernie Taylor (posthumous)
- 2009 Walter Sholl, Eileen Sholl
- 2010 Frank Gridley, Helen Robinson
- 2011 Sheila Ferguson (posthumous), Darren Wallace
- 2012 Dr James Brown (2014 awarded OAM), Tif-

fany Viney, Sarah Hartnell (Youth Award)

- 2013 Jean Huffer, Laurie Huffer, Zac Wallace (Youth Award)
- 2014 Jackie Neale, Georgia Farrell (Youth Award)
- 2015 Robin Sefton, Glenn Rodda, Lydia Jacka (Youth Award)
- 2016 Mark Judd, Troy Oates (Youth Award)
- 2017 Billie Pilch, Glenys

Brennan, Michael Brennan, William Hornstra (Youth Award)

- 2018 Ray James (2018 awarded OAM)
- 2019 Bill Ringin, Liam White (Youth Award)
- 2020 David 'Wombat' Lyons
- 2021 Peter Farmer, Cooper Burgess (Youth Award)

Presentation of the award was previously held as part

of the Battle of Trafalgar Festival, however, the Trafalgar Community Development Association, who is responsible for the award, decided in 2007 to have it as part of the Australia Day celebrations.

Consequently, no award was presented in that year; it being held over for a few months until Australia Day 2008.



Trafalgar's 2022 Citizen of the Year, Marianne Tyler, with her award

CFA declares Fire Danger Period for Baw Baw Shire

The CFA-declared Fire Danger Period has commenced.

The Fire Danger Period started at 1am on Monday, January 10 2022.

Baw Baw Shire residents and property owners should ensure their property is well prepared and bushfire risk is minimised in anticipation of the upcoming fire season.

When the Fire Danger

Period has been declared across the municipality, fire restrictions will come into force. During this period a written permit from the CFA is required to burn in the open air with some conditions in place.

Council's Fire Hazard Inspection Program is in place to ensure properties across the shire do not pose a risk to community safety. The

program that is currently underway focuses on protecting homes and buildings by reducing fuel loads in line with CFA guidelines.

As part of its legal obligations, council undertakes annual assessments throughout the shire and where necessary, issues Fire Prevention Notices to properties deemed a fire risk. The notices direct property

owners or occupiers to remove or clean up vegetation or other combustible materials on their land.

Reducing the vegetation from around the property is one of the most important things residents can do to minimise fire risk. Tidying leaves, twigs, bark and other undergrowth, and cutting long grass and weeds, should be the focus of any prepara-

tion and maintenance work to reduce fuel loads.

Residents can use their green waste bins or organise a drop off at one of council's transfer stations. Additionally, residents can seek help from contractors to assist with maintaining their properties.

When travelling through the region this summer period, all visitors are re-

mindful to take note of fire restrictions in force relating to campfires and barbecues.

For more information about the Fire Danger Period visit the CFA website. A list of frequently asked questions about council's Fire Hazard Inspection Program can be found on the council website.

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

PROPAIN
bodyworks

INSURANCE WORK BODY REPAIRS
RESTORATIONS FLEET WORK



Strzelecki Realty
Real Estate Agents
77 Princes Hwy,
Trafalgar VIC 3824

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



AMGELECTRICAL
0402 949 424

Servicing Your **Electrical** Needs
www.amgelectrical.com.au
Switchboard upgrades, LED Lighting
replacement. Breakdown service 24/7.

Simon James
Plumbing
0499 259 080

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

My time with Traf News

By Shona Vines

As a lot of you may already know I am starting a new adventure in life and after being in Victoria for 22 years I am now moving back to Queensland.

With this I will be resigning from my advertising position at Traf News which I have enjoyed greatly.

I have met a lot of great people through this role and I would like to thank each and every one of our advertisers for their support as it

is what keeps our community paper alive.

I have also had the pleasure of working with a wonderful team of people, whom without, the paper would not come together. I will miss Trafalgar and the amazing people in it, you are embraced with a smile and a chat at every corner and if you love a chat like I do then just try smiling and saying hi, this may lead to a lot of great friendships.

Thank you again to everyone and I am sure you will still see some stories from abroad pop up in the Traf News, as I have enjoyed writing articles about the things and people I am passionate about.

If you are interested in taking over the advertisers role for Traf News please email advert@trafnews.com.

A note on this issue

Due to a schedule clash with volunteer staff, the deadline for this months issue of Traf News needed to be brought forward to January 12.

As such, a number of stories which would have ordi-

narily gone in were unable to be included.

Additionally, with the deadline for the December 2021 issue being November 14 and there being no January Traf News, a number of stories from December have

been included in this issue.

The Traf News editorial team will endeavour to include the backlog of stories carrying over from January/February into the March issue.

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.

Traf News

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

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

TRAF NEWS OFFICE
Phone 5633 2591
107 Princes Highway,
Trafalgar VIC 3824
Traf News, PO Box 25,
Trafalgar, 3824
admin@trafnews.com
www.trafnews.com
Follow us @trafnews

Editorial and advertisements can be submitted via our website or by email: articles at articles@trafnews.com and advertisements at advert@trafnews.com Both editorial and advertisements can be posted to PO Box 25, Trafalgar 3824.

©Traf News 2022
ISSN 1444.1608



Production Team

EDITOR
Liam Durkin, Mark Walshe
editor@trafnews.com

ARTICLES
articles@trafnews.com

ADVERTISING
Shona Vines
0458 563 331 advert@trafnews.com

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Sarah Mangion
layout@trafnews.com

FINANCE
Reagan Montgomery
finance@trafnews.com

The views or remarks expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of Traf News editorial or production staff and no endorsement or service is implied by the listing of advertisers, sponsors or contributors. Although every effort is taken in reproducing and printing advertisements correctly, we take no responsibility for errors.

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

MARCH EDITION DEADLINE:

Articles and advertising close:
4 February 2022

Letter to the Editor

Michael Fozard,
Trafalgar

A CALL TO ACTION

When are our politicians and government bureaucrats going to understand that they are there for the Community? The recent decision by the Education Department to force government schools to use the major banks and no longer support the community banks is an indictment on the government.

As a person (volunteer) that worked diligently for the establishment of the Trafalgar Bendigo Community Bank I am devastated at the decision. We were successful in gaining the support of the community due to all of the major banks leaving town. This was occurring in many regional towns throughout Victoria. The Bendigo Community Bank is the only bank providing a valuable service and financial support to the broader community in Trafalgar and Yarragon, as well as other regional areas.

I personally have now reached the point where we in regional Victoria have to take a stance on what is happening to our communities and the social capital that we have developed with volunteers in the broader community.

We now need to start a

campaign to unseat the major parties in both the federal and state governments. The community has to take control and have an influence on the decisions.

Please consider and contact me on 0418 513 092 if you have the same feelings and want to do something.



Baw Baw Arts Alliance Summer Arts Market, Saturday, February, 19, 2022, 8.30am to 1.00pm Civic Park, Warragul

'Station Gallery', Yarragon, is open from 10.30 am to 4.00pm, Wednesday to Sunday.

'Artspaces' at Trafalgar Railway Station, open from 10.30am to 3.00pm, Tuesday to Friday, closes 12.30pm on Wednesday.

February exhibitions, 'Station Gallery', Yarragon, are 'Mum and Me', vibrant acrylics from Yvette Stubbs and Yvonne Garland and complex Intarsia woodwork by Pat Johnson.

More details of these exhibitions can be viewed on https://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au

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

Around the Historical Society

By Di Ireland

After the summer recess, the Trafalgar & District Historical Society resumes activities for 2022 on Friday, February 4. This will be a regular working bee at 2pm in the Society rooms which are in the front of the old kindergarten building located in Contingent Street.

The first general meet-

ing for the year will be held on Thursday, February 17 at 7.30pm, again in the rooms.

All enquiries should be directed to either the email address historicalsociety-traf@gmail.com or to the archivist Jean Huffer on 5633 1960.

Everyone is most welcome at either of these events, and as new mem-

bers are needed, it would be great to see some new faces.

If you haven't already purchased your copy of the 100th edition of the Gazette, copies are still available at the newsagency or the Post Office.

Further details of the Society can be found in this magazine.

Check out our new website
www.trafnews.com

We now offer digital advertising space, and local business profiles on our site.

Council endorses strategy to strengthen local economy

Baw Baw Shire Council has endorsed a strategy to deliver sustainable economic growth and a bright, thriving future for the region and its businesses.

The Economic Development and Visitor Economy Strategy was presented at the Wednesday, December 8 council meeting and was moved by Cr Joe Gauci, seconded by Cr Annemarie McCabe and supported unanimously by all councillors in the chamber.

The Strategy provides a range of targeted actions over the next three years to realise Baw Baw Shire's economic vision "to create a regional city that has a thriving local and global economic impact, where families can live and grow and vibrant communities flourish".

To further develop and support a strong economy across the shire, the Strategy focuses on four key areas:

- Leadership and Advocacy;
- Business Attraction and Investment;
- Business and Workforce Development, and;

- Visitor Economy and Major Events

To make sure it was hitting the mark with local businesses and stakeholders, council sought feedback on the Strategy between October 15 to November 15 2021.

A total of 58 responses were received throughout the consultation period and direct engagement was carried out with the local business community, industry associations, regional partners and other interested residents.

Based on the feedback provided from these key stakeholders, the following priorities were highlighted:

- Enhancements to the Better Business Program to further support businesses with the permit process;
- The recreational development of Tarago Reservoir;
- The undertaking of a feasibility assessment into the introduction of EV charging stations;
- Establishing Baw Baw Shire as the home of food and wine, and;
- Supporting the Indigenous Economy by enhancing collaboration between council

and the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC).

Council will work closely with key partners across the region to deliver the Strategy's economic development actions. It is through these collaborative partnerships that long-term, strategic investment and growth can be achieved and local businesses can thrive.

Baw Baw Shire Mayor Michael Leaney said the next few years would be vital in the direction and development of Baw Baw as a place to live and thrive.

"This key strategy is essentially a roadmap to guide council's economic focus for the future," he said.

"It is a clear and straightforward strategy that outlines council's actions across a three year timeframe in developing a strong economy and creating and sustaining local jobs within the region.

"We look forward to working closely with our strategic partners to further support our local industries."

Local group offers social inclusion for people with disability

Living through a pandemic means we all understand what social isolation can feel like.

But there are some, including people with disability, who can be regularly excluded from community life.

A 2012 Australian government report on social exclusion, found people with disabilities reported daily instances of being segregated or ignored.

On a Monday in Trafalgar, a social group aims to address this issue at a local

level.

The social support group is run by not-for-profit Headway Gippsland and offers an inclusive environment for people to do meaningful activities, grow friendships and build new skills.

The group coordinator, Janet DeCorrado, said the group was about mental health "first and foremost" and the activities were driven by the participants.

"Ultimately, it's about friendship and socialising, that's really the main cri-

teria. And how we go about that, it's the clients' choice," Janet said.

"We have brainstorming sessions regularly. We talk about what things we might like to do and put them into practice."

They usually follow a theme for the day, such as National Volunteer Week, and they might play word games relevant to the theme.

"Some of them may or may not participate in what we're doing for the day and they may choose to play pool

or have a game of UNO. It's all about choices," DeCorrado said.

One of the participants, Darren, has been a member of the group for several years and enjoys socialising, having lunch and playing pool at the community centre.

"It's good to get out and see more people," he said.

Another participant, Susan, agreed socialising was an enjoyable part of the group, while she also liked the chance to do a bit of exercise.

Community invited to swim for free at the Thorpdale Pool this summer

For the second year in a row, the Thorpdale Swimming Pool committee has worked with Baw Baw Shire Council to provide a donation that will allow the community to swim for free this summer.

The generous donation will cover the entry costs for those using the Thorpdale Outdoor Pool, as well as funding the Thorpdale Primary School's swimming program and annual swimming carnival.

Prior to council taking over the operations of the pool in 2006, the community-led committee has held funds generated by community volunteers. Last year, the committee donated a portion of the unspent funds back into the facility allowing the community to use the pool at no charge.

After receiving overwhelming support and

praise from the community last year, the committee decided to sponsor another season of free swimming at the pool. This initiative seeks to encourage social connectedness among the Thorpdale and surrounding communities after another year impacted by lockdowns.

Thorpdale Pool committee chair Natasha Hammond said it was great to be able to offer free use of the pool again.

"The committee is pleased to provide another season of free entry to the Thorpdale pool," she said. "Last summer we received lots of positive feedback on the free entry from the community and it was wonderful to see many new faces coming for a swim in the pool.

"We are pleased to also support our small school

with free entry for their learn to swim program."

The pool reopened from Wednesday, December 1 2021 on days where the temperature is forecast to reach or exceed 25 degrees celsius.

Open days will be determined at 5pm for the following day using the Warragul forecast data provided by the Bureau of Meteorology.

Opening times are: Monday to Friday 3pm to 7pm and on weekends, school and public holidays 1pm to 7pm.

A range of COVID Safe measures will be in place for all visitors in line with the current health advice as directed by DHHS.

Pools may close prior to or during thunderstorm activity or in extreme weather conditions.

"We are pleased to also support our small school

In-between lockdowns last year, the group competed in Headway Gippsland's own Olympic games.

They designed their own Olympic torch and took part in trivia and other fun activities like throwing socks onto paper plates.

Other activities have included visiting Latrobe Regional Gallery, holding a Mad Hatters' tea party, a design-your-own sandwich day, a baked potato lunch for Saint Patrick's Day, and much more.

Headway Gippsland is a National Disability Insurance Scheme service provider and also runs social support groups in Warragul, Wonthaggi and the Latrobe Valley.

There are opportunities for people to volunteer at Headway's social support groups.

To find out more, phone Headway Gippsland on 5127 7166 or email reception@headwaygippsland.org.au.



Headway Gippsland runs a social support in Trafalgar on Monday's to help community connectedness.

Home & contents insurance

The unexpected happens.

With Bendigo Bank, you'll have home and contents insurance to rely on.

To protect what matters to you, search Bendigo Bank Insurance.

Community Bank · Trafalgar 5633 2783

Bendigo Bank

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL 237879 acts under its own Australian Financial Services Licence number and under an agreement with a range of insurers. See target market determination: bendigobank.com.au/TMD. A1404742 CUT_8626671, 10/01/2022

Yarragon's dog owners celebrate opening of off-leash park

Yarragon dog lovers and their four-legged friends celebrated with Baw Baw Shire Council recently at the official opening of the shire's premium off-leash dog park at Dowton Park Reserve.

The pooches were out enjoying the sunshine at the opening as Mayor Michael Leaney, Cr Peter Kostos, council officers and the community formally opened the fantastic community asset with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Trafalgar resident Cassie Speakman attended the opening with her adorable kelpie X, Otis.

"The new Yarragon dog park is a great addition to the community," she said

"Everyone that uses the parks is friendly, and the dogs are well behaved which makes it enjoyable for everyone."

Yarragon resident Adam Robinson is also a fan of the park.

"With the football oval no longer being dog friendly, this really is a great option. They've considered the needs of everyone - it's got fresh water, agility spaces, shaded areas and places to sit. We love it."

The Dowton Dog Park project is one of 10 dog parks built in regional Victoria as part of the state government's \$2.7 billion Building Works package. The state government has supported the project, contributing \$177,000 to fully fund the park upgrades.

After securing state government funding, council sought community feedback on the initial design and proposed layout of the park throughout November/De-

cember 2020.

At the community's request, the park includes:

-An upgrade of the existing off-leash area to include different zones that cater for dogs of all sizes and behaviours;

-The installation of dog-friendly design elements including mounds, rocks and agility equipment, and;

-Landscaping works including pathways, trees and garden beds for shade and green space, along with drinking water (for dogs and humans), shelter, signage, bins and seating.

The new dog park is the fourth fully fenced premium dog park in Baw Baw Shire, after council officially opened parks in Warragul, Trafalgar and Drouin in June 2020.

To learn more about council's designated dog off leash areas please visit the Dog Parks website.

Baw Baw Shire Mayor Michael Leaney welcomed the new addition to Yarragon.

"It was a pleasure to officially open this fantastic new community asset in Yarragon," he said.

"Council's other fenced off dog parks in Warragul, Drouin and Trafalgar have provided so much benefit to our community so it is wonderful we were able to secure the funding to revamp Dowton Park reserve for the dog owners in Yarragon and surrounds to enjoy.

"Off leash dog parks provide the perfect space for dogs to exercise, socialise with other dogs. Our shire's latest off-leash dog park at Dowton Reserve gets a big thumbs (and paws) up from Tilly and I!"



Trafalgar resident Cassie Speakman with her kelpie X, Otis and Councillor Kostos' pooch, Stanley.



Coordinator Open Space Maintenance, Rohan Skee, Baw Baw Mayor Michael Leaney, Manager Infrastructure Maintenance Will Cheatley, Open Space Supervisor Scott Jinks, Baw Baw Councillor Peter Kostos and dogs Tilly and Stanley at the opening of the off-leash dog park at Dowton Park Reserve, Yarragon.



Baw Baw Shire Mayor Michael Leaney and Tilly officially opening the park.

Pressing deadline means little when in a lengthy testing queue

By Liam Durkin

OF the 365 days in a year, the majority unfold without any great surprises.

Tuesday, December 28 2021 gave no indication to me to appear as if it would be anything other than a regular working day.

The pages for the local paper to which I write and were set to be delivered the next day were as good as complete, and all seemed in readiness to simply ride into the office in Morwell to put the finishing touches on another piece of local art.

A solemn text message however immediately derailed any chance of that: *This is a message from the Victorian Department of Health. Dear Liam, You may have been exposed to COVID-19 at 'said' location. If you are a customer/patron that has visited this venue you are required to get a COVID-19 PCR test.*

With that, and after an initial three word mumbling starting with the letter F, I made a few phone calls to see that newspaper ship would keep sailing and headed off to Traralgon Recreation Reserve to get tested.

I left home in Traralgon just after 8am with thoughts that I would be in and out of the testing site in no more than an hour.

How wrong I was.

When I arrived the queue was already out the gate and onto Howitt Street.

Cars were lined in single file along both sides of the street, with traffic slowly but surely making its way into the venue.

The journalist in me knew I was ideally situated for a photo opportunity, so while the traffic wasn't moving I climbed on top of my car, surely raising a few eyebrows, to take a snap of the line of cars in front.

Once inside, drivers were required to scan a code linking them to an online questionnaire. Despite the wait, I had enough to keep me occupied, trying to negotiate putting pages of a newspaper together, and more importantly, watching and listening to the third day of the Boxing Day test.

As the line of cars moved further along the Traralgon Recreation Reserve, eventually making its way up a small hill on the outskirts of the football oval, the end of the queue was at least within eyesight.

At this point, the single file line split in two, although the driver of a white Peugeot, thinking no one would mind if they went off road to jump out from the single lane to a space well before it was clear the second line started,

clearly didn't count on feeling the wrath of one particularly irate driver, who justifiably exited their own vehicle to let them know what they thought.

For all but one person in line doing the right thing, it was legs out the car window as the waiting game continued.

The ripple effect of how delays happen was evident by the number of times a huge gap was established in the queue by drivers who had perhaps dozed off.

I myself became momentarily anxious at the thought I was holding everyone up, as on one occasion my cars push start ignition decided not to turn over because the system could not locate where the remote keys were.

After that mild panic attack I continued working as best I could on pages for the paper.

It was improvisation in its fullest sense given I had to have PDFs sent to my phone, then get on FaceTime with a fellow journalist in Morwell to virtually walk through corrections and then have them send the pages out.

While all this was happening I quickly flicked back to the cricket to see what the latest was.

If I thought the line of people arriving to get tested was surprising, what had hap-

pened at the MCG was completely mind blowing.

"What? They've won already?"

Sure enough, the Aussies had the Ashes wrapped up before midday.

An hour and 15 minutes after Australia had taken the winning wicket I was leaving the testing site.

About five hours I had waited, but I did make a point of saying to those working on site that they were doing a great job - for they were, and I would defy anyone to work better in the situation they are in.

I spent a day-and-a-half in quarantine before getting the all clear.

If COVID has taught us anything it is resilience and to think on the fly.

Who would have thought the front and final two sport pages of a recent issue of a local newspaper was put together from the driver's seat of a car?

The Ashes has been a humiliating series for England.

Of all their embarrassments, surely nothing tops this: it took Australia less time to win the Ashes than it did for me to come back COVID-negative.

Disturbing animal cruelty results in 18 months for Trafalgar man

A Trafalgar man has been jailed for 18 months, fined \$15,000 and banned from owning or being in charge of dogs for 10 years over "disturbing acts of wildlife cruelty".

The conviction included charges for illegal hunting dogs to kill and injure native wildlife and deer in East and West Gippsland.

The man convicted at the Latrobe Valley Magistrates' Court in December 2021 will serve a non-parole period of 15 months.

Magistrate Simon Garnett described the animal cruelty offences as "very serious" and the offending in 24 separate occasions as "calculated, callous and cruel".

He further noted the "deliberate, blatant and appalling" mistreatment of animals depicted in the footage.

In imposing his sentence, the Magistrate noted that it

had to reflect community disgust and condemnation and had to send a message to others that such "despicable violence and cruelty towards animals will not be tolerated".

The convicted man admitted using Mastiff-cross dogs to hunt and kill 19 Common Wombats, Eastern Grey Kangaroos, Brush-tailed Possums and Sambar Deer between 2018-2020.

He also admitted to illegally using a fire-arm on 12 occasions against Sambar deer.

The conviction followed a four-month investigation by the Conservation Regulator which found graphic videos filmed by the man, encouraging up to three dogs at a time to attack and maul live animals.

The man pleaded guilty to 53 counts of cruelty and hunting offences, including one count of aggravated cru-

elty for killing a protected Eastern Grey Kangaroo.

He also pleaded guilty to a further three charges for offences committed under the Forests Act and Land Conservation (Vehicle Control) Regulations.

Gippsland senior forest and wildlife officer Glenn Lineham said it was a "horrific case of wildlife cruelty with an unnecessary loss of life".

"We are lucky to have a unique wildlife population in Victoria and these animals deserve to be treated humanely," Mr Lineham said.

"It is illegal to hunt native wildlife without an authority in Victoria, and it is the responsibility of hunters to follow this law and know the rules around using dogs to hunt deer and game.

"Anyone caught breaching these rules will face penalties."

Council's Aged and Disability Services to transition from July 2022

All Baw Baw Shire Council Aged and Disability Services will be transitioned to alternative, high quality specialist providers from July 1 2022.

The decision was made at the council meeting held Wednesday, November 24 and was passed by a unanimous vote from all councillors.

Council's exit from the aged and disability services sector is the result of significant federal reforms in the wake of the 2018 Royal Commission into the quality and safety of aged care in Australia. The reforms have had a significant impact on funding models and local government's suitability for delivering aged and disability services.

The services to be transitioned under this decision include the delivery of meals services, home maintenance, home modifications, social support groups and volunteer programs. They are in addition to the transition of the Home and Community Care Program for Younger People and Care Support

programs decided in September 2021 and direct care services decided in March 2020.

To ensure the transition for existing clients is smooth and seamless Baw Baw Shire council, together with Latrobe City Council, undertook a comprehensive research project and identified high quality providers in the area capable of delivering a wide range of care services.

Following this review, council felt confident in transitioning its services to an existing and well-developed market of high-quality service providers who are available to deliver specialised support to existing clients.

The information gathered from this research project has been provided to the federal government to assist in their selection of the best providers to meet the requirements of the Baw Baw Shire community.

Council's main priority has always been, and will continue to be, supporting its residents' wellbeing and ensuring their ongoing access to quality aged and dis-

ability care providers and services.

Existing clients and their families will be supported to ensure no disruption to the quality and delivery of services they receive. Council's Aged and Disability Services Team has well developed relationships with their clients and takes pride in the quality and delivery of services they provide. They are committed to providing a seamless transition for clients.

As a result of the government-led reforms, council's role in the aged and community care sectors will shift towards supporting, advocating and planning to make sure the community continue to receive support they need to enable their independence and involvement within the shire.

Council will continue to support all staff impacted by the new arrangements throughout the entire transition period and all impacted staff will receive their full entitlement under the enterprise agreement.

United front for a new hospital for West Gippsland

Advocacy for a new hospital in West Gippsland reached a key milestone recently, with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Baw Baw Shire Council and West Gippsland Healthcare Group (WGHG).

The agreement formalises council and WGHG's commitment to work together and collaboratively plan and deliver the proposed future construction of a new \$500 million hospital at the already-acquired 23.6-hectare greenfield site on Lardners Track in Drouin East.

The landmark strategic partnership was signed by Baw Baw Shire Mayor Michael Leaney and WGHG Board Chair Christine Hol-

land on Thursday, November 25 at a WGHG board meeting. Council endorsed its support for the agreement at its Wednesday, November 10 council meeting.

It is well understood and acknowledged by council, WGHG and our community that the existing West Gippsland Hospital is a vital asset struggling to keep up with demand and regional population growth.

With rapid population growth putting a strain on existing medical services in the area, there is a strong case for significant investment in a new hospital. A case, further supported with a well-positioned greenfield site already acquired and available for immediate de-

velopment.

WGHG Board Chair Christine Holland said the MoU provided greater assurance a new hospital would be delivered.

"The WGHG Board is very grateful for the open and public support that we are receiving from Baw Baw Shire Council through the signing of this MOU," she said.

"This is a commitment in our shared interest and care for the health and wellbeing of the West Gippsland community.

"The Board is also grateful that the Victorian government has funded all the planning work involved in developing a Business Case.

The Business Case has been refreshed and reflects the learnings from COVID-19, current infrastructure and service demand.

"We are all ready to go and hoping for bi-partisan support for a new hospital for West Gippsland as a priority ahead of the 2022 state election."

Through the MoU, council and WGHG agree to not only advocate for funding, but to also progress and resolve planning, zoning and urban design matters such as integration with the existing road and public transport networks, provision of public open space and pedestrian/bike links.

Pending commitment of funding in the 2022/23 state

government budget, both parties will commit to collaboration on formal consultation and community engagement and assist each other in the successful delivery of the project.

Although not legally binding, the MoU has been entered into in the spirit of achieving the best outcomes for the growing community of West Gippsland.

Baw Baw Shire Mayor Michael Leaney said council had a duty to ensure adequate health services were available to ratepayers.

"Our current hospital, despite the outdated and cramped facilities, punches well above its weight and does a wonderful job to care for our community," he said.

"We all know however that it is struggling to keep up with our population growth and overwhelming demand for health services.

"The maternity ward alone delivers close to 1000 babies each year and demand is increasing. A new hospital is undoubtedly the single most important piece of state government infrastructure that our rapidly growing region requires.

"With 26 hectares of prime-positioned land ready to go, all that is required now is the funding to build this facility."

The Traf Holden Museum is set to open a military section, displaying cannon,



The eye-catching Holden VE Commodore that was recently erected at the Trafalgar Holden Museum.

boats and aeroplane pieces manufactured by the company in World War Two.

WIRED ONE ELECTRICAL

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

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

A Little Patch of Country

Jigsaw puzzles
1000 Pcs

Many Pictures To Choose From
\$20.00 each

63 Princes Highway, Trafalgar
Ph: 5633 2311

Local talent Rodney Williams

By Shona Vines

On December 5 2020 I had the privilege of attending the launch of Rodney Williams new book of poems, titled 'Two Runs Alongside the Island'.

This is a small book containing 25 poems but can touch right down in your soul with its words. If you didn't have any compassion for the environment or the marginalised people, with the focus on migration, then after reading this you certainly should, or you never will.

So our local talent is not just limited to one book or to the local district, with Rodney Williams poetry appearing in Blue Dog, Mascara Literary Review, Overland, Right Now, Southerly and Stylus, Adelaide Literary Magazine (NYC), and Antipodes (USA) and Poetry New Zealand. Previously published through Ginninderra Press his books include: A Bird-Loving Man (2013), In That Dusty Rear-View Mirror (2015) and Love Showing Here Now (2019).

Rod started writing poems at age 15 and expresses in his foreword that he had more luck in building a bookcase. I am for one extremely glad he never gave up on his passion and continued to write. This brings me to how I know Rod. I worked in a coffee shop in Trafalgar and Rod and his wife Meg would come in for coffee, Rod would have his beloved laptop with him and would order a large hot flat white. Now I could never understand how people drink their coffee so hot, I personally like mine ready to drink like I need it now, but after watching Rod for a while I understood the re-

quirement for hot coffee.

Rod was immersed in his laptop, writing away, I think the coffee was lucky to get a sip every five minutes. I was always curious as to what he was writing and this went on for about a year and one day I had the courage to ask Rod what it was he was so intrigued in.

I sure am glad I did ask and I went on to be lucky enough to be invited to attend the recent book launch. I don't know a lot about Rod except he is a pleasant, passionate person whom I enjoyed having in my presence, along with Meg his wife, so I am going to add a piece from Peter Cooke who has known Rod for 30 years, this will give you an insight into Rodney's writing.

If you have a love for poetry, in which I had no idea how many different styles there are, please do yourself a favour and buy one of his books. Books can be purchased online through the Ginninderra Press website, at the Yarragon gallery at the railway station, Arts Space 1 at Trafalgar railway station and also the BBAA tent at the Warragul market on the third Saturday of the summer months. You can also find them online through Booktopia, Angus and Robertson, Barnes and Noble and yes the store we all would really like to visit one day - Walmart.

I would also like to thank Baw Baw Arts Alliance for having the launch in such a beautiful environment. You can visit the gallery at Yarragon and browse or purchase some incredible pieces. Also thank you to Peter Cooke

who gave us an insight into who Rod really is and Sharryn Marshall (The "Mrs Clooney") who gave his poetry a voice. Sharryn is a drama teacher, well-known local actor and a very bubbly person whom I also had the pleasure of making coffee for. I also assume that Rod's lovely wife Meg has been there to support him and for this I say thank you because personally it is hard in life without the right support and encouragement along the way.

There was one piece in particular that struck me to the core and gave me goosebumps all over, this was titled 'Razor Wire Childhood'. Now my ignorance to Christmas Island has definitely been put into perspective and as I looked at the picture that was drawn by a little girl on Christmas Island, it spoke 1000 words to me.

The poem was inspired by the image attached to this piece and was found in an online report about the potential psychological and emotional harm to be done to young people being held (behind razor wire) as asylum seekers on Christmas Island. This picture was used as evidence for a Royal Commission. I certainly have found a compassion I never knew I had for any person who would find it better to risk their life then to stay in their own country. We can stop for a minute and remember how blessed we are and maybe think about the restrictions we have now with COVID and think ourselves lucky this is not an everyday occurrence. Some countries live with male dominance, war, famine, poverty, lack of health,

education and protection for children. Children are denied a fair chance for no reason other than the country, gender or circumstances into which they were born. So please don't talk to me about COVID and our loss of right, go and visit some other countries and come back and have a chat with me then.

The poem is short and direct and can touch your heart when you read it and look at the picture.

RAZOR WIRE CHILDHOOD

Before a Royal Commission one sketch:
this girl's face
behind bars
her hair and clothes
black
all her tears
from blue eyes
bleeding red
without yuletide
gifts at Christmas
Island
no matter
the faith to which she was
born there was just
one present she'd prayed
for

The next piece of this article was written by Peter Cooke

I have known Rod for 30 years as a colleague, as a fellow writer and as a friend. We met in 1991 at Trafalgar High School when Rod came to us from Rosebud Secondary College. We were both English teachers.

Rod and I meet regularly in one of the coffee lounges in Trafalgar to share ideas and to explore our writing. His advice has been incisive and critical, and, in the best possible way, constructive. Rod was a colleague and

more importantly, the teacher of my children. It was a great honor to take part in launching Rod's latest collection. Rod's writing deals both with the personal and with highlighting issues. The section headings of this little booklet reflect the range and diversity of his interests: The environment, human rights, relationships, ageing and the creative process.

This collection marks the 50th anniversary of Rodney's life as a poet. His work is "sharp in focus, never drifting," as is all Rod's work. Across this book Rod experiments with a range of traditional western poetic forms, with him enjoying the challenges involved. Rod has also previously explored the Japanese traditional short poetic forms of Haiku and Tanka, with Haiku on the acceptance on transience as a quiet, meditative form of poetry, with Tanka often on a theme of love. From Haiku and Tanka, Rod has embraced enjambment, he continues a statement from one line to the next without pause, to keep his ideas twisting beyond the ends of the lines. Rodney also writes free verse, often with a focus on personal themes and the natural environment.

The next piece of the article contains words from Rod himself. It is about the poem and the title of this book, "Two Runs Alongside the Island".

People have asked me about the meaning of this poem as a title piece for this new book. I took the front cover photo from the ferry at San Remo on Father's Day with my wife Meg and mak-

ing our way down the east coast of Phillip Island, past a pair of fur seals, beyond Cape Woolamai, out into Bass Strait.

So that was one 'run alongside the island'. But the first happened before we got there, with me seeing a fox being harassed by a pair of ravens, driving it from the field in broad daylight, diving in hard to peck at its shoulder and head.

With foxes a predator and ravens being scavengers, it made me think about ageing, and life and death, on Father's Day. With our kids not able to join us, I was the only one brave enough - or silly enough- to stay right out at the bow of the boat, despite the wind and swell, wanting to make the most of things. As well as that, what I'm also trying to say here is that we can make 'two runs' in other ways, looking at different issues from two angles, as various poems do in this book.

I have also had yet another little poetry booklet published, called 'Case Moth and Other Verse'. This is through Ginninderra Press, in their Picaro Poets series. This book includes 18 pieces, both old and new, showing a variety of approaches in poetry. This can also be purchased at the local outlets mentioned in the article previously.

I indeed my deepest appreciation goes to the Art Alliance, Sharryn, Peter and his wife Isabel and my own wife Meg.

Memories of Traf

By Andrew Burt from Armonk, New York

1983, the year we moved to Trafalgar, my dad was vice principal at the primary school and the Education Department house in town was available so we moved from up the highway in Darnum to Contingent St right in the middle of town.

I was firmly entrenched at Warragul High School and wanted to continue my school days there so this meant catching the bus each day from outside the Criterion Hotel.

My mum would drive her VW Bug past us each morning to work in Warragul, this meant we could hear her coming and could quickly hide our Winnie Reds and give here a wave as she ticked past.

The characters were numerous on the bus. There was me for starters, then there were kids with names like Murch, Sax, Hodgery and my great mate Greeneggs.

The bus had a reputation it richly deserved. For 25 minutes in the morning and afternoon it was a wild ride of stacks on in the back seat, cricket in the aisle and windows open after someone, (usually yours truly), who had a big lunch at the school caf or a roast the night before.

A few kids were kicked off at times for various misdemeanours, screwing up paper and throwing it out the emergency rear window onto an unsuspecting car behind us, or a displaying of ones derriere. One particular occasion this caused a motorist to pull the bus over and a Kangaroo Court to be in session.

Mums VW became a taxi for one young bloke for a week as he was kicked off the bus for a serious breach of the rules (what rules?). I reckon to this day he goes out of his way to say hello to her. Good times.

During this time Traf was a town of a few thousand,

with a small amount of commerce around Contingent St and the Princes Highway. Most people knew one another. That might be a chat in the street, a polite wave from across the road or a chat with the lads outside The Comfort Station.

A lot of my social activity took place on a Friday and Saturday night at the servo on the highway where a few mates would congregate and chat with the attendant Carlo for a few hours until he told us to nick off or we headed home to watch Rage.

He had the hottest car in Traf circa 1984, a Red SS Commodore. The envy of many. Lovely bloke too.

It was a case of entertain yourself in those days. On one occasion, late at night, we took several spanners down to the town sign on the Moe side and attempted to take it apart. That thing was bolted down like it was the Crown Jewels, nobody was taking it!

A Sunday afternoon was usually spent down at the Fish & Chip shop marvelling at one of the local lads mastery of Galaga as he reached Stage 26 on this classic video game of the 80s. Chips were literally 'cheap as chips' back then so minimum chips was plenty to get you by for the afternoon. Then it was usually home for the Army Reserve Cup footy on the telly in the winter or a cricket one dayer in the summer.

I left for the big smoke at the end of 1985 when I finished high school, only spending three years in Traf but boy what a big three years they were. Mum and Dad still live in town and have never had any intention of leaving in their 38 years. An annual winter escape up to Maroochydhore to thaw out for a month but then dads bowls season would start so it was back to Traf.

I live in the United States theses days and visits home

are few and far between. Mum and dad and many other family and friends have visited us over the years which is a joy having them with us albeit for a short period.

In June last year Mum turned 80 and I made the trip out to Australia to celebrate it with her and our family.

After two weeks in hotel quarantine I made my way to Traf. As I have done in the past, before I drove up Contingent St, I stopped by the take away place on the highway, next to the newsagents for a couple of potato cakes and a few dimmys - something I don't find anywhere in the States so this was a huge treat.

This place is one of the 'new' places in town. It has probably been there for 20 years but in the 80s the fish and chip shop was pretty much the only take away available. Today, the fish and chip shop still exists in the same shopfront under a different name and it has probably been through many owners since the old days. A stalwart of the town.

I cannot remember where a coffee was available in town back in the 80s but I was happily spoilt for choice when I visited. Traf has created a cafe culture that is of a high standard, rivalling anywhere in Victoria. Each morning I would take a walk around town and would take turns visiting each of the great cafes on offer. Each patronised clearly by regular customers which is a great thing to see in a time when many small businesses have closed down due to COVID.

We celebrated Mums 80th at Sampson's Bar & Grill, the restaurant that sits in the former milk bar halfway up Contingent St. It was always a good one to visit back in the 80s as it was quiet and always had plenty of footy cards for sale, giving young collectors a chance of nabbing a rar-

ity. It has had a few different businesses reside in it over the years since I lived in town and the current one seems to be a pretty good quality establishment.

On my visit home I would take a walk around town in the morning and late afternoon. What probably took about half an hour to do now takes well over an hour just to walk the eastern side of town and the same with the western side.

Former farmland is now a plethora of modern housing with many seeing the benefits of a quality lifestyle in Trafalgar.

There is a Collingwood Drive, which I always made sure I walked down being a big fan of the mighty Magpies!

Trafalgar Primary School was at the time a post modern marvel in the late 70s but like much architecture of that period it hasn't aged well, but is still an important centre of learning.

The Brutalist styling of the former Narracan Shire offices still sit in their place on the highway, as does the old church on the corner which is vacant and looks like it has been for a fair while. I remember it was briefly a restaurant many years ago.

A great success story from the school bus has been Grant Fowler Signs which Grant started after finishing school and hasn't looked back - a very talented man. It would be interesting to see where many of those lads from the bus ended up and where they are today.

Other observations included the railway station which appears to be an art gallery which, as an artist myself, is a great inclusion to the community. The swarm of high school students crossing the highway and up to the school wasn't a vision in the 80s. Many kids travelling to what is clearly a highly rated high school - great to

see.

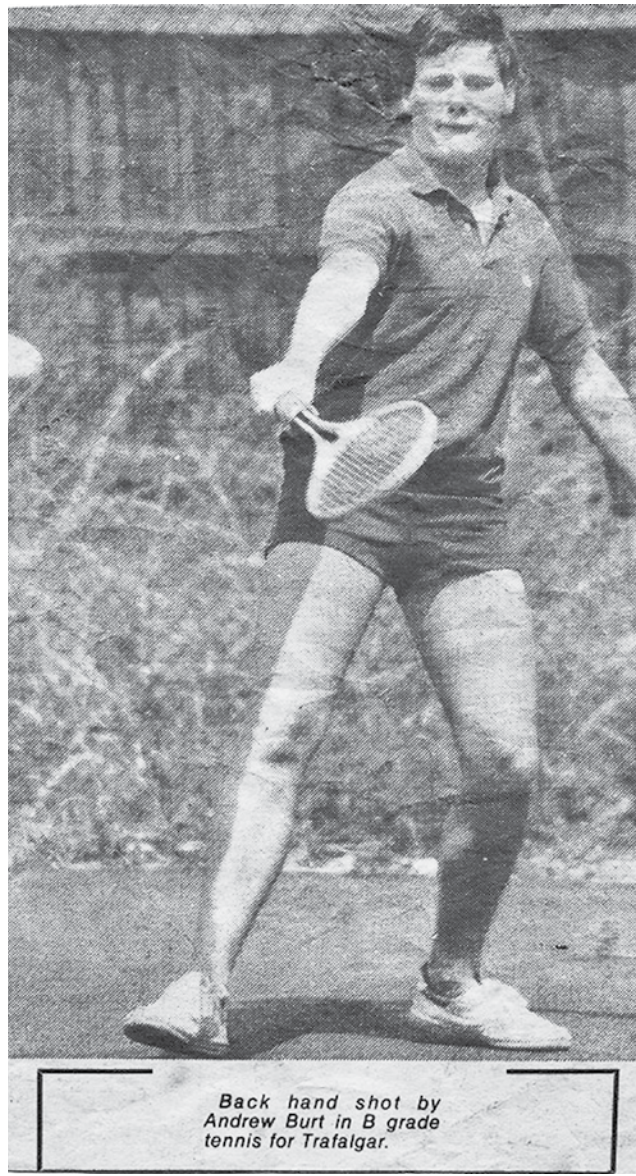
The Trafalgar Tennis Club, of which I was a B Grade and A Reserve player (even an emergency for A Grade once!), has had a significant upgrade since my days. The log cabin style of rooms are long gone, replaced by a solid looking building for the members to enjoy an after match Tim Tam and a cuppa.

In my days the legendary Molly Ryan use to coordinate the teams, riding her bike around the corner to make sure we all behaved ourselves - something that didn't always happen. Great days those.

One thing that hasn't stopped is the Friday night raffle down at the Bowling

Club. My Dad has been an office bearer at times and a member for decades and has probably won the equivalent of a hundred head of cattle in meat trays over the years. A great tradition that hasn't gone by the wayside and an important social club for the people of the town.

I don't get home to Traf a lot as the tyranny of distance doesn't allow it to happen much and the past 18 months has made it virtually impossible. I am glad I was able to visit to see the changes that have taken place to the town, in my mind for the better, and of course to see mum and dad - and my old mate Greeneggs!



Andrew Burt, now living in the USA, during his days with the Trafalgar Tennis Club.



Rod reading his poem entitled 'Text From a Twin Gulf's Road Trip'.



Rodney Williams, Sharryn Marshall and Peter Cooke at the launch.



A young girls view on paper from Christmas Island.

Phone: (03) 5633 1399
Mobile: 0429 331 399
Fax: (03) 5633 2686
Email: htmr@hotmail.com

TRAFALGAR MECHANICAL REPAIRS

For all your mechanical repairs
from the smallest engine to the family car or 4WD

Damien Howard
11 McCrory Street, Trafalgar 3824

Trafalgar Self Storage

• Open 7 days a week, 365 days a year

2 Sale Yard Road, Trafalgar

Call Strzelecki Realty
Ph: 5633 2858

VOX-POP

What do you love about Trafalgar?"

By Kyen Jenkins

Rena Spark
"All the transport and the close hospitals"

Ena Dudfeld
"Because it is a friendly little town"

Jye Nooy
"It is a quiet and peaceful area"

Community helps Fire Brigade to help others

Kathy Geisler – Firefighter and Secretary Trafalgar Fire Brigade

Trafalgar Fire Brigade used specialist tools purchased with community funds raised, to rescue a trapped child and dog in a car at Shell Service Station, Trafalgar.

The forceable entry tools in the kit are designed to force open car doors, as an

alternative to having a break a car lock or window in an emergency.

Approximately two weeks after purchasing the equipment, Trafalgar Fire Brigade put them to good use, with a rescue of little Kennah Buhmann and her dog Gypsy from a locked MG car.

The car itself was still running and keys in the ignition, when it decided to self-lock, leaving mum and dad outside and Kennah inside.

Thank-you Trafalgar for your community donations, as your kindness is what makes this specialist equipment possible.



Youngster Kennah Buhmann shows her heartfelt letter from Kennah to the appreciation for the work of Trafalgar Fire Brigade.



Merv and Tina at the Christmas party.

Probus ready for new year

By Elly Fallon

Trafalgar and District Probus Club finally got to meet for the first time when they celebrated Christmas dinner at the Trafalgar Golf Club in December last year.

It was a great celebration with almost 80 excited members gathering together after six months of being apart.

The beautiful dinner was catered for by the golf club ladies, under the leadership of Lyn Powell, and left nothing undone.

They always do a great dessert banquet, which is al-

ways a highlight of the day, as well as delicious individual plum puddings.

Santa surprised us all by arriving and delivering free raffle prizes to lucky winners.

A presentation of 10 year pins was made to Ron and Liz Bowley, who have been very active with the Probus Club for that time. Ron has done a term as president.

We now turn the calendar to 2022 in the hope of new beginnings and a much better year for our Probus members.

We have numerous activities planned for the year including our monthly meetings, bus trips, car trips, live shows at the Warragul Art Centre, dine outs, monthly walking group, garden club, fortnightly morning teas, guest speakers and caravan trips away.

Phone our secretary Tina on 5635 2432 if you would like to join our Probus Club for friendship, fellowship and fun. (The Probus motto).



Trafalgar and District Probus Club members Ron and Liz Bowley are presented their 10 year pins. Club president John Attwell is pictured in the background.



Trafalgar and District Probus Club members Ron and Liz Bowley are presented their 10 year pins. Club president John Attwell is pictured in the background.

Time for Secondary?

Choosing a secondary school that will best suit your child is one of the most important decisions you can make.

At St Paul's, we understand that each and every student has their own educational journey. Caring teachers provide tailored extension and support within our academic program, while our breadth of co-curricular activities challenge all students to pursue their potential beyond the classroom.

Year 7 2023 Information Evening

Tuesday, 8 March 2022, Warragul Campus
Tours from 6pm, Presentation 7pm

Register now at stpaulsags.vic.edu.au
or contact our Enrolments team on 5623 5833.

Farmer to farmer

ELECTRONIC TAG RULES ARE IN EFFECT

All sheep and non-exempt goats should have a NLIS electronic tag before leaving a Victorian property from January 1 in the final step of National Livestock Identification System roll-out.

The electronic identification of sheep and goats is helping the state's traceability system, to track for food safety, disease control and market access.

Victorian chief veterinary officer Graeme Cooke said electronic tags provide accurate tracking for sheep or goats from property of birth through to export or processing.

"This system provides assurances to our export and domestic markets that we can quickly trace animals in the event of a disease outbreak or food safety issue," Dr Cooke said.

"It gives Victorian producers a significant advantage and added industry protection."

Electronic identification was introduced to Victorian sheep and goat farmers in 2017.

Since then, producers have purchased more than 51 million electronic NLIS sheep tags, and almost 35 million sheep and goat movements have been recorded on the NLIS database.

Dr Cooke said electronic tagging and property identification codes were key

planks in Victoria's biosecurity system.

"The entire supply chain is to be congratulated on their efforts to fully implement electronic NLIS for sheep and goats in Victoria," he said.

"The hard work by industry has shown that the system is commercially viable and now integrated throughout the whole supply chain."

Dr Cooke said a SAFEMEAT sheep traceability evaluation showed Victorian EID tagged sheep were 99 per cent traceable, compared to 70 per cent traceability for interstate sheep without electronic tags.

Duties are also rising from the start of the year to 27 cents per head to be paid when sheep and goats are traded.

Duty payments are collected into the Sheep and Goat Compensation Fund which gets reinvested into industry through the Livestock Biosecurity Funds grants program.

FINANCE LOANS FOR EQUIPMENT AS FARMS STOCK UP

Equipment finance loans to National Australia Bank have jumped 341 per cent in total value over the past two years, as farmers are stocking up on critical agricultural equipment.

The latest NAB data shows equipment finance for agricultural businesses generally increased 33 per cent from

September 30 2019 to September 30 2021.

NAB regional and agribusiness executive Julie Rynski said this reflected good seasonal conditions and the ongoing uptake of government incentives including the instant asset write-off scheme.

Ms Rynski said the positive outlook, solid commodity prices and the prospect of record crops has led to an 80 per cent jump on lending for sheds, and a 65 per cent increase on grain silo lending in the past two years.

Riordan Grain Services Victoria has been investing in equipment and has seen an uplift in investment across their supply chain.

Managing director Jim Riordan he has seen a significant increase in on-farm investment by grain growers, especially in large silo and storage complexes.

"Our business model is about finding the best and most efficient ways for the supply chain to deliver quality grain to their global client base in particular," Mr Riordan said.

"This year was our 25th year in operation and we loaded our one millionth tonne of export grain to bulk vessels.

"We have upgraded our transport fleet, prime movers, trailers and invested in our facilities to meet the demand."

Demand for tractors finance is up 69 per cent in

the same period and NAB expects these trends will continue as farmer confidence remains high.

It comes as Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences forecasts winter crop production will reach a new national record of 58.4 million tonnes.

Ms Rynski said summer crop planting in 2021-22 is forecast to increase by 36 per cent to reach 1.4 million hectares.

Finance for cars and light commercial vans was up 43 per cent, trucks and trailers jumped 40 per cent, while lending for construction equipment such as cranes and earth movers bumped 39 per cent.

"This is reflective of the ongoing migration of many capital city residents to regional Australia, which is great news for regional communities and their local economies," Ms Rynski said.

ORGANIC PRODUCT REGULATIONS ARE SET TO BE IMPROVED

The federal government is looking to improve regulations around organics products in an attempt to protect consumers, producers and exporters.

The government has opened consultations around improving Australia's domestic organics industry, focusing on potential regulatory or non-regulation options.

The move has been wel-

comed by peak body Organic Industries of Australia, which had been pushing for better domestic regulations over the use of the word organic.

An OIA spokesperson said the term organic was not as regulated in Australia as it was in the United States, Japan and China.

"It is legal to produce a product and call it organic without providing the consumer with any proof that it is actually organic," the OIA spokesperson said.

"In fact, Australia is the only advanced country that doesn't regulate use of the term organic or is well-progressed in implementing such regulation."

The OIA said a lack of domestic regulations means there was no protection from products being sold as organic when they may have been produced using synthetic fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides.

Producers have added costs of production and certification, but are being unfairly impacted by having to compete with products labelled as organic but are not certified organic.

Export markets are also being constrained due to the lack of domestic regulation.

The OIA will be advocating for legal enforcements to ensure that organic means all stages of production have been certified as using organic methods.

It will also be pushing for

better governance, information and consistent domestic and export regulation to minimise certification costs and improve market access for exporters.

Agriculture Minister David Littleproud said organics exports were already being regulated, but this process would focus on managing imports, production, and sale of organic products within Australia.

"We want to support growth in the industry, as well as give consumers the confidence the products they purchase are genuinely organic," Mr Littleproud said.

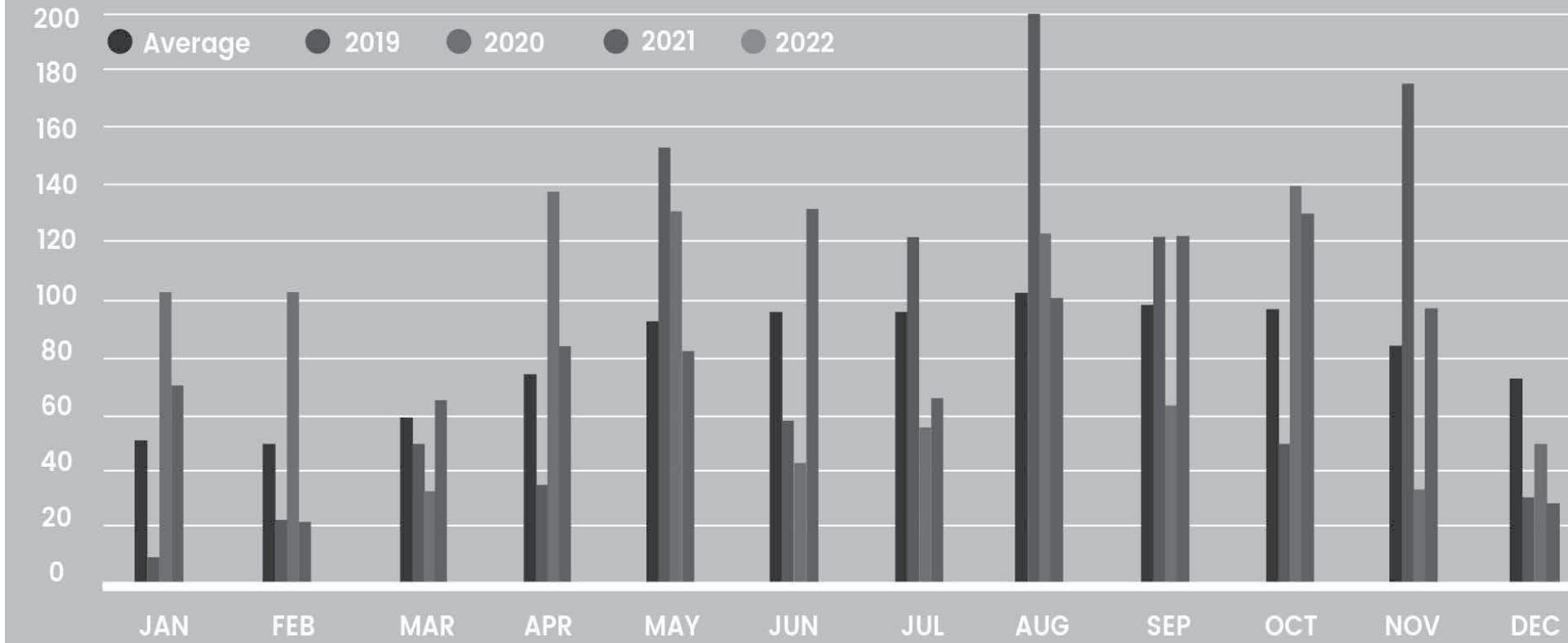
"Improving the regulatory framework will focus on growing our industry, improving market access, minimising red tape, and saving money."

The Australian organics industry contributes approximately \$2.6 billion to the economy each year with revenue projected to grow at 14.6 per cent annually into the mid decade.

Australia also has the largest organic agricultural area in the world.

"It's not just great organic Aussie food, our industry also produces textiles, cosmetics, and other products," Mr Littleproud said.

Trafalgar Monthly Rainfall



This graph compares the monthly rainfall received in Trafalgar in 2022 with 2019, 2020, 2021 and average monthly rainfall since records began. The monthly rainfall for December 2021 was 24.5ml.

Hey, Kinder Kids & Preps!

Come along to meet our teachers, discover best-practice approaches to learning and stroll through our beautiful classrooms and nature play areas.

Discover how students build upon their strengths, progressing at their own pace, gaining confidence and preparedness for starting school.

ELC & Prep Discovery Morning

Tuesday, 29 March 2022, Warragul Campus
ELC at 9.15am, Prep Rooms 10.30am

Register at stpaulsags.vic.edu.au
or contact our Enrolments team on 5623 5833.

New multi-use sporting facility a landmark for Trafalgar

In anticipation of its completion, Project Reference Group members joined Councillors and Baw Baw Council officers for a tour of Trafalgar Recreation Reserve's new Turra Pavilion in December.

The landmark multi-use sport and recreation facility will be the new home of the Trafalgar Victory Football Club and Trafalgar Boxing Club and will be available for use by community and school groups.

The pavilion has been designed to accommodate future use by the Trafalgar Cricket Club and Trafalgar Football-Netball Club, being situated to service a second sporting oval at the precinct, which forms part of the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Masterplan.

The pavilion meets soccer, AFL, cricket and boxing sporting code and universal access standards and includes several sustainable design features, such as a 20-kilowatt solar system, sensor lighting and a recycled water system.

Work on the \$2.8 million project has been carried out by local company Kubale Constructions, following an extensive tender process in December 2020.

The project has been supported by a \$500,000 state government grant, secured by council through Sport and Recreation Victoria's Female Friendly Facilities Fund. Council has contributed the \$2.3 million balance through its 2020/21 and 2021/22 Capital Works Programs.

Throughout the delivery of the project, council worked closely with AVOR Architecture and a Project Reference Group (PRG) that included members from each of the reserve's sporting clubs, and a representative from Sport & Recreation Victoria, to finalise the design and construction drawings for the pavilion, ensuring the multi-use facility caters to the needs of the ever-growing sporting community, now and well into the future.

When speaking on his involvement in the PRG, Lachlan Wyatt, president of the Trafalgar Victory Football Club, said, "All the clubs were brought in from the beginning to discuss what this pavilion needed, and through the project reference group we've seen the design change and vary to suit what we all needed."

"Now we have this end product that perfectly fits everything we need now and what we believe we'll need in the future."

The ground-breaking facility includes:

- Six female-friendly change

rooms and amenities;

- Two umpires and officials' spaces with ensuite amenities;
- Internal club storage spaces;
- Multi-use flex space with recessed office space;
- Elevated timekeepers' box;
- First aid room;
- Canteen;
- Veranda and outdoor viewing with spectator space, and;
- A 200m2 boxing gym

During the October 13 2021 council meeting, council unanimously voted in favour of naming the Trafalgar Multi-use Pavilion the Turra Pavilion, following the presentation of a community petition.

The name recognises the Turra family, who previously owned the land on which the facility was developed and have been actively involved throughout the Trafalgar Community. The Turra family allowed council time to arrange the purchase of the land, enabling the recreation precinct to be expanded in future years.

Baw Baw Shire Mayor Michael Leaney said the pavilion would be a huge boost to the town.

"The Turra Pavilion has been built to a high standard, it's energy-efficient, it's water-efficient and it's been designed for a sustainable future of our sporting clubs here in Trafalgar and our environment too," he said.

"This facility has been built to meet the demands of growth in the area and will allow the football, cricket, soccer and boxing clubs to continue to grow.

"All the facilities are designed to be gender-friendly and increase participation in all sports, women's, men's, girls' and boys', which is something council strives for throughout the shire.

"This pavilion is something we should all be proud of, and we're so pleased we've been able to deliver it for the Baw Baw community."

Councillor Darren Wallace said it was an exciting time for sport in the area.

"This project has come about after years of hard work, planning, and advocating by the local clubs and council," he said.

"From the initial master-plan to budget submissions, to the design process and funding applications - now here we are today with a new \$2.8 million facility that will cater for all the needs of the football, cricket, soccer, boxing, and clubs that may not even exist yet, well into the future."

"The Trafalgar precinct has

so much untapped potential and very well could be the sporting centre of excellence in Baw Baw, all it needs is a lit-

tle thought and future vision."

Now that the pavilion has been constructed, the next point of call will be seeing that

a cricket and football oval, complete with a turf wicket, will be delivered in the near future if Trafalgar is indeed

to become a sporting centre of excellence.



The new pavilion will be a hallmark of the already bustling recreation precinct.



Project Reference Group members Ray Wall (Trafalgar Football-Netball Club), Lachlan Wyatt (Trafalgar Victory Football Club), Baw Baw Shire councillor Darren Wallace, Mayor Michael Leaney and council officers Shane Paynter and Chris Duff following a tour of the Turra Pavilion.

Junior football club heading west?

The newly appointed Trafalgar Junior Football Club committee led by new president Jamie Marslen held a meeting on the December 12 2021 and voted unanimously to move to the Warragul District Junior Football League (WDJFL) to improve the club's current position and the future direction of the club and its junior players.

Previously the TJFC committee had asked parents/guardians to vote to either stay in the Central Gippsland Junior Football League, move to newly formed Ellinbank District Junior Football League (EDJFL) or West Gippsland Junior Football League (WGJFL). After further consideration and talks with the league it was determined that neither of these options are realistically viable for the benefit of the club.

Together both TJFC and Trafalgar Football-Netball Club (senior club) see a move to WDJFL as the best way forward for the club as a whole, mainly due to the even age gaps from Under 8 through to Under 18 and the growth corridor to the west of our town.

TJFC committee views were:

- The conception of EDJFL is many years away and did

- not look likely to start anytime soon and as most of the junior clubs that would form the EDJFL reside in the WDJFL and seemed unlikely to get traction. Seven junior WDJFL teams currently have feeder teams in the senior Ellinbank DFL;
- The WGJFL had many benefits like WDJFL (growth corridor
- age groups), but had only eight competing clubs with only Nyora competing as a senior team, and;
- Our main problem with staying in the CGJFL is there will be no fourths or thirds in the foreseeable future for the senior club if TJFC stay at odd number age groups (currently).

The age gap from the junior club to the senior club in the current format with CGJFL is odd (nine, 11, 13, 15) age group, and with the Ellinbank District Football League (EDFL) being even (16 and 18) age group has put TFNC under immense pressure to source enough Under 16s (fourths) players to field a team. This has a flow on effect to the Under 18s when TFNC are unable to fill a side in the fourths thus players move to other clubs or just stop playing and never return to TFNC.

It is vitally important that

TJFL offers a seamless pathway for all who play for Trafalgar to progress into the senior club for the future success of the whole club.

Another issue with the CGJFL is the participation rate of the other clubs involved. Of the 13 clubs (including Traf), only six field all four teams in nines, 11s, 13s and 15s.

The CGJFL has introduced four clubs from South Gippsland in the past two years to bolster numbers but last year has seen Leongatha leave the league due to the same issues facing Trafalgar Club with odd year competition.

None of the teams listed in the CGJFL have a senior team that compete against TFNC.

WDJFL on the other hand has 11 clubs and all sides are fielded. A 12th team (Trafalgar?) would eliminate any byes in each grade. WDJFL is perfectly situated in the growth corridor of West Gippsland and has a very strong future and encompass large number of children in the area which is growing rapidly. The competition generally runs on a Saturday with some special games on Friday night or Sundays.

At present the WDJFL has three grades, under 10, under 12 and under 14. Although there is no official under eight competition, several clubs have in recent seasons conducted 'unofficial'. Under eight games for older Auskick/younger under

10s. Trafalgar JFC is heavily in favour of creating an under eight team with a head coach/coordinator, with a view to participating against other clubs as well as possibly joining in senior game day activities occasionally.

Comparing both leagues in travel time, the WDJFL is slightly less with many of the clubs accessible via highway/freeway.

A move to the WDJFL with seven clubs having senior team could see a fixture of junior and senior clubs playing on the same day. Examples of clubs that have two grounds at the same venue currently are Yarragon and Lang Lang.

Trafalgar could host 'whole club' matches in the future with

the new clubrooms nearing completion and a proposed second ground to be built.

These days would create a great buzz in the town with the 7/8 grades playing at one venue on one day.

Benefits of joining the WDJFL with the proposed introduction of Trafalgar will be effectively an Ellinbank junior league with most of the clubs having senior teams in the EDFL

If anyone has any queries please feel free to email the club on trafalgarjfc@hotmail.com with any concerns on the proposed change and one of our executive committee members will get back to you.

2022 Clubs	Age Group per Club			
	9's	11's	13's	15's
Hill End Willow Grove Junior Football Club	X	X	X	X
Yinnar Junior Football Club	X	X	X	X
Mirboo North Junior Football Club	X	X	X	X
Moe Junior Football Club	X	X	X	X
Morwell Junior Football Club	X	X	X	X
Newborough Junior Football Club	X	X	X	
Yallourn North Junior Football Club	X	X		
Fish Creek Football Club				X
Boolarra Junior Football Club	X	X		
Tarwin Sharks Junior Football Club		X	X	X
Stony Creek Football Club			X	
Meenyan Dumbalk United Football Club				X

The age groups and participation rates of the Central Gippsland Junior Football League have been identified as concerns for the Trafalgar Junior Football Club.



A single ember can spread bushfires as far as 30km.

Burning embers from bushfires can travel up to 30km, starting new fires in seconds, destroying homes and making escape impossible. If the Fire Danger Rating is ever extreme or above, don't hesitate. Leave early.

How well do you know fire?

Plan. Act. Survive. Go to emergency.vic.gov.au



Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

Traf News puzzle bonanza

Composed by Matilda Ott – Year 7 Trafalgar High School

JUMBLE

Rearrange the letters in each row to form a word. Write your answers into the blank grid. The first letter from each word reading down, will spell the mystery word.

1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

1.	A	K	K	Y	A
2.	S	A	I	S	O
3.	D	E	O	A	R
4.	G	U	L	A	H
5.	W	R	A	R	O

Target Master

How many words of four letters or more can you make from these nine letters? Each letter may be used only once. The centre letter **MUST** be included. No slang, foreign or capitalised words, hyphens, apostrophes, or plurals ending in 'S'. Only one form of a verb can be used. Eg. Sing, but not Sings or Singing.

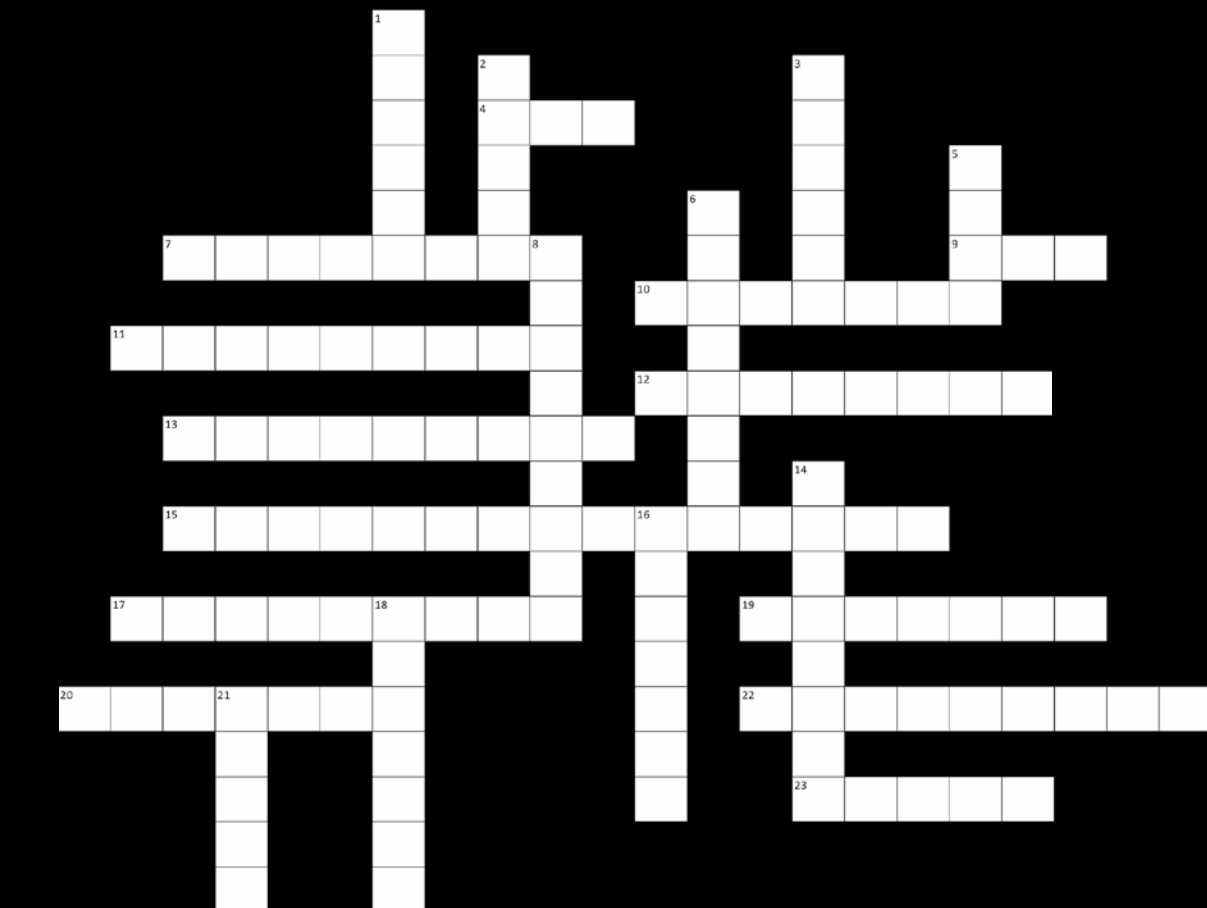
S	S	Y
A	W	C
O	R	A

This months targets:

Good 6
Very Good 9
Excellent 12+

Crossword

Theme: Animals of Australia



Across

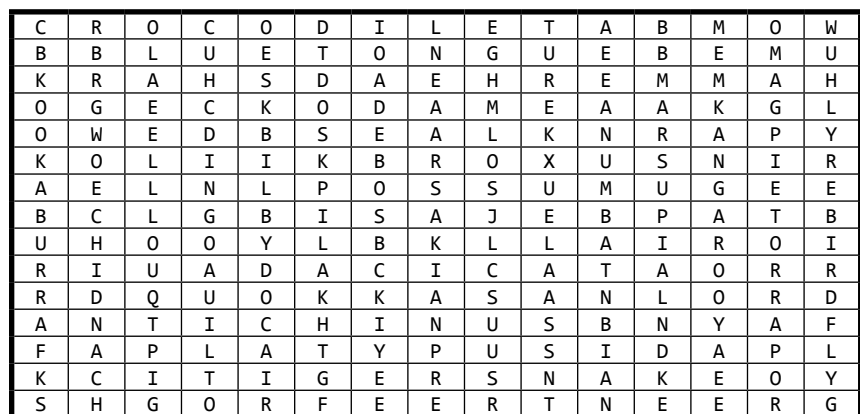
- 4 The Boobook is one type
7 Mammal capable of full flight
9 Father sits on eggs for up to seven weeks
10 Almost identical to kangaroos but smaller
11 Large bird related to dinosaurs
12 Incredible mimic
13 Animals that are active at night
15 Largest predatory fish on earth
17 Biggest reptile on earth
19 Their feathers are ice phobic
20 Can dive over 200m deep
22 A mammal that lays eggs
23 Longest fence in the world built for them

Down

- 1 They poo in cubes
2 Commonly mistaken for a bear
3 Collective noun for possums
5 The wedge tailed eagle is Australia's largest bird of _ _ _ _
6 Young are puggles
8 Tasmanian Tiger
14 Beetle eating pest of Queensland
16 Sometimes known as spiny anteaters
18 Sleeps with half their brain
21 Eat their prey whole

wordsearch

Find all the words in the grid below. Words can be written forwards, backwards, up, down, diagonally. The remaining unused letters will answer the question. Theme: Animals of Australia Question: What is the most venomous animal in the world?



Easy

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

Hard

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



Council News.

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



A message from Mayor Michael Leaney

2022 will be an exciting year for Baw Baw.

With our population growing at a rapid rate, our infrastructure is falling behind. My priority this year is to work closely with the State and Federal Governments to get us the funding support we need to help plan and build the projects that will make a huge difference to the way we live in Baw Baw.

"Advocacy projects will be a key priority for 2022"

Council's key advocacy priorities for this year include a heavy vehicle bypass for Drouin and Warragul, a fabulous new library and multi-purpose cultural space in Warragul, and an extension of the existing Rokeby to Neerim Trail linking to Noojee providing recreational benefits for residents and visitors to the region.

With all this on the agenda, you can be sure I will be working as hard as I can for our residents to ensure our success in securing funding for these big projects.

"We want the community to get involved with events this year"

We are also going to have some fun and enjoyment this year!

I'd like to invite you all to join us to be part of the many fabulous events and activities on offer throughout the shire as we emerge from what has been a very challenging period.

Together, we can create a wonderful, creative and prosperous environment that is focused on the future.

Happy days!
– Cr. Michael Leaney

Prepare your property during this Fire Danger Period.

The CFA Fire Danger Period is now in effect for Baw Baw Shire. This means fire restrictions are now in force across the municipality.

During this period a written permit from the CFA is required to burn in the open air with some conditions in place.

Reducing the vegetation from around the property is one of the most important things residents can do to minimise fire risk.

Tidying leaves, twigs, bark and other undergrowth, and cutting long grass and weeds, should be the focus of any preparation and maintenance work to reduce fuel loads.

Residents are encouraged to use their green waste bins or organise a drop-off at one of Council's Transfer Stations.

For more information please visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au

You can also find more information at www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/FireDangerFAQs



Image above is a concept only.

Community input required for Baw Baw Culture and Connection Precinct.

As part of its 2022 priorities, Baw Baw Shire is advocating for a new culture and connection precinct in the heart of Warragul.

The multi-level facility will provide vital social infrastructure to service our rapidly growing community for future generations.

Council is seeking expressions of interest from keen community members looking to join the Project Reference Group (PRG) to help shape the design, advocacy and delivery of the project.

What's involved?

The PRG's role is to provide local insights, contribute to discussions and provide recommendations to Council in the spirit of achieving the best project outcome.

The PRG includes representatives of key community and business groups, Council and industry representatives.

The PRG will meet on a semi-regular basis to consider and discuss selected and arising topics throughout all stages of the project.

How to apply

Community members keen to apply are requested to send through a brief explanation as to why they would be a suitable candidate via email to major.projects@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au by the deadline **Friday 11 February.**

To learn more about the project please visit www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/CultureandConnectionPrecinct

A message from Deputy Mayor Annemarie McCabe

I am looking forward to 2022 and the challenges and opportunities that will come our way.

With Federal and State elections approaching this year, it is an opportune time to work closely with our politicians to try and secure funding for our advocacy priorities. I will be supporting Mayor Leaney, our Councillors and the organisation with these endeavours.

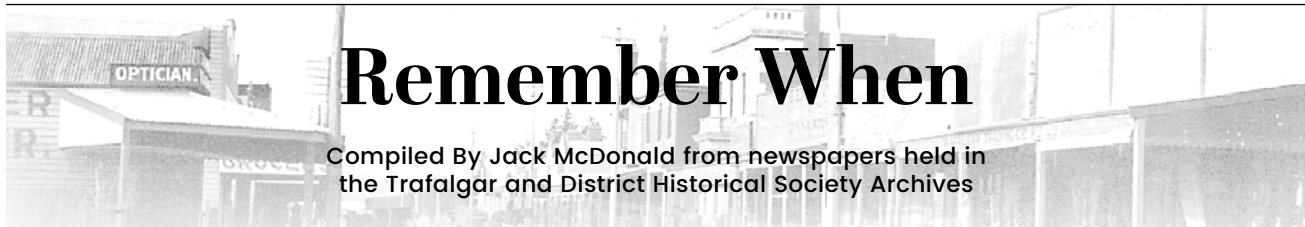
"We will continue to effectively engage with our community"

Everyone has a voice. People need to know they will be heard and that Council listens and considers the community's feedback.

I'd like to see us demonstrate to our community how great the Baw Baw Shire is and that the community can trust in the Council knowing that we have their best interests top of mind when formulating policy and making decisions. I look forward to an exciting year ahead!

– Cr. Annemarie McCabe





Remember When

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

THE TRAFALGAR, YARRA-GON & YALLOURN NEWS,

FEBRUARY 1932 11 FEBRUARY – CONCERT AT THORPDALE SOUTH

The concert held at Thorpdale South on 30 January in aid of the 'Children's Wing' at the West Gippsland Hospital at Warragul, proved a wonderful success and appreciation of every item was expressed in no uncertain manner by a particularly large audience.

Rarely has Gippsland had the opportunity of listening to such a galaxy of talented artists, such as appeared on the stage on this occasion. Dancing concluded a most enjoyable evening.

RIFLE SHOOTING

A team of riflemen from the Drouin Rifle Club paid a visit to Trafalgar on Saturday last when a match was fired against the local club over the 500 and 600 yard distance (457/548 metres).

W Burgess and S McIntyre from the Trafalgar club were the top individual scorers. Overall the visitors proved victorious on the day by three points.

18 FEBRUARY – YARRA-GON PURE STOCK CLUB
The Annual Field Day and Display of the Yarragon Pure Stock Club was held at the school ground on Monday, 15th inst. There was a splendid attendance and the day was ideal for the display of stock.

The club now possesses 31 head of stock, comprising Ayrshire, Jersey and Illawarra Shorthorns.

The young farmers had their stock in excellent condition and displayed a sound knowledge of ringcraft, the pedigree of their animals, and the cost of rearing them.

25 FEBRUARY – RETIRING SCHOOL TEACHER

Mr Edwin Mann, head teacher of the Trafalgar East State School retired from the Department on Friday last, 19th inst. after having served 42 and a half years as a school teacher.

Ron McCrorey appropriately spoke on behalf of the pupils and teaching staff, and made the presentation of a smoking outfit.

All present then joined in singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow", followed by three hearty cheers.

THE GIPPSLAND NEWS, FEBRUARY 1962

1 FEBRUARY – 100 UP

Although only in his third season as an apprentice jockey, Denis MacGregor, second son of Mr and Mrs "Chummy" MacGregor, of Trafalgar, reached the century of wins when he landed Vite Cheval a winner in the fourth race at Caulfield on Saturday.

Three races before, Denis had "kicked" Rose Tudor home in the first race on the same program, at odds of 20/1.

ANNUAL APPEAL

The Trafalgar Fire Brigade have now commenced their annual appeal and this will be conducted during the month of February.

As this is the main source of fund-raising for the local brigade it is hoped that a good response will be forthcoming.

ASIAN STUDENTS AT TRAFALGAR

On the Australia Day weekend, a party of Asian students were guests of the Trafalgar Rotary Club. The 12 students were from Burma, Nepal, West Pakistan, Malaya and Singapore.

Indonesia was represented by the only woman of the party, a nurse doing post graduate work.

They were shown around the district and the Rotarians found their guests congenial and stimulating company.

8 FEBRUARY – TRAFALGAR MARCHING GIRLS

Trafalgar Miget Latrobettes this week received acceptance for the 13th National Titles conducted annually by the Australian Girls Marching Association, this year to be held in Perth, Western Australia.

15 FEBRUARY – FOOTBALL LIFE MEMBERS

Three outstanding clubmen were, at Thursday evening's annual meeting of the Trafalgar Football Club, suitably rewarded for their years of endeavours in the interest of the game when they were elected as life members – an honour not easily attained and only given to those who have served the club faithfully and well.

The recipients were: Alan Erbs, Leo Donovan and Jack Parke.

Also, at the Latrobe Valley Football League's annual meeting on Sunday, Mr Ern Taylor of Trafalgar was made a life member of that body for services over many years.

YARRAGON RED CROSS

The Yarragon Red Cross branch has arranged for

First Aid and Home Nursing courses to commence during March.

These courses will be preceded by a lecture night on the effects of the atomic weapons.

22 FEBRUARY – ARITHMETIC AT TRAFALGAR STATE SCHOOL

The Crusenaire Method of teaching arithmetic has been adopted by the Trafalgar State School, and it is hoped that the introduction of this method will improve the standard of arithmetic in the school.

TRAFALGAR INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

Sister Mehan has undoubtedly gained the confidence of the mothers of the district, as out of 61 births notified in the last 12 months, 60 babies attended and through the year she saw an average of one child every 10 minutes whilst in attendances, making a total of 1490 visits. She also assisted by weighing and measuring the children prior to the doctor's visit.

TRAF NEWS, FEBRUARY 2004

ANDREW HOUSE, TRAFALGAR
The member for Narracan, Mr Ian Maxfield, announced on 16 January that the Bracks Government is providing \$3.8 million to redevelop and expand Andrews House Hostel in Trafalgar.

West Gippsland Healthcare Group, which runs the 30-bed hostel, will contribute up to \$155,000 to the project.

JUDY WINS MEDALLION

Australia Day in the Baw Baw Shire was a special day for one well-known Trafalgar resident.

Judy Bishop, who is an integral and dedicated member of the Trafalgar community, was awarded an Australia Day medallion by the Baw Baw Shire.

COMMUNITY BANK LAYS FOUNDATIONS

Since the Trafalgar Community Bank opened in late November last year, support for it has been very good according to branch manager Bryan Leaf.

New customers have been steadily opening accounts, which has kept the staff busy.

Trafalgar On The Move
Frank Hernadi writes: Trafalgar has never been more exciting or buoyant than now, with many new projects happening. The opening of the new Community Bank gives Trafalgar and district future

assured banking facilities and is a very historic community venture.

In the past two months, every vacant shop has been let, with five different new types of retail businesses opening.

Trafalgar is very lucky that we have the basic businesses in place to make a township like Trafalgar very viable to live in.

Operating 33 years as an Estate Agent, I have never seen such enthusiasm and confidence by locals and outside interest to invest in Trafalgar.

LION CLUB EXCHANGE

Trafalgar Lions Club continued its long history of involvement with the Lions Youth Exchange Program recently, when Barry and Margaret Lane hosted Japanese Youth Exchange Yuko Fukamachi for two weeks in December and January.

During her short stay in Trafalgar, Yuko visited many places of interest, including Phillip Island where she really enjoyed the penguin parade, koalas and kangaroos.

Yuko enjoyed shopping and sight-seeing in Melbourne, and spending an Aussie Christmas and New Year with Barry and Margaret.

"DROP IN" A SUCCESS

Young people have discovered the Trafalgar Youth Resource Centre (TYRC) is the place to be this summer. Demand has seen the Centre increase its hours to accommodate the large number of young people wanting to use the service.

A sea of bikes and skateboards lead the way to its open doors.

NEW COMFORT STATION

Construction of Trafalgar's new Comfort Station has been completed and hopefully is meeting everybody's needs.

The new facility will be much easier to clean and maintain and is a valuable asset for the community.

SUCCESSFUL SOCCER YEAR

The Trafalgar Senior Soccer team had its most successful year to date finishing third in the Home and Away Series and making it to the preliminary final of the Top Four Competition. All in all, it was a very successful season.

CHURCH SERVICES

CATHOLIC PARISH

Father Bernard Buckley, Phone 5633 1166



St John's Trafalgar, 54 Waterloo Road
Saturday Night Mass: 6.00pm
Sunday Mass: 10.00am 2nd & 4th Sundays
St Jarlaths Yarragon 10.00am 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

World Day of Prayer this year will be held on Friday, March 4th at St. John's Church, Trafalgar, commencing at 1:30 pm. It is the annual ecumenical service which focuses on a particular country, telling about the history, geography and current needs of that country. This year we will be learning more about, and praying for, the people of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The Service will be followed by afternoon tea, and the chance for socialising (Covid permitting). Everyone is welcome!

UNITING CHURCH

Rev Moira Dodsworth

Phone 0447 957 772



St. Andrew's Uniting Church, Trafalgar
Service times 9.15am Sunday, 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month
Sunday School 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 Anne Perryman, Phone 0493 088 370
or trafalgaranglican1@gmail.com



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

St Mark's Church, Thorpdale

Mondays: 3.30 -5pm JAFFAS

Sundays: 11.00am Holy Communion - 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month

St Mark's Church, Yarragon

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

JAFFAS is in recess



THORPDALE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH
Rev Frank Lees,
Phone 5634 6413 or 5633 2758

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

Vale Monsignor Allman

Monsignor John Allman PE died in the early hours of Friday morning, December 10 in Traralgon.

Monsignor Allman was a significant contributor the

Catholic Diocese of Sale over the last 70 years, known affectionately as 'The Mons'.

A Vigil Mass for the repose of the soul of Monsignor Allman was held on Sunday, December 19 at St

Michael's, Traralgon and a Pontifical Requiem Mass was held Monday, December 20 at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale.

Monsignor Allman was buried at Sale Cemetery.



The late Monsignor John Allman. This photo is a one of a series of photographs taken by the painter in preparation for a portrait that proudly hangs in the Cathedral Presbytery, Sale. (Photo: Catholic Diocese of Sale).

Reflection

Words by Moria Dodsworth

HAPPY NEW YEAR

2022 has arrived. I wonder what it will bring. Will it bring busyness, more activities, things to get done and will it seem even shorter than last year? Have you made any New Year resolutions? I think that this year a good resolution would be to be 'fearless'.

Our society seems almost to get energy from fear, fear that we won't have the latest gadget, have read the newest book, have heard the latest news or gossip. This is what advertising is based on so we go out and spend more money. Political campaigns seem to run on how terrible life will be if the other side are in power. Even health systems - have you had a skin check, do you follow this preventative behaviour?

I think that some of the mental health issues that

seem so common come from this fear. We can make minor things into major 'what ifs?' Yet, I know that in my life, most of the disasters have been totally unexpected, I could not have prepared for them, accidents, unexpected illness or death or weather events. Nothing I did could have stopped them happening or made me more prepared for them and I survived, sometimes flourished, through a change I didn't plan, there was even unexpected joy or benefit in them.

My New Year resolution is to live more in the moment and not worry about tomorrow. Go out into the garden and sit down and do what I notice then. Maybe the lawn will get mowed less because it looks more inviting to pick flowers, prune a bush or sit at the edge of a

garden and do some weeding. I think the garden will survive and may even flourish because it is loved and cared for where it needs the attention. The same philosophy can be applied to people and relationships - who needs attention and love? Who can I help? Who do I really want to spend time with?

When we live in the moment and don't worry too much about the future, there is more space for joy and other people. Accidents and unpleasant events will still happen but we won't have wasted today being fearful about them. The dog may have more walks, family more conversations, new friends made and we could make a difference in the world or one person's life.

School concert at St Joseph's

By Katherine Balfour

St Joseph's Primary School recently held their biannual school concert. The script was produced by a small group of motivated students who eagerly embraced the challenge.

Excitedly and with the guidance of our amazing mu-

sic teacher Raelee Hill, 'The Lost Genie' was brought to life.

The concert was performed in a COVID-safe environment outside on the school grounds. The sun was shining brightly on the stars as they danced, sang and acted out their extraordinary

talents. Parents and families were amazed at the creativity and ability of the performers, artists, musicians and authors of the play.

It was a wonderful family night enjoyed by all present.



Ayla Farrell and Erin Kondo during the concert.



Stella Chapman at the microphone.



Anton Istraty in full character.

Traf High recognises award winners from graduating class

By Wombat Lyons

On Thursday, November 18 the graduating class of Year 12 2021 at Trafalgar High School congratulated three key award-winners from the school community at a valedictory dinner at the Trafalgar Public Hall.

While COVID safety requirements limited the number of attendees to students only, families watched on a

live stream and the wider community contributed with the donation of flowers for the room decorations.

Announced as the 2021 Valedictorian of Trafalgar High School, Ellie De Van Der Schueren thanked her family, especially her siblings, for the support role they have played over the year and her educational journey.

Also awarded was Emma Hagley with the 2021 Principals Award for outstanding excellence in academic approach.

Declan Morrison received the 2021 VCAL Excellence Award.



Trafalgar High School VCAL Excellence Award winner for 2021 Declan Morrison, Principals Award for outstanding excellence in academic approach Emma Hagley and Valedictorian Ellie De Van Schueren, pictured with principal Jane Mersey.

O'Brien Real Estate | CLARK

Transfer your investment to us... it's easy.

We understand that the decision to lease your investment property must be carefully considered, especially before choosing a property management team to represent you. It's common that investors fear that transferring their management is difficult and therefore could be missing out on truly maximising their properties' full performance.

Warragul 33 Smith Street 03 5623 6466 Drouin 40 Princes Way 03 5625 1671

obrien.com.au/Clark

Trafs own 10 fa

By Liam Durkin

With New Zealand spinner Ajaz Patel taking all 10 wickets in an innings recently, readers might be interested to know if anyone from Trafalgar has achieved the same feat.

The answer? Yes, but only one.

In more than 130 years of the Trafalgar Cricket Club, the only Traf player to bowl an entire side out is Lester Tatterson.

Tatterson took 10-28 against Warragul Blues in the 1949-50 Warragul and District Cricket Association Grand Final.

The scorecard for that game, played at Trafalgar, reads:

E Ray:c sub:b Tatterson: 4
H Davies:b Tatterson:o
K Johnson:b Tatterson:50
A Glen:b Tatterson:18
G Tozer:b Tatterson:1
J Lacey:b Tatterson:2
A Birt:b Tatterson:o
R McLeod:c Jean:b T'son:o
M Ferne: b Tatterson: o
V Meade:c Rankin:b T'son: 10
J Naylor: not out: 1
Extras: 6
Total: 106

Trafalgar went on to score 210 in its first innings, with Tatterson making 48 and Reverend Bill Morgan

top scoring on 76.

Some years ago this writer met Reverend Morgan, who was at the time age 101, and he recalled the following memories of Tatterson and that match:

"Lester Tatterson took all 10 wickets in the 1949-50 Grand Final, when he had eight, one or two were playing dead. It was too good a chase to let go."

"Lester was a tremendous cricketer. He was just medium pace but he was able to make the ball go off the pitch.

"Lester could play shots all around the wicket. I use to like driving, whether it was cover driving, on driving, straight driving, but Lester could play shots all around the wicket.

"Lester and I had an understanding when we were batting together. He could get up and down the wicket twice as fast as I could. I admitted it, and he understood it. So when he hit a ball toward the boundary, he would say three and we'd take three.

"I'm told his mother was there one day watching and said 'that lazy bastard Morgan won't run!'"



The Trafalgar Cricket Club team, pictured in front of the old grandstand at the Trafalgar Recreation Reserve, the day Tatterson took 10-28. Eric Donaldson, A? Johnston, Vic Jean, Jim O'Connor, Lester Tatterson, Graham Johnstone, Reverend Bill Morgan, (front) L? Aikten, Alan Rankin, Ken Smith and Laurie Rankin.

COVID concerns wreak havoc through cricket

By Liam Durkin

COVID wreaked even more havoc than usual as local cricket returned for the 2022 component of the 2021/22 season last month.

With cases surging across the state, clubs in the Latrobe Valley and District Cricket League and the Traralgon District Cricket Association found themselves absolutely decimated of playing stocks.

Players who had either tested positive or were awaiting results could not be selected, meaning in some cases, clubs had to scramble to find players in order to fill teams.

While clubs generally had enough players to bring up to the first grade team, the real challenge was getting teams on the park for the lower grades, which became a case of finding genuine fill-ins or 'mates of a mate' to help out.

Rovers in the TDCA reportedly had an entire team worth of players that couldn't play, while Gormandale and Glengarry had around five that were unable to be selected.

The TDCA has informed member clubs they need to fill their A Grade first and foremost, while a degree of leniency will be given to

the lower grades if it is clear clubs cannot field a team due to COVID.

To avoid any potential to manipulate points or ladder positions, clubs will need to provide significant proof COVID has affected their ability to select players.

If this is proven and teams have to forfeit, points will be split between the opposing teams.

In the LVDCL, the majority of clubs reported player shortages due to isolation or pending results.

Latrobe had five players across the club unavailable, while Morwell, Centrals, Moe, Raiders and Jeeralang-Boolarra had between two and four.

Trafalgar faced the incredibly bizarre situation of finding itself so desperate it needed to bring Jacob Baldassa, who had not even played a game of cricket in six years, into the A Grade team.

For Baldassa, who has lived in Brazil for the last three years and came back to Trafalgar to play a token game in C Grade before he flew back out - playing a game in the firsts was surely the furthest thing from his mind.

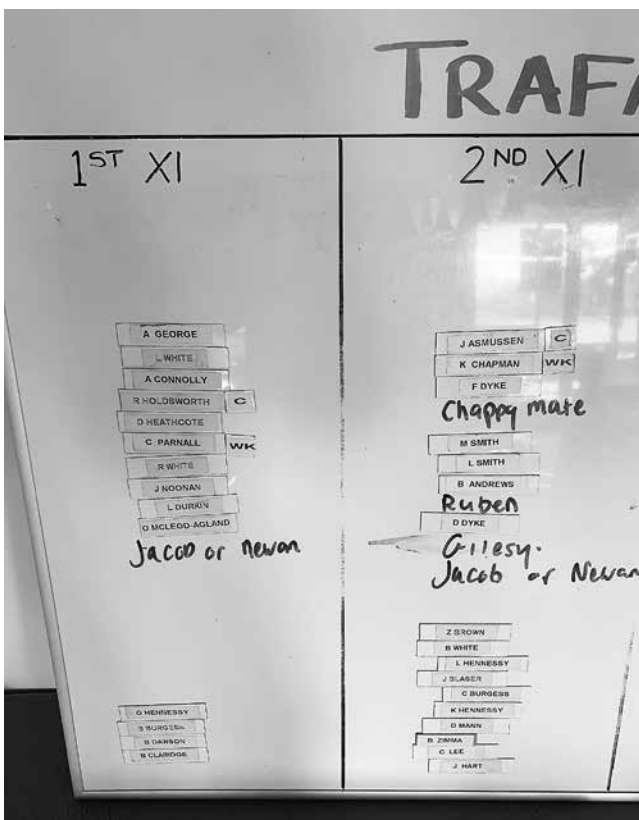
The current COVID situation looks to be very much a week-to-week proposition for clubs, who will have to think on the run to an extent and navigate as best they can with whatever players they have to choose from.

They say cricket is an impossible game to master, and given what is happening at the moment one could argue cricket administration is just as impossible.

Things could get very interesting come finals time, as there is a good chance the

team that wins a semi-final could be forced to make half-a-dozen changes a few days later.

They say cricket is an impossible game to master, and given what is happening at the moment one could argue cricket administration is just as impossible.



The board tells the story at the Trafalgar Cricket Club, which had a host of players unavailable due to COVID issues for the first game back of the season.

Senior cricket moving along

By Liam Durkin

On field action has continued at the Trafalgar Cricket Club, with some terrific team and individual performances either side of Christmas.

A GRADE

A strong performance in the firsts saw the Ships defeat Mirboo North in the opening round. Trafalgar batted first and scored 163. Rhys Holdsworth scored 42 and Billy Claridge played with great maturity to make 43. The bowlers then got to work and all performed their role to see Mirboo North rolled for 88.

Trafalgar stayed patient and bowled to set fields during the holding pattern period, which got the percentages in their favour as the run-rate climbed to the point where Mirboo North had to try and hit out, which eventuated in catching opportunities from sliced or shelled drives. The Ships found an unlikely hero with the ball in Aydan Connolly who took 5-14. Connolly had been crying out for a bowl since being forced to play as the wicket keeper the last few seasons, and astonishingly, before this match he had never even taken an A Grade wicket. Other wicket takers were Riley White (2-28) and Liam Durkin (2-20). New wicket keeper Col Parnall nabbed his first catch for the club, taking an edge off the bowling of White, who got a wicket with his first ball of the season.

The next match saw plenty of runs scored against Moe at Ted Summerton Reserve.

It was tough going for the bowlers, who were presented with a pitch so unfriendly that if it had of leapt up and punched them in the face the only surprise would have been that it leapt up. With a true surface and very little movement through the air, Trafalgar tried to stem the bleeding, and got the situation to under a run-a-ball as Moe closed at 6-265.

Batting second under weary legs, the Ships couldn't quite get going at the rate required, and

CONTINUED PAGE 19

Robertson wins ladies championship

Trafalgar Bowls Club recently held their ladies singles championship event.

In a close final Helen Robertson defeated Marg Moss.



Trafalgar Bowls Club ladies singles finalist Marg Moss and winner Helen Robertson.

Joy Richardson awarded life membership

One of Trafalgar Bowls Club longest serving members, Joy Richardson was awarded life membership last month.

This honour has been awarded just 24 times in the clubs 106 year history.

Joy joined the club in 1981 and initially concentrated on playing ladies pennant and club competitions, winning several titles.

She soon joined various committees and over the years dedicated herself to

serving the club in many ways.

She has served the club as chairperson, president, vice president, catering coordinator and selector. She is the longest serving member of the TBC Board of Management and still holds a senior position on the current board.

Joy was also involved in the clubs carpet bowls sections and in the many social activities held at the Trafalgar Bowls Club.



Trafalgar Bowls Club chairman Ian Miles with the clubs newest life member Joy Richardson.

Carmichael is 100-up champion

By Ian Miles

Trafalgar Bowls Club men's 100-up competition was run and won by Colin Carmichael in December.

Carmichael defeated Sean Tatterson in a close final. Carmichael was in good form coming into the final having defeated the defending

champion Tim Anderson in the semi.

Tatterson was seeking to win the final after overcoming the talented Larry Heenan in his semi.

The finalists were very even early and after 11 ends the scores were 48/47 in Carmichael's favour.

Carmichael's consistent draw shots won over his younger opponent and he eventually got on top to win 100 to 75.

A good crowd was on hand to watch the final and appreciated the talent they displayed on the day.



Trafalgar Bowls Club mens 100-up finalists Sean Tatterson (runner-up) and Colin Carmichael (winner).

Fraser wins men's singles

By Ian Miles

Trafalgar Bowls Club crowned a new men's singles champion in early December, with young gun Tim Fraser winning an epic final over Paul Dawson 25/23.

On a fine but breezy day, both players adapted to the conditions to put on a great display of bowls.

Both players came into the final in good form and tight heads were the order of the day.

After 17 ends the scores

were tied at 11-all.

Dawson edged a couple of shots ahead but Fraser would not be out done and came back with some great draw bowling.

After 26 ends the scores were still tied at 19-all.

Dawson then got another small break to go 23-19 up but could not finish his young opponent off.

Several times he held shot only for Fraser to draw the perfect bowl to deny Dawson victory.

After 33 ends the score was again tied at 23-all.

Fraser then held his young nerves to win the last two ends to claim his first Trafalgar Club Singles Championships.

The win meant he went on to represent Trafalgar in the Strzelecki North Champion of Champions in the new year.



Paul Dawson graciously congratulates Tim Fraser on his victory in the Trafalgar Bowls Club men's singles final.

Plenty of action in junior cricket

By Liam Durkin

Trafalgar Cricket Club junior players have been enjoying the season. The Under 16s and Under 14s played a series of matches leading up to Christmas and recently returned after the holiday break.

UNDER 16

Trafalgar started the season playing a twenty20 at Willow Grove, and ended on 1-67 from their allotted overs. Olly Hennessy top scored with 25, while Louis Hennessy and Mitch Claridge scored 16 and 15 respectively. The run chase saw a competitive match not decided until late. Willow Grove slumped to 6-28, but found some winners down the order to get over the line. Louis Hennessy was the star with the ball, taking 5-5.

The Ships played Morwell the next week at home and restricted their opponents to

3-72 bowling first.

Wicket-keeper Liam Coulthard took a great catch from a high ball to get the Ships sailing in the right direction, and the other Liam, Liam Smith, displayed great courage in putting his body in the firing line at cover to stop what would have been certain runs.

Olly and Louis Hennessy opened the batting and more or less made sure of the result by the 10 over mark, before graciously retiring in order to give their teammates a hit.

Captain Olly did a great job getting everyone into the game with bat and ball under what was difficult circumstances due to the time constraints of twenty20 cricket.

A strong team performance with the ball saw Trafalgar bowl Latrobe out for 62 in under 20 overs in the next match.

Blake White was best per-

formed bowler, taking 3-6 after coming on first change.

The team then used its batting innings to get as many people a hit as possible.

Traf only lost two wickets, which was another positive to take out of the game. Louis Hennessy top scored on 31 not out.

The Ships batted first and scored 4-97 at St Paul's against Centrals in the next game. Michelle Claridge retired on 30, with his knock including a maximum, while Olly Hennessy made 26 from 32 balls and Louis 23. The game came down to the wire, but Trafalgar had their total chased down in the second-last over.

In the last game before Christmas, Trafalgar played a competitive match against Mirboo North/Raiders.

The young Ships got experience on turf which is always a highlight. Batting first, Traf

closed at 5-80. James Pace scored 28 opening the batting and Mitch Claridge 25 not out. Mirboo North proved too strong in the finish, winning with seven wickets in the shed.

UNDER 14

Incredibly, the Under 14s had a tie in their first game of the season.

Playing Mirboo North, both teams ended their 20 overs on 70 runs.

The only difference was the Ships lost one less wicket, but this didn't matter too much, and the points were split.

Wickets went to Olly White and Memphis McQualter. Zak Larkin top scored on 18 not out. Coach Billy Pace labelled the next game as one of the best performances he has seen in his time coaching junior cricket.

Bowling first, the Ships

kept CATS to 5-62 from 20 overs, with five of those overs being maidens.

Charlie Hennessy took 2-2, Zak Larkin 1-1, Sam Jones 1-3 and Brodie Gauci 1-11.

In reply, Trafalgar made 8-107 to complete a strong victory.

Beau Asmussen showed more signs of improvement opening the batting, making some runs at the top. Olly White top scored on 21, while others to reach double figures were James Pace (15 retired) and Zak Larkin (13).

The team made it consecutive wins with victory over Moe in the next match.

Batting first, Traf closed on 4-121. James Pace and Zak Larkin led the way with unbeaten knocks of 33 and 30. Beau Asmussen also took steps in the right direction again, making 14.

The Ships bowlers per-

formed well, with some excellent economy rates recorded.

The bowling effort was highlighted by Emma Jackson taking her first ever wicket. It was a moment to remember as well, with the ball disturbing the timber.

The Under 14s finished the 2021 section of the season off on a high note, defeating Morwell.

Traf sent their opponents in and stayed very disciplined with the ball, delivering eight maidens as a team in a 20 over match.

Charlie Hennessy took two wickets, before most of the Ships batters got a decent hit. James Pace retired on 33, while all-in-all, six people could not be dislodged until being called off the ground to retire.



Trafalgar junior cricketers Olly White and Zak Larkin have gained representative honours for the Latrobe Valley and District Cricket League this season.

Participation report released

AFL Gippsland recently released its participation report for 2021.

The report detailed the number of people involved in Gippsland football across a variety of age groups and roles.

Despite a second abandoned season in succession due to lockdowns and COVID restrictions, more than 6000 people played open age football last season, while more than 5500 participated in junior football (under the age of 17).

Although most leagues across Gippsland only man-

aged to get 10 or so games in this season, crowd numbers remained healthy as supporters looked to get their footy fix once again.

The opening match of the North Gippsland Football Netball League season between Yarram and Yallourn Yallourn North drew a finals-like crowd of more than 1000 people to Yarram.

On that day alone the Demons made \$8920 on the gate, \$8500 on the canteen, \$9000 on the bar and \$5000 in post-match meals and drinks.

With clubs set to recom-

mence preseason training in coming weeks, all involved in local football will be hoping to finally get a clean run at things and a full season in 2022.

AFL Gippsland Participation Report 2021

- Leagues: 18
- Participants: 12,058
- Seniors: 6323
- Juniors (under 17): 5735
- Auskick participants: 2655
- Auskick centres: 51
- Coaches accredited: 456 male, 11 female

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

eventually the task be came too great and they finished on 8-204.

Aydan Connolly scored an unbeaten 51 and Rhys Holdsworth made 49. Aiden George had some success with the ball, taking 2-41.

Quite a strange game occurred the next week against Centrals.

Playing at Yallourn North, the Ships dropped five sodas in the field bowling first and still bowled their opponents out for 73 and went on to win with five wickets and collect a bonus point.

Liam Durkin took 4-9 and Jackson Noonan 3-13, before Aydan Connolly made 26 with the bat.

A more clinical victory was recorded in the next game against Morwell Tigers Yinnar Raiders.

Bowling first, the Ships dismissed Raiders for 117. Daniel Heathcote took 4-18 and took three catches and Jackson Noonan nabbed 3-18.

Excellent intent with the bat saw Trafalgar win with seven wickets in hand and plenty of time left in the game.

The Ships got a bonus point for winning inside 40 overs, as Aydan Connolly and Brodie Burgess scored 39 and 29 respectively.

Aydan Connolly was given the honour of captaining the club for the next game against Morwell.

Trafalgar cashed in with the new ball in seaming conditions bowling first, taking six wickets in the first session, before Morwell was able to stabilise its innings throughout the middle and last third.

Jackson Noonan was superb, taking 5-28, while Connolly chipped in with 2-32.

Chasing 170, the Ships looked to be on something of a steady track at 2-50. However, a double wicket-strike from Morwell against the run of play then turned the game on its head, and from there Trafalgar couldn't find the runs they needed.

Rhys Holdsworth top scored with 39.

The first game in 2022 saw Trafalgar travel by bus to play Jeeralang-Boolarra.

The Ships bowled first and were able to keep Jeeralang-Boolarra to 150 target.

Leading wicket takers were Daniel Heathcote (3-35), Rhys Holdsworth (2-18) and Aiden George (2-25).

George and Liam White then put on an opening stand of 67, as George batted through the innings to see Trafalgar home with an unbeaten 68.

B GRADE

The seconds started their season with a win, defeating Latrobe at Peter Siddle Oval.

A steady start by Latrobe saw them get to 28 without loss before Brett Tonkin took a catch off the bowling of Damien Mann to get the first breakthrough. Another settling period for the Sharks got the score to 1-40, yet when James Pace disturbed the ball, little was anyone to know what was about to unfold. From 2-40 Latrobe was 8-56 and went on to lose their last nine wickets for just 25 runs. Olly Hennessy proved his specialty lies not just in selling pizzas, taking 5-19 from nine overs with two maidens thrown in with good measure.

At just 15 years of age, the achievement was certainly a great one, as was the fact four wickets were unassisted. Trafalgar secured the points in little more than 20 overs,

chasing the 65 runs needed with Damien Mann hitting an enterprising 21.

The team welcomed a handy inclusion in the form of Leo Connolly for the next match against Morwell Tigers Yinnar Raiders.

Bowling first at home, the Ships were able to strike at semi-regular intervals once the first wicket fell and also keep the scoring rate down. Raiders played out their overs for 119, which the Ships chased down within 25 overs.

Damien Mann and Connolly returned identical figures, each taking 4-17.

John Asmussen made 35 at first drop, and Damien Mann clubbed seven sixes in a brutal onslaught that saw the ball dispatched clean over the boundary.

Mann saved his best for last, winning the game with three consecutive sixes, all over cow corner, to take his score to 65 not out.

It was a genuine slog-athon late in the piece, with Cooper Burgess and Mann putting on 50 from the 20th to 24th over.

Trafalgar then played a competitive match against Centrals.

Centrals batted first and made 124. Olly Hennessy was again outstanding with the ball, taking 4-14 from nine overs and Steve Asmussen took 2-11.

The Ships ended 22 runs, as only Jack Hart with 25 was able to make much of an impression.

It was case of less said the better in the next match against Jeeralang-Boolarra.

Travelling to Boolarra, the Ships elected to bowl first and saw Jeeralang-Boolarra close at 8-142. Cooper Burgess had some joy with the ball, taking 2-22.

The batting however

turned into an absolute train wreck when the Ships went out to chase the runs.

If 3-18 was bad, it was then SOS when it went to 5-20.

It was a procession of wickets from there on in, as Trafalgar was bundled out cheaply.

The team bounced back with a win the next week against Latrobe.

Batting first at Peter Siddle Oval, Trafalgar scratched out 117 off virtually its full allotment. Riley White scored 32 opening up, alongside Damien Mann who scored 21.

The Ships could hardly do a thing wrong with the ball, and had Latrobe 4-11 at one stage.

White ended with 3-13, Mann 2-13 and Zack Brown 2-20.

At 8-61 the game seemed a forgone conclusion, but Latrobe kept it interesting, as did Trafalgar captain Cooper Burgess who with one over remaining and in the heat of the moment miscalculated how many overs White had left, mistakenly thinking he had bowled out when in actuality he had one over left.

So the ball was thrown to man of the moment Jack Hart, and in his last game for Traf before flying out to Tassie, kept his cool, taking the winning wicket to see the Ships home.

A mass of unavailability's brought on by the advent of COVID crippled the club for the first game back after Christmas, and as such, the B Grade game against Jeeralang-Boolarra away from home became one the club just had to get through.

Get through they did, and although victory was not forthcoming, simply getting a team on the park was a win in itself.

C GRADE

The opening game of the season saw the thirds defeat Mirboo North at home.

Trafalgar dismissed Mirboo North for 69 in the last over of their innings. Brent Claridge took two wickets up front and two a little while later on way to figures of 4-4. Mark Wynne also featured in the wickets, taking 2-10, as did Adam Carlson with 2-12. New wicket keeper Brendan Rooney gloved three catches. In a nice moment, Beau Asmussen, fielding as a sub, took a catch off dad Steve's bowling. Mark Wynne showed he hasn't lost it, making 25 opening the batting as the Ships won by six wickets.

Trafalgar had an early finish the next week playing Churchill on the Yinnar hard-deck.

The Ships bowled first and skittled Churchill for 105. Late inclusion Kev Hennessy took 3-9, while Darren Brown and Brent Claridge grabbed 2-33 and 2-17 respectively.

Mitch Claridge took further steps in the right direction as an opening batsman, making 23 against the new ball, paving the way for dad Brent to come in and score an unbeaten 78.

In the next game, Trafalgar ventured out to Callignee. The Ships simply didn't make enough runs batting first on a very small ground, only managing 122, which was chased down with little to no worries by the opposition.

Mitch Claridge made 35 opening the batting. Louis Hennessy also bowled very well in the context of how small the ground was, only going for 21 runs in six overs.

Cohan Lee made a welcome return to cricket, and ended the day making 30 with the stick and taking 2-27 with the ball.

A thriller against Yallourn North was played at Traf the next week.

The match came down to the very last ball, which saw Yallourn North scamper the winning runs.

Earlier in the day Traf closed at 8-133.

Paul Connolly made 29 and Mark Smith and Brendan Rooney each made 22 in a handy 30 run partnership toward the end.

The chase was kept interesting as Yallourn North lost wickets along the way, but in the end it was not to be for Trafalgar, who couldn't quite get the openings they were after.

Connolly was the pick of the bowlers with 4-38 and Christian Burgess took 3-31 in what was surely his first thirds game in decades. Of the 233 senior games Burgo played leading into this match, only five had been in C Grade.

Trafalgar secured the win against Morwell in the last round before Christmas.

The Ships won the toss and closed at 9-146. Brent Claridge played a captains knock of 57 and Mark Wynne scored 27 against the new ball.

The Ships were then always 20 or so runs ahead of the game with the ball, taking wickets at semi-regular intervals.

A stumping to Wynne highlighted the fielding display as Morwell was bowled out for 122.

Wickets were shared between the Ships. Steve Asmussen took 3-23, while Billy Andrews (2-15), Darren Brown (2-18) and Joe Stewart (2-40) all chipped in.



Louis Hennessy accepts the applause of teammates as he walks off the Willow Grove Recreation Reserve after taking 5-5 in the Under 16s.



Trafalgar players Col Parnall, Liam White, Mark Smith, Jackson Noonan, Dennis Dyke, Rhys Holdsworth, Aydan Connolly, Kaleb Chapman, Jaryn Makepeace, Riley White, Owen McLeod-Aglad, Daniel Heathcote, (kneeling) Aiden George, Liam Smith, Liam Durkin and (outstretched) Jacob Baldassa on the return bus trip following a day of matches in Boolarra last month.

Life membership for two great servants of junior football

Nick and Shae Matthews were duly recognised for their many years of hard work at The Trafalgar Junior Football Club presentation day in late November with both awarded life memberships.

Only a handful of life memberships have been presented in the club's 49-year existence, the most recent being Christian Burgess in 2016.

The club was thrilled to have Christian in attendance to present the awards and say a few words.

Nick and Shae have been involved with the club at committee level since their children began playing junior footy over 10 years ago, but it has been the countless hours of work which has led to these awards.

Among Nick's positions have included club president (past six years), league delegate and league executive member, under 12 coach, umpire and runner, as well as many behind the scenes roles such as assisting with behind-the-goals nets and new interchange boxes,

marking the ground lines, emptying rubbish bins and sweeping the changerooms after game day were other jobs that Nick did regularly.

Shae devoted probably just as many hours as husband Nick along the journey, her roles included club merchandise, publicity, organising social functions, organising team photos and team manager, as well as sorting club uniforms for many years.

Well done and well deserved Nick and Shae.



Newly inducted Trafalgar Junior Football Club life members Shae and Nick Matthews, who were presented their awards by fellow life member Christian Burgess.

Junior football award winners

The Trafalgar Junior Football Club awards were presented at the club's presentation day in November.

All Under 9, Under 11, Under 13 and Under 15 players received participant medals or trophies and the following players won awards for the 2021 season:

UNDER 13

- Blake McDermott (best and fairest)
- Memphis McQualter (runner-up best and fair-

est)

- Sienna Paul (most consistent)
- Riley Pickering (most determined)
- Mason Malady (most improved)
- Hudson Grujic (coaches award)
- Zak Larkin (best utility)
- Matt Kersten (encouragement award)
- Oliver White (McGrath Memorial Award)

UNDER 15

- Tom Matthews (best and

fairest)

- James Pace (runner-up best and fairest)
- Liam Coulthard (most consistent)
- Juddy Ryan (most improved)
- Blake White (most determined)
- Archie Fraser (coaches award)
- Isaac Caraleo (encouragement award)
- Caleb Wilson (Traf Senior FNC award)
- Best Club Person for 2021 was awarded to Kylie Davis.



Trafalgar Junior Football Club under 15 award winners for season 2021.



Trafalgar Junior Football Club under 13 players display their awards.

NO ONE'S UNSINKABLE

To all those Unsinkable Guys out there –

You might think it's safe to have a few drinks around water, skip the lifejacket when you're out on the boat or go for a swim without checking the conditions.

But statistics prove that 4 out of 5 drownings are men.

Just remember that no one's unsinkable.

Q UNSINKABLE GUY

RETHINK TAKING RISKS AROUND WATER

VICTORIA State Government