

# Traf News

August 2022 – Edition 252

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## NEW PRINCIPAL WELCOMED

**T**rafalgar High School has a new principal, with Brett Pedlow joining the school leadership team following the retirement of Jane Mersey.

Previously a Victorian P-12 College of Koorie Education-Woolum Bellum (Morwell) campus teacher, and Kurnai Campus principal, Brett most recently held the principal role at Yarram Secondary College.

"Mr Pedlow comes with many years of experience as a principal", assistant principal Amanda McQualter said.

Brett Pedlow has been successful in obtaining the position of acting principal at Trafalgar High School in Term 3 and 4.

Students have used the

start of Term 3 to make their new principal feel welcome to the community of Trafalgar High School and over coming weeks, Mr Pedlow will be introduced to the parents and the wider community.



Welcoming new principal Brett Pedlow to Trafalgar High School are Eloise Grendon, Hayley Johns, Elise McGuigan and Hunter Bailey.

## WHO ARE TRAFALGAR'S LEADING CITIZENS?

By David 'Wombat' Lyons

**T**he citizen of the year committee wants you to start thinking of appropriate people who deserve to be recognised as Trafalgar's 2023 citizen of the year.

Talk to your friends and people in your network to decide on a person or persons you would like to nominate.

In doing so, consider how the person's actions have inspired you and contributed significantly to the Trafalgar community. This could be through their voluntary com-

munity contribution, work or a combination of these.

The nomination form for this important community award will be published in the September and October Traf News publications.

Trafalgar Community Development Association (TCDA) commenced the Trafalgar Citizen of the Year in 2005 to recognise people who have significantly contributed to the Trafalgar community.

The award originally included the provision for

posthumous awards, and in 2011, the youth award was added.

In 2005 and 2006, the award was presented as part of the Battle of Trafalgar festivities in October. The TCDA 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.

- 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),

- Tiffany 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)
- 2022 Marianne Tyler

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# Editor appointed to local weekly

TRAF NEWS' own Liam Durkin became editor of the Latrobe Valley Express last month.

He replaces Gregor Mac-taggart, who departed following his appointment as editor of the Riverine Herald,

based in Echuca/Moama.

Mr Mactaggart said Mr Durkin's appointment would provide great continuity for the editorial team.

"Liam has ably filled in for me in the past and deserves his opportunity to take

charge of the Latrobe Valley Express, and our sister publication the Gippsland Times," Mr Mactaggart said.

"He has been a member of The Express team since January 2021 as a sports/news reporter and done a brilliant job.

"He is dedicated to the craft of journalism and passionate about local newspapers."

Mr Durkin, 27, grew up in Thorpdale and started his journalism career as a cadet reporter with the Gippsland Times in 2018.

He has been editor of Traf News for the last five years, and will continue to fulfil this voluntary capacity.

"I'm excited by this opportunity and what it may bring," Mr Durkin said.

"The Express was always among the newspapers on the family table growing up, and the Gippsland Times gave me my first opportunity, so to be able to serve as editor for both is a great honour."

The Latrobe Valley Express is the largest regional newspaper in Victoria.

You can contact Liam at editor@lvexpress.com.au or on 5135 4429.



Traf News editor Liam Durkin has accepted the position of editor at the Latrobe Valley Express.

## Disaster payments return

The Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment has been reinstated, following a National Cabinet meeting on last month.

Chief Medical Officer Professor Paul Kelly provided an update on the pandemic, including new variants and their potential impact, and the impacts on hospital capacity and broader health system.

A new wave of COVID-19 infections driven by the BA.4 and BA.5 Omicron sub-variants is increasing the pressure on the health system.

In recognition of the risks associated with more infectious new variants through winter, the Commonwealth agreed to reinstate the Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment to September 30, 2022.

Eligibility for the payment will be backdated to July 1, 2022, to ensure that anyone unable to work owing to isolation requirements in this period, without access to paid sick leave, can receive support.

Access to these payments will start from Wednesday July 20, with existing eligibility requirements to continue. The Commonwealth and all States and Territories agreed to share the costs of the payment 50:50.

In addition, the Common-

wealth government will also reinstate the Crisis Payment

- National Health Emergency (COVID-19) until September 30, 2022, with eligibility also to be backdated to July 1, 2022.

This will ensure people affected by COVID-19 isolation requirements who receive an income support payment or ABSTUDY Living Allowance, and who are in severe financial hardship, continue

to receive support through winter.

The Commonwealth has further agreed to create a new, temporary telehealth item, so GPs can spend longer with their patients to assess their suitability for oral COVID-19 antivirals.

This will enable those most vulnerable to COVID-19 to quickly access medical treatments and help ease the burden on hospitals.

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DEADLINE:**

Articles and  
advertising  
close:  
12 August 2022

## Traf News

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Sue Pye & Tom Pye

# New probus members

By Elly Fallon

Trafalgar & District Probus welcomed three new members to its ranks this past month.

We extend a warm welcome to Con Verstedden, Petra Shandley and Sharyn Dilger, and hope they enjoy many years of fun, friendship and fellowship that Probus offers.

At the beginning of this month, is a fun day at Trafalgar Golf Club to celebrate Christmas in July. This is a popular day on our calendar each year, with the golf ladies providing a delicious meal for us, so a great way for our new members to mingle and have fun.

Twenty-two Probians from Trafalgar and Drouin enjoyed a bus trip to Sale recently.

Their first port of call was the museum of Timeless Memories, where all reminisced over items we all used in our homes and bygone youth. Well worth a visit if you have never been there before.

This was followed by an enjoyable barbecue lunch and a heritage cruise at the Port of Sale. It was a beautiful winter's day for sailing and made even more memorable by the entertaining and informative commentary provided by the captain of our boat.

Some Probus members also ventured off for a week in Yarrowonga on a bus trip. Again they were joined by members of the Drouin Probus Club.

Each day was filled with new adventures, including visits to Swanpool Cinema in 50's style, several painted silos, the Benalla gallery and

gardens, Tocomwal Aviation Museum, Bonegilla Migrant Museum, the Army Museum in Bandiana, and the wood carvings at Howlong to name just a few. There was food and fun in plenty including a crazy hat night.

Garden Group is in recess for June and July but come August, we will gather again with a visit to the garden of one of our members, Tina Hambleton. We look forward to that visit with early signs of spring around already in town in the form of jonquils, camellias and even some cherry blossom.

Our walking group meet on the second Wednesday of each month.

The next walk is to be an urban one, so we will meet at the Immigration Park in Morwell and follow our leader Hans for an adventure that should be an easy pace for all. The reward being a cuppa and a chat.

The ever-popular dine-out organised by Bob Jones each month saw 31 members meet up at Neerim South Hotel for lunch, a catch up and a chance to warm ourselves in front of a lovely wood fire.

This occasion was very special, as it was a chance to catch-up with a very dear Probus friend, Ian Walden, who is still a member of our club even though he lives at Neerim Junction.

Our speaker this month was Keith Ritchie with his wife Belinda from Community Radio 104.7 Gippsland.

Australia has over 400 not-for-profit volunteer run community radio stations. They are run by numerous volunteers from all backgrounds and nationalities

and provide us with news, music, interviews, Indigenous and multi-cultural programs to name just a few services.

Keith is on the board of management and producer and presenter of 'Valley

Talks' on a Tuesday and 'Yesterday's Songs' with co-host Bev Loraine on a Friday afternoon.

He has volunteered his time for many years in several positions including fund raising.

The station is always looking for more people to give of their time, even 20 minutes to read newspapers to the blind would be welcomed.

Membership and participation is open to anyone in the community.

We now have a new appreciation of how this service is provided to us all.

Our speaker next month is from Gippsland Water.



Con Verstedden, Petra Shandley and Sharyn Dilger being welcomed by Maggie Attwell, president of Trafalgar & District Probus.



Trippers to Sale.



Bus trip to Yarrowonga and some crazy hats.



Cruise on the Port of Sale.



Keith Ritchie and wife Belinda, our speakers from community radio 104.7, being thanked by secretary John Attwell.



Morning tea at Coffee Life.



Group of happy holiday makers in Yarrowonga.

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# Forestry program is here

By Philip Hopkins

VicForests has launched a program to encourage the expansion of farm forestry in Gippsland as the Andrews Government is under pressure to get trees in the ground to compensate for its planned closure of the native forest industry by 2030.

The aim of the \$300,000 grants program is to create farm forestry demonstration sites across the region.

Grant applications opened on July 11 and close on August 12.

The objective is to model the establishment and maintenance of suitable timber tree species and planting regimes that best integrate with the conditions and unique qualities of the landholder's property.

The sites must show how timber production trees will integrate with agriculture (and other natural and built elements) within the context of whole farm planning.

VicForests also wants to reinvigorate older demonstration sites from previous programs to learn from landholders' past experience.

This part of the scheme will be funded separately.

The total program area for new sites is 100 hectares with a maximum number of 10 new sites.

Member for Eastern Victoria, Melina Bath, said a grant scheme that targets the expansion of private farm forestry had merit.

"However the long lead time and comparatively small combined area means

it will not replace the wood volumes lost by the Andrews Government's atrocious decision to shut down the native timber industry," she said.

"The Nationals continue to demand the abandonment of this flawed policy and pledge to continue a sustainably managed native timber industry if elected on November 26."

The chief executive of the Victorian Forest Products Association, Deb Kerr, welcomed the program, noting that tree farming would be an important part of the mix to deliver plantation trees on farmland not suitable for other agricultural products.

"Tree farming is well known for the benefits it brings to production enterprises such as shade and shelter for livestock, as well as improved biodiversity and the sequestration of carbon that will be tuned into wood products," she said.

"Victoria has a timber shortage now and this gap is only forecast to grow over the next 30 years."

As part of the program, VicForests will seek the involvement of farm forestry specialists and contractors, timber processors and makers, researchers and educators.

While the 100-ha program has a maximum 10 new sites, the total hectares may be reduced if 10 suitable sites are established that all exceed the minimum area (3ha) but do not total 100ha.

The maximum grant for individual application will

be \$60,000 to ensure a wide geographical range of sites and diversity of tree species. Hardwood (usually Eucalypt species) and softwood (usually Radiate Pine) grown over short or long rotation will be considered for the demonstration sites.

The trees must be planted several metres apart (a minimum of 400 trees/ha over 3ha) to enable livestock to graze and crops to grow.

Shelter belts will be at least 15 metres wide.

Preferred species include Yellow Stringybark, Silver-top, Spotted Gum, Red Ironbark, Southern Mahogany, Shining Gum and Sugar Gum.

According to a report to the federally-funded Gippsland Forestry Hub, Gippsland has more than one million hectares of land suitable for forest plantations.

Most of these areas 'suitability are classed as 'high' to 'very high'.

The report warns that plantation supply is insufficient to meet current demand, with the supply gap about 1.2 million cubic metres by 2030 and 2.1Mm3 by 2050.

It also warns that the Andrews Government's plan to close native forestry will reduce local processing capacity, creating a loss of scale that threatens the ability of manufacturers to compete.

Gippsland's current forest area is 1.43 million hect-

ares of native forest, of which 2560ha were harvested in 2020 (0.002 per cent of the total), and 90,000ha of plantations - 80 per cent softwood and 20 per cent hardwood (mainly short-term blue gum crops).

Further information and grant applications forms are available on the VicForests website.



VicForests wants to encourage the expansion of farm forestry in Gippsland

# Provider enters liquidation

By Michelle Slater

About 60 employees were made redundant last month after Gippsland mental health service provider Within Australia went into liquidation earlier this month.

Within Australia - formerly SNAP Gippsland - operated sites in Traralgon, Bairnsdale, Sale and Wonthaggi, delivering NDIS-based and mental health services to 380 people.

The community not-for-profit organisation was put into the hands of voluntary administrators Ernst and Young after it was resolved that Within Australia was insolvent, or likely to become insolvent.

A spokesperson for Ernst and Young said the majority of staff had their employment terminated on Friday.

"We have been providing support to the 60 staff in terms of assisting them to find alternative employment by arranging meetings with local employers," the spokesperson said.

"[We have also been] arranging information sessions on how to continue providing support to participants and clients by setting up independently."

The liquidation comes after Within Australia had failed to re-tender its services to the Gippsland Primary Health Network, as well as a

period of "below budget financial performance".

There were also a number of vacancies in "key revenue generating roles" such as counsellors.

Administrators had run an expression of interest process with 25 organisations, but were unable to secure a long-term future for Within Australia before it went into liquidation.

The spokesperson said administrators had been helping Primary Health Network clients to transition to a new service provider.

"We have been working with other providers of mental health support services to provide options to Within

Australia participants and clients to find alternative suitable care arrangements," the spokesperson said. Ernst and Young administrator David Kennedy said minimising disruption for clients and participants was a "key priority for the management team at Within Australia and the administrators".

"The administrators' primary objective is to ensure continuation of support to participants and clients, and to secure a longer-term future of the organisation wherever possible," Mr Kennedy said.

A Gippsland Primary Health Network spokesperson said the organisation had

enhanced its commissioning processes to "effectively meet the current needs of the Gippsland community".

"Gippsland PHN contacted all affected commissioned services in 2021 to explain the new outcomes-focused commissioning approach

and invited them to co-design the tender," the spokesperson said.

"All were invited to tender. The tender process also involved consultation with community and people with lived experience."

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## Reducing the risk of household scalding

Hot water in baths and showers continue to cause serious burns and scalds to children around Australia each year.

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) is urging Victorians to be extra vigilant around hot water in the home during winter.

Many household scalds occur in the bathroom where the water temperature from taps and showers is high, and people cannot react quickly enough to avoid scalding.

The VBA's State Building surveyor Andrew Cialini said Victoria's plumbing regulations limit heated water temperatures to no more than 50°C in new and renovated bathrooms.

"Victoria's plumbing laws require a maximum temperature of 50°C at the outlets of each shower head or tap, which is hot enough for a shower, but not hot enough

to cause scalding," Mr Cialini said.

"Children can still receive scalds from temperatures below 50°C, so it's important to make sure that you take steps to stop little ones from accidentally turning on the wrong tap and burning themselves."

The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne (RCH) recommends running hot and cold water together to get an appropriate bathing temperature for your child, for children the recommended maximum bathing temperature is 37-38°C, and for newborns it is 36°C.

The VBA encourages consumers to make sure hot water delivered to a bath or shower is a maximum of 50°C, and to contact a licensed or registered plumber about regulating the temperature.

Older hot water systems installed before August 5

1998 are likely to deliver hot water above 50°C that can cause scalds, but licensed or registered plumbers have various ways of reducing the temperature of water outlets, depending on the system type.

"Hiring a licensed or registered plumber to install a tempering valve if one isn't fitted is an easy and quick way to reduce the hot water temperature in the bathroom," Mr Cialini said.

Early childhood centres, schools, nursing homes or similar facilities require a lower maximum heated water delivery temperature of 45°C to protect vulnerable occupants and users.

Licensed or registered plumbers are the only people who can install a hot water system and undertake plumbing work in Victoria.

Consumers can use the VBA's 'Find a Practitioner'

tool to find a licensed or registered plumber.

For more tips on how to reduce the risk of hot water burns in the bathroom, visit the VBA's hot water safety

guide, the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne tips to reduce the risk of bathroom scalds to children, as well as the Kidsafe website.

For first aid tips in the

case of a scald injury visit the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne burns safety guide.



Hot water services need to be regularly maintained.

## Improving air quality through ventilation investment

The state government is supporting small businesses to improve indoor air-quality, keeping staff and customers safe this winter.

Last month, Minister for Small Business Jaala Pulford launched the next round of the \$60 million Small Business Ventilation Program.

Eligible businesses can access between \$500 and \$5000 for air ventilation and filtration equipment, works or professional services that will help improve air quality indoors.

Improving ventilation not

only helps reduce the spread of COVID-19 it gives customers confidence businesses are doing everything they can to keep them safe.

Under the program, businesses can apply for two types of support:

Ventilation Rebate - a \$500 rebate to take immediate actions such as purchasing an air purifier or hiring a qualified tradesperson to undertake minor services to improve ventilation; and Ventilation Grant - matched grants between \$1000 and \$5000 to invest in larger projects such as building works

or engaging professional services or equipment to improve ventilation.

It comes as the state government's 'Stay Well in Winter' campaign encourages everyone to take sensible, preventative actions to protect each other this winter.

Applications will be assessed for eligibility on a first-come, first-served basis until 11pm Thursday, September 8 2022 or when funds are exhausted. For more information on the program visit business.vic.gov.au.

## Gippsland tenants under microscope

Gippsland tenants are most vulnerable to rent increases as landlords look to recoup the cost of rising interest rates, according to housing advocacy group Everybody's Home.

Everybody's Home looked at regional Victorian rental data from the past 12 months to May 2022, as analysed by property market researchers SQM.

It looked at five regions including Gippsland, Mornington Peninsula, and northern, north east and south western Victoria.

The analysis found that rental vacancy rates in these regions were well below 1 per cent, but at the same time rents had increased by between six and 14 per cent.

Gippsland regional data found there were more than 37160 rental properties in that time frame with a 0.78

per cent vacancy rate, yet rents rose by 12.3 per cent with a medium weekly rent of \$404.

Everybody's Home spokesperson Kate Colvin said as mortgage interest rates doubled, many landlords would seek to pass the cost on to tenants.

"Renters are in for a seriously difficult time as landlords capitalise on historically low vacancy rates to shift the rising cost of interest rates on to their tenants," Ms Colvin said.

"While the Victorian state government has invested in social housing, we will only start to see significant change once we see a significant promise from the federal government as well."

Ms Colvin said governments needed to immediately start planning for more social and affordable houses.

She said a decade of inaction from the previous federal government was leading to a "perfect storm" with limited options for people who can't afford to buy but want to stay in their local community.

"Just because you rent, doesn't mean you haven't established deep roots in a community.

Renters on low and modest incomes work in the local shops and aged care services," Ms Colvin said.

"They have kids in local schools, are members of sports clubs, and attend local churches. They deserve the same stability as everyone else. "The bitter fruit of a decade of housing neglect is with us now and is being unfairly forced on low income renters. This problem will only get worse if we fail to act."

## Dementia expected to double in Gippsland

Dementia is the second-highest cause of death among females in Gippsland, and the sixth among males, with an average of 171 deaths a year.

This was revealed in Gippsland Primary Health Network's priority issues paper on 'Dementia', released last month.

The number of people in Gippsland with dementia is expected to double over the next three decades.

An estimated 7488 people in Gippsland had dementia in 2021 and this is expected to increase to 13,783 by 2058. Out of this total, an estimated 438 people have younger onset dementia (under 65 years).

Forty per cent of people living in aged care facilities have a dementia diagnosis.

Gippsland PHN chief executive, Amanda Proposch said the priority issues papers were an important resource for both health professionals and the community.

"Gippsland PHN is committed to Population Health Planning as an ongoing core function," Ms Proposch said.

"We gather data and information from many sources including the local community and health professionals to identify the unique health priorities of our region.

"The purpose is to make informed decisions about the

best way to achieve our vision of a measurably healthier Gippsland."

The paper also captured feedback from people living with dementia, their families, carers and health professionals. People living with dementia said it was important to stay fit, well and connected.

At times they experienced feelings of confusion, frustration and embarrassment, and were concerned about the future, losing independence and being a burden.

Carers and family members said support after diagnosis was needed to help the carer and person living with dementia to adapt to the diagnosis.

While the carer role is essential, they said it could be very demanding and the system navigation challenging.

Anyone worried about their memory or thinking is encouraged to speak with their general practitioner (GP).

A major change to memory or thinking is not normal at any age. For more information about local services, see the Gippsland PHN website.

THE Gippsland PHN 'Suicide' priority issues paper highlights the impact of suicide on families, friends and communities.

The paper outlines protective (safety) factors including effective clinical care

for mental, physical and substance use disorders; easy access to a variety of clinical interventions and support for help seeking; support through ongoing medical and mental health care relationships; strong connections to family and community support; and skills in problem solving, conflict resolution and non-violent handling of disputes.

Services and supports available are also detailed along with the many resources developed as part of the place-based suicide prevention trials projects, led by Gippsland PHN in partnership with the Victorian Department of Health in Latrobe and Bass Coast, can be found at <https://gphn.org.au/what-we-do/programs/suicide-prevention-program/>

Resources include free online suicide prevention training for anyone living, working or studying in Gippsland.

The training aims to help identify the warning signs of someone at risk, give confidence to speak to them about their thoughts and provides the tools to connect them with professional care.

Those who would like to access the two priority issues papers can do so by visiting <https://gphn.org.au/resources>.



## Behind Traf News

Have you ever wondered how you receive your copy of Traf News each month?

As a free community service, our local paper is due to the work of a large team of people.

Firstly, there is an editor who writes, and review stories provided by contributors before submitting these to the graphic designer for layout and publication.

Then our advertising officer arranges for the monthly advertisements and the much appreciated support from local businesses who help to keep the paper viable.

Meanwhile our finance officer oversees accounts and memberships.

Finally, once the issue is printed, a constant team of volunteers, under guidance, deliver copies to businesses and homes.

At present, we require a new coordinator once a month for distribution, and more volunteers on the monthly team.

If you have a small amount of time and would like a monthly walk around a designated part of Trafalgar to distribute the paper, we would like to hear from you.

The management of the paper is handled by a small committee, who meet on a monthly basis. If you are interested in joining the committee, we invite you to the annual meeting, to be held at the Business Centre, 107 Princess Highway Trafalgar at 7pm on Tuesday, August 9.

Traf News is continuing to capture local issues and feature our community at a time when many local papers have gone out of print.

However, it can only continue with community and volunteer support.

If you can devote your time we encourage people to be involved.

Alternatively, if you wish to support the paper as a member at \$5 per annum, please get in touch.

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST THROUGH  
ADMIN@TRAFNEWS.COM OR TINAHAMBLETON@HOTMAIL.COM OR RING TINA ON 0429 863 044.

Trafalgar Lions was still under the effects of COVID regulations and felt it was too risky to hold our Swap Meet, much to the disappointment of the public who were keen to attend.

Other activities were also curtailed until this year, but fortunately our firewood sales were still strong.

We managed to hold the Junior Public Speaking contest, our club final was then

held successfully via Zoom.

The winners were Summer Parise from St Joseph's for Grade 3/4 and Charlie Eehard for Grade 5/6, also from St Joseph's. Our club final for this year will be held at our meeting on August 3.

We ran a successful Christmas Raffle and Christmas Cake sales, which also went well. We catered for the Andrews House Christmas barbecue, Australia Day breakfast and Anzac Day

gunfire breakfast as well as hosting an overnight stop for the Ride for Sight.

The Skin Cancer Check Van visit was another successful event and provided an important service to the community.

We also did a democracy Sausage Sizzle for the first time in many years. This was well supported by the community and we received assistance from Trafalgar IGA as well - look forward to doing

another one in November. The Saturday sausage sizzle's at IGA will be on again soon.

Our Russ Turner Apprentice Encouragement Award was successfully held, with five contestants from a variety of trades. The winner was Beau Connell, apprentice butcher at Murphy's Meats.

Thanks to the Trafalgar community, the Lions Club of Trafalgar managed to donate over \$24,000 last year with

over \$11,000 donated locally to schools, Youth Resource Centre, Scouts, Lifeline, public hall etc. The other \$13,000 was allocated to various Lions activities such as \$5000 to the flood appeal. Other Lions projects like Need for Feed, Hearing Dogs, Lions Village Licola, and many others were also supported.



Lions Club of Trafalgar board of directors Alan Smith, Tony Mitchinson, Installing Officer Geoff Anderson, Glenn Rodda, Rob Connell, Ian Bosma, (front) Olive Morrison, Marianne Tyler, Wendy Moon, Pat Tattersson and Joanna Reekie.



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## Lions club kept busy

By Trevor Byrne

## Meet your local CFA - Craig Moon

By Kate Wattchow

This month, we are continuing our interview series, introducing members of the Trafalgar CFA brigade to the community.

This month is featuring Craig Moon.

### WHEN DID YOU JOIN CFA?

I was approved as a brigade member almost four and a half years ago, after having met all the appropriate requirements and attending more than three training nights to show that I was not just keen but also able to be part of the team.

### WHY DID YOU JOIN?

When I was growing up I remember some of the people I looked up to being firefighters. I remember my dad being a member of the old Trafalgar Rural Fire Brigade and heading out with him in the tanker to do burn-offs along the road.

I also remember a particular Venturer leader that had to duck off at times, when the siren went off during a Scout night, leaving an air of curiosity about what he was heading off to.

It wasn't until I was attending to some business in town one day when I saw the fire truck head out, I spotted a CFA member who arrived after the truck left, knowing this person I went over to

have a chat.

It was from this discussion that I realised the whole station was supported by volunteers and that the town had very few people to turn up for a call out during the day, as many members were at work.

I am a shift-worker which means that I am often available during the day time so I thought perhaps I could help.

Following on from that conversation I then contacted the captain and registered my interest where I was encouraged to attend the Monday night training session and say hello.

I discovered a very welcoming and supportive environment with some very dedicated individuals, and they explained that while there is a lot to learn they were all willing to teach me.

Back in the day the Brigade members comprised Shire and Johns and Waygoods employees. Our town and the Brigade has changed a lot since then and the membership represents this.

The team is diverse, we have seasoned veterans to newbies, with a large range of ages with equally diverse backgrounds.

I joined because I wanted to help my community. I am staying because of the fantastic team I am now apart of and the friendships that have grown from that.

### WHAT WAS THE PROCESS OF DOING YOUR TRAINING LIKE?

I would describe the process of training as well structured, supported and exciting.

The training program is well structured, no prior knowledge of the CFA is required to start, they slowly build on your knowledge over time.

There is a lot to learn and now with technology it is delivered in a variety of ways.

I have attended face-to-face training sessions and meetings on Monday nights where we train on equipment on our trucks or interact with other local brigades.

I have completed training sessions online in the CFA's 'Brigades Online' system and attended online presentations hosted by subject-matter experts on topics such as the risks associated with electronic vehicles.

I have attended training sessions on items called 'PODs' where a shipping container transforms into a car or house fire to allow as close to real-world as training allows.

One of the more exciting ones was recently, a computer based virtual-reality program that simulated different scenarios, this was very realistic and provided great training value.

The training slowly builds your skills over time so that you can safely conduct yourself and operate on the fire ground.

### DO YOU HAVE A FUNNY OR INTERESTING STORY TO SHARE?

Due to my location in town and that some members are able to arrive more quickly than me to the station, so I rarely make it on the first truck out.

One of the vehicles in our fleet is a support vehicle called the Field Command Vehicle (FCV). This vehicle is starting to be known as "Fire-fighter Craig's Vehicle" as it is the vehicle that I mostly take to the call outs.

I can't say that I have one specifically interesting story to tell, what I can say is that every time the pager goes off, no call out is ever the same, a call out is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get.

Just in my short time with the brigade we have responded to calls where:

- A unit was flooded by the hot-water service, setting off the smoke alarm;
- Power shorting out at a local business throwing sparks over the street;
- A trailer of a B Double truck ending up in an open drain;
- A tree branch over power lines taking out some of

the town's power supply;

- A truck engine catching fire;
- Local burn-offs getting away;
- A chemical spill;
- Hay bales spontaneously combusting, and;
- To a trampoline that had blown over a fence, onto a house power line and was shorting out on a fence.

Each call out is different, and definitely not always a fire.

### WHAT IS A CHALLENGING ASPECT OF VOLUNTEERING AS A FIRE-FIGHTER?

The most challenging aspect of volunteering as a firefighter is balancing my work with my volunteer commitments.

I can not make every training night, and I can not make every call out. 100 per cent attendance is not a requirement, the brigade is flexible and understands that its members have work and family commitments.

If I cannot make the training I let the Captain or the Training Officer know.

### WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO PEOPLE LOOKING TO JOIN THE CFA?

I say that if you are looking to join and have time on a Monday night, you will get as much out of the CFA as you put into it.

You will make new friends and expand your local community social circle.

You will continue to learn skills that you will be able to apply on call outs, and be a valued member of an awesome team.

So if this interests you, come on down, we look forward to meeting you.

### COMMUNITY NOTICES:

CFA has launched an online learning module for people with increased fire risk to assist with planning for fire emergencies at home. If you or someone you know is interested in this, you can find the module at <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/your-local-area-info-and-advice/e-learning>

If you are interested in volunteering you can submit an expression-of-interest at >> <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers/volunteer-with-cfa>

The local brigade has many roles available to volunteers, it's not all just about being a firefighter. There are other roles that are integral to the success of our ongoing operations.

The Brigade and your community need you, we are always looking to expand the team.



A Field Command Vehicle used by Trafalgar CFA Brigade.



# Powerhouse investment

Words and photos by Michelle Slater

Trafalgar business-  
man Michael Fozard  
is hoping to restore a  
once grand building and  
former pub adjacent to the Yal-  
lourn Power Station back to  
its glory days by turning into  
a community hub.

Environmental Clean  
Technologies had purchased  
an allotment of land on Yal-  
lourn Drive, which includes  
the 1920s-era rambling two  
storey grand manor built as  
the original SEC headquar-  
ters.

ECT is hoping to develop  
a net zero hydrogen-from-  
lignite plant at the site and  
co-share the heritage-listed  
building with local groups  
and art makers.

The once regal building  
framed by Greek-style col-  
umns housed the offices of  
Sir John Monash as he over-  
saw the development of the  
Latrobe Valley's brown coal  
industry.

It went on to have a che-  
quered history as the former  
Powerhouse Hotel, night  
club and brothel, before it  
was shuttered and left vacant  
to become vandalised and di-  
lapidated.

ECT wants to give the  
building a new lease-of-  
life by inviting community  
groups to move in and use  
the space rent-free - if they  
can provide the labour to  
help get the internals up to  
scratch.

ECT business consultant  
Michael Fozard said they had  
been floating ideas with lo-  
cal men's sheds, art groups  
and even an alternative edu-  
cation provider to use the  
building.

Mr Fozard said it had  
potential for art and craft  
studios, music production,

outdoor market stalls and  
displays, with further oppor-  
tunities for industrial tour-  
ism.

"This is a significant  
Latrobe Valley building with  
ties to the original brown  
coal industry. We are trying  
to look at ways to utilise this  
for the community," Mr Fo-  
zard said.

"It's a large building in-  
ternally and there are a lot  
of large rooms with multiple  
toilets and kitchens. Inter-  
nally it's a mess, and it would  
need to be developed and up-  
graded."

ECT is in the midst of ren-  
ovating three rooms to use as  
offices and research and de-  
velopment.

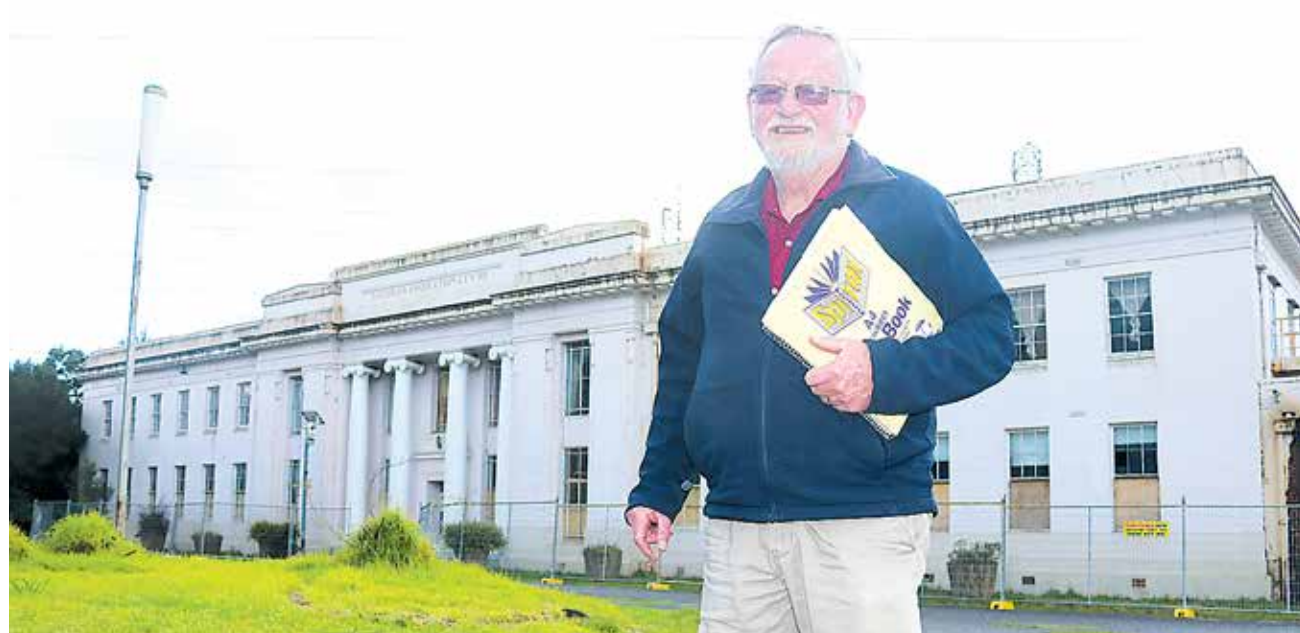
The company is also re-  
storing the former gatehouse  
which was once used as a  
recording studio to demon-  
strate off-grid power.

The mansion boasts  
scores of rooms, bathrooms,  
bars, sweeping shared spac-  
es and a stage, with a vault  
in the basement that once  
stored worker payroll cash  
and a World War 2 escape  
bunker.

It is also believed that  
a bronze bust of Sir John  
Monash was found in the  
basement before it was put  
on display at PowerWorks in  
Morwell.

"This is an important  
building that needs to be  
used and not allowed to be-  
come derelict. We want to  
preserve this building and  
make sure this becomes a  
community asset and an at-  
traction," Mr Fozard said.

"We want to add to what's  
in the area and we should be  
proud of what we have here,  
this should be used for eco-  
nomic development."



Michael Fozard in front of the old SEC Headquarters, located near Yallourn Power Station. The building once housed the office of Sir John Monash, and was later converted into a brothel.



One of the open spaces needing some TLC.



The old building was once a local night spot.



Michael Fozard checks out a former bar and stage inside the old SEC HQ.



An old wall mural on the second storey.

# Shining a light on men's shed members

By Ron Fletcher

Corrie Koppen is the  
new president of the  
Trafalgar Men's Shed.  
Corrie has been a member  
for eight years and secretary  
for four, so he will fit nicely  
into the role.

Corrie has a wealth of  
knowledge in metal work  
including welding and is ar-  
tificate, well-mannered and  
has the respect of all mem-  
bers. We are in good hands  
here.

Mark Whackett has been  
a member for five years and  
is to be congratulated for  
volunteering to be the secre-  
tary. Anyone who is involved  
with a not-for-profit club or  
organisation will tell you how  
important it is to have a good  
secretary.

When a secretary is nomi-  
nated the members hands to  
validate the nomination ap-  
pear to reach higher to the  
ceiling, not to mention the  
collective sigh of relief. Well  
done, Mark.

Troy Hutson will continue  
as treasurer. Every men's  
shed should have a Troy Hut-  
son.

Troy has been a member  
for 10 years and is an all-  
rounder, he works on proj-  
ects, helps and gives advice

to others, and will also fix  
problems with computers  
and mobile phones.

Bruce Heywood stood  
down as president after two  
years at the helm.

Bruce said at the annual  
meeting that the knowledge,  
experience and skill on show  
at the shed by members in  
going about their projects  
and giving advice to others  
was inspiring.

Bruce has been a good  
president in so much that he  
made decisions with the bet-  
terment of the shed always  
his objective. Some members  
think they are bigger than  
the organisation, but they  
found this is not the case.  
Well done Bruce and carry  
on the good work as our vice-  
president.

Graeme Beary did not  
seek endorsement as vice-  
president for another 12  
months.

Graeme was a hands-on  
vice-president and took on  
the job of COVID Marshall  
as well during the two years  
of the pandemic. Graeme  
would receive directives  
from the state government  
via the Victorian Men's Shed  
Association, and implement  
the constant changes by

good communication with  
the members. Well done  
Graeme, your efforts are ap-  
preciated.

We held a Bunnings sau-  
sage sizzle recently and it  
was pleasing to note the  
names on the white board  
asking for volunteers to par-  
ticipate on the day.

The following members  
whose names appeared have  
been members for only be-  
tween three and 12 months.

They are Gavin Dessent,  
who has taken on the job of  
making sure all the neces-  
sary equipment and goods  
are ready on the day. Norm  
Rough, Jim Spark, Wayne  
Butler, Leigh Shepherd and  
Colin Chesterfield. Thanks  
to you all, the shed's fund-  
raising is in good hands.

Anyone wishing to reach  
the Trafalgar Men's Shed can  
call or email the following:

- President Corrie Kop-  
pen, 0458 674 450, cjp-  
tj2000@yahoo.com.au

-Secretary Mark Whack-  
ett, 03 5127 6697, holvysv@  
gmail.com

-Treasurer Troy Hutson  
0423 180 221 mhutson@  
dodo.com.au



New Trafalgar Men's Shed president Corrie Koppen

# Huge win for Trafalgar woman

A Trafalgar woman's  
decision to switch up  
her favourite lottery  
numbers has paid off after  
she landed a \$530,000 Tatt-  
sLotto win last month.

The West Gippsland resi-  
dent held one of the 10 Divi-  
sion One winning entries in  
TattsLotto draw 4277 drawn  
Saturday, July 16 2022 and  
took home a total prize of  
\$537,814.32.

In addition to the Trafal-  
gar woman, 10 Moe lottery  
players also scored a Division  
One prize in the same Tatt-  
sLotto draw with their long-  
running store syndicate.

"Wow, I'm still trying to  
process it all in my head!"  
the Trafalgar winner laughed  
when an official from The  
Lott confirmed the life-en-  
hancing prize.

"I was in Melbourne and I  
checked my TattsLotto ticket  
at one of the newsagencies  
while I was there.

"The team member who

scanned my ticket couldn't  
quite figure out why it was  
telling me to go to The Lott  
head office, and neither  
could I!

"I decided to go back to  
Trafalgar Newsagency where  
I'd initially purchased the  
ticket and check the ticket  
there. That's when they told  
me I was the Division One  
winner they were looking  
for!

"I was so excited. It's still  
sinking in!"

When asked how she  
would enjoy her newfound  
fortune, the division one  
winner revealed it would go  
towards a long-overdue holi-  
day.

"My husband and I have  
been itching to go on a holi-  
day around Australia!" she  
shared.

"I think it's time!"

The Trafalgar Newsa-  
gency team said the Division  
One win was incredible news  
for the community and they

hoped their winner enjoyed  
their prize.

The winning numbers in  
TattsLotto draw 4277 were  
23, 37, 11, 8, 19 and 35, while  
the supplementary numbers  
were 42 and 34.

Across Australia, there  
was 10 Division One winning  
entries in TattsLotto draw  
4277 - five from Victoria, and  
one each in Queensland, New  
South Wales, The Australian  
Capital Territory and West-  
ern Australia.

The Lott's Division One  
winning tally has now  
reached 249 so far this calen-  
dar year, including 102 won  
by Tatts customers.

In 2021, TattsLotto cre-  
ated 210 millionaires across  
Australia.

During this time, there  
was 351 Division One win-  
ning in TattsLotto entries  
across Australia, which col-  
lectively won more than  
\$499.8 million.

# Five year plan at Gippsland Water

Gippsland Water cus-  
tomers could see  
lower bills and in-  
creased value under its draft  
proposal for the next five  
years.

The water business has  
released a summary of its  
proposed prices, promises  
and projects until 2028, and  
is calling for community  
feedback.

Gippsland Water manag-  
ing director Sarah Cumming  
said the proposal, which  
had been shaped with input  
from 3500 customers over  
two years, would deliver wel-  
come news for its customers  
amid global inflation and the  
increased cost of living.

"We're aiming to deliver  
a price decrease of between  
\$20-30 excluding inflation  
for the average urban cus-  
tomer, with the majority of  
the decrease applied in year  
one," she said.

"This offering has partly  
been made possible due to a  
strong mandate our custom-  
ers have set for us following  
two years of engagement,  
being that the cost of our ser-

vices should be covered by  
those who use them.

"We also undertook a ma-  
jor review of our operating  
costs and found a number of  
efficiencies that will help to  
put further downward pres-  
sure on bills."

Other highlights of the  
proposal include: \$269 mil-  
lion for capital works to cater  
for higher growth and im-  
proved service levels across  
the region; \$10 million for  
energy projects to make  
Gippsland Water's systems  
more resilient and to boost  
its renewable energy gen-  
eration; More support for  
customers experiencing fi-  
nancial difficulties, domestic  
violence and disadvantage;

Introduction of a new devel-  
oper charge to cover the full  
cost of new connections to  
Gippsland Water's network,  
and; Enhanced customer in-  
formation services including  
SMS messaging, an online  
outage tracker and an app to  
give customers better ability  
to monitor their water usage  
and more flexibility to man-  
age their payments.

Ms Cumming said the  
customer-led proposal was  
developed based on com-  
munity input gathered and  
validated through surveys,  
pop-up events, online events,  
in-depth interviews, focus  
groups, stakeholder meet-  
ings, and its first ever delib-  
erative customer summit.

"We're really proud to be  
able to deliver a proposal that  
customers have genuinely  
shaped, and we're encourag-  
ing everyone to take a look  
and let us know if they think  
we've got it right," she said.

"We'll take your feedback  
on board and make sure all  
voices are heard before we fi-  
nalise our proposal and pres-  
ent our final Price Submis-  
sion to the Essential Services  
Commission in September  
this year."

Community feedback on  
Gippsland Water's Price Sub-  
mission 2023-28 Directions  
Paper is open until Friday,  
July 29 2022.

For more information  
and to have your say, visit  
www.gippswater.com.au/  
have-your-say

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# Free RATs tests for schools

The state government is ensuring schools and early childhood centres can stay safe and open through Terms 3 and 4, with the distribution of free Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs).

The distribution will help limit the spread of COVID-19, while also easing cost of living pressures for families.

Up to 46.4 million RATs will be provided to schools and early childhood services,

ensuring the continuation of face-to-face learning, while keeping students and staff as safe as possible.

Mainstream schools and early childhood services will be allocated three packs of five RATs for every student and staff member per term, while six packs of five RATs per term will be allocated to students and staff in specialist settings, recognising the higher risk of severe illness

for medically vulnerable children.

The state government provided more than 80 million RATs to schools and early childhood services throughout Term 1 and 2.

In addition, as part of the government's \$190 million plan to keep classrooms safe, more than 105,000 air purifiers have been distributed to 1587 government schools and almost 25,000 to 620 non-gov-

ernment schools since Term 4 last year, helping to reduce instances of classroom transmission.

Primary and secondary school students and staff, and early childhood education and care staff and children aged three to five are recommended to test at home if they experience COVID-19 symptoms or are a contact of a confirmed case.

Vaccination of children

aged five to 11 and booster shots for people over 16-years-old remain the best way to protect students and staff.

Throughout this period, the state government says it will continue to support efforts to get as many children vaccinated as possible.

Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins said it was a key investment. "We have kept our promise to ensure school doors have remained

open from the beginning of Term 1, and free RATs will stay to keep students and staff safe and learning face-to-face continues," she said.

"We thank teachers, parents and students for their hard work in keeping each other safe during this time - whether it's setting up new purifiers, to getting your child vaccinated or staying home if unwell."

# Formal for Physical Education



Trafalgar High School Year 7 accredited Select Entry Accelerated Learning program students show off their tie tying skills. Pictured are Jack Hawkes, Tilly Ott, Jake Franke, Baxter Hankinson, Makayla Moon, Bethany Mace and Keirly Higgs.

# Extraordinary service to Traf High

By David 'Wombat' Lyons

At the final assembly for Term 2 2022, Trafalgar High School principal Jane Mersey surprised Fiona McLaurin in front of the school community with a new plant for her garden to mark her recent milestone of 40

years service.

Ms Mersey highlighted that Ms Mac, as the students refer to Fiona, has done those full 40 years at Trafalgar High School, an amazing commitment to one community.

"Many students currently

in the school, but also your parents and family members have had Ms Mac as a teacher," Ms Mersey said.

Fiona selected not to attend the ceremony in Melbourne for this milestone, feeling very humble at this incredible

milestone and trying to keep it quiet, but a Facebook post from Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing celebrating all the service award recipients in Eastern Region let the students know, and they have been thanking Ms Mac for her

service to public education, which has made a significant impact on the lives of so many students and families over the final week of term.

As well as teaching PE and health subjects across all year levels, Ms Mac has been a Year

Level Coordination, the leader of the Health and Physical Education Department, and coach to many teams across many sports for many years.



Fiona McLaurin, pictured with principal Jane Mersey, has been teaching at Trafalgar High School for 40 years.



Jane Mersey presents Fiona McLaurin with a special gift to mark her milestone.

# Mental health help for school students

The state government is helping regional Victorian students access a suite of mental health tools to help them thrive in school and life.

Kangaroo Flat Primary School in Bendigo will be one of the first schools to receive funding under the state governments \$200 million Schools Mental Health program, to implement a range of tailored mental health supports for students.

The program delivers a

key recommendation of the Royal Commission into Mental Health - to support social and emotional wellbeing in schools - and is underpinned by an online evidence-based menu enabling schools to select the mental health tools that best match the needs of each student.

The program will start rolling out to all government schools across regional Victoria, with a full roll-out by 2024 to all state schools.

A framework was provided

to schools in 2021, for them to be able to start planning and selecting programs across three tiers of intervention.

Tier one will provide positive mental health promotion, including initiatives such as mental health first aid, antibullying programs and therapy dogs that help create positive and inclusive environments across the school.

The second tier will support early intervention and specialised initiatives such as cross-cultural responsive-

ness training, arts therapy or trauma informed care, and the third tier is targeted at individualised support such as additional mental health professionals for those experiencing mental health issues.

Minister for Education, Natalie Hutchins welcomed the news.

"The Schools Mental Health Fund will help ensure young people to have access to the right tools to support their mental health," she said.

"By investing in initiatives

that put students' health and wellbeing at the forefront with targeted support, we will help them reach their potential."

In addition, the Victorian Budget 2022/23 has invested \$41.3 million to sustain mental health services for schools, including continuation of the LOOKOUT program and headspace initiative.

The state government will also continue the Mental Health Practitioners initiative, ensuring students can ac-

cess mental health support at all Victorian government secondary and specialist schools

The government is also expanding the Mental Health in Primary Schools program to all government and low fee non-government primary schools, enabling schools to employ a Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader and implement a whole-school approach to wellbeing.



# Traf News puzzle bonanza

Composed by Matilda Ott – Year 7 Trafalgar High School      Answers will be posted in Sep edition!

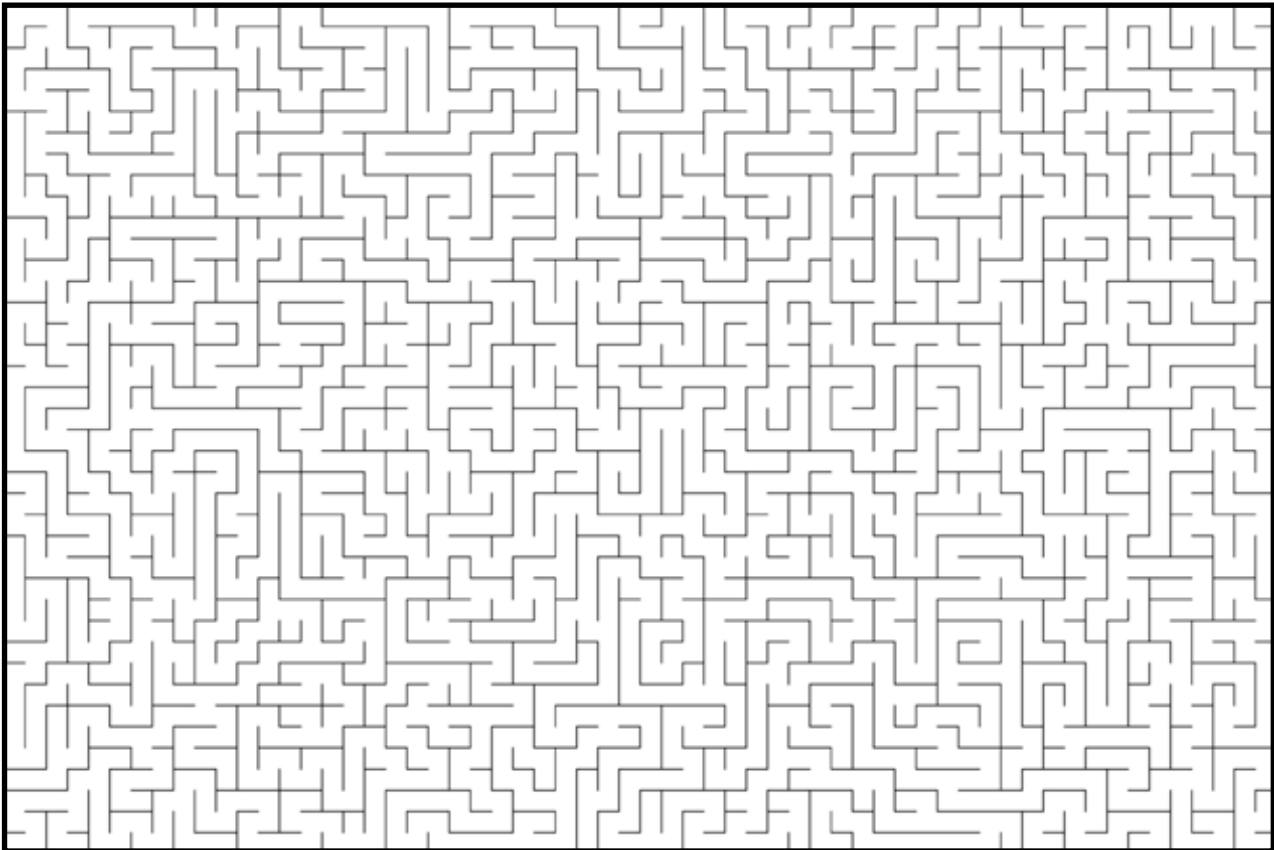
## JUMBLE

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.	I	K	E	D	H
2.	N	O	E	C	A
3.	T	I	A	N	T
4.	E	E	N	T	V
5.	E	L	A	E	V

## MAZE



## 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: Travel Question: Exciting Experience

Aeroplane  
Accommodation  
Airport  
Backpacking  
Boat  
Booking  
Border  
Bus  
Camera  
Camping

Car  
Cruise  
Exchangerate  
Guide  
Luggage  
Map  
Motel  
Passport  
Pool  
Queue

Reception  
Relax  
Resort  
Roadtrip  
Roomservice  
Row  
Selfie  
Sightseeing  
Ski  
Solo

Spa  
Statue  
Surfing  
Swag  
Tent  
Tour  
Tourist  
Translation  
View  
Visa

A	C	C	O	M	M	O	D	A	T	I	O	N	E	S
E	R	R	S	K	I	O	R	E	S	O	R	T	X	I
R	E	U	U	A	L	U	G	G	A	G	E	R	C	G
O	L	I	B	O	R	D	E	R	I	U	C	A	H	H
P	A	S	S	P	O	R	T	O	R	I	E	N	A	T
L	X	E	O	S	D	O	A	W	P	D	P	S	N	S
A	V	O	R	U	U	A	O	E	O	E	T	L	G	E
N	L	A	E	R	N	D	B	U	R	A	I	A	E	E
E	C	C	G	F	L	T	N	E	T	P	O	T	R	I
S	A	A	N	I	E	R	T	U	A	S	N	I	A	N
E	M	M	I	N	T	I	E	Q	S	C	U	O	T	G
L	P	E	K	G	O	P	W	E	I	V	H	N	E	A
F	I	R	O	O	M	S	E	R	V	I	C	E	S	W
I	N	A	O	M	A	P	T	O	U	R	I	S	T	S
E	G	R	B	A	C	K	P	A	C	K	I	N	G	E

## 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.

E	R	X
P	O	G
N	L	I

This months targets:

Good 15  
Very Good 20  
Excellent 25

## TRAF NEWS SUDOKU

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

Easy

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

Hard

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



## 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.

### Keep an eye out for your rates notices.

Baw Baw Shire ratepayers will soon receive their 2022-23 rates notices via mail or electronically. Here's some commonly asked questions relating to your rates:

### How can I recieve my rates notices by email?

Scan the code to register your email address and sign up. Once registered, all further notices will be delivered via email.



### What payment arrangements are available?

If you would like to set up a weekly, fortnightly or monthly payment arrangement please contact Council via phone or email. Please note interest may still incur on overdue instalment amounts.

### Where can I seek financial hardship assistance?

If you are experiencing financial hardship, you can complete the Hardship Assistance Application Form available on Council's website to assist you with a payment arrangement.

Residents are encouraged to get in touch with free and local financial counselling services which may assist:

- Rural Financial Counselling Service – 1300 045 747
- Anglicare 1800 286 260 (Warragul Office)
- National Debt Helpline – 1800 007 007
- Latrobe Community Health Services 1800 242 696 (Warragul Office)

For more information go to: [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/Rates](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/Rates)

### Congratulations Noojee!

Our very own town of Noojee, took home bronze at the Victoria Tourism Industry Council awards recently!

Noojee was awarded Bronze in the Top Tourism Towns Award in the 'Tiny Town' category.

Thank you to everyone that voted and supported Noojee!



### Council popping up in Neerim South!

Residents of Neerim South and surrounds are invited to come along to a Council Pop-up at Algie Hall and meet face-to-face with your Councillors and officers to share ideas, raise concerns, or ask questions.

- Saturday 13 August**
- 9am – 1pm**
- Algie Hall, Main Neerim Road, Neerim South**

As part of Baw Baw Shire Council's popular Council Pop-up program, representatives will be travelling throughout the Shire to speak to locals where they live.

For more information, including times and venues as they are confirmed go to: [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/CouncilPopUp](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/CouncilPopUp).

Designated off-leash dog park at Downton Park Reserve, Yarragon

### What's showing at the West Gippsland Arts Centre.

**Gippsland Symphony Orchestra**  
*An afternoon of music presented by Gippsland's own symphony orchestra.*

- Sunday 7 August 2:00pm
- Bookings required

**50th Anniversary of Neil Diamond's Hot August Night**  
*Peter Byrne brings Neil Diamond to you together with a 30-piece symphony orchestra.*

- Friday 19 August 8:00pm
- Bookings required

**Jane Eyre**  
*Charlotte Brontë's iconic gothic tale, boldly adapted for the stage by critically-acclaimed shake & stir theatre co.*

- Wednesday 24 August 7:30pm
- Bookings required

There's lots happening at the Arts Centre this August. To make a booking visit: [www.wgac.com.au](http://www.wgac.com.au)

### Winter markets happening near you!



7 Aug

#### Longwarry Fire Brigade Market

Enjoy a market with craft, produce, trash & treasure.

- 8:00AM – 1:00PM
- Longwarry Fire Station, Bennet Street, Longwarry 3820

13 Aug

#### The Winter Markets Neerim South

Enjoy an exciting range of stalls, food, coffee and family activities.

- 9:00AM – 1:00PM
- JD Algie Hall, Main Neerim Road, Neerim South 3831

20 Aug

#### Drouin Craft and Produce Market

This craft and produce market is held on the third Saturday each month.

- 8:00 AM – 1:00PM
- Civic Park, Young Street, Drouin 3818

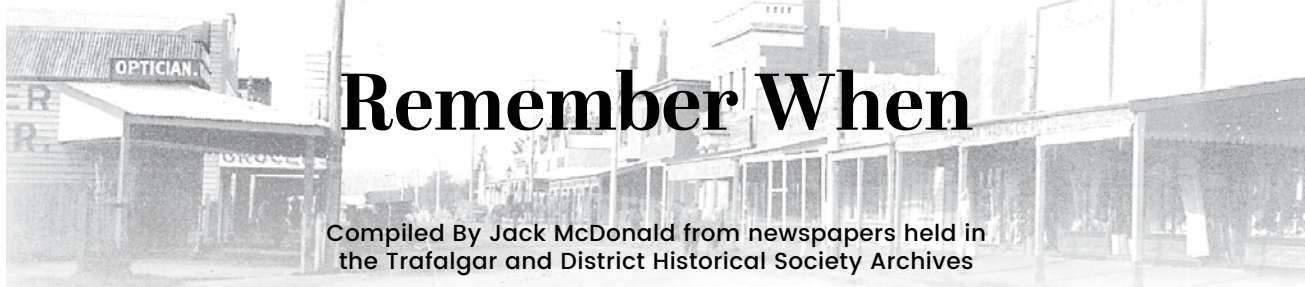
20 Aug

#### Warragul Farmers Market

This local produce fresh food market is held on the third Saturday each month.

- 8:30AM – 1:00PM
- Civic Park, Smith Street, Warragul 3820





# Remember When

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

## THE TRAFALGAR, YARRAGON & YALLOURN NEWS, AUGUST 1932 4 AUGUST – DANCING AND SINGING

There was a splendid attendance at the dance and community singing organised by the Yarragon school committee for the appeal for the hospital and the school.

There was a program of vocal and elocutionary items presented between dances, and these were greatly enjoyed.

Old and modern dances were programmed and there was no doubt as to the popularity of Skinner's Syncopates as the provider of melodies for this part of the program.

## FREE MEAT FOR FAMILIES

Six hundred and twenty four hares shot at a drive in the country were sent to the State Relief Committee on Saturday for distribution to distressed families.

The hares were transported by rail to Melbourne free of charge, and they will be treated by a large meat company, also free of charge.

## 11 AUGUST – FIRE STAND DANGEROUS

Speaking at the council meeting last Monday, Cr McGregor said that a big fire bell tower had been erected in a street in Trafalgar and that during a storm it had fallen over.

The engineer should be told to see that is placed on a solid foundation.

Cr Smallacombe said it had fallen over three times to his knowledge, and a site should be allotted, and the stand moved there.

Ed. Note: The fire bell tower was located beside the Public Hall and later to a site near the railway line at the western entrance to the Main Street.

The modern tower at the Fire Station now supports a siren which is seldom used due to the excellent present day 'phone coverage.

The old bell has been saved and is on display at the front of the Station.

## THE GIPPSLAND NEWS, AUGUST 1962

## 2 AUGUST – JUNIOR POLOCROSSE

There has been great interest shown by many Trafalgar supporters in the junior polocrosse team entered in the Sale and District

competition for the past few months.

The lads who play are aged between 13 and 15 years. They are: Gordon Paynter, Peter Owen, Brian Whitton, Billy Blake, Terry Kenny and Bruce Green.

## 9 AUGUST – TENDERS FOR HIGH SCHOOL

The Acting Minister for Education, Mr Thompson, has advised Mr Jim Balfour, MLA, that tenders had been called for the erection of a new High School at Trafalgar.

## YARRAGON CATHOLIC HALL OPENED

On Sunday, 29 July, His Lordship, Bishop Lyons P.P. of the Diocese of Sale, officiated at the Blessing and opening of the new St. Jarlath's Hall at Yarragon.

After blessing the hall, His Lordship unveiled a plaque to officially open the building.

## HOLE IN ONE

After some 40 years of golf behind him, Gerald McNamara, captain of the Trafalgar Golf Club, achieved his greatest ambition at the local course on Sunday last when he scored a 'hole in one' at the 5th par three hole.

Congratulations to Gerald on performing a shot that every golfer some day hopes to make.

## 16 AUGUST – THORPDALE ANGLERS SOCIAL

Friday night, 10 August, marked the social event of the year as far as Thorpdale was concerned when the Thorpdale and District Angling Club held their first annual social evening and presentation night.

With each member bringing another couple a capacity house of approximately 300 attended, all of whom thoroughly enjoyed themselves and danced to music and entertainment supplied by Paddy O'Dowd's family dance band.

## 23 AUGUST – TRAFALGAR MARCHING GIRLS

Trafalgar's "Latrobettes" Junior Marching Girls team for 1962 will this year consist of Misses Sally Laybourne, Kay Parke, Sandra Swenson, Gail Brock, Rhonda Mitchell, Sue Hasthorpe, Rhonda Nibbs, Carolyn Cook and Carol and Diann Gordon.

## 30 AUGUST – DEATH OF NEWSPAPER MAN

A life of continual and devoted service to many sections of this community came peacefully to a close early on Tuesday morning, 21st August, when the death occurred at the West Gippsland Hospital of Mr Christopher Johnstone at the age of 88.

Ed Note: Mr Johnstone started the first weekly newspaper in Trafalgar – "The Trafalgar and Yarragon Times" in May 1902.

It was published from an office on the site of the present newsagency and had a life of over 50 years before being absorbed into the Elliott group of newspapers, publishers of the "Latrobe Valley Express".

## TRAF NEWS, AUGUST 2004

## COMMUNITY BANK OFFICIALLY OPENS

A very successful celebration of the opening of the Trafalgar and District community branch of the Bendigo Bank was held in bright sunshine on Friday 30 July.

A crowd of approximately 200 people gathered to hear prominent speakers. Local man Ossie Mills unveiled a plaque and cut the ribbon declaring the bank open.

Local State and Federal politicians attended along with representatives of many other Community Banks.

The Bendigo Bank "Piggy" was in attendance to greet the children and give away goodies.

Richard Hasseldine said: "It is so nice to be a part of the opening of a bank when so often these days you hear about the closing of banks in rural and regional towns".

## URALLA RESERVE POPULAR

At the Annual General Meeting of the Uralla Reserve Committee of Management held on Tuesday, 6 July 2004, chairman Fred Boreham said: "I am very pleased to be able to report that following these last three years of hard work by the committee, the Reserve is looking the best it has been for more than ten years.

"There are now many people from the Trafalgar community visiting the park daily and have taken an interest in its preservation and development".

## LIONS HOST YOUTH EX-CHANGES

The Lions Club of Trafalgar hosted three Scandinavian youth exchangees for three weeks during June and July.

During their stay in Trafalgar the three exchangees visited many places of interest. The Lions Club of Trafalgar has hosted 79 youth exchangees from many countries since 1986 and members are looking forward to the return of Jessica McMillan who is currently attending a youth camp in Japan.

## FORUM ON YOUTH HEALTH

On Wednesday, 5 May, Trafalgar hosted a Youth Forum at the Baw Baw Technology Centre.

Selected students from each year level met with Federal MP Christion Zahra, shire mayor Ms Ruth McDonald and other community members.

Jess Aberdeen, in speaking said: "Our health issues in Trafalgar include: alcohol consumption (binge drinking), smoking, and illicit drug use. Other health issues include access to medical services, transport to services outside the area and also how to obtain referrals to health professionals and who to see".

It was hoped that the Forum could come up with some good ideas on how to solve some of the issues raised.

## GUARDIAN ANGELS UPDATE

Trafalgar Guardian Angels have been busy knitting since they started in early June.

To the end of July, they have knitted over 320 garments for use by children in third world countries.

Last year, Trafalgar Pharmacy sent 530 garments to World Vision. The Guardian Angels, who are sponsored by the Trafalgar Pharmacy, hope to break last year's record.

## JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB

Trafalgar Junior Soccer Club "Goalkick" (previously known as "Rooball" has six teams of approximately eight children (girl and boys) in their in-house competition.

"Goalkick" provides a learning platform for younger children interested in soccer. All children are progressing well under the strong leadership of Darren McCallum.

# CHURCH SERVICES

## CATHOLIC PARISH

Father Bernard Buckley, Phone 5633 1166



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

## UNITING CHURCH

Rev Moira Dodsworth

Phone 0447 957 772



**St. Andrew's Uniting Church, Trafalgar**  
Service times 9.15am Sunday, 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month  
Sunday School 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

Paul Zelenewicz, Phone 0493 088 370 or info@trafalgaranglicanparish.org.au



**St Mary's Church, Trafalgar**  
1st Wednesday of each month – 10.00am Quiet Service

1st, 4th Sundays – 9.30 Family Service

2nd Sunday – 9.30 Holy Communion Service

3rd Sunday – 9.30 Combined Parish Holy Communion Service

5th Sunday – 9.30 Combined Parish Holy Communion Service at St Mark's Yarragon Service at St Mark's Yarragon

**St Mark's Church, Thorpdale**  
1st & 3rd Sunday of each month - 11.00am Extended Communion Service

**St Mark's Church, Yarragon**  
1st, 2nd, & 4th Sundays - 8.30 Extended Communion Service

3rd Sunday - 9.30 Combined Parish Holy Communion Service at St Mary's Trafalgar

5th Sunday - 9.30 Combined Parish Holy Communion Service

## THORPDALE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH

Rev Frank Lees,

Phone 5634 6413 or 5633 2758



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

# Holden Museum car of the month

By Bob Moss

## Thunderbolt crusier tank

In 1942 there was a fear the Japanese, who were invading New Guinea, would then invade Australia.

As this invasion would be through open country there would be an urgent need for suitable weapons, particularly tanks, to counter this.

As a result, there was an urgent need to manufacture tanks in Australia beginning at that time.

C3 Thunderbolt (Austrian Cruiser III) was a cruiser tank designed and built in Australia in World War 2 as the successor to the AC1 Sentinel.

Like the Sentinel, the AC3 featured a one-piece cast hull and turret.

The AC3 featured a much-improved design over the AC1 with better armour protection, a more powerful engine, and most importantly, increased firepower.

The programme was authorised to build a total of 200 Thunderbolts. Although only one pilot model AC3 had been completed, large-scale production of components had been ordered and 150 AC3 hulls

cast.

New South Wales Government Railways' production line at Chullora work had started on assembling the first 25 AC3 tanks for trials when the programme was terminated in July 1943, before any production vehicles were completed.

The Cadillac 75 engine was readily available for import to Australia, but its 135 hp (101 kW) output was insufficient to power the 28 ton (25.4 metric ton) AC1 tank.

As a result, AC1 designers, Colonel WD Watson and AR Code, decided to use three engines to power the tank.

The three-engine power package developed for the AC1 tank became known as a clover leaf arrangement and was built by General Motors' Holden subsidiary in Melbourne.

Even before the AC1 Sentinel began rolling off the assembly line in August 1942, it had been seen that the two pounder gun was becoming less effective as tank armour increased in

thickness on new and improved enemy tanks.

To address this, a 25 pounder (87.6 mm) gun-howitzer was fitted to a turret on the second prototype Australian cruiser tank hull and successfully test fired on June 29 1942.

With this success it was decided to use the 25 pounder as a tank gun.

The 25 pounder, redesigned as a tank gun, was tested on October 10 1942.

The work on the overhead recoil system would later prove useful for the design of the Short 25 Pounder.

A number of AC3 tanks were being built, but only one of these was fully assembled. The further improved Australian Cruiser Tank Mark IV (AC4) design followed for trials when the programme was terminated in July 1943.

At this time it was decided that with the Japanese being stopped in New Guinea and some problems in the tanks design, the threat of an Australian invasion was over.



The Thunderbolt Cruiser Tank.

# Around the Historical Society

By Di Ireland

Notice is given of the Annual General Meeting for the Trafalgar & District Historical Society to be held on August 18 at 2pm in the old

Kindergarten residence at 30 Contingent Street, Trafalgar.

This will be followed by a general meeting and afternoon tea.

All members are invited, along with anyone with an interest in the history of Trafalgar and the surrounding district.

# Trafalgar Community Directory

This Directory has been compiled to provide a listing of not-for-profit community based organisations operating in Trafalgar. Please advise Traf News of any corrections and additions.

Organisation	Contact	Email/Website	Phone
Baw Baw Arts Alliance			0490 173 103
Baw Baw Shire Councillor, East Ward	Darren Wallace		0476 000 053
Baw Baw Shire Councillor, East Ward	Michael Leaney		0476 000 119
Baw Baw Shire Councillor, East Ward	Peter Kostos		0429 936 876
Baw Baw Sustainability Network		bbsn.org.au	0490 485 370
Bettermentall Together	Kerry Rantall	bettermentall@gmail.com	0477 115 666
Bowls Club	Ian Miles, President	trafalgarbowlsclub@bigpond.com	0400 210 033
Boxing Gymnasium	Shane Cameron	box_on_box_all@hotmail.com	0408 962 764
Campdraft		facebook.com/trafdraft	0416 166 027
Cemetery Trust	Tania Mussared, Secretary		5633 2282
CFA (non-emergency contact only)	Mark Walshe		5624 1900
Chamber of Commerce	Brendan Kingwill	trafalgarchamber.com.au	0418 596 494
Community Development Association	David Lyons	wombatlyons@yahoo.com	0409 015 662
Community Notice Board		facebook.com/trafalgarcommunitynoticeboard	
Cricknet Club	Liam Durkin, Secretary	trafalgarcricketclub@gmail.com	0402 556 338
Croquet Club	Michael Fozard		0418 513 092
Earls Road Landcare Group	Jim Whiley, Secretary		0423 832 122
Football Netball Club	Brett Tonkin, President	trafalgarfnc@gmail.com	0418 189 027
Golden Girls Trafalgar			5623 6032
Golf Club		admin@trafalgargolf.com.au	5633 1110
High School			5633 1733
Historical Society	Dianne Ireland	historicalsocietytraf@gmail.com	0439 655 172
Kindergarten	David Koschade	trafalgarlions@gmail.com	5633 2208
Lions Club	David Koschade		0428 331 157
Men's Shed	Eric Johnson		5633 1624
Opp Shop	Glenys Brennan, President		0417 597 454
Police Station (non-emergency contact only)			5633 1188
Polocrosse Club	Gill Massey, Secretary	trafalgarpoloxclub@gmail.com	
Pony Club	Denise Marriott		0411 890 299
Primary School			5633 1566
Probus Club	John Attwell		0419 701 331
Public Hall	Tanya Stanley	trafalgarpublichall@gmail.com	
Rotary Club	Glenn Doolan	trafalgarrotary@outlook.com	0438 332 438
RSL - Trafalgar Thorpdale Sub-Branch	Chris Johnson, Secretary		5633 1162
Scout Group	Rick Bradley	gl.1sttrafalgar@scoutsvictoria.com.au	
St Andrew's Uniting Church	Rev Moira Dodsworth		0447 957 772
St John's Catholic Church	Fr Bernard Buckley		5633 1166
St Joseph's Primary School	Trish Mulqueen, Principal	trafalgar.catholic.edu.au	5633 1151
St Mary's Anglican Church	Paul Zelenewicz	trafalgaranglican1@gmail.com	0493 088 370
Tennis Club	Sue	tennis.com.au/bawbaw/competitions-trafalgar	0428 673 413
Traf News	Mark Walshe, Editor		0466 249 849
Traf Watch		Facebook - Traf Watch	
Victory Football Club (Soccer)		admin@tvfc.com.au	0438 076 824
Youth Resource Centre	Glenys Brennan, President		0417 597 454



# Farmer to farmer

## BE VIGILANT REGARDING FMD

Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien, is urging overseas travellers, particularly those travelling to Bali, to take extra caution to adhere to biosecurity measures in the midst of a worrying Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak.

Mr O'Brien said an FMD outbreak in Australia would have the potential to decimate the industry, which would cause significant flow-on social and economic impacts for all Australians.

"The CSIRO predicts even a 'small, contained' outbreak in Victoria would see the state economy take a \$5-6 billion hit," Mr O'Brien said.

"I can't fathom how much damage an outbreak would cause in Gippsland, so we must do everything in our power to keep this disease out of the country.

"Increased biosecurity measures are crucial to ensure that this highly infectious disease with the potential to cripple the Australian economy is not brought to our shores.

"I urge anyone travelling to Bali or other South East Asian countries currently experiencing an outbreak of FMD to exercise extreme caution and adhere to all biosecurity measures.

"Our community in Gippsland South is very much a farming community and the risk of FMD must be taken extremely seriously."

Mr O'Brien said Peter Walsh, Leader of the Nationals and Shadow Minister for Agriculture, had already written to Federal Agricul-

ture Minister Murray Watt seeking a guarantee that the Commonwealth will take appropriate measures to ensure the protection of Australian farmers and livestock against FMD as a matter of priority.

"This needs to be the number one priority for our state and federal agriculture ministers right now," Mr O'Brien said.

"FMD is globally accepted as the most feared livestock disease in the world and the response to this threat needs to be reflective of that."

Australia has been FMD free for 150 years, with the last outbreak recorded in 1872.

## GRANTS AWARDED IN DAIRY REGION

Twenty-one projects in Victoria's main dairy regions - Gippsland, northern Victoria, and south-west Victoria - have been awarded \$91,833 in grants to help build the capacity of local community organisations and improve digital connectivity.

The grants are through the Gardiner Dairy Foundation Community Grants Program, which is delivered by the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR).

This marks the 20th year of the program, which has seen more than 500 grants awarded, valued at more than \$2 million during that time.

The latest round of grants of up to \$5000 will go to grassroots organisations and not-for-profits that are critical to the sustainability of dairy farming in Victoria.

Gardiner Dairy Foundation chief executive, Allan Cameron said he was delight-

ed to continue supporting dairying communities.

"After 20 years, the Community Grants Program continues to support Victorian regions that are reliant on the dairy industry," he said.

"Local groups play an important role in enhancing the vitality of these communities.

"These grants will help local organisations in many small towns to thrive, with initiatives that range from COVID recovery and disaster preparedness, to improved digital capabilities and facility upgrades.

"The grants help to ensure the viability of these organisations."

FRRR chief executive Natalie Egleton said there was strong demand for this kind of support.

"Half of the projects receiving funding are geared towards building organisational capacity or improving access to the internet or digital technologies," she said.

"This is a reflection of how the last couple of years have impacted remote, rural and regional community groups, and a great reminder of why it's important to engage in conversations with the locals on the ground and find out how we can adapt our approach to better serve the needs of their communities.

"We are delighted to have maintained such a strong partnership with Gardiner Dairy Foundation for the last two decades."

Community groups were presented with their funds at a series of ceremonies held in the regions during June and July.

A complete list of the projects supported is available on FRRR's website.

Here are a few of the projects from the Gippsland Dairy Region:

Port Albert Maritime Museum: Received \$5000 for the Letting History Speak project to enhance tourism experience at the museum with audio installations to increase inclusivity and access.

Newry Hall Upper Maffra Mechanics Institute Incorporated: Received \$3000 for the Hall Internet Connection, to reduce the digital divide for the Newry community, with the provision of enhanced internet infrastructure at the Newry Hall.

The Aboriginal Literacy Foundation Inc Bairnsdale: Received \$5000 to enhance literacy outcomes for Indigenous primary school children with a dedicated tutoring program.

Other projects include plans for an all-abilities pontoon at Apex Park in Lakes Entrance, and \$600,000 to redevelop boating facilities at Shaving Point in Metung

## RECORD NUMBERS OF BABY BLACK BREAM DETECTED

A record number of baby black bream has been detected in the Gippsland Lakes following a survey conducted by the Victorian Fisheries Authority.

The survey found the number of baby black bream was more than twice the previous peak in 2017.

The annual surveys measure the numbers of newborn black bream between five and eight centimeters, compared to the previous spawning season.

The variation in spawning success depends on environmental conditions.

Minister for Fishing and

Boating Sonya Kilkenny said baby black bream were a popular target for fishers.

"It's great to see a record number detected in the Gippsland Lakes," Ms Kilkenny said.

"It all forms part of our \$35 million Go Fishing Victoria plan to get more people fishing more often and spend time on the water with family, friends and loved ones."

The state government's Gippsland Lakes Recreational Fishery Plan was designed to improve fish stocks and aquatic habitats, with limits in place to protect large bream as they produce more eggs.

Fishos can also launch a boat for free in the Gippsland Lakes, with ramp upgrades complete at Seacombe and progressing at North Arm on Bullock Island.

Other projects include plans for an all-abilities pontoon at Apex Park in Lakes Entrance, and \$600,000 to redevelop boating facilities at Shaving Point in Metung

## INSPECTORS HERE TO HELP PREVENT FARM ACCIDENTS

When it comes to safety, dairy farmers Trish and Mark Hammond agree that prevention is better than cure - that farmers shouldn't wait for an incident to occur before thinking about safety.

The Hammonds have been farming together for 12 years, milking more than 1000 cows across two properties in Labertouche, located just north of Longwarry.

Sharing their story in a WorkSafe video as part of National Farm Safety Week, the

Hammonds say a proactive visit from local WorkSafe inspector Michael Vanderzalm grew into a supportive relationship that brought with it productivity and safety benefits.

"It was a very positive experience we found, not intimidating, because we do know WorkSafe isn't there to shut us down, they're there to help us improve and to make things the safest we can," Mrs Hammond said.

"I've met Michael outside of inspections, at Gipps-Dairy and TAFE events where he's speaking. Every time, I learn something new and have been able to implement things in our business. I now feel comfortable enough to call him with any questions I have."

Mrs Hammond said she now understands the importance of inspectors turning up before a safety incident occurs.

"With the inspection there were things that came out of that that we needed to make improvements on, and Michael returned four weeks later to check we'd put all those things in place and to give further advice," she said.

Mr Vanderzalm comes to farmers not only as an inspector with 17 years' experience, but also as someone who appreciates the specific challenges farmers may face when it comes to improving safety.

"My family has a beef property in South Gippsland, so I've got a love for agriculture and I just love dealing with farmers," he said.

"We're realists. We understand how farms work, and we're here to help you operate your business safely."

WorkSafe Executive Director of Health and Safety Narelle Beer said fatalities on farms continue to occur at a rate higher rate than in other industries, with seven deaths in agriculture so far this year.

"We want to shift the common belief that a serious or fatal injury will never happen to you, your workers or your family," Dr Beer said.

A recent survey of 150 Victorian farmers shows that about half still believe these incidents are only happening to hobby or inexperienced farmers, but this is not the case.

"A workplace tragedy can happen to anyone who doesn't prioritise safety, regardless of how well they know their land and machinery," Dr Beer said.

# Finals on the horizon

By Liam Durkin

Most teams at the Trafalgar Football-Netball Club look set to play in finals this season in the Ellinbank and District Football-Netball League.

The senior team had arguably their best win for the season last month, defeating Ellinbank in a tight tussle decided by only eight points.

The Bloods led at every change, but had to hold off a fast finishing Ellinbank outfit.

Best players were Austin Byrne, Dylan Farrell, Matt Swenson (five goals), Hardy Kenny, Brodie Malady and Blake Radford.

Probably less said about the Reserves the better. Whether the margin was more a reflection of how good Ellinbank are or how bad Traf was on the day might be seen if the two teams happen to meet again this season.

Better players were Josh Moore, Dylan Gauci, Brett Cameron, Ben Cunico, Tom Tuck and Denis Dyke.

Fourths competed for three quarters, before the margin blew out in the end.

The side was well served by Memphis McQualter, Isaac Caroleo, Maxx Corrie, Will Bremner and Toby Radford.

Similar to senior football, A Grade netball had arguably their best win for the season, prevailing in a one-goal thriller.

Momentum ebbed and flowed on the Traf court, but the home side was able to sneak ahead when it mattered most

Ella McDonald and Ellie Farmer were best on.

## Getting ready for tennis

The Baw Baw Tennis Association junior tennis season for Saturday mornings is gearing up.

If you would like your child to play in a team this season, please phone Luke Bryant on 0408 567 087, email [traftenis@gmail.com](mailto:traftenis@gmail.com) or find the club via the webpage [www.facebook.com/TrafalgarTennisClub](https://www.facebook.com/TrafalgarTennisClub).

The season is planning to start around October.

Some great diplomacy was seen with 'everyone' listed as recipients of the coaches award.

B Grade lost, but found good contributions from Immy Smith and Ash Farmer. C Grade suffered the same fate, with Ebony McDonald and Sheridyn Bell best on.

In junior netball, the 13s were the only team to toast victory on the day.

The side was well served by Lucy Coulthard and Keeley Carbonea. Two players with the same name but with different spelling played well in the 15s in Tillie Manfield and Tilly King. Immy Smith and Maddie Collins were best for the 17s.

The senior side won a competitive match against Longwarry the next week.

The Bloods led at every change, but had to hold off a determined Crows outfit that refused to go away. Best players for Trafalgar in the 14-point win were Dylan Farrell, Blake Radford, Jake Nash, Angus Templeton and Austin Byrne.

Reserves got back on the winners list with a fairly straightforward victory. A five-goal third term broke the game open, and from there the Bloods continued on. Chris Kyriacou was best-on-ground, followed by Grady McMahon, Luke O'Neill, Ash James, Jackson King and Dylan Gauci.

Under 16s faced strong opposition, and ended up needing to fight the game out as best they could. Memphis McQualter, Olly Hennessy, Will Bremner, Liam Coulthard and Riley Timbs battled hard.

On the netball court, A Grade had a comfortable win 63-46. Lucy Findlay was best-on-court, followed by Ella McDonald, who is surely paying \$1.01 to take out the best-and-fairest. Leah Hancock also played well in the win.

B Grade had a sizeable victory, adding to their percentage. Jess Burslem did a good job for the team, as did Cass Wass. It wasn't the same story in C Grade, who went down by quite a margin. Georgia Corstorphin and Kate Hagley soldiered on.

The Under 17s had a thrilling two goal win, getting up 26-24. Immy Smith was best on, while Tillie Mansfield and Brandi King also did well.

A tie of all results happened in the Under 15s. Momentum ebbed and flowed

throughout, but the sides could not be separated at the final whistle. Tessa Farrell and Tillie Mansfield were best.

Charlise Eerhard and Lucy Coulthard put in a good performance during the under 13s close win. The team held on to take the points 27-22. Summer Parise and Shelby Williams also won accolades for their work.

The seniors made it three wins in a row last week to remain undefeated since the bye. A five goal opening term gave Traf something to build on, which they did so for the rest of the match. Damien Mann had a day out, kicking eight of the team's 13 goals. Like a lot of Traf players over the years, Mann isn't spoken

about as much as he probably should be when discussing quality players on the local football landscape. Others to play well in the victory were Klay Butler, Austin Byrne, Chris Kyriacou, Blake Slater and Mitch Virtue.

Reserves had a sizeable victory, and finished with a total you feel confident defending if you were playing cricket.

At least one writer's eyebrows were raised when he saw some of the names on the Traf team sheet, players you would class in the 'more than handy' bracket . A trio of players kicked four goals in the win, which was highlighted by Karl Mutke, Luke O'Neill, Adrian Romano, Jacob Matthews, Brett Cam-

eron and Dan Puglia playing well.

The Under 16s were in the match at quarter time, but things unravelled pretty quickly afterward. Better players were Owen McLeod-Agland, Riley Timbs, Toby McCabe, Toby Radford and Caleb Wilson.

Netball action saw A Grade have a gutsy win by five goals. Taking to their home courts, the Bloods withstood the challenge, and got up in a 47-42 scoreline. Ellie Farmer and Megan Hancock were best on.

The B in B Grade stood for big win, as Traf piled on more than 70 goals. Imogen Smith was best on, while Maddie Worth did a good job as well.

C Grade had a competi-

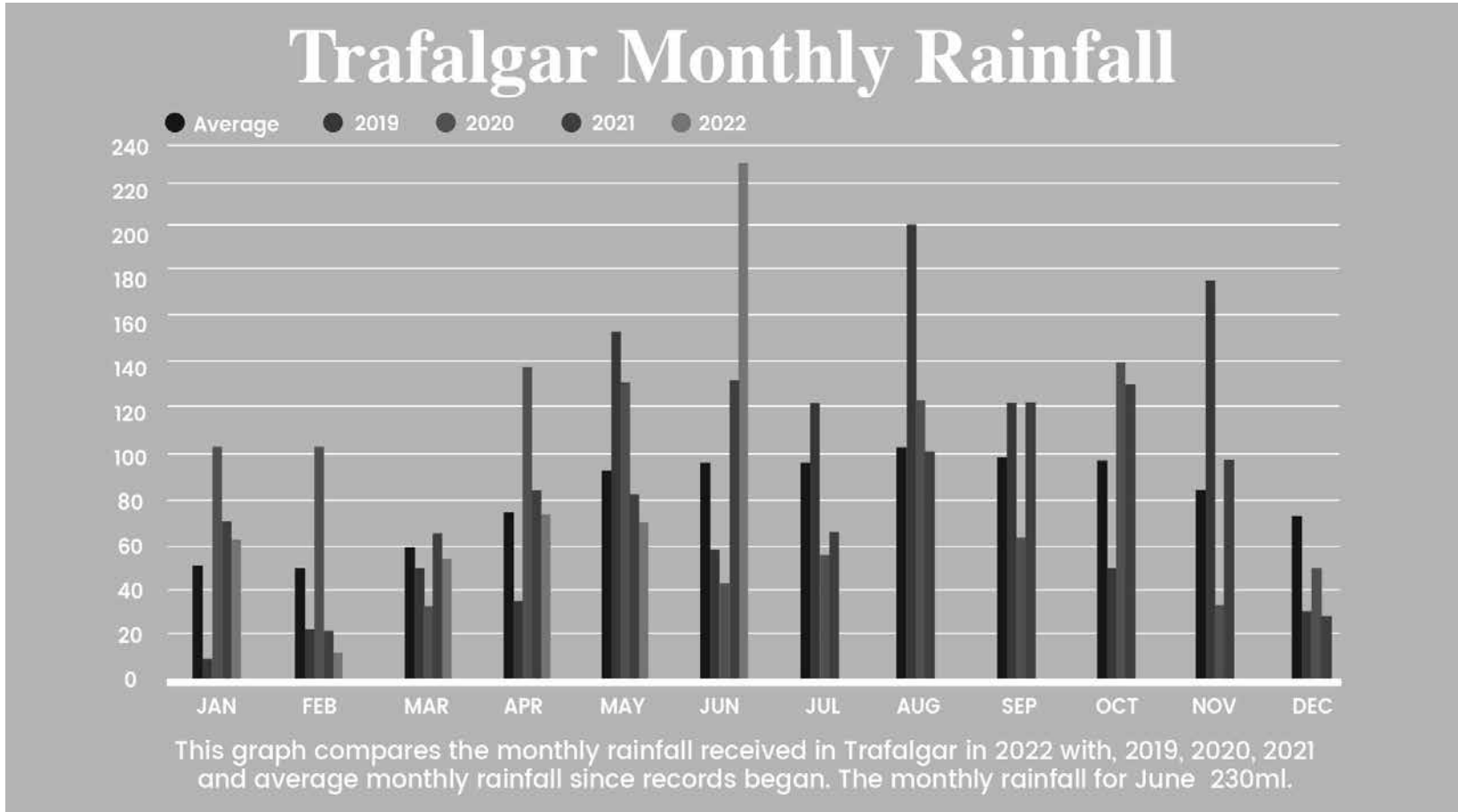
tive match that was decided by eight goals. Unfortunately for Traf, they were the team adrift of those eight goals. Jaime Vosper and Brandi King stood tall, while the name Meg Holdsworth appeared for the first time.

In junior grades, Traf won the 17s in a pretty even game 38-26. Imogen Smith collected the first of two best ons for the day, and was well supported by Maisie Mansfield.

Under 15s won a thriller by four goals. Maisie Mansfield started her strong day with a best-on-court performance, while Tessa Farrell wasn't far behind. The Under 13s were also victorious, and found good contributions from Summer Parise and Chloe Smith.



Trafalgar Football-Netball Club's Emily Birks, pictured with dad Rob, obtained her C Grade umpiring badge last month.





# Winter bowls introduced at Trafalgar

By Ian Miles

For the first time in its 100 year history, Trafalgar Bowls Club has welcomed players to its new Sunday winter bowls competitions.

With a new synthetic green installed last season, local players can now participate all year round.

Experienced Trafalgar star bowler Darren Kane organised the winter competitions to help bowlers stay active during the off-season and it has proved very popular with locals and visitors.

Joining Trafalgar members, players from Thorp-

dale, Yinnar, Moe, Yallourn North, Traralgon RSL and Morwell are all enjoying the winter sunshine to keep their skills honed for the upcoming season.

In the coming months, more bowls events will be held with the introduction of a monthly singles skins event held on the first Friday of every month, and the club will also be open for social bowls as the weather warms up.

Anyone interested in joining the club as a bowling, social or junior member can phone the club on 5633 1274 or check us out on Facebook.



Winter bowls is on at Trafalgar Bowls Club.

# Former Ship still sailing at 106

By Liam Durkin

Trafalgar Cricket Club supporters were left stunned recently to discover a past player was still alive at age 106.

Reverend Bill Morgan, who played with the Ships from 1948 until 1952, celebrated his birthday in Melbourne a few weeks ago, with news eventually filtering down to Gippsland.

Reverend Morgan was ordained in 1944, and as well as Trafalgar, served in parishes at Tongala, Dreeite, Clare, Malvern, Shepparton, Scotch (Launceston) and Ormond.

He was the Uniting Church's Moderator in 1971-72.

Amazingly, he was still playing golf and driving when he was 101.

While at Trafalgar, he served as club secretary and won two first grade premierships in 1949/50 and 1950/51.

In recalling his years with the Trafalgar Cricket Club, Reverend Morgan said they were fairly simple times.

"I was secretary but it was no work in those days," he said.

"I think we had two committee meetings in the whole time I was there. I know we had an emergency meeting one time in the back of my church because after a game

somebody wrote to the Trafalgar Times about 'the inappropriateness of some of the cricket players dress' - they had black socks on.

"The teams went on, if you had 11 players what more was there to meet about? We started games at 1.30pm and they went until 5pm. We had to accommodate Trafalgar because we had so many cow farmers playing and there was no daylight savings in those days."

Of the two premierships, the 1949/50 decider was a famous match that saw teammate Lester Tatterson take all 10 wickets in an innings.

Tatterson skittled Warra-gul Blues with figures of 10/28 as the Blues were bowled out for 106.

Reverend Morgan opened the bowling alongside Tatterson in that game, and had to make do with figures of 0/45.

"When he had eight, one or two were playing dead ... it was too good a chase to let go," Rev Morgan joked.

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

In a slightly humorous comparison, there were some similarities with local cricket in Gippsland during

the early 1950's to what there is now, as Reverend Morgan

quipped: "If we had 10 people watching a cricket game that

was a big crowd". Not much has changed at all.



Reverend Bill Morgan (pictured back row far right) as part of the Trafalgar Cricket Club's 1949/50 premiership side. The Reverend is still alive, age 106. This photo was taken in front of the famous old Trafalgar grandstand, which burnt down in 1971. Others in this photo are (back row) Eric Donaldson, A? Johnston, Vic Jean, Jim O'Connor, Lester Tatterson, Graham Johnstone, Rev Bill Morgan, (front) L? Aitken, Alan Rankin, Ken Smith and Laurie Rankin.

# Bloods past players gather

By Brett Tonkin

On Saturday July 15, the Trafalgar Football Club Past Players & Officials Association held their annual Past Player's Day in the football club social rooms to celebrate the 1962, 1992 and 2012 senior premierships, 1982 and 1992 reserves premierships and to announce the team of the decade for 2010-2019.

A two-course lunch was provided by the club and was attended by over 70 past play-

ers as well as Ellinbank and District Football League officials Roger Gwynne (president), Ken Moore (vice president) and Steve Pratt (junior development officer).

Past Players Association president, Bryan Leaf, was master of ceremonies, and invited a coach or captain from each premiership being celebrated to talk about the key players and events in that year's premiership success.

Thorpdale farmer Frank

Powell spoke on behalf of the 1962 premiership where he was vice-captain while legendary coach Gary McAlpine spoke on the 1992 premiership which was the club's first ever back-to-back success. Finally, Brendan Dawson spoke about the 2012 victory over Newborough which was the club's third premiership in four seasons.

Donna Noonan was the worthy recipient of the Keith Browning Medal for her long-

term service to the club as a netball player, coach, club administrator, canteen manager and volunteer in the kitchen on Thursdays and Saturdays over more than 30 years. The club was thrilled to have Keith's daughter Julie on the day to present the medal on behalf of her father and the wider Browning family.

The final presentations for the luncheon were to induct club historian and

games record-holder Paul 'Mopsy' Taylor, and fellow 400-plus games player and long-term volunteer and official Robert Sapkin (post-humously) into the Trafalgar Football Netball Club Hall of Fame.

The 2010s was a successful decade for Trafalgar, highlighted by premierships in 2010, 2012 and 2018.

With 13 members of the team of the decade still playing at the club, presentations

were made to these players following the senior victory over Catani.

The Trafalgar Football Netball Club would like to thank Catani for their strong showing in the social rooms post-game, in what has been a difficult season on-field for the Blues.



Trafalgar players past and present gathered for the annual reunion last month.



Brendan Dawson speaks about the 2012 senior premiership.



Trafalgar past players on stage for premiership reunions ranging from 1962 to 2012.



Trafalgar senior coach Tom Hallinan speaks to the past players and officials.



Trafalgar players from the five premierships reunions.



Donna Noonan is awarded the Keith Browning Medal by Keith's daughter Julie.

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# Cricket club elects office bearers

The Trafalgar Cricket Club held its annual general meeting recently.

The meeting saw a number of committee members reelected for the 2022/23 season and also welcomed some new faces.

Zack Brown acted as returns officer for the annual meeting, and called on nominations for the position of president.

Daniel Heathcote accepted a nomination and was

elected president for a third term. Assisting Heathcote will be Brendan Dawson who returned to the role of senior vice president. Billy Pace was reelected junior vice president and will oversee the underage teams involved at the club.

Liam Durkin will again be secretary, in keeping with his vow to do the job until the club wins all three senior flags in one season.

Trafalgar has been fortunate to have stability in the

secretary's role for the last 17 years, as only three people have held that office, which has no doubt helped the clubs on field fortunes.

Reagan Montgomery was also reelected treasurer for a second term. Reagan came on board last season, continuing to build on the great foundation set by predecessor Melanie White.

Returning general committee members are Brent Claridge, Scott Moorhouse, Zack Brown and Jackson

Noonan.

New committee members are Bec Asmussen, Mark Smith and Col Parnall.

Leading the A Grade team this season will be Aydan Connolly, who will move into the role permanently after using parts of last season to transition.

All eligible members of the Trafalgar Cricket Club interested in joining the committee are always more than welcome. Some may find it surprising to learn just how

much goes into getting teams on the park every week.

Senior Trafalgar teams will again be out to display the trademark fighting spirit synonymous with Ship teams across the generations this season.

Trafalgar also has a strong junior cricket program and will field teams across various age groups for the season ranging from under 16 to under 12.

The Trafalgar Cricket Club is expecting perfor-

mances across the grades to remain strong as the club seeks further premiership glory.

All three senior grades at the Trafalgar Cricket Club have won premierships or played in grand finals in the last four seasons.

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



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The Trafalgar Cricket Club is looking forward to another season.