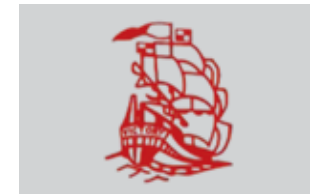


Traf News

September 2022 – Edition 253

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TRAFALGAR LIBRARY IS ON THE WAY

A permanent library in Trafalgar is one step closer after Baw Baw Shire council unanimously endorsed the old Trafalgar Kindergarten at 28 Contingent Street as the preferred site, as well as concept designs and a recommendation to consider future budget allocation for the project.

Local library organisation My Community Library (Myli), who provides static library services in Warragul and Drouin, has shown full support for upgrading the

current mobile library to a permanent fixture for the growing community of Trafalgar.

"A new static library in Trafalgar will create greater opportunity for the community to not only browse and borrow from a larger collection onsite but also experience a wider variety of programming not currently available through the mobile library" My Community Library chief executive Leanne Williams said.

"It would provide the com-

munity and local businesses with access to a much-needed meeting room, access to computers and printing services, free Wi-Fi and a space to work or study outside the home.

"An added benefit will be the inclusion of Myli 24/7 access where approved members can access the library at a time that suits them, even when a staff member is not onsite."

Initial concept designs include a main library space, meeting room, good natural

lighting and the potential to expand with a covered outdoor area.

With the site and initial designs now endorsed, council will progress to considering funding allocation towards the development of detailed designs.

Baw Baw mayor Michael Leaney said it was an exciting time.

"This is a very positive project for our entire community, not just Trafalgar," he said.

"The current mobile li-

brary provides an excellent service, however as our communities grow, it is a challenge to keep up with pace.

Trafalgar is our third largest town, and it needs a static library.

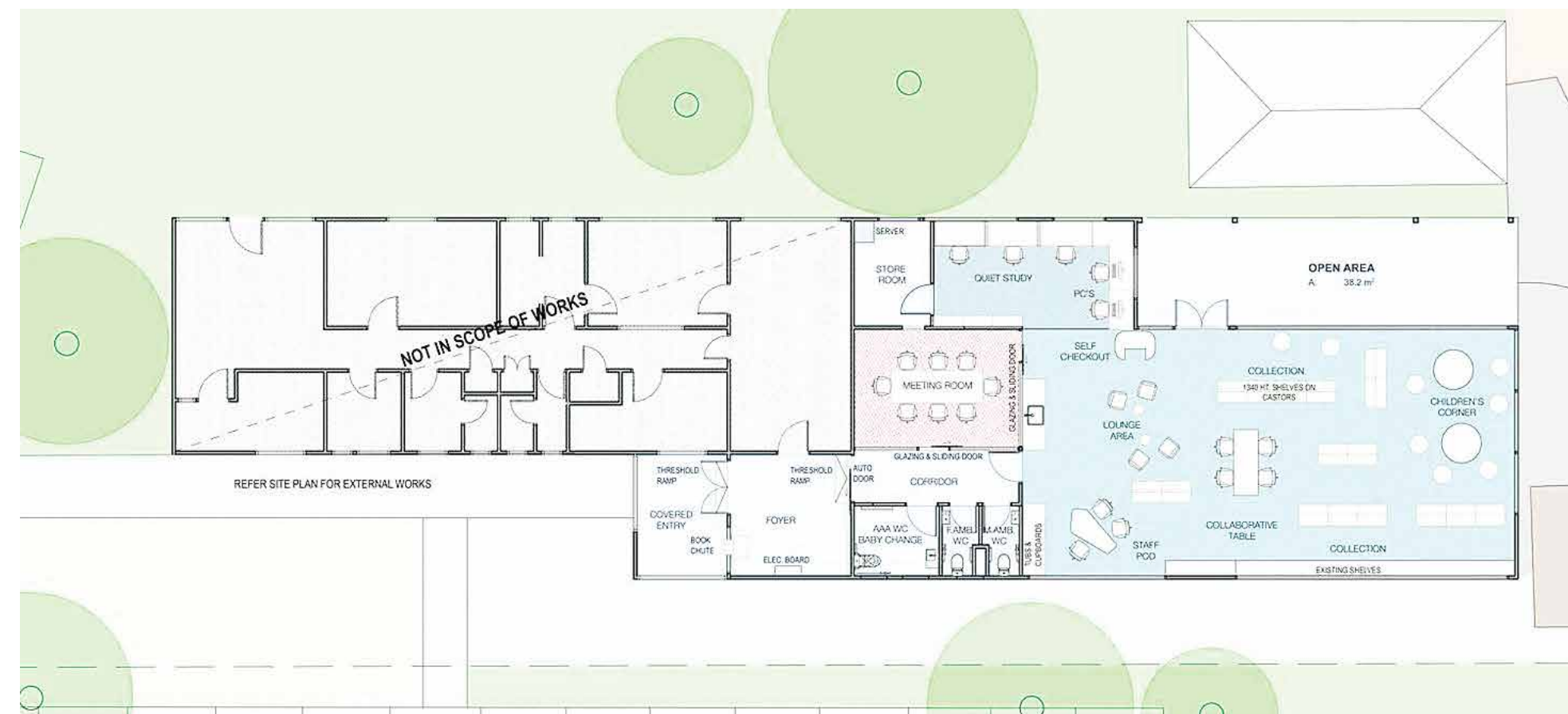
"Technology is constantly changing and with the ability to offer a 24/7 library service it will mean more accessibility for our community."

Baw Baw councillor and Trafalgar resident Darren Wallace said this had been a long time coming.

"The static library has

been wanted by the Trafalgar community for a long time," he said.

"The old Trafalgar kinder site is perfectly located within the Trafalgar community hub, with the Old Town Hall, community garden, Men's shed, maternal health services and existing car parking nearby, and being a council-owned building, this location is a no brainer."



A concept design of the new Trafalgar library, to be built on the site of the old kindergarten.

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McLean appointed to Gender Advisory Committee

Baw Baw Shire council's Director Strategy and Organisational Performance, Ms Caz McLean, has been appointed to the Local Government Gender Equality Advisory Committee (GEAC) to represent female leaders in the

sector.

The committee, led by Kat Theophanous MP and Juliana Addison MP, will work to advise the Minister for Local Government and Minister for Women on how to deliver this target as well as the implementation of the Aus-

tralian-first Gender Equality Act across local government.

As an employer, councils employ more than 45,000 Victorians with females representing more than half of that workforce. However only one third of directors and managers are women and only 30 per cent are chief executives.

The GEAC was established in early 2021 to support the state government's target of having at least 50 per cent women councillors and mayors in local government by 2025.

Following a competitive selection process involving applicants from across the state, Ms McLean was successfully appointed into the

committee, that will draw on the experiences of women from across the local government sector.

On what motivated her to apply for the committee, Ms McLean reflected on her position as a senior leader at Baw Baw Shire.

"I have a responsibility to represent my organisation and community, by sharing my insights and ideas about changing this profile and increasing diversity amongst our elected councillors and local government staff," she said.

Through her involvement with the GEAC, Mc McLean

strives to build valuable connections and relationships across the local government sector with others who are also committed to making a difference by increasing diversity and female participation in senior leadership roles across councils.

"Importantly I hope to gain a greater understanding of ways to address issues of diversity and equality within council cultures, structural barriers and systems" she said.

Ms McLean's appointment comes as council was recently advised that its own Gender Equality Action Plan

(GEAP) meets the obligation: set by The Commission for Gender Equality in the Public Sector in accordance with the Gender Equality Act.

Council undertook a significant inclusion audit and consultation to inform the GEAP with valuable insight provided by staff that make up this diverse organisation.

The four-year plan provides a roadmap for equality within Baw Baw Shire council.

The Challengers

By Michael Fozard

We have all had to meet many challenges over the last two years- with COVID, now inflation and a lot of personal uncertainties.

It is now vital that we, the community of Trafalgar and surround, plan for the future and provide a quality of life for all.

We are experiencing a reduction in social services and an impact on our community development. It is critical that we take this head-on and take steps to resolving this negative trend.

Rotary in Trafalgar is one of many groups that has been impacted on and is now reviewing its approach.

Since 1955 when the club was founded it has been involved in many local community events and activities.

The challenge is for Rotary to change and meet the

needs of an evolving town.

With this in mind we would like to get involved in a number of community initiatives.

We seek from the community individuals, groups, organisations that can give a little time to developing ideas and plans for the future. It is now time for us to come together and we seek your leadership.

Rotary is changing and its membership can take a

number of approaches that can control your cost or time constraints that you have. The major issue is to be involved and be part of a group that will seek change and influence those with the power to determine our future.

We ask that you phone Rotary and find out how you can join with us in going forward.

Ring Michael Fozard on 0418 513 092 and have a discussion.

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Floods hit Traf

A series of flood warnings were issued last month, after the region copped a hammering, with rain pooling up in low lying areas and causing rivers to swell.

The Latrobe River catchment recorded up to 70

millimetres of rain in the 24 hours to the morning of Monday, August 15.

Whittakers Road, Howitt and Tennyson streets in Traralgon were closed, as well as Creamery Road in Yinnar.

The State Emergency Service reported more than 130

requests for assistance in Gippsland from Sunday to Monday, with Trafalgar and Traralgon the busiest units.

The SES responded to 15 call-outs in Trafalgar, 13 in Traralgon, 14 in Morwell and eight in Moe.



Floodwaters pooling up in Trafalgar last month.

Safety upgrades installed on Walhalla Road

By Michelle Slater

A notorious bend on Walhalla Road where two cars went off the edge and down a cliff in two separate incidents within a fortnight will be getting upgrades including a safety barrier.

One of the incidents in June claimed the life of a 19-year-old after the vehicle plunged off the side of the road.

Regional Roads Victoria has cut back vegetation at the site and added extra signs including large curve warnings, 'Reduce Speed' and a 25 kilometre-an-hour advisory message.

RRV is also planning to install safety barriers and road widening, with some line marking and road resurfacing to be undertaken.

It comes after Regional Roads Victoria crew and Victoria Police inspected the crash site in July to investigate how safety could be improved.

RRV is hoping the specialised barriers will be installed in the next few months after detailed planning and site assessments, given the narrow section of the road.

The move has been welcomed by Baw Baw Shire mayor Michael Leaney, who has been pushing for safety barriers along that road section for several years.

Cr Leaney said he was pleased that government agencies were working together to come up with a solution with a combination of measures.

"This is a positive out-

come as it's a tight location and not easy, but given the repeat incidents you can't just push it aside and say it's too hard," Cr Leaney said.

"It's unfortunate that it's required a number of incidents for this action to happen. These were low-speed incidents and a safety barrier will remove the risk of a vehicle going over the edge."

Minister for Roads and Road Safety, Ben Carroll, said crews had worked closely with Victoria Police and independent road safety experts to identify improvements on Walhalla Road.

"New signage has been installed following a recent safety audit and we plan to widen the road and install safety barriers to further improve safety," he said.



One of the new road safety signs heralding a dangerous bend on Walhalla Road.

Savings still available

The state government says more Victorians can receive immediate bill relief and cut their energy costs under the government's \$250 Power Saving Bonus.

Minister for Energy Lily D'Ambrosio recently announced a \$205 million boost to the program, where every Victorian household can receive \$250 to seek out a better energy deal on Victoria's Energy Compare website.

"Three weeks after launching this bill busting bonus, we are proud to have supported one million Victorian households with their energy bills while helping them find the cheapest deal available," Ms D'Ambrosio said.

"We know Victorian families are doing it tough, so we're topping up the \$250 Power Saving Bonus program to make sure no one misses out."

Since July 1, one million Victorians have applied for the one-off payment, providing immediate support and driving down the cost of living.

All Victorian households

are eligible for the \$250 payment, including the nearly 400,000 concession card holders who previously claimed the payment under an earlier phase of the program.

The state government is adding another \$205 million, on top of the initial \$250 million funding. The \$250 Power Saving Bonus is available until June 30, 2023 and there are no caps on the number of households that can receive the once-off payment.

User data shows that over the past 12 months, seven out of every 10 users saved an average of \$330 by switching energy offers.

Households can claim the \$250 payment by heading to the Victorian Energy Compare website and comparing energy offers to see if they can get a better deal, or by engaging with a participating community outreach partner.

The Victorian Energy Compare website is the only free and independent online energy price comparison service available to Victorian energy consumers.

Other programs helping households and businesses

to slash energy bills include Victorian Energy Upgrades, which provides upfront incentives for low-cost-to-free energy efficient products, and Solar Victoria, which offers households and businesses discounted solar panels, batteries and efficient heating and cooling.

To apply and for more information go to: compare.energy.vic.gov.au

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Traf News

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**OCTOBER
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Articles and
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12 September 2022

CELEBRATE AN INSPIRING TRAFALGAR CITIZEN TRAFALGAR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

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

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

Street/postal address

Town: Postcode:

Contact number: Email:@.....

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

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

[] Citizen of the Year award

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

SELECTION CRITERIA

Attach separate A4 sheet(s) of paper explaining how your nominee’s actions have inspired you and contributed significantly to our community. This could be through their voluntary community contribution, work or a combination of these.

PLEASE ADDRESS EACH OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA IN YOUR NOMINATION:

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

All of these criteria must be addressed to ensure a proper appraisal of your nomination

NOTES:

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

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

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

Street/postal address

Contact number: Email:@.....

GUARDIAN’S DETAILS *If you are nominating someone for the Youth Citizen of the Year, please have his/her guardian agree to the*

nomination by completing their details

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

Street/postal address

Contact number: Email:@.....

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

WHERE TO SEND THE NOMINATION

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

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

Applications close on 31 October 2022. Unfortunately, late nominations cannot be accepted

WHEN WILL THE WINNER BE ANNOUNCED?

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

RULES OF ENTRY

1. Nominations must be received by 5pm on 31 October 2022
2. Nominees will be judged on actions and contributions made that have had a significant impact on the Trafalgar community (including all areas within 3824 postcode)
3. Nominations must be the original work of the author and be factually correct to the best of the author’s knowledge. The author may obtain information from other people in the preparation of the nomination
4. Nominees must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia and be a resident, or contributes to the community, within the 3824 postcode
5. Nominees are not restricted by age except for the Youth award which is open to all young people under the age of 25 years as at 31 October 2022. All other Rules apply to Youth award nominees
6. The winner (or their guardian) of the Youth Citizen of the Year award will be required to produce a birth certificate if considered necessary by Trafalgar Community Development Association Inc (TCDA)
7. All nominations (including any supporting documentation) become the property of TCDA
8. The final judging of nominations will be conducted by a panel of judges appointed by TCDA
9. If the judges consider there are no suitable nominees in either category, no award will be made for that category
10. The judges’ decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into
11. Details of nominations of award winners may be published in local newspapers and in local media such as radio, etc
12. Each nominator assures TCDA that it is the owner of the information in the nominations and has not breached any person’s rights, including copyright
13. By lodging this nomination, the nominator:
 1. the nominator agrees to the above rules; and
 2. if it is a nomination of the Youth of the Year award, by completing the guardian’s details, the nominator has received the consent of the guardian for the youth to be nominated

(Nominator’s signature)

(Date)

Meet your local CFA

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

This month is featuring 3rd Lieutenant Marcus Barker.

WHEN DID YOU JOIN CFA?

I joined the Trafalgar Brigade about seven years ago.

WHY DID YOU JOIN?

Part of the reason I joined was that I was conducting a very minor burn-off made up of fallen tree limbs on my five acre property when a passing driver called it in to 000. At the time I like so many people didn’t realise that I was supposed to have the burn-off registered. So along came Peter Mynard and Colin Proctor with the big red truck and extinguished my very small fire! As punishment for my misdemeanour both Peter and Colin suggested that I should join the brigade and the rest as they say is history.

WHAT WAS THE PROCESS OF DOING YOUR TRAINING LIKE?

The real work started with a tremendous amount of training in both rural and urban firefighting which is a very enjoyable time. Our brigade is very fortunate to have many, very experienced firefighters who turn the rookie firefighters into a fire-ready team.

DO YOU HAVE A FUNNY OR INTERESTING STORY

TO SHARE?

As I am a little bit more mature in age and I might add behaviour, the brigade has given me the nickname of ‘Grandad’! I even have a special epaulette with ‘Senior Lieutenant’ for my uniform!

WHAT IS IT LIKE BEING A LIEUTENANT WITH THE CFA?

A year ago I was given the privilege of becoming one of the brigade leaders and am now a Lieutenant. This role is voted on by the whole brigade so it is a great honour and one that I take very seriously. It is my turn now to guide new recruits and existing firefighters in their roles which is something I really enjoy.

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

One of the more challenging aspects of being a volunteer firefighter is finding the right balance of time you spend as a firefighter and time you spend in your family, work and social life. Too little and you risk not having enough knowledge and experience to be a competent firefighter, but too much time spent can be a drain on your private life.

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

The best part of being a volunteer firefighter is the camaraderie within the brigade, much like I encountered as a young sailor in the Royal Australian Navy. So if you are thinking of giving a little back to your community, being a volunteer firefighter is certainly a great choice.

System is being rolled out. The new system is designed to be uniform across the country and provide clearer advice on what actions you need to take to stay safe.

To check out the new system visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au/afdrs

COMMUNITY NOTICES:

A new standardised Australian Fire Danger Rating

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.

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>

You can follow the Trafalgar Fire Brigade on Facebook at [TrafalgarFireBrigade](https://www.facebook.com/TrafalgarFireBrigade)



Trafalgar CFA 3rd Lieutenant Marcus Barker.

New committee elected for arts alliance

By Carol Monson

The Baw Baw Arts Alliance recently held its first face-to-face annual meeting for two years. While the Zoom meetings were efficient and dealt with the handover from one committee to the next, it was a pleasure to have a guest speaker.

Thanks must go to those who managed to fit an annual meeting into their schedules. Baw Baw Shire mayor Michael Leaney represented the important role the shire has to play in supporting volunteer organisations such as the Baw Baw Arts Alliance.

As the speaker, Rowena Dunn, Manager of Arts,

Culture and Events at the West Gippsland Arts Centre found time to talk of her own background in the arts and outlined her focus for leading the Arts Centre into the future. Thanks go to the new Shire Cultural Development Officer, Melissa Forlano, who agreed to oversee the election of office bearers and committee members.

For the annual term from September 2022 to August, 2023, Anita George was elected president, Janine Richardson vice president, Prue Barridge treasurer, Jeff Thege secretary, committee members, Sue Murphy, Marlene Ogden, Cheryl Cook,

Ingrid Thomas and Carol Monson.

Congratulations must go to the four who were presented with ‘Life Membership’ of the Baw Baw Arts Alliance: Anita George, Marlene Ogden, Michael Ogden and Carol Monson.

Past and newly elected president, Anita George, thanked the many volunteers who enable the Arts Alliance to have regular exhibitions at the ‘Station Gallery’, Yarragon, conduct a Summer Arts Market, coordinate an Easter Art Sale with Warragul Rotary, produce fun events such as the ‘Madhatter’s Tea Party’ in February, promote

the work of individual artists across Baw Baw Shire and present many more arts related events.

Not to be missed over the next few weeks is the work of Cheryl Cook in the ‘Station Gallery’, Yarragon.

Cheryl has recently been awarded a ‘Fellowship in Creative Textiles’ by the City and Guilds in the United Kingdom and her exhibition is a compulsory component of this prestigious award.

Cheryl’s work involved a time consuming process of extracting colour from native Australian plants and creating inks from them.

Her exhibition will be on

for the month of September but officially opens on Saturday, September 3, 2022 at 2pm at the ‘Station Gallery’.

A small fibre exhibition by the Fibre Friday group from Baw Baw Arts Alliance can be seen at ‘Through Life Physiotherapist’ throughout August

and September.

Check out <https://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au/> for information on the many Creative Arts groups that are run by the Baw Baw Arts Alliance.

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Probus welcomes Gippy Water speakers

By Elly Fallon

Trafalgar & District Probus Club enjoyed a wonderful Christmas in July last month, with 64 members attending.

Members dressed for the occasion with hats and Christmas colours, some even wore costumes. The meal provided by the ladies at the golf club was delicious and plentiful.

Many thanks to Lyn Powell and her team for our delicious roast followed by plum puddings and an array of other desserts.

The golf ladies set the tables beautifully and the Christmas trees and decorations provided by John and Maggie Attwell gave a very festive atmosphere.

We were entertained by two of our members, Ian Plant with songs and jokes and Bob Jones who added to the jokes, which then set the scene for lighthearted fun and laughter for the rest of

the day.

There were lots of prizes to be won in the bottom of Santa's sack plus hamper raffles kindly donated by one of our members, Sharley Smith. The day was a resounding success!

Some of our members managed to visit Fata Morgana, an Antarctic exhibition by David Burrows at the Latrobe Regional Gallery in Morwell during the month.

Winter ailments and COVID kept numbers down. The photos were mainly of the Australian expedition vessel, Aurora Australis and the icebergs had to be looked at through stereoscopic viewers.

Keep an eye on the gallery website as they continually change their exhibitions and are open to everyone, and more importantly, are free as well.

Coffee mornings have continued to bring members

together to enjoy some company when the weather outside is dreary.

Not everyone has the chance to go away in winter, so these gatherings act as a real pick me up each fortnight. Come along and join us at Coffee Life on the second Thursday of the month and Gracie's Bakery on the fourth Thursday.

Garden Club is once again on the agenda with spring not far away.

It will be held at the home of Tina Hambleton, one of our members. Tina has many bulbs in her garden, so we look forward to an enjoyable visit.

Three new members, Trish Ryan, Norma Garner and Jane Absalom were welcomed to our club this month by president Maggie. We look forward to getting to know them and we are sure they will enjoy the variety of activities Probus has to offer.

We now have 101 members in our Probus club.

The Cluster Dinner for the seven local Probus Clubs that include Bunyip/Garfield, two Drouin Clubs, three Warragul Clubs and Trafalgar is not far away.

We will be celebrating Probus together at the Black Tie Restaurant, Warragul on October.

Our guest speaker will be Emma Germano, president of Victorian Farmer's Federation. This dinner is an important date on our calendar each year and Trafalgar Probus are hosting the occasion.

Planning is also underway for our big celebration in March 2023, when Trafalgar & District Probus Club celebrates its 30th birthday. Peter Farmer, one of the original founding members is still a very active member of the club so there will be much to celebrate.

Our speaker last month

was Sarah Cumming.

Sarah is the managing director of Gippsland Water.

She was accompanied by Danny McDonald, the manager of corporate affairs at Gippsland Water.

Not many of us knew exactly how the money that we pay for water was being used or the shires that were involved.

Sarah gave us a really clear explanation of the areas, water uses, plans for the future, environmental works and much more.

Gippsland water takes in the Shires of Latrobe, Baw Baw, Wellington and parts of the South Gippsland Shire. It looks after an area of over 5000 square miles, 150,000 people, 6000 businesses, 2000 kms of pipes, 14 wastewater plants and 15 treatment plants.

The latest treatment plant is being built in Drouin at a cost of \$50 million to ca-

ter for the ever-increasing growth down that end of the Gippsland area.

Gippsland Water has succeeded in making an agreement with Tarago Reservoir so that we will now have some use of that storage water because, though based in our area, this water had previously been used for Melbourne only.

Sarah and her team have been working on a five-year proposal with the input of 3500 customers.

Their proposal hopes to see lower bills and increased value for all.

Probus members were able to have many questions answered in question time and were assured that there was a plentiful supply of water in Gippsland for many years to come.



Jim Corwell with his raffle prize.



Ron and Liz Bowley, Anne Brennan and Sharley Smith at the Morwell Art Gallery.



Morning tea at Gracie's.



Ian Plant entertaining at Christmas in July.



Happy Probus members at the Trafalgar Golf Club.



Trish Ryan, Norma Garner and Jane Absalom are inducted as new members with president Maggie.



Guest speakers from Gippsland Water Sarah Cumming and Danny McDonald being presented with a gift pen by John Attwell.

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Boost for young jobseekers

By Philip Hopkins

Workways Australia, a not-for-profit employment services provider, has won a federal contract to help 3000 jobseekers in Gippsland and Latrobe Valley to find work.

The successful tender from Workforce Australia, a federal government job search program, is for up to six years - an initial three years, with an optional extra three years if successful.

With the Gippsland youth unemployment rate currently 17.9 per cent, Workways chief executive, Kieren Kearney, said Workways, through its programs, aimed to help reduce that figure and help people into sustainable employment.

The official national unemployment rate is 3.5 per cent, but Mr Kearney said the youth unemployment rate, particularly in regional areas, was generally two or three times the national rate.

The lack of transport was often a crucial factor in this situation, he said. 'Youth' is defined as people under the age of 24.

Workways, which was founded in Bairnsdale in 1989 as a Skill Share operator, has about 100 staff at centres in Moe, Morwell, Traralgon, Sale and Bairnsdale.

Mr Kearney said it was important that Workways could offer a diversity of services to Gippsland jobseekers so that it could better meet the needs of individuals and regional employers.

"Workways has established strong connections with local employers such as Bapcare and Greenhams Abattoir. We want to work with potential candidates to ensure they are job ready before meeting an employer," he said.

"Equally, we gain a good understanding of the employer to ensure conditions

and roles are going to be right fit for the jobseekers." Mr Kearney said Workways was able to source its clients through its own efforts and through Centre Link.

"We operate in shopping centres, through community centres, to meet people look-

ing for work. We also receive referrals from local Centrelinks," he said.

"The clients are a variety of people - some are under-employed, while some have not had work for a number of years."

As a non-for-profit or-

ganisation, Mr Kearney said Workways was driven by its social purpose.

"Staff focus on the different needs of each individual, their skills and career path. This leads to a better outcome for the job seeker and most often, in longterm,

meaningful employment," he said.

Workways was one of three groups to win federal Workforce Australia tenders. The others were Jobfind and Employment Plus.



Kylie Baudino and Morgan Pearce from Gippsland-based Workways, which is one of three groups to receive a tender from Workforce Australia. The organisation has five offices across Gippsland.

Around the Historical Society

By Di Ireland

A treasure trove of memorabilia was recently discovered and among the many items was a flyer advertising the Trafalgar Races on Tuesday, February 19, 1929.

The race meeting was to be followed by a Grand Ball.

Special trains would be run from Melbourne and a half railway freight refund would be applied to all non-stakes winning horses.

Trafalgar had a thriving racing club during the early part of the 20th century and

the Historical Society would love to have some photos if anyone can help.

Thanks to the growing membership, working bees are very busy and finds like this latest make a significant contribution to the preservation of our past.

The 102nd edition of the Society's Gazette is now available from the Post Office or Newsagency for \$4 or an annual posted subscription costs \$20.

Membership fees of \$15

are now due and details can be found in the back of each Gazette.

The next meeting of the Trafalgar & District Historical Society will be on October 20 at 7pm in the former residence of the old kindergarten building 30 Contingent Street, Trafalgar.

Any enquiries may be directed to Jean Huffer on 5633 1960.

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IGA donation

Recently, manager of Trafalgar IGA, Dom Griffin, presented Trafalgar Lions with a Cheque for \$2585.16, proceeds from

their community-co program.

The same amount was also donated to Trafalgar Fire Brigade. Trafalgar Li-

ons distributed the funds to many local clubs and organisations as part of their annual disbursement program.



Trafalgar IGA manager Dom Griffin presents Trafalgar Lions David Koschade with a cheque for \$2585.16.

Old is new again at the Men's Shed

By Ron Fletcher

We are all familiar with the proverb 'necessity is the mother of invention', which means roughly that the primary driving force for most new inventions is a need.

Well, it would be a stretch to say that shedder Leigh Shepherd's creation is an invention but it was the need that inspired him to make it.

Recently we were asked to remove some lengths of timber and shelving from a garage owned by a local couple. The timber was ideal for Leigh's project of a drum sander, so, it was cut to size and a sturdy frame made to house a small motor and support the mechanism to turn the sander.

The readers of Traf News will love this story about the motor.

The 1.75hp motor is from a Hoover washing machine purchased by Leigh's parents circa 1947 and makes a humming almost inaudible sound when operating indicating that it is still in good order. Leigh said his dad would be tickled pink to see what it was being used for and that age had not taken its toll on the small engine.

The sander will be used to dress timber for projects that require a fine smooth finish. We have mentioned many times in Traf News when promoting the shed; new members bring new personalities, skills and new ideas. Leigh is a good example of this. He has been at the shed for nine months and is always busy with a project and willing to help others in need.

Don't mention railway sleepers to Daryl Anderson as he is likely to break out with splinteritis. The Moe Yallourn Rail Trail Group asked us to make four picnic tables from 40 railway sleepers. Daryl applied his engineering skills to design

and construct the tables. After making them Daryl was asked by the group to supervise the tables being placed into position along the trail. They are there for all to see. This was a huge job and Daryl is to be congratulated.

Please phone Corrie Koppen for information about the shed on 0458 674 450 or email cjpj2000@yahoo.com.au.

We are in Wellington Street and open Mondays and Wednesdays 9am to 3pm.

If you are on a morning walk or have some free time call in and say hello, the urn is always on and a friendly greeting is guaranteed.



Leigh testing his sander.

Transferring your rental property to us is as easy as call, assess, GO!



Give our experienced team a call and tell us about your property.

Let us assess your situation and propose an action plan. Once we have your authority, leave the liaising and paperwork to us.

We will keep a close eye on your investment to ensure ongoing compliance with legislation & maintenance is effected to maximise your property's value.

John Kerr Real Estate Trafalgar
RESIDENTIAL | RURAL | COMMERCIAL



5633 1666



New Red finds a new home

Trafalgar woodworker Amy Hay has been able to recommence operating, after a drawn-out saga led to her having to relocate from her home base.

Ms Hay's business 'The New Red' had been operating since November 2019.

In October 2020, Ms Hay moved the business and contacted Baw Baw Shire council to determine if working from

home was a feasible option.

Ms Hay was advised that the EPA Regulations governing noise allowed her to work with power tools from 7am to 8pm on weekdays and 9am to 8pm on weekends.

In February 2022 Ms Hay received an email from council, advising they had 'received an enquiry in relation to the permissible levels of noise allowed to be made

by such a business' and 'determined that an inspection of business was necessary to determine the level of compliance with the Planning Scheme'.

Ms Hay scheduled a site inspection, and received written advice that she was in breach of Clause 52.11 of the Baw Baw Planning Scheme ('the business must not adversely affect the ame-

nity of the neighbourhood in any way') and was given 28 days to 'cease causing excessive noise'. Ms Hay claims she was given no direction as to how to comply.

What followed was a string of emails between Ms Hay and Baw Baw Shire, trying to ascertain measurable and achievable targets to allow her to continue working from home.

After seeking legal advice, Ms Hay was advised a number of options to take action, ranging from mediation to VCAT, which started with fees over \$3000.

The best-case scenario would have been to build a room within her existing workshop to reduce noise emissions and would effectively be working in a small dark box. Not to mention the

cost of doing such.

Thankfully, the Trafalgar Community rallied, and Ms Hay was only without work for three months.

Ms Hay now rents a small workshop in the industrial estate, which she says really has been an incredible change for my business.



Trafalgar woodworker Amy Hay, of The New Red, has been able to continue her passion of creating sustainable products using reclaimed timber.

Greater opportunities to partake in projects

Social enterprise Nadrasca and the Gippsland Line Upgrade have partnered to provide participants with a disability more opportunities for paid, meaningful work.

Nadrasca provides a range of services and employment for more than 400 people with a disability across 23 locations in Melbourne's eastern suburbs.

Among Nadrasca's services is a supported employment service that employs more than 115 people with a disability.

This service, Nadrasca

Industry, provides printing, packing and distribution services for the Gippsland Line Upgrade, delivering updates to letterboxes in the project area.

Participants recently worked 166 hours helping to distribute more than 4500 letters to residents along the Gippsland Line, between Nar Nar Goon and Longwarry East, for the Southern Brown Bandicoot Protection Program.

This year Nadrasca launched a new training and development program for supported employees, in-

cluding three tiers of specialist training within its printing area.

Each year, the program will offer 16 supported employees the opportunity to undertake specialised printing training with a total of 656 hours being dedicated to this activity.

Nadrasca's partnership with the Gippsland Line Upgrade provides ongoing additional work that will directly help it deliver these training programs, while also increasing awareness of the importance of providing opportunities for meaning-

ful employment for people with disabilities.

They envisage the jobs generated from the Gippsland Line Upgrade will create well over 500 hours of social employment.

"With more than 100 supported employees currently working with us, Nadrasca recognises the incredible value in job creation for people with disabilities," Nadrasca Industry chief operations manager Alison Wright said.

Brohdi Male, 22, will work directly on jobs associated with the Gippsland Line Upgrade, which will provide

enormous value to his self-development.

Brohdi started Nadrasca's school leavers program, My Life My Future, in 2019, and over the last three years has worked hard on developing his employment and general independent life skills.

Having recently transitioned to permanent, full-time supported employment at Nadrasca Industry, Brohdi was quick to put his hand up for the printing training program, where over the course of this year he will master the technical craft of commercial printing.

"The program at Nadrasca will let me practice my skills and I also get to learn how to be more independent at work as well as run some jobs by myself when I am ready," he said.

The Gippsland Line Upgrade aims to enable trains every 40 minutes between Traralgon and Melbourne between the peaks and provide more reliable services on the Gippsland Line."

Trafalgar Lions host junior public speaking

By Trevor Byrne

Trafalgar Lions Club recently held a Junior Public Speaking competition for students from St Joseph's, Narracan, Thorpdale and Trafalgar primary schools.

All of the students were given the same topic.

Years 3/4: "A Place, other than in your home, state that you would like to visit".

Tell us why you would like to visit this place, how you would get there, and what you would like to see and do when you get there. Years 3/4 to speak for three minutes

Years 5/6: "Introduce a famous person who lived in the 19th century".

Eg: Charlie Chaplin, Florence Nightingale, Helen Keller, Alexander Bell, Louis Pasteur.

You have been asked to introduce this famous person at a special event. Tell us a little about this person, what they did and how they became famous. Years 5/6 to speak for four minutes.

The school judging was held in July with 50 students competing in the two groups.

Years 3/4 and Years 5/6. The winners at school level were

St Joseph's Primary Years 3/4 Lorelei Withers and Years 5/6 Liana Eerhard. Narracan Primary Years 3/4 Harun Schloetel and Years 5/6 Liam Rossignoli. Trafalgar Primary Years 3/4 Poppy Brown and Years 5/6 Otis Stretch. Thorpdale Primary Years 3/4 Samuel Jennings and Years 5/6 Ruby Westbury.

At the first Lions Meeting in August the winners from Narracan, St. Josephs and Trafalgar Primary schools competed in the club final. Every student was supported by their family, School Principal, Teachers and Lions members in attendance.

All students spoke very well and all were gifted with warm applause, from the audience.

Years 3 – 4 was won by Harun Schloetel from Narracan Primary and years 5 - 6 was won by Liana Earhard from St Joseph Primary.

The semi-finals for junior public speaking will be held in Trafalgar on Sunday, October 9. The clubs attending will be Lakes Entrance Lioness, Briagolong, Heyfield, Moe, Trafalgar, Willow Grove and Warragul.



Trafalgar Lions president David Kochade, Narracan principal Michael Smethurst, chairman for the night Lion Pat Tattersson, Trafalgar principal Cameron Nicholls and St Joseph's principal Trish Mulqueen with students Liam Rossignoli, winner of Year 3/4 Harun Schloetel, Poppy Brown, Lorelei Withers and winner of Years 5/6 Liana Eerhard and Otis Stretch.

Uni reinstates degree

Federation University has backtracked on its decision to can its arts degrees, and will look at continuing its Bachelor of Arts at all campuses - including at Churchill next year.

It comes after the uni had announced about a fortnight ago that it was scrapping the degree in 2023 due to dwindling student enrolments, sparking a backlash from students, staff and unions.

But Federation University vice-chancellor and president Duncan Bentley said the university had "listened to staff and the community" and would carry out a "comprehensive review of the program".

Prof Bentley said the reviews would ensure the arts program was "fit for purpose" to be delivered as part of a co-operative education model that the university is rolling out from 2025.

"We will set up a review group comprised of employers, students, staff, and experts to redesign the Bachelor

of Arts so that it is contemporary, multidisciplinary and digitally driven to meet student and industry needs," Prof Bentley said.

"For students enrolling next year, we will be co-creating the final year of the program with our students, and industry and employers, as part of our co-operative education model."

The Australian-first education co-op is being embedded in all Federation University courses for students to complete accredited workplace learning in partnership with industry and employers.

Students will have options to take part in paid cadetships, internships, or work on campus projects, with pilot programs in IT and business to start in 2023.

"We look forward to working with staff and extended communities to ensure that our arts programs lead to successful career outcomes for students and help to drive growth in our communities," Prof Bentley said.



Federation University will look to continue its Arts degree following backlash from students, staff and unions.

St Paul's celebrates 40 years

Forty years ago, local families founded St Paul's Anglican Grammar School, and in the decades since, the school has amassed a rich history and a collection of remarkable stories.

The six principals of St Paul's, past and present, recently united to commemorate this historic milestone as part of a special 40th Anniversary Service.

Prep students joined the principals in a candle lighting ceremony to welcome their return, with the passing of the flame symbolising one principal passing on responsibility to the next.

Members of the Board, Life Governors, previous students, and current students and staff from both the Warragul and Traralgon Campuses gathered at the service to memorialise the momentous occasion.

Class of 1987 alumnus, Mr Malcom Watts, now the National Director (CEO) of SIM Australia, delivered the keynote address, encouraging current students to "Explore the possibilities. The possibilities of life motivate us and the experiences they bring define us".

St Paul's commenced with 19 students in 1982 in the Sunday School rooms of

St Paul's Anglican Church in Warragul.

Since then, the school has grown to be a leading independent, co-educational school of approximately 1600 students across two campuses in Warragul and Traralgon.

The school has established a strong academic reputation, with the majority of graduates continuing to university studies.

The Foundation principal was Dr Des Parker from 1981-1992, followed by Mr Richard Prideaux 1993-2006 and Mr Mark Robertson 2007-2010. From 2011-2012, Mr Mike Clapper was executive principal of St Paul's and Ms Lisa Moloney was principal from 2011-2017.

The current principal, Mr Cameron Herbert, commenced in 2018.

The School's history encompasses steady growth, expanding from the original secondary school to include a primary school in 1998 and a kindergarten in 1999. It has also spread its wings, establishing a Traralgon Campus in 2002 which began with Pre-Kinder to Year 3 students but now is home to more than 450 students through to Year 10, and has committed to further expansion to include Years 11 and 12 by 2027.

The school is now also

planning to offer Early Learning through to Year 2 at a new

campus in Drouin from 2024. The service concluded

with attendees gathering for a whole-school drone photograph.



The six principals of St Paul's, Mr Des Parker, Mr Richard Prideaux, Mr Mark Robertson, Mr Mike Clapper, Ms Lisa Moloney and Mr Cameron Herbert.



St Paul's Prep student Sayarah Dassanayake lighting a candle with St Paul's current principal Mr Cameron Herbert.



Class of 1987 alumnus, Mr Malcom Watts, delivering his keynote speech to the audience at St Paul's 40th Anniversary Service.



St Paul's Prep student Claire French lighting a candle with Mr Mike Clapper, the fourth principal of St Paul's.



St Paul's school captain William Pendergast addressing the audience.



Members of St Paul's first graduating class in 1987: Sam East (nee Gallus), Ilona McLean (nee Kylstra), Malcom Watts, Rich Hume, Paula McKenzie (nee Risstrom), Jacquelyn Lyons, Phil Gallagher, Malcom Amey and Craig Castle.

New TAFE chief

TAFE Gippsland's Board has announced the appointment of Laura Macpherson to the position of chief executive at TAFE Gippsland.

Ms Macpherson's appointment comes following an extensive selection process undertaken by an executive recruitment agency, which saw the Board identify her as the outstanding candidate to lead TAFE Gippsland as their new chief executive.

TAFE Gippsland said Ms Macpherson brings an accomplished set of credentials to TAFE Gippsland, including significant corporate and government experience with senior leadership roles across the transport and education sectors.

Ms Macpherson was most recently interim chief executive and managing director of Box Hill Institute (BHI), following four years in executive roles across Box Hill Institute.

TAFE Gippsland's Board

Chair Paul Buckley PSM said Ms Macpherson's appointment will ensure the Institute can continue to build upon the many successes of the past few years following the rebranding of Federation Training to TAFE Gippsland back in May 2019.

"We are incredibly excited to have someone as highly skilled and capable as Laura Macpherson join TAFE Gippsland," he said.

"This is a very important time for our Institute as we reach the midway point of our 2021/2024 Strategic Plan.

"Our focus remains steadfast on building upon our strong organisational culture, maintaining our financial sustainability and most importantly, continuing to grow the provision of high-quality vocational education and training outcomes for students, businesses, and the communities of Gippsland."

"Laura's leadership experience and expertise will ensure TAFE Gippsland is

well positioned to meet the challenges and opportunities of the coming years ahead and we look forward to her making a significant contribution to our Institute and to

the Gippsland region more broadly."

Ms Macpherson said she was excited for what was in store:

"I am delighted to be join-

ing such an iconic organisation and leading TAFE Gippsland during this exciting period of growth and opportunity," she said.

"I am looking forward to



New TAFE Gippsland chief executive Laura Macpherson.

Traf News puzzle bonanza

Composed by Matilda Ott – Year 7 Trafalgar High School

JUMBLE

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

1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

1.	S	C	E	H	S
2.	E	A	P	L	P
3.	U	M	M	R	Y
4.	T	S	A	D	R
5.	S	I	D	L	E

Target Master

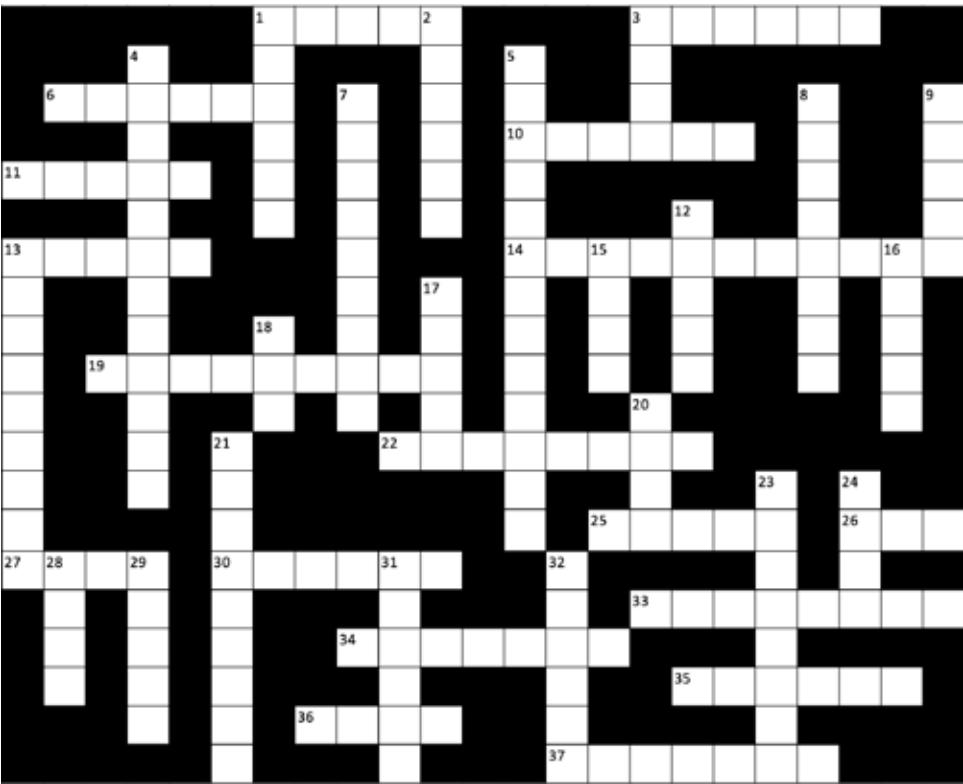
How many words of four letters or more can you make from these nine letters? Each letter may be used only once. The centre letter MUST be included. No slang, foreign or capitalised words, hyphens, apostrophes, or plurals ending in 'S'. Only one form of a verb can be used. Eg. Sing, but not Sings or Singing.

H	C	H
S	O	O
P	T	C

This months targets:

Good 12
Very Good 15
Excellent 18

Crossword



Across

- On a seat or tyre
- Puzzle type
- Outdoor game
- Opposite of ladders
- Friend of Thomas the Tank
- Game for young and old
- Searching game (4,3,4)
- Forceful ball game
- Classic toy cars
- Gaming hedgehog
- Carried on a spoon
- Fast matching card game
- Mystery board game
- Twirled around the body (4,4)
- Most expensive property
- Coloured combination cube
- Gaming console
- Example move 'Left foot red'

Down

- A ride of physics
- Verb for playing electronic games
- Pops out of a box
- Spinning carnival ride
- Party favourite (4,3,6)
- Action character Buzz
- Party costumes
- Beautifying concrete
- Bullseye
- Not included
- Board game essential
- Holds artwork
- Legendary gaming princess
- Barbie's partner
- Make a cat in the cradle
- Aiming for 21
- Wordy board game
- Danish building blocks
- Soft weapon system
- Colourful craft ingredient
- Mythical creature associated with Dungeons
- Jumping chess piece

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: Games & Toys Question: Bouncing fun

Action Figures
Barbie
Checkers
Crayons
Gameboy
GoFish
GuessWho
Hunt
Jenga
Kaleidoscope
Knuckles

Marbles
MarioKart
Memory
Minecraft
Monopoly
MyLittlePony
Playstation
Pogo
Pokemon
Quoits
Rope

Slide
Slinky
Snap
SpinningTop
Spirograph
Tag
Tamagotchi
Transformers
Twister
Uno

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

Easy

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

Hard

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



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.

New interactive resource to learn about Baw Baw's spectacular flora and fauna!

Friends of Drouin Trees have recently launched a new website that features an interactive version of the Baw Baw Shire diversity poster that was developed with support from Baw Baw Shire Council.

The poster (as featured above) was developed in collaboration with local artist Helen Timbury and showcases 56 species of flora and fauna found throughout the Shire.

Judy Farmer of Friends of Drouin Trees says the project was a collaborative venture that can be used as a useful educational tool for school kids and families across the Shire.

"Baw Baw Shire has extraordinary biodiversity and this interactive tool is a great way for the entire community to learn about the unique flora and fauna that's within their own backyard!"

The new website also contains the Friends of Drouin's Trees Birds of Drouin, Birds of Drouin and District and Drouin Tree Walks books, among other nature journals and the Baw Baw Shire Significant Tree Register.

Peter Ware of Friends of Drouin's Trees, who helped put the interactive tool together, hopes the new website will increase awareness of our beautiful natural environment in Baw Baw, "If we don't know what's out there, we can't protect it" he says.

To start exploring, head over to www.bawbawbiodiversity.com

>> bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

Flo Swan awarded one of the CFA's highest honours!



Former captain of Erica and District Fire Brigade, Flo Swan, has been awarded a life membership medal recognising his four decade contribution to the organisation and his community.

Laurence 'Flo' Swan joined the CFA on 25 February 1980 when he registered as an active firefighter with the Erica and District Fire Brigade.

Flo's stoic nature around the brigade and on the fire ground, along with his calming, quick thinking, fearless and decisive leadership style has held the brigade and its community in good stead during times of adversity.

As a mark of respect, the Brigade has officially named its Tanker 1 'Flo' and from now on, it will be known as Flo's Truck!

Read more about Flo and the achievements of many local heroes on the Erica and District Fire Brigade Facebook page www.facebook.com/EricaDistrictFireBrigade



Photo credit: Anne Simmons

Seeking ideas to renew six Baw Baw playgrounds.



Image: St Phillack Reserve, Rawson

Council's 2022/23 Playground renewal Program will see up to \$300,000 of total funding allocated towards renewing play equipment at six sites:

- Bloye Park, Drouin East
- Baw Baw Visa Park, Drouin
- Jacksons Track Playground, Jindivick
- St Phillack Reserve, Rawson
- Macarthur Park, Warragul
- Ellen Close Park, Warragul

As part of the annual program, Council has recently renewed the play equipment at multiple sites including Hackett Park in Longwarry, Drouin Recreation Reserve and Kiah Park in Warragul.

Do you have any ideas for new playground equipment at these sites? Is there existing equipment you and your little one love to use?

If so, we want to hear from you!

We've set up a short survey on Council's website where you can let us know your thoughts by **Monday 12 September**.

Scan the code to submit your design ideas!



Council progresses plans for first permanent library in Trafalgar.

The old Trafalgar Kindergarten at 28 Contingent Street has been identified as the preferred site for a permanent library in Trafalgar, with Council also endorsing concept designs and a recommendation to consider future budget allocation for the project.

Local library organisation My Community Library (MyLi), who provides static library services in Warragul and Drouin, have shown full support for upgrading the current mobile library to a permanent fixture for the growing East Ward community of Trafalgar.

Initial concept designs include a main library space, meeting room, good natural lighting and the potential to expand with a covered outdoor area.



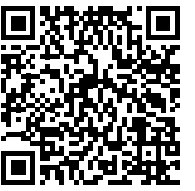
Drouin Library

Provide feedback on Council's draft Memorials Policy.

Our community is regularly seeking clarification from Council on installing memorials such as seats, statues, and plaques in public open spaces.

This identified the need for a formal policy and position on commemorative memorials on Council land including parks, reserves and roadsides.

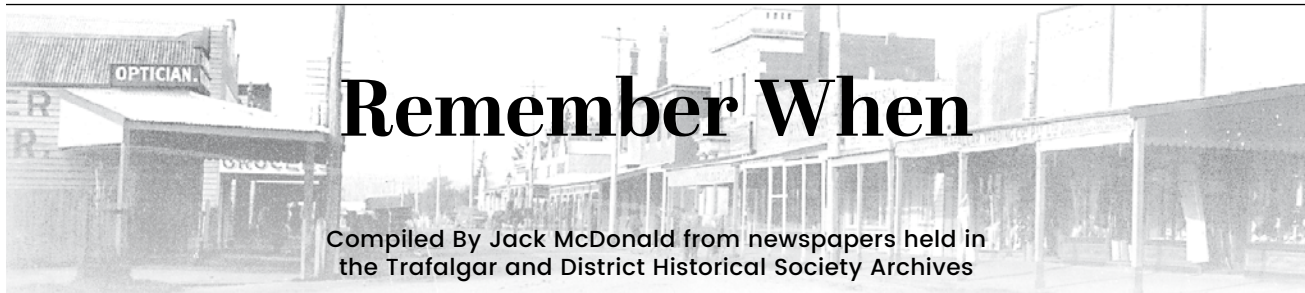
The draft policy is on exhibition now. Scan the code to provide your feedback until **Sunday 25 September**.



[bawbawshirecouncil](https://www.facebook.com/bawbawshirecouncil)

[@bawbawshirecouncil](https://www.instagram.com/bawbawshirecouncil)

1300 BAW BAW (1300 229 229) or 03 5624 2411



Remember When

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

THE TRAFALGAR, YAR-RAGON & YALLOURN NEWS, SEPTEMBER 1932

1 SEPTEMBER – CHAM-PIONS TO SING

Entries from all parts of Gippsland, including school choirs, have been received for the musical competitions to be held at Trafalgar on the 7th and 8th of September. A beautiful silver cup has been donated for competition between the schools by W A Purvis Stores.

15 SEPTEMBER – COUNCIL AND THE SABBATH

At the last meeting of the Narracan Shire Council at Trafalgar on Monday, a letter was read from Mr J Gaunt, secretary of St Mary's Church of England, relative to a recent dance function held on a Sunday at the Trafalgar East Hall, and asking council, (providing it has the necessary power), to take steps to prevent a recurrence, which was objectionable to a large proportion of the community. Mr J. Shanahan (shire secretary) said it was very questionable as to whether the council had any power in this case.

Cr. Harvey said: If they want to dance – let them dance.

22 SEPTEMBER – CHILD BADLY BURNT

Terrible pain was suffered by little Ruth Harbeck of Trafalgar, when her cloths became ignited last Thursday. Ruth, who is aged only 4 years and 7 months was playing with her brother, when a burning piece of paper caught her dress and the flames spread to all her clothing. The little sufferer was taken to the private hospital at Trafalgar with cruel burns to her body. Dr Swain administered an anaesthetic as a temporary respite to the little girl's suffering. She is now making some progress.

THE GIPPSLAND NEWS, SEPTEMBER 1962

6 SEPTEMBER – TENDER ACCEPTED FOR HIGH SCHOOL

The Minister for Public Works, Mr Petty, has accepted a £67,760 (\$2,017,165 today) tender for the erection of the new High School at Trafalgar.

The successful tenderer was a local building contractor, Mr A E Petch, of Trafalgar.

CHAMPION SWIMMER VISITS TRAFALGAR

Recognised as the world's fastest woman swimmer, Dawn Fraser visited Trafalgar on Sunday in company with Miss Wendy Walters and Zelda Walters of Canterbury. Dawn is at present training for the Commonwealth Games in Perth.

STREET TREES PLANTED

Do the people in Princes Avenue, McCrorey Street and Contingent Street, Trafalgar, realise they have street trees planted in front of their homes? These trees were planted by members of the Narracan Shire Young Farmers Club, who would appreciate it if the trees were looked at occasionally to see if they are still growing.

13 SEPTEMBER – MEN'S BOWLING CLUB

The recently formed Trafalgar Park Men's Bowling Club is now planning and looking forward to the coming year of bowls. Under the presidency of Mr K Neilson the club, although consisting of a number of newcomers to the ancient sport, should give a good account of themselves. Honorary membership has been bestowed on two veteran bowlers, Mr "Pop" Higgins and Mr Lew Ewert.

FOOTBALL NEWS

Congratulations to Bill Milroy on winning Trafalgar's best and fairest player award. Bill is having a wonderful season and should be one of our trump cards in the finals. Runner-up was brilliant winger Len Hayes who is having his best season yet. Col Ashby won the Seconds best and fairest with veteran Mossie Morgan runner-up.

20 SEPTEMBER – HOME INVADED

The home of Mr and Mrs J Allen, of Anzac Road, Trafalgar, was invaded by a number of teenagers on Sunday last with the object of securing the autograph of world champion swimmer Dawn Fraser who was spending the day with friends in Trafalgar.

APEX "SLAVE FOR A DAY"

The "Slave for a Day" competition will be drawn soon. The lucky winner of the competition will receive 100 hours of unskilled labour which is to be supplied by members of the Apex Club.

27 SEPTEMBER – HIGH-WAY PROTEST

At the last meeting of the Narracan Shire Council held at Trafalgar on 14 September, the council agreed to support the protest of W H Matthews and 14 other ratepayers whose properties about the Princes Highway, Trafalgar, in a protest to the Country Roads Board against the acquisition of six feet of frontage (1.8 metres) from their properties for the purpose of widening the Princes Highway.

TRAF NEWS, SEPTEMBER 2004 HOUSE PRICES EXPLODE

House values in Baw Baw Shire have continued to explode this year in a price boom that appears to be skyrocketing. In Trafalgar, prices climbed in line with the shire average at 19 per cent from \$118,000 to \$140,000 (\$169,550 to \$201,165 today). But since 1994, Trafalgar has recorded an 84 per cent increase with a median house in 1994 being \$76,000 (\$142,000 today).

Trafalgar has also seen two major residential subdivisions approved by council this year with up to 400 new house blocks expected to be marketed in the short term future.

WALKING SCHOOL BUS PROGRAM

Baw Baw Shire Council has been successful in obtaining funding from VicHealth to implement the Walking School Bus Program across eight schools in the municipality. The Walking School Bus Program occurs when primary school aged children walk to and from school in small supervised groups on a regular basis.

Baw Baw Shire Mayor Cr. Ruth McDonald said that the Walking School Bus Program has considerable community benefits through creating a healthy environment for children to walk to and from school. NEW EXCHANGE STU-

DENT

Trafalgar Rotary Club welcomes Molly Wilson from Newton, Iowa, USA. Molly is the club's "in-bound" Exchange student for 2004-05. She is currently being hosted by Peter Cook and Isobel Robertson in Moe and is attending Trafalgar High School, where she is settling in as a Year 10 student.

Molly became Trafalgar Community Bank's first international customer on the day she arrived in Australia.

GRANDPARENTS DAY AT ST. JOSEPHS

Our Grandparents Day this year was another wonderful occasion and, with the help from our fantastic Parents and Friends Group, we managed to feed and entertain 96 grandparents.

We started the day with a liturgy in the church and then the eager grandchildren took all the grandparents to the meal table that was set up in the Big Room.

After the first course of soup, each class presented a musical item or recited a poem. Later the grandparents were taken on a tour of the school by the children.

TRAFALGAR PLAYGROUP

New to town? Kids bored at home? Want to meet new friends? Then why not come to Playgroup! Playgroup is a place where parents/carers bring their children to play and socialise with other children.

Trafalgar Playgroup is held every Thursday, 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Scout Hall in Kitchener Street.

TRAFALGAR FOOTBALL CLUB

The Trafalgar Football Club lost yet another past player a few weeks back with the passing of Tommy Ryan. Tom Played over 50 senior games for Trafalgar from 1950 until 1955 and in 1954 he was selected on the half-back flank in the inaugural team that defeated the Gippsland FL.

In the same year Tom won the TFC "Most Attentive to Training" award.

REFLECTION

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

REFLECTION

Reflection

By Moira Dodsworth

Nature and Attitude

For a few days, I am away on a retreat with some of my colleagues. I left yesterday afternoon and with my trusty phone, I plugged it into the car, pressed the button and off we set.

The weather was not good, it was raining, at times heavily. I took the back road as I have done many times before, at least there weren't the trucks and slippery patches on the highway. I connected to my audio book and relaxed into driving mode.

We got closer to the destinations, further from roads I knew, it started to get dark, the book was riveting and I just turned and did what the GPS told me.

Finally, when it really was dark, we turned onto a dirt road. I wasn't sure about this, but I would not get anywhere if I could not trust my GPS, map reading is not my strong point. I regularly take the scenic route.

When the directions stopped, I did too, I was lost. In the dark, with no idea where I was and I was late. I had sent a message of warning but ... I phoned and was told – 'no dirt roads'. Turn on the light in the car, reset maps on my phone, don't burst into tears or just go home. I could do this - even turning the car around on a dirt road, in the rain, in the dark and my reversing camera decidedly murky. I did it and 40 minutes later, having to go back the way I had come, I arrived!

It was wonderful to see friends and food and the welcome, not too many comments about my sense of direction. One couple admitted that they had been taken down the same road once. I headed for bed, tired and not too expectant of the next few days, the weather report was not good. But I woke this morning to the most beautiful day, the sun shone in the window, blue sky and what

a view. I am staying at Lake Tyres, my cabin looks onto the water. The water sparkles and laps gently on the sand. I seem to see forever into the distance, the gentle breeze as the birds skim over the lake and others potter along the sand, stopping and burrowing with their beaks. I hear the whipbirds and currawongs.

We are blessed to live in Gippsland, on earth and to be able to enjoy the creation. A retreat from all the activities in my life now seems the most wonderful opportunity.

I can feel even my bones relaxing.

How attitude and a night can change things. The difficult journey makes the destination worth travelling to, this can be true of life too.

Don't give up when things are hard, you never know how wonderful the ending might be. Enjoy the journey.

Holden Museum car of the month

By Bob Moss

The Willys Jeep

As the war clouds began to gather in the late 1930s, the need for a small, mobile 4WD vehicle became pressing.

The specifications were very demanding: 590kg maximum weight; 270kg payload; wheelbase less than 2032mm; track less than 1194mm; height less than 914mm, with wind-screen folded; three-seat capacity; engine with minimum of 115Nm of torque and a speed range from 5 km/h up to 80km/h; and four wheel drive with a two-speed transfer case.

The contract required 70 evaluation vehicles to be delivered within 75 days, or a penalty of \$5 per vehicle per day would be payable!

American Bantam took a punt on meeting the deadline, but Willys Overland knew it could not meet that

schedule and opted for a higher bid that included the penalty for 120-day delivery. The Willys Overland vehicle was to be powered by a new 90hp petrol four-cylinder engine.

It didn't take long for the test results to start coming in from test tracks all over the USA and the Willys unit was clearly ahead of the others.

Interestingly, ease of transportation by rail was an important part of the vehicle's design.

They were designed to be stacked two-high without damage.

This was done by ensuring the heavier-laden front wheels rested on the cargo-carrying inner rear mudguards of the vehicle below, while the lighter rear wheels sat on the front mudguards of the vehicle below.



Willys Jeep converted to a rail train.



Willys Jeep converted into an ambulance.

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	wombatlions@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			5633 2208
Lions Club	David Koschade	trafalgarlions@gmail.com	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

SHEEP HEALTH CONCERNS

Animal experts have shed concern for sheep health this season, as rising rates of sickness in ewes feeding twin lambs, problems with internal parasites, and foot issues persist.

Senior Veterinary Officer Dr Jeff Cave is among the experts who have raised concerns for sheep health this season following recurring issues brought to his attention by various producers.

“This year I have been hearing of difficult lambings due to large single lambs, sickness in ewes feeding twin lambs, problems with internal parasites, and foot issues,” Dr Cave said.

“I consider these issues are related to this year’s seasonal conditions.

“Think back to late summer, usually a time of hot, dry conditions and a feed deficit, when we had abnormally high rainfall and pasture growth resembling the height of spring.

“This would have led to pregnant ewes being in a higher average body condition score than normal, leading to larger than normal single lambs and lambing difficulties.

“It would have also led to higher-than-normal worm burdens and the breakdown of summer worm control programs.

“Furthermore, these conditions would have favoured the expression and spread of benign and virulent footrot in

those flocks that have it.

“Moving forward a few months to recent times, worm burdens will have continued to build, and foot issues will have continued to express themselves.

“For most flock owners, a drenching program guided by faecal egg counts, and foot bathing for flocks that require it, will be the best way of managing this situation,” he continued.

“Overall, in many cases, there has been a lowering plane of nutrition, meaning that ewes in high body condition feeding twin lambs were in an energy deficit and had to use their fat reserves to compensate, the result being pregnancy toxemia or ‘twin lamb’ disease.

“This is best improved by using an energy-rich supplement such as grain or pellets.”

Dr Cave said a complex management plan is needed to control the issues and advises producers to contact their local veterinarian, Agriculture Victoria veterinary, or animal health officer for further direction

GAP YEAR PROGRAM AIMS TO GET KIDS WORKING IN FARMING SECTOR

As Australia grapples with a national labour shortage, young school leavers have been helping keep the agriculture supply chain afloat through a national agriculture gap year program.

The success of the first year

of National Farmers Federation’s (NFF) AgCAREERSTART saw more than 300 people apply to the program, to be placed with farmers across the country across multiple industries including grains, livestock, horticulture and dairy.

NFF is once again on the hunt for the next generation of agriculture leaders to apply for the AgCAREERSTART 12-month gap year program.

NFF chief executive officer Tony Mahar said the program had seen school leavers learn new skills while assisting farmers to fill critical labour gaps.

“The impact of Australia’s current labour shortage is already being felt by farmers across the country, with an estimated \$22 million in crop losses having already been reported,” Mr Mahar said.

“The AgCAREERSTART program is a new way of building a skilled workforce to complement the in demand skills farmers need and to help innovate industry practices.

“The partnerships forged in round one of AgCAREERSTART have been a huge success for farmers and students alike, with students learning about farm data capture and mapping and operating state-of-the-art machinery.

“Many of the participants are moving out of home for the first time and learning essential life skills such as cooking, communication and problem-solving skills, as well as undertaking training that will help

in their future careers such as obtaining a first aid certificate, truck licence or forklift ticket.”

Through AgCAREERSTART, participants are employed under award wages on qualified farms for up to 12 months.

Participants receive safety training and relocation assistance and have the opportunity to join the farm after their completion of the program. Gavin Dal Broi is a cotton farmer in Griffith, NSW who is participating in the inaugural year of the program.

He said the program had been a boon in ensuring tasks got done in time, in a period of uncertainty as they face rising labour costs.

“It’s been a struggle the last couple of years to find labour with COVID-19 restrictions and the lack of backpackers and seasonal workers - we’ve been flat out trying to get anyone to join,” he said.

“The program has worked out really well. Our participant Julian is learning as he goes, and it’s been easy introducing him to the farm. I want to apply for the gap program every year, the more people that we take on means more young people working in ag in the future.”

Emma Pretorius is currently completing the AgCAREERSTART program on a dairy farm in Meander, Tasmania with dairy farmers, Brian and Michele Lawrence.

She said her time on Jane-field Dairy has presented her

with a range of new and interesting challenges.

“Ranging from milking early in the mornings to feeding out in the afternoons, every task I’ve been given has provided me with lifelong skills and values. I can honestly say the past few months have been the most engaging and interesting months of my life and I’m overly excited for more to come,” she said.

Applications for both farmer hosts and participants are now open. For more information and to register your interest visit www.agcareerstart.com.au

CHECK LEGALITY OF YOUR FIREWOOD

The Conservation Regulator and Parks Victoria are urging people to help stop illegal firewood operators, by asking some key questions before they buy wood this winter.

Each year, Victorians are caught out unintentionally buying illegally sourced firewood, which can lead to the loss of important wildlife habitat such as hollow logs and dead trees.

Firewood is often sold on social media websites, at roadside stalls and by word-of-mouth, and it can be difficult for customers to know where it comes from.

Conservation Regulator regulatory operations director Ash Bunce is asking the community to help catch those doing the wrong thing.

“If the firewood seems relatively cheap compared to

other local sellers, or the seller can’t tell you where the wood is from, it could be because it has been obtained illegally, and most likely from public land such as national parks or state forests,” he said.

Mr Bruce is urging people to consider questions including: Where does this wood come from? Firewood sellers should be able to provide details of where the wood they are supplying is sourced from.

This includes a wholesale supplier, commercial wood lot or private land, with the permission of the landowner.

Firewood sellers should also be able provide a tax receipt with a business name and ABN listed. Other questions could include, “Why is the wood so cheap?”

If firewood is being purchased through social media and seems cheap, ask the supplier why.

Parks Victoria enforcement and regulatory services senior manager, Mark Breguet, said the impacts of illegally removing firewood from parks and reserves lasts for generations.

“It is critical for the protection of these areas and the species that rely upon timber for habitat, that purchasers of firewood ensure it is legally sourced,” he said.

For more information, visit www.vic.gov.au/ buying-firewood.

Small connection to Olivia Newton-John

By Liam Durkin

Australians mourned the death of singer-songwriter Olivia Newton-John last month.

Readers might be interested to know the Grammy Award-winner had some connection to the Latrobe Valley - albeit a very vague one.

Newton-John’s older brother Hugh was in fact a doctor, who served in Moe for a period during the 1990s.

Hugh Newton-John worked at Tanjil Place Medical Centre. He was a noted infectious diseases specialist, described as tall, slim and introspective.

After graduating from

Melbourne University Medical School in 1962, the eldest of the three Newton-John siblings worked primarily at Fairfield Infectious Diseases Hospital, Melbourne during the 1970s and 1980s.

The hospital was closed, despite protest campaigns, in 1996, leading Newton-John to move to the Latrobe Valley.

Upon moving to the area, he lived in Coalville with his family, and continued to consult in Moe even after returning to live in the city.

It is reported that he occasionally wore a ‘Moe’ t-shirt on social occasions, featuring the character Moe Howard

from The Three Stooges.

Hugh Newton-John slowly disappeared from view later in life, and died in 2019 aged 79.

His other older sister Rona died in 2013.

Olivia shared a collage of photos on Instagram at the time of her brother’s death, posting: “My dear, sweet, gentle, clever, brother Hugh passed away May 7, 2019, in Melbourne, Australia after many years of decline. I love him so and will miss him terribly”.



A young Olivia Newton-John at front, pictured with father Brinley, brother Hugh, mother Irene and sister Rona. Hugh Newton-John served as a doctor in Moe during the 1990s.

Your chance to own a town

By Michelle Slater

into a foodie destination.

He said there was also the possibility of the prospective owner selling off the 21 titles.

The property has been in the hands of the Melbourne-based Holyoak family since the mid 1960s, but is up sale with the next-generation unable to look after it.

Lloyd Holyoak fell in love with the place after staying a night there with his family, and ended up gradually acquiring all 21 titles with his son Colin, who recently passed away.

“I’m very saddened by the fact it’s being sold, but I hope it will be revitalised and remain historic and will become a lovely little village,” Mr Holyoak said.

“If somebody takes it on, they will never look back, whoever takes it on is looking at a goldmine. There is so much potential there, it’s unbelievable.”

The former gold, copper

and lime kiln town was once home to 250 people, but became deserted in the 1950s before taken over by the Holyoaks, who turned it into a thriving weekend spot.

The Holyoaks refurbished the pub after it was burnt down by vandals about 23 years ago. The village hosted music festivals, wood chopping championships and sporting events.

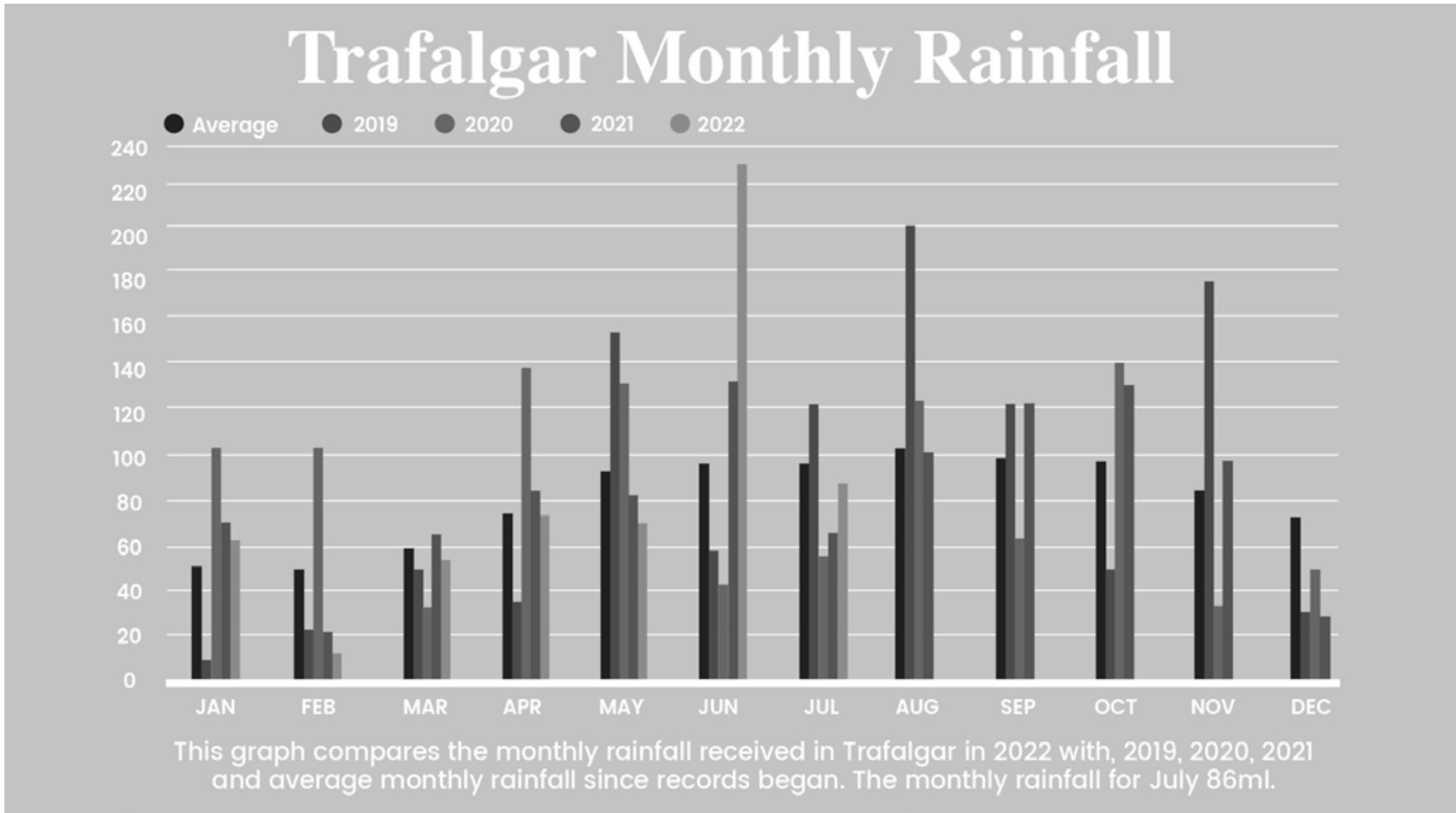
Mr Holyoak said Coopers Creek was also favoured by some famous faces including Archibald Prize winning painter Sir William Dargie and the Grollo family.

“The pub was packed with people, there are so many stories to be told. We had a good chef and the meals were great, the people who went there never stopped talking about it,” he said.

“It was a great place, the fun we had was tremendous. It’s just a lovely area.”



The historic Coopers Creek township is up for sale.



Finals time at Bloods

By Liam Durkin

Most teams at the Trafalgar Football-Netball Club are in the midst of finals action.

The club had seven of nine teams qualify: Senior and reserves football and A Grade, B Grade, 17s, 15s and 13s netball.

In the lead-up to finals, the battle against traditional rival Yarragon took place.

Some great contests played out, with Trafalgar eventually retaining the Waterloo Trophy.

The senior team had to dig deep in the last term, kicking six goals to one to win by 29 points. Dylan Farrell led the way with a best-on-ground display, and received good support from Mitch Virtue, Damien Mann (four goals),

Matt Van Schajik, Tristan Marslen and Matt Devon.

The reserves also had a close match, and ended up winning by 20 points. Dan Puglia kicked five goals in a sound display. Others to play well were Angus Templeton, Ben Doran, Karl Mutke, Tom Tuck and Brady Heywood.

The Under 16s were soundly beaten. Better play-

ers were Riley Timbs, Tory Clancy, Owen-McLeod-Agland, Liam Coulthard and Toby McCabe.

A Grade put on a strong show, and won by some distance. The team found good contributions from Abbey Sneddon and Dani Davies.

B Grade also dominated, and gave their percentage a decent boost. Best players were Bec Farrell and Cass Wass.

C Grade had a competitive game, with the final scoreboard reading 35-22 in favour of Trafalgar. Sheridyn Bell played well, as did Cass Fry.

In junior grades, the 17s and 15s were victorious. Best players in the former were Tillie Mansfield and Tilly King, and Calli Koch and Imogen Smith in the latter.

The Under 13s had a close match decided by just seven goals. Best-on-court was Zoe Birks, followed by Isabella Nardone.

The next weeks saw Traf only manage one goal in the middle two quarters against Buln Buln in the seniors. The Bloods only kicked four for the day in a final margin that showed a 49-point defeat.

The side struggled to adapt to the smaller ground, but in the words of one official will be "better for the run".

Opposing ruckman were best for their respective sides, with Dylan Farrell the Bloods most prominent. Others to play well were Mitch Virtue, Blake Slater, Blake Radford, Jace Butler and Damien Mann.

The reserves won a competitive match, getting up by 16 points. Not much separated the teams, but a three goal to one final term saw the Bloods victorious. Ben Doran, Ash James, Blake Zimora, Tom Tuck, Brett Cameron and Jacob Matthews all played well.

In the Under 16s, the team had a good win by 15 points. Making the trip to Buln, the Bloods found enough avenues to goal to ensure they sang the song. Trafalgar was

well served by Juddson Ryan, Archie Fraser, Olly Hennessy, Angus Carlson and Owen McLeod-Agland.

Over on the netball courts, A Grade had a 30-goal win. Traf controlled most of the contest, and ran away with the game 59-29. Tara Potts was best on, while Dani Davies wasn't far behind.

B Grade played out a good game, but lost 54-62. Teams traded momentum throughout the contest, which was highlighted by Cass Wass and Tessa Sneddon playing well for the red and white.

C Grade had similar fortunes, and were defeated 27-37. Ebony McDonald put in a solid performance, as did the ever-honest Meg Charles.

Junior netball returned two wins from three starts. The 17s won 39-25, with Tessa Farrell and Calli Koch best on. 15s lost to a superior team, but found good contributions from Ella Cosgriff and Maisie Manfield. 13s won 33-18, with Lucy Coulthard and Chloe Smith the most serviceable.

The following game was played against Nilma Darum away.

The senior team powered to a big victory. Damien Mann kicked nine goals, while five others kicked multiples. Mann was among the best, along with Matt Van Schajik, Jace Butler, Dylan Farrell, Blake Radford and Matt Swenson.

The reserves had a similarly one-sided game, and were able to enjoy a comfortable win. Brett Cameron had a day out, kicking six goals, and was joined by Dan Puglia nabbing nine. Mitchell Smart, Dylan Gauci, Luke O'Neill and Atueta Guivalu also played well for the Bloods.

The fourths had a disappointing day out at Lang Lang. Traf led at quarter time, and was in the game at the main break, before their opponents broke away. Toby Radford, Tory Clancy, Toby McCabe, Archie Fraser and Oliver Hennessy played well.

A Grade had a thrilling game decided by one goal. Unfortunately for Traf, they were on the undesirable side of that one goal. Lucy Finlay and Leah Liddell were best.

B Grade had a competitive game, and won 59-51. The side was challenged at times, but responded well when the chips were down. Cass Wass and Immy Smith saw the team to victory.

C Grade lost 33-42. Meg Holdsworth was best-on-court, and is now surely counting down the days to cricket season. Jaimee Vosper did a good job also.

In the cutthroat world that is junior netball, Trafalgar had a clean sweep. The 17s found good service from Immy Smith and Tilly King, the 15s from Tilly King and Tahlia Hammond, and the 13s, who won a heart stopper by one, from Zoe Birks and Chloe Smith.

Following this, the Bloods faced the yardstick of the competition in Neerim.

Traf led by two points at the last change of the senior game at home, but had to contend with running second on the day. Matt Van Schajik, Jace Butler, Angus Templeton, Dylan Farrell, Klay Butler and Blake Radford were best.

It was a similar story in the reserves. Only four points separated teams at three quarter time, but Neerim finished the stronger of the two. Ben Doran, Mitchell Smart, Jackson Noonan, Brodie Burgess, Harrison Malady and Ben Cunico played well.

The fourths battled hard in a low scoring grind played on an icy morning. Toby Radford, Juddson Ryan and William Bremner did a good job, as did Owen McLeod-Agland and Mitch Clardige who are both set for a big season of cricket.

Netball action saw A Grade face a good challenge. The team was undone by a strong opposition who by all reports are Gippsland League quality. Tara Potts was best for Traf, followed by Ellie Farmer.

B Grade had a great win, getting up by five goals. The Broods traded momentum with their adversaries throughout the game, and came out on top thanks to the efforts of Maddie Worth and Lia Daley.

C Grade lost in what was a competitive game that could have gone either way. Best players for Traf were Brandi King and Meg Holdsworth making a late charge to the best-and-fairest.

Junior netball returned a clean sweep of wins. The 17s were best served by Tessa Farrell and Immy Smith, the 15s by Tahlia Hammond and Steph Burslem and the 13s by Isabella Nardone, Chloe Smith and Joja Burslem.

When Gippsland was on the VFL stage

By Liam Durkin

DID you know Gippsland once had a VFL team?

Traralgon Football Club made the unprecedented step in the mid-90s of going from a country football club, to playing in a league only one level below the AFL.

The idea was to have the best players from Gippsland playing for Traralgon in the VFL.

To mark 25 years since the Maroons time in the VFL came to an end, here is look back to what is arguably the greatest footballing achievement from any team in Gippsland.

SETTING THE SCENE

Traralgon was certainly the team to beat in Gippsland League football during the 1990s.

The Maroons won four premierships, including three-in-a-row between 1990 and 1992, and made the grand final every season from the start of the decade up until 1995.

Such was their dominance, interleague sides were generally made up of a dozen or so Traralgon players.

While they were happily enjoying tasting flag success most seasons, things were happening in Melbourne that would lead the powers-at-be sounding out Traralgon to embark on a new challenge.

Talk of Traralgon entering the VFL gained momentum in 1995. In July of that year, the Maroons faithful was addressed by VSFL chief Ken Gannon, and asked if they wanted to vote on a potential move.

PROS AND CONS

Understandably, debate raged on the issue of whether or not a country football team competing in a state league would be a viable prospect.

Of most pressing concern was the need for Traralgon to maintain its local identity.

That meant, fielding a VFL team with the best players from across the region, and also keeping its senior, reserve and thirds team to play in the Gippsland League.

The concept received support from the then Latrobe Shire, and local MP Peter Hal, while Traralgon president John Cameron believed the club needed a new challenge.

Others however, like late legendary Morwell adminis-

trator Stan Morgan, weren't so sure.

"To some extent Traralgon's business is their business, but now it affects us all," he said.

"I think this will be done to the detriment of football in the area.

"What the VSFL is saying is we want you (Traralgon) to round up your best colts and put them in the one paddock so it's easier for us to have a good look at them.

"If the clubs at either end of the league find their best players gone, they have to start weighing up their options."

GO AHEAD

After much deliberation, Traralgon members voted overwhelmingly to join the VFL.

Members were asked to decide by postal vote, with 70 per cent voting in favour of entering two teams in the VFL and three in the Gippsland League.

The news was made official in early August 1995, and from there, it was all systems go.

Mark Seymour was appointed general manager of the Maroons, and the VFL provided the club some financial assistance to make the transition.

The Maroons selected a VFL list, which would share facilities with the local team. Those not selected for the VFL side would play for their nominated home club.

A RUDE AWAKENING

Traralgon appointed St Kilda 200-gamer Geoff Joffa Cunningham coach and Greg Morley captain for its first season in the VFL.

Bairnsdale's Peter Hopkins and Traralgon's Martin Cameron were named vice captains.

With a 'Gippsland' team now playing in the VFL, the opportunity was there for local players to test themselves at a higher level.

The Maroons had 10 Traralgon players for its first game as a VFL club, against Frankston on Sunday, April 7 1996.

The Dolphins, coached by Norm Smith Medalist David Rhys Jones, showed the new kids on the block no mercy, winning by 112 points 22.18 (150) to 5.8 (38).

Despite the baptism of fire, the Maroons did not have to wait long to toast their first victory, which came in Round 4 against fel-

low country club North Balarat, who had also joined the VFL for the 1996 season.

Unfortunately, it was to be the only highpoint for the season. The Maroons did not win another match, and ended the year in last place.

AN UNTIMEY DEMISE

Traralgon fared slightly better in 1997, winning three games and drawing one under the coaching of Geoff Hocking.

However, the financial pressure to remain in the VFL took its toll, and meant the Maroons time in the big league was over just as quickly as it started.

The Maroons had a few external factors to deal with, such as the makeup of its VFL list, which prevented emergencies playing with their nominated home club.

As one can imagine, the home clubs and the players themselves weren't entirely pleased about missing a weekend of football.

Adding to the troubles was a somewhat bizarre directive from the VFL that prevented cars being parked around the ground, on the basis it "detracted" from the image the league was looking to portray.

While their time as a VFL club was short-lived, Cameron said it was still a wonderful experience.

"For my football growth it was awesome, I'm just so pleased I had the opportunity to do it, playing VFL while still living in your home town was great," he said.

"It made us better footballers and people in general from having to work harder and play harder and train harder.

"It was an eye-opener, just a massive jump in standard for everybody and playing Sunday football because we were always Saturday's, most of the VFL was on Sunday.

"Playing in the backline the ball was always down there, and you would always play on the best forwards.

"It was good, every second week we would have a quality VFL side coming to Traralgon."

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

One of the more popular theories surrounding why Traralgon's stay in the VFL didn't last long is simply to do with the naming of the team.

In the eyes of some, calling the team Traralgon automatically meant players who

perhaps should have tried out refused to do so.

Like most things, context is needed, and as anyone who played football in Gippsland during the 1990s will be able to tell you - club rivalries ran very deep.

So deep, the task of convincing a Moe or Morwell player to even consider wearing a Traralgon jumper in the VFL would have bordered on sacrilegious.

Cameron understood the animosity-side of the argument.

"If it was called 'Gippsland' I think we would have got a lot more players wanting to try out, giving that whole-league feeling. I think having the name Traralgon ... guys were a little

reluctant to come over, especially the first year," he said.

"It was a lot easier the second year but unfortunately financially just too hard for the club. If it had been a Gippsland team I think being able to get money from right across Gippsland would have made it a lot easier."

AFTERMATH

Coming back from the VFL, Traralgon picked up where they left off, winning the first of three consecutive Gippsland League premierships in 1998.

That meant the Maroons had won six of the 10 flags on offer during the 90s.

The only years they missed the grand final were 1996 and 1997 when the bulk

of their side was off playing VFL.

Possibly the most overlooked fact is this: Traralgon's local senior team still made finals in both years it was in the VFL. Talk about having depth.

Today, there are remnants from the Maroons' days in the VFL. A couple of jumpers behind glass adorn an area above the social room bar, while the VFL logo is still fixed to a sign in the gym section of the Traralgon rooms.

The only known footage of Traralgon playing in the VFL comes from Round 9, 1997 against Box Hill. Those interested viewing can access via <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEbB3K6aYIU>



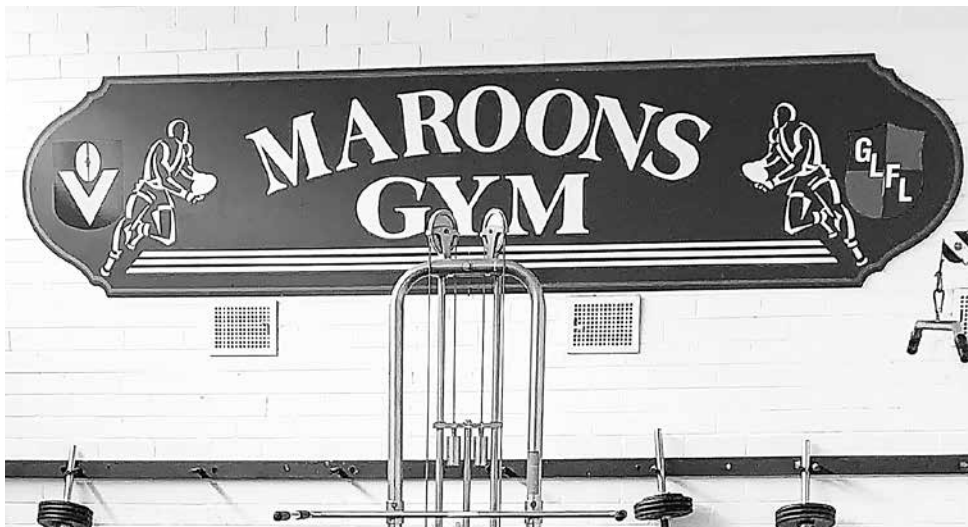
Rhys Holdsworth and Ella McDonald display the Waterloo Trophies, won after Trafalgar Football-Netball Club defeated rival Yarragon in a cumulative total of football and netball matches.



Traralgon Football Club general manager Mark Seymour (standing) overseeing the finer details with AFL offsideer Ricky Hayward.



The first winning Traralgon VFL team in 1996.



A small remnant of the Maroons time in the VFL is still visible inside the change rooms. (Photo: Liam Durkin).

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Cricket starts next month

By Liam Durkin

Trafalgar Cricket Club will begin its 2022/23 season in a few weeks' time.

The Ships have been working hard on and off field in the lead-up to the new season, with players undertaking indoor training at the Moe Indoor Centre while the committee has everything in order to hit the ground running come the first week of

competition.

Leading the club as president is Daniel Heathcote in his third term, with Brendan Dawson his vice. Reagan Montgomery is continuing as treasurer and Liam Durkin as secretary.

New A Grade captain Aydan Connolly is eager to begin the season, continuing the good work of predecessors Rhys Holdsworth, Jack-

son Noonan and Heathcote.

Connolly recently returned from playing in the UK, where he teamed-up with former Trafalgar Cricket Club international Nick Gurney.

With the season beginning next month there is general excitement throughout the club and playing group.

The clubrooms have received an upgrade, with a

new large-screen television mounted to the wall. The new TV is certainly an upgrade from the old projector, which required a pool cue to turn off and on.

All in Trafalgar cricket circles are hoping the season is a successful one, as Trafalgar again looks to field three senior teams and junior teams in Under 16s, 14s and 12s.

Coming off the back of a

competitive 2021/22 season, the Trafalgar Cricket Club is expecting performances across the grades to display the Ships trademark blue collar spirit as the club seeks further premiership glory.

The club receives great support from local businesses and spectators who follow the teams around the district for which it is extremely grateful. Sponsors and sup-

porters allow the club to execute its core business which is to provide a place for people to play and enjoy cricket.

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



The Trafalgar Cricket Club is looking forward to another season.



Junior cricketers are encouraged to join a team at Trafalgar.

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500 for Smith

By Liam Durkin

Local football umpire Mark Smith recently celebrated his 500th game.

Smith brought up the milestone at the Yinnar vs Meeniyan Dambulk United match last month.

Smith joined the Latrobe Valley Umpires Association in 1990 and, with a few years off here and there, has just ticked over his 25th year of service with the association this year.

He was awarded with life membership in 2006 in recognition of his service.

Smith has served in a

number of roles over his years in both committee and board, being an advisor, a director, junior and senior vice president at various times throughout.

He also has numerous grand final selections to his name, including two Gippsland League Senior Field Grand Finals and two Mid Gippsland Senior Field Grand Finals.

In a nice touch, Smith has umpired a few games this season with son Liam, who is gaining a reputation as the most focussed boundary umpire in Gippsland.

Smithy senior and junior are both active members of the Trafalgar Cricket Club, contributing greatly to the life and times of the Ships.

The senior Smith has been a godsend to players after coming on board as head masseur, and has also graciously been club bus driver on many occasions to which the club is very thankful.

One of the highlights of the last cricket season was Smith's game-winning 68 not out.

Congratulations Smithy!



Local football umpire Mark Smith reached the 500 game milestone last month.