

Traf News

February 2023 – Edition 257

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CELEBRATING TRAFALGAR'S CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

Glenys Ralls and Bob Moss, two Trafalgar stalwarts, are our joint citizens of the year for 2023.

Both have contributed to the Trafalgar community over a number of years in different fields, and are both very worthy citizen of the year.

Glenys has been a life-long member of the Trafalgar community, throughout which time she has raised her family and been a reliable support to a wide variety of community groups.

From the early days of Young Farmers then play group, she became a committee member in scouts, guides and pony club and acted as timekeeper to the football club during the 1980s and 90s.

She has volunteered many hours of her time at St Joseph's Primary School and helped there over the 40 years of her children and grandchildren's lives.

As time moved on, Glenys assisted with events and functions with the Country Women's Association and volunteered for Meals on Wheels for many years.

St John's Catholic Church has awarded her a life membership, recognising her volunteer support with cleaning, donations and help with other church members.

She has been a member of Trafalgar and District Historical Society for many years,

having held the position of treasurer and magazine sales officer. She is currently a member of a Trafalgar Bible Study Group, Probus, and also volunteers at Andrews House.

Glenys enjoys many other activities in the Gippsland area, such as volunteering weekly at 3WA Radio in Morwell and ballroom dancing, to which she takes those in the community who are unable to drive themselves.

When told she had received the citizen of the year award, Glenys said she was surprised and thought that the phone call must have been for something else.

Then, subsequently going through her community activities over the past 50 years, she even surprised herself with the amount of volunteering she had undertaken, thanking the many people who helped her on her journey through the various organisations in which she has been involved.

She said her parents were also a significant influence on her as both were heavily involved in volunteering activities within the Trafalgar community.

Quoting St Mary Mackillop, Glenys sees her attitude to the community as "never see the need without doing something about it".

Bob Moss will be currently recognised for his monthly article in Traf News, outlining Trafalgar Holden Museum's car of the month.

um's car of the month.

However, his outstanding contribution to the museum includes everything from painting walls, cleaning, restoring displays, hosting tour groups, writing articles for their display boards and leading the cataloguing team.

He tirelessly researches records of all exhibits and his wealth of knowledge is considered irreplaceable.

Bob is familiar with taking on responsible roles in a variety of community groups.

He was secretary of Trafalgar Primary School Council and Trafalgar Football Club for several years, coached junior football and was awarded clubman of the year for his efforts there.

He took his turn as cub leader in Trafalgar Scout Group, helping boys towards earning their badges, organising camps and competitions with other district cub packs, plus support for the paper and bottle drives about town.

He also led bushwalks for several years with West Gippsland Bushwalking Club.

More recently, Bob is an active member of Probus, having served time as president, secretary and tour leader.

He helped upgrade the Trafalgar RSL building and the relocation of the cenotaph, and compiled articles and photographs for a book covering the Trafalgar postal and telephone history.

Bob was also very pleased to receive the award, saying he felt proud to receive it, and appreciated it very much, and the fact that others thought he was worthy to receive it.

Humbly, he said that he didn't expect to receive the award, and that he "just did what normal people would do".

No nominations for the Trafalgar's Youth Citizen of the Year were received.



Trafalgar's 2023 Citizens of the Year, Bob Moss and Glenys Ralls.

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Council commits to advancing Baw Baw's most pressing needs in 2023

Baw Baw Shire Council has committed to advancing the region's most pressing needs in 2023, by putting forward a set of draft advocacy priorities designed to balance the challenges of growth while enhancing Baw Baw's lifestyle, character and environment. Council is now actively inviting community feedback on the draft priorities to ensure they meet resident needs and inspire grassroots support.

At the Wednesday, December 14 council meeting, council endorsed the draft Advocacy Priorities 2023 and moved to put them on public exhibition from Monday, January 9 to Sunday, February 26 to seek commu-

nity input and support.

Once adopted, council proposes to focus its advocacy efforts on these identified priorities, seeking support and investment from state and federal governments, relevant agencies and other key stakeholders to deliver real outcomes for Baw Baw residents.

Tier One Priorities are most pressing and include:

- Baw Baw Culture and Connection Precinct;
- Drouin and Warragul Arterial Road Network Planning;
- New hospital and increased health services and support;
- Longwarry Logistic and Employment Hub, and;
- Securing resources for

ongoing growth.

Tier Two Priorities reflect infrastructure projects and issues which will make a significant difference to the liveability, safety and sustainability of Baw Baw Shire. Priorities include:

- Investment in education;
 - Erica Mountain Bike Hub;
 - Industry transition;
 - Innovation in the visitor economy;
 - Leveraging Commonwealth Games' opportunities;
 - Sealing South Face Road;
 - Securing utilities, and;
 - A new library for the Trafalgar community.
- Tier Three priorities focus on supporting objectives from key council strategies,

including environmental sustainability, economic development, long term infrastructure and municipal early years' plans.

All residents, young and old, newly settled or locals for generations - are invited to review the priorities and provide feedback. It is resident input and support that will help shape and drive Baw Baw's future.

Residents can view council's Draft Advocacy Priorities 2023 in full and contribute their feedback via council's website.

To learn more about Baw Baw Shire council's ongoing advocacy efforts, visit www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/advocacy or email advocacy@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

Baw Baw Shire Mayor Annemarie McCabe encouraged locals to have their say.

"We want to ensure these advocacy priorities reflect our communities' expectations. We need your feedback to make sure we are putting the most important projects on the table when we work with government to make things happen," she said.

"All councils are reliant on

other levels of government to fund and provide crucial infrastructure and services. Baw Baw Shire is one of the fastest growing regions in the country and there are serious infrastructure and service gaps that council cannot solve or fund on our own. These areas are where our advocacy work needs to be focused, and we will be shouting from the rooftops seeking state and federal government support for our residents' needs."

VFF election results: Germano stays

MIRBOO North farmer Emma Germano has been re-elected president of the Victorian Farmers Federation.

VFF acting returning officer, Brendan Tatham, said VFF members had re-elected Ms Germano as president and Danyel Cucinotta, an egg producer from Werribee, as vice-president. Successful applicants for a number of VFF commodity group positions were also announced, including Trent Anderson as East Gippsland regional councillor.

Mr Tatham congratulated all successful incumbent office bearers as the future leaders of Victoria's peak agricultural advocacy body.

"The VFF also thanks all outgoing office bearers for their contributions over the years and helping to facilitate succession in the VFF to the next generation of VFF leaders," he said.

The 2022 VFF election vote counting process was conducted last Thursday at Farrer House in Melbourne under supervised conditions.

Ms Germano was re-elected president for her second

term, which began in late 2020.

As a third-generation farmer from Mirboo North, Ms Germano is focussed on ensuring a vibrant future for agriculture in Australia.

Her family farm, 'I Love Farms' is mixed across livestock and horticulture.

Ms Germano is passionate about leading the conversation on key issues for Australian agriculture including food security, sustainability and climate resilience.

She has previously held the role of VFF vice president, VFF Horticulture Group president, and was acknowledged as a Nuffield Scholar in 2014 for her research examining global export opportunities for Australian primary producers.

Ms Cucinotta, also re-elected VFF vice president for her second term which began in late 2020, is a third-generation Victorian caged-egg farmer helping to operate her family's egg farm, onsite café and deli in Werribee on Melbourne's western outskirts.

She is a member of the VFF board and also commits her time to chair both the

farmers systems policy committee and making farming families safer committee, as well as being a committee member of both farm business and policy council.

Ms Cucinotta understands the dedication, hard work and sacrifice needed to run a successful farm. and is committed to ensuring farmers receive strong government policy needed to ensure Victorian farms and agriculture thrives into the future.

Also elected in contested positions were Mark Billing as president of the VFF United Dairy Farmers of Victoria and Bradley Venning as councillor on the VFF Livestock Community Council - an additional position.

Uncontested representative positions were also announced: VFF Livestock president, Scott Young; VFF Livestock vice president, Peter Star, who was also appointed to be the VFF Board Livestock representative; Natasha Lobban, North East Region councillor; and Lachlan Barclay, Corangamite Region councillor.



Mirboo North's Emma Germano has been re-elected president of the Victorian Farmers Federation.

Community groups granted more than \$165,000 in council funding

More than 40 not-for-profits across Baw Baw Shire were acknowledged for their valuable contributions to the community, with council awarding \$165,105 in Community Development Grants at its annual presentation evening last year.

The presentation ceremony, held on Thursday, November 24 at the West Gippsland Arts Centre, was hosted by Baw Baw Shire Council chief executive, Mark Dupe, alongside Mayor, Annemarie McCabe and councillors Michael Leaney, Tricia Jones and Joe Gauci.

The occasion provided an opportunity for council to celebrate the 40 successful recipients, and formally present them with their well-deserved grant funding to assist with the delivery of a range of community driven projects.

Funded initiatives included, but were not limited to:

- New uniforms and training equipment for seven sporting clubs;
- Two playgroups are set to receive updated indoor and outdoor equipment;
- Two community accessible defibrillators, and;
- Maintenance equipment and essential items for four groups to support their day-to-day operations.

Lincoln Judd, secretary of the Neerim South Public Hall Reserve Committee of Management, was pleased to attend the reception evening and accept a grant of \$10,000 to go towards operable walls for the hall.

"The committee are delighted to be awarded the grant, the funds will go towards a \$20,000 project to replace the existing folding door, with a more durable

and soundproof operated wall," he said.

"The entire application process was easy, and the committee are grateful for the support from Baw Baw Shire Council towards this project."

Council's 2022/23 Community Development Grants program was open for all eligible non-profit organisations, groups, and associations throughout the shire, with funding available in three categories: Environment, equipment and minor capital works.

Mayor Cr Annemarie McCabe congratulated all recipients.

"It was a real pleasure to celebrate the Community Development Grant reception with so many groups and organisations in Baw Baw and formally present them with their well-deserved grant funding," she said.

"With 40 different groups receiving funding this round, and 14 of those new to the program this year, it is a wonderful showcase of the diverse and outstanding work that these community groups and associations do all over the shire.

"I thank all the representatives who were able to join us at the annual presentation evening and look forward to following the progression of these projects!"

Recipients close to Traf News were:

- Thorpdale Football Netball Club - \$3000 to go towards a two-door soft drink fridge for the canteen.
- Thorpdale Mechanics Institute - \$399 to go towards a vapour steam mop.
- Trafalgar Bowls Club Inc. - \$3670 to go towards computer equipment in-

cluding two x HP Probook laptops.

- Trafalgar Park Bowls Club - \$4436.34 to go towards ground maintenance equipment including a ride on mower, gardening equipment; whipper snipper, leaf blower, pruning saw, reciprocating saw, gardening gloves, hedge shears, secateurs, broom,

earmuffs, spade and a rake.

- Trafalgar Playgroup Inc. - \$295 to go towards playground equipment including padded floor mats and a play kitchen.
- Trafalgar Victory FC - \$3172.80 to go towards a defibrillator and soccer training equipment including assorted balls,

ball bags, small and large bibs.

- Willow Rose Foundation for Diabetes - \$4840 to go towards a portable barbecue trailer.
- Yarragon Junior Football Club - \$1545 to go towards a laptop computer.
- Hill End Community Incorporated - \$8583 to go towards the community

centre kitchen upgrade.

- Hill End Mechanics Institute Hall Committee - \$7750 to go towards a new roof for the hall.
- Thorpdale Recreation Reserve - \$2706.06 to go towards a new roadside boundary fence.



Hill End Mechanics Institute Hall Committee.



Hill End Community Incorporated.



Trafalgar Bowls Club.



Thorpdale Recreation Reserve.



Trafalgar Park Bowls Club.

Traf News

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

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MARCH EDITION DEADLINE:

Articles and advertising close:
12 February 2023

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Visit stpaulsags.vic.edu.au or contact us on 5623 5833 for more information.

Applications close Friday 24 February 2023

Italian Festa to light up Mirboo North

The Mirboo North Italian Festa is returning to Gippsland to showcase the best of all things Italian.

The free, family-friendly event will bring together a collection of your most-loved Italian food, produce and drinks.

The 2023 festa highlight will be the return of crowd favourites, The Flag Throwers and musicians from Faenza in Italy.

This will be the only event in Australia where spectators will see this unique and spectacular exhibition of internationally acclaimed performers.

Mirboo North Italian Festa coordinator, Rosie Romano, and her team of 10 women have led the festa in its current format since 2016.

"That year happened to be a beautiful summer's day, and we estimated there were about 5000 people, and we were just blown away by that," Mrs Romano said.

"And the following year, we had even more people, even though it rained."

Each year since then, apart from a break due to COVID, the festa has become bigger, with more community involvement and infrastructure needed to put on the event.

As with every year of the festa, there will be a line-up of authentic Italian food stalls to satisfy everyone's ap-

petites, including traditional arancini, handmade gnocchi, salty tasty arrosticini meat skewers, pizza, calamari, spicy barbecue salsicce and the Italian favourite – pasta with all kinds of sauces.

For dolce, (Italian for dessert) indulge in gelato, zepole, tiramisu, biscotti, cannoli and numerous sweet treats.

Everything can be washed down with Italian beers, wines or an Aperol Spritz (or two).

A highlight will be the Valley's own GoodLand Brewery producing a Italian expired beer just for the event.

For those looking for a non-alcoholic beverage, fresh fruit juice, milkshakes and mocktails will be on hand, along with every type of coffee.

Altogether, more than 30 genuine food and drink options will nourish your inner-Italian.

"Our aim from the beginning has always been for people to learn something about Italian culture, whether that's through food, dancing, music, Nonna's cooking, the exhibitions or displays," Mrs Romano said.

"This year's live music line-up will be sure to have everyone up and dancing."

The music line-up will include Siesta Cartel and Top Self Duo, MC on the day by James Liotta.

Following on from the

successful 'Nonna's Secret Recipe' Cookbook, cooking demonstrations will be running throughout the day for people to discover the recipes and secrets of Nonna's kitchen.

Learn how to roll pasta, make traditional pizza the way Nonna does, or unearth the secrets of how Italians make their salami.

Performances by magician Luigi Zucchini will keep the kids entertained, along with free children's activities and games.

The Mirboo North Italian Festa is made possible by the state government through the Multicultural Festival & Events Program, and the Gippsland Events Acquisition Fund supported by Regional Development Victoria and South Gippsland Shire Council.

The committee would like to thank the Community Bank Mirboo North and District Community Foundation, and many other local businesses and individuals for their event sponsorship.

The Mirboo North Italian Festa is on Sunday, February 12, in Baromi Park, Mirboo North, running from 10am to 4pm.

For more information, visit <https://www.italianfesta.net/> or find the event on Facebook.



The best in Italian cuisine will be served at the Mirboo North Italian Festa.

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Ticket sales open for Spud Festival

Tickets are now on sale for the 2023 Thorpdale Potato Festival.

Thanks to a website refresh, patrons can now, for the very first time, purchase tickets online for the festival, avoiding lengthy wait times on the day and to secure tickets at the early-bird price.

The new website also has

information on all the great activities organised for the day.

The Thorpdale Potato Festival is still on the lookout for food vendors and market stalls holders.

If you were interested in applying, head on over to the 'market stalls' section of the website.

All the favourite spud-related activities will be returning for the 2023 festival.

To stay up to date with the latest info about The Thorpdale Potato Festival, or to purchase tickets, visit www.thorpdalepotatofestival.com and subscribe to social media channels.

Free swims at Thorpdale outdoor pool

The Baw Baw Shire community can look forward to another season of free swimming at the Thorpdale outdoor pool thanks to a generous sponsorship by the Thorpdale Swimming Pool Committee.

For the third year in a row, the committee has worked with Baw Baw Shire Council to provide a donation that covers the entry cost for all using the pool between December 1 until March 31.

To encourage social connectedness among the Thorpdale and surrounding communities following the disruptions of COVID-19 lockdowns, the community-led committee donated a portion of the unspent volunteer funds back into the facility, allowing the community to use the pool at no charge for

the 2020/21 summer season.

After receiving an overwhelming amount of support and praise for the generous sponsorship, the popular initiative has continued each year since.

Thorpdale Pool Committee member Natasha Hammond says that by offering free entry, it has been a welcomed benefit to the local town of Thorpdale and the public of all ages.

"We've seen this initiative bring people from all over the shire to our town to use the pool as well as explore the local businesses we have on offer such as the famous bakery and local pub, the Travellers Rest," Natasha said.

"We are so passionate about our local assets here in Thorpdale and look for

opportunities to maximise their use for the benefit of the whole community. We look forward to welcoming more people to our pool this season."

The pool is open on days when temperatures are forecast for 25 degrees or more (except early morning swims, which are not weather dependent). The pools may close prior to or during thunderstorm activity or in extreme weather conditions.

Opening times:
Monday to Friday: 3pm - 7pm
Weekends, school and public holidays: 1pm - 7pm

For more information about council's swimming pools, including full entry pricing, locations and operating hours, visit www.baw-bawpools.ymca.org.au



Baw Baw YMCA leisure facilities operations coordinator, Noah Pallot, Baw Baw YMCA leisure facilities manager, Daniel Chu, Thorpdale Pool Committee member Natasha Hammond, and Baw Baw YMCA leisure facilities duty manager Bonnie Price.

Museum governance recognised

Mick Bourke received Australian Museums and Galleries Association's (AMaGA) Victoria Award for Excellence (volunteer) for his work with Trafalgar Holden Museum at AMaGA Victoria's awards presentation held at State Library Victoria, Melbourne on October 4.

Those at the awards night were told that Mick has been a major driver in the development and improvement of the Trafalgar Holden Museum.

Through his determination, skills and knowledge he has helped to bring the museum to a new higher level of community and industry standing.

The audience was told that Mick has been a community leader and has contributed to many local community enterprises including Traf News, Community Bank Trafalgar and District, and Trafalgar Community Development Association.

For his efforts and giving to the community, Mick was honoured with an OAM in 2014.

The judges recognised Mick's leadership skills and commitment to volunteering at Trafalgar Holden Museum.

His influence and advice

have helped the museum to improve its governance through the development of policies and procedures over a wide range of activities and functions.

The judge's said that: "A strong governance structure and appropriate policies and procedures are essential to the long-term viability of any organisation".

"It is great to see Mick bring skills gained in other areas of his life into the museum and, in so doing, strengthen the whole organisation."

"It is equally impressive to see the museum recognise the importance of the work that has been done, and to wish to acknowledge Mick in this way."

Minister for Creative Industries Steve Dimopoulos said: "This year's winners and nominees are outstanding examples of the creativity and dedication at the heart of our museums and galleries sector".

"Congratulations to all and thank you for the work you do to preserve and share our history for future generations. Our museums, galleries and the people behind them, help showcase what makes Victoria such a vibrant, diverse and creative state."

Dr Ashley Robertson, executive director of AMaGA (Victoria) said: "The Victorian Museums and Galleries Awards recognises the incredible efforts of our sector volunteers and staff. Together, we celebrate their individual and collective achievements and offer encouragement for future initiatives. On behalf of AMaGA Victoria, congratulations to this year's winners and nominees".

AMaGA (Victoria) was established as the peak body for museums in Victoria in 1993. It is the peak body for more than 1000 museums including galleries, science centres, Indigenous keeping places, historical societies, historic houses, botanic gardens, zoos, aquaria, cultural centres, and archaeological monuments.

Two-thirds of these are volunteer-run. Community museums care for an estimated eight million objects in Victoria.

AMaGA supports and advocates for the development of quality museums, collections care, knowledge and specialised skills, and support the creative industries with key initiatives.



Mick Bourke OAM with his wife Carol after being awarded Australian Museums and Galleries Association's (AMaGA) Victoria Award for Excellence (volunteer) for his work with Trafalgar Holden Museum. Photo: Simon Fox Photography

50/50 Dance

The Lions Club of Trafalgar, in conjunction with the local band 'Not Dun Yet', will be holding a 50/50 Dance at Trafalgar Public Hall on Sunday, February 12, from 1.30pm to 5pm. The music will be half rock n' roll and half old time, played in 10 minute segments.

The event will be family-friendly so all will be welcome. If you can't dance, come along anyway and enjoy the music. Sing along to 50s/60s rock and old time songs. There will be prizes for door ticket/Monte Carlo. Admission prices are \$5 single, \$10 family.

Please bring your own nibbles, tea and coffee will be supplied during the break. Please note that this is an alcohol-free event. We hope to make this a regular monthly event if it's popular enough so please come along to support it. It also has potential to attract more visitors to our town.

For further information, phone John on 0488 047 777 or Alan on 0410 089 430.

Around the Historical Society

By Di Ireland

Working bees have commenced again for the Trafalgar & District Historical Society, and are held on the first and third Fridays from 2pm till 4pm.

The next meeting of the Trafalgar & District Historical Society will be held on Thursday, February 16 in the society's rooms, 30 Contingent Street Trafalgar. For further information, phone Dianne on 0439 655172

The most recent Gazette was published in December and is still on sale at the post office or newsagency.

Contained within this Gazette, number 103, are photos from the 1980s, with Traf High students featuring. There is also an article on the New Criterion Hotel in 1908.

Future Gazettes will be available in digital form. You will need to reach the

society via email to upload your details.

The email address for the society is historicalsocietytraf@gmail.com.

Purchases can be arranged using the form contained in Around the Historical Society.

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RENEWALS for 2023

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Grand Ridge Choir bursts into song

After several years of disruption due to the pandemic, the Grandridge 245 Community Choir is once again meeting regularly at its home base in Mirboo North, and performing around South Gippsland, much to the delight of its many members.

For people whose New Year's resolution is to explore new opportunities for socialising and creative development, the choir is running a group-singing workshop just for fun and also as a 'taster' session.

Jane Coker, choir leader and singing teacher said, "Our choir has been running for almost 10 years now, with members from all over South Gippsland and the Latrobe Valley. While we do perform at public events occasionally, we are pretty casual... and mostly sing for the sheer joy of it!"

"Choir members don't need singing experience or to be able to read music, so pretty much anyone can join in. We focus on lovely heart-warming songs, and we sound great!"

The group singing workshop will be held on Saturday, February 4, 2pm to 4pm, at St Mary's Church Hall at 112-114 Ridgway, Mirboo North. Entry is by donation. Tea and coffee will be available.

Regular choir sessions are held during the school terms, at 7:15pm on Wednesday nights at St. Mary's Church Hall, and cost \$15/session (\$12 concession).

More information is available on the Facebook page: Grand Ridge 245 Mirboo North's Community Choir, or email Jane on jane.coker@bigpond.com or on 0400 053 266.

Big year ahead for Probus

By Elly Fallon

The 2022 Probus year full of fun, friendship and fellowship, as well as some COVID hiccups along the way, drew to a close in December with a very enjoyable Christmas dinner held at the Kings Arms Hotel in Neerim South.

The staff at the hotel had decorated the restaurant and tables in true festive spirit, and cooked us a magnificent meal, truly plentiful and delicious. Our club gifted each member with a Christmas

pudding to take home. Adding to the atmosphere were about 20 lucky ticket winners who also took home boxes of chocolates and bottles of wine. There was one special winner, Carol Bourke, who took home the hamper kindly donated by Beryl Cropley.

The New Year of 2023 has begun with our first general meeting held at the beginning of January. We congratulated Ron and Lyn Jones on their 60th wedding anniversary, a wonderful milestone

in their marriage. February sees Bob and Bev Jones also celebrating 60 years of marriage. We wish them all good health and many happy years ahead filled with Probus fun.

Sadly, we lost one of our much-loved members. Frank Achterdenbosch, a member since 2012. Frank had been very active in our club taking part in numerous activities, organising caravan trips with the help of his wife Carol and also acting as our sheriff, checking on the wearing of

badges and shaking the gold ingot that was his fine's tin. Frank even filled in as Santa Claus a couple of times. He will be missed.

Our speaker this month was Mick Bourke OAM, who relived with us his trek to the top of Mt Kilimanjaro, a dormant volcano in Tanzania. The beautiful photos of the wildlife, birds, people and scenery kept us all enthralled. How wonderful to be fit enough to do the trek and manage the altitude

problems that come with this climb.

The fortnightly coffee mornings continued on through the Christmas season, with a very festive morning tea held at Gracie's Bakery in the week leading up to Christmas. We thank Gracie's for all the festive trimmings and Sharley Smith who provided us with some extras including lucky door hampers. It was certainly a very merry gathering.

We look forward to wel-

coming new members in 2023 as we celebrate 30 years of Trafalgar & District Probus in March.

Come along to one of our meetings or morning teas and find out what Probus is all about. You will be made very welcome.

Phone secretary John Attwell on 0419 701 331, or any Probus member.



Barbara Butterworth and Liz Bouley enjoying Christmas dinner at Neerim South.



Jim and Anne Cornwell.



Marge Williams and Beryl Cropley.



Probus club member, Frank Achterdenbosch, is being remembered.



Kaye Brand, Terry Tabliabue and Pam Pinkerton.



Sharley Smith.



Winners of the lucky door prizes.



Probus walking group at Traralgon Railway Reservoir Reserve.



Ross Pethybridge thanking our member and guest speaker Mick Bourke OAM.

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Farewell to friends

The following list is of people whose death was recorded by Trafalgar & District Historical Society during 2022. Due to the timing of the publication of the society's official publication, some of those recorded may have died in late 2021.

Traf News thanks Trafalgar & District Historical Society for proving the following information.

We apologise if the list is not complete.

• Agnese Parise (nee Turra) Late of Trafalgar
• Angiolino 'Angelo' Minichiello Formerly

of Yarragon
• Annette Alice McMillan Late of Trafalgar
• Betty Horner (nee Fowler) Formerly of Willow Grove
• Beverley Glenise Magnuson/Hill (nee Megee) Formerly of Trafalgar
• Bortolo Giovanni 'Bert' Malacarne Late of Yarragon
• Daniel Vincent Malady Late of Trafalgar
• Doreen Fallon (nee Smith) Late of Trafalgar
• Dorothea 'Thea' Durkin (nee Fetherstonhaugh) Late of Trafalgar
• Dorothy Mudie Late of Yarragon

• Edith 'Joyce' Lloyd (nee Miller) Late of Trafalgar
• Eileen M Marino (nee Brown) Late of Trafalgar
• Eva Victoria Bateson (nee Espie) Late of Trafalgar
• Francis Julian 'Frank' Plozza Late of Trafalgar East
• Graham Charles Tonkin Formerly of Trafalgar
• Giuseppa 'Josie' Schena Late of Trafalgar
• Graham Robert Somerville Formerly of Trafalgar
• Harold Stanley Mitchell Formerly of Trafalgar

• Ian McKenzie Formerly of Trafalgar
• Ida Bragagnolo (nee Faoro) Late of Trafalgar
• Jadye Geary Late of Yarragon
• Janice Cogle (nee Layzell) Late of Shady Creek
• Jessie 'Audrey' Paynter (nee Hinton) Late of Andrews House
• Jim Manley Late of Thorpdale
• John Bayley Formerly of Trafalgar
• John Hanley Late of Yarragon
• Joseph Alick 'Joe' Woods Formerly of Trafalgar

• Joy Lorraine Cook (nee Matthews) Formerly of Trafalgar
• Joyce Lillian Rowlings (nee Richardson) Late of Thorpdale
• Ken Creighton Late of Trafalgar
• Lee-Ann Graham (nee Curtis) Late of Narracan
• Leonard 'Tiger' Heywood Formerly of Shady Creek
• Lesley Langdon Late of Trafalgar
• Lillian 'Jean' Webb (nee Thomson) Late of Trafalgar
• Lillias Ashby Hart (nee Whalebone) Late of

Andrews House
• Lucas Clarke Late of Willow Grove
• Mack Murray Formerly of Trafalgar
• Margaret Diane Harper (nee Cooke) Formerly of Trafalgar
• Margaret 'Isabel' Erbs (nee Bright) Late of Trafalgar
• Margaret Moroney (nee Taffs) Late of Trafalgar
• Mary Coffee Late of Trafalgar East

Solar farm proposed for Shady Creek

Elgin Energy is proposing a solar farm at a site on Bayleys Road, Yarragon, and sought community involvement at an information session at Shady Creek Public Hall (1150 Yarragon-shady Creek Road) on Thursday, December 1.

The proposed solar farm and battery energy storage system is in the planning stage, with Elgin Energy currently in early conversations with Department Environment Land Water & Planning (DELWP) regarding the proposal.

The proposed site is on 107 hectares currently used for agricultural activities.

When complete, the proposed solar farm will include:

ground mounted solar panels similar to those of rooftops; about 60 megawatts of solar photovoltaic energy which Elgin Energy says is a clean, renewable source of energy that uses solar radiation to produce electricity; and a battery energy system with an estimated 60 megawatts of capacity.

Elgin Energy says the site was strategically chosen because there is a high-voltage transmission line running adjacent to the site, which will enable the power to be easily exported into the electricity grid, with very little new infrastructure.

The site is also relatively flat and has limited vegetation which provides excel-

lent solar access.

Elgin Energy says it is engaging with the community, government authorities and environmental groups to ensure the project carefully considers all physical and cultural elements of the site and its surroundings.

The company, according to it, is committed to minimising impact on the community, and as part of this, it is preparing several specialist reports to assess potential impacts to the community and surrounding environment.

Examples of these reports include assessing the: glint and glare to determine the sunlight's reflection from the solar panels; and visual im-

pact of the facility's appearance in the area.

The reports will include suggestions for suitable measures to mitigate potential impacts, and will be included in the planning application to the state government.

During construction, Elgin Energy says it will take care to limit noise and traffic impacts, and will maintain a clean worksite and implement safety measures such as safety barriers.

Elgin Energy has identified four key benefits to the solar farm. It will: create enough clean, renewable electricity to power around 23,000 Victorian homes; reduce local and national carbon dioxide emissions thus

supporting and sustaining the health of future generations; support national energy independence and contribute to the state government's renewable energy targets; and create about 150 jobs during construction, and between one to three during operation contributing to the local community.

The consultation process has five steps: currently, Elgin Energy is consulting with DELWP; by December 2022 it had lodged the planning permit application which was reviewed by the minister for planning and the planning assessment team within DELWP.

Last month, the community was notified when for-

mal submissions could be made. DELWP will also refer the panning permit application to relevant government agencies and authorities for consideration and feedback.

Following consultation with the community, local government and other decision-makers, DELWP and the minister for planning will determine the outcome by this month.

Then by mid-2023 when the planning determination has occurred, Elgin Energy will update the community of the project's planning outcome.



Map showing the site location for the Elgin Energy's proposed solar farm and battery energy storage system

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New exhibition in station gallery

By Carol Monson

The Baw Baw Arts Alliance members hope you had time over December and January to visit the 'Station Gallery', Princes Highway, Yarragon to view the wide range of artwork depicting different interpretations of Gippsland.

During February there will be two very different exhibitions; the first is from emerging artist, Ling Wang, who remembers drawing from the age of five. Fortunately, Ling had parents who stimulated her passion for drawing by supplying a never-ending range of pencils, paper and erasers. Her dedication to improving her skills is evident in the work she will hang in the section known as 'The Wall' in the station gallery. Although she grew up in China, Ling has fallen in love with Gippsland, its birds, animals and landscapes. Her love of all in the natural environment will

have visitors to the gallery viewing her exquisite pastel and acrylic works in awe.

Also during February, artists are contributing to an exhibition simply titled 'Watercolour'. This is an encouragement to all artists to brush up on their skills with watercolour choosing their favourite surface on which to paint: Paper, canvas, fabric, wood, plastic. Don't miss this chance to view the levels of artistic creativity in Baw Baw

Shire.

The Station Gallery is also the space where many artists sell their creative work in the gallery shop, which sits alongside the regularly changing exhibitions. A more limited range of artwork can be seen in the 'Artspace' at the former Trafalgar Railway Station. This is also the venue for the many regular drop in groups that cover a wide range of art genres.

If you enjoy purchasing

unique, locally made works of art, then do not miss the February Arts Market run by the Baw Baw Arts Alliance. The Summer Arts Markets take place on the third Saturday of each month up to March, so on Saturday, February 18, from 8.30am to 1pm at Civic Place in Warragul, you will be able to choose artworks from over 50 individual stalls.

Planning is also underway for the 2023 Easter Art Sale,

a collaboration of Warragul Rotary Club and the Baw Baw Arts Alliance.

Information and entry forms are on the arts alliance web site. See <https://baw-bawartsalliance.org.au>



Chinese artist Ling Wang has fallen in love with Gippsland.



Some of the extraordinary artwork among the Baw Baw Arts Alliance.

Holden Museum car of the month

By Bob Moss

Holden's connection to the Boer War

An escalating conflict between the British Empire and the Boer republics of Southern Africa, led to the outbreak of the Second Boer War, which lasted from October 11 1899, until May 31 1902.

In a show of support for the empire, the government of the self-governing six Australian colonies all offered men to participate in the conflict.

As a result of the Federation of the Australian colonies in 1901, (military) defence was made a responsibility of the new centralised federal government. This brought about the creation of the Department of Defence and two months later on March 1 1901, the formation of the Australian Army.

The Australian contingents, numbering over 16,000 men, were the largest contribution from the Empire, and a further 7000 Australian men served with other colonial or irregular units. At least 60 Australian women also served in the conflict as nurses.

Britain realised the value of troops from the Australian colonies. The climates and geography of Southern Africa and Australia were quite similar, and most Australian soldiers, the vast majority of whom were trained as infantry mounted rifles, were well-suited to operating in such terrain. Britain was also quick to understand the need for further riders,

By mid-1901, the war for the Australians was long

rides, often at night, followed by an attack on a Boer farmhouse or encampment (laager) at dawn. The skirmishes were often minor, involving small Boer forces quickly overwhelmed by superior numbers. There were occasional fights between the Australians and larger Boer forces, but encounters with Boer commandos were rare.

The nature of the conditions under which the war was fought was illustrated by the fact that 282 Australians died in action while 285 died from disease and 38 from other causes.

If for any reason the soldier parted company with his horse, he took with him his weapon, ammunition, water bottle and emergency rations. Also on the horse

would be grain rations for the horse supplemented from local sources where possible, as were spare

horseshoes. The equipment shown includes saddlebags and wallets of several types, rope and pegs for tethering

the horses, greatcoats, blankets and feedbags.



By 1901, Holden was Australia's largest supplier of military harnesses, ammunition, & saddlebags for the Boer War.

Bush Walking club reflects

By Carolyn Dyke

On behalf of the Strelecki Bush Walking Club, I would like to thank readers for their support in 2022.

There was so many exciting activities run by the club last year, but I shall just talk about a few from October and November.

October was a very busy month. We had a multitude of different activities on offer including an evening bike ride between Warragul and Drouin, with riders stopping at Luciano's Italian Restaurant for dinner before the return journey.

On October 15/16, there was an opportunity to participate in an easy but spectacular overnight hike starting from the Den of Nargun in East Gippsland to Jurgenson Point and back again.

The walk was about 14 kilometres each way. This walk was led by the very experienced Martin Norris. Martin has an extensive knowledge of hiking in Victoria and of local flora, and is happy to share this with his fellow walkers.

The Den of Nargun is a significant cultural site for the Gunaikurnai people, especially the women. According to Gunaikurnai legend, a Nargun is a fierce female creature which is half-hu-

man, half-stone. The Nargun lived in a cave under a rock overhang behind the small waterfall.

For the more adventurous hikers, a group completed the Mt Tamboritha/Mt Ligor loop. Mt Ligor is also known as the 'Crinoline', because the summit resembles old fashioned stiffened petticoats. The walkers left Traralgon at 6.30am on a Saturday morning, and drove up to the car park at Tamboritha Saddle, which is where the walk began. Day two of the walk saw the walkers reach the summit of the Crinoline which has an elevation of 1504 metres. Our hikers walked 24km over two days. This walk is considered by some to be one of the more challenging summits in Victoria and is for experienced hikers.

On November 13, members completed a 20km walk, which commenced in Wonthaggi near the Wonthaggi Wind Farm. A foot track led through coastal scrub and over the sand dunes to Baxter Beach which provided a path to the Powlett River, 5km away. We then made our way through the lovely Powlett River Caravan Park which was a shady place for lunch. After lunch we walked to the viewing platform of

the desalination plant and then headed back via the Bass Coast Rail Trail. It was quite warm on this hike, and we all enjoyed a cold drink at the end of this one.

If you are interested in the

great outdoors and would like to hear more about the club, a great way to introduce yourself is to attend our monthly club night.

Club nights are held on the second Wednesday of the

month in the Trafalgar Scout Hall starting at 7.30pm.

These nights are very social and always have a presenter discussing topics related to hiking. Visitors are most welcome.

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



A beautiful walk along Baxter's Beach.



Everyone looking happy on way to the summit of the Crinoline.

Timber carving pays homage to Erica's historical roots

A new timber carving sits proudly at the top of the town, welcoming visitors to Erica.

The 2.5-metre-wide wooden sculpture pays homage to the town's rich timber logging roots and replaces the 'Top Tidy Town' signage that has greeted guests since the 1990s.

Created by Baw Baw artist, Brandon Kroon, the piece is the latest in a collection of work that is quickly taking the timber-carving world by storm.

While participating in competitions from Alaska to Lithuania, Brandon has used his creative flair and attention to detail to bring his sculptures to life, recently taking out first place and the Carvers Choice Award at the US Open Chainsaw Carving Championships in Wisconsin, USA, with a sculpture of a saltwater crocodile and barramundi leaping out of the water.

A former motorbike mechanic, Brandon draws inspi-

ration from his faith to create his art and says it was the driving factor in his choice when making the leap to take it on full-time and launch his own business, BK Carving.

Every piece of art, and timber, is different and presents its own set of challenges, which is something Brandon enjoys navigating in each of his creations.

"Every bit of timber is different, and you can't be sure of what you'll find under the bark," Brandon said.

"You've got to be able to adapt your idea and design to the natural materials you're working with."

When approached by Baw Baw Shire council to create a new sculpture that welcomed people to one of Baw Baw's historical timber towns, Brandon jumped at the opportunity.

"It was pretty humbling and pretty exciting. Being part of Baw Baw Shire, it really became a priority for me. I really wanted it to be something special," he said when

asked what it was like to create artwork that represents an entire town.

"I hope it represents the town as much as a sign can, and I hope it points people to the beauty of the nature that's nestled in the area and its history in the timber industry."

Through a council-led consultation process with Erica residents, key themes were identified that would then be interpreted by Brandon through his concept designs.

The overarching desire from the Erica community was to have a sign that acknowledged and celebrated the town's timber logging history and the natural environment in which it sits.

The final design includes a two-person buck saw, historically used to cut timber, a log round that pays tribute to the sign's predecessor, and native plant and animal life in the form of Eucalypt leaves and a kookaburra, which are commonly found in the

Mountain Rivers Region and throughout Baw Baw.

Erica resident Bec Closter, who was involved in the inception and consultation stages of the project, said that the result really represents the town's history.

"We think it's beautiful and love that it was done by a

local artist who really understood what we were trying to achieve. Celebrating the history of the town is what the project was all about," she said.

The new signage is the latest nod to Erica's timber-logging history, following the successful launch of the

community-led Erica Country Expo and reintroduction of the town's much-loved wood chop challenge, which are slated to return this year. Council delivered the \$6500 project through state government Bushfire Community Recovery Fund.



Local artist Brandon Kroon next to the welcome sign he created.

Family law, amicable separations

By Trafalgar solicitor Jade MacGregor

The team at J MacGregor Legal are excited to offer a new service to our community.

Principal solicitor Jade will now be assisting separating or divorcing couples with splitting their assets, as well as arranging parenting and child support agreements.

This service is strictly limited to couples who are amicable and have agreed to

the parenting and property split and would like a more streamline and cost-effective process.

In this instance we act for both parties and will prepare Family Law Consent Orders in accordance with the agreed split of property and assets, which will also include any custody arrangements that need to be made for children.

These Consent Orders

are then filed with the Family Court for approval. This means that there are no court hearings and no one is required to face a judge.

If the Family Court considers the Consent Orders appropriate then they will grant them and they are legally binding on all parties.

Our role is to put into the appropriate legal format the agreement that has been reached and to see through

any incidentals that need to be attended to.

To assist in keeping all your matters in house we can also assist with the sale and

purchase of any property, superannuation splits as well as preparing/updating wills and powers of attorney.

If you are going through a

separation, please feel free to phone Jade on 5644 0000.



Trafalgar solicitor Jade MacGregor now offers service related to separating or divorced couples.

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Feature film to be shot in Moe

By Jada Cannizzo

Brennan Muccillo, a 31-year-old filmmaker who grew up in Moe, is promoting his first feature length independent film 'Brunswick Dance Club'.

Brunswick Dance Club is a dark drama. It's "about a guy from a country town who leaves to go to Melbourne to house-sit for his sister and when he's out and about he meets a bunch of city folk, hipsters and creatives and then it all starts to go downhill from there," Brennan said.

A Lowanna College graduate, Brennan first got into filmmaking around the age of 15 or 16 making videos with his friends.

"I kind of fell in love with making movies," said Brennan, starting out with silly skits and moving towards trailers being made in media class at school.

Brennan's first film was a horror movie trailer that he shot at his house.

"Nothing else kind of gave me the satisfaction of making my own videos, and nothing made me as happy," said Brennan.

At 18, Brennan was accepted into film school and made the big move to Melbourne to pursue his dream of becoming a director and filmmaker.

"It was daunting moving to Melbourne, not knowing many people. I was a little fish in a big pond. But I just kept trying to remember why

I was there and the reason I left home was for a purpose," he said.

Brennan's mum Sharyn said that she's "very proud" of all that her son has achieved. She has been lucky enough to be a part of a lot of his films through catering and has experienced what it's all about.

"He's extremely passionate and talented about what he does and its lovely to see," said Sharyn.

Brennan and his team have launched a Kickstarter campaign online to help fundraise and finish off the post-production for the film.

The film, which was all self-financed, has been four years in the making and needs a little extra financial push to be able to create merchandise, promotion, and money to enter into festivals, like the Melbourne International Film Festival.

If the film does well it will hopefully get picked up for distribution and be shown in local theatres.

Brennan said that in the film, he really wanted to showcase where he's from, with some scenes being filmed in and around Moore Street in Moe and in front of the landmark Future Flicks video store.

"Growing up, Future Flicks was a really special place for me and my family," Brennan said. "I grew up here - every Friday night we would come to choose a movie."

Future Flicks owner Rick

Dyt said the store had been there for 36 years.

"It's one of the last video stores, definitely in Victoria," Rick said.

Rick said that he has about 50,000 films on hand and that people come from all over to see the store.

Often when people can't find a particular film on a streaming platform, they go in and see Rick, and nine times out of 10, he has that movie on the shelf.

Brennan hopes to release Brunswick Dance Club in the next month, and after taking a well-deserved break, he says he hopes to write a horror script and has plans for an Aussie gangster film script as well.

Brennan wants to keep writing and directing as he enjoys the process so much.

To donate to Brennan's Kickstarter campaign search @brunswickdanceclub on Instagram and Facebook.

Brennan also owns Infinite Plain Productions, a film company based in Melbourne. Some of his other works can be seen on his website: infiniteplainproductions.com.au

The trailer for the film Brunswick Dance Club is also on the Infinite Plain Production's website, and Brennan's shorts and previous works can be found on the website and YouTube.

Future Flicks is open seven days a week 10am - 8pm, at 27 Kirk St Moe.



Filmmaker Brennan Muccillo was back home recently promoting his first feature length film. Photo: Jada Cannizzo

Off and away

Seventeen students from Federation University Australia are currently in Nepal for a three-week study tour, focussed on exploring the approaches used in the conservation of wildlife species.

Hosted by the National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), students will focus on community conservation techniques applied to the conservation and management of species such as the Bengal Tiger and One Horned Rhinoceros in Chitwan National Park.

The students are undergraduates enrolled in either the Bachelor of Environment and Conservation Science or the Bachelor of Veterinary and Wildlife Science, and the visit to Nepal allows them to see and experience an alternative approach to wildlife

management to that applied in Australia.

Professor Wendy Wright and Dr Ashley Olson are leading the tour. Professor Wright is also a conservation biology and Dean, graduate studies. Dr Olson is a scholarly teaching Fellow with Federation's Institute of Innovation, Science and Sustainability.

Professor Wright has been working in Nepal since 2014, and is excited to now be sharing the experience with her students.

Following the study tour, six of the 17 students will stay in Nepal for a further three weeks to complete internships with the NTNC veterinary team, living and working with conservation and veterinary staff members.

The tour has been made possible thanks to fund-

ing from the New Colombo Plan - a signature initiative of the former Coalition government, which aims to lift knowledge of the Indo Pacific in Australia by supporting Australian undergraduates to study and undertake internships in the region.

It is the third time the university has offered the Nepal tour to students. Previous tours took place in January 2019 and 2020 and involved 12 and 18 participants respectively.

Professor Wright said this was an amazing opportunity for Federation students.

"The trip exposes them to a very different model of wildlife and forest conservation - one that is managed and driven by local people living in communities adjacent to the national park," Professor Wright said.

"It's very different to the approach we see in the west.

"In Nepal, many of the conservation methods reflect the fact that the people managing the process are very connected to forest ar-

eas. They rely on the forest to provide food for themselves and their livestock and for materials for housing.

"The trip exposes students to life in a developing country. Some of the par-

ticipants have not previously travelled outside Australia and others may not have visited subcontinental Asia, so it is educational for them in many ways."



Federation University Australia students studying in Nepal.

Giles is Lowanna's Dux

Lowanna College, Newborough, is proud to announce the Dux of 2022 - Allyssa Giles, with an ATAR of 93.40.

Allyssa was very pleased with her results, and is excited about pursuing Biomedical Science and Commerce studies at Latrobe University next year.

"I am so pleased with my result; I didn't think I'd get above 90!" Allyssa said.

"I have loved my time at Lowanna College, and am grateful for the opportunities and support I've had.

"I actually didn't check my results until 12 noon. I was working at a local hospital in a new job, so I wasn't sure about checking them at work ... when the staff knew my results were out, they encouraged me to check them straight away. I was so excited to see the result after all the effort I put in this year."

College principal Adam Hogan congratulated Allyssa on her results, as well as all students at Lowanna.

"We are very proud of all of our students this year, who will go on to access a range of

pathways including university, TAFE and apprenticeships," Mr Hogan said.

"Our results continue to reflect our strong improvement agenda across the college, with some of the best wellbeing and academic outcomes our college has ever had, this year.

"We are very proud of Allyssa, who is admired by her teachers and highly respected by her peers. Allyssa's strengths are her kindness and work ethic - a very deserving Dux for 2022".



Lowanna College Dux for 2022, Allyssa Giles.



Dorothy Hoare OAM (right) congratulates Harry Pace on the Community Service Shield for 2022 named in her honour.



Year 8 student Jak Kane was pleased with his nine academic awards and maths certificate for Victorian High Ability Program participation.



Harry McCabe, alongside assistant principal Amanda McQualter, after being awarded the 2022 emerging designer award in the design technology awards.

Dedication rewarded to high school students

Trafalgar High School students were rewarded for dedication to their studies and other achievements at the school's annual presentation night before the end of term last year.

More than 200 awards were presented across all year levels of the school and several speciality areas including sport, music and design technology.

An impressive 600 members of the school community gathered for the function, which was supported by local businesses and community groups.

Academic excellence awards were presented to students who achieved academic results above 80 per cent in a subject in a semester.

In Years 7 to 9, students who had received eight or

more awards during the year were presented with certificates, while senior year levels marked lower numbers due to the reduced number of subjects they undertake in a year.

Class endeavour awards, nominated by class teachers, were presented to students who showed consistent effort and a level of commitment to their learning each semester.

A key award of the night was the Dorothy Hoare OAM Community Service Shield. The award is named after Dorothy Hoare, a member of the school council, who is also an established community leader and a volunteer of the Trafalgar Youth Resource Centre.

The recipient was Harry Pace, who has been instrumental in the school commu-

nity as an informal leader in 2022. He inspired his cohort to support major fundraising efforts such as planning the World's Greatest Shave and raising money for bowel cancer.

School principal Brett Pedlow said Harry was an all-rounder with a focus on academic outcomes, and approached his studies and school life with optimism.

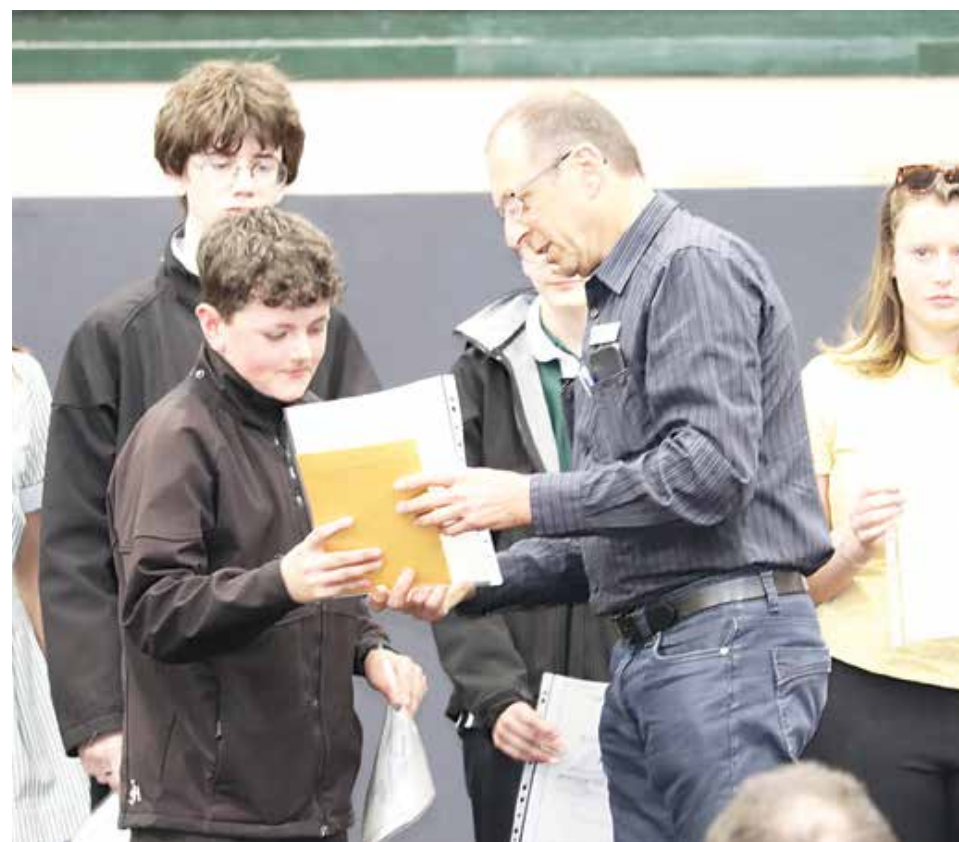
"He embodies our school values of integrity and aspiration and acts as a strong role model for his peers and junior students," Mr Pedlow said.

During the evening, Harry also received a scholarship from Federation University.

Source: Warragul Gazette



David Koschade of Trafalgar Lions Club presents the Year 12 dux award to Alyssa Geiberras.



David Koschade of the Trafalgar Lions Club presents the Year 7 Lions encouragement award to Lincoln Murphy.

Helping hand from St Joseph's

Students from St Joseph's Primary School, Trafalgar were glad to present Bettermentall Trafalgar with a cheque of \$250 last December.

The students participated

in real life learning as they created, promoted, calculated and cooked their way to establishing their small food trucks project at school.

The students chose Bettermentall Trafalgar to donate

their profits to, as they wanted to support a local business that provides a great service for young people.



Kerry Rantall and Jason Rantall with Katie Balfour (centre) from St Joseph's Primary School.

Hundreds diving into new swimming careers

Thousands of Victorian children will be safer around the water this summer thanks to a state government program creating hundreds of new swim teacher roles.

Minister for Employment, Ben Carroll, visited the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre (MSAC) to see how SWIM, a \$3.4 million partnership between Jobs Victoria and SWIM Coaches & Teachers Australia, is delivering 280 inclusive employment opportunities at pools and leisure centres around the state.

"We're supporting people to gain new qualifications so they can find secure work and help the sector address a shortage of skilled swim teachers," he said.

"With Victorians heading to our beaches, rivers, lakes and pools this summer, these jobs ensure everyone can safely enjoy the water."

As well as boosting the number of children learning to swim, the program

is giving Victorians looking for work the opportunity to begin a new and fulfilling career.

For 29-year-old Chloe Turner, the program has been lifechanging.

Born with dyspraxia, she had to undergo speech therapy as a child to be able to talk. Through the program, she has received free training and support to become a swim teacher and now works part-time at the Blue Fin Swim School and nearby MSAC in Port Melbourne.

This program complements a separate \$5.7 million partnership between the government and Aquatics and Recreation Victoria, creating 300 roles for swim teachers, lifeguards and other pool staff.

Together, these programs provide 580 Victorians with secure work for 12 months, prioritising people aged 18 to 25, people with a disability, women aged 45 and over, and those from culturally and linguistically diverse back-

grounds.

Participants are paid while they complete pre-employment training, including the nationally accredited

Swim Australia Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety course, and training in First Aid and CPR.

For more information visit

jobs.vic.gov.au or call the Jobs Victoria hotline on 1300 208 575.



Minister for Employment, Ben Carroll.

Bike library for Trafalgar

Trafalgar Primary School has partnered with Revolve ReCYCLING to help students learn bike skills and be environmentally conscious at the same time.

Revolve ReCYCLING promises 'new life for old rides' by recycling and redeploying Australian bikes, e-bikes, scooters and other personal transport vehicles.

Through the program, bikes are removed from landfill and used to create jobs for people with disadvantaged backgrounds while encouraging cycling and active transport.

The recycled bikes were delivered before the summer

holidays and will provide a 'bike library' for the school's bike education program.

Trafalgar Primary School principal, Cameron Nicholls, said the school was investing in programs to support students to be happier, healthier, more active and social.

"In late 2020, the school established a partnership with Ride Nation to deliver bike education," he said.

"After a COVID-induced delay, the bikes have finally arrived, so this is to support the bike education program - they've provided a bike library."

Mr Nicholls said the students are "super keen" to begin riding, and their parents

were also excited about the program.

"Not only does it meet our social and physical engagement needs in terms of the curriculum, but also, that road safety element really gives parents that confidence when students are travelling to and from school on their bikes."

As soon as the bikes arrived, students who had their helmets on hand were able to give the bikes a whirl.

Their excitement could be heard throughout the schoolyard as they got to take them for a spin around the courtyard.

Source: Warragul Gazette



Checking out the new bikes from Revolve ReCYCLING at Trafalgar Primary School are Alena, Owen, Lace, Summer, Zara, Lara, Noah, Jasmine, Oliver, Bryn, Oscar, Otis and Aleera

Farmer to farmer

IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY

An international consortium of scientists has received a \$34 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Agricultural Innovations (Gates Ag One) fund to improve crop productivity and food security in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

Leading agriculture researchers from Australia's national science agency, CSIRO are part of the Realizing Increased Photosynthetic Efficiency (RIPE) project, an international collaboration with the University of Illinois, the University of California, Berkeley, Lancaster University, the University of Cambridge, the University of Essex in the UK, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service.

The project aims to end hunger worldwide by improving the complex process of photosynthesis to increase crop production.

With the demand for protein set to double in places like Africa by 2050, CSIRO scientist Jose Barrero said the focus is now on improving staple food crops, including cowpea, in some of the most disadvantaged and harsh landscapes on the planet.

"Cowpea is an important vegetable food source for smallholder farmers in Africa where it is a major source of

protein," Dr Barrero said.

CSIRO scientist TJ Higgins said the goal is to develop new improved cowpea varieties that provide better yield, and that help deliver global food security in light of the expected population growth in West Africa and the challenging impacts of climate change.

"Existing work by CSIRO and partners on improving outcomes for crops in Africa has already led to the development and commercial release of the world's first genetically modified cowpea in Nigeria," Dr Higgins said.

"This new cowpea variety is resistant to an important insect pest, the Maruca pod-borer.

"We have already seen major improvements in crop productivity in field trials conducted by the RIPE project. This new research as part of the RIPE project will have an additional impact on reducing hunger and rural poverty."

RIPE Project Director, Steven Long, said the work being done by CSIRO and the RIPE team was world-leading, and would have profound implications for small-scale agriculture in developing countries.

"This is where science can make a real difference to human outcomes, unlocking improvements in productivity without requiring more inputs from farmers with limited resources", Dr Long said.

The RIPE project was started in 2012 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), and the U.S. Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research.

The ongoing work is now being supported by Gates Ag One, a not-for-profit subsidiary of the Gates Foundation, created to leverage global crop science to meet the needs of smallholder farmers

TEACHING EXCELLENT HORSE CARE AND OWNERSHIP

RSPCA Victoria is inviting new and future horse owners to attend a new course to promote excellent horse care and responsible ownership onsite at RSPCA Burwood on Saturday, February 18.

Many Victorians left the city and their suburban lifestyles behind during the pandemic and took up hobby farming as part of their new lives.

The new course will teach the essential skills every horse owner needs to provide appropriate care for horses.

"We are delighted so many Victorians are interested in taking care of larger animals and, in this case, being responsible horse owners," said Education & Training Manager at RSPCA Victoria Belinda Marchbank.

"They can bring such a unique joy into our lives, but new horse owners may not realise exactly what their equine companion needs to live a healthy and happy life."

Similar to RSPCA Victoria's We Bought a Farmlet short course on farm animal care, Equine Excellence is designed for current and prospective horse owners alike.

Equine Excellence is filled with practical skills and knowledge for every horse owner and aims to promote best-practice responsible horse care in Victoria.

Participants will receive comprehensive information regarding horse and pony ownership to optimise their animal's health and welfare from the moment of purchase.

RSPCA Victoria is providing a panel of three experienced experts who will outline practical ways of providing for a horse and pony's needs and how to keep happy and healthy animals.

Attendees will discuss the specific needs of horses and ponies while engaging in hands-on activities designed to illustrate and teach appropriate equine animal care.

Classes are kept small to encourage questions and enhance participants' learning experience during the course.

Attendees will learn:

- How to promote important natural behaviours in

the horses.

- How to work safely around horses.
- How to use the equipment needed to care for horses properly.
- Preventative health and management measures.
- Factors to consider when purchasing or adopting a horse or pony.
- How to identify signs of good health and welfare.
- What to do if your horse's 'normal' begins to change.
- What to include in a basic first aid kit for horses.

Participants must be 14 years or older and will receive a certificate upon their completion of the course.

Places for the course can be booked by calling 03 9224 2286 or online at <https://rspcavictoria.wetechme.com/classes/1042105-equine-excellence>.

HEAR FROM INTERNATIONAL EXPERT

Gippsland dairy farmers have the rare opportunity to hear from an internationally recognised leader in the field of calf and cattle welfare, when Professor Nina von Kerselingk visits Leongatha this month.

Professor von Keyserlingk is a Director of the National Farm Animal Health and Welfare Council of Canada, as well as being the co-director of the Animal Welfare Program at the University of British Co-

lumbia, Canada.

She is the guest of regional dairy body GippsDairy and will be speaking in Gippsland before attending the Australian Dairy Conference in Hobart.

"This is a great opportunity for local farmers to get the latest in research and trends from an industry expert. We hope they will take advantage of this opportunity," GippsDairy executive officer Karen McLennan said.

"Nina will be looking at the challenges and opportunities around calf rearing, an issue which can prove problematic in the dairy landscape.

"I know one of the issues Professor von Keyserlingk will be speaking about is the opportunity that exists in calf rearing for the dairy industry in particular around accelerated nutrition, surplus calves and cow-calf separation."

Professor von Keyserlingk combines research in both the social science and animal science fields, working to find practical opportunities to produce food in ways that work for the farm business, protect social license and improve animal welfare.

Ms McLennan will be in Leongatha on Thursday, February 9.

Details on the event can be found at gippsdairy.com.au



To keep our community up to date with Council News, visit our Facebook, Instagram and Website.

Help advance Baw Baw's most pressing needs in 2023.

Council has put forward a set of draft advocacy priorities designed to balance the challenges of growth while enhancing Baw Baw's lifestyle, character and environment.

Tier One Priorities are most pressing and include but are not limited to:

- Baw Baw Culture and Connection Precinct
- Drouin & Warragul Arterial Road Network Planning

Tier Two Priorities reflect infrastructure projects and issues to improve the liveability, safety and sustainability of Baw Baw Shire and include but are not limited to:

- Investment in Education
- Erica Mountain Bike Hub
- Industry transition
- Innovation in the Visitor Economy

Free Rapid Antigen Tests for vulnerable community members.

Eligible community members in Baw Baw Shire can now collect Free Rapid Antigen Tests from the Drouin Customer Service Centre, located at 33 Young Street, Drouin.

As part of the Community COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) Program, Council can distribute five tests (1 kit) to eligible community members, including:

- People aged 70 years or older
- People with disability*, immunocompromised people (self-declared) or their carer
- Concession card holders**

*People with disability or their carer can receive 20 tests (4 kits), in line with eligibility criteria, including:

- NDIS participants
- Disability support pensioners
- People with a disability who receive a Transport Accident Commission benefit.

**Full list detailed on Council's website at www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/COVID19

ADVANCING BAW BAW

Tier Three priorities focus on supporting objectives from key Council strategies, including Environmental Sustainability, Economic Development, Long Term Infrastructure and Municipal Early Years' plans.

Getting involved:

The community are invited to provide feedback on the draft priorities before **26 February 2023** to ensure they meet resident needs and inspire grassroots support.

To view Council's Draft 2023 Advocacy Priorities and provide feedback scan the code below.



The fire danger period has been declared for Baw Baw Shire from 16 January 2023 to 1 May 2023.

Residents are encouraged to reduce fuel loads around their properties to help minimise bushfire risk.

This includes tidying leaves, twigs, bark, cutting long grass, weeds and overgrown vegetation. Green waste can be disposed of at one of Council's transfer stations.

This coincides with Council's Fire Hazard Inspection Program that began in December to ensure properties do not pose a risk to community safety.

For more information about the Fire Danger Period go to: www.cfa.vic.gov.au

Inviting Baw Baw Shire to 'count themselves in' this International Women's Day!

Save the date for Baw Baw Shire Council and Women in Gippsland's International Women's Day event on Thursday 9 March at the West Gippsland Arts Centre.

Award-winning musician, actor, author and broadcaster, Clare Bowditch will headline the event.

Touching on stories from her own struggles and triumphs, Clare will discuss 'counting yourself in', developing your own inner-champion, and living a life of purpose and joy.

Clare will be supported by a panel of inspiring local women who will also share how they have counted themselves in.

This will be the fourth International Women's Day event delivered by Council and Women in Gippsland.

What's on:

The event will begin in the West Gippsland Arts Centre forecourt from 5pm, with music, market stalls, food trucks and entertainment, before moving into the theatre for the main event from 7pm.

Purchase your tickets:

Tickets are currently on sale at \$39 for general admission and \$20 for students and concession card holders.

All proceeds will go to not-for-profit Women in Gippsland to support its advocacy and event work.

Don't miss out! Scan the code to book your tickets.



A new timber carving sits proudly in Erica and pays homage to the town's historical roots.

Created by Baw Baw artist, Brandon Kroon, the 2.5 meter wide wooden sculpture is the latest in a collection of work that is quickly taking the timber-carving world by storm.

The eye catching piece pays homage to the town's rich timber logging roots and replaces the 'Top Tidy Town' signage that has greeted guests since the 1990s.

A former motorbike mechanic, Brandon draws inspiration from his faith to create his art and says it was the driving factor in his choice when making the leap to take it on full-time and launch his own business, BK Carving.

Brandon worked with Erica residents to determine key themes that would then be interpreted within the concept designs.

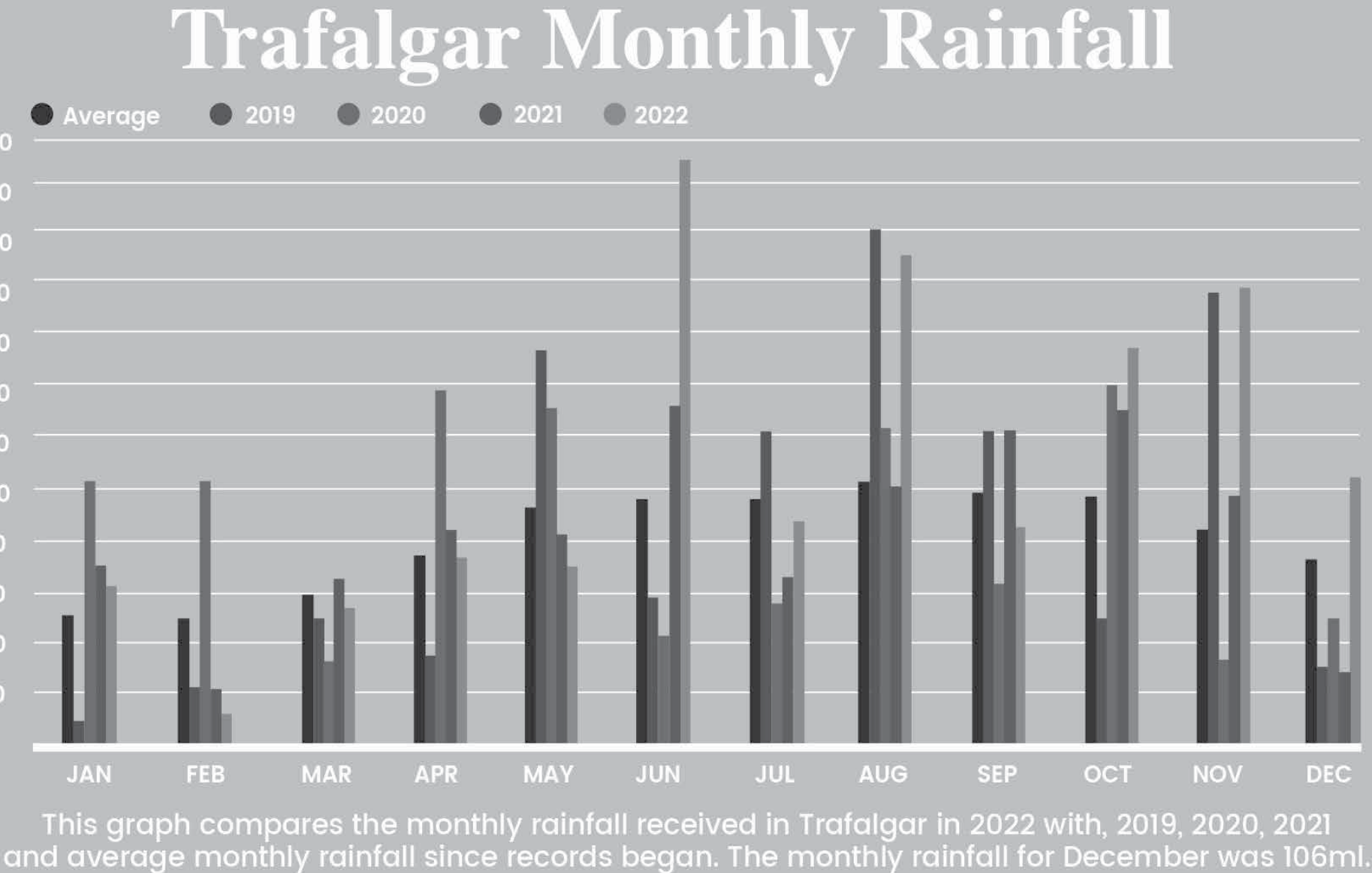
The final design includes a two-person buck saw, historically used to cut timber, a log round that pays tribute to the sign's predecessor, and native plant and animal life in the form of Eucalypt leaves and a kookaburra, which are commonly found in the Mountain Rivers Region and throughout Baw Baw.

The sculpture was completed in late 2022.



"I hope it represents the town as much as a sign can, and I hope it points people to the beauty of the nature that's nestled in the area and its history in the timber industry."

- Brandon Kroon





Remember When

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

TRAFALGAR, YARRAGON & YALLOURN NEWS, FEBRUARY 1933

2 FEBRUARY – SWIMMING CLUB FOR TRAFALGAR?

To the Editor of the “News”.

Now that we are right in the heat of summer and large numbers of people of both sexes are patronising the Main Drain (Moe River) should not the matter of a Swimming Club for Trafalgar receive serious consideration?

Last season, for the first time, a large number of young ladies commenced to swim at the Drain, and the Football Club even spoke of holding a Swimming Carnival there.

What a wonderful opportunity for young people here to learn to swim. Yours, etc., Learn to Swim.

[Ed. note: Swimming in the Main Drain at the Seven Mile Road bridge was very popular until water pollution stopped it]

NEW BRICK CHURCH

For some time past the trustees of the Methodist Church in Trafalgar have been giving attention to the question of erecting a new church building. Some couple of months ago preliminary investigations as to the best type of building, and costs were instituted, and now the matter has been further advanced by the calling of tenders for a brick church with a tile roof.

9 FEBRUARY – BRIGADE TROPHIES

At the big Fire Brigades’ demonstration at Yallourn on Foundation Day the Trafalgar team won the “B” class six man hose and reel events. This gave the brigade two firsts and a third for the day. The Cup for the six man event is to go into the brigade hall. Each of the men in the event received a handsome ash tray.

THE GIPPSLAND NEWS, FEBRUARY1963 7 FEBRUARY – PLAUDITS

Il readers must applaud the action of Mr and Mrs Noel Somerville of Trafalgar, for their enthusiasm in joining the ever-increasing families who are willing to share their love and home with aboriginal children.

On this occasion this young couple were hosts for

some five or six weeks to a five-year-old girl, who on Sunday returned to her parents at Drouin in order that she could commence school for the first time.

YARRAGON JUNIOR FIRE BRIGADE?

At Monday night's meeting of the Yarragon Urban Fire Brigade much discussion took place regarding the formation of a Junior Brigade, and a motion was placed on the books “That steps be made to aid the formation of a Junior Brigade”.

14 FEBRUARY – ROB-BERY AT TRAFALGAR

Thieves stole 800 pounds (\$24,340 equivalent to today) in cash and 3000 pounds (\$91,280 today) in cheques from a private garage owned by Mr Ern Cook, of Waterloo Road, Trafalgar, on Friday night. The thieves entered through the roof and used the garage's oxy-acetylene equipment to cut open the safe and steal the money.

HOTEL TEAM WINS TUG-O-WAR

At the Trafalgar Car Club Carnival held on Saturday there were two teams in the tug-o-war contest – the Criterion Hotel team and the Trafalgar Milk Supply team. The event was won by the hotel team comprising of: Dave Ward, Reg Ward, Len Williams, Z Rek and anchor man Jim Brodribb.

The Milk Supply team comprised Harry Watt, Bill Milroy, Barry Bryce and the Neilson Bros.

21 FEBRUARY – NEW GOLF CLUBHOUSE

The highlight of the annual meeting of the Trafalgar Golf Club held on Monday evening last was the decision to formulate plans for the building of a new clubhouse. The decision to take steps to erect a modern building to replace the old structure, which has been in use for many years, is one which will be greatly appreciated by members.

TRAFALGAR JUNIOR MARCHING GIRLS

Trafalgar “Latrobettes” carried off the honours from 25 other junior teams on Sunday last at a contest arranged at the Chelsea oval by the Chelsea Fire Brigade Marching Girls’ Association. They were awarded first place in

display, and third place in fall-in and inspection.

28 FEBRUARY – HONOUR FOR LOCAL FIRE-MAN

Assistant Chief Officer T. Morrison, of the Country Fire Authority, visited the Trafalgar Fire Brigade on Thursday evening, and after dress inspection and drill, each member was examined on the procedure of pumping operations. A.C.O. Morrison then presented Captain I. Baillie of Trafalgar with his 20 years’ long service bar.

THORPDALE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

The Thorpdale Progress Association, in conjunction with the Thorpdale C.W.A. and the Mothers’ Club, will make a joint approach to the Narracan Shire to obtain a Comfort Station for Thorpdale.

TRAF NEWS, FEBRUARY 2005

FEBRUARY – WELCOME TO A NEW YEAR

The year 2005 promises to be an exciting year for Trafalgar. Trafalgar's new community development officer (John Ernst) commenced duties last month. Please make John welcome as he gets around town meeting people from Trafalgar's many clubs.

When approaching John regarding anything please be aware that his role is not to fix things himself. John's role is to refer you to the appropriate person or organisation. In this way his knowledge is spread amongst the community. – Mick Bourke, Editor Traf News

AWARD TO FATHER TOM

Father Tom O’Connell, Trafalgar’ Catholic Parish Priest, was awarded the Baw Baw Shire's Australia Day Medallion on Australia Day at the Community Centre before a number of residents, friends, and some relatives who were here from Ireland.

Father Tom is one of those unique members of a community who has positively impacted on every person he has come into contact with since he arrived in Trafalgar 26 years ago.

TSUNAMI DISASTER AP-PEAL

Dear Sir, - I am writing to you because I think the town of Trafalgar deserves a pat on the back. Over the past two

weeks since the Tsunami hit, donations have been taken by all kinds of agencies to help the victims. An amount of \$12,912 (\$18,584 today) has been deposited to World Vision through the ANZ Bank in Trafalgar alone. This is amazing! What a TRULY generous town we live in. – Dawn Balfie, ANZ Bank, Trafalgar.

THE HUMBLE POTATO

A group of Thorpdale potato farmer's wives have formed an organisation to promote potatoes. Last year they attended ‘Harvest of Gippsland’, where they handed out many red soil ‘Sebago’ potatoes, along with free recipes etc.

HILLEDALE SINGERS

The Hillendale Singers are a mixed four-part choir based in Trafalgar. They perform the length of the Latrobe Valley and beyond, singing a wide variety of popular music.

If you wish to sing, the singers would welcome you to their weekly rehearsals at 8.00 p.m. every Wednesday at the Uniting Church SS Hall in Contingent Street.

RAILWAY STATION IN DECAV

The Trafalgar Community Development Association has launched a petition to the Victorian Government drawing attention to the dreadful condition of our Railway Station.

This building which is one of the most visible points of our town is rich in history and was, in the glorious days of rail, the hub of the town and district.

TRAFALGAR BOXING CLUB

The Trafalgar Boxing Gymnasium rounded off another year of active competition with a scintillating boxing performance from Ben Russell of Trafalgar in winning the Olympic Style Boxing ‘Silver Gloves Championship’ in the Light Welterweight division.

Fourteen-year-old Josh Gordon was narrowly defeated in the ‘Silver Gloves Paperweight’ division. During 2004, Trafalgar boxers were successful with 11 wins out of the 17 Olympic style bouts. The Gymnasium is active in a diverse range of competitions.

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

Phone 56346413



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

REFLECTION

Reflection

By Moira Dodsworth

We have started a new year, 2023. I wonder how many of us made resolutions and have already forgotten them or found them impossible to implement. I did slow down in January, I spent hours in the garden, usually very early in the morning, this meant I met some of my neighbours who walk and discussed the weather and gardens. A year on in my house, it is good to see the garden becoming what I want it to be, there's still work to do.

The latest happening in my house is the arrival of Jeremiah, Jerry for short, another black Cocker Spaniel. Jerry's first home did not last long as he was not welcomed by the other dog. So, of course, he had my sympathy, poor little soul returned to sender when you are only a few weeks old. I was concerned about my other dog, she has become increasingly possessive of

me and when I had visitors, she had to know where I was every minute of the day. I was thinking it was time for a shake up.

So, Jerry arrived, of course very cute and lovable and my ankle was where he wanted to be, even if sometimes inconvenient. But as we have all felt rejection at some time in our lives and even though I'm not sure if he understands in words, all the change was confusing for him and he is happy close by, so we will work through this. Rejection is such a raw emotion; it bites so deep in our basic need to be loved and part of a community. In our society where most families are smaller and often very spread across the state, country and even the world, building a community where we feel accepted, comfortable and have our truth tellers is very important. It is also all too easy to walk away when little things upset us and seek a new

community. However, if we keep doing this the feelings of rejection can gnaw away at us, it is harder each time and we can become isolated.

But how do we stick to a community? Well, Jerry is sticking to me, the one person he feels loves him, he put up with the occasional growl and regular grumble from Candy when he encroaches on her territory. He is persistent in his demonstration of wanting a game and love, even chewing up the grooming tool, which she hates and letting her eat his food! Maybe one day they will even share a bed like Candy and the cat. I love them all, squabble as they do but giving attention individually and communally without reserve, like God and us in a way? Maybe!

Blessings in your community,
Moira

Basil's back

After a number of years, one of Traf News' most favourite columnists has returned.

Basil, well-known to many of our readers for his comedic look on life and people, is back with his literary prowess after having had a well-earned rest.

Having first graced the pages of this August publication in 2014, he provided monthly amusement to Trafalgar's residents until 2018.

To get the ball rolling, Basil is re-producing one of his early works - on former US President, Ronald Reagan.

Politicians are probably scrutinised more than anybody on earth and it's hard to imagine that several of them have books published with such titles as, “The Wit Of ----.” Having read one or two of such books, your writer admits a bias toward the humour of a former President of the United States, Ronald Reagan. We hope readers are also tickled with the following reports and anecdotes which were published in 1981.

Early in his first term in office, Reagan was the victim of an assassination attempt. A bullet missed his heart by inches, but the experience triggered him off with an almost manic series of quips and jokes. To surgeons as he entered the operating the-

atre, he said, “Who's minding the store?” and “Please tell me you're all Republicans”. Lying in intensive care with tubes in his mouth, he mumbled, “Will I be fit for work on the ranch after this?”

When his aides told him, “Sir, you'll be happy to know that the government is running normally”, he shot back, “What makes you think I'd be happy with that?” To his wife Nancy he explained, “Honey I forget to duck!” He pinched that line from boxer Jack Dempsey in 1926 when he lost the world heavyweight championship to Gene Tunney. He also pinched a line from comedian W.C. Fields, “All in all I'd rather be in Philadelphia”. He happily reminded the press that Winston Churchill had once famously said, “There's no more exhilarating feeling than being shot without result”. When complimented by a doctor for being a good patient, he said, “I have to be - my father-in-law is a doctor.” To a very attentive nurse he said, “Does my wife Nancy know about us?”

The Guinness Book of Records revealed that prior to a radio broadcast on August 13, 1984, he was asked to say something to enable the technicians to check voice levels. He duly obliged and said, “My fellow Americans, I am pleased to tell you that

I have signed legislation to outlaw Russia forever. We begin bombing in five minutes!” The test was surreptitiously recorded and soon broadcast to the world.

He made headlines again with some cracker gaffes when he went on a four-country tour of Latin America in 1982. He obviously became confused when proposing a toast at a dinner in Brazil, when he said, “Now, would you join me in a toast to President Figueiredo, and the people of Bolivia - no, that's where I'm going - and the people of Brazil and to the dream of democracy and peace here in the Western Hemisphere”. In fact, he was headed next, not for Bolivia, but Columbia.

He once addressed his own congress and said, “Before I refuse to take your questions, I have an opening statement”. Our final offering came from Ronald Reagan when he said, “The most terrifying words in the English language are, I'm from the government and I'm here to help”.

Keep Smiling - Basil.

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	Sue Murphy		0428 866 417
Baw Baw Shire Councillor, East Ward	Darren Wallace		0476 000 053
Baw Baw Shire Councillor, East Ward	Michael Leaney		0476 000 119
Baw Baw Shire Councillor, East Ward	Peter Kostos		0429 936 876
Baw Baw Sustainability Network		bbsn.org.au	0490 485 370
Bettermentall Together	Kerry Rantall	bettermentall@gmail.com	0477 115 666
Bowls Club	Ian Miles, President	trafalgarbowlsclub@bigpond.com	0400 210 033
Boxing Gymnasium	Shane Cameron	box_on_box_all@hotmail.com	0408 962 764
Campdraft		facebook.com/trafdraft	0416 166 027
Cemetery Trust	Tania Mussared, Secretary		5633 2282
CFA (non-emergency contact only)	Mark Walshe		5624 1900
Chamber of Commerce	Brendan Kingwill	trafalgarchamber.com.au	0418 596 494
Community Development Association	David Lyons	wombatlyons@yahoo.com	0409 015 662
Community Notice Board		facebook.com/trafalgarcommunitynoticeboard	
Cricknet Club	Liam Durkin, Secretary	trafalgarcricketclub@gmail.com	0402 556 338
Croquet Club	Michael Fozard		0418 513 092
Earls Road Landcare Group	Jim Whiley, Secretary		0423 832 122
Football Netball Club	Brett Tonkin, President	trafalgarfnc@gmail.com	0418 189 027
Golden Girls Trafalgar			5623 6032
Golf Club		admin@trafalgargolf.com.au	5633 1110
High School			5633 1733
Historical Society	Dianne Ireland	historicalsocietytraf@gmail.com	0439 655 172
Kindergarten			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

Cheaper travel to and from Melbourne

By Stefan Bradley

Capped V/Line fares will allow Gippsland residents and visitors a cheaper ride to-and-from Melbourne and around the state when they come into effect on March 31.

Premier Daniel Andrews also confirmed that Victoria's public transport ticketing system would likely be overhauled this year to allow patrons to access services with a credit card or smartphone, rather than relying on a Myki card.

Labor took the cheaper V/Line fares policy to the November state election, which also included extra weekend V/Line services. The capped fee means the maximum adult full-fare on V/Line will cost no more than \$9.80, the same rate as commuters using train services in Melbourne.

Currently, regional fares are calculated based on distance travelled.

Under the policy, regional fees will be capped, with a

\$68.80 daily peak full-fare from Bendigo reduced to \$9.80, which is the cost of a full-fare Zone 1 + 2 trip in Melbourne.

The concession charge of \$4.60 in Melbourne would also be matched.

A return trip from Sale to Southern Cross on the V/Line is currently \$62, or \$31 with concession, which would be reduced to \$9.80 full-fare or \$4.60 concession.

The reduction to a \$9.20 daily full-fare would also apply to a return full-fare from Bairnsdale (\$78.80), Traralgon (\$64.40) and Warragul (\$36.80).

Regional commuters who use a Myki Pass to travel between 28 and 365 days a year, will also be capped at the Melbourne rate, currently \$5.52 per day.

Public Transport Minister, Ben Carroll, said last year that regional stations using paper tickets would be put on the Myki system in March. Many regional stations use

Myki, but patrons boarding stations such as Sale have had to resort to paper tickets.

The contract with Japanese company NTT Data for the Myki card expires in November, and a tender process is underway. Mr Andrews last week suggested at a news conference in Melbourne that an upgrade may be needed.

"We are very keen to see the best technology employed so that using a world-class public transport system is as easy and convenient as possible," Mr Andrews said.

Lower fares and potentially a new ticketing system can encourage more patronage. During the election campaign, the state government pledged to deliver nearly 200 extra weekend services on the regional network, with an investment of \$207 million. On the Gippsland Line, this will mean trains every 40 minutes to Traralgon – 8am to 9pm on weekends; and extending the Sunday

service to Bairnsdale, which currently terminates at Sale.

Planning is underway for a staged introduction of these extra services, starting from 2024. A number of

daytime, weekend and long-distance services currently have spare capacity that will help absorb an increase in patronage.

The Department of Trans-

port and Planning is working through demand modelling of what the likely impact of the fare change will be and if additional services will be required.



Commuters will hope to see more VLocity trains on the Gippsland Line in 2023.

Improved coverage a must

Nationals leader, David Littleproud, is calling for government intervention to ensure Australians in regional and remote areas have adequate mobile coverage.

Mr Littleproud said extending and reforming the Universal Service Guarantee (USG) to mobile phones from landlines and introducing mandated mobile roaming in 2023 was essential to grow the regions and protect lives.

"In 2023, communication has never been more important," Mr Littleproud said.

"It's critical as a safety and emergency response, enabling better commerce, business and social interaction in areas of limited network coverage."

Mr Littleproud said he supported the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC) recent decision to rule out a 10-year mobile infrastructure sharing deal with Telstra and TPG Telecom because more than 700 towers would have been lost.

Mandating roaming in regional and remote areas, however, would share all the towers between all the telcos, which in turn, would maintain and improve coverage and competition.

Mr Littleproud said the

former Coalition Government funded more than 1200 new or upgraded mobile base stations under their Mobile Phone Black Spot Program and there now needs to be regulatory guidelines to make sure they could be used by all Australians, no matter what telco they were with.

Mr Littleproud said if mandated domestic roaming in rural areas was introduced in concert with reforms to the USG that extended to mobile service and removed the averaging provisions that currently allows Telstra – the recipient of the \$270 million in USG funding – to have landline customers without phones for months, then services would improve.

"The USG isn't working and needs reform, which was highlighted in the Regional Telecommunications Review handed down just before the federal election, yet the new government has made no commitment to implementing its recommendations.

"Telcos should also be forced to maintain mobile towers, not just landlines. Unfortunately, the October 2022 Budget also revealed cuts to regional telecommunications despite the urgent need for improvements."

The former Coalition Government directed an ACCC

inquiry into mobile roaming, to focus on the costs and access to telecommunications towers and facilities. Mr Littleproud encouraged those living in rural and remote

locations to complete the online survey.

"I'm urging our regional communities to provide input into the consultation process, open until Febru-

ary and prior to the publication of the Regional Mobile Infrastructure Inquiry draft report in April, 2023."

The survey can be accessed and completed at

<https://consultation.accc.gov.au/accc/regional-mobile-infrastructure-inquiry/>



Cricket milestone

Trafalgar Cricket Club secretary Liam Durkin played his 100th first grade game recently.

In good timing, the medium pacer brought up the milestone against Centrals at Trafalgar Recreation Reserve.

The Ships have rarely played at home in recent years due to local laws stipulating most A Grade matches need to be on turf wickets.

Durkin's milestone game saw him bowl 10 overs straight and return figures of 0/21.

Unfortunately, it was a match to forget, as Trafalgar lost off the very last ball of the game.

"There is no sentiment in cricket," Durkin said post-match.

Durkin made his first grade debut in 2012/13, and since then has achieved a few club and personal accolades.

So far, he has one premiership to his name (A Grade 2019/20), as well as two TCC best club person awards (2018/19, 2021/22).

He has taken close to 100 A Grade wickets, with best bowling figures of 5/5. Just the one five-fa to date, although there has been a couple of fours and plenty of threes.

While the number of wickets might be low, his primary job with the ball has been to contain and build dots, and his economy rate has hovered around 2.5 for the best part of the last four seasons.

In the field, he is generally placed at backward point. His best catch was undoubtedly a diving one-hander to his left in gully at Trafalgar Rec on sponsors day.

With the bat, he has usually raffled off a promotion from number 11 to 10 with Zack Brown, and as such, is often not required.

That said, he has been involved in a few useful part-

nerships down the order, and has often come in late when games have been precariously placed, needing someone to see the team over the line.

A sweep shot for four to win the game with two balls remaining gave Trafalgar a memorable one-day win, while in the longer format, Durkin is the designated nightwatchman.

With patience and a half-decent forward defence, he has been padded up on occasions before stumps, and thankfully, not usually needed.

There was one occasion he was however, and it just so happened to be a semi-final.

Until he gets a proper score in A Grade, his finest moment with the bat will probably be his 60-ball stay batting as a nightwatchman in the 2019/20 semi, putting on 49 for the second wicket with Brodie Burgess.

Imagine the odds you would have got of that happening before the game.

Across all senior grades, he has played more than 150 games, while off the field, is into his sixth season as club secretary.

Outside of Trafalgar, he has played representative cricket at senior level. A journalist by trade, he has been the Gippsland Cricket League's publicity person for the last seven seasons.

He also currently plays for Melbourne Cricket Club in their Sunday competition, although these appearances have been limited in the last couple of years due to work.

A personal highlight from his time with Melbourne was playing on Bradman Oval in Bowral.

But Traf is where the heart is, and the milestone man said it had been an enjoyable time.

"Like anyone who has been with a workplace, community group or club for a

while, there is always ups and downs, but all in all, there has been plenty of good times and friends made along the way," he said.

"When I started out, my aim was to win a premiership and play 100 first grade games, so it was satisfying to get both of those items ticked off.

"I have enjoyed the camaradery and the competition that comes with playing.

"Finals are always a highlight, especially when we have had multiple teams competing. The excitement around that time is always exhilarating, while the finals breakfasts/dinners are

something I always look forward to.

"Without trying to sound too cliché, if I had to choose one element I've enjoyed the most, it's the culture of playing hard to win mixed with a true club environment where everyone chips in to help out.

"What I loved the most happened just last season. We had someone make a ton in A Grade on the same day someone made their first ever half-century in C Grade; and we celebrated that just as much as the guy making a ton in A Grade."

In terms of opponents, Durkin selected the follow-

ing in his greatest XI: Anthony Bloomfield (Latrobe), Mark Cukier (Morwell), Andrew Philip (Moe), Rob Phoenix (Moe, Mirboo Nth), John Keighran (Churchill), Shane Peters (Mirboo Nth), Brad Knowles (Raiders), Rob Webber (Morwell, Centrals), Brendan Brincat (Morwell), Chris Johnson (Moe, Latrobe), Dale Banks (Mirboo Nth).

"If I had to choose one, I would rate Brad Knowles as the greatest cricketer I've played against," he said.

"Andrew Philip is the best batsman I've bowled to, and Chris 'Tassie' Johnson the best bowler I've faced."

As for the future, Durkin said there was a few things on the horizon.

"Longer term, I want to be there when the ribbon is finally cut on our turf wicket oval, and to also get overseas and play during the English summer," he said.

Above all else, there is an item he wants to see ticked off Three TCC senior flags in one season.

"I've said I'll be secretary until that's done," Durkin said.

"It's just the one thing we haven't been able to achieve in 130-plus years."



Liam Durkin played his 100th A Grade game for Trafalgar Cricket Club recently.

New era for Gippy footy

By Tom Hayes

AFL Victoria is currently going through a transition period, with the imminent closure of the Gippsland Football Commission.

After months of continuous back-and-forth, the decision to close the entity is being finalised because it is not operating.

Since 2019, the Gippsland Football Commission has been seen as the 'middle-man' that sat between AFL

Victoria and the Gippsland leagues and clubs.

"The entity is just being de-registered because we are not actually using it for anything now that there is no commission," AFL Gippsland regional manager, Cameron McPhan, said.

The Gippsland Football Commission is to be absorbed by AFL Victoria soon, with the confirmation pending.

Throughout the process, AFL Victoria discovered that five of the 10 regional commissions are no longer in use – the Gippsland Football Commission being one of them.

Based at Morwell Recreation Reserve, the home of the Gippsland League's Morwell Tigers, the office has eight people. Cameron McPhan, Simon Whelan (operations) and a participation

team of six staff occupy the office space.

While they will still work from that office at the Morwell Recreation Reserve, they will work under the banner of AFL Victoria, rather than AFL Gippsland.

Despite the closure, it is believed there will be no changes to the competitions that play under AFL Gippsland.

AFL Victoria is now look-

ing to form a new advisory committee, searching for local people to be involved to make local-based decisions.

"Essentially it'll act a little bit like a commission in terms of the decision-making, so we'll get local people ... but I also want to get the right people," McPhan said.

"They will be like an advisory committee, they'll help me with strategic decision-making in the region, hence

why I want it to be local.

"Unlike the commissions in years gone by, they won't have financial or legal obligations; it'll just purely be assisting with decision-making."

AFL Victoria will be looking for Gippslanders to join the new advisory committee in due course, so keep an eye out if you're interested.

Golf champions crowned

The Trafalgar Golf Club Championships were finally held recently after a spate of bad weather had made the course extremely wet, and delayed this prestigious event.

Newly crowned club champions for 2022 were Craig Hasthorpe (men's) and June Tickell (women's).

Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all our members and sponsors for supporting the club.



Trafalgar Golf Club scratch foursomes winners, Jo Baker and June Tickell.



Trafalgar Golf Club women's champions 2022: Bev Keily (A Grade handicap), June Tickell (club champion) and Aija Owen (B Grade scratch/handicap/veterans winner).



Peter Moss with C Grade Handicap winner Hank Fiddelaers.



O'Connell Singles Knockout winner Russell Grant with Peter Moss.



Mens B Grade Scratch and handicap winner Bruce Aplin with Trafalgar Golf Club captain Peter Moss.



Peter Moss with C Grade scratch winner Symon Lee.



Peter Moss with D Grade scratch and handicap winner Graeme Grant.



Veterans winner Tim Cross and Peter Moss.

Junior cricketers enjoying season

By Liam Durkin

Trafalgar Cricket Club youngsters were busy in the lead-up to Christmas, with plenty of action on the field.

TCC Under 16, Under 14 and Under 12 teams were in action most nights of the week before the break, while participants in the Woolworths Cricket Blast had the thrill of taking part in a match featuring the Melbourne Stars at Junction Oval.

Fourteen lucky Traf kids were given an early Christmas present, getting to go onto the arena to meet the Stars players before the game against Perth Scorchers, where they were each given a signed hat.

Participants also got photos with the Stars mascots' boundary side, and had the best seats in the house to a game that ended up raining sixes.

One of the sixes was even caught by Traf parent Steve Fallon in the crowd.

The Traf colours were seen on TV at that stage, even prompting a message from former player James Walker, now living overseas, to say he saw the catch all the way from England.

Talk about a small world. Feedback from the day was the kids had an absolute ball, and Cricket Victoria put on a very good and organised show.

Thanks to Billy Pace and Zack Brown for coordinating the day from the club end, and to senior players Olly Hennessy, Mitch Claridge and James Pace for heading

down in support.

Junior players have just returned from the school holiday break, and are keenly awaiting what is to come.

In the Under 16s, the side put up a massive total on Racecourse Turf against Moe.

Batting first, Traf closed at 8/244 after 40 overs.

James Pace and Keegan Friedlander each retired after posting half-centuries, while others to make runs were Dylan van der Stoep (31), Zak Larkin (24) and Olly White (22).

Angus Kirkham then did the damage with the ball, taking 4/7, along with Jordy Chapman, who nabbed 2/11.

Unfortunately, two losses followed this match, but Traf got back on the winners list thanks to the efforts of Liam Smith in the last game before Christmas.

Liam Smith saved the day, and possibly the game for Trafalgar.

Batting first at home, the Ships top order found the going tough against Latrobe, as the first five batsman all made single figures.

Enter Smith.

Smithy then played a fantastic innings, scoring 30 and putting on some handy partnerships with Memphis McQualter (16 not out) and Angus Kirkham (14) to see the Ships close with a defendable 114 on the board.

Trafalgar was able to defend their total, getting in by 10 runs in a thriller.

Smithy, Zak Larkin and Jordy Chapman took two

wickets each, while two runs outs highlighted work in the field.

Under 14s enjoyed victory over Morwell/Latrobe.

Bowling first, Trafalgar saw their opponents manage 7/93 after 40 overs.

Wickets were shared on the Ships' deck, with Brodie Gauci taking two, and Will Mills, Zak Larkin, Mitchell Dastey, Charlie Hennessy and Matthew Jackson chipping in with one each.

In reply, a 37-run partnership between Zak Larkin and Dylan van der Stoep took Trafalgar closer to the victory target, and they were able to get there for the loss of three wickets.

A few players spent valuable time in the middle, with Dylan top-scoring on 35, Will making 22, Zak 18 and Matt Jackson 17.

Plenty of contributions led to a Trafalgar win in the match against Raiders.

Batting first, the Ships kept the runs coming, closing at 5/102 after 20.

Dylan van der Stoep retired on 40, while Zak Larkin scored 18.

Matt Jackson also chipped in with some valuable runs to help the side along.

The bowling was of particular note, as four player took two or more wickets.

Raiders were dismissed for 51, as Charlie Hennessy gave literally nothing away, taking 2/0. Zak Larkin (2/1) and Brodie Gauci (2/3) were just as miserly, while Railie Jinks nabbed 2/11.

There was play on week one of the next game, but not

on week two.

Fortunately for Traf however, the Ships were ahead at the end of the first day, meaning they took the win.

Traf made 2/76 in response to Mirboo North's 5/65 on the first day.

Ordinarily, Traf would have batted on into day two for another 20 overs, thus setting a target for Mirboo North to chase.

However, with inclement weather on the Wednesday following, no play was possible.

The improvement from many in the 14s has been outstanding, with some still only in their second season

of cricket.

Under 12s played a game against Moe at Traf.

The Ships were asked to bowl first, but despite their best efforts, couldn't make any inroads.

Quinn Asmussen was economical, conceding just four runs off his three overs.

Quinn then showed good signs with the bat, scoring 12.

Following a fortnight of washouts, the team made the trip up to Boolarra. The 12s were told they were bowling after losing the toss.

A pair of run outs featured in the Trafalgar fielding effort, as a score of 118 became

their target.

The Ships fell short of the required total, but a 32-ball innings of 20 from Quinn Asmussen showed some promise.

Reid Barnes also spent quality time out in the middle, seeing off five overs' worth of balls.

Another washout followed this game, making it four out of five weeks.

To keep up to date with all things Trafalgar Cricket Club, you can find the club on Facebook, email trafalgar-cricketclub@gmail.com, or phone secretary Liam Durkin on 0402 556 338.



Trafalgar Cricket Club Under 16s watching the game unfold.



Trafalgar Cricket Club junior players had the thrill of taking part in a match with the Melbourne Stars before Christmas.

Ships sail either side of Christmas

By Liam Durkin

Trafalgar Cricket Club has enjoyed its time on the field in recent weeks, with some good performance across the board.

A Grade action saw an improbable win against Morwell, making up for loss to Mirboo North the previous week.

In the game against Morwell, while the scoreboard says Traf won by nine wickets, the full story is this game looked all but certain to end in a draw for 95 per cent of the day.

Making the trip to Keegan Street Reserve, the Ships decided to bowl first after winning the toss.

Jackson Noonan struck in his first over, and had another not long after.

Morwell was reduced to 3/23 following the worst run

out in local cricket history, before the middle order got a partnership going.

Play was stopped twice during the innings. The first for around 20 minutes, and the second after 43 overs when umpires raised concerns over the run-ups.

At that stage, Morwell declared, players had tea, and waited, and waited and waited.

In what was surely the latest start time to a second innings ever, Trafalgar started batting at 5pm.

The rulebook was given a good going over, and the total required for the Ships set to 104 off 20 overs to win on Duckworth-Lewis.

Rhys Holdsworth was sent out to open with Aiden George, and the two played their shots to see the side to

50 in no time.

Noonan was put up to three to pinch-hit, and played the support role superbly, as he and Holdsworth saw the visitors over the line with 14 balls to spare.

A good contest against Moe followed, with Trafalgar helped out by their friends at Toongabbie Cricket Club, who loaned left arm orthodox Matt Barry for the day.

Another close game followed, although this was butchered in circumstances you wouldn't believe against Centrals.

Needing to stabilise, the Ships did just that with victory over Traralgon West.

In a game eerily similar to the 2019/20 semi, Traf won with two wickets in hand, with the winning runs coming from the number 10 via a

flick fine.

And just like that semi, captain Aydan Connolly getting run out made for a closer game than perhaps it should have been.

Traf bowled first and restricted their opponents to 148.

The chase was in cruise control for most of the first two sessions, before a direct hit saw Connolly short of his ground.

From there, the Ships lost a few wickets on the run home, but were able to scratch out the required runs with a handful of overs remaining.

Trafalgar collected a bonus point with a fairly bruise-free win over CATS the next week.

The Ships defeated CATS by eight wickets, in a match

that became a 'let's get this over with' affair.

Playing at Moe Racecourse, CATS actually travelled further to play a home game than their opponents.

The home side batted first, but could only manage 71, as Trafalgar's bowlers all came to the party.

Noonan took 2/21 with the new ball and Zack Brown's hamstring made a miraculous recovery after he grabbed an early wicket, finishing with 3/23.

Connolly mopped up, playing the role of vulture to perfection in his 3/16.

With not many to get, and with Trafalgar scorer Lindsay George threatening not to return in 2023 if the Ships lost, the visitors were in a bit of trouble at 2/11, but from there, were able to get to the

target comfortably.

Connolly played well for an unbeaten 40, partnering with Liam White in a 64-run stand.

Trafalgar moved into two-dayers after Christmas, picking up their season from there.

The Seconds got their season underway at Northern Reserve, Morwell, playing Churchill.

Some fireworks from Blake Zimora down the order saw him make a counterattacking 30.

Zima sent a ball over the fence, adding to his bomb tally from last season.

A rescue effort from Burgess and Brendan Dawson saw Trafalgar to a total of 146 batting first in the next game against Latrobe.

The pair put on 93 for the

fourth wicket, picking up the pieces following some early carnage.

A captain's knock of 59 from Coop and 46 from Dawson enabled the score to stretch out as close to 150 as possible.

Youngster James Pace then set a strong tone, taking a wicket in the first over, and was ably backed up by those who followed.

Darren Brown was miserly, returning figures of 1/24 off nine with two maidens.

Some tense moments came late in the piece, but Burgess' heroics followed his batting, taking a five-fa to ensure the Ships stayed ahead of the game.

Mark Smith got the side off the park and into the winner's circle.

Smithy, with ice in his veins coming back for his second spell, grabbed the last two wickets, ending with figures of 2/11 off five overs.

Trafalgar put up a 200-plus score the following week against Churchill (again),

which proved to be enough batting at Northern Reserve.

A 45-run partnership between Christian Burgess and Billy Claridge motored the score along, with the latter striking at more than 100.

Burgess Senior showed no signs of rust, on the day at least, scoring a fine 82 opening the batting.

He combined with Zack Brown, who made a captain's knock of 40 in an 80-run partnership.

All three top-scorers hit sixes in their effort.

The bowlers then came to the party, and reduced Churchill to 4/23, from which time there was little recovery.

Brent Claridge took three of the first four wickets to fall, while it must have been Burgess' day, claiming a wicket with a ball that hit the base of leg stump on the second bounce.

Traf lost the next game, although a score of 62 to Billy Claridge made for some positives.

The Ships turned around the result seven days later, posting a huge score up at Willow Grove.

It was tee-off time as Traf sent the ball to all parts of Willow Grove Rec Reserve.

The Ships put up a huge total close to 250, as the middle order feasted on the opposition bowling.

Billy Claridge's 46 came off just 23 balls and included six sixes, while Connor Dastey played a swashbuckling cameo of 35 off 21 with three sixes.

We are told one of those sixes would have kept going to Traf if it wasn't for the coaches box intercepting it.

The Burgess' played little more within themselves, with Cooper making 61 and Christian 45

The Ships then made it an early day, bowling their opponents out cheaply.

James Pace did the damage up top, before Claridge came on and got what we are sure was a five-fa he worked hard for.

A nice moment came with Mitch Claridge taking a catch off his older brother as he got one for the mantle and did his average no harm with 5/1 off 5.2 overs.

C Grade has enjoyed the chance to get on the park when they can.

Their first match was a rain-soaked affair in the Callignee mountains, so much so it was decided not to even waste a new ball.

The game against Yallourn North ended up being quite bizarre.

Traf was 6/11, but then Anthony Faltum and young Will Mills combined for a great 98-run partnership for the seventh wicket, taking the score up to a defendable 109.

The Ships were able to defend just that, rolling their opponents for 71.

Falts was brilliant, scoring 59 not out in a rescue effort batting at number eight, while Mills showed maturity to score 24 not out.

Wickets then went to Zak Larkin and Liam Smith.

More unusual things happened in the game against Boolarra.

Batting first up at Boolarra No 2, the Ships were skittled for just 82.

Extras top scored on 20, while only three players managed double figures.

Despite this, an inspired effort with the ball led to a Trafalgar victory.

Victory appeared a long shot when Jeeralang-Boolarra was 3/50, but a wicket to Smith Junior swung momentum dramatically.

From there, the Ships were able to strike at regular intervals, and win by 19 runs. Traf took 7/12 to complete the win.

The bowlers showcased good accuracy, getting six wickets bowled and another lbw among them.

Youngster Zak Larkin took the winning wicket, to go with three for the game.

Seniors Brent Claridge and Steve Asmussen were miserly, taking 2/6 and 2/9 respectively.

Bowling saved the day again against Mirboo North.

The Ships gave themselves something to defend, scratching out triple figures at home.

Brent Claridge made 23 up top and Memphis McQualter 19 down the order to help the cause.

Traf was able to strike early with the ball, and just kept striking.

The first wicket fell with the score on three, and the third with the score on nine.

A little while later, it was 5/35, and before too long, all out for 60.

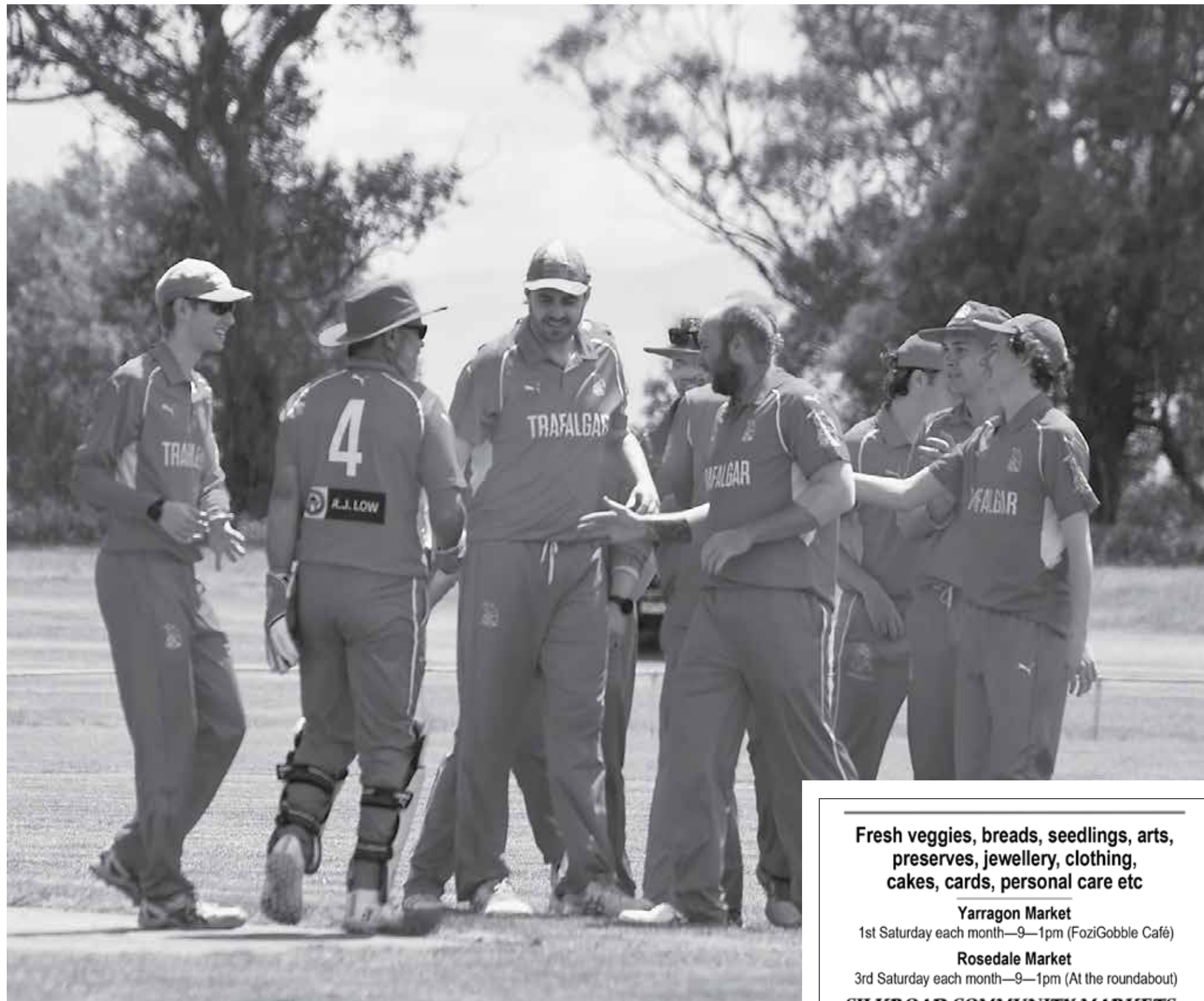
Darren Brown was the pick of the seamers, ending with amazing figures of 2/13 off eight with five maidens.

Young Zak Larkin also gave little away, taking 2/16 off eight with three maidens.

Other wicket-takers were Claridge, Smithy Senior, Olly White, Shane Lanham, and Adam Carlson, while Craig White conceded just five runs in four overs.



The time-honored tradition of afternoon tea has made a welcome return this season. Trafalgar's reputation for providing one of the best spreads in the competition continues to be upheld.



Trafalgar players celebrate a wicket in a one-day match.

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SILKROAD COMMUNITY MARKETS

Meet the people who make it, bake it, sew or grow it

Football-Netball club season launch

By Brett Tonkin (Trafalgar FNC President)

On Saturday, March 4 we will be holding our Ladies Day Luncheon and netball season launch, with guest speaker Liz Watson.

As current Australian Diamonds and Melbourne Vixens captain, Liz is one of premiere figures in world netball and we are very excited to have her.

In addition to the luncheon, Liz will be holding a clinic for our junior teams

that were selected before Christmas, with some of our coaching staff and senior players assisting.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our junior players, coaches and senior players to learn from one of the best mid-court players in the game!

As guest speaker, Liz will be speaking about her netball journey and how she's adapted her leadership skills and resilience from the net-

ball court to her everyday life and business ventures.

Tickets for the Ladies Day luncheon are \$95/head inclusive of lunch and a three-hour drinks package. Non-alcohol tickets can also be purchased for \$70/head.

On Saturday, March 25 we will be holding a Bokes BBQ and footy season launch with guest speaker Barry Hall, catered by Sampson's Bar and Grill.

Throughout his 289 game,

746 goal career, Hall was an 11-time club leading goalkicker including 80 goals in the 2005 season which also included a premiership as captain for the Sydney Swans at the peak of their 'Bloods Culture' under coach Paul Roos.

In recent times Barry co-founded the men's mental health organisation Bokes United, an online, men's only forum that discusses mental health and well-being with

the assistance of other prominent athletes and businessmen.

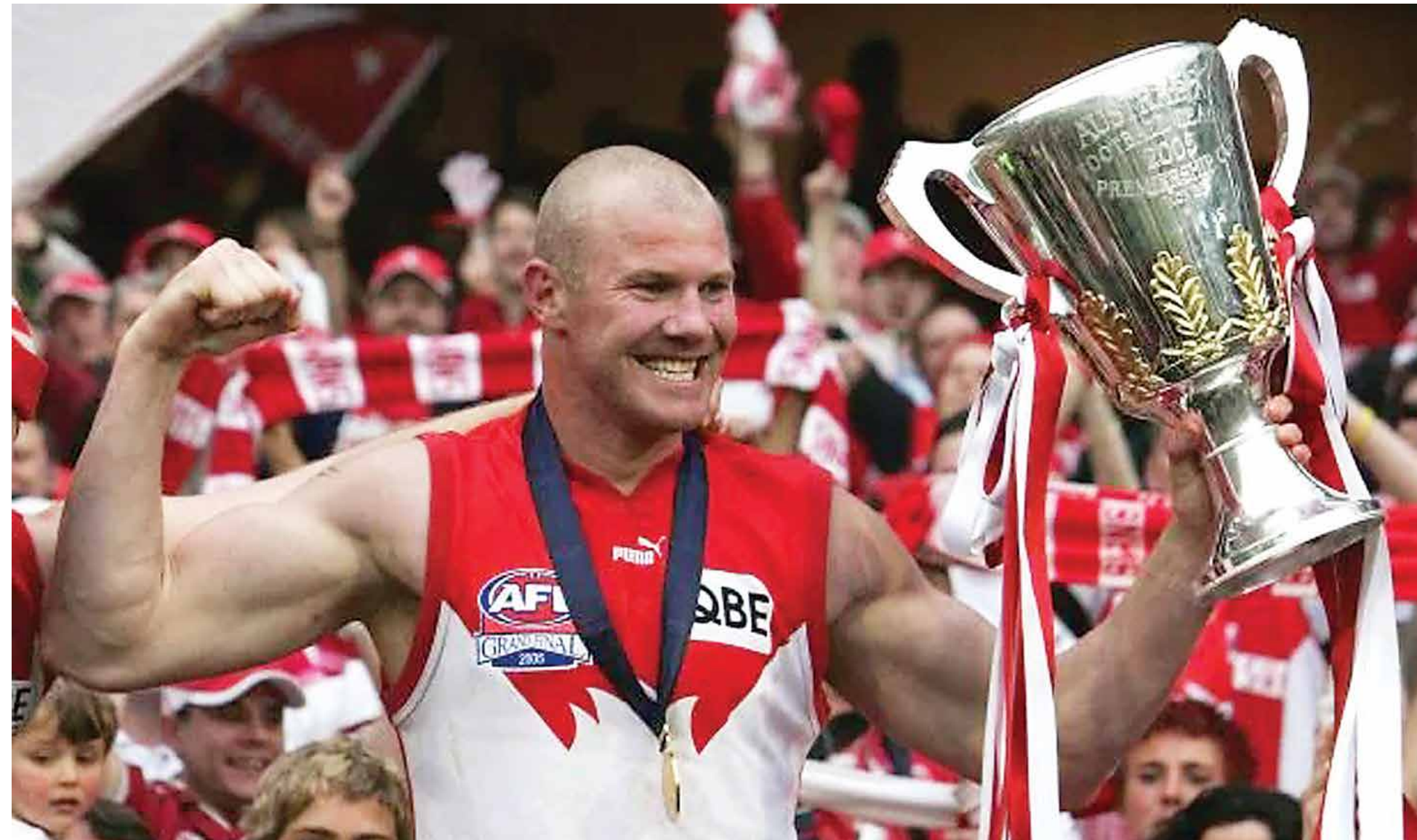
In addition to the Bokes BBQ event, Barry will also be holding a goal-setting and leadership session with our Under 16s and Under 18 footballers where he will share some of his learnings through AFL football and apply them to community football.

Tickets for the Bokes BBQ are \$110/hd including din-

ner and a three-hour drinks package.

These events are open to the general public and the club hope to see many in the local community in attendance.

For tickets or more information please phone Ellie Farmer for the Ladies Day Luncheon (0491 106 037) or Brett Tonkin for the Bokes BBQ (0477 636 648).



AFL premiership captain Barry Hall will hold a talk at Trafalgar Football-Netball Club next month.



Australian netball captain Liz Watson is set to impart her knowledge on the local contingent.