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Traf District News

June 2026 – Edition 286

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Sally and Michael wed

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Record crowds attend Anzac Day services

By Paul Altamore, CSM

Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL commemorated Anzac Day on Saturday, 25 April before record crowd numbers with services in Trafalgar, Thorpdale and Narracan East, as well as supporting other services conducted in Willow Grove, Aberfeldy, Erica, Hill End, Walhalla and Yarragon.

The traditional Dawn Service was held at the Trafalgar Cenotaph with an estimated 350 to 400 people in attendance for the early morning, first light, service commencing at 6am.

This service was conducted by sub-branch president Jim Crowe with David Koschade again providing the traditional bagpipe tunes of 'Abide with me' and 'Sleep, Dearie, Sleep'.

During this brief ceremony, Jim covered the signifi-

cance and the traditions of the Dawn Service.

Phil Jamieson and Alan Smith were posted as the Flag Orderlies for both the Dawn Service and at the later Trafalgar service.

The audio support for this service and the later 11am service was provided by Grady Edwards.

The service was followed by the traditional Gun Fire Breakfast in the hall with Trafalgar Lions Club members including Pat Tatterson, Pauline Wheller and Graham Hill arriving at Zero Dark Hundred Hours to set up and prepare the breakfast so that all was ready to be served at the Dawn Services conclusion.

The Thorpdale Service was conducted at Pioneer Park Cenotaph by sub-branch member Sandra

Pleash, with the Reverend Dr Dean Spalding reading the Anzac Requiem, and Jon Marsh reading the names commemorated on the war memorial. Darron Fraser and David Ferguson, were once again our reliable Thorpdale Flag Orderlies, taking their post at the flag poles, and Malcolm Dodson provided the technical audio support for the Last Post, Rouse and Australian and New Zealand National Anthems.

As this year commemorates the 75th anniversaries of the formation of the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps (RAANC), and the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps (WRAAC), Sandra spoke of these in her service.

As well as speaking about Sister Annie Smith (nee Westcott), who served in the

Australian Army Nursing Service (the predecessor of the RAANC) in World War I and is commemorated on the Thorpdale Memorial Wall.

The Thorpdale service was well attended by local people and visitors, and was followed by a morning tea arranged by Tracey Chambers.

Concurrent activities included the Narracan East and Willow Grove services which both commenced at 9am.

Jim Crowe conducted the service at the Narracan War Memorial, assisted by Leonie Gracie.

Similar to the Thorpdale service, the residents of Narracan turned out to pay their respects at this commemoration.

Sub-branch committee member Grady Edwards travelled north to Willow Grove to assist Willow Grove Primary School teacher Sharon McCartney in conducting its service at the war memorial.

This service was patronised with well over 100 in attendance, including members of the local football team and with the local school children's input in reading the Anzac Requiem.

Although the sub-branch had no members participate in the nearby Yarragon 10.30am service, both Jim Crowe and Bill Kilday had earlier assisted its guest speaker with background information.

The Trafalgar March, under direction of parade marshal Paul Altamore, commenced at 10.45am, with crowds lining Contingent Street, as the marchers

formed up behind Marcus Barker's Land Rover in which he acted as chauffeur for veteran Bob Moss.

The parade consisted of four divisions - the RSL and Veterans with family members leading, former sub-branch president, Ray James in front.

This division was followed by the Trafalgar Fire Brigade under the supervision of Mark Walshe.

Then 1st Trafalgar Scout Group, and finally students from Trafalgar High School, Trafalgar Primary School and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

This year we also had representatives from Ambulance Victoria, and Victoria Police joining the march.

The Latrobe Community Concert Band had pre-positioned itself at the Scout Hall and provided the music for the march and subsequent service.

An estimated 400 to 500 people attended this service either as marchers or lining the streets.

Following the Parade's 'Fall Out', all gathered around the cenotaph and along Contingent and Kitchener streets for the service, again conducted by Jim Crowe, with Reverend Dr Dean Spalding invited to speak and lead the prayer.

As in previous years, a large number of wreaths, many individually created by Leonie Gracie were laid at the cenotaph.

Traditionally, wreaths dedicated to the RSL, World

War I, World War II, prisoners of war, Vietnam War, all other conflicts, and Legacy are each year placed at the cenotaph by RSL members, or local people with a connection to that conflict or organisation.

This year being the 75th Anniversary of the formation of RAANC, Maureen Erbs, who served in the RAANC, was invited to present a special wreath commemorating this anniversary and dedicated to all service nurses. This year, we also had the State Secretary of the Victorian RSL Women's Council, Lynese Goldie OAM, lay a wreath at the cenotaph.

Cr Brendan Kingwill laid a wreath on behalf of Baw Baw Shire Council.

Wreaths were also presented by members of Ambulance Victoria, and on behalf of Trafalgar Police by Senior Sergeant David Harrison.

In addition, wreaths are also laid at the cenotaph by local community groups including Trafalgar Fire Brigade, 1st Trafalgar Scout Group, Trafalgar Football and Netball Club and Trafalgar Lions Club.

The three local schools, whose students participated in the march and service, each laid a separate wreath.

Individuals were also called forward to place any wreaths or tributes of remembrance, thus leaving the base of the cenotaph covered in a sea of wreaths, flowers, poppies and various individual tributes.

Continued on page 3.



Some of the estimated 350-400 local residents who attended Trafalgar's Dawn Service

EDITOR Position available 

Traf News Inc., is seeking an editor.

If you are interested in knowing more about the position and to obtain a position description, please email admin@trafnews.com with your contact details or ring 0409 512 672.

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Traf District News

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

Traf District News is published by Traf News Inc. Approx. 3,400 copies of Traf District News are distributed each month to homes and businesses.

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Can you help?

Trafalgar & District Historical Society has this photo in its archives, and it needs help in identifying the un-named gentleman shaking hands with former Victorian premier, John Cain. Also present are Trafalgar's Val McCann and Sheila Ferguson MBE.



As an added bonus, the society would appreciate if someone can also identify the occasion at which the photo was taken.

Please contact the society on its email: historicalsocietytraf@gmail.com

Meet the Staff

This is the first of a series of articles in which Traf District News' staff outline their experiences and thoughts on being involved with this newspaper.

Alana Moon: Graphic Designer

Alana Moon has been the graphic designer with Traf District News for just over one year now.

In this part-time role, she is responsible for producing print-ready layouts, designing advertisements for clients and editing photos.

"I enjoy piecing the puzzle together, rearranging text and spaces, seeing what works.

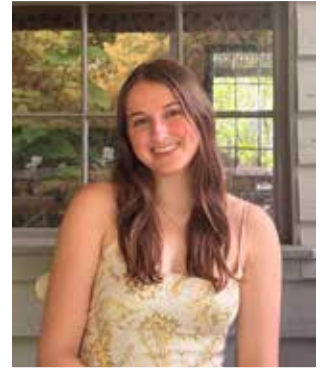
"It's very satisfying seeing a printed result and having it to hold in my hand," said Alana.

She has a special interest in typography which fits well into publication design.

Alana likes the content of a country town newspaper, being articles of local interest.

She appreciates being able to work from home and use her own time, some designated weekdays plus occasional after hours and weekends, to meet the newspaper deadlines.

She attends regular meetings in Trafalgar with the editorial group, which also includes the editor, currently



Mick Bourke, and advertiser Lucy Gatti.

Alana was especially interested in Visual Communication as a subject while at Lavalla Catholic College, Traralgon.

"I wasn't sure of what career to pursue, so I decided to try out a two-year commitment at RMIT, to achieve an Associate Degree of Graphic Design," she said.

This led to her adding another year to complete a Bachelor of Communication Design in 2023.

Traf District News's previous editor, Jordan Ross, alerted her to the job opportunity here, for which she applied and has been successfully employed in this first newspaper job.

Alana also works part-time as a graphic designer with a sign writer in Traralgon, and does free lance work creating professionally designed booklets and documents for clients.

Advertisement cost increase

Traf News Inc., committee has reluctantly decided to increase the cost of advertising in Traf District News.

This is the first increase since 2023, and since December of that year, inflation has increased by 7.6 per cent.

Our advertisements will increase by 5 per cent.

The discount applied to

some advertisements in 2023 will discontinue.

There is an additional surcharge for advertisers that request a specific page.

That does not apply to advertisers who have currently requested specific pages for their ads.

The new advertisement rates will come into effect on all bookings received on or after 1 June.

Share Your Special Celebration

Have you recently celebrated a special milestone such as an engagement, a wedding, wedding anniversary, or a significant birthday?

We'd like to share your special occasion in our newspaper.

If you or someone in your family has recently marked an important event, why not send us a short story about the celebration along with a photo?

It could be a wedding, a 21st or 90th birthday (or any in between), an en-

gagement party, a golden anniversary, or any other memorable milestone.

Just a few sentences about the event — who was involved, when it took place, and how it was celebrated — together with a clear photo will help us share

your happy news with the wider community.

Articles can be sent to editor@trafnews.com

Please include the names of the people in the photo and a contact name.

JULY 2026 EDITION DEADLINE:

Advertising Bookings Close: 10th June

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MEET THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE IT BAKE IT SOW IT OR GROW IT



Record crowds attend Anzac Day services

By Paul Altamore, CSM

Carried over from page 1.

During the ceremony two plaques were dedicated on the Memorial Wall honouring local servicemen by their family members:

Steven George Atkins, who served with the 59th Battalion, Australian Imperial Force (AIF), and died as the result of wounds received on 25 September 1917 during the Battle of Bullecourt. Members of private Atkins' family – Peter and Tracie Regan travelled from Bundaberg, Queensland for this service.

William John Powell, who enlisted in the Second AIF during World War II, and also with the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces in Japan following the War. Bill Powell later joined the Royal Australian Navy where he saw service in the Korean War, Malaya Emergency and the Far East Strategic Reserve. Members of the Powell family were also in attendance for the plaque unveiling.

Following this last service, the crowd dispersed, some to the hall for lunch, a few drinks and catch ups, and some to other gatherings.

The get together at the RSL hall then followed and was superbly catered for.

Amongst our members who organised the catering

or voluntarily worked in the kitchen were Pauline Barker, Dellas Edwards, Wilma Franklin, Lynn Jamieson, Sonja Perrin, Pat Tatterson and Pauline Wheller.

Apologies to other volunteers not mentioned.

The bar was continually manned under Phil Jamieson's directions.

Throughout the afternoon, a number of our committee and sub-branch members including Marcus Barker, Mark Walshe and Sally Neenan assisted Phil at the bar.

The veterans in attendance were grateful for the 'long neck' bottles of classic beers which had been donated by Derick Jones as a tribute for their service.

The rations provided by Trafalgar IGA and Thorpdale Bakery's popular pies and sausage rolls ensured that none went hungry.

The sub-branch is also particularly thankful for additional food stuffs kindly donated by both Trafalgar IGA and the Thorpdale Bakery which enhanced both the Gun Fire Breakfast and later luncheon.

The 11am service was not the last of Jim Crowe's duties for the day as he also repre-

sented Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL Sub branch at the Trafalgar versus Lang Lang seniors football game held that afternoon, where he awarded the medallions for Best on Court (netball) and Best on Ground (football).

The sub-branch is grateful to Trafalgar Football Netball Club for its donation of the day's gate takings to the 2026 RSL Anzac Appeal, which funds critical services for veterans and their families.

Anzac Day 2026 was a respectful commemoration honouring Australia's original Anzacs and all service men and women who have since followed and continue to serve our nation.

Its success was highlighted by the good community turnout at all locations.

The various services and parade were the culmination of several months' work ranging from liaison with Baw Baw Shire Council, local authorities, schools and community groups as well as the necessary logistics and personnel support, much of it behind the scenes.

This included the Friday afternoon working bee at the RSL hall and Thorpdale cenotaph.

Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL sub-branch thanks all those

involved, particularly Don Barrett and Bonnie Mackie.

Many members of Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL Sub branch and the local community contributed, and their efforts and work were instrumental in making this another successful Anzac Day.

To finish up with a quote from General Dwight D. Eisenhower - Supreme Allied Commander in Europe during World War II: "Teamwork wins Wars".



Trafalgar Thorpdale Sub-branch president Jim Crowe and committee members Marcus Barker and Phil Jamieson make sure the Gunfire Breakfast (coffee mixed with rum) is available to those community members who attended the Dawn Service



The cenotaph is surrounded by the many wreaths laid during the Anzac Day service



Marcus Barker and Bob Moss lead the march to the cenotaph



Trafalgar Thorpdale Sub-branch president Jim Crowe leading the Anzac Day service



One section of the large crowd that attended the mid-morning Anzac Day service are in the above and below two photos



Three of the many service veterans who attended the Anzac Day commemoration. From left: Bill Kilday, Jon Marsh and Paul Altamore



Vietnam veteran David Graham and committee member Leonie Gracie at the Anzac Day commemoration

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Who Cares for Our Road Reserves?

Divided responsibility between Council, VicRoads and VicTrack is leaving Trafalgar district road reserves

unmaintained and locals are paying the price.

A local landowner has raised the alarm over the deteriorating condition of the

road reserve between Waterloo Road and the rail track, highlighting a problem that runs deeper than one stretch of neglected land; nobody is clearly in charge.

Road reserves across the district fall under the jurisdiction of multiple authorities, Baw Baw Shire Council, VicRoads, and VicTrack/V/Line, and that split responsibility has created a gap.

While council is attending to the section within the town precinct, the remainder of the reserve is left unmanaged, leaving it an eyesore and, more critically, a hazard.

An inspection of the area has identified a range of concerns: widespread weed infestation, compromised roadside visibility, illegal rubbish dumping and the presence of vermin.

The rubbish dumping problem is worsening.

As cost-of-living pressures increase, more residents find themselves unable to afford council waste disposal facilities and the uncollected material, hidden beneath overgrown grass and weeds, is creating a habitat for rats that then spread to neighbouring properties.

Unattended reserves have generated corridors for fires to spread.

The fire risk is perhaps the most serious concern of all. Unmanaged roadside vegetation creates corridors that allow fires to travel rapidly and unpredictably through a district.

The Ash Wednesday fires remain a sobering reminder of what can happen: Labertouche was devastated when fire moved along road reserves across kilometres of land, impacting property after property in its path.

The landowner's concerns deserve to be heard.

Local knowledge, from the people who live alongside these reserves and watch them day to day, is an asset the relevant authorities would be wise to draw on.

Council, VicRoads and VicTrack should be working together, with input from local landowners, to clarify responsibility and develop a coordinated plan of action before the consequences of further inaction become impossible to ignore.

Residents with concerns about road reserve maintenance can contact Baw Baw Shire Council on 1300 229 229.



New traffic lights for Trafalgar

By Bonnie Collings

After years of community advocacy for traffic safety improvements at Trafalgar's Davey Drive and Princes Highway intersection traffic lights are set to be installed as part of \$73 million State Government investment in regional road upgrades.

The project is one of 11 critical road upgrades listed in the regional roads upgrade program announced in last week's state budget.

The program's allocated \$73 million includes \$17.477 million of Federal Government funding and is intended to improve network efficiency, safety and travel time for regional road users.

Department of Transport and Planning Gippsland executive director Beth Liley said the proposed traffic lights would "improve safety, enhance connectivity and

support the wider community in Trafalgar".

The Davey Drive and Princes Highway intersection has been an area of concern for Trafalgar residents for many years.

In response to community concerns, a new 80kph speed limit was introduced on a section of the Princes Hwy and existing 60kph zones were extended in December 2023.

Community members welcomed last month's budget announcement, after years of asking for traffic signals to be installed at the intersection.

Trafalgar local Leisa Stanfield was one of the many residents who pushed for additional safety improvements in 2023, following the speed limit changes.

Ms Stanfield said the installation of traffic lights was

a "significant step forward for road safety and traffic management" in Trafalgar.

"This is excellent news for Trafalgar residents," she said.

"This is a major safety and infrastructure win for Trafalgar, and one the community has worked hard to advocate for."

With growth of the town, and the access Davey Drive provides to two local schools and a kindergarten, Ms Stanfield said the heavily used intersection was still a "hot spot" that could be difficult to navigate.

"This intersection is heavily used by local residents, commuters, school families and freight operators," she said.

"These upgrades will help improve safety, traffic flow and accessibility for everyone using the corridor."

Member for Narracan Wayne Farnham welcomed the announcement, but acknowledged his frustration at the time it had taken.

"The intersection has been a great concern to those people that live in that area," Mr Farnham said.

"Since 2023 I have been advocating to the government for an upgrade of this intersection.

"It is frustrating that this commitment comes out six months before an election, being that we've been advocating for it for three years."

[Editor: Trafalgar now has two sets of traffic management lights and one set of pedestrian lights.

Are there more due when the new developments to the west of the town are finalised?]

Source: Warragul Gazette

Cheaper travel

In the midst of rising cost of living pressures, motorists and commuters are set to benefit from cheaper vehicle registrations and half-price public transport fares, outlined in last month's state budget.

The Allan government will invest \$758.6 million to reduce car registration costs by 20 per cent.

Light vehicle registrations cost up to \$930.70 each year, meaning motorists can save up to \$186 through the incentive.

Victorians will be able to apply for the 20 per cent rebate through Service Victoria from 1 June to 31 July.

The rebate will be limited to two light vehicles - cars, wagons, station wagons, motorcycles, utes, vans, light trucks - per person.

As previously announced, public transport across the state remained free until the end of May.

Half-price fares will begin from 1 June, reducing the \$11.40 full daily fare to \$5.70.

Source: Warragul Gazette

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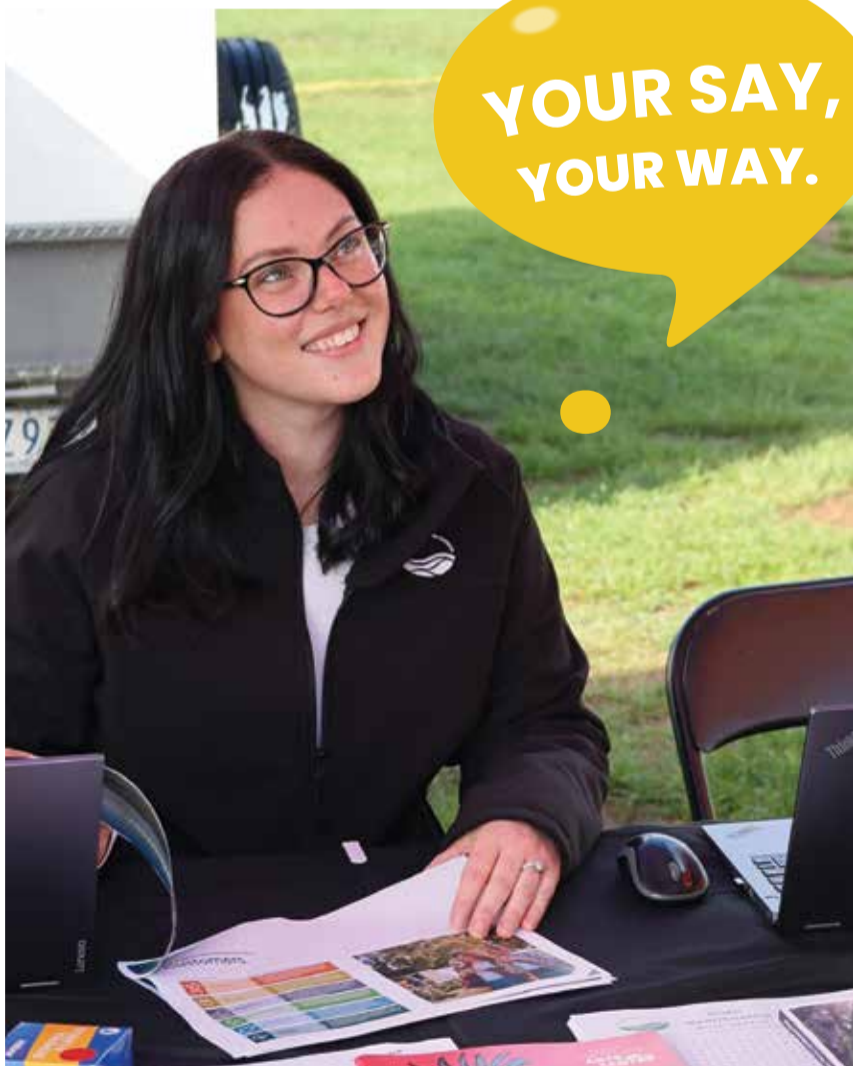
Let us know how we can better engage with YOU!

We want to hear from you, our community, as to how Council is doing at connecting with and hearing from you. A revised Draft Community Engagement Policy is now open for feedback on Baw Baw Connect.

This Policy, once adopted, outlines how Council will work with residents, community groups, businesses and other stakeholders when developing projects, strategies and making decisions that impact the Shire.

It reinforces our commitment to transparency, strengthens our commitment to accessible participation and further opens up the conversation about how we can work better with the people our decisions impact the most.

Visit Baw Baw Connect www.bawbawconnect.com.au and have your say, your way before 22 June.



Baw Baw Connect

Council currently has a community engagement opportunity open for consultation!

Draft Community Engagement Policy (open until 22 June)

Visit www.bawbawconnect.com.au to Have Your Say, Your Way!

YOUR SAY, YOUR WAY.



Upcoming Events:

For a full list of the current events, visit www.bawbawshire.co/Events-Calendar



Upcoming Council Meetings:

The following Council meeting will be held in June 2026 in the Fountain Room, West Gippsland Arts Centre.

Wednesday 24 June – 1.00pm
Ordinary Council Meeting

All community members are welcome to attend in person or tune in via the Live Stream on our website.

For a full list of the meetings for 2026, visit www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings



Your kitchen caddies are arriving!

By now, many households across Baw Baw Shire will have received their new kitchen caddy as part of the Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) service, being introduced on 6 July 2026.

From this date onwards, residents must place their food scraps into the kitchen caddy for emptying into the green bin, alongside your garden clippings.

We know many of you have questions about this new service, so please visit Council's website www.bawbawshire.co/FOGO or phone Customer Service on 5264 2411.

Jim has new job

Ninety-year-old Jim Cornwell has taken on a new job as one of Traf District News' distributors.

Jim, along with a group of other dedicated volunteers, is responsible for the timely delivery of our monthly newspaper to households in Trafalgar and beyond.

Jim has had an interesting life.

Prior to World War II, his family lived in Malaya (now Malaysia), where his grandfather was a pioneering British railway engineer.

A bridge there is still called 'Cornwell Bridge'.

Jim was born in Portsmouth, an English naval city.

His father served in the Royal Navy, so he was either away, or the family moved around following his ship.

On one occasion, after his father had been away for years, he knocked on the door and Jim didn't recognize him.

Jim's first memories are from 1939 when his mother decided the family would have a beach picnic.

The family went to a grocer to buy sliced bread, but his mother was told that as war had been declared, they were not allowed to sell it.

The shop owner, however, offered her a knife, and she cut a loaf on the counter.

That was Jim's last beach visit until well after the war, as the shore was soon covered with landmines and barbed wire.

During the war, the family had a Morrison shelter—a large, metal table, like a cage, in the middle of the room.

It could protect the family from falling rubble, but could not stand a direct hit.

One night, during a raid, Jim's mother panicked, and they ran into the garden.

His mother got stuck in a rose bush while climbing a fence.

"We both retreated safely to the house but all the time the bombs were falling" said Jim.

Life in Portsmouth changed during the war.

American soldiers, tanks and guns were on the nature strips, and at night, everything moved off for invasion practice.

During the day, German prisoners sat on roadside benches.

They were friendly and eager to talk.

After boarding school, which Jim attended from aged eight, he served in the Royal Air Force for 12 years, serving in Malta, Singapore, Malaya and Hong Kong, mainly working on V-bombers, including in the bomb bay, which was often loaded with the atomic bomb.

The bomb was a warm place to sit!

This was followed by five years in Turkey with the British Embassy.

Arriving in Australia in 1968, Jim bought a hobby farm in Narracan in 1975, and in 2012, he moved into Trafalgar.



Ninety-year-old Jim Cornwell delivering Traf District News to local residents

Sally and Michael wed in Geelong

"Are you ready for a love story?" the groom called out from the microphone.

It was a blustery day on Saturday, 11 April, when Michael Wong married Sally Brown.

They were wed at the Chapel of All Saints in Corio, Geelong, before celebrating with family and friends at Claribeaux Restaurant at Curlewis Golf Course.

Sally was walked down the aisle by her parents, James and Helen Brown, to Bach's Second Violin Concerto.

She was accompanied by her sisters and bridesmaids, Catherine Brown and Hilary Mitchell, and sister-in-law Zoe Gannon.

Michael awaited her at the altar alongside groomsmen Simon Gannon, Phillip Healey and Matthew Irons, with flower girls Eloise and

Lucy Gannon and ring bearer Henry Gannon.

The ceremony, led by Reverend Gordon Lingard, reflected on the importance of kindness and patience in marriage.

He also shared light-hearted wisdom from children, including 10-year-old Ricky who, when asked the best age to marry, replied, "When you are retired so you can spend all the time with your wife."

Michael's mother, Sue Wong, read from 1 Corinthians 13 and Sally's childhood friend, Ellie Debenham read extracts from Rilke's Letters to a Young Poet.

Sally wore a classic Sophia Tolli ballgown in mikado fabric, featuring a fitted bodice, sweetheart neckline and off-the-shoulder straps.

The bridesmaids wore floor-length cobalt blue silk dresses by Shona Joy, styled with elegant chignon buns.

Florals of purple lisianthus, white veronica, blue sea holly and green chrysanthemums created a vibrant palette.

Following the ceremony, the newlyweds departed in a 1965 cream Jaguar for photos along Cunningham Pier, where the wind promptly carried the bride's veil into the ocean.

At the reception, guests enjoyed alternate entrées of cold-smoked kingfish or smoked duck, followed by roast beef with classic accompaniments and aromatic rock flathead with champagne beurre blanc.

The couple opened the dance floor with a waltz sung by the bride's cousin, Sophie Theodosi, before transitioning into a lively Scottish céilidh.

Soon, family and friends joined in a joyful, semi-coordinated whirl, before the evening closed with a disco

set curated by bridesmaid Catherine Brown.

It was a wonderfully romantic day—filled with laughter and wind-swept moments.

As Sally declared in her speech, "I am the luckiest woman on the planet to be marrying Michael Wong," and by day's end, no one doubted they had witnessed

the beginning of a truly special love story.

Michael and Sally honeymooned in Spain and plan to continue to reside in their home in Melbourne.



Sally Brown and Michael Wong are married at Chapel of All Saints in Corio

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Neil Joiner Holden Heritage Centre celebrates milestone

By Anne Schembri*

Trafalgar Holden Museum's Neil Joiner Holden Heritage Centre is celebrating its first anniversary, marking a year of sharing stories, memories and motoring history with the Trafalgar community and beyond.

Opened last year as an extension of Trafalgar Holden Museum, the heritage centre has quickly become a highlight for visitors, offering a deeper look into the legacy of Holden and its place in Australian life.

The centre itself, stands as a lasting tribute to the museum's founder Neil Joiner, whose vision and design brought the project to life.

While he conceived the space, it was the dedication of the museum's volunteers who carried that vision through to completion - creating a display that continues to inspire visitors every day.

At the heart of the exhibit is a complete line-up of Holden Commodore models-an impressive showcase that

traces the evolution of one of Australia's most iconic cars.

For many visitors, it's a nostalgic walk through the vehicles they owned, drove or grew up with.

Upstairs, the experience broadens beyond the cars themselves, revealing the diverse ways Holden became part of everyday Australian culture.

Displays explore Holden's rich history at Bathurst, its unique range of branded jewellery and even a full

kitchen fitted with Holden appliances-an eye-catching reminder of the brand's place in Australian homes.

Importantly, the museum is open every day and fully accessible, ensuring that all members of the community can comfortably enjoy the exhibits and experience the stories on display.

With many locals yet to experience the new space, the anniversary is the perfect opportunity to pay a visit or return for another look.

Whether it's reliving memories of a first car, discovering something unexpected, or simply enjoying a unique local attraction, the Neil Joiner Holden Heritage

Centre offers something for all ages.

Locals are encouraged to come along, explore the displays and celebrate one year of preserving an important part of Australia's motoring and cultural heritage-right here in Trafalgar.

*Anne is the secretary of Trafalgar Holden Museum.



Some of the Holden Commodore cars in Trafalgar Holden Museum's Neil Joiner Holden Heritage Centre

Councillor Comments



Hi everyone, Brendan Kingwill here—your local East Ward Councillor.

I'll be popping into the paper each month with a quick update on what's happening around Yarragon, Trafalgar and nearby communities.

It's also a chance for you to have your say, so if there's something you'd like raised, feel free to reach out.

On the infrastructure front, there's ongoing investment in local roads, with a focus on doing the job properly for the long term.

Repair works around Saleyards Road and Waterloo Road will help tidy up

the wear and tear and improve safety for both drivers and pedestrians.

This works should start soon.

This is just the start, with design work already underway for a larger reconstruction of the area.

If everything lines up, more substantial works should kick off in the next financial year.

Footpath repairs are also still a priority, with upgrades continuing across town to make it easier and safer for everyone to get around.

A number of ideas from last year's community consultation are also being worked through.

Locals put forward some strong, practical suggestions, including playground upgrades, options for overnight caravan parking and the growing need for more kindergarten places.

These are real, on-the-ground priorities, and coun-

cil is progressing them as the town continues to expand.

The proposed Trafalgar library is still very much on the radar.

While it's in the development stage, council is continuing to push for funding to help bring the project to life, recognising how important it will be for the community.

There are also some broader initiatives on the way, including the rollout of FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics) in July.

This will be a big step forward in reducing waste going to landfill and supporting more sustainable practices across the shire.

This State Government driven project is being rolled out all over Victoria, and in fact, most of Australia.

This may cause issues for some residents but feel to reach out and I will assist you where I can.

Council is also encouraging locals to have their say.

The draft budget has now been released, and it's a great chance for residents, small businesses and community sporting groups to provide feedback.

You can check it out and share your thoughts via Baw Baw Connect at www.baw-bawconnect.com.au.

Finally, there's also a petition being raised calling for repairs to the Thorpdale-Trafalgar Road.

The petition will be available on-line, with hardcopies distributed around some of Trafalgar and surrounding towns' businesses.

If this is something you're interested in supporting, keep an eye on my Facebook page (search Cr Brendan Kingwill) for more details on how to get involved.

Overall, it's about keeping things moving now while planning smartly for the future.

Trafalgar is growing, and the focus is on making sure it grows well—without losing the strong community feel that makes it such a great place to live.

That's it for this month. If you've got an issue, ideas, or just want to chat, don't hesitate to get in touch.

My contact details: Email: brendan.kingwill@bawbaw-shire.vic.gov.au mobile: 0474 652 435

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Strengthening Community Through Local Partnership

Community Bank Trafalgar & District has built a strong and enduring relationship with the Trafalgar Football Netball Club, across both the senior and Junior sides over many years.

During this time, it has contributed over \$70,000 back into the club, helping to support ongoing development across all levels.

As such the community bank believes in the power of local investment.

Its model is simple but powerful, reinvesting its profits back into the communities that help generate them.

Supporting local organisations like Trafalgar Football Netball Club is the reason it exists.

It is strengthening this partnership even further through a new referral program designed to benefit both the club and its supporters.

Club members, families, and supporters can now simply mention Trafalgar Football Netball Club or junior club when arranging personal lending with Community Bank Trafalgar & District, and the club will receive a



Trafalgar Football Netball Club president Jamie Marslen with Community Bank Trafalgar & District's branch manager, Torina Johnston

direct financial incentive as a result of that referral.

It's a simple way for everyday banking choices to deliver real and ongoing benefits back to the club.

This initiative reflects the bank's ongoing commitment to ensuring every opportunity to bank locally translates into meaningful support for your club.

By choosing Community Bank Trafalgar & District, you are not only accessing personal banking services, you are actively contributing to the strength and future of your club and community.

Making a V/Line for work experience

No school holidays for Gippsland's future workforce.

High school students across the region embarked on work experience in April

Work experience provides students with an understanding of what it's like to get up and go to work each and every day.

Budding V/Line employee Brodie Forrest was on deck at Moe train station in mid-April, learning from seasoned company veteran Adele Pugsley.

Brodie is captain of Trafalgar High School, and said he was keen to pursue a career in customer service.

A time-honoured tradition at schools, the initiative has seen generations of kids go on to have stellar careers in their chosen field after getting a foot in the door through work experience.

Source: Latrobe Valley Express



Budding V/Line employee Brodie Forrest (right) at Moe train station, completing his work experience with V/Line veteran Adele Pugsley. Photo: Liam Durkin

Brisket and Banter



A farmer wellness community event was held at Blue Rock Lake on 30 April.

Chiefly funded by National Centre for Farmer's Health, a gourmet lunch was enjoyed by over 75 attendees at Willow Grove's Blue Rock Lake picnic ground.

Free health checks by Ambulance Victoria and skin checks by Mobile Screening were conducted nonstop, and at midday door prizes drawn and a panel discussion was held in the central rotunda.

Informative talks were given from several providers on important supports services and health advice to the community.

Key messages included:

- Australian Farmers have a 60 per cent higher mortality rate from melanoma than general population; and
- Young farmers are seven times more likely to experience hearing loss, and the impacts of hearing loss are detrimental to health in many ways.

Latrobe Regional Hospital representative Jhodie Duncan highlighted the importance of research and data collection of high priority health conditions in the Gippsland Region.

For example, Gippsland has the highest occurrence of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease in the state, near double the rate of other areas.

Gipps Dairy had a guest speaker, who is an expert in

Q fever and offered valuable insight into this disease (Q fever is a serious bacterial disease which is primarily spread to humans from animals like cattle, sheep, and goats through the inhalation of contaminated dust).

A Landcare representative spoke of the support services it provides, which include community events, sustainability workshops, and weed and pest control measures available locally.

NEX Solutions highlighted the services they can offer free of charge through free Rural Financial Counselling Service and Wellness support for emotional and physical wellbeing.

Drought affected farming support grants of up to \$5000 funding are still open, and NEX can help you make an application.

Community Bank Trafalgar & District's representative, Moriah Taylor, recounted her family's experience of melanoma, reinforcing how important it is for all of us to have skin cancer awareness, prevention and early detection.

Thank you to Moriah who facilitated community bank funding to assist with 500ml Cancer Council sunscreen in the valuable showbags.

Free skin checks are available at local clinics such as Latrobe Skin Check and free hearing checks are available at local clinics such as Hearing Australia Warragul.

Don't wait any longer. The earlier you seek support, the better the outcome.



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Frank is our remaining World War II veteran

As he has done for many years, 99-year-old World War II veteran and former long-time Trafalgar resident, Frank Waterton prepared to mark this year's Anzac Day.

This year he was at Dandenong instead at Trafalgar where Frank remains a Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL sub-branch member.

As part of the last living generation of World War II veterans, the RSL has become as much about community as it is about memory for servicemen like Frank.

"For me, Anzac Day is a time to remember the mates I served with and the lessons they taught us as young blokes, and the RSL is where those memories live on, bringing community together to honour those who didn't make it home and ensure their legacy is never forgotten," said Frank, who enlisted before he was even called up (six weeks before his 18th birthday in 1944).

Frank enlisted when aged 17 as he said, "... it was inevitable at that time that the papers would arrive for your service when you turned 18.

"I ended up enlisting on the 3rd of January 1945 and served with 76 Squadron, 81 Wing of the Royal Australian Air Force.

When he enlisted, Frank asked if he could fly Lancaster bombers, but because of his age, "they (senior officers) kept us teenagers as part of the ground crew which involved servicing aircraft, cleaning guns, and readying bombs and rockets for missions flown by others."

He fondly remembers the care that the senior members of the unit showed to naïve, but enthusiastic teenagers.

"After the war, I was sent with the British Common-

wealth Occupation Force (BCOF) to Japan, where I remained until my discharge in September 1947."

Now nearing 100 years of age (Frank will reach his centenary in December this year) and a resident at Mercy Place Lynbrook near Dandenong, Frank still vividly recalls his time overseas, even down to the wallpaper on Japanese train carriages

Even after 79 years, he still remembers the journey to Japan on the Troopship Duntroon.

It took four weeks to get over there, rather than the two weeks to get back.

It wasn't a straightforward trip.

"We stopped in New Guinea because there was an outbreak of gastro on board the ship, which caused a fair bit of concern among the leaders and delayed us for some time.

"Once that was under control, we pushed on to Guam," said Frank.

"At Guam, there were American troops preparing to move out, but before long, a big storm came through.

"We headed back out to sea and spent three days riding it out in the Pacific.

"It was rough going. When the storm finally settled, we returned to Guam, restocked our supplies, and then set off again for Japan.

"By that stage, we'd been travelling for about three weeks."

The ship with its occupants eventually made its way into the Inland sea and arrived at Kure near Hiroshima, which was the headquarters of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force.

From there, he travelled by train further south to join 76 Squadron.

It was a proud unit with a strong history in the Royal Australian Air Force.

Frank spent almost two years in Japan.

During that time, he was also attached to the Royal Air Force on special duties for a period of three months, which Frank remembers as a unique experience.

"I remember my first winter there very clearly.

"It was the first time I'd ever seen snow, and it was quite a shock."

The BCOF was made up of troops from Australia, Britain, New Zealand and India, who were responsible for the southern part of Japan.

"There was a real sense of camaraderie between us - the Anzac spirit was strong, even so far from home," said Frank.

The BCOF was commanded by an Australian, which made the Aussies proud.

"It was an important time in my life; challenging, at times uncertain, but something I've always remembered with a great deal of respect and pride."

Anzac Day was always significant while Frank was in Japan.

"We held large parades, including one in Tokyo, and also back at base on the parade ground.

"Those moments meant a great deal to all of us."

During this time, Frank came into possession of a Japanese sword found in a bombed dump, a relic he later brought home after formally receiving permission to keep it.

Years later, he chose to donate the sword to Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL, where it remains on display today.

"I thought this was the best place for it," he says.



Former Trafalgar resident and World War II RAAF veteran, Frank Waterton, with Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL sub-branch's president Jim Crowe

Frank is known for his sharp memory and strong connection to the RSL community, where he remains a well-respected and active figure.

The RSL, for Frank, is not simply a building. It is a place where memory gathers, and where it is kept alive.

Friends from Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL sub-branch still visit him regularly at his home in Mercy Place Lynbrook, carrying with them the easy shorthand of shared experience and understanding of time passed.

Reflecting on Anzac Day, Frank said it is a special day.

"Anzac Day means a great deal to me because it's a time to stop and remember the people who never came home.

"I had two uncles, Francis and William, who died in World War I.

"As the years go by, there are fewer of us left,

but you never forget those mates, or the family, who gave everything.

"When the Last Post plays and the wreath is laid, it brings it all back.

"To me, Anzac Day is about making sure their sacrifice is never forgotten, because the life we have today came at a great cost for so many.

"And that goes to people in Europe, Singapore who lost their lives, New Guinea, you name it, in The Middle East."

"I have a quote that I wrote down that sums it all up, 'When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow we gave our today'"

"When I lived in Trafalgar, I used to be part of the parades at Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL, which were always amazing.

"I got to march in the parade and be driven in the trucks.

This year, Frank stayed at his home at Mercy Place,



Frank Waterton's official photo on his enlistment in Melbourne on 3 January 1945

where the Dandenong RSL sub-branch provided an Anzac Day service, at which he wore his medals with pride

This article was written from information provided by a staff member at Mercy Place Lynbrook.

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MADE FOR MORE

Give Us a Hand: Trafalgar Fire Brigade Calls for Local Volunteers

By Mark Walshe

As Trafalgar continues to grow, so too does the demand on its local fire brigade, and this month's message to the community is clear; we need more people willing to step up and lend a hand.

While many people picture firefighters responding to bushfires or road accidents, the reality is that a modern volunteer brigade relies on a wide range of roles, both on and off the fireground.

Whether you're looking for a hands-on challenge or a way to contribute behind the scenes, there is a place for you within Trafalgar Fire Brigade.

Operational firefighters are trained to respond to emergencies of all kinds.

From grass fires and bushfires to house fires, road accident rescues and flood assistance, these volunteers are on the frontline when the community needs them most.

They also respond to hazardous material incidents, assist with animal rescues and undertake fuel reduction burns to help prevent fires before they start.

Maintaining and preparing firefighting equipment is another key part of the role, ensuring every response is safe and effective.

For those who may not wish to take on an operational role, support positions are equally vital.

The brigade relies on volunteers to help deliver community safety education, organise events and fundraising activities, manage social media and communications, and provide essential business and administrative support.

There are also opportunities to assist with training coordination, equipment maintenance and health and safety, as well as mentoring young members through junior development programs.

Together, these roles form the backbone of the brigade, and without them, the service simply could not function.

New member Lincoln Graham is one of many locals who recently put their hand up to get involved.

While his experience is just one example, his comments reflect a common theme shared by many volunteers.

"The thing that inspired me to join the CFA was because I love helping out the community and making new friends," Lincoln said.

"Getting on the fire trucks and hoses makes me happy knowing I am able to help out the community."

Like all recruits, Lincoln undertook initial training to prepare for the role, gaining practical skills and confidence along the way.

"I found the General Fire Fighters Training Course very helpful because it gave me lifelong skills and it prepared me for being out on the fire ground," he said.

Importantly, volunteering is not about having all the skills from day one, it's

about being willing to learn and commit.

The brigade provides training and support, helping members build capability at their own pace.

One of the most common concerns for potential volunteers is balancing brigade commitments with everyday life.

However, as many members will attest, flexibility and support make it achievable.

"I am finding the balance between school, work, training and callouts quite good," Lincoln said, highlighting that volunteering can fit alongside work, study and family life.

For many, the rewards go beyond the skills gained.

There is a strong sense of mateship within the brigade something that keeps members engaged long-term.

"The most rewarding part has been making new friends and learning new lifelong skills," Lincoln said.

Looking ahead, volunteers can continue to grow, take on new responsibilities and gain additional qualifications.

Whether it's advancing as a firefighter, supporting brigade operations or mentoring others, there are plenty of opportunities to develop.

The key message from Trafalgar Fire Brigade is simple: you don't need experience to get involved, just a willingness to contribute and be part of a team.

"Joining Trafalgar Fire Brigade was one of the best

things I've ever done," Lincoln said.

"All you need to do is stay committed."

With a wide variety of roles available, there's never been a better time to consider volunteering.

Whether you're drawn to emergency response or prefer supporting behind the scenes, every role plays a part in protecting the local community.

Because at the end of the day, it's not just about fighting fires it's about neighbours helping neighbours when it matters most.

More information about volunteering with the CFA can be found on the website: <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers/volunteer-with-cfa/come-join-us/give-us-a-hand>



Firefighter Lincoln Graham who has recently completed his General Firefighters course with Trafalgar Fire Brigade

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Garage Girls coming to Trafalgar

Miss Anderson's Motor Service, the all-women garage founded by pioneering mechanic and business-woman Alice Anderson, will be brought to life on stage when Garage Girls comes to Trafalgar this month.

Written by Candace Miles, Madelaine Nunn and Anna Rodway, the production tells the story of Anderson and the women she employed as mechanics, chauffeurs and workshop staff in 1920s Melbourne.

At a time when motor-ing was still new and women were rarely seen behind the wheel, let alone under the bonnet, Anderson built a business that challenged convention and made national headlines.

The 70-minute production combines history, humour and fast-paced story-telling, following Anderson and her all-female team as they carve out a place in a male-dominated world.

Anderson died in 1926 at just 29, but her short life left a remarkable legacy in Australian motoring history.

Presented by Off the Leash Theatre, the production will also tour to Drouin and Bunyip.

Garage Girls will be performed at Trafalgar Public Hall on Friday, 19 and Saturday, 20 June at 7.30pm.

Tickets are available via offtheleashtheatre.com.au

Residents are strongly encouraged to book tickets to support Trafalgar's public hall committee.



The Garage Girls are coming to Trafalgar Public Hall

Lucas Murphy awarded Francis Gregory Scholarship

By Jennifer Deppeler*

Thorpdale local, Lucas Murphy, has been awarded a Francis Gregory Scholarship.

The son of well-known local farmers, Stuart and Kerri-Ann Murphy, Lucas attended Trafalgar High School, and has now commenced a Bachelor of Science Degree at the University of Melbourne.

The philanthropic group, Francis Gregory Foundation, met at University College on Sunday, 3 May to celebrate with Lucas and his family.

On the day, scholarships were also presented to Gunbower's Ava Brown, to study a Bachelor of Arts (The Australian National University) and to Thornton's James Gilmore, to study a Bachelor of Science (Monash University).

The Francis Gregory Foundation was established by June Harvey, granddaughter of the late Francis Gregory, a pioneer of Lardner.

Scholarships bequeathed by the Foundation help children of farming families seeking to pursue university education, particularly students who may not have this opportunity without financial support.

The Foundation's funds were derived from the sale of the Gregory farm at Lardner, as selected by Francis in 1875.

June, herself, would not have been able to attend university if not for the Secondary Studentship Scheme, which was in operation when she was young.

Like many other farmers, her parents had assets in their farm; however, money was not readily available to meet the costs of a university education, especially when this entailed living away from home.

June's wish is to provide scholarships to Year 12 students from families engaged in primary production who may not otherwise be able to continue on to tertiary education.

Francis Gregory Foundation formed in 2012 and has been providing scholarships to Victorian students from primary production families, since 2014.

Scholarships are valued at \$6000 per year for

the term of the student's undergraduate studies.

To date, 18 scholarships have been awarded to students.

Students have come from across Victoria and studies to date have included agriculture, pharmacy, engineering, communication, audiology and radiography.

Lucas is the second Trafalgar student to receive this award; the first being Emily Hornby in 2017 who undertook a Bachelor of Science degree at Monash University.

*Jennifer is the chairperson of the Francis Gregory Foundation, and may be contacted at info@francisgregory.org.au if further information on the foundation is required.



June Harvey, the granddaughter of the late Francis Gregory, a pioneer of Lardner, presenting Lucas Murphy with his scholarship from Francis Gregory Foundation

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St Joseph's supports Stand Up Project



Three of St Joseph's Catholic School's Stand Up Program leaders: Olivia (back) Jaylah and Sienna (front)



Two other Stand Up Program leaders of St Joseph's Catholic School: Kieren and Jack (back) Matilda and Pipa (front)

Trafalgar's St Joseph's school promotes and implements The Stand Up Project (SUP).

The SUP is an initiative focused on preventing and addressing bullying by empowering people to speak up, support others, and promote kindness.

It raises awareness about the impact of bullying through education, encouraging individuals to become 'upstanders' rather than bystanders.

Working together, the leaders designed and presented PowerPoint presentations that explained key ideas such as the difference between being mean on purpose, a friendship fight, and bullying.

The leaders taught all classes in the school about the important messages behind SUP.

They were outstanding—showing maturity, confidence and a strong sense of responsibility as they led their sessions.

They also spoke about behaviours that are not acceptable at school—such as rudeness, name-calling, and excluding others—and the impact these actions can have on a person socially, emotionally, and academically.

The school's students also learned what to do when they see bullying happening.

The leaders introduced the 4 D's: Direct, Distract, Delegate and Delay, practical strategies that help students act as upstanders rather than walking past a problem.

Each session included information, opportunities for questions, and fun brain breaks.

Our SUP leaders presented with honesty, clarity, and great leadership.

We are incredibly proud of them.

Their work is already making a positive difference, and we look forward to seeing this project continue to grow across our school community.

opportunity to be involved," said Trafalgar Primary School sport and physical education teacher Rick White.

"What we've built is more than a program, it's a connected sporting community where students can participate, develop, and find their place in sport."

With three consecutive years of state recognition, Trafalgar Primary School continues to set the standard for how schools and communities can work together to maximise student participation and engagement in sport.

Trafalgar Primary School Celebrates Third Straight State Sporting Honour

Trafalgar Primary School has once again been recognised as a leader in school sport, taking out the 2025 Victorian School Sports' Outstanding School and Community Partnership Award at a ceremony held on Wednesday, 25 March.



Trafalgar Primary School is awarded the 2025 Victorian School Sports Award Most Outstanding School and Community Partnership. From left: Robert Williams, Sport Education support staff, Heidi Davis, Trafalgar Primary School 2026 co-sports captain, Rick White, Trafalgar Primary School's sport and physical education teacher, Libby Blake, Trafalgar Primary School 2026 co-sports captain, and Cameron Nicholls, Trafalgar Primary School principal

The latest accolade marks an extraordinary three-year run for the school, following its 2023 win in the same category and its 2024 recognition as Victorian Primary School of the Year.

The 2025 award confirms Trafalgar Primary School's position as a benchmark for sport and physical education across the state.

This year's success reflects a comprehensive and highly structured partnership model that has significantly expanded participation opportunities for students.

Central to this achievement is an extensive network of partnerships with state sporting organisations, local clubs, and professional teams.

Programs delivered in collaboration with organisations such as Hockey Victoria, Cricket Victoria, AFL Victoria, Gymnastics Australia and Orienteering Australia have provided students with

expert coaching, structured development opportunities, and clear pathways into community sport.

These were complemented by strong local partnerships, including Moe Hockey Club, Trafalgar Junior Football Club, Trafalgar Tennis Club and Trafalgar Golf Club, ensuring that students could transition seamlessly from school programs into ongoing participation at club level.

Innovative collaborations have also broadened the definition of sport within the school.

Partnerships with Rhee Taekwondo, which now operates from the school's gym, and Decipher Dance have provided inclusive opportunities for students with diverse interests, while also strengthening community connections through shared facilities and sustained engagement.

Professional sporting organisations, including the

Melbourne Stars, South East Melbourne Phoenix and Collingwood Football Club, have further enhanced the program, delivering school visits that connect elite sport with grassroots participation and inspire students through direct engagement.

Beyond participation, the program has created meaningful leadership and development opportunities.

Students have taken on roles in coaching support, officiating, and event management, while staff have worked alongside specialist coaches to build their own capability in delivering high-quality physical education.

The result is a sustainable, whole-school model that removes barriers to participation, strengthens community ties, and promotes lifelong involvement in sport.

"This award reflects the strength of our partnerships and the shared commitment to giving every student the

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Evolving standards of veterinary treatment

By Dr Jared Waddell-Smith BSc. BVMS



This month's article will use the example of a surgical procedure, to compare what treatment for your pet might have looked like 15 - 20 years ago versus now.

Interlinked with this changing standard of care, is the cost of veterinary treatment.

Cost is understandably front of mind for many of us when having our pets treated.

Whilst inflation means that everything increases over time, it is known that the cost of veterinary care has increased more than the inflation rate.

One of the reasons for this is that we aren't comparing like for like; two procedures which are 'exactly the same', are actually very different.

THEN: the number of drugs used was minimal.

A sedation prior to anaesthesia was often a single sedative drug, with no pain relief prior to/during the procedure.

A single anti-inflammatory pain relief injection was given during recovery, providing mild pain relief for the 24 hours after surgery.

NOW: most premedications are a combination of sedation and opioid pain relief.

They may also include medication to reduce anxiety.

Keeping pain and anxiety low, reduces the risk of your dog developing a fear of the vet clinic after having a surgical procedure.

Local anaesthetic is often used on the areas where the surgery is performed to further reduce peri-operative pain.

Some patients will have more advanced pain relief techniques such as epidural anaesthesia or constant infusions of strong pain relief. Combining multiple different analgesic drugs greatly reduces post operative pain,

with improved recovery and healing.

We also dispense additional pain relief to be given in the first few days following surgery.

These improved sedative and pain management protocols make the experience of surgery far less traumatic for the pets.

THEN: intravenous catheters/cannulas were not routine, and intravenous fluids were not given for routine procedures.

NOW: all surgical patients have an intravenous catheter and receive intravenous fluids during their surgery.

This allows drugs to be given rapidly when required, and the intravenous fluid rate can be adjusted to assist with maintaining suitable blood pressure, which reduces the risk of injury to organs such as the kidneys and improves anaesthetic safety.

THEN: there was a single monitoring device that beeped to indicate each time the animal took a breath.

The vet often operated alone, and only called for assistance for urgent situations.

NOW: we use equipment which monitors heart rate, respiratory rate, expired CO2 concentration, body temperature, blood oxygen saturation, blood pressure and ECG (heart conduction).

A nurse is present to monitor these parameters throughout the anaesthetic until recovery, and a software program is used for a digital record of the values.

The increased observation and records means any anaesthetic changes are detected and intervention is performed early if required, which greatly increases anaesthetic safety.

THEN: patients had only microwaveable heat packs to assist with temperature regulation during anaesthesia

NOW: we use warm air blanket systems and ther-

mostatically controlled warming pads around anaesthetised patients which significantly reduces the rate of hypothermia occurring under anaesthesia.

THEN: blood testing was usually only performed when an animal was unwell.

NOW: pre-anaesthetic blood tests are offered as part of an anaesthetic protocol to screen for underlying illness that might not be detected from examination alone.

We do still perform many anaesthetics without routine blood testing in young and otherwise healthy animals, which allows for some flexibility with overall cost.

THEN: four-six months was the most common age to desex puppies

NOW: there is evidence that desexing dogs as an adult

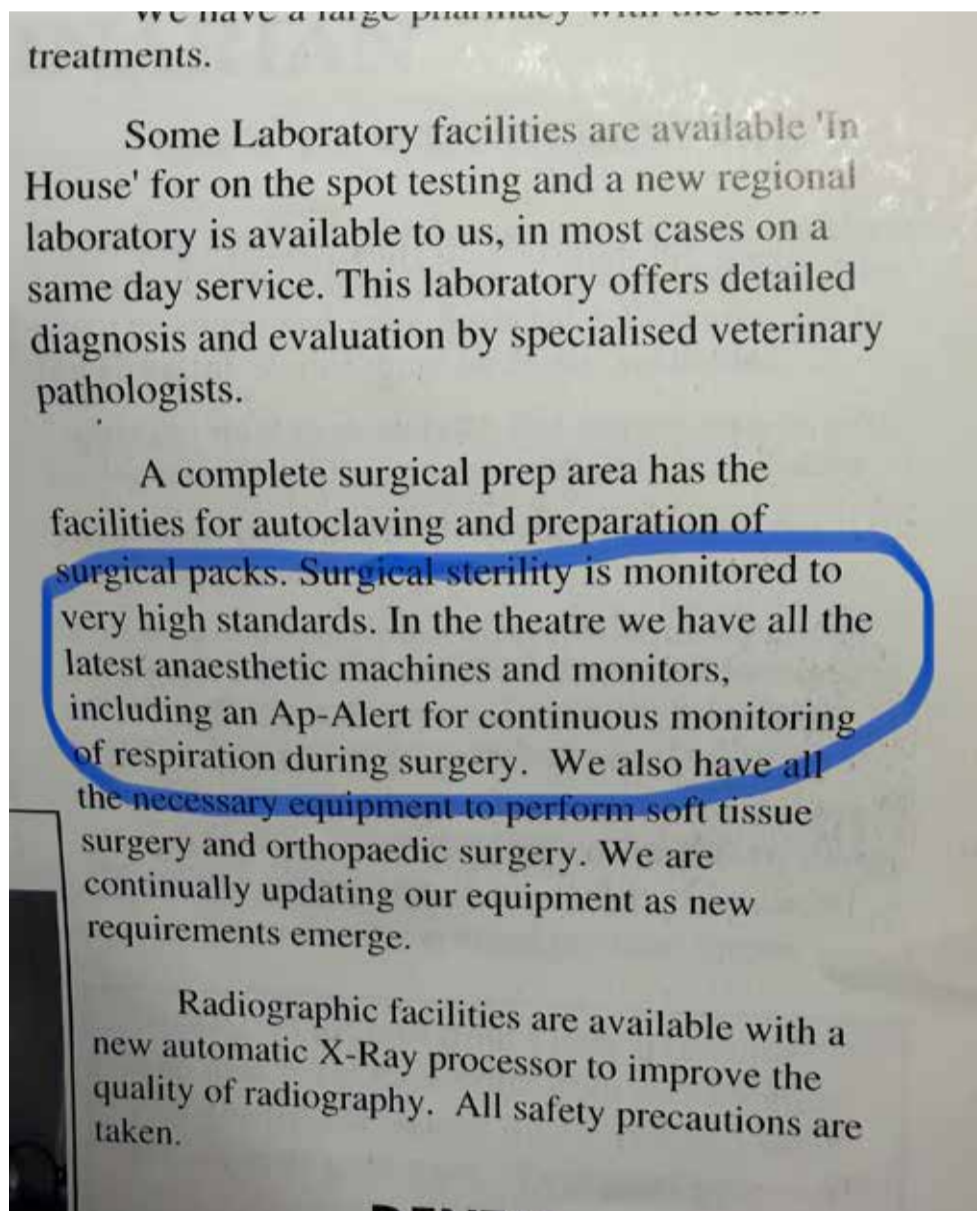
(especially for larger breed dogs) can reduce the risk for some health conditions.

This means a dog previously desexed at 10 - 15kg, might now be getting desexed at 30kg.

As you can see, a lot has changed for the better.

Whilst the processes and procedures of the past were the accepted standard for the time, with further knowledge we have been able to expand and improve treatments for a much safer anaesthetic.

This has also led to increased costs however, with additional staff involved for each patient, increased medication needs, and increased equipment, maintenance and software costs.



An excerpt from a 1996 Trafalgar Veterinary Centre calendar, promoting what was considered advanced anaesthetic monitoring for the time

Planning and Environment Act Regulations 2015 (Form 2, section 52(1))

NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR A PLANNING PERMIT

The land affected by the application is located at:	59 ROWELLS ROAD TRAFALGAR EAST VIC 3824 • LOT 2 LP62063
The application is for a permit to:	Use and develop land for a utility installation (Battery Energy Storage System and transmission infrastructure) and associated buildings and works. <i>Note: This is a summary. Full details of the proposal are contained within the application documentation</i>
The applicant for the permit is:	ib vogt Development Australia Pty Ltd c/- WSP Australia Pty Limited
The application reference number is:	PA2504141
You may look at the application and any documents that support the application at the office of the Responsible Authority.	Minister for Planning c/- Department of Transport and Planning • 1 Spring Street, Melbourne VIC 3001 • Online at https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/permits-and-applications/ministerial-permits/browse-ministerial-permits

A permit is required under the following clauses of the planning scheme:

Planning scheme clause	Matter for which a permit is required
35.07-1	Use the land for a utility installation
35.07-4	Construct a building or construct or carry out works for a utility installation Carry out earthworks which change the rate of flow or the discharge point of water across a property boundary

To view applications and supporting documents in person, please email james.landy@transport.vic.gov.au to make an appointment to view the plans. This can be done during office hours and is free of charge. The plans may also be viewed online at <https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/permits-and-applications/ministerial-permits/browse-ministerial-permits>.

Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions to the responsible authority by email to development.assessment@transport.vic.gov.au or by post to Minister for Planning, C/- Department of Transport and Planning, GPO Box 2392, Melbourne VIC 3001.

An objection must:

- be made to the Responsible Authority in writing,
- include the reasons for the objection, and
- state how the objector would be affected.

The responsible authority must make a copy of every objection available at its office for any person to inspect during office hours free of charge until the end of the period during which an application may be made for review of a decision on the application.

The responsible authority will not decide on the application before:	29 June 2026
--	---------------------

If you object, the responsible authority will tell you its decision.


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harriet.shing@parliament.vic.gov.au
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Authorised by H Shing, 216 Commercial Rd, Morwell.

THE LITERALLY BREATH- TAKING BIT

A photograph of two hikers on a mountain peak. The hiker in the foreground is a man with a green shirt and a large backpack, looking out over a vast valley. The hiker in the background is a woman in a pink jacket, leaning over the edge of the cliff. The sky is a mix of purple and orange, suggesting dawn or dusk. The valley below is filled with green fields and small towns, with a layer of mist or clouds in the distance.

Hit the open road and into the loving embrace of Mother Nature. Hike, climb, crawl (or drive, we won't judge) your way to the top. The view will take your breath away in more ways than one.

Get lost in breathtaking places like Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park.

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Remember When...

Compiled by Jean Huffer, Trafalgar & District Historical Society

100 Years Ago

The Trafalgar and Yarragon News

Thursday, 3 June 1926

Tuesday Next

Church Foundation Stone

A general invitation is extended to the public to be present at the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of St Mary's Church of England of Trafalgar.

The Bishop of Gippsland, Dr. Cranswick, will officiate.

A large and representative gathering is expected.

The ceremony is timed to start at 2:30 p.m.

When completed, the building will be a decided acquisition to the architectural beauty of the town ...

Thursday, 10 June

PROGRESS

A Steady Advancement,

Our Yarragon correspondent reports in this issue that a building comprising a coffee palace and two shops is to be erected in that town.

The new post office is completed and a few weeks ago, Mr. Belmaine opened

his new shop. A double storey brick hotel is steadily going up.

Good progress is being made at Trafalgar with the new church of England.

The water supply works are nearly completed.

During the past couple of years, a new post office and State Savings Bank have been erected in the town.

50 years ago

The Trafalgar News

Wednesday, 2 June 1976

Bright future for Trafalgar

Trafalgar has a bright future as an important commercial centre for the travelling public, but plans must be made now to cater for demand.

This was the message put across on Monday night ... at a public meeting to discuss urban renewal.

Their optimism lies in the fact that Trafalgar will be the only commercial centre on the highway between Berwick and Morwell—once the Warragul-Drouin freeway is completed.

Drought area declared

Official notification has been received that Narracan Shire is now a drought area.

Narracan Council applied for a declaration some weeks ago.

Benefits available to farmers in the cost of bringing fodder into the area by rail. areas include a 50 per cent rebate on the cost of moving stock to agistment by rail or transport after the first 64 km.

A similar rebate is available on the cost of bringing fodder into the area by rail.

Activities program starts at Trafalgar H.S.

Resumption of school for the second term has marked the start of an elective activities program each Monday from 1.30 pm. till the end of the school day.

The choice of the activities available includes drama-video, Greek dancing, squash, badminton, golf, tree planting, soft goods, pottery, carpet bowls, community service, woodwork, home economics, bird watching and a school newspaper.



The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of St Mary's Church of England of Trafalgar in 1926. Trafalgar & District Historical Society collection photo. The church of England is now the Anglican Church

School Principal, Mr T. McGrath, said today the program was designed to assist students to cultivate interesting and constructive leisure activities in a world where leisure time would probably fill an increasingly large part of each person's life.

10 Years Ago

Traf News

June 2016

Cars converge on Traf for Holden Mega Cruise

There were more than 400 attendees and up to 100 cars converged on Trafalgar Holden Museum to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the iconic 1966 HR Holden.

A "mega cruise" of HR and HD Holdens travelled from Officer to Trafalgar under

police escort and arrived at the museum about 11am.

The cruise was part of an effort to break the world record for the most HR and HD Holdens travelling together.

Men's Shed: The Lengths We Will Go.

Four ladies from the Lionesses' club of Trafalgar, Carolyn Eden, President, Tina Dewsbury, Kathy O'Connell, and Pam McGarrity visited the Men's Shed on Wednesday, 27 April.

Kathy O'Connell presented Eric Johnson, president of the Men's Shed, with a cheque for \$500 towards our new shed project which is greatly appreciated by our members and will be put to good use.

Scouts Rendezvous Anzac Day

The 1st Trafalgar Scout Group was once again part of Trafalgar's Anzac Day march.

This is an important day for the community, as we pause to remember those who serve our country.

We thank their members for their good show of support, with all four sections marching.

We also thank the R.S.L. for including the scout group in this important day

Book Fair

Thanks to all those who have been donating books for the Book Fair.

We have been inundated with books and will not need any more until next year, thanks to all.

The Trafalgar Story Continues

By Jean Huffer

The appearance of the town changed radically in 1977 when the shops on the north side of Main Street were demolished to make way for the new highway.

At the same time, new shops were built, and older ones refurbished on the south side.

The mobile library, which had been set up for the reading public in 1970, had to relocate its parking from Railway Place to the car park behind the hotel. (With its much bigger vehicle it again relocated in 1999 to the area behind the community centre)

Natural gas replaced the previous supply of the '70s.

Towards the end of the decade, the Senior Citizens Club was able to find a home in the former shire offices, after the new offices were built on the Princes Highway.

The Narracan Shire had celebrated its centenary in 1978.

The new primary school building on School Road, east of the high school, was completed in 1979.

The '80s opened with a spirit of optimism.

The State Electricity Commission was planning further expansion of the power stations, and the town was continuing to grow.

The new sewerage scheme was introduced.

New housing estates developed around the School Road area in Cross Street, Rose Court and Edwards Crescent on land originally belonging to the O'Meara family.

Trafalgar District Historical Society was formed in 1985.

Life continued much as usual with the Garden Club (1952) still running annual garden shows, the Trafalgar Day Ball still being held by the Rotary Club in October, and sporting clubs of all kinds providing much of the news in the local papers.

However, change was approaching.



Looking south towards the railway station from Contingent Street before the duplication of the highway through Trafalgar. The shops on the south side of Main Street (now Princes Highway) were demolished to allow for the highway's duplication

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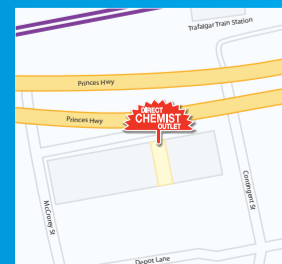
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Trafalgar Community Directory

This directory has been compiled to provide a list of local and important contacts for the community in Trafalgar. Please advise Trafalgar District News of any corrections and additions.

Organisation	Contact	Email/Website	Phone
Baw Baw Shire Council			
Baw Baw Shire Council		Email: bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au Website: https://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/Home	03 5624 2411
Baw Baw Shire Councillor (East Ward)	Adam Sheehan	Email: adam.sheehan@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au Facebook: @adam4bawbaw	0461 515 690
Baw Baw Shire Councillor (East Ward)	Brendan Kingwill	Email: brendan.kingwill@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au	0474 652 435
Baw Baw Shire Councillor (East Ward)	Kate Wilson	Email: kate.wilson@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au Facebook: Kate Wilson - East Ward Baw Baw Shire Council	0460 829 001
Members of Parliament			
Member for Monash (Federal Electorate)	Mary Aldred	Email: mary.alred.mp@aph.gov.au	03 5614 3600
Member for Narracan (State Electorate)	Wayne Farnham	Email: wayne.farnham@parliament.vic.gov.au	03 5623 1960
Education / Childcare			
Nido Early School Trafalgar		Email: trafalgar@nido.edu.au Website: https://nido.edu.au/early-schools/vic/trafalgar/	03 5633 1233
Trafalgar High School		Email: generaloffice@trafalgarhs.vic.edu.au Website: https://trafalgarhs.vic.edu.au/	03 5633 1733
Trafalgar Primary Early Learning Centre		Email: trafalgar@ykinders.org.au Website: https://ykinders.org.au/centres/trafalgar/	03 4311 1592
Trafalgar Primary School		Email: trafalgar.ps@education.vic.gov.au Website: https://www.trafaps.vic.edu.au/	(03) 5633 1566
Trafalgar Primary School (Before and After School Club)	Holly	Website: https://www.oshclub.com.au/find-us/trafalgar-primary-school/	0439 735 713
Sport			
Trafalgar Bowls Club	Ian Miles	Email: trafalgarbowlsclub@bigpond.com Website: https://trafalgarbowlsclub.com/	03 5633 1274
Trafalgar Boxing Gym	Shane Cameron	Email: box_on_box_all@hotmail.com Website: https://trafalgarboxingclub.wordpress.com/	0408 962 764
Trafalgar Cricket Club	Liam Durkin	Website: https://trafalgarcricketclub.com.au/ Email: trafalgarcricketclub@gmail.com	0402 556 338
Trafalgar Football Netball Club	Brett Tonkin	Email: trafalgarnfc@gmail.com Facebook: Trafalgar Football Netball Club	0477 636 648
Trafalgar Golf Club		Email: golf@trafalgargolf.com.au Website: https://www.trafalgargolf.com.au/ Facebook: Trafalgar Golf Club	03 5633 1110
Trafalgar Outdoor Pool		Email: bawbaw@ymca.org.au Website: https://bawbawpools.ymca.org.au/trafalgar-outdoor-pool	03 5623 4017
Trafalgar Park Community Hub		Facebook: Trafalgar Park Community Hub	0418 513 092
Trafalgar Park Croquet Club		Facebook: Trafalgar Park Croquet Club	
Trafalgar Pickleball Club		Facebook: Trafalgar Pickleball Club	
Trafalgar Ping Pong Club		Email: trafalgarpingpongkings@gmail.com	0418 598 174
Trafalgar Polocrosse Club	Gill Massey	Email: trafalgarpoloxclub@gmail.com	0455 440 062
Trafalgar Pony Club	Denise Marriot	Facebook: Trafalgar Pony Club	0411 890 299
Trafalgar Tennis Club	Sue Klemke	Email: trafftennis@gmail.com Facebook: Trafalgar Tennis Club	
Trafalgar Victory Football Club		Email: committee@tvfc.com.au Website: www.tvfc.com.au	
Other			
Baw Baw Arts Alliance	Sue Murphy	Email: president@bawbawartsalliance.org.au Website: https://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au/bcms/	0428 866 417
BawBaw Sustainability Network	Malcolm McKelvie	Email: bawbawnsn@gmail.com Website: bbsn.org.au Facebook: Baw Baw Sustainability Network	0490 485 370
BetterMental Together	Kerry Rantall	Email: bettermentall@gmail.com Website: https://bettermentall.com.au/	0477 115 666
Rotary Club of Trafalgar	Michael Fozard	Email: mrfozard@bigpond.com Facebook: Rotary Club of Trafalgar	0418 513 092
St John's Church (Trafalgar)		Email: Trafalgar@cdsale.org.au Website: https://www.stjohnstrafalgar.com.au/	03 5633 1166
St. Jariath's Church (Yarragon)			
Trafalgar and District Community Homes Inc.	Geoff Hill	Email: TDCH@outlook.com.au	0499 004 299
Trafalgar Campdraft	Cheryl	Email: gcasecretary74@gmail.com Website: https://www.gippslandcampdraftingassociation.com/ Facebook: Trafalgar Campdraft Association Inc	0416 166 027
Trafalgar Cemetry Trust	Howard Jones	Email: trafalgarpubliccemetry@desi.net.au Website: https://australiancemeteries.com.au/vic/bawbaw/trafalgar.htm	03 5633 2282

Trafalgar CFA (non-emergency)		Facebook: Trafalgar Fire Brigade	03 5624 1900
Trafalgar Chamber of Commerce		Website: https://www.trafalgarchamber.com.au/	
Trafalgar Community Notice Board		Facebook: Trafalgar Community Notice Board	
Trafalgar District News	Mick Bourke	Email: editor@trafnews.com	03 5633 2591
Trafalgar Farmers Market		Email: Silkroadcommunitymarkets@gmail.com Facebook: Trafalgar Farmers Market (Silk Road Community Markets)	0417 131 316
Trafalgar Historical Society	Jean Huffer	Email: historicalsocietytraf@gmail.com	03 5633 1960
Trafalgar Holden Museum		Email: info@trafalgarholdenmuseum.com.au Website: https://trafalgarholdenmuseum.com.au/	03 5633 1684
Trafalgar Lions Club	David Koschade	Email: trafalgarlions@gmail.com Facebook: Trafalgar Lions Club	0428 331 157
Trafalgar Mens Shed	Leigh Shepherd	Website: https://mensshed.org/sheds/trafalgar-mens-shed/	0427 757 505
Trafalgar Opp Shop	Glenys Brennan	Email: glenys_barnyard@yahoo.com.au Facebook: Trafalgar Opp Shop	03 5633 2788
Trafalgar Police Station (non-emergency)		Email: TRAFALGAR.UNI@police.vic.gov.au	03 5633 1188
Trafalgar Probus Club	Glenda Mynard	Email: glendamtraf@gmail.com	0458 332 149
Trafalgar Public Hall	Tanya Stanley	Email: trafalgarpublichall@gmail.com	0409 015 662

PLEASE DIRECT ANY CHANGES TO EDITOR@TRAFNEWS.COM



What's On around Trafalgar

If you have an event, please feel free to send information to us (editor@trafnews.com). Trafalgar District News is distributed in Trafalgar, Yarragon, Thorpdale and Willow Grove.

Event	Date/Time	Location
Warragul Parkrun Reigster at www.parkrun.com.au/warragul/	Every Saturday 8am	Brooker Park, Warragul
Trafalgar Farmers Market Fresh produce, local crafts, and community	First Saturday of Each Month	McGregor Park, Trafalgar
Longwarry Fire Brigade Market	First Sunday of Each Month	Longwarry Fire Station
Rokeyby Market	Second Saturday of Each Month 8am to 12:30pm	Rokeyby Recreation Reserve
Warragul Farmers Market	Third Saturday of Each Month	Logan Park Warragul
Trafalgar Playgroup Runs during the school terms	Every Thursday 9:30am to 11am	Scout Hall, Trafalgar
GCS – Raising Awareness One Drive at a Time Inc Community outreach service and mental health support	Every Friday 11am to 3pm	Moe Neighbourhood House
Croquet at the Traf Hub	Every Saturday 10am	Traf Park Croquet Cub Ashby Street
Try pickleball in Trafalgar	Every Tuesday 6pm	Trafalgar High gym
Parkrun Rokeyby Crossover Rail Trail	Every Saturday, 8am to 9.30am Weekends 10am, 12pm, 1:30pm Wednesdays 10am, 12pm. Also running daily during the school holidays.	Rokeyby Crossover Rail Trail, 2 Ash Grove, Rokeyby,
Walhalla Goldfields Railway - Train Rides All aboard a very special journey down Stringer's Creek Gorge	Weekends 10am, 12pm, 1:30pm Wednesdays 10am, 12pm. Also running daily during the school holidays.	Walhalla Station
Pop-Up Playgroup Includes a range of activities sure to keep children with different interests entertained, including music, crafts, physical play and story time	Tuesday, 2 June: 10-11.30am	MacGregor Hall, 8 MacGregor Park Lane, Trafalgar
Football & netball: Poowong v. Trafalgar	Saturday 6 June	Poowong Recreation Reserve
Tanjil Valley Art Show The greatest ittle art show in Gippsland	Saturday, 6 June to Monday, 8 June: 10am-4pm	Old Hill End School, Paynters Road, Hill End
Thorpdale Market Enjoy live music, food vans, arts & crafts, jewellery, plants, home wares, trash and treasure, and lots more	Sunday, 7 June: 10am-2pm	14 Johnstone Street, Thorpdale
Football & netball: Trafalgar v. Nilma Darnum	Saturday 13 June	Trafalgar Recreation Reserve
Willow Grove Winter Market A new & exciting winter market hosted by the Willow Grove CFA held indoors at the heated & spacious Willow Grove Hall. Enjoy a large variety of stalls from local & surroundings areas	Saturday, 20 June: 8.45am-1pm	Willow Grove Community Centre, 12 Moe Willow Grove Road, Willow Grove
Football & netball: Trafalgar v. Longwarry	Saturday 20 June	Nyora Recreation Reserve
Yarragon Arts Council - Josh Hooke Originally from country Victoria, Josh completed a PhD in Music Performance in 2023 at the University of Melbourne under Professors Ian Holtham and Paul Kildea, and is currently the Kenneth Moore Memorial Music Scholar at Janet Clarke Hall	Sunday, 21 June 2026: 3-4pm	Yarragon Studio, 515 Yarragon South Road, Yarragon Cost & booking: www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1531524
Yarragon Community Craft & Produce Market Showcasing a range of local produce, art and crafts	Saturday, 27 June: 9am-1pm	Waterloo Park Yarragon, Princes Highway, Yarragon
Football & netball: Trafalgar v. Longwarry	Saturday 27 June	Trafalgar Recreation Reserve

Supporting your community 5633 2783 103a Princes Highway, Trafalgar

John Hanley is guest speaker at Probus

By Glenda Mynard

We've had another busy month at Trafalgar District Probus with a lot of our activities in Trafalgar or our local area.

Twice a month we support some of our local cafes when we gather for a coffee and chat at *Eat, Live, Fresh or Coffee Life*.

Anyone is welcome to join us for a coffee and meet some of the locals.

Each month, following our general meeting, we have lunch at the Criterion Hotel.

Our monthly dine out is planned for a friendly affordable venue a little further afield, our most recent at The Morwell Club.

We were fortunate when members went on our monthly garden visit to explore a small garden in Newborough in brilliant autumn sunshine.

This garden was filled with many colours and even a fluffy white chick.

Members swapped tips and many left with cuttings to try in their own garden.

John Hanley was our guest speaker at our May meeting, and he took us back in time when Trafalgar had a very different telephone system.

Households had a landline and calls were connected by a telephonist in the local exchange.

The first Trafalgar Telephone exchange was opened in the Post Office in 1910.

John worked on the exchange in 1959 as a technician and looked after a district including Walhalla, Willow Grove, Thorpdale, Narracan and Trafalgar to mention a few.

John got to fix faults, and linesmen had to keep the lines in order.

Telephonists were an extremely helpful and important part of the community.

They became the local encyclopedia, cookbook and problem solver for many callers.



Former Postmaster General Technician John Hanley spoke of his experiences and gave a brief history involving Trafalgar's early telephonic systems. Here he is (centre) with Trafalgar District Probus Club's president Pam McGarrity and guest speaker organiser, Greg Lamb (right)

Many subscribers let the telephonist know when "they would be out" so she could let callers know when they "would be in".

In 1925, as more subscribers were connected, the service was upgraded to 'continuous service', which meant the exchange would be staffed 24 hours each day.

Women were not allowed to operate the exchange during the night.

This shift was covered by a 'night boy'.

About 50 years ago, Trafalgar and other local exchanges, became automatic, and callers were no longer greeted by the local telephonist.



Trafalgar District Probus Club members enjoying morning tea at Eat, Live, Fresh

Communication in today's modern world is very different as we live with a mobile phone which goes way beyond merely talking to someone.

They connect us to the world, provide entertainment, productivity, navigation, health monitoring, and

more, making them essential tools in modern life.

John has researched and written the history of the former Trafalgar telephone district, including the lines depots and technicians, and was able to record the importance of this time and workers in Trafalgar's history.

Arts Alliance is very active

By Carol Monson

Behind every voluntary community-based organisation there is always a committee of dedicated and creative volunteers.

Baw Baw Arts Alliance (Bbaa) is one such group in which members are encouraged to respond to fresh ideas stimulating creativity.

The latest inspiration is the 'Teal Room Challenge' in the Station Gallery, Yarragon.

This challenge is an initiative of Sue Murphy who heads the committee managing the Station Gallery, Trafalgar Artspace and the VRI Hall in Warragul.

Each month members of Bbaa are asked to create

a small work of Art along a theme.

The May theme of Insects resulted in some extraordinary responses.

Imagine moths in felt, butterflies in wire.

Bbaa hopes the theme of 'Nature's Treasures' in June will produce even more colourful and eclectic small works of Art that visitors will enjoy.

Take time to visit the ever-changing exhibitions in the 'Station Gallery', Yarragon.

During June, Pat Smithson displays the results of experimenting with a style of painting that reference her

1999 mural painting business, 'Over the Walls'.

Pat has used an ancient grid method to enlarge original designs.

All the semi abstract acrylic paintings are her responses to the beauty of nature she sees around.

At the same time an artist new to the Baw Baw Arts Alliance, Sue Crees, has her gentle sea scapes hanging 'On the Wall', a smaller section of the gallery.

Bbaa continues to offer arts activities to the public throughout the year so do not miss the free workshops at the VRI Hall, Queen Street, Warragul, on the third Saturday morning of each Month.

The May felting workshop attracted a number of both experienced in the Art of felting and those with less felting know how but all were welcome.

Coming up on Saturday, 20 June is a chance to see the work of the Artists involved in the Warragul Art Group and chat to some of them about their work.

While at the VRI Hall pick up information about the many media and skills-based workshops and drop-in groups conducted by the Arts Alliance every week.

See <https://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au> for further information.



Michelle Beer (left) and Sue Murphy at the felt making workshop at the VRI Hall, Warragul

New committee elected at RSL AGM

By Mark Walshe

Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL sub-branch's annual general meeting, held on 8 April formally confirmed the committee for 2026.

The sub-branch is in capable hands, with Jim Crowe continuing as president.

Paul Altamore has taken on the dual roles of senior vice president and secretary, while Pattanan Nadia Dodson completes the executive team with her role as treasurer.

The broader management committee brings together a dedicated team supporting all facets of Sub-Branch operations.

Malcolm Dodson has been appointed assistant treasurer, Leonie Gracie as welfare officer and Wilma Franklin as appeals officer.

Marcus Barker will oversee membership, while Grady Edwards takes on building maintenance.

Phil Jamieson continues as bar manager, with Tracey Chambers responsible for the kitchen.

Jonathon Marsh will manage our memorabilia, and Mark Walshe takes on the role of publicity officer.

Supporting these roles are several members who have generously volunteered their time in specific portfolios.



Dinner night on Friday, 8 May with catering by Catering By Jay. Photo Pattanan Nadia Dodson

John Franklin will assist with appeals, Emma Thomas has taken on the role of social media coordinator, and Alan Smith will serve as librarian.

Looking ahead, there are several upcoming opportunities for members and the community to come together.

The next Meal and Raffle Night will be held on Friday 12 June, and promises another enjoyable evening.

In addition, the Sub-Branch continues to open its doors to the public every Friday evening from 4:30pm for Friday night "sippers".

These relaxed gatherings provide a welcoming environment for members, families and the broader community to connect, share a drink and enjoy the hospitality and memorabilia of the RSL.

The strength of the Trafalgar RSL Sub-Branch lies in its people, and it is through the commitment of both committee members and volunteers that we are able to continue delivering meaningful services, commemorations and social opportunities for our community.

As we move further into 2026, we encourage both members and the wider public to stay engaged with the sub-branch.

Whether attending events, supporting appeals or simply taking the time to reflect on the significance of our shared history, every contribution helps to ensure that the values we uphold remain strong and visible within the community.

June is busy month football netball club

By Jamie Marslen

As Trafalgar Football Netball Club moves deeper into the 2026 season, the atmosphere around the club continues to be extremely positive, with both football and netball groups travelling well on and off the field.

Morale across the club remains excellent, with players, coaches, volunteers and supporters all contributing to a strong and united club culture.

The club's football program has continued to show strong competitiveness across all grades, while the netball group continues to display determination, resilience and improvement each week.

Importantly, the social side of the club is also thriving, with strong attendance at Thursday night meals and club functions helping

bring the wider Trafalgar community together.

One of the highlights of the season so far was proudly hosting the Anzac Day clash on Saturday, 25 April against Lang Lang.

This marked the first time since the Covid-affected 2020 season that Anzac Day had fallen on a Saturday, and the first opportunity since 2015 for the club to host and play on Anzac Day itself.

That made the occasion especially significant, as once again, the club's teams took to the field and courts on the nation's most important day of remembrance.

The day carried enormous meaning for the club and community, bringing people together in the spirit of mateship, remembrance and respect.

The club was also extremely proud to donate all

gate proceeds up to 1pm from the day to Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL Sub-Branch, which raised \$2500.

It was a fantastic day both on and off the field and one that will hold lasting significance for many years to come.

June shapes as another exciting month for the club, highlighted by the upcoming Mid-Season Ball on 13 June, which is always one of the biggest social events on the calendar.

Later in the month, the club will also proudly host its Mental Health Round against Longwarry Football Netball Club on 27 June at home, an incredibly important round promoting awareness, connection and support within our sporting communities.

With plenty of football and netball still ahead, the club encourages all mem-



Trafalgar and Lang Lang senior football and netball clubs' senior teams observing a minute's silence prior to the respective First XVIII and A Grade games on Anzac Day at Trafalgar Recreation Reserve



Trafalgar Football Netball Club president, Jamie Marslen (right) and Rebecca Schena (Community Bank Trafalgar & District) present a cheque worth \$2500 to Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL sub-branch president, Jim Crowe, from gate proceeds at the Trafalgar Lang Land football and netball games on 25 April

Junior footballers visit The Summit

Trafalgar Junior Football Club Team held a 'Building Day' over its bye weekend located at The Summit Adventure Park Trafalgar, with approximately 50 players plus coaches and parent helpers from Trafalgar Junior Football Club participated in the day.

This was the club's second year at the Summit.

The club is extremely grateful for the support of Community Bank Trafalgar and District in the form of sponsorship, paying for the day, so there was no cost for players and other participants.

Parent comments surrounding the day noted they particularly loved how the players enjoyed themselves. Some of the parents' comments were: "The words of encouragement and helping their team mates out. No one gets left behind."

"Seeing them all get muddy even before it was time to get muddy. Working together." and that was a "great idea with the bye being so early in the year."

The Under 10s' players, in particular loved, the mud, with the Under 12s enjoying the leap of faith.

Community Bank Trafalgar & District's Community Engagement Advisor, Moriah Taylor said, "The bank is proud to support the next generation of players at Trafalgar Football Netball Club.

"Investing in junior sport is about more than the game, it's about building confidence, connection and a strong sense of community before the season even begins.

"We've proudly supported both the junior and senior clubs since opening our doors over 22 years ago and we're committed to continu-

ing that journey with them," said Moriah.

Eli Hawkes, the Under 14s vice-captain enjoyed the day, saying, "The team building day at The Summit was a fun day out for the Traf Junior footy club.

"We got to do fun activities like the mud run (my favourite) and the Snowy River challenge, which I heard a lot of people fell in the water, including me.

She thanked the committee, The Spud Shed, Community Bank Trafalgar & District, IGA and the team at The Summit for a great day.

Matt Franke, Trafalgar Junior Football Club's vice president said the day was for the players from all age groups, U8, U10, U12 and U14s to bond and help each other through the challenging activities at The Summit Adventure Park.

"It was a chance for the families, team coaches and the committee members to

get together and catch up over a BBQ and watching the kids having a great time.

"A day like today is only possible with the support and offerings from our great club sponsors.

He also thanked all who helped out on the day, the junior club committee and parents who put their hands up and cooked the BBQ, took photos and helped guide the groups through the activities.

The club extended a huge thank-you goes to both Trafalgar IGA for their generous donation of all BBQ supplies and The Spud Shed Trafalgar for the fruit supplied for the day.

Traf District News thanks Latrobe Valley Express for three of the captions supporting the photos

Everyone agreed a highlight was the final activity, 'the mud run', which, as the name suggests, left all the kids in quite a muddy state.



Challenge: Players were required to work as a collective to pass each obstacle



Preparation: Junior footballers get accustomed to the mud likely to hit grounds this winter



Mateship: Hanging high

Brooke Wyatt is top volunteer

Football Victoria 2026 Female Football Week Volunteer of the Year is Brooke Wyatt of Trafalgar Victory FC

From MiniRoos coordination and match day operations to events, photos, and junior support, Brooke plays a key role across every level of the club.

Her tireless commitment, leadership in growing participation, and ability to create a welcoming, family-first environment make her an outstanding recipient of the award.

Source: Football Victoria Facebook page



Football Victoria's Female Football Week Volunteer of the Year, Trafalgar Victory's Brooke Wyatt with her award

Trafalgar Tennis Club AGM

Trafalgar Tennis Club is holding its annual general meeting on Monday, 20 July.

The tennis club committee invites all current members and any interested community members to attend this meeting at 7pm in the tennis clubrooms.



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