



Traf District News

August 2026 – Edition 288

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Bobbie advocates for chronic illness sufferers

By Bobbie Viney

At 35, I am a wife, mother, dance teacher, local Trafalgar business owner, and community advocate who survived multiple life-threatening episodes of sepsis, underwent major surgeries, and now lives with an ileostomy.

Today, I am on a mission to break the stigma, and raise awareness, of Crohn's Disease, ostomies, ulcerative Colitis, medical devices, and invisible disabilities in and across Australia.

Despite my illnesses, I am an advocate, business owner, wife, and mother of two young children.

Similar to many other people with the same conditions, my journey has been one of resilience, determination, and learning to rebuild life after significant health challenges.

Over the past several years, I have endured life-threatening medical complications, including multiple episodes of sepsis caused by a pelvic abscess, extensive hospitalisations, major surgeries, and the life-changing reality of living with an ileostomy.

Despite these challenges, I continue to advocate for others living with Inflamm-

tory Bowel Disease (IBD) and invisible disabilities while balancing family life, community involvement, and my career.

As a peer support volunteer with Crohn's & Colitis Australia, I regularly connect with people who are navigating similar experiences.

One of the most common themes I hear is that many individuals feel isolated, misunderstood, and reluctant to speak openly about their condition due to stigma and lack of public awareness.

I have been inspired by the incredible work of UK advocate, Mr Crohn's Colitis, who has helped bring national attention to IBD and ostomy awareness.

I would love to help create similar conversations throughout Australia, encouraging people to speak openly about bowel disease, stomas, medical devices, and invisible disabilities without shame or embarrassment (Watch here - www.instagram.com/reel/DYACE-fLtgcM/).

Through television, radio, podcasts, print media, and social media campaigns, I hope to raise awareness of:

- Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis and their impact on daily life;
- living with an ostomy and breaking the stigma surrounding stoma bags and medical devices;
- the challenges faced by Australians living with invisible disabilities;
- the importance of early diagnosis, quality

healthcare, and patient advocacy;

- mental health impacts associated with chronic illness and major surgery;
- the realities of parenting, working, teaching, and contributing to the community while managing chronic disease; and
- building greater understanding, compassion, and inclusion for people whose disabilities cannot always be seen.

I am also the founder of *Bobbie, Polly & IBD*, an advocacy initiative dedicated to sharing lived experiences, educating the community, supporting patients, and empowering others to find their voice.

Through my advocacy, I hope to show that while chronic illness may change a person's path, it does not define their potential.

My story is not only about illness—it is about survival, resilience, advocacy, motherhood, and creating positive change. It is about learning to dance again after life-changing surgery, continuing to teach and inspire others, and proving that life with an ostomy can still be full, meaningful, and empowering.

I believe there is an important opportunity to educate Australians, challenge misconceptions, and encourage open conversations around topics that are often considered uncomfortable

but affect hundreds of thousands of people nationwide.

I would welcome the opportunity to participate in interviews, feature stories, awareness campaigns, panel discussions, podcasts, radio segments, television appear-

ances, or collaborative social media initiatives.

Together, we can help ensure that Australians living with Crohn's Disease, Colitis, ostomies, and invisible disabilities are seen, heard, understood, and represented.

Census day is 11 August

The 2026 census is just around the corner, with the data to be recorded as at the night of Tuesday 11 August.

From late July 2026, households will have received instructions on how to complete the Census.

You can complete the Census as soon as you get your instructions if you know where you'll be on Census night.

Most households will get a letter with instructions to complete the Census online.

If you get instructions to complete online but would prefer a paper form, you'll be able to request one.

Some households will get a paper form.

Once completed, return it using the Reply Paid envelope provided.

There are instructions on the form if you would prefer to complete it online.

Some people living in remote areas and people experiencing homelessness will have help to complete their Census from one of our Census field staff.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is taking a digital-first approach for the 2026 Census.

As mentioned above, most households will get a letter with instructions to complete the Census online.

This will include a Census number and temporary password.

The ABS will provide paper forms to everyone who wants one. In areas where we expect a strong preference or need to use a paper form, it will deliver them directly to households.

Some of the reasons why areas will be selected to receive paper forms directly include:

- quality of the postal service;
- regional and remote locations;
- past Census completion behaviours;
- demographics.

In some areas Census staff will visit households to support people to understand and complete the Census form, or conduct in-person interviews.



Chronic illness sufferer and advocate, Bobbie Viney with her husband Scott, and children Mimi and Ned

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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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Meet the Staff



Belinda Smeal – Proof Reader

As an avid reader over time, and personally keen to be a writer, Belinda Smeal found herself volunteering to assist with Traf District News articles several years ago.

"It's always irked me to see errors in books and articles and so wonder how editors could let it happen."

Consequently, after identifying a few errors in an article in the paper, she contact-

ed Trevor and Suzie Colman with her suggestions.

On meeting them she felt welcome to contribute with further proof-reading assistance.

"Whether you do or you don't, the pay will be the same," laughed Trevor.

On an earlier occasion, Belinda chatted with a visiting author from Bendigo at a local book club function.

Later, on reading one of his books, she alerted him to some printed errors.

Happily, he was grateful and so later asked her to read over his next manuscript.

"I was pleasantly surprised to see he acknowledged me in his next book!" said Belinda.

Currently, the Traf District News editor sends Belinda articles to read over a time span of about ten days.

Her suggestions are returned for the editor's final decision.

"I think it's important and valuable for small country towns to have their own community voice, rather than just be a tack on to larger regional newspapers."

Belinda and husband Warren settled here in Trafalgar after a few years of retirement in Venus Bay.

Trafalgar was midway between families in east Gippsland and suburbs of Melbourne.

They appreciate the smaller country town atmosphere and have felt very welcomed by friendly locals.

"We blended into life here quite quickly. I asked about a book club and was referred to a nearby neighbour here in Murray Street, who then helped us create links with

table tennis at the Senior Citizens Centre.

"From there an invitation followed to attend the Girls Night Out at the Thorpdale Travellers' Rest Hotel, which then led to Pub Choir and RSL meal nights!"

Warren has had a life interest in mechanics and volunteers two days a week at Walhalla Goldfields railway at assorted jobs, including rail track maintenance.

Belinda has a strong interest in singing and has hooked into the Gippsland Singers Network, but she'd prefer a regular choir event here in Trafalgar with no night-time travel involved.

Maybe Traf might start up a Pub Choir group?

Thankyou Belinda for your regular voluntary assistance at the Traf District news.

Vietnam Veterans Day on 18 August

Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL Sub-Branch will commemorate Vietnam Veterans' Day on 18 August, which is the anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan in 1966.

We remember the sacrifices of those who died and say thank you to almost 60,000 Australians who served during the 10 years of our involvement in the Vietnam War.

Trafalgar Thorpdale RSL Sub branch will be holding a service to commemorate Vietnam Veteran Day at the Trafalgar Cenotaph, RSL Hall, commencing at 12 noon on Tuesday, 18 August 2026.

The sub-branch invites everyone in our various communities to attend this special commemoration.



Photo source: Royal Australian Regiment Association

SEPTEMBER 2026 EDITION DEADLINE:

Advertising Bookings
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Advertising Material
Deadline: 15 August

Articles for Publication
Close: 13 August

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Future Direction Survey – Help us decide

Traf News' committee is asking the community to decide the future direction of this newspaper.

To do so, please open the camera App on your smart phone or tablet, and place it over the below QR code which will take you to the survey.

You will be asked to answer 'Yes' to one of two questions:

Do you want our community newspaper to:

1. focus on the local community in the style of *Traf News* with articles

mainly from Trafalgar and neighbouring towns such as Yarragon, Thorpdale and Willow Grove plus their local surrounding communities; or

2. be more regionally focused, in the style of *Traf District News*, receiving contributions from various parts of Gippsland, with contributions from Trafalgar and surrounds being secondary

Background

Traf News

Traf News, came into existence in late 1999 as the

result of community disquiet that many of Trafalgar's stories were not being reported in local regional newspapers.

This was not a criticism of those papers as the community recognised that they had limited space to cover all relevant matters in every community they covered.

As a result, Trafalgar's first community newspaper was born, consisting entirely of volunteers.

Its purpose was to collect articles that were Trafalgar-centric, that is, articles were exclusively from within Trafalgar.

Progressively this expanded to include local towns that were in the previous Naracan shire such as Yarragon, Willow Grove/ Hill End and Thorpdale plus other local districts.

Surveys undertaken by its committee of the Trafalgar community in 2003, 2007, 2013, and 2017 confirmed that the Trafalgar community wanted local news.

Traf News went into recess in early 2023 due to a number of issues mainly concerning lack of revenue from advertisements and lack of volunteers.

Traf District News

Our community newspaper resurrected in late 2023 under the new masthead, *Traf District News*.

The name was deliberate; to be a newspaper that was not to focus on Trafalgar, but to be more of a regional newspaper, getting articles from various parts of Gippsland including outside Baw Baw shire.

The purpose of this was to encourage advertising from a greater area.

Other than government or politician advertisements, no current advertisers come from outside Baw Baw shire, with more than half being from Trafalgar alone.

Future direction

A new committee was formed in early 2026, and seeks community involvement in deciding the future direction of this paper.

It asks *Traf District News*' readers two questions through a survey, which is accessed via the QR code.

The survey will finish on 15 August after which no further responses can be received.

Each reader can only enter the survey once, although family and group members may each individually complete the survey.

Therefore, you will be asked to log into your, or create a, Google account.



Scan Here

Who are Trafalgar's leading citizens?

The Citizen of the Year committee wants you to start thinking of appropriate people who deserve to be recognised as Trafalgar's 2027 Citizen of the Year.

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

In doing so, consider how the person's actions have inspired you and contributed significantly to the Trafalgar community. This could be through their voluntary community contribution, work or a combination of these.

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

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

The award originally included the provision for posthumous awards, and in 2011, the youth award was added.

In 2005 and 2006, the award was presented as part of the Battle of Trafalgar festivities in October. The TCDA decided in 2007 to have it as part of the Australia Day celebrations. Consequently, no award was presented in that year; it being held over for a few months until Australia Day 2008.

The Citizen of the Year Award is now sponsored by the Trafalgar Rotary Club.

2005 Dr William Ferguson (posthumous), Judy Bishop

2006 Mick Bourke (2014 awarded OAM),

Dorothy Hoare (2010 awarded OAM)

2007 No award

2008 Ray Harris, Ernie Taylor (posthumous)

2009 Walter Sholl, Eileen Sholl

2010 Frank Gridley, Helen Robinson

2011 Sheila Ferguson (posthumous), Darren Wallace (2026 awarded OAM)

2012 Dr James Brown (2014 awarded OAM), Tiffany Viney, Sarah Hartnell (Youth Award)

2013 Jean Huffer, Laurie Huffer, Zac Wallace (Youth Award)

2014 Jackie Neale, Georgia Farrell (Youth Award)

2015 Robin Sefton, Glenn Rodda, Lydia Jacka (Youth Award)

2016 Mark Judd, Troy Oates (Youth Award)

2017 Billie Pilch, Glenys Brennan, Michael Brennan, William Hornstra (Youth Award)

2018 Ray James (2018 awarded OAM)

2019 Bill Ringin, Liam white (Youth Award)

2020 David Wombat Lyons

2021 Peter Farmer, Cooper Burgess (Youth Award)

2022 Marianne Tyler

2023 Bob Moss, Glenys Ralls

2024 Patricia Tatterson, Vanessa Hornby (Youth Award)

2025 Kerry Rantall, Jason Rantall, Ambrose Bajada (Youth Award) Graham Davey (Posthumous), Neil Joiner (Posthumous)

2026 Jonah Meredith (Youth)



The recipient of the 2026 Youth Citizen of the Year, Jonah Meredith

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Trafalgar Medical expands to meet growing community needs

Residents of Trafalgar have watched with interest as construction has commenced on Trafalgar Medical's new infrastructure expansion.

In December the weather-board building on 26 Contingent Street was demolished and the site cleared.

This building had served for decades as the

offices of Peter Marx's surveying business.

Site preparations continued for many months before foundations were poured in June.

Construction work is now proceeding, with framing and roofing occurring in July.

"Over the years, Trafalgar and the surrounding areas have experienced significant population growth, which is

set to continue," said practice manager Mrs Ana Mencev.

"With that comes an increasing demand for accessible, high-quality healthcare services.

"This expansion will allow us to continue meeting those needs while maintaining the level of care our patients have come to know and trust."

The development will be an expansion of the existing

building and will include additional consultation rooms, as well as a larger nursing treatment area, administration and storage spaces, and dedicated rooms for skin cancer excisions and other procedures.

There will be a larger waiting area, improved disability toilets, and expanded car-parking spaces.

General Practitioner Dr Michael Kunze is excited about the work.

"When I came to Trafalgar in 2002, we were a three-doctor practice.

"Since then we've expanded the clinic three times, and now have seventeen GPs

working part-time across our rooms.

"We offer general GP services, but also have special interests in obstetrics, women's and children's health, palliative care, addiction medicine, and skin cancer medicine.

"We've also attracted skilled psychology and Allied Health services to Trafalgar through the development of the Trafalgar Primary Care Centre," said Dr Kunze,

"I love our team but we can't grow any further with our existing infrastructure.

"We hope that the new building will allow us to grow over the coming decade

through recruiting and training new GPs."

Dr Kunze is grateful to the community for its support of Trafalgar Medical and patience through the expansion process.

"Our commitment to the people of Trafalgar remains unchanged," said Mrs Mencev.

"We will continue to provide comprehensive, patient-centred healthcare close to home, ensuring our community has access to high-quality services without the need to travel elsewhere."

It is anticipated that the new consulting spaces will be ready by the end of 2026.

Council incorrectly charged parking infringements

Baw Baw Shire Council is rolling out a parking infringement refund scheme after identifying an administrative issue that has resulted in the over-collection of parking infringement fines.

Over two periods totalling almost 18 years, motorists who received parking fines between 1 January 2002 to 30 June 2010 or 1 July 2016 to 4 August 2025 for seven types of parking infringements can apply on council's website to see if they are eligible for a refund of the overcharged amount.

The refund amount depends on the date the infringement was issued and varies from \$13.50 to \$61.

To be eligible for a refund, motorists must have paid a parking fine issued by council between the above dates for one of the following offences:

- Parking for longer than indicated
- Parked contrary to requirement of parking area
- Parked - failed to comply with angle parking
- Parked - failed to comply with 90 degree angle parking
- Parked not completely within a parking bay
- Parked - long vehicle exceeding minimum number of bays
- Stopped contrary to no-parking sign

Fines issued from 5 August 2025 do not form part of the refund scheme as the error was fixed on this date.

Victoria's Road Safety Act 1986 enables councils to increase the penalty for 11 parking offences up to a maximum 0.5 penalty unit; however, a specific council reso-

lution is required to increase the parking penalty units.

Without a resolution, councils can only apply a 0.2 penalty unit.

Due to an administrative error, council applied the maximum 0.5 penalty unit to parking infringement types without a specific council resolution to do so.

At the time when the error was made, council officers believed the fees were set as statutory fees which didn't need any further action from council.

Luke Connell, Baw Baw Shire Council's director planning and development said, "Council sought legal advice once the issue became known to ensure that any action taken is lawful.

"The validity of an infringement notice issued for a parking infringement is a separate matter to the validity of the penalty amount.

"The infringements issued were valid under the (Infringements) Act and Regulations, irrespective of the error in the penalty amount stated.

"Therefore, even if council has applied the incorrect penalty value, the consequences are only that any difference in penalty value must be refunded, rather than the whole of the infringement penalty. This refunded amount is the amount that has been overpaid."

Baw Baw Shire Mayor Cr Kate Wilson said council was committed to rectifying this issue.

"We've identified an issue and it will be fixed," Cr Wilson said.

"Our teams have been working hard behind the scenes to rectify these issues."

"Affected motorists will be able to apply for a refund

of the overcharged amount of their parking fine and Council apologises for any inconvenience caused to the community."

Council advised Traf District News the reason it can't automatically refund infringements is that the vast majority of parking fines issued are attached to the vehicle, and the only information that council has is the infringement number and vehicle registration number.

Sometimes, the person who drove the vehicle at the time the infringement was issued, isn't the registered owner.

To ensure fairness, council said refunds need to go to the person who actually paid the infringement.

Because of this, and as council doesn't keep banking or payment details on file, it's unable to automatically process refunds without an application.

The application process helps it confirm eligibility and make sure the refund is issued to the right person.

To check your eligibility and apply for the partial refund, in your favourite search engine, type 'bawbawshire parking infringement refund'

To make a refund claim, you will need to provide either an infringement number or a vehicle registration number and to ensure refunds go to the correct person, applicants will also have to provide certain documents in support of their application.

The list of documentation required can be found on council's website.

To begin an application, click the 'check eligibility' button on the web page linked above.



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Mixalis Machinez Automotive is GBA finalist

Trafalgar’s Mixalis Machinez Automotive, a small, family run mechanical repair and servicing business is a finalist in the Latrobe Health Services Gippsland Business Awards.

One of four finalists in the Trade/ Transport/ Technical Services category, Mixalis Machinez Automotive is the only Trafalgar business of the 52 finalists for the 12 industry and specialist categories.

The category winners will be revealed at the grand gala presentation event on Friday, 28 August at Federation University’s Gippsland campus in Churchill.

The chair of the Gippsland Business Awards Committee,

Graeme Sennett, highlighted the “incredibly strong entries” across the board, with a record number of finalists from across Gippsland competing for the 2026 Latrobe Health Service Gippsland Business Awards.

“The standard of entries is extraordinary, and our finalists stand out as shining examples of what can be achieved through vision, hard work and a relentless drive for improvement,” Mr Sennett said.

“The competition is incredibly strong with entries from all corners of Gippsland, demonstrating that our small to medium-sized businesses continue to

establish themselves as industry leaders.”

Categories being recognised in 2026 are: Accommodation and Tourism; Retail; New Business; Business and Professional Services; Microbusiness; Food, Wine and Hospitality; Environmental, Horticulture and Agribusiness; Trade, Transport and Technical Services; Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction; Wellness and Personal Care Services; Hair, Beauty and Cosmetic Services; and Healthcare Services.

The Gippsland Business of the Year, the top honour, will be selected from the category winners and announced at the ceremony.

Mr Sennett paid tribute to the many excellent entrants who did not make it to the finals.

“They embody a robust and expanding business community in Gippsland, and while they may be disappointed this time, we strongly encourage them to par-

ticipate again in the future,” he added.

Mr Sennett noted that this year marks the 28th year of the awards.

“We take pride in having been able to acknowledge the efforts and hard work of so many, as we have celebrated business excellence in Gippsland for over a quarter of a century.

“We look forward to recognising and honouring all our finalists at our awards evening, Gippsland’s premier business event.”

Previous award winners from Trafalgar and its surrounds are:

Jenkins Home Hardware (Retail) 2022

Walhalla Goldfields Railway (Tourism activities and attractions) 2018 and 2022

Methmac Communications trading as Leah Methner (Business and professional services) 2019

For further details of finalists refer to the Latrobe Health Gippsland Business Awards website at www.gba.org.au



Mixalis Machinez Automotive’s staff. From left: Stacey Gibson - operations manager; Jimah Asielawar – director and automotive technician; and Matthew Desira - automotive technician

Baw Baw Shire bolsters existing environmental rebate

Introducing the *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Rebate*, Baw Baw Shire Council’s updated environmental rebate is aimed at making it easier and more affordable for our community to reduce waste and increase sustainable outcomes.

There are now three categories as part of this rebate:

- Compost bin and worm farm rebate
- Reusable sanitary and incontinence products, and
- Reusable nappies and nursing products

Previously, council’s environmental rebate was just for compost bins and worm farms.

The amounts claimable are listed in the table below.

For a full list of eligible and ineligible items, visit

council’s ‘environmental rebate information’ page on its website.

Eligible items include compost bins, compost/worm farm blankets, reusable sanitary pads and reusable sanitary cups, leak-proof underwear, washable incontinence bed or chair pads, cloth nappies, reusable swim nappies, reusable nursing pads, and much more.

The extension of the environmental rebate is one action that council is taking to support the reduction of single use items and ensure that recycling and reusing where possible, is an accessible option for all.

For further information on the rebate, including the full set of terms and conditions, visit: <https://bawbaw-shire.co/environmental-rebate>

Rebate Categories	Compost Bin & Worm Farm	Reusable sanitary and incontinence products	Reusable nappies and nursing products
Amount of Rebate	50% purchase price Maximum of \$50 For example, if you spend \$80 on a compost bin, you will get back \$40.	50% purchase price Maximum of \$50 For example, if you spend \$30 on a reusable sanitary product, you will get back \$15.	50% purchase price Maximum of \$100 For example, if you spend \$250 on reusable nappies, you will get back \$100.

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Trafalgar's BMX Track upgrade

Readers will have noticed works underway at Trafalgar's BMX Park as Baw Baw Shire Council (council) upgrades the BMX track.

Council is undertaking a full track regrading by reshaping and enhancement of jumps, straights and berm as well as drainage improvements.

The goals of the project are to:

- provide a refreshed facility for the community to use and enjoy;
- create a safer and more enjoyable experience for riders of all ages and skill levels;
- support the track's long-term sustainability and resilience;
- encourage participation in physical activity contributing to positive health and wellbeing outcomes;
- create opportunities for young people to build confidence, stay active and connected within the community;
- investment in community facilities for the benefit of young people; and
- support the growing BMX community

The project's budget is \$22,000 through council's Capital Works Program.

The works are nearing completion at the time this article was written.

Back in May, Traf District News came across a Trafalgar high School student undertaking his own repairs to the BMX track, re-pointing the jumps.



Work underway at Trafalgar's BMX Park

Talking to him, he said he used the track and wanted it maintained.

What was even more impressive was that he was working while wearing a moon boot on one of his legs.

A further article will appear in our September edition when the works are completed.

Gippsland Water absorbs costs to keep bills stable

Gippsland Water advises that its customer bills will remain below the inflation rate for a ninth consecutive year, helping to reduce cost-of-living pressures across the region.

From 1 July, a typical customer bill increased by 2.8 per cent, well below the current inflation rate of 4.1 per cent, also representing the lowest bill increase of all Victorian water corporations.

Managing director Sarah Cumming said the ongoing focus on affordability and value for money had delivered stable and falling bills year on year for nearly a decade.

"We've absorbed some of the rising costs through pru-

dent financial management, so customers aren't carrying the full impact of increased costs out of our control, like the economic regional transition," Ms Cumming said.

"We've developed and invested in our own unique approach to drive financial management in every decision we make.

"We make sure our investments make sense for our customers financially and ultimately through delivering long-term resilience of our systems and ensuring we can maintain good levels of service."

Ms Cumming said Gippsland Water's focus on efficiency realisation has seen

the organisation defy the industry trends.

"While water bills are trending upwards in other areas across the state, we've been able to defy that trend," Ms Cumming said.

"We have done this by making investment decisions that have the right return on investment.

"We've realised efficiencies through significant energy cost reductions, moving our fleet to electric vehicles where it makes sense, chemical use optimisation and asset renewal investment.

"Other major efficiency initiatives include our commercial business operations, which provide significant savings to the business by

avoiding additional wastewater treatment costs."

Ms Cumming said the organisation planned for the long-term to look after customers and the services provided, now and into the future.

"We understand some customers are doing it tough, and we offer support for those experiencing financial difficulty with a range of flexible payments options."

Gippsland Water's customer care team can provide free and confidential assistance on 1800 050 500.

For more information on financial support and flexible payment plans, visit www.gippswater.com.au/customer-care



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Meet the Locals – Olwyn Vitale

Olwyn and her family are well-known locals in Trafalgar, with a strong pioneering history in the district.

Her story includes an historic home in Contingent Street, encompasses raising a family with Mario, an Italian immigrant, and a life of farming and volunteering in the community.

Background

Olwyn's great grandfather, Euphrasim Mann, was a pioneer who cleared and farmed vast acreage in Trafalgar South.

He arrived in Geelong in 1850 to choose farming in Minyip but, seven children later in 1883, he searched



Olwyn Vitale

for more fertile land with a reliable rainfall.

This farmland was divided amongst three of his sons.

Olwyn's grandfather, Alfred Mann (1855 – 1949) was also a skilled carpenter.

He married Mary Griffiths in 1881, and after selling his farm later in life, built a beautiful cedar-heavy home in the early 1920s at what is now 59 Contingent Street.

This current house site was once part of his small dairy farm that extended between School Road and Giles Road, with an orchard, chickens and a milking shed.

Olwyn's mother, Olive Mann, was married from that home in 1927, and she later inherited it when her brother Bert died.

Uninhabited for a while, Olwyn and her husband Mario lived there in 1960 for three years, after which it was rented and then eventually sold.

The back section of the farm was sold for what is now the Victory Court subdivision, developed in 1970.

Childhood

Olive and Robert Williams, who worked at the

Trafalgar Co-op, moved on to Yarragon to raise four children while he worked at the Yarragon Co-op, then to operate the Yarragon General Store.

Olwyn, the second of four children, was born in the Trafalgar Bush Nursing Hospital in 4 Ashby Street in 1931.

She spent eight years at Yarragon State School then boarded at St Anne's, Sale for three years. Her parents felt the long bus ride to Warragul High School was too unruly.

Olwyn reflects that maybe her mother took that opportunity to avoid raising a teenage daughter!

Later, she trained and worked as a mothercraft nurse at the Presbyterian Babies Home in Camberwell, commonly a place for children of unmarried mothers.

Olwyn often came home to work in the family's grocery store, a job she really enjoyed.

Marriage

Meanwhile, Mario Vitale had arrived from Italy to build a new life.

He had chosen Argentina or Australia and the visa came through to Oz.

However, not having found someone with whom

to settle down, he was on the verge of returning to Italy when he met Olwyn while ballroom dancing at the Warragul RSL.

Her father was not concerned about Mario being a new Australian, nor catholic, but questioned whether Olwyn was ready to be a farmer's wife. "You'll have no holidays!"

They married at the Trafalgar Catholic Church in 1957, and lived in Cloverlea for several years while Mario was share-farming there.

In 1963, when Mario returned from visiting his mother in Italy, he worked as a concreter then again as a share farmer at Jack Moscato's farm in Yarragon, remaining there for many years.

In 1970, an opportunity came up for them to purchase a small dairy farm of 83 acres (33.6 hectares) on the Trafalgar East flats along North Canal Road.

So, with a family of four children and cows to be milked and managed, Olwyn and Mario worked that typically hard life.

Due to the high interest rates on their loan, Mario continued as a concreter while their four children (Marianna, Cristina, Philip and Robert) travelled by school bus to Trafalgar State school and Trafalgar High.

"The Trafalgar East Primary principal wasn't pleased, as he was hoping for an influx of student enrolments, but the school bus went right past our door," said Olwyn.

Farming profitability soon meant buy more land or move out, so in 1983 they sold

and bought a double block in Settlement Road, still to enjoy that rural feeling.

Family Life

Olwyn holds dear the strong family bonds with her children.

Many Italian customs were introduced by Mario and had been regularly enjoyed throughout their married life.

In particular, the continued annual tradition of making passata has been embraced, now with four generations participating keenly together, usually a group of about 18 family members.

Olwyn's granddaughter Michelle hosts this enterprise in her shed in Warragul, at which about 80 kgs of tomatoes are washed, squeezed, pot boiled, minced and bottled as juice.

Mario Lanza's music plays, Bis Nonno Mario's hat is worn, and always homemade lasagne for dinner.

Volunteering

While Mario enjoyed playing bowls with the freedom of no farm, Olwyn took on a variety of volunteering tasks within the community.

It was a common sight, for 13 years, to see Olwyn walk to Trafalgar Primary School from Settlement Road to volunteer in the Learning Assistance Program (LAP).

Alongside a small team of others, she built personal relationships with needy children and helped support them to develop their interests, skills and confidence.

As Olwyn said, "It felt good to know you were making a difference in their lives. You could see the change by the end of the year."

With her daughter Maria, she delivered Meals on Wheels to about 18 families in the town.

The meals were cooked and boxed at Warragul hospital and delivered to the Senior Citizen's Centre for distribution by the volunteers. This was before Andrews House was built.

Like many, she also added time in the High School canteen.

Currently, at 95 years old, Olwyn attends the popular Trafalgar Probus Club.

A regular member since 1994, she earned her 30 years badge, having committed to a variety of roles including secretary, president and trip organiser.

"We went all over the place in a small bus. Lots of fun," reflected Olwyn, preferring not to travel to venues in private cars as is now the custom.

Olwyn was approached to be president in 2003, at the time when Mario had been battling with cancer.

She accepted the role as a helpful distraction, the annual general meeting election being the day before Mario's funeral.

The support of Probus friends helped through this difficult time.

Also at that time, she was helping care for her grandchildren as regularly needed. Those families made sure her Probus day each month was kept clear.

Olwyn lives independently, now near her birthplace in Ashby Street, still enjoying a busy life with strong family bonds and friendships.



View from Slatter's Hill overlooking Mann's farm on Contingent Street, Trafalgar. The farm was owned by Olwyn's grandfather, Alfred Mann (1855 – 1949)

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Headway hosts skills showcase

Federal Member for Monash Mary Aldred joined Headway Gippsland on 8 July for a showcase of music, movement and connection at Trafalgar Community Centre, in support of people with a disability and their families.

Ms Aldred said “Connecting the Community – All Abilities in Action” was an opportunity for people of all abilities to showcase their talents in dance, live music and craft.

“Headway Gippsland has been supporting people with disabilities across the Gippsland region since 1981,” Ms Aldred said.

“It has grown from a small group of parents advocating for children with acquired brain injury into an organ-

isation providing services to people with a wide range of disabilities.”

“I congratulate Headway Gippsland on hosting this new event, opening opportunities for participation and connection amongst people of all abilities in Trafalgar and the wider Gippsland region,” she said.

Ms Aldred also hosted a mobile office in Trafalgar, hearing from local residents about what issues are important to them.

“The cost of living, roads and a new West Gippsland Hospital are the top issues that matter most to our community.

“My mobile offices are also a way to provide local assistance to residents on NDIS, veterans and other is-

sues like assisting small businesses,” added Ms Aldred, who has hosted more than 22 mobile offices across the Monash electorate in the last 12 months.



Headway Gippsland general manager Wendy Matthews (left) welcomes Federal Member for Monash Mary Aldred to a skills showcase in Trafalgar

Be aware of Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and ‘myGov’ impersonation scams

Scamwatch and the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) are reminding Australians to be aware of communications claiming to be from the ATO or ‘myGov’.

Scammers make phone calls, send fake emails, texts, or messages, and even create fake websites that look like the real thing but they’re not.

They create a sense of urgency to manipulate you into clicking links to fake websites or to download harmful attachments. They may also send messages urging you to call a phone number that connects you to the scammer.

Criminals design these communications to look real, using official logos, branding, and language to deceive

people. The scammers may then use your stolen personal information, including your myGov sign in details, to commit fraud in your name.

Warning signs to look out for:

- Unexpected requests for personal or financial information, especially if they include a sense of urgency;
- An unsolicited message with a link that claims to be from the ATO. The ATO will never do this;
- The email or text includes a link that wants you to sign into your myGov account;
- The email’s sender details do not match the legitimate government

agency and do not end in ‘.gov.au’

Protect yourself from tax time scams:

- **STOP.** Don’t rush. Don’t click links in unexpected messages or share passwords, one-time codes, or financial information;
- **CHECK.** Contact the Australian Taxation Office using the official app or website or call 1800 008 540 to check if the contact is real;
- **PROTECT.** If you shared money or personal information with a scammer, act quickly. Contact the ATO on 1800 008 540 to help protect your ATO accounts.

Proposed BESS development in Baw Baw

By Dr Amanda McLeod*

There is significant community opposition to some of the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) developments across Baw Baw.

Baw Baw Sustainability Network (BBSN) is a not-for-profit, volunteer-driven community organisation.

Since 2007, it has supported and inspired sustainable living across Baw Baw Shire and surrounding areas.

BBSN is supportive of BESS developments as they are a necessary and important part of the renewable energy mix for electricity transition in Australia.

However, it is vital that the benefits of these important projects be fully conveyed to communities.

Strong public opposition to proposed local projects may have stemmed from a lack of comprehensive community engagement and consultation in the early stages of planning.

If this is the case, it is likely to have contributed to the distress and concern about BESS projects across the region.

As outlined in its BESS Position Statement (available at www.bbsn.org.au), BBSN argues that there are important factors to be con-

sidered before all industrial developments (not just BESS projects) proceed.

Most importantly, proponents have a duty to undertake meaningful community engagement at all stages, from pre-planning through to delivery, to ensure that communities understand what is being proposed and can have a say in local implications, including risks and benefits.

Information about such projects should be publicly available and easy to understand.

Communities must have the opportunity to provide feedback and express their

concerns and feel that they have been heard.

In addition, there are other important factors that need to be addressed in the development process in order to engage communities and alleviate the significant community concerns around proposed BESS developments.

BESS proponents must make publicly available the long-term management plan for the sites that include fire safety, vegetation control, waste management, and de-commissioning processes to ensure the site remains safe and environmentally sound throughout its lifecycle.

The community must also be able to understand the rationale behind site selection.

It is necessary that there is public consultation and BESS proponents must listen to and address the real concerns of residents in relation to factors that have the potential to cause harm or distress.

Finally, industry needs to work alongside residents to design initiatives that deliver immediate and long-term benefits to the local community.

BBSN’s annual general meeting (AGM) will be held on Thursday, 27 August, starting at 7pm at the Yar-

ragon Uniting Church Hall, Campbell Street.

After the AGM formalities, Ian Hill, respected local retired chartered professional engineer and member of Engineers Australia, will present an informative and impartial talk on big battery technology and its perceived risks.

He will also examine the benefits of large-scale battery storage and touch on proposed BESS projects.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

*Amanda is BBSN’s communications manager

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John Hanley publishes new book

By Linda Barraclough*

Trafalgar resident and historian, John Hanley, has published another book on the history of local telephone exchanges, this one recording the history of Childers and its postal and telephone exchange.

Titled *Childers Gippsland: About the People, Postal and Telephone Services*, this wonderful book is the fourth in the series by John on the local telephone and postal services in the area between Warragul and Moe.

As with his previous three books, it is really a detailed

local history seen through the eyes of the post office and telephone exchange.

It is an account of a vital technology no longer in place, from someone who knew it well. No other local services are missed.

We find we have a record of the Mechanics' Institute, the Village Settlement, the forest and milling operations, roads, schools, churches and more. Including the arrival of electricity in Childers.

However, the true joy is in the detailed accounts of each of the postmasters and postmistresses; nine men before

the first woman, but she held the role for 19 years.

As did the next, also a woman.

In all, there were 16 people from the community who kept the office open and a range of services available.

This is coupled with the epic work undertaken by John to track down and name so many people—not only the postmasters and postmistresses, but also all their assistants and all the mail contractors over those years.

All this is backed up with superb referencing of the sources of information, and

the sort of index (professionally compiled) that is an exemplar for anyone thinking of completing their own.

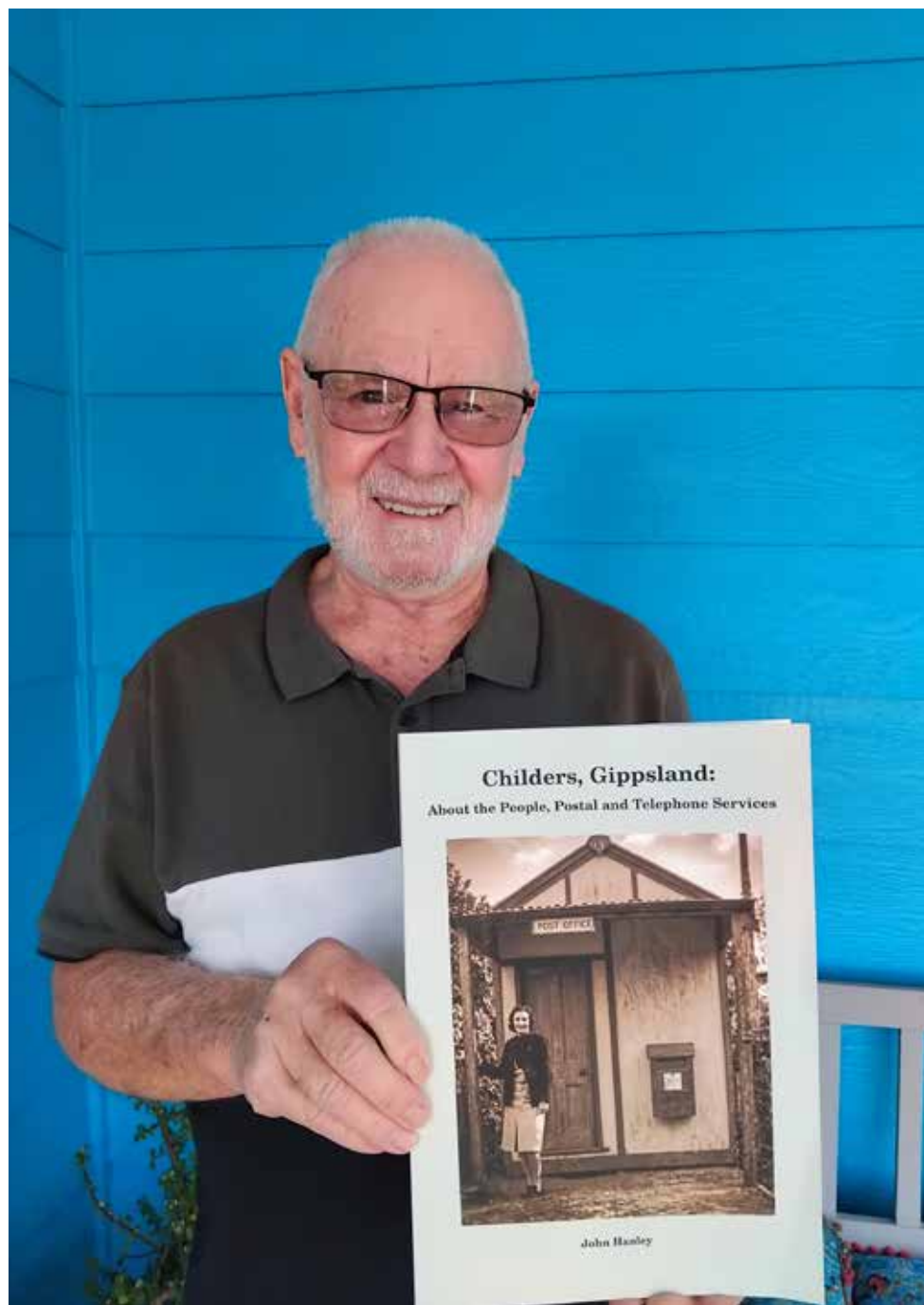
The stories are complemented by many photographs, maps, telephone entries and a chronology.

The book is available at the Trafalgar Newsagency, Gippsland Food & Wine in Yarragon and Travellers Rest Thorpdale.

It is also directly from John via email trafpmg@gmail.com

Earlier books are held in local libraries and at Federation University, Gippsland Campus's Gippsland and Regional Studies Collection (GRSC).

*Linda is a well-known and respected Gippsland historian



Trafalgar historian John Hanley with his fourth book, this one on the history of Childers in general and its postal and telephone exchange in particular

New Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Laws

By Jade MacGregor*

Australia's anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) laws are designed to prevent criminals from using legitimate transactions to disguise illegal funds or finance harmful activity.

Because property transactions can involve large sums, short timeframes, and sometimes complex ownership arrangements, real estate is a key area of focus.

Recent changes to the AML/CTF framework strengthen expectations around checks connected with property dealings, meaning people involved in the buying, selling, and transferring of property now need to complete more verification steps than in the past.

While these changes can feel administrative, they are aimed at making transactions safer and maintaining confidence in the property market.

In practical terms, the conveyancing process may now be more 'front-loaded' with information requests.

Clients may be asked to provide identification earlier and, where an entity is involved (such as a company or trust), to provide documents that show who ultimately owns or controls the entity.

We may also ask questions about the source of funds and, in some cases, the source of wealth—such as whether money is coming from savings, sale proceeds, a loan, a gift, or an inheritance—and request supporting documentation to match.

It is also increasingly important that names and details align across the contract, transfer documents, and bank accounts, and that we understand any third-party payments or contributions (for example, funds coming from a parent or another family member).

These checks can also include confirming key details where there are unusual features, such as very urgent settlements, large cash-like transfers, multiple deposits from different accounts, or a last-minute change to payment directions.

For buyers and sellers, the best way to keep things moving is to respond promptly to requests for ID and supporting documents, and to let us know early if anything changes—particularly if there is a change to the parties, the ownership structure, or the payment arrangements.

If we ask follow-up questions, it is not a sign of mistrust; it is part of meeting strengthened AML/CTF expectations and ensuring the transaction is completed safely and lawfully.

Ultimately, these measures help reduce the risk of fraud, prevent funds being misdirected, and avoid

unpleasant surprises close to settlement.

With a bit of extra preparation at the start, most matters can still progress smoothly while ensuring everyone involved is protected.

*Jade is the principal solicitor of J MacGregor Legal

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COUNCIL News

Master Plan proposed for Roberts Court Bushland Reserve

The community is invited to review a draft master plan guiding future use and ongoing management of Roberts Court Bushland Reserve in Drouin.

The draft master plan aims to deliver a long-term, cohesive vision for the reserve which reflects the ecological importance of the site and provides structure for future use, access and long-term management.

Visit Baw Baw Connect and have your say, your way by 5.00pm on **Thursday 20 August** and make sure your voice is heard!



FOGO now underway across Baw Baw

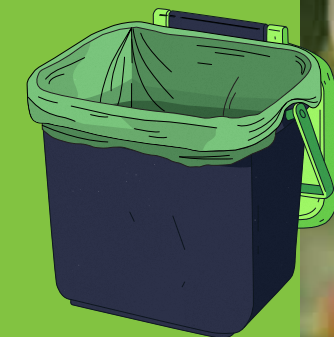
The Food Organics Garden Organics service has now commenced in Baw Baw, so residents should be placing their food scraps into their green FOGO bin, alongside their garden clippings.

All households should have their new kitchen caddy by now. By using your kitchen caddy to collect food scraps before emptying them into your green bin, you can help make a positive difference.

These changes are an important step towards reducing landfill and creating a more sustainable future.

What can go in your green bin?

For a full list of accepted FOGO items, visit Council's website at bawbawshire.co/FOGO or scan the QR code.



EMPLOYMENT EXPO

Baw Baw Shire Council will host the annual Employment Expo in September this year.

When: Wednesday 30 September

Time: 10am – 1pm

Where: Fountain Room, West Gippsland Arts Centre

Stay tuned to our website and social media channels for more information!

CURRENT ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Council currently has one community engagement opportunity open for consultation!

Visit Baw Baw Connect to Have Your Say, Your Way!

- **Roberts Court Bushland**



Upcoming Council Meeting:

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

Wednesday 26 August – 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

Community bank has invested \$2.18m in the community

Community Bank Trafalgar & District celebrates a significant milestone at the end of the 2025-26 financial year.

Since opening its doors in 2003, the community bank has reinvested an incredible \$2.18 million into the local community.

This milestone reflects more than two decades of supporting local organisations, community groups, projects and individuals across the region.

One of the community bank's key areas of investment has been supporting local students and investing in the next generation.

Since 2003, \$250,000 has been provided in scholarships, helping students pursue further education and reducing some of the financial barriers associated with study.

In the past financial year alone, \$21,000 was awarded to local students, supporting them as they work towards their educational and career goals.

"Supporting our young people is one of the most rewarding investments we can make as a community," said Debbie Di Sisto, chair of Trafalgar & District Financial Services Ltd, the company that owns the community bank business.

"Through our scholarship program, we are helping local students pursue their aspirations while strengthening the future of our region.

"Seeing the achievements of past recipients reminds us why this support is so important."

During the 2025/26 financial year, Community Bank Trafalgar & District returned \$99,724 to the community, supporting a wide range of initiatives including student education programs, local emergency services, sporting clubs, arts and cultural programs, environmental projects, health and well-

being initiatives and programs for young people and older residents.

"Reaching \$2.18 million in community investment is an extraordinary milestone and one that belongs to our customers, shareholders, volunteers, staff, Directors and community partners," Ms Di Sisto said.

"This achievement demonstrates the power of community banking. From scholarships for local students to support for emergency services, sporting clubs, health initiatives and community groups, every customer who chooses to bank locally helps create opportunities and positive outcomes for our region.

"For more than 23 years, Community Bank Trafalgar & District has demonstrated that banking can be about more than financial services – it can be about creating opportunities, strengthening communities and making a lasting difference.

"As it looks to the future, Community Bank Trafalgar

& District remains committed to investing in what matters most – its community.

"Therefore, every customer who chooses to bank with the community bank helps create positive outcomes for the local community through a model that reinvests profits into the region," said Ms Di Sisto.



Debbie Di Sisto, chair of Trafalgar & District Financial Services Ltd, the company that owns Community Bank Trafalgar & District

Chamber of Commerce holds AGM

By Sarah Jenkins

Trafalgar Chamber of Commerce and Industry (chamber) met for its annual general meeting (AGM) on 13 July, and the new committee for the 2026-27 financial year was voted in.

The chamber thanks last year's committee for its dedication and work, and it welcomes the following people to their roles:

- president-Jade MacGregor (J MacGregor Legal);
- vice president-Shane Dwyer (Directional Financial Planning);
- secretary-Sarah Jenkins (Jenkins Home Hardware & Gippsland Cleaning and Maintenance);

- treasurer-shared role amongst executive committee;
- social media officer - Naomi Goodin (Goodies Electrical)

The AGM discussed the following issues:

- a reminder of the importance of business insurance, after some recent attacks to shopfronts in the Warragul area. The chamber is seeking a local Insurance broker to attend its next meeting as a guest speaker to go through general points all businesses should take into consideration;
- a discussion about the proposal of short-term free caravan stays at the recreation oval, and what stage the application is in;
- a discussion regarding any updates to the sale of the old council building on the highway, and possible ideas for usage of the old kinder building;
- an exciting proposal for a community event-a sub-committee has been formed to bring this idea into action;
- a new website is being built, which will bring a lot more value to members;
- Trafalgar Football Netball Club has been awarded hosting duties of both football and netball grand final day again, which is a huge accolade to its committee

and the way the club is run

The chamber encourages businesses to decorate their store fronts for grand final week (should any Trafalgar teams be in the grand final) and assistance has been offered for game day if it is required;

- some specific areas need a tidy up by Baw Baw Shire Council (council), such areas have been noted and council will be approached for a call to action.

If you've been considering joining the chamber, we'd love to see you at our next meeting. The more voices, ideas and opinions we have, the more we can achieve.

The chamber is a local organisation representing the needs of local business, with a focus on keeping the business community strong and viable, working towards the advancement of Trafalgar.

Its mission is to make local business easier, better, stronger and more fun by building connection.

If you are the owner of a business, being a member of Trafalgar Chamber of Commerce and Industry is certainly something worth considering.

As a group, it tackles issues impacting all businesses.

It discusses strategies, local and state policies affecting trade and any other issues that arise.

A member of council attends all meetings, which provides a link between business and council that is invaluable.

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West Gippsland celebrates 40 years of Landcare

By Judy Bishop

Landcare staff and volunteers from across Gippsland recently attended state parliament to celebrate 40 years of the valued community-based program.

Landcare Victoria boasts over 90,000 volunteers who work collaboratively to restore local habitats, improve sustainable agricultural activity and develop the strength and resilience of our local areas.

The very active Tanjil Valley Landcare group currently manages the popular Blue Rock Lake walking track, a project they initiated in 2015. Volunteer members contribute to regular working bees, held to maintain the track surface and to plant, mulch, weed and mow the track surrounds as a suitable habitat for native birds and animals.

Their recent initiative of a Community Environment Festival will again be held

next March, hosting a wide variety of stalls and activities for families to engage in learning about and appreciating the natural environment.

President John Crosby acknowledges the project changes seen over the 40 years at Tanjil Valley. Initially Landcare was centred around planting trees on farms to control erosion or to provide shade and shelter for stock.

Later, there came a focus on restoring riparian areas and protection waterways by excluding stock, removing willows and planting indigenous vegetation.

Many kilometres of the Latrobe River have been protected in this way.

Other programs to protect Gippsland's waterways were initiated too with an overall goal of improving the quality of the water flowing into the Gippsland Lakes.

Regenerating farmland with tree planting wind breaks and protecting rem-

nant vegetation was a priority to help connect farmers in land management initiatives.

While these are still important initiatives, greater focus is now on regenerative farming, building sustainable farming practices that develop healthy soil.

Tanjil Valley Landcare has become more of a community group, involving a wider range of people and ages.

This month, as a part of National Tree Day, Landcare volunteers and children from Willow Grove and Tanjil South Primary Schools,

will be planting along the walking track and sharing a BBQ together.

A film celebrating 40 years of Landcare in West Gippsland will be presented at a green carpet event at the Latrobe Performing Arts Centre, Traralgon on 4 August, promising to be an evening of storytelling and inspiration showing environmental action and community spirit across the region.

This is a cocktail attire event and enquiries can be made to Marnie Ellis 5175 7846

Gippsland Water internship program is open

Applications for Gippsland Water's Summer Internship Program are now open, giving undergraduate students the opportunity to gain paid hands-on experience in their chosen field.

The 12-week program will run from November 2026 to February 2027, with students working across a range of disciplines in a practical, professional environment.

Managing director Sarah Cumming said the long-running program plays an important role in building local capability, while creating careers for the future.

"Interns contribute meaningful work that delivers for our region now and in the future, using their academic studies for real-world work while making a difference," Ms Cumming said.

"The program provides great career development

pathways for young people in our region.

"Around 80 per cent of interns also continue to work with us after or enrol into our graduate program."

Interns can gain experience in the following fields:

- Engineering: civil, environmental, mechanical, process or electrical engineering, collaborating on minor capital projects and developing an understanding of challenges such as risk assessments, investigations, budgeting and planning.
- Science: environmental, natural resource management, climate, sustainability, ecology and botany, and geographical information systems science,

while contributing to catchment management planning—targeting those with low adaptive capability to increase quality native vegetation.

- Information Technology: artificial intelligence, and how it can support strategic analysis, knowledge management and operational efficiency.
- Business and Commerce: help map strategies and learn how they align to the organisation's priorities, requirements, and outcomes.

Students may be able to receive academic credits for their participation, depending on course requirements.

For more information on the Summer Internship Program, and to apply, visit www.gippswater.com.au/summerinternshipprogram.



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Local Author Launches New Connection Project

So who are you anyway?

What happens when we take the time to truly listen to one another?

Trafalgar author and storyteller Sarah Rosse is inviting the community to explore that question through the launch of her memoir, *So, Who Are You Anyway?*, and the unveiling of her new community project, 100 Conversations.

The memoir launch event, supported by Warragul Community House, Wellways and Kintsugi Heroes, will feature a panel conversation exploring some of the themes in Sarah's book, such as identity, mental health, belonging, resilience and the power of sharing our stories.

Audience members will also have the opportunity to participate in meaningful discussion and connect with others through conversation.

Sarah shares in her deeply personal memoir, a story born from navigating her son's mental health crisis and the unexpected journey of self-discovery that followed.

More than a book launch, this is an opportunity for meaningful community conversation about mental health awareness, caregiving, parenthood, storytelling, and the healing power of journalling.

For Sarah, the book and the initiative are deeply connected.

"So, Who Are You Anyway?" is a memoir about finding my voice and understanding who I am beyond the labels and expectations placed upon me," she says.

"The 100 Conversations initiative grew from a simple belief that everyone has a story worth telling, and that genuine connection begins when we take the time to listen."

The 100 Conversations initiative aims to encourage meaningful dialogue across communities, bringing people together through storytelling, curiosity and connection.

Over the coming months, Sarah hopes to engage in 100 conversations with people from all walks of life, capturing the wisdom, experiences and insights that emerge when strangers become storytellers.

At a time when loneliness and social disconnection are increasing, the initiative seeks to create spaces where people feel seen, heard and valued.

"Conversation is one of the most powerful tools we have," Sarah says.

"A simple conversation can change how we see ourselves, how we understand others and how connected we feel to our communities."

The memoir launch and panel discussion will provide an opportunity for readers, writers, community members and anyone interested in storytelling to come together and celebrate the power of human connection.

Sarah is also extending her work through journal coaching and guided writing experiences, supporting individuals to explore their own stories through reflection, journalling and personal narrative.

The memoir launch and panel conversation 'So, Who Are You Anyway?' is on Saturday, 8 August between 1.30pm – 3.30pm at Warragul Community House.

Tickets may be purchased at www.eventbrite.com.au Scroll down to 'Browse events in' and type in Warragul, then further scroll to Sarah's event.

New Trafalgar workshop helping seniors connect through the art of conversation

A new workshop in Trafalgar is set to bring seniors together through the power of conversation, storytelling and connection, with a focus on reducing loneliness and strengthening community ties.

The Art of Conversation is a workshop designed especially for older adults and will be delivered by Kintsugi Heroes, an Australian organisation that shares stories of resilience and lived experience to foster hope, connection and belonging.

Inspired by the Japanese philosophy of *kintsugi* — the art of repairing broken pottery with gold — Kintsugi Heroes believes that life's challenges can become part of a person's strength, wisdom and story.

Through storytelling projects, events and community initiatives, the organisation creates opportunities for people to feel heard, valued and connected.

Coming to Trafalgar, The Art of Conversation will offer local seniors a welcoming opportunity to come together, share stories, listen to one

another and build meaningful social connection.

The workshop is designed to encourage genuine conversation in a warm and supportive setting, helping participants move beyond small talk and into the kinds of conversations that create belonging and reduce isolation.

At a time when loneliness and social isolation are increasingly recognised as major issues for older Australians, the workshop highlights the importance of staying connected to others and to the wider community.

Retirement, illness, grief, caring responsibilities and changing life circumstances can all reduce opportunities for social connection, leaving many seniors feeling isolated.

Through guided discussion, storytelling prompts and reflective activities, participants will be encouraged to connect with others, share life experiences and enjoy the sense of belonging that comes from being heard and understood.

The workshop is not about public speaking or "getting it right" — it is about making space for conversation, friendship and shared humanity.

Sarah Rosse, who is facilitating the workshop, said meaningful connection can have a powerful impact on wellbeing.

"As we get older, opportunities for connection can sometimes become fewer, but the need for connection never disappears. Feeling seen, heard and included can make a real difference to wellbeing. Sometimes a

single conversation can open the door to friendship, confidence and community."

The workshop reflects Kintsugi Heroes' commitment to creating spaces where stories can be shared and people can connect through lived experience, empathy and conversation.

The Art of Conversation in Trafalgar is proudly sponsored by Community Bank Trafalgar & District, whose support is helping bring this community-focused event to local seniors and reinforce the importance of connection, inclusion and wellbeing in the region.

The workshop offers seniors a chance to meet new people, reflect on their own experiences and take part in a meaningful local event designed to celebrate the value of conversation.

The workshop will take place on Saturday 15 August from 9am - 12.30pm at McGregor Park Hall, Trafalgar.

Bookings can be made by emailing sarahrosse@kintsugiheroes.com.au

(See advertisement on page 4)



Trafalgar's Sarah Rosse, who has two events coming up this month

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Veterans morning tea a success at RSL

By Mark Walshe

A successful Veterans Morning Tea was held on 8 July, attended by up to 12 veterans and family members.

The morning provided an opportunity for participants to connect, share stories and enjoy each other's company.

Donated finger food by RSL members was gratefully received, while coffee was supplied by the sub-branch.

These fortnightly gatherings will continue to be a valuable way of supporting veteran wellbeing and maintaining social connections within our local defence community.

Trafalgar-Thorpdale RSL Sub Branch continues to provide a welcoming meeting place for veterans, members and the wider community, with several activities and services available throughout the year.

Our popular meal night continues to be held on the second Friday of each month from 4:30pm, providing a great opportunity for members and guests to enjoy a meal and good company in a relaxed environment.

The RSL hall is also open to the public every Friday from 4:30pm for our weekly sippers.

These informal gatherings offer the chance to catch up with friends, meet new people and enjoy a quiet drink.

Members can also take part in the weekly members' draw, adding a little extra excitement to the afternoon.

Trafalgar Lions Club held its annual dinner at the Trafalgar-Thorpdale RSL Hall on 1 July.

Several of our affiliate members are also active members of the Lions Club and provide valuable assistance each year with the traditional Gunfire Breakfast following the Anzac Day Dawn Service.

The evening included the appointment of Lions Club board members and a number of raffles.

The function was well attended and superbly catered by Eat Live Fresh, with guests enjoying roast meals followed by apple crumble dessert.

Did you know that our hall is available for public hire?

The facility is suitable for birthdays, family celebrations, meetings and community events, with bar staff and kitchen facilities available.

Anyone interested in making a booking is encouraged to contact the sub-branch by email trafrsl@bigpond.com for further information.

Trafalgar-Thorpdale RSL Sub Branch looks forward to continuing to support veterans, members and the broader community through these activities and events in the months ahead.

Plenty happening at the arts alliance

By Carol Monson

People often ask about exhibitions at the Baw Baw Arts Alliance's (BBAA) 'Station Gallery', Yarragon, because there is always something creatively different and inviting.

Gallery manager and Trafalgar resident, Sue Murphy, in her inimitable and energetic way, has created more interest to attract a new form of art.

The 'Teal Room Challenge', as it has become known, is an exhibition of small works of art in any media.

In August discover the world of tiny books no bigger than 15cm by 15cm.

There is no entry cost but you must be a member of BBAA and that will give you many opportunities to develop your Artistic skills further.

A very popular form of art that attracts many to BBAA's creative groups is drawing with pencil, charcoal, graphite and/or fine felt pens.

The drawing groups take place on three days of each week.

Monday in VRI Hall, Warragul, is a time to receive some guidance for improving your drawing skills and if you miss this one head to Art Space 2 in Trafalgar Railway Station.

If you want a drawing experience that is quite different, this can be found in the VRI Hall on the first and third Friday morning of each month when you draw figures from life sized projections.

The work from each of these groups is the major exhibition in the 'Station Gallery' during August.

The Artworks demonstrate the title of 'Draw the Line'.

Also showing during August is the work of the very creative group of BBAA printers.

This group meets regularly on a Friday at Art Space 2, Trafalgar, and ranges from those with no experience through to experienced printers.

The group has called its exhibition 'Black and Green', a Friday challenge, and you will be impressed by the

quality of printing, sense of design and ability to use their Art to demonstrate their interests and passions.

Both exhibitions are being officially opened at 2.00pm on Saturday, 8 August, at Yarragon's 'Station Gallery'. This is a free event.

One of the more recent ventures by BBAA is the open invitation to members of the public to participate in free art activities at the VRI Hall in Queen Street, Warragul, on the third Saturday morning of each month.

The August invitation, however, is for Friday evening, 14 August at 6pm to 8pm for an evening of fun, music and art entertainment including a BBAA arts show.

Don't miss this opportunity to talk to artists about their work followed by another viewing of the exhibition on the following day, Saturday, 15 August from 10am to 3pm at Warragul's VRI Hall.

For more information see <https://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au>



Artist, Joan Best, demonstrating some of the basics of producing a tiny book for the next 'Teal Room Challenge'



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Scouts Race the Rails in Great Train Challenge

By Rick Bradley

Scouts from across the District put their skills, teamwork and determination to the test on 17 June in the annual Scout Great Train Race, held along the Gippsland rail corridor between Drouin and Moe.

Despite unexpected train timetable changes and delays that required quick adjustments throughout the day, the event was successfully completed on schedule.

Organisers praised participants for their flexibility and positive attitude in overcoming the challenges presented by the disruptions.

Scout patrols from all groups across the District

took part, including a visiting patrol from Yarram. Teams travelled by train between Moe, Trafalgar, Yarragon, Warragul and Drouin, tackling a variety of challenges at each station.

Activities ranged from light-hearted fun, including a donut-eating competition with donuts suspended on strings, through to practical scouting tests such as navigation and map-reading exercises.

Patrols earned points for their skill, tenacity and perseverance as they worked their way through the course.

After a closely contested day, the final results were:

1st place: The Nijels Patrol (Warragul) – 72.5 points

2nd place: Green Gophers (Warragul) – 69.5 points

3rd place: The Ducks (1st Trafalgar) – 67.5 points

Event organiser Chris Reeves was thanked for his efforts in coordinating the race, while appreciation was also extended to the many scout leaders and parents whose support helped ensure the day ran smoothly.

The Scout Great Train Race once again proved to be a memorable day of adventure, problem-solving and friendly competition, showcasing the spirit of Scouting across the District.



Anton from 1st Trafalgar practicing his map reading and navigation skills



Lions Club holds changeover dinner

By Jenny Heggart

The Lions Club of Trafalgar recently held their Changeover Dinner at the local RSL clubrooms.

It was a relaxing night with members and visitors from Yarragon, Warragul, Drouin and Longwarry local Lions clubs.

President Mike Hornby retained his position, as did Pat Tatterson as secretary and David Koschade as treasurer.

Their hard work throughout the past year was duly recognised on the night.

Ian Bosma remains the 1st Vice President of the Club, with Jenny Heggart coming in as 2nd Vice President.

Other board members for 2026/27 were also installed on the night by Ian de Bruyne, the zone president.

Mike Hornby's president's report highlighted the busy and successful year the club had fundraising and serving the community.

Two of the major fundraising streams were the sale of firewood and kindling through Trafalgar IGA Supermarket and the annual swap meet.

The club also had a very busy time with BBQs this year.

A BBQ was held at Encore Retirement Village for its residents plus the regular fundraising BBQs at Trafalgar IGA.

Other fundraising BBQs included Festival on the

Lawn at Trafalgar Primary School and Trafalgar Football Netball Club Family Fun Day.

The BBQs also played a role in community events such as the Australia Day Breakfast, the Gunfire Breakfast on Anzac Day and the Andrews House Christmas Party.

Other catering fundraising events included the Lions District Cabinet meetings, the Newborough Old Time Dance, the Lions District Development Day and the Antique and Vintage Motor Bike Ride.

Another source of funds was the sale of Lions Christmas cakes and puddings.

As well as cake takings, the club benefitted from the contribution by the Lions Christmas Cake Allocation Fund to partly fund the purchase of an attended propelled shower commode for Andrews House. The sale of Lions Mints was another source of income.

The club's annual Christmas Raffle was once again very successful.

Thanks to our local community for its generosity, which saw all tickets sold.

Thank you to Trafalgar IGA for allowing us to sell the tickets at their store. A big thank you to all who assisted in the sale of tickets.

The club also fundraised at the IGA for the victims of Victorian Bushfires.

The level of support from shoppers was heartening to

see. The money raised was sent to affected Lions districts and they distributed it to those in need.

The club has had a focus on programs supporting young people. For example, The Lions Junior Public Speaking Competition, for students in Grades 3-6 at local primary schools, and The Russ Turner Apprentice/Trainee Encouragement Award.

Many local groups have been given financial support from our club.

It is only through hard work, commitment and a desire to help our community that this is achievable.

The Club looks forward to continuing to serve the community of Trafalgar.

The Changeover night included a club raffle.

A huge thank you to the local businesses who kindly donated vouchers, hampers and many other wonderful prizes for our raffle on the night.

These were Trafalgar IGA, The Spud Shed, Gracie's Bakery, Trafalgar Criterion Hotel, Eat Live Fresh, Traf Pizza and Jenkins Hardware as well as Kevin and Olive Morrison.

The Lions Club is always keen to welcome new members who are looking to socialise and serve our community. Membership is open to anybody 18 years and over.

Enquiries can be made to Alan Smith (0410 089 430) or Mike Hornby (0408 033 921).



Trafalgar Lions Club Board 2026-27. Back row, from left: Ian Bosma, Joanna Reekie, Lyn Gibbs, David Gibbs, Jenny Heggart, David Koschade, Mike Hornby. Front row, from left: Alan Smith, Pat Tatterson, Pauline Wheller, Glenn Rodda. Absent Graham Hill



Treasurer David Koschade and Secretary Pat Tatterson receiving their certificates of appreciation from president Mike Hornby



Vice presidents Joanna Reekie and Ian Bosma receiving their certificates of appreciation from president Mike Hornby

Wayne

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Councillor Comments

By Brendan Kingwill



It has been another busy month at Baw Baw Shire Council, with plenty of positive news for our local communities.

Community Grants Program

One of the highlights was attending the community grants reception, where we celebrated the latest recipients of council's Community Grants Program.

It's always great to see the passion and dedication of the volunteers who keep our community groups, clubs and organisations running.

This year, 88 community groups shared almost \$400,000 in funding.

Nearly \$110,000 was allocated through the Minor Capital Works Program, helping groups purchase equipment and improve facilities, while almost \$280,000 supported community projects across the Shire.

Several East Ward organisations were among the successful applicants, including Trafalgar Men's Shed, Thorpdale Mechanics Institute Reserve, Willow Grove and District Playgroup and Walhalla Goldfields Railway.

Congratulations to everyone involved.

These grants may seem modest individually, but together they make a significant difference to the volunteers who work tirelessly to strengthen our communities.

FOGO

Many residents will also have noticed the roll-out of the new FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics) service.

By now, households should have received their kitchen caddy.

If yours hasn't arrived, please contact council so it can be arranged.

While changing our waste habits can take a little time, FOGO is an important step towards reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill.

Instead, food scraps and garden waste can be recycled

into valuable compost, creating better environmental outcomes for future generations.

Tiny Towns Fund

There was more good news with the announcement of successful projects through the Victorian Government's Tiny Towns Fund.

Upgrades are planned for the Longwarry Recreation Reserve Playground and the Westbury Tennis Clubrooms, while local organisations in Aberfeldy, Hallston, Noojee, Neerim District and Willow Grove also secured funding for a range of worthwhile community projects.

Every dollar invested in these smaller communities helps keep them vibrant and attractive places to live and visit.

Public Art and Civic Art Collection policies

Council also adopted new Public Art and Civic Art Collection policies.

Many people may not realise that Baw Baw Shire is home to more than 200 public artworks, along with a civic collection of 122 artworks displayed throughout council facilities and West Gippsland Arts Centre.

These new policies will help ensure these valuable cultural assets are properly managed and preserved.

Customer Service Charter

Another important improvement is the adoption of a new Customer Service Charter and Complaints Handling Policy.

These documents set clear expectations for the service residents should receive and establish transparent processes for resolving complaints fairly and consistently.

Thorpdale Slip petition

Finally, the petition for the Thorpdale road slip is coming to a close.

If you have not signed it yet, go to my Facebook page or hard copies are at BK's Takeaway, Thorpdale Bakery, Trafalgar IGA and the Thorpdale Hotel.

As always, if there's a local issue you'd like to discuss, or if I can assist in any way, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Avian Influenza

By Dr Jared Waddell-Smith BSc. BVMS



You have probably already seen media coverage regarding a new strain of avian influenza ('bird flu') reaching Australia.

It is likely this strain will continue to spread in Australia as it has overseas, with cases currently detected in WA, SA and NSW.

This article will likely already be outdated by the time of going to print, so for current information regarding the outbreak in Australia you can go to www.birdflu.gov.au, and for Victoria specifically www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/birdflu

We are very familiar with influenza viruses as a cause of respiratory disease.

There are many types across a range of species, with bird flu being primarily an infection of birds but sometimes causing outbreaks in other species.

Most of the strains present in Australia are low pathogenicity avian influenza (LPAI) and cause very little disease when the virus spreads, often un-noticed, through bird populations.

The current strain of interest is a high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) of the H5N1 type.

This strain (clade 2.3.4.4b) has been spreading globally since 2021.

It has shown itself to be particularly pathogenic with a high death rate in infected poultry.

It has also been infecting other species much more frequently than most other bird flu strains.

There have been significant deaths in seal populations, and infections in cattle

and cats. Whilst infection in cats is rare, it has been deadly for those infected.

Human cases have been rare and no human-to-human transmission has occurred. There have been some deaths, so care to avoid exposure is recommended.

Whilst there are extensive plans in place to manage the disease, exactly how and when any outbreaks will occur cannot be completely predicted.

For example, dairy cattle became infected in the USA and the virus spread directly between cattle and between farms, but similar outbreaks have not occurred elsewhere in the world.

Due to the virus being highly infectious, there are expected to be significant impacts on a range of native Australian native species and domestic animals.

The high infection risk will have impacts on management in care facilities such as veterinary clinics and wildlife shelters.

Current advice is to not touch sick or dead birds or animals. Instead, report them to www.birdflu.gov.au. Suspect cases can also be reported to the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888

The advice given for the situation may vary, dependent upon the status of the local area at the time.

Suspect cases may be tested, in other situations it may be recommended to leave the animal untouched to avoid spreading the virus further.

Please phone prior to bringing any wild or domestic birds to the clinic, to be sure that all risks can be managed appropriately.

Now is a good time to consider the risk to your own animals.

Keeping cats indoors or in a bird-proof enclosure will prevent them from hunting and minimise their exposure to any potentially infected wild birds.

Preventing your domestic birds such as ducks or chick-

ens from being exposed to wild birds and following good biosecurity practices are the best options available to minimise infection risk.

For comprehensive advice, go to your preferred search engine, and type in 'daff keep watch for signs of bird flu'.



The Australian swan is one of many native birds in danger of contracting bird flu

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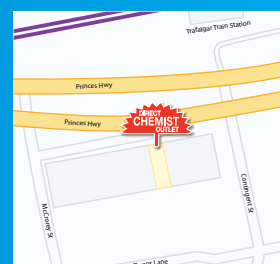
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The Trafalgar and Yarragon News

5 August 1926

Milk O

Expansion or Restriction?

It is reported that the milk train to the city which at present starts from Moe, is likely to be extended to Traralgon.

There is an opinion in the city which favours the restriction of the radius from which the metropolitan milk supply is derived is within 20 miles (32.2 kilometres) of the city.

In view of the report from Traralgon, it seems most unlikely that any attempt will be made in this direction.

In the midst of the present conflict of opinion re milk, one fact emerges clear-that pasteurized milk is excellent.

Therefore, any attempt to prevent milk from Trafalgar would be sure to fail.

Expert opinion is that milk from this district is not excelled by any other retailed to the city.

A continued expansion of the radius from which milk is dispatched to Melbourne must mean an over-supply – but that is another matter.

Public Notices.

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Notes and Comments

There has just been installed at Pilbeam's Trafalgar, an electric heater and stirrer, used for the sale of malted milk. There is no more healthy or tasty drink. Try one.

The Trafalgar and Yarragon "News"

Thursday, 12 August 1926

OVER!

Right through the English speaking world there is an interest in the fifth Test Match to start in England next Saturday....In Victoria there will be special interest in the performance of men from our State, notably Ponsford and Woodful.

Hendry is at the time of writing, a doubtful starter.

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SHIRE OF NARRACAN

Council Meeting

Herdsmen's Report

Mr. R.L. Dowie, Herdsman, reported as follows:

Since last meeting I have collected £21/15/- (\$2150 today) in grazing fees. I still have about £50 (\$49432 today) to collect to the end of the quarter. – Received.

The Trafalgar News, Wednesday

4 August 1976

Trafalgar Y. Farmers are Tops

Trafalgar Young Farmers' Club earned two distinctions last week when judged the best club of both district council and area levels.

The awards were announced at the Gippsland Annual Conference at Traralgon on July 25th.

The awards were accepted by the past and present presidents, Chris. Mynard and Colin Boreham.

Wednesday, 11 August 1976

Yallourn Decision

The results of an inquiry into the replacement of community facilities at Yallourn will be announced at the Yallourn Hotel tomorrow.

Independent arbitrator, Mr. Ray Burkitt, will announce his decisions and recommendations on the re-location of existing facilities.

He will make the announcement at a function commencing at the hotel at 4pm.

Unemployment talk needed urgently

Urgent talks between the State and Federal Governments on unemployment in country Victoria were called for today by Deputy Leader of the Victorian National Party, Mr. Milton Whiting, M.L.A.

Mr. Whiting said Employment Service Statistics showed 7.5 per cent of the workforce were unemployed in the country at the end of June, 1976, as compared with only 3.5 per cent in the Metropolitan area.

Particularly alarming was that in contrast to the city, the numbers of country jobless was steadily rising.

Wednesday, 18 August

C'tee tallies 3,400 meals, 2572 miles.

Mrs Ida McDonald of Waterloo Rd., Trafalgar, is one of the happy recipients of the

Trafalgar Meals on Wheels service....The recipients are served with soup and a main course delivered to their homes at lunchtime each day in heated containers.

In the past year the Trafalgar service delivered a total of 3,400 meals and traveled 2,572 miles.

The meals are prepared at the Moe Hospital...the Trafalgar Committee hopes to make use of the Senior Citizens' kitchen in the coming year to help with the service.

Traf News

August 2016

Trafalgar Abattoir re-opened

By Keith Anderson

Trafalgar has a working abattoir again.

Just over four-and-a-half years since the L. E. Giles' operation was shut down by PrimeSafe, and subsequent-

ly closed permanently, new owners have redeveloped the plant, and last month, returned it to operation.

Victoria Valley Meat Exports 'part-owner and operator, Peter Polovinka said the abattoir was processing cattle only, and already exporting to countries in Asia and the Middle East.

Trafalgar Landfill Rehabilitation Project completed

Baw Baw Council's \$5.5million (\$7.2 million today) Trafalgar Landfill Rehabilitation Project is now complete.

The project has seen an engineered landfill cap constructed over the extensively levelled landfill waste to safely contain the gas which is then extracted and treated with the aid of a purpose-built system.

Mayor of Baw Baw Shire Council, Joe Gauci, proudly announced the completion of the project which is among the largest capital works projects Baw Baw Shire Council has ever undertaken.

Over 1.6 million Australian Children at risk Online

By Fiona McGill

According to Australia-wide research by Family Zone Cyber Safety (FZCS) a generation of children is accessing adult content from the age of seven years old, due to unrestricted access to the internet and lack of parental control.

The research showed that more than half of Australian parents (56%) have no parental controls in place and more than a quarter have no idea how to protect their children on their digital devices.

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Historical society to hold AGM

By Di Ireland

The next meeting of Trafalgar and District Historical Society will be the annual general meeting, to be held on Friday, 21 August at 2pm in the society's rooms, 30 Contingent Street Trafalgar.

All positions will be declared vacant and nomi-

nations for president, vice president, secretary and treasurer called for.

An editorial committee will also be elected, as will an archivist, researcher and Facebook administrator.

It would be good to see as many members as possible in

attendance, and members of the public are also welcome to attend.

The AGM will be followed by a general meeting and afternoon tea.

Any queries can be directed to Jean Huffer on 5633 1960.

Harriet Shing MP
MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA

Your voice in the Eastern Victoria Region

216 Commercial Road, Morwell VIC 3840
harriet.shing@parliament.vic.gov.au
1300 103 199 harrietsHINGMP @ShingvWorld

Authorised by H Shing, 216 Commercial Rd, Morwell.

Trafalgar Probus keeps active in winter

By Glenda Mynard

Probus members have had a wide variety of activities to keep them busy over the winter months.

A few members and their dogs walked and talked at Matheson Park in Churchill and also explored the Yarragon trail. We usually walk for about an hour then finish with a cuppa.

A larger group wine and dined at Neerim South Hotel where you could gaze out over glorious scenery if you spared a moment from chatting. Our latest dine out was at the Trafalgar Golf Course where we celebrated Christmas in July. The wonderful Golf Club ladies provided a very warm, festive setting, where we enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch and deserts

to die for. Next month we visit the Maltese Museum in Morwell followed by lunch in their clubrooms.

A trip further a field was to the Holocaust Museum in Elsternwick. This museum is dedicated to the memory of six million Jews murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators between 1933 and 1945. It was founded in Melbourne in 1984 by Holocaust survivors, and hopes to inspire a better future free from anti-Semitism, racism and prejudice. It focuses on educating younger generations against hate. In the exhibition, *Hidden*, visitors can learn about the experiences of seven child survivors who all attributed their survival to the kindness of others. This exhibition follows the journey of seven

children who were in hiding during the Holocaust.

At our last meeting we acknowledged the 90th birthday of two members Albie Higgins and Marj Price. Our August meeting on Thursday 6th, is a *"Bring a friend"* occasion. Our guest speaker will inform us about Elder Rights and we will finish with a Soup and sandwich lunch.

Our guest speaker was local, Shane Mynard, who spoke about his transition from CFA (Country Fire Authority) to FRV (Fire Rescue Victoria).

Shane started his fire fighting journey as a 15 year old junior, when he joined the Trafalgar Fire brigade as a volunteer. Members in the CFA, volunteer their time

freely to protect their communities. They are provided with training and the necessary equipment to keep them safe at no cost to the member. Training covers skill development such as general fire-fighter, how to operate the trucks and the pumps, advanced radio communication, and heavy vehicle licence and first aid. Shane is recognised as a Life Member of Trafalgar CFA.

Shane worked as a Linesman but changed his career when he became a fulltime paid fire-fighter with MFB (Metropolitan Fire brigade) in 1995 and in 2020 he was employed by FRV (Fire Rescue Victoria). This is the professional fire fighting

agency that serves metropolitan Melbourne and major regional centres. This agency combined former metropolitan firebrigade employees with career staff who previously worked with CFA. FRV has no volunteers. CFA is made up of Volunteers but they operate side by side to respond to complex incidents and emergencies. Shane's role is Commander of Critical Infrastructure and his work involves the mining and power generation areas in our local Power Stations. He has accumulated 31 year as a paid fire-fighter but his role today involves a lot more office work than on the fire ground. He has been a Fire Investigator for 25 years.

Today, part of Shane's work involves issuing permits for burn offs, working on Fatigue management plans to ensure fire fighters are safe on the fire ground and water run-off plans. Lithium fires can't be put out with water but the area can be cooled down. As a result, water runoff in the area can contain hydrofluoric acid which is highly toxic and corrosive and requires strict environmental containment. Drones are also very useful tools in managing fires today being able to assess an area or building looking for hotspots. Their thermal cameras can see in low light conditions and through smoke.



Greg Lamb and vice-president Barb Butterworth thank guest speaker, Shane Mynard (FRV).

Walhalla Tramway Bridge re-opens after repairs

By Carolyn Dyke

The Walhalla Tramway Bridge, also known as the Poverty Point Bridge or Old Steel Bridge, is one of the most distinctive engineering relics in Victoria.

The bridge has been heritage listed for its historical and technical importance and forms a memorable landmark on the southern end of the Australian Alps Walking Track.

Located 3.3 kilometres upstream from Thomson Railway Station, the bridge spans Thomson River in a spectacularly forested gorge.

The steel structure is 52 metres in length and is suspended approximately 13 metres above the river, providing incredible views of the fast-flowing water and steep valley below.

It really is worth the effort to experience a piece of Victoria's pioneering history.

Completed in 1900, the bridge was built as part of an extensive tramway network which provided up to 38,000 tonnes of firewood and mining timbers to the thriving gold mines around the Walhalla area.

The bridge has been closed several times for maintenance over the years however it has very recently undergone extensive maintenance completed by Parks Victoria and was re-opened to the public on the 18 May 2026 as part of the Victorian Government Assets Regeneration Program.

The bridge, which is surrounded by towering Moun-

tain Ash trees, is very popular with bushwalkers with easily walkable tracks on both sides of the river.

Recently the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club put on a walk to the newly re-opened bridge.

Walkers enjoyed the varied flora as we crossed the Thomson and climbed the first major ascent of the Australian Alps Walking Track, the Fingerboard Spur.

Our group tackled the Spur with typical enthusiasm and good-natured humour.

The climb is a relentless 500 metres in elevation and offers walkers a sustained challenge as the trail zig zags through dense fern gullies.

Once the group reached the peak of the spur it re-

turned down the Steel Bridge Track to Thomson River.

It was a beautifully sunny winter's day, and the group was in high spirits to be one of the first people to access the newly re-opened bridge.

If this is the type of adventure that you are looking for, then consider contacting the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club as our monthly program has many interesting activities for our members.

These activities are led by knowledgeable and friendly groups and we welcome like minded people to join our Club.

For further information on anything that you have read in this article go to sbwc.org.au, our Facebook page or by email: publicity@sbwc.org.au



Members of Strzelecki Bushwalking Club crossing the refurbished Walhalla Tramway bridge

Farming News

This article is provided by Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action staff

Planting more trees on farms

Landholders across Victoria are being supported to integrate more trees into their farming systems, following an extension of the Victorian Trees on Farms (VToF) Program.

The program and Professional Service Provider Register has been extended to 1 November 2026, giving eligible landholders more time to apply for grants to establish trees on their properties.

Through the Victorian Trees on Farms Program, landholders can access grants of up to \$40,000 to deliver on-ground works such as shelterbelts, riparian planting and revegetation projects.

The program supports farmers to improve productivity and build resil-

ience, while delivering environmental benefits including better soil health, reduced erosion, increased carbon sequestration and enhanced biodiversity.

Agriculture Victoria acting executive director forestry and fibre industry, Liam Costello, said the extension would support more landholders to take part in the program.

"This program is about helping farmers integrate trees into their properties in practical ways that support their business and the long-term health of their land," Mr Costello said.

"The extension gives more landholders the opportunity to plan and deliver planting projects that improve

productivity, resilience and environmental outcomes."

Mr Costello said trees on farms also play an important role in strengthening Victoria's farming systems for the future.

"Integrating trees into farming systems can deliver multiple benefits, from shelter for livestock to improved soil and water outcomes, while supporting sustainable land management."

The VToF program builds on the Victorian Government's broader investment in plantation development and farm forestry, helping landholders diversify income and make the most of their land.

For more information about the program, visit: agriculture.vic.gov.au/vtof

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: 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.aldred.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 Email: Trafalgar.hs@education.vic.gov.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: www.trafps.vic.edu.au	(03) 5633 1566
Trafalgar Primary School (Before and After School Club)	Holly	Website: www.oshclub.com.au/find-us/trafalgar-primary-school/	0439 735 713
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School		Email: office@trafalgar.catholic.edu.au Website: www.trafalgar.catholic.edu.au	5633 1151
Sport			
Trafalgar Bowls Club	Ian Miles	Email: trafalgarbowlsclub@bigpond.com Website: trafalgarbowlsclub.com	03 5633 1274
Trafalgar Boxing Gym	Shane Cameron	Email: box_on_box_all@hotmail.com Webite: trafalgarboxingclub.wordpress.com	0408 962 764
Trafalgar Cricket Club	Liam Durkin	Website: 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: 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: www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au/bcms/	0428 866 417
BawBaw Sustainability Network	Malcolm McKelvie	Email: bawbawsn@gmail.com Website: bbsn.org.au Facebook: Baw Baw Sustainability Network	0490 485 370
BetterMental Together	Kerry Rantall	Email: bettermentall@gmail.com Website: 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) St. Jariath's Church (Yarragon)		Email: Trafalgar@cdsale.org.au Website: www.stjohnstrafalgar.com.au	03 5633 1166
Trafalgar and District Community Homes Inc.	Geoff Hill	Email: TDCH@outlook.com.au	0499 004 299
Trafalgar Campdraft	Cheryl	Email: gcasecretary74@gmail.com Website:www.gippslandcampdraftingas-sociation.com Facebook: Trafalgar Campdraft Association Inc	0416 166 027
Trafalgar Cemetry Trust	Howard Jones	Email: trafalgarpubliccemetary@dcsi.net.au Webite: 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: www.trafalgarchamber.com.au	
Trafalgar Community Notice Board		Facebook: Trafalgar Community Notice Board	
Trafalgar District News	Mick Bourke	Email: editor@trafnews.com	0409 512 672
Trafalgar Farmers Market		Email - contact@traffarmersmarket.com Website: www.traffarmersmarket.com	0417 131 316
Trafalgar Historical Society	Jean Huffer	Email: historicalsocietytraf@gmail.com	03 5633 1960
Trafalgar Holden Museum		Email: info@trafalgarholdenmuseum.com.au Website: 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			

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Trafalgar & District

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
Football & netball: Neerim Neerim South v. Trafalgar	Saturday, 1 August	Neerim South Recreation Reserve
Trafalgar Farmers Market Fresh produce, local crafts, and community	Saturday, 1 August	McGregor Park, Trafalgar
Yarragon Arts Council - Yarragon Winter Feast The best of Australian music, food and wine	Sunday, 2 August, 3:30pm to 8pm	St Jarlath's Church, 30 Campbell Street, Yarragon Contact christinaflann@gmail.com for price an bookings
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 Visit website for more information: www.walhallarail.com.au
Thorpdale Market Enjoy live music, food vans, arts & crafts, jewellery, plants, home wares, trash and treasure, distilled products, face painting, henna body art, metal art, fresh Thorpdale grown potatoes, a community sausage sizzle and much much more!	Sunday, 2 August, 10am to 2pm	14 Johnstone Street, Thorpdale
Football & netball: Trafalgar v. Ellinbank	Saturday, 8 August	Trafalgar Recreation Reserve
Football & netball: Trafalgar v. Lang Lang	Saturday, 15 August	Lang Lang Recreation Reserve
Vietnam Veterans Day	Tuesday 18 August, 12 noon	Trafalgar Cenotaph
Gippsland Carvan, Camping & leisure Roadshow	Friday, 28 August, 8am- to Sunday, 30 August, 4pm	Lardner Park, 155 Burnt Road, Lardner

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103a Princes Highway, Trafalgar

Trafalgar to host EDFNL Grand Final

By Jamie Marslen

Trafalgar Football Netball Club is thrilled to announce that it has once again been selected to host the Ellinbank & District Football Netball League (EDFNL) grand final on 12 September.

Following the overwhelming success of the 2025 grand final, the club is incredibly proud to welcome the league, its clubs, players, supporters and volunteers back to Trafalgar for another showcase event.

Last year's grand final was not only the biggest in EDFNL history, it attracted a crowd approximately 20 per cent larger than any previous league grand final.

While that was a fantastic achievement, what made the day truly special wasn't just the numbers, it was the way our entire community came together to make it happen.

At Trafalgar, football and netball clubs are about much more than sport.

They are the heartbeat of regional communities, and our vision is to create events that benefit everyone.

For the 2025 grand final, the club proudly partnered with a number of local community organisations, including Trafalgar Lions Club, Rotary Club, Trafalgar Cricket Club, Trafalgar Junior Football Club and Trafalgar CFA.

Rather than trying to do everything itself, the club in-

vited these groups to play a significant role in the event, providing food, services and support while raising much-needed funds for their own organisations.

It was a true community effort, with thousands of visitors enjoying not only outstanding football and netball but also the warm hospitality that Trafalgar is renowned for.

For 2026, the club is committed to building on that success.

Its aim is to create an even bigger and better grand final experience while continuing to strengthen the partnerships that make our community so special.

It will again be inviting local organisations to be involved, ensuring the economic and social benefits of hosting the league's biggest day are shared across the wider Trafalgar community.

Hosting the EDFNL Grand Final is a privilege that belongs to everyone in our town.

It showcases what can be achieved when volunteers, clubs, community groups and local businesses work together toward a common goal.

We look forward to welcoming the entire EDFNL family back to Trafalgar and once again demonstrating why community is at the heart of everything we do.

Traf's Jason Maskiell wins at Moe

By Liam Durkin

There's some laws in this house.

Wet and puddly conditions led to racing being abandoned at Moe Racing Club last month.

The club's 3 July meeting saw half of the scheduled eight races in, before organisers had little choice but to call things off.

While the club's StrathAyr track has famously withstood every possible weather event imaginable, poor visibility meant it was far too risky for jockeys.

A huge downpour just before 2pm acted as a precursor to the abandonment.

Watching from behind glass, it came as little surprise when the meeting was eventually called, as horses were kicking back a noticeable amount of turf with every stride.

That said, there was still time for some local winners.

Trafalgar jockey Jason Maskiell rode the winner in the Race 1 S&S Equipment Rental & Sales Maiden Plate over 2447 metres.

He steered four-year-old gelding Parrot Club to victory for Michael Ryan, winning narrowly on the inside from Mungerannie.

Parrot Club put in a consistent run across the

long distance, and was second at the 800 metre mark and led with 400m to go.

The win belied pre-race expectations. Parrot Club ran last in two of its previous three starts, and had a starting price of \$24.70.

Sale trainer Kerry Farugia came second in the Race 2 Total Tools Maiden Plate (1217m).

Her three-year-old gelding Admire Mercury overcame a poor start to get a spot on the podium, just under a length behind winner Eton Affair for Tim Fitzsimmons.

Maskiell came second in the Race 3 Ladbrokes Hosted Maiden Plate (1217m) on

board Diamond Mila for Sale's Damien Walkley.

The four-year-old gelding settled down but was off the pace as the field headed for home to fall short by three-quarters-of-a-length to Clara-patra for Adrian McGregor.

The Race 4 Total Tools Maiden Plate (1628m) was held in a torrent of rain.

Overpriced for Dean Binaisse won by two lengths from Ngongotaha, ridden by Maskiell, who looked frozen stiff when he returned to the changerooms.

(Source: Latrobe Valley Express)



Trafalgar jockey Jason Maskiell returns to the mounting yard aboard Parrot Club after winning the opening race at Moe. Photograph: George Sal/Racing Photos

ACCC action highlights bigger problem facing Australian dairy

Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) says July's Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) action against Lactalis Australia should serve as a warning to the dairy industry, highlighting the importance of consumer trust and the growing pressures facing Australian dairy farmers.

Lactalis Australia has paid \$59,400 in penalties after the ACCC issued three infringement notices alleging two milk products were marketed as 'fresh' despite containing substantial amounts of powdered, reconstituted ingredients.

ADF President Ben Bennett said consumers deserve complete confidence in Australian dairy.

"Australian consumers have a right to know what they are buying, and Australian dairy farmers deserve a marketplace built on honesty and trust.

"While we welcome the ACCC's action, let's face it – a \$59,400 penalty is nothing for one of the world's largest dairy companies. It sends a message, but it needs to change behaviour."

Mr Bennett said the case was about much more than product labelling.

"The broader concern is what this says about what happens when Australian dairy farming is continually squeezed.

"We continue to lose dairy farmers and local milk production. Western Australia now has fewer than 100 dairy farmers, and similar pressures are being felt in dairy regions across the country."

Dairy Food Safety Victoria's (DFS) 2024-25 annual report says Victoria has 2476 dairy farms, down from 4141 as recorded in the 2015-16 DFS report in that financial year.

Mr Bennett said when Australian milk production

declines, processors have fewer local options which creates a greater reliance on substitute ingredients and imported products.

"When you don't value Australian milk, eventually you have to replace it. Whether that's imported dairy products or powdered ingredients, it's not what Australian consumers expect when they buy fresh milk."

Mr Bennett says maintaining consumer confidence should be a priority for the entire dairy supply chain.

"For decades, Australian dairy farmers have worked hard to build a reputation for producing safe, high-quality

dairy products that consumers trust.

"Incidents like this risk damaging the reputation of an industry that has earned its place in every Australian fridge."

And maintaining that trust is a shared responsibility across the dairy supply chain, he said.

"Processors, retailers and regulators all have a responsibility to protect that trust by ensuring products are accurately marketed and consumers get exactly what they are paying for.

"Australia is already losing dairy farmers and local milk production. At the same

time, Australia is considering trade arrangements that could increase access for imported dairy products."

He said that makes it even more important that consumers have confidence in knowing they are buying Australian products off supermarket shelves.

"The solution isn't greater reliance on imported ingredients or substitute products.

"It's ensuring dairy farmers are paid fairly and supported to keep producing the fresh Australian milk consumers want. That is how we protect consumer confidence and the future of Australia's dairy industry."

Get fit at Traf Boxing Gym

New cricket office bearers elected

By Shane Cameron

By Liam Durkin

At Trafalgar Boxing Gym, we believe boxing is one of the best ways to improve your physical and mental well-being.

Whether you're a beginner or experienced, our certified trainers provide personalised coaching to help you build strength, improve fitness, develop self-defence skills, and master proper footwork in a supportive environment.

Here are 10 reasons why boxing is an excellent choice for your health.

- 1. Full-Body Strength**
Boxing engages your entire body, strengthening your legs, core, arms, shoulders, and back while improving overall functional fitness.
- 2. Better Heart Health**
Boxing is a high-energy cardiovascular workout that improves endurance, strengthens your heart, and increases stamina.
- 3. Practical Self-Defence**
Learning correct boxing techniques helps develop confidence while teaching practical self-defence skills that improve awareness and personal safety.
- 4. Improved Footwork and Balance**
Good footwork is the foundation of boxing. Our trainers teach movement, balance, coordination, and agility, helping you become quicker and more controlled.
- 5. Weight Loss and Fat Burning**
Boxing burns a significant number of calories, making it an effective way to lose weight, increase fitness, and improve body composition.
- 6. Stress Relief**
Training provides a healthy outlet to release stress while improving focus and helping you leave each session feeling refreshed and energised.
- 7. Better Mental Well-Being**
Regular boxing sessions can boost mood, improve confidence, reduce anxiety, and strengthen mental resilience through discipline and achievement.
- 8. Increased Confidence**
As your skills and fitness improve, so does your self-belief. Every session builds confidence that carries into everyday life.
- 9. Personalised Coaching**
At Trafalgar Boxing Gym, our certified trainers work closely with every member, providing individual coaching tailored to your fitness level and goals. Whether your focus is strength, technique, self-defence, or overall fitness, you'll receive expert guidance every step of the way.
- 10. A Supportive Community**
Our gym welcomes people of all ages and abilities. You'll train in a friendly, motivating environment where everyone encourages each other to reach their personal best.

At Trafalgar Boxing Gym, we're passionate about helping people become stronger, healthier, and more confident. With expert coaching, personalised training, and a focus on strength, footwork, self-defence, fitness, and overall well-being, boxing offers benefits that extend far beyond the gym.

Join us today and discover how boxing can transform your health, improve your confidence, and help you become the strongest version of yourself.

For further information, contact Aaron aaron.j.witham@gmail.com or Shane box_on_box_all@hotmail.com

Trafalgar Cricket Club has seen a changing of the guard.

Senior players Zack Brown and Cooper Burgess will share presidential duties for season 2026/27.

The pair accepted nominations at the club's annual meeting last month.

The young men have held previous leadership roles with the club.

Zack was junior coordinator for a number of years, while Cooper has captained senior teams.

The close mates take over from Daniel Heathcote, who stepped down after six seasons of service.

Daniel is staying on the committee to help mentor his successors.

Daniel, better known as 'Podgey', led the club through two key recent periods, overseeing the pandemic seasons and a change of league.

He was also instrumental in redeveloping the Trafalgar High School Oval, upgrading the practice nets and establishing the club's online shop.

Daniel's work in sports administration has greatly helped the club from a business perspective, especially streamlining point-of-sales.

As well as president, Daniel has also served as treasurer and on the committee for a number of years.

Other appointments at the annual meeting saw veteran cricketer Colin Parnall elected senior vice president.

Connor Dastey was re-elected treasurer and Liam Durkin secretary.

Durkin has already indicated he will be taking long service leave after this season.

"Ten years is enough," he declared.

New committee members are Shane White, Maddi Delacy and Darren Brown.

Joining them for another term are Jackson Noonan, Adam Carlson, Rowan Stokes, Brent Claridge, Mitch Claridge and Owen McLeod-Agland.

The cricket season starts in October, but there will be some informal gatherings and training sessions leading up to the season.

The club is looking for a junior coordinator. Anyone who may be interested is encouraged to email: trafalgarcricketclub@gmail.com

The Ships will again aim to field three senior teams (First XI, Second XI, Third XI) and junior sides in under 17s, u15s, u13s and u11s.

The club holds a raffle every Friday night at the Traf Pub.

Some great prizes are up for grabs from 7pm.



New presidents Cooper Burgess (left) and Zack Brown in discussion after a match last season

Thorpdale FNC milestones

Seven Thorpdale Football Netball Club players have celebrated milestone games during this season to date. They are:

Tyde Melbourne, 100 club games: 9 May	James Holland-Burch, 50 club games: 23 May	Kayne O'Connell, 250 games: 27 June	Ben Hotchkin, 250 club games: 4 July
Alex Hopkins, 50 club games: 16 May	Claire Hammond, 250 club games: 30 May	Jorjie Platschinda, 50 club games: 27 June	Shannon Pickering 250 club games: 11 July

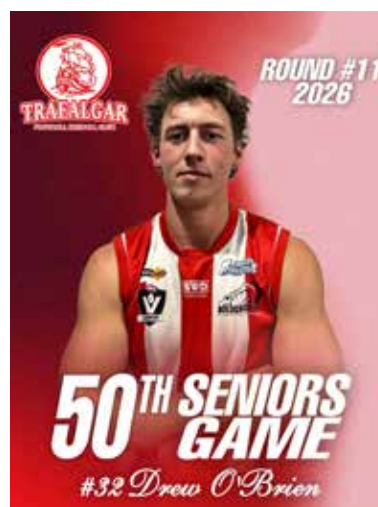
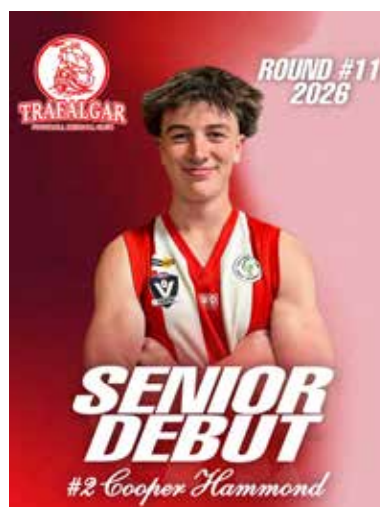
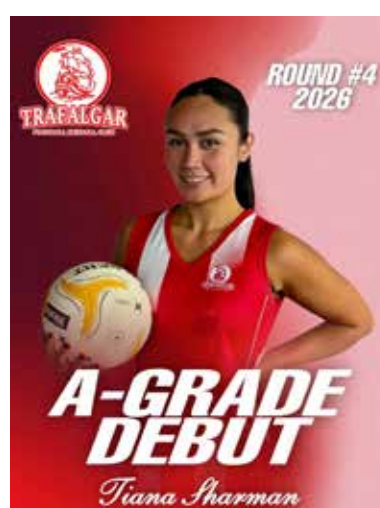
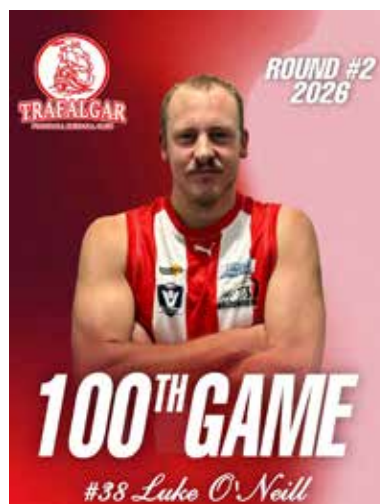
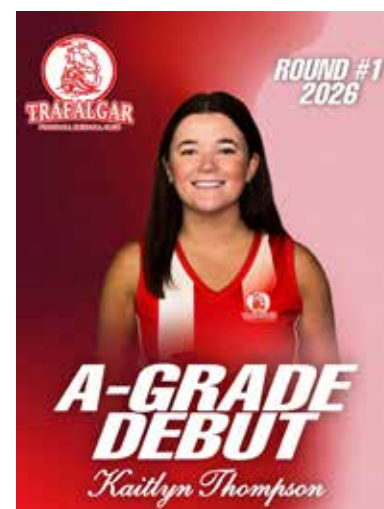
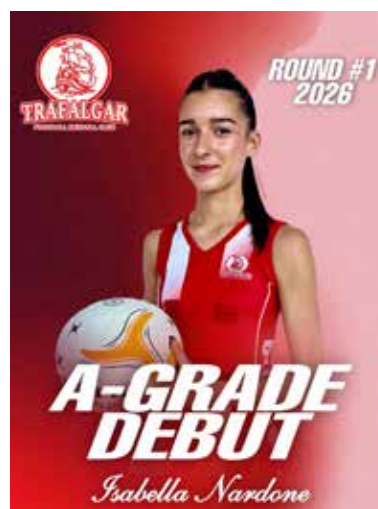
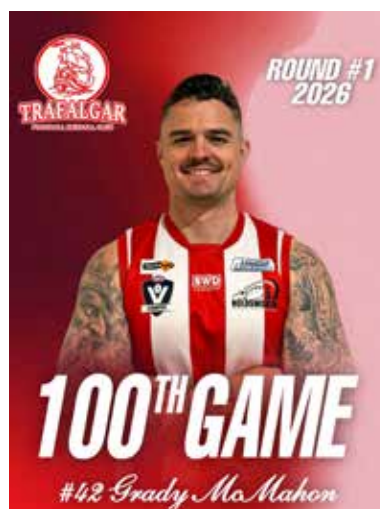


Football and netball highlights

Trafalgar Football Netball Club players have had a number of personal achievements during the season to date.

The following photographs highlight the achievements of certain players.

We hope to continue to celebrate future achievements as they occur.



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