

Perfect weather for church event

# SPRING FETE SUCCESS



*Choosing plants from the Friends of Botanic Gardens plant stall*

**Blue skies, good music and a relaxed atmosphere - considering the lead-up un-Spring-like weather endured for most of October –made it a pleasure to wander around the grounds of Buninyong’s Uniting Church at their Annual Spring Fete.**

Many locals and visitors availed themselves of the pleasant conditions to explore the variety of stalls and activities set up in the grounds, with the sausage sizzle stall being the early favourite place to visit.

## Good support

The Reverend **Lindell Gibson** and organiser, **Bronwyn Booth** were both excited about the day. As well as being happy at the perfect weather, they were also pleased at how well the local community supported the fete.

In addition to running a successful fund raising event the organising committee wanted to present an event that offered something to the community.

There was a focus on free activities as well as providing a range of activities for children. Popular activities with the

kids were the face painting, the Teddy Bear’s picnic, pony rides and a children’s toy auction.

Bronwyn and Lindell believe they were successful in achieving both objectives.



*The sausage sizzle was a popular spot around lunch time.*

# Local kids tee-up for Family golf day



*A big cheer for the money raised for the Tee-up for Kids Foundation*

**Was there a budding Adam Scott or Karrie Webb at the Buninyong and District Community Bank sponsored family golf event at Buninyong Golf club on 30 October?**

Forty children of varying ages turned up at the club to take part in a golf-based activity program and barbecue lunch. The eager participants rotated through a variety of putting, driving, and chipping activities, supervised and coached by golf club members.

### Kids foundation

The event was run jointly by the Buninyong local bank and the golf club to support the *Tee-up for Kids Foundation*. The foundation was set up to encourage golfers to give generously to assist over 6,000 Victorian children living in foster care.

### Future events

Bendigo Bank mascot "Piggy" made an appearance and took a keen interest in the activities.

Buninyong and District Community Bank Board representative **Ian Corcoran** said this was the first Bank-Buninyong Golf Club family day and hoped that it would be the forerunner for future events. Bank staff were very pleased with the great turn-up of children and parents. The event raised \$865 which will be forwarded to the *Tee-up for Kids Foundation*.

This event was another example of the local golf club supporting many local and wider charitable groups by making its course and facilities available.



*Young golfer, London D'arcy makes a putt*

# Questions remain on big battery

**Faced with resident backlash over various aspects of the installation of the huge Powercor back-up battery on the Mt Mercer Road, the company held a community 'drop-in' session at Buninyong last month. Some 50 residents attended during the four-hour session.**

While Powercor meetings with owners of neighbouring properties are continuing, according to residents there were still a number of issues that required clarification or information. These included

- *The number and location of properties included in the power back-up.* PR materials distributed by Powercor refer to the "Buninyong energy storage system servicing 6400 customers". Questioning by *The News* led to the advice that only some 3000 homes in the Buninyong area north of the battery site would be provided with up to one hour's backup, while 800 properties to the south extending to Mt Mercer would receive back up power in the event of failure or overload.
- *Council permits granted to the company.* It was stated that the City of Ballarat had issued a Building Permit for the works, but that no Planning Permit was required as the City's planning regulations concerning utility installation did not apply as the "substation installation fell below the 66KV mark above which a permit would have been required."
- *Noise levels.* The engineering consultant present said that initial testing at four points on the site found that noise levels exceeded EPA limits at three locations. The EPA limits are- daytime 45db, evening 38db, with 33db being the EPA noise level limit at night.

## Noise down

He said that with two perimeter fences being proposed (one relating to noise, the other to 'visual aspects') and with internal noise baffles, and with the transformer to be "fully enclosed in an acoustic shell" the noise levels would be brought down to within the range of 18-22db.

The consultant engineer claimed that "general daytime noise levels in the area would be around the 30-40db mark".

Other concerns expressed by residents included

- that the area where the battery is located was a former mining area with mine shafts and a deep lead tunnel nearby.
- fire risk and emission factors

Powercor officials said that the Buninyong project was a 'trial' and that after two or three years a review would be made to see if there was a greater need for the facility in another area.



*Shown with one of the proposed boundary 'visual treatments' are (L to R) Daniel Darvie (Powercor), Melissa O'Neill (Powercor), and Craig McVie (GHD Engineering)*

# Shop pops up in old store

**For eight days the old MG Browne shop adjacent to Espresso Depot in Learmonth Street was brought back to life as a pop-up shop with an amazing range of goods, items and works on sale, all beautifully displayed in the context of the historic building.**

Put together by a team of volunteers led by **Miranda Donald, Lisa Cressey** and **Brigid Corcoran**, the pop-up shop was a fund-raising initiative to assist the Buninyong Football/Netball club.

Over 100 local business people, residents and visitors from district areas attended the busy opening event on the evening of 23 November. Drinks and canapes were enjoyed by all.

Open for four days in late November, the pop-up shop will also be open on Thursday 1 December (10 am-4 pm), Friday 2 December (10 am-9 pm), and between 10 am and 4 pm on Saturday 3 December and Sunday 4 December.

*Rose Harrison of Garibaldi and Fiona Jenkins (Mt Helen) enjoy a chat at the opening of the Pop-Up shop.*



# Meryl says goodbye to historic cottage home

**After living in the 'Hiscock' cottage with the white picket fence adjacent to the old Post Office in Learmonth Street for eighteen years, well-known local figure Meryl McLeod reluctantly moved from Buninyong in late September and is now settled in the Midlands Terrace retirement village.**

Suffering from Parkinson's disease since the late 1980s, Meryl came to realise that maintaining the historic cottage and its sloping cottage garden which backs onto Desoza Park was becoming difficult.

After being raised on an irrigation farm at Tragowel near Kerang, when she was about ten years of age Meryl's family moved to various farming properties in the Bendigo district where she attended high school and later was employed in the Bendigo Municipal Library.

She has two younger brothers, **Roger** and **Eric**, who now are long-term Buninyong residents. Her nephew **Geordie McLeod** is a Buninyong osteopath.

## Traveller

From Bendigo, after a stint working in the Caulfield/Malvern library, her life and work took her to some far-flung places.

Certainly her most exotic adventure was undertaking a 2000 km trek with her then-partner (a medieval historian) along the pilgrim trail from Le Puy in France to San Diego de Compostella in Spain.

Her later marriage to a CSIRO scientist took them and (later) two children to Rockhampton for several years before a move to France for a three year posting.

Upon her return Meryl worked in the Library of the University of Queensland for about ten years – a job she “really liked, until the computers came in.” With a BA from that University, she also commenced part-time post-graduate research which involved a translation of some of the works of a French philosopher, **Charles Fourier** (1772-1830).



*Meryl at the cottage gate*

This has now moved on to studies for a PhD studying Fourier's 'idea of nature'. She said that she was “intrigued at the difference between the understanding of nature then and now.” She has completed several chapters of her thesis.

## Buninyong life

In 1998 she purchased the little cottage on Learmonth Street. While there is some debate amongst historians about whether this was the cottage of **Thomas Hiscock**, the discoverer of gold in Buninyong, there is little doubt that the substantial block of land running down the hill to Desoza Park was indeed owned by Hiscock.

Hard to imagine with her suffering from Parkinson's Disease, Meryl even rode a bike around Buninyong for several years, delivering the morning newspapers for **Ron Delaland**. She also has been involved with various community groups in Buninyong including the information centre and the historical society, and has been involved in refugee support and landrights issues.

She said that she found Buninyong “a lovely, low-key place in which to live”. While sad about leaving her little landmark cottage, she is realistic enough to know that with her illness and her advancing years the move to Midlands Terrace made good sense.

The cottage has been bought by a 'young local couple' – the man a builder and the woman a nurse.



*Meryl loves her garden*

# Congratulations Des, Jim and Ben BUT...DON'T FORGET

**So three newly-elected Councillors are now in place for the next four years. Out of a field of twelve candidates, residents in the South Ward have put their faith in Des Hudson, Jim Rinaldi and Ben Taylor. It was a tough and wide-open election and these Councillors deserve our congratulations and support.**

But once the excitement of taking over significant public office in the City of Ballarat dies down, along with the associated publicity, and things return to the humdrum of fortnightly Council meetings, sorting out committees and associated chores, there is a risk that those promises made through September and early October could be forgotten.

To help, *the News* suggests that our three new Councillors might stick the following notes on the door of their refrigerators.



## DES HUDSON

- Be part of a positive team that builds on Ballarat's potential for job creation, economic development, tourism and sport.
- Recognise that Buninyong is a growing community with a unique village feel.
- Support continued progress while preserving this natural character.



## JIM RINALDI

- Push for proper Council financial control and accountability.
- Achieve value for every dollar spent.
- See Council direct its priorities back to basics
- Use my experience and strength of character to make a stand.



## BEN TAYLOR

- Make senior officers accountable
- Ensure council lives within its means
- Make the city better than Bendigo and Geelong
- Ensure delivery of core services
- Bring new energy, vision and direction
- Future management of traffic on local roads

Finally recognition must be given to Peter Innes for the wonderful support of Buninyong and District community groups, events and projects over his served terms as a South Ward representative.



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Gayle Adams, Michelle Corcoran.

**Newsletter Design:** Jodi Beale

**Editorial Co-ordinator:** Barry Fitzgerald

**Reporters:** Cassandra Carland, Ray Sullivan, Russell Luckock

All contributions (copy, letters or advertising) must be submitted **before the twelfth of each month to [buninyongnews@gmail.com](mailto:buninyongnews@gmail.com).** Enquiries to 5341 2844.

Copy should not exceed 400 words and a maximum of two photographs per item may be submitted (but not necessarily published). Material may be edited because of space, style, or clarity, or for legal reasons.

The name and address of the person submitting any material must be provided (address not for publication).

The Management Committee reserves the right not to publish material considered to be offensive or inappropriate or not deemed to have community interest or relevance.

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**Newsletter available online in full colour at:**

[www.buninyong.vic.au/news/newsletters](http://www.buninyong.vic.au/news/newsletters)

## Merry Christmas.

From all of us at Buninyong & District **Community Bank**® Branch, best wishes for the holiday season and thank you for your loyalty and support.

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Proud Matsukishi poses for a photo.

# Big white dog with face of Christmas

**One of the most striking dogs to be seen around Buninyong is the big, fluffy white Samoyed named Matsukishi - the pride of Mayuko and Yataka Kimura and their daughter Haruka. The dog and the family can often be seen strolling through Buninyong with little Haruka in her pushchair.**

Yataka and Mayuko own and run the celebrated Kambei Japanese Restaurant in Golden Point.

The Samoyed breed is known as 'the big white dog that carries in its face and heart the spirit of Christmas the whole year through.' Previously used to herd reindeer in colder countries of the northern hemisphere, they are now known for their eye-catching beauty with their sparkling silver-tipped coats and 'smiling' faces. But they still have the strong, sturdy body of a working dog.

## Friendly

When he was a pup, Matsukishi was taken to 'puppy classes' which Mayuko found to be really worthwhile. Samoyed are known for being intelligent and friendly dogs (while I am chatting he spends his time nudging my arm for attention). He likes to meet and greet other dogs and also likes cats. But, not surprisingly, cats don't seem to like him very much.

While not exactly a 'lap dog', nevertheless he does manage to find his way onto Yataka's lap sometimes.

With his dense white coat, he needs brushing (and the house needs vacuuming) every day. But given the pleasure he has brought to the family, Mayuko said that this is a small price to pay.

## Golf Course

The other place that Matsukishi really enjoys is the Buninyong golf course, where he can be seen running happily alongside Yataka's golf cart when he manages to find time away from the Kambei restaurant.



Haruka, Mayuko and Matsukishi on the back lawn.

Cassandra Carland

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# An afternoon with Rosemary



**Walking around Rosemary Pike's garden was like a scene from a book. The little hedges so perfectly trimmed in rows, line the path that leads up to the door, with a cute little cow bell to ring. Rosemary lives with her husband Gavin in a historic building. It is called Camellia Cottage which was built around 1862.**

Rosemary told me lots of people have lived at Camellia Cottage including the local doctor and the principal of Buninyong Primary School with his family. Sometimes Rosemary has people who lived in the cottage when they were children come to visit.

## Nurse

Rosemary went to boarding school in New South Wales and wore a uniform. She finished school at the age of sixteen and started to train as a nurse. At the age of twenty Rosemary worked as a nurse until she got married at twenty-one. Rosemary and her family moved to Victoria in 1975. Rosemary moved into Camellia Cottage in 2003 after building a mud brick house up the road on the hill in the 1980's.

During the 1980's Rosemary was part of a group of people who wanted to send

their children to a Steiner school. After visiting the Steiner School in Warranwood to see what it was like and how it felt, this little heartwarming group decided to open a Steiner Kindergarten.

## School start

The first site of the Kindergarten was in a nice cozy little tin shed in one of the lovely family's backyard in Buninyong. My little school started

right there in Buninyong. After a few moves including Brown Hill, Dunnstown and Drummond Street Ballarat they added a playgroup.

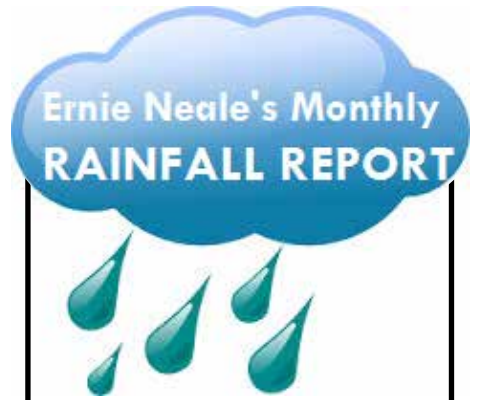
Soon they became too big and moved again to Moss Ave, where it is now, and I can just say that it's one of the best things that has happened to me.

During our afternoon together, Rosemary talked about the old Buninyong and how she loved going into town to the shops. There was a butcher shop (Whykes Butcher Shop) in the main strip of shops that had sawdust on the floors. Rosemary said that Buninyong was and is a lovely little town with a village atmosphere and she would like it never to change.

Rosemary is a very nice lady and I really enjoyed learning about her life and getting to know her. I had a lovely afternoon.

*Louise Howard, Grade 6,  
Ballarat Steiner School*

**This is the third in a series of articles written by students in Grade Six at local primary schools about older or interesting residents from their area.**



## October also wet

October is the sixth month this year to have above average rainfall, receiving 106.4 mm. It brings the total to 703.4 mm, just a little over our full annual average. It's one of the wetter years, but to make it into the top quarter we'll need ongoing rain through November and December. If rain falters then 2016 will still be the wettest since 2012. It certainly is trending nicely compared to recent memory and we might even enjoy a green Christmas this year.

The wet winter and spring have brought hassles for those on heavier clay soils. Standing water and slow drainage mean waterlogged crops, bogged machinery and foot problems in stock. Those of us on the more freely draining volcanic soil are able to keep functioning – although a touch of cabin fever was experienced through the wetter weeks of October.

Lots of big old trees have fallen over too, root ball and all. Local house painters, shearers, earth movers, bee keepers, tree wranglers, country shows and stock agents have been doing it hard too.

OCTOBER 2016	
Date	Rain
1	4.0
2 - 5	43.6
6	0.4
7 - 13	10.8
14 - 17	11.7
18 - 19	11.9
20 - 24	21.5
27	1.6
31	0.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>106.4 mm</b>
<b>Year to date</b>	<b>703.4 mm</b>

# Long grass threat **BE PREPARED**

**With the 2016/2017 summer season looming, one of the common questions being asked is “What will happen this fire season?”**

Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) have already issued warnings about the probability of an above average fire season ahead. It’s easy to become complacent to these warnings, so here is a local perspective on the season ahead.

We have all witnessed the rainfall which was well above average this winter and spring. It’s great to see that our dams, streams and rivers, which this time last year were dry, now have healthy flows.

## Lush

Soil moisture has increased, which has left our dams full and our gardens looking green and lush, but outside backyards the local flora has exploded with growth. Take a look at the road sides and paddocks near your home, in some places the grass has already reached four feet plus in height. When

the summer heat and warm winds starts to settle in, this grass will eventually dry and cure.

This season is shaping up to be a dangerous grass fire season

for our area. Dry, long grass is not a fire fighter’s friend. In dry, cured grass, wind has a huge effect on fire spread and intensity. Grass fires can be very fast moving and very intense.

## Home preparation

When the fire danger period commences, homes should be prepared like any ordinary summer. Pay particular attention to keeping grass and paddocks mowed or slashed as short and as early as possible. Mowing, slashing or using machinery outdoors on days of Total Fire Ban is not recommended.



If you’re unsure about what to do, or have questions about how to better prepare your home, visit the CFA website. Or come down and visit the fire station at 307 Learmonth St., Buninyong (next to the town hall) on Tuesday evenings at 7pm, Sunday morning between 10-12 noon, or anytime you see the front door open! Our volunteers are more than happy to answer any questions you may have.

*Marc Cannan  
Captain, Buninyong Fire Brigade*



**Plan and  
prepare.  
THE REASONS ARE  
BLACK AND WHITE.**

It's your responsibility to be fire ready this summer. Prepare your property, fire plan and emergency kit now. When hot, dry, windy days are forecast, check Fire Danger Ratings daily and monitor warnings via local radio, the VicEmergency website and app. **Leaving early, before a fire starts, is always the safest option.**

**emergency.vic.gov.au**

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## Life as a funeral director

# Big change... no holiday

**It's said that a change is as good as a holiday, which is just as well for former Buninyong boy Brian Harrison, who, with his wife Maree, bought the Prince Regent Hotel in Main Road, Ballarat eleven years ago as the home for Harrison Funerals.**

There has certainly been little holidaying for them since, as they set about renovating the former hotel, built in 1895, into the modern funeral home it is today.

Fortunately, there was no heritage overlay on the building but it still took some time to get planning permission for the proposed changes and additions, the construction of a mortuary and development of car park and driveways.

The existing bathroom was altered and enlarged to become public toilets. The back room was gutted and is now the chapel. Bedrooms became reception areas. Fortunately, there are numerous trades among his five brothers and so help was at hand when needed.

### Local lad

As a young boy Brian lived in Herriott Street, Buninyong. The family later moved to Warrenheip St where his parents, **Gertie and Alan** ran the milk bar and service station. The family lived behind the shop and, as was the case back then, 'everybody knew everybody'. Customers came in for a chat as much as to actually buy something.

When Brian left school, his first job was with the Victoria Police. After eight years in the force, an opportunity presented itself and he found himself working in the funeral industry in Ballarat. Maree also worked in the industry in a part time capacity.

### Experienced

Together they have extensive experience in all aspects of funeral service. When they decided to start a funeral home of their own, the main task was to find a suitable building. And, as Brian told me, one that was as close to Buninyong as they could get. The subsequent support from the Buninyong community has been greatly appreciated.



*Brian Harrison prepares for a funeral at Prince Regent House*

When the first funeral took place at Prince Regent House in February 2006 it was the culmination of years of experience, planning, ideas, hard work and faith in themselves.

As part of their commitment to the community, Maree and Brian plant one mature tree for every funeral service held. Thanks to their generosity community groups across the Buninyong and Ballarat district have been able to plant over 300 mature trees since 2010.

*Cassandra Carland*

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### Notice of Annual General Meeting

**Wednesday 14 December**  
**6.00pm**  
 Buninyong Community Cottage  
 (back entrance)

### We need you!

Some long serving members are retiring from the Committee. We are looking for new members with new ideas

Be part of helping keep alive Buninyong's Festival.

# Kinder fun in Gardens

**Buninyong kindergarten children enjoyed two days of fun in the lovely Buninyong Botanic Gardens recently.**

Organised by the Friends of Buninyong Botanic Gardens, the workshops involved learning about plants and seeds, making and flying kites, and thinking about how plants are used to express feelings.

They were also photographed as Olympic champions wearing their "laurel" wreaths and helped make floral wreaths to place temporarily on some of the RSL trees.

## Exciting Day

It was an exciting day for the children, but after the twelfth workshop, most of the Friends were rather tired!

The Friends are keen to encourage everyone, and particularly more young people to enjoy the gardens. More school and group activities will be planned for next year.

Merle Hathaway



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AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, 5 LYDIARD ST NTH BALLARAT 3350

# Cycling festival back in town



**Kicking-off Australia's summer of cycling, the MARS Cycling Australia Road National Championships return to Ballarat on Wednesday 4 January and Buninyong on 5-8 January. This will be the twelfth consecutive year showcasing the best top-level road cycling the country has to offer.**

The action-packed 2017 RoadNats festival offers all cycling enthusiasts a chance to live and breathe the sport for a week, whether racing, watching or riding for recreation on local roads.

## Showcase

In 2016, more than 30,000 spectators attended in Ballarat and Buninyong, showcasing to Australian and international visitors our local cafes, restaurants, retail, accommodation and tourist attractions, contributing a significant boost to the city's economy.

The exhilarating twilight Criterium event kicks off the 2017 RoadNats on Wednesday 4 January with competitors racing at electrifying speed around laps of Ballarat's CBD, and a host of entertainment and activities for spectators to capture the cycling excitement.

On Thursday the Individual Time Trial, the purest test of cycling fortitude, takes centre stage starting at Royal Park, Buninyong then heading out and back along the rolling hills of Golden Plains Shire.

## Rest

A rest day on Friday breaks up the schedule before the weekend's road events begin. As in previous years, the iconic Mt Buninyong circuit will provide the ultimate challenging backdrop for the tense road racing action.

The Gran Fondo on Saturday morning is a great opportunity for lovers of cycling to embrace the atmosphere with amateur and recreational riders tackling the closed roads of the tough Buninyong circuit, testing themselves on the same course as the pros.

Australia's rising stars will warm-up the course on Saturday afternoon in the Under 23 Championship race.

## Super Sunday

Sunday's events will showcase some of the world's best with the Women's Road Championship in the morning and

the Men's Road Championship in the afternoon.

For the safety of all road users, there will be road closures and traffic diversions throughout the Road National Championships.

To minimise disruption, the City of Ballarat will liaise directly with residents and business owners in the affected areas through letter drops and community meetings closer to the event.

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Vale: Elizabeth Sharp-Paul

# Home here after four countries

**Buninyong resident Elizabeth Sharp-Paul was farewelled at a funeral service at The Cathedral Church of Christ the King. The affection and esteem felt for her was obvious - the Church was full.**

Born in the UK in 1925, Elizabeth had migrated with her parents to Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) where she completed her secondary schooling.

During the Second World War she was evacuated to South Africa where she attended Rhodes University and became the first student there to gain 100 per cent in her final Honours Year Accountancy exam.

### An international life

Returning to Ceylon, at age 23 she married Alan and their four children Alastair, Graham, Vana, Margaret and Fergus were all born there.

Although life was good, over the years the mood towards the colonists had gradually changed and so, with all their children now grown and independent Elizabeth and Alan returned to the UK for



a few years before leaving once again so that Alan could take up a position on a rubber plantation in Papua New Guinea.

By the time they were ready to retire most of their family was living in Australia and so they moved firstly to Melbourne and then here to Buninyong, a place Elizabeth was drawn to for its culture, history and potential medical support as they aged.

### Author

Apart from her family, friends and community, for whom she had an abiding loyalty and love, Elizabeth's lifelong passion was genealogy.



## DINNER

Thursday nights  
from 6.00pm

keenly priced meals and drinks

All welcome

## Bookings

5341 3217

Buninyong Golf Club  
613 Learmonth Street

Triggered by snippets of stories from her mother and strengthened by years of research that uncovered a family connection to William the Conqueror, Elizabeth wrote her first book *In Search of Lewis Priory*.

Her second book *A Jackdaw's Gleaning* won second prize from the Genealogical Society of Victoria. She was halfway through her third book when she took her last peaceful breath on 20 August 2016.

Cassandra Carland



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State Member for Western Victoria

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# Locals linger at the library

**Based in Buninyong every Saturday, the Outreach Library has access to millions of items right across the state, that can be ordered and placed on hold for patrons for free.**

Regular patron of the library, **Topsy Nevett** says, "it is wonderful and very convenient having a library in Buninyong. The selection of books and other items is great and the staff is always helpful and can order in almost anything I request."

She always feels welcomed by the friendly staff and encourages all residents in Buninyong to come in and have a look at what the Outreach Library Service has to offer.

The Outreach Library Service provides patrons with a selection of items that you would find at one of the regular library branches, which includes books, magazines, talking books, and DVDs and CDs.

The collection is rotated with stock from the Ballarat library and is therefore kept quite new and fresh.

Residents can borrow and return library items and can also request library materials from other City of Ballarat libraries and libraries across Victoria.

## IT help

The Library also offers half-hour Q&A sessions, in which any Information Technology based questions can be asked, or if you have a new device and would like to know how to use it, the staff will help you out. Bookings can be made for these sessions, either from the Outreach library or Ballarat library on 5338 6850.

The Library is located at the Library at the Bendigo Bank Community House (access via the rear entrance), 407 Warrenheip Street, Buninyong, every Saturday from 9am – 12pm.

Exceptions apply during extreme weather conditions. Please check the Library's Facebook page or website for more details.



*Topsy chooses her books at the Outreach Library*



## Buninyong

### Ask a local

The team at PRD Nationwide Buninyong have over 60 years combined experience working within the Real Estate Industry.

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Our Team look forward to new challenges offered in this vibrant area of Buninyong, Mt Helen and the surrounding districts.

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### Stars Going North

One Million Stars to End Violence has been a love and peace filled community project symbolizing light, courage and solidarity to end all forms of violence, bullying and racism. The project began in Brunswick Victoria, 2012.

Since then, it has grown into an international weaving movement with stars being woven by communities in Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific Islands, Europe and the USA.

Buninyong alone contributed over five and a half thousand stars and they have been hung in almost every shop window in the Village but, apart from a few which are staying up for Christmas, the stars have now been removed.

The next task is that thousands of stars have to be de-strung, de-stapled and bundled into 10s, ready to be 'boxed' in preparation for sending to Brisbane for the Commonwealth Games in 2018. If you would like to help come to M.A.D.E. on the first Thursday of the month. 10.00am - 12 noon. Ring **Lidia Aitken** 5341 3399 for more information.

### Smart Building and Living Expo

The fourth *Buninyong Smart Building and Living Expo* will be held on Sunday 26 February 2017, 10:00 am to 3:30 pm.

The organizing committee are hoping to incorporate electric vehicles and transport options as the focus.

After the successful completion of this year's event some businesses signed on immediately for the 2017 Expo, and the early birds have continued to sign up. Sponsors, exhibitors and helpers are being sought Don't get caught up in the Christmas hiatus. Get on board now.



*Expo organisers hope to have electric cars at the February event.*

This is one of Buninyong's key events of the year.

### Christmas Celebration at the Gardens

The Friends of Buninyong Botanic Gardens together with the Buninyong and District Community Association are planning a joint end of year BBQ on Monday 5 December from 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited, so come along and meet other members of our Buninyong community. You might even like to join one of our community groups! BYO food to share.

### Singers Wanted

Bass singers to join the Ballarat Sing Australia Choir are desperately wanted. This is a friendly group and will ensure you a hearty welcome. Ring Ashley on 0407249823 for more information.

### Fire recovery workshop

A community workshop will be held at the Scotsburn Hall on Saturday 3 December from 10.00am to hear community views on priorities for the expenditure of the \$624,000 grant received from the State Government for landscape rehabilitation following the 2015 bushfires.

More information can be had from **Jane Bevelander** (0426 873 202) or from the Leigh Catchment Group (0455 147 398).

## Coming Events

### Thur-Sun, 1-4 December

Pop-Up Shop in Old MG Browne Store, Learmonth Street. 10 am - 4pm (Friday until 9.00pm)

### Sat 3 December

Buninyong Pool Opening

### Sun 4 December

2:30 pm  
Victorian Male Welsh Choir  
Uniting Church

### Mon 5 December

FBBG and BDCA community BBQ/  
Picnic, Botanical Gardens from  
6.00pm. BYO food/drink.

### Sat 10 December

Buninyong Village Market  
Twilight Market  
4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

### Sat 10 December

Sausage Sizzle and Kid's Activities  
Desoza Park, 5:30 pm

### Sat 10 December

Community Carols  
Desoza Park, 7:30 pm

### Wed 14 December

Buninyong Good Life Festival  
AGM 6:00 pm  
Buninyong Community Cottage

### 12 January, 2017

Newsletter Deadline  
for February Edition



### Carols in the park

This year the Carols in De Soza Park will be held on Saturday 10 December with a sausage sizzle and kid's activities from 5.30pm. The carols begin at 7.30 pm with some really top local talent.

Star of *Miss Saigon* – **Vanessa Belsar** will perform, along with **Anna Pelly**, **Callan Barclay**, Buninyong Primary School Choir, Dancemakers, Mainly Music, the Sing Australia Choir and the Little Brass Band plus much more.

Of course Santa will make an appearance and glow sticks and candles will be available.

### Choir Disbands

The CWA Buninyong Branch Choir is disbanding after many decades of entertaining the local community including each Anzac Day commemoration for the past 23 years.

The Choir has also competed in the State CWA Choral and Drama competitions since 1981 with some notable successes. However, the advancing years of the choristers has meant that the group has decided to call it a day.

Among the long-term personnel are **Nancy Trigg** who has been their pianist since 1983 and **June Henderson**, the Choir's Leader since 1993.

### The gift of giving

Christmas is meant to be a time of joy and happiness but for some families Christmas isn't filled with the same joy, happiness and festive cheer that many of us are lucky to experience. Think of those who will go without this year and how you might bring a child a little Christmas cheer. Christmas truly is about the gift of giving.

When: 14th to 16th December (Toys will be collected Monday 19th Dec)

Where: Buninyong & District Community Bank, Warrenheip St, Buninyong, Ph.: 03 5341 8066

What: Unwrapped gifts and non-perishable food items.

Gifts are most urgently required this year for: Babies: 0-12 months, safe toys (no rattles), bunny rugs, feeder sets, etc., Toddlers: 1-3 years, safe toys, Boys and Girls: Age 12+

It should be noted that the Salvation Army already receives an abundance of soft toys. The presents will be distributed to children by The Salvation Army in time for Christmas.

Contact the branch or email **Narelle** at [narelle.tatt@bendigoadelaide.com.au](mailto:narelle.tatt@bendigoadelaide.com.au)



*Skip and Edie, getting excited about the Buninyong Carols.*

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# Buninyong Marvellous Marmalade Fair ENTRIES COMING IN

**The first entries have arrived for the CWA judges at the 2017 Buninyong Marvellous Marmalade Fair which will be open to the public on Saturday 28 January.**

Two jar entries, can be posted to PO Box 563, Buninyong 3357 or delivered to Buninyong Foodworks supermarket, 310 Learmonth St or Buninyong BP Newsagency, 501 Warrenheip St by 21 January. An entry comprises two

jars from the same batch, plus entry form and \$8 fee. All entry fees are donated to Hospice and palliative care organisations and some \$5,000 has been raised so far. Entry forms and information are available at [marmymarmy@gmail.com](mailto:marmymarmy@gmail.com) and [www.buninyong.vic.au/marmalade](http://www.buninyong.vic.au/marmalade) or by writing to PO Box 563, Buninyong 3357.

Entries are sent in from all over Australia to be judged by the CWA judges. The public display will be at the Buninyong Marvellous Marmalade Fair to be held on Saturday 28 January in the Buninyong Town Hall commencing at 1pm.

Two teams, the Australian XI and the Buninyong District XI are selected and sent to the international Marmalade Awards to compete against English teams. After six years, the standing is Australia 3, England 2 with one draw.



*June Henderson shows the first of the marmalade entries that have come in.*

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# Remembrance Day Small crowd on sunny day

A small crowd attended the Remembrance Day Service at RSL Park in Buninyong on a sunny Friday 11 November. Visitors, guests and members were welcomed by RSL president, Ray Mende. The address for the service was given by three-time Vietnam Veteran, Bill Askell.

Several community groups, including students from Buninyong Primary School, Mt Clear Primary School and the Buninyong Steiner School took part in the wreath-laying ceremony.

The Last Post and Reveille were once again sensitively offered by Claire

O'Brien. The 'Ode' was presented by President, Ray Mende. Following some presentations, he also read the poem *In Flanders Fields*.

At the conclusion of the ceremony members and guests enjoyed morning tea in the RSL Hall.



*Buninyong Primary School students lay a wreath at the ceremony*

## Welcome back Mr Robertson

Recently, a very special visitor made his way to the Scotsburn campus. Mr James Robertson who was the Principal from 1982-1989 dropped in for a tour of the school and to meet the students and staff. He was extremely impressed with what he saw and is looking forward to visiting again in the future.

### Pre-Schooler Program

The Scotsburn Pre-Schooler Program has been a great success this term. The eleven preps for 2017 have had a wonderful time in the classroom with Ms Wood and the current Grade 6 students who have enjoyed helping out. In the final session, 2017 preps spent time with Ms Hunter in the art room and participating in some PE which was also lots of fun. We

look forward to our Orientation Day now on 6 December when the preps for 2017 will be back to spend the day with us.

### P-2 sleepover

The P-2 students had a great time at the Scotsburn sleepover last month. The students had lots of fun and were certainly excited to spend a night at school with their friends. Special thanks to the staff who contributed to the night and for surviving with very little sleep!

### Show time

The Scotsburn students practised being great artists with Art teacher Ms Hunter. They have been having fun over the last couple of weeks designing and creating farm animals for the celebration of the Ballarat Show's 150 years.



*Scotsburn young artists show their work.*



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Amazing progress

# Amy takes giant steps to top golf

**Over the past five years teenage Buninyong golfer Amy Leeson has made amazing progress. Amy joined Buninyong Golf Club as a junior member in 2011, gaining a Golf Australia (GA) handicap of 23.4 in March 2015.**

After her first ten rounds Amy had reduced her GA handicap to 10 and in March 2016 she had further reduced her GA handicap to 1.7. Such a reduction in handicap in such a short time is an amazing achievement. Amy has great golfing skill, but also has a determined commitment to improve her game.

She is on the course almost daily, with mum, **Donna**, or dad **David** as caddy, practising and playing a round.

## Parents' role

Amy says her parents have played a huge part in her development as a skilled golfer. Early morning starts to far-away

courses and late nights or stop overs in unfamiliar surroundings have been part and parcel of Amy's quest to make it in golfing's world. And made it she has!

Earlier this year Amy was selected in the Golf Victorian Junior Squad. She has had successes in junior and women's tournaments around the State. In April she won the Ballarat District Golf (BDG) Women's Championship on her first entry to that competition. With partner and mentor, **Helen Pascoe**, also a Buninyong Golf Club member, Amy won the BDG Women's Foursomes. Amy was also selected in BDG Country Teams, and won all four matches.

## Coach

Amy is coached by **Jessica Cowie**, a professional golfer based at Southern Golf Club, where Amy has played pennant for the past two years and for which she was awarded the Carol Beasley Medal. Next to her parents, Amy says Jessica has been a great support, motivator and instructor.

Amy is also a member of Western Victoria Academy of Sport, which she claims provides a great deal of support.

Amy is currently studying Year 11 at Mount Clear College and applies as much dedication and commitment to her study as she does to golf. When requested to play in special golf competitions, Amy's first consideration is her academic work. Amy plans to study physiotherapy at Australian Catholic University, starting in 2018 and to continue her golfing career.

*Betty McGuinness*



## Ray Sullivan's SPORTS NEWS

### Bowlers slow start

It has been a frustrating start to the season for Buninyong's newly promoted Premier team. After three visits to Geelong and only one game on their home turf they are yet to record a win. After a big loss at Lara in extreme windy conditions there will be a huge incentive to get on the board when they meet Geelong City at Buninyong next round. Form on the greens for all Buninyong teams has been inconsistent.

### On the Golf Course

Congratulations to **Brett Dyson** for winning 'A' Grade and the November Monthly Medal with a score of 68. **Simon Avery** won 'B' Grade with 74, **Muz Stewart** won 'C' Grade with 69 and **Fernie Kroes** won the Ladies event with 35 pts.

**Ron Delaland** won the three-way play-off for the October Monthly Medal.

Congratulations to **Mick Jenkins** for his hole-in-one on the 12th hole.

### Tennis hot

Buninyong Junior 'A' Grade are sitting on top of the ladder after six rounds with 5 wins and a draw. The A3 seniors are also on top of the ladder, performing well with 4 wins, 1 loss and 1 draw.

### Cricket finally...

#### Buninyong

After almost missing the whole of October cricket finally got under way on the 29 October. Reigning 2nd X1 premiers Buninyong are off to a mixed start. They started with a good win over Coronet City with **L. Reynolds** 58 and **D. Kitchen** 31 performing with the bat. The visit to Ballan in Round 3 didn't quite go to plan as they lost by 3 runs in a high scoring game. Buninyong 10/203 to Ballan 8/206. **J. Kitchen** starred with the bat with 93. (Can we send him to Adelaide?).

#### Elaine

Elaine One day 'A' Grade have played three games. After starting the season with a loss to Ballarat-Redan they bounced back to defeat Burrumbeet in round 4 with **N. Patzidis** performing with bat and ball, making 54 with the bat and taking 2/39 with the ball. A recent big loss to Mt Clear in round 5 has got them off to a shaky start to the season.

# Red Duck for Christmas dinner

**The second of the 2016 small business dinners for district small business owners/operators will be held at the Pig & Goose Restaurant on Monday 12 December.**

Organised by the Buninyong Business Network (BBN), the dinner will feature the owners of the highly successful Red Duck Brewery, **Scott** and **Vanessa Wilson-Browne** as guest speakers. They will speak on the topic of *Starting, Preserving and Growing a Small Business*.

### Dairy start

The couple started their boutique brewery in an old dairy in the Western district in 2005, marketing their product initially from events and to retail, later opening Red Duck Provedore in Camperdown. As the brewery's reputation grew along with its product range, the Wilson-Brownes moved the brewery to Ballarat in 2010.

There will be a choice of five main courses on the menu for a set price



of \$25, and the evening will start at 6.45pm for 7.00pm.

The first of the BBN small business dinners was held in June at the Crown Hotel, Buninyong, and featured

speakers from Regional Development Victoria.

Further information and bookings to 5341 2844 or bfitz@netcon.net.au. RSVP by 7 December.

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# Buninyong link to colourful past Pirate's son at rest here

Earlier this year Rachel Burns from Nambucca Heads, NSW, started to seriously research her family history. She discovered that a close relative, James Camm, had been buried in an unmarked grave in the Buninyong Cemetery.

She contacted the Secretary of the Cemetery Trust, **Frances Winnell**, who located the 1888 grave, and the family had a small granite headstone erected. However, further research turned up a family history that was both surprisingly unique and colourful.

The father of the man buried at Buninyong, **James Camm Sr**, had been transported to Australia as a convict for an unknown crime and arrived in Port Jackson in May 1804 along with

338 convicts aboard the *Coromandel*. A decade later he was moved to Tasmania.

## Mutiny

In 1829, whilst being transferred from Hobart to the notorious Macquarie Harbour penal settlement, James Sr. and some of the other convicts on-board, took over their ship, the *Cyprus*, in Recherche Bay well south of Hobart. The *Cyprus*, a 108 ton brig, had 64 souls on board including the 33 convicts in chains.

Whilst anchored in Recherche Bay, five convicts at a time were allowed on deck unchained for some respite from the 'below decks' claustrophobia. Camm and a few of his fellow convicts took this opportunity to overpower their guards and the ship was seized.

The other passengers, and non-mutineering convicts, were put ashore with some food and water and were later rescued once their plight became known.

## Gallows

The ten mutineers then sailed off into the Pacific and some of them eventually reached Canton in China, although there was hardly a sailor amongst them. Later captured, Camm was sentenced to death, and was hanged at Hobart's Constitution Dock in April 1832.

James Jr had been born in 1821, and left Tasmania in 1868 moving to Scotchmans and the Ballarat goldfields. Here he married an English widow, who unlike Camm was literate and the marriage produced six daughters.

At a small family reunion held at the Buninyong Cemetery on 8 October 2016, the commemorative plaque to James Camm Jr. was unveiled by the descendants to mark his burial there in April 1888.

It's not every family that can claim a convict as an ancestor, though more may like to now that the 'convict stain' of earlier generations has dissipated. But Buninyong can claim a link to our past heritage that helped, in its own strange way, to build this nation.

Russell Luckock

