

# Buninyong COMMUNITY NEWS

Edition 427, June 2016



In a departure from previous Buninyong ANZAC Day ceremonies, the music, blessing and speeches formerly held in the Town Hall, were brought back to RSL Park this year, and shared with the crowd estimated at some 2000 people.

A few minutes prior to the start of the ceremonies, there was a fly-over of two Beechcraft King Air 350 planes from the RAAF base at East Sale. MC duties were ably carried out by Buninyong RSL Secretary, **Bob Bennett**, and featured many contributions from local identities, and others.

#### Many involved

The catafalque party consisted of cadets from the 300 Army Cadet Unit. Three of the cadets were sisters – **Brittany**, **Alexandra** and **Nikita Creelman** – daughters of **Bob Creelman**, a Vietnam veteran still serving in the Army and who was present at the service.

The Buninyong CWA choir led the crowd in the singing of the national anthem, bugler **Clare O'Brien** was outstanding in her playing of the Last Post and Reveille, and piper **Sue Brant** again played during the wreath-laying and led the march through the village. **Rev Mark Schnerring** gave the blessing and led the saying of the Lord's Prayer. RSL member **Cr Peter Innes** represented the City of Ballarat.

Singer-composer **Evie Tozer** sang her moving tribute song, *They died for their country with their mates by their side*. She composed the song after she walked the Kokoda Trail in 2012 with her father and two brothers. Both her grandfathers had served in World War II.



#### **ANZAC** service (cont.)

Buninyong resident **Nikki Shanahan**, her son **Jed Medwell**, 11, and **Ellie Wallace**, members of the Creswick Light Horse Troop, and dressed in the uniforms of the Light Horse, attended with horse **Mako**, and took part in the march.

Guest speaker was Vietnam veteran **Terry O'Brien** who told those gathered that when he returned from the war he "pulled down a blind on that section of my life." It was some 40 years later, when after coaxing by one of his grandchildren who asked why she couldn't "march with you like the other kids do," that he took part in the Anzac Day services.

In balmy autumn weather, the march of some 150 ex-service men and women and relatives, was an impressive sight as it wound its way to the Town Hall and return. It was led by the piper, the Creswick Light Horse Troop members, army cadets, and World War II veteran, **Vic Bradley**, 92, proudly carrying the Australian flag. Most of the crowd stayed to watch and applaud the marchers using the viewing spots provided by the new town centre project.

RSL President **Ray Mende** presented scholarship cheques to pupils from all local schools. He said that the changes made to this year's service had been "an outstanding success."





Waiting their turn to lay a wreath were Mt Clear College vice-captains, Olivia Pegg and Henry Zhang

#### BDCA-VicRoads meeting results in

# Move of 60kph signs back to bridge area



VicRoads' Regional Manager Ewen Nevett (centre) at the meeting with BDCA members. (L to R): Ian Salathiel (BDCA), Jeremy Lis (VicRoads), Allan Carter (VicRoads' Senior Traffic Management Engineer), Robert Elshaug (BDCA), Gayle Adams (BDCA)

Senior staff from VicRoads met with members of the Buninyong & District Community Association (BDCA) to discuss a range of traffic-related issues on 21 April.

These included matters such as the need to relocate the 60kph speed signs on the Midland Highway further back towards the golf club, various matters relating to the proposed pedestrian crossing on Warrenheip Street, signage and safety at the Midland Hwy/Mt Buninyong Road turn off, and the need for a slip lane or other provision at the entrance to the cemetery.

Following the meeting VicRoads Regional Manager, **Ewen Nevett**, agreed to have the 60 kph signs moved back to a location "between the bridge and the entry to the golf course." This will happen soon.

#### Low priority

In response to the BDCA's continuing push for planning to start on a village by-pass, Mr Ewen Nevett said that this would require action and funding by Government. "This activity is very low on VicRoads' priority for planning being undertaken by this office. Current planning relates to bypasses for the Western Highway at Beaufort, Ararat and Horsham." He said that other VicRoads' priority planning issues involved growth areas such as Bacchus Marsh and infrastructure to support the Ballarat West Growth Zone.

Mr Nevett undertook to consider/investigate the other matters raised by the Association. A further meeting of the two parties with local member Geoff Howard is planned.



In an action reminiscent of the movie The Castle, a rural community near **Ballarat is taking Victorian Planning** Minister Richard Wynne to the Supreme Court for what they regard as an attempt to increase Ministerial powers at their expense.

Mt Egerton resident Angela Kearns said that Minister Wynne wants powers to dramatically increase the size of wind turbines near thousands of rural people across greater south-western Victoria.

"He wants to avoid consideration of the potential impacts of these huge changes by planning panels. The issues are complex and deserve proper analysis," she said.

A former nurse. Mrs Kearns, said that the Lal Lal proposal would see turbine size increased by 70 per cent. "Blade sweep area correlates with noise produced. This would put those living

near Lal Lal and Elaine at great risk to their property values, rural lifestyle and even their health.

Local residents are claiming that the Government will still not allow the EPA to police wind turbine noise. "In effect, the wind companies police themselves, which just doesn't work," Mrs Kearns said.

In January 2016 the Minister for Planning inserted a provision (VPP 52.32) into the planning scheme without public notice. Residents claim that this move dispensed with a requirement in the Act (s.97E) that objections to amendments to Wind Farm permits should be referred to a Planning Panel, except in limited circumstances.

Neighbouring community group Lal Lal **Environment Protection Association** (EPA), obtained legal advice and wrote to the Minister requesting advice as to the source of his power to dispense with that requirement of the Act. A substantive response setting out such source of power has not yet been received.

#### **Proceedings**

As a result, Lal Lal EPA has commenced proceedings in the Supreme Court of Victoria seeking a declaration that VPP 52.32 is invalid, it being ultra vires.

This action follows an application by permit holder WestWind Energy for an amendment which would allow turbines to increase in size from 130m to 161m. while removing only four of the 64 planned turbines near Lal Lal and Elaine. Similar problems apply to the nearby 107 turbine Moorabool project.

Angela and **Frank Kearns** live between the planned Lal Lal and Moorabool wind projects. Angela would welcome any enquiries on 0413273429.

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#### From car park 'fix-up' to major project

# Village centre works opened



After the official opening of the project Mayor Des Hudson and Cr Peter Innes chat with local business owner Alison Rickard

The largest infrastructure project undertaken by the City of Ballarat in central Buninyong in recent years was officially 'opened' by Ballarat Mayor, Cr Des Hudson, on 27 April.

The project involved cooperation between the Buninyong & District Community Association (BDCA) and the City Council, and involved significant funding by the State Government through Regional Development Victoria.

The project started following advice from the City Council to the BDCA in August 2013 that it planned to spend \$100,000 on "re-asphalting works" on the car park in front of the Buninyong Town Hall.

The BDCA immediately proposed that a more substantial and creative use

should be made of these funds, and had a concept plan for a 'Village Square' drawn up on an honorary basis by local landscape architect **David Turley**.

#### Lobbying exercise

During much of 2014, BDCA Executive members Barry Fitzgerald and lan Salathiel set about a protracted lobbying exercise with then-City Infrastructure Director, Eric Braslis, and South Ward Councillors Morris, Innes and Hudson to get a more comprehensive 'town square' development planned. They also pressed sitting local member Geoff Howard and Liberal candidate Ben Taylor on the value of the project.

Council agreed to the BDCA request to 'roll over' the initial \$100,000 provision

into the 2014-15 financial year and added an additional \$100,000 provision for the project which, by then, included extended works on the south side of Learmonth Street, to the roundabout area, and a small paved area on the northern side.

This sum of \$200,000 cleared the way for an application to be made to Regional Development Victoria to fund the project on a 2:1 basis.

The BDCA then worked with Council architect, **Tim Grace**, to develop a detailed concept plan for the central village area. Through its Community Engagement section, Council completed a submission to RDV for a grant for the project.

In early November of 2014, then-Premier **Dennis Napthine** came to Buninyong and, on the steps of the Town Hall, announced that the State would contribute \$400,000 for the "very important Town Hall Precinct project."

#### **Community say**

Council then moved to prepare detailed drawings for the project, which were subsequently discussed with the community at 'drop-in' sessions at the Town Hall, arranged by Council Community Engagement team members, **Peter Appleton** and **Graeme Kent**.

Buninyong Community Engagement funds were also allocated by the local committee for other elements of the works such as the floodlighting of the Town Hall, and for the public sculpture.

Work on the project commenced in late 2015, with much of the infrastructure completed by January 2016

#### **New Classes and Times now available**



#### Monday

12:30pm – 30 min Cardio Pilates 1:30pm – Mums and Bubs 3:45pm – Gentle Movers (55years+)

6:30pm Mat Class

#### Thursday

11:30am – Mums and Bubs 12:45pm – 30min Cardio Pilates 3pm – Gentle Movers (55years+) 6:00pm Mat Class

FOR OTHER CLASS TIMES AND TYPES CHECK OUR WEBSITE www.pilates-hq.com.au

hello@pilates-hq.com.au

ph. 0429578987

### Weekend bus timetable... in a word.... hopeless!!!

At a time when Buninyong is trying to attract more tourists and visitors to this historical village through positive promotion, townscape improvements, a growing hospitality sector, and the imminent release of a new edition of the Buninyong Visitor Guide, there is still a major problem - the hopelessly inadequate bus services at weekends.

While there is a good 30 minute 'daylight' service on Saturdays, the last bus back into Ballarat leaves Buninyong at 6.30pm, and the last bus to leave Ballarat station coming to Buninyong leaves at 5.53pm.

This means that day-trippers to Melbourne, football fans, and returning University students have no public transport to Buninyong available after 5.53pm - not exactly conducive to a relaxed late-afternoon in the big smoke!

#### Sundays

Sundays present an even bigger disaster for public transport users. There are just four services each way. Buses going to Ballarat from Buninyong leave at 9.20am, 11.30am, 2.50pm, with then a four hour gap to the last bus leaving at 7.05pm. A great service for afternoon visitors to the village!

But for those connecting to trains to or from Melbourne, the situation is even more ridiculous. For example a Sunday train arrives from Melbourne at 11.02am... but, bad luck.... the Buninyong bus left at 11.00! Passengers on the train that arrives at 1.24pm have a 61 minute wait for the next bus.

And of course, there is a train arriving at 6.39pm on a Sunday (full of football fans, shoppers and Uni students). But by then the last #10 bus for the day will be trundling down Sturt Street, having left the station at 6.36pm. Hopeless!

Train travellers going from Buninyong on a Sunday have just as much joy. Travellers on the 2.50pm bus will have an hour's wait before the 4.19pm Melbourne train leaves. However, if the last bus from Buninyong is taken at 7.05pm (arriving at 7.30pm), the 7.14pm train will, by then, be somewhere near Gordon, and the 9.21 train will be just under two hours away. Hopeless!

#### Meeting

At a public meeting held at the Buninyong Bowling Club rooms last September, staff from Public Transport Victoria invited the thirty or so locals who attended, to comment on issues and concerns concerning public transport. The above and similar examples were strongly pointed out to them.

These were to be "taken account of" and, following other community meetings in the region, were to be reflected in a report to be produced "early in 2016." While this report is yet to appear, weekend visitors and tourists to Buninyong continue to be dudded by an inexcusable public transport timetable!

#### &district Buninyond COMMUNITY NEWS

This publication is a community project of the Buninyong & District Community Association (BDCA) supported by the City of Ballarat and the Buninyong Community Bank.

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All contributions (copy, letters or advertising) must be submitted before the twelfth of each month

to 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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#### Changes at Zuni Gallery

# New space for creative arts



Sally Gregory, the new owner of the former Zuni Gallery in Warrenheip Street, has almost completed renovations to transform it into a multipurpose creative arts space.

What was a rustic and somewhat dark room is now bright, white and modern. Skylights have been put in, and the rough dark timber has been sanded and lightened.

The walls are now covered with white painted plaster and the floor has been levelled and covered with 'floating' bamboo floorboards to give some warmth and springiness for dancing and running around.

Sally hopes that it will become a lively community centre offering a range of different classes catering for all ages and interests.

#### **Teacher**

Sally, the music and art teacher at Canadian Lead Primary School in Ballarat, will be running private music lessons on piano and keyboard as well as kinder and infant music classes. But she also hopes that members of the community will lease the space. Uses might include singing, musical theatre, or small dance groups, hip hop, drama, pilates, weaving and craft, music groups, or discussion groups. Suggestions for anything creative are very welcome.

If you have an idea for or an interest in using this 'creative community space' contact Sally via the Buninyong Community News.

Cassandra Carland



#### Coming Events

**Scotsburn Union Church. Sunday 5 June, 10.00am.** Guest Speaker at Service – Max Chapman, Missionary Aviation Fellowship. Heather 5341 7069

Morning Coffee Party with Blumes Fashions. Wednesday 8 June, 10.00am. Uniting Church Hall. \$5

Fundraising BBQ. Friday 10 June – lunchtime. Buninyong Primary School. To assist local student Jayva Goriss-Dazely, selected to represent Australia in futsal at an international tournament in China.

Bilarni – Bush Yarns by Jan Wozitsky. Saturday 11 June, 7.00pm. Old Brewery, Yuille St. Tickets \$20. Contact Merle Hathaway, 0419 324 042

Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens, Annual Winter Luncheon. Saturday 18 June. Buninyong Town Hall. 11.00am. Guest speaker Dr Barbara Chancellor. Contact Karen Hulston 5341 3947

Scotsburn School Campus.

Monday 20 June, 9.00am. Official opening of refurbished 'shed' followed by morning tea. Community welcome.

Buninyong & District Community Association Meeting. Thursday 23 June, 7.30 pm. Supper Room, Buninyong Town Hall. Members and others welcome.

Concert by the Welsh Male Choir. Sunday, 26 June, 2.00pm. St Peter & Paul's Church. Tickets \$30. Contact John or Geraldine White. 5341 2075 or 0402 808 299



# Shed and classroom open at Scotsburn

The Scotsburn students are extremely excited with their new classroom which is finally complete.

The new space has plenty of room, has wonderful light and is proving to be an excellent space for learning.

The next step is to transform the space outside of the classroom. Already a group of parents has been busily preparing plans and a materials list, which when complete, will transform the area into an eye catching and fun playground for the students.

#### Paver fundraiser

The Scotsburn Campus recently raised funds to purchase a new TV for the newly refurbished shed through the sale of pavers. These pavers have now been laid at the front of the shed by Shane, the school's maintenance man. An official opening of the shed will be held at Scotsburn Campus on Monday 20 June at 9am. The opening will be followed by a morning tea which will coincide with the weekly Scotsburn Assembly. All members of the community are welcome to attend.

# AMAZING what can happen when the top man enters the fray! For more than twelve months the BDCA had been repeatedly requesting VicRoads to move those 60kph signs on the Midland Hwy from Winter Street back towards the golf club somewhere. Couldn't be done...State—wide policy... service roads adjacent...didn't meet

streettall

the guidelines...were among the responses. One recent face-to-face meeting with local VicRoads' boss Ewen Nevett....and bingo...the 60 kph zone signs will be back at the golf club.

ANOTHER SMALLER community project on Council's back-burner for some years has been the formation of a car park off Forest Street at the rear of the BP service station. While local plans called for a sealed car-park, the grading and gravelling works recently carried out are a step in the right direction just prior to the arrival of winter. Good option for employees and longer-term parkers.

**TWO NEW** businesses in Warrenheip Street will soon add to the growing vibrancy of the strip – Stephanie Neal's Pilates HQ in the former Lana Rose store and Sally Gregory's Hinata Creative Community Space at the former Zuni Gallery location.

**IN ANOTHER BUSINESS** move, seems that plans are well down the track to start up a child care centre in a prime location on a main street in central Buninyong.

**GREAT NEWS** that after compromise talks with objectors, Council has given the "go-ahead" for major tidying up works to commence along Buninyong's main World War I Avenue of Honour. To be dedicated to the 164 servicemen killed in that war, the restored avenue is set for "reopening" in mid-2017 – exactly 100 years after the planting of the original 140 trees.

### Awards to Alby and Vic

During 2016 Sturt Buninyong Lodge will recognise seven members with fifty or more years of membership.

At the April meeting Robert Bowers presented a 60 Year Bar to **Alby Peart** and a 50 Year Jewel to **Vic Bradley**. Each has been a member solely at Buninyong.

Later **Ron Fleming** spoke on the fifty Buninyong Lodge Freemasons who served during World War Two, and the 63 ex-servicemen who joined the Lodge between 1945 and 1957.

A fish and chip supper concluded the evening.



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Alby Peart,
Vic Bradley
with Robert
Bowers
following the
presentations

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# Bush yarns at the Brewery

Jan 'Yarn' Wositzky is a worldclass yarn-spinner, musician and writer. He's renowned for his oneman shows that use real stories and characters to bring Australian history alive. Wositzky will perform Bilarni at Buninyong Brewery at 7pm on Saturday 11 June.

When Wositzky heard the voice of **Bill Harney** on the radio, he packed his panel van and headed north to a beautiful and brutal land where everything and nothing is black and white, tracking the greatest yarn spinner of them all, W.E. (Bill) Harney (1895-1962).

Scripted from Harney's many books, radio broadcasts and personal papers and laced



with Wositzky's own weird and wonderful adventures, Bilarni tells of a Northern Territory bushman who returned from World War One to live amongst Aborigines.

He was a lover, husband and father who lost it all, a Patrol Officer, grazier and bush worker, who, in 1957, became known around the world as the 'Custodian of the Rock' (Uluru).

Award-winning writer and poet **Barry Hill** said that "Jan Wositzky has a laconic

genius for conjuring voices from our past, and his Bilarni is a masterpiece. We go bush but it is much more than bush."

Bilarni runs for 80 minutes with no interval, and as it contains language that may offend, it is not suitable for under 12s. Admission of \$20 includes tea and coffee. For bookings, contact **Merle Hathaway** on 0419 324042 or merle. hathaway@bigpond.com

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Written & Authorised by Catherine King MP, 5 Lydiard Street North, Ballarat 3350.





#### Golf club celebrates ninety years at a

### **Dinner with memories**



Club Presidents Ron Delaland and Carmel Knowles

Some 130 members, previous members and guests of Buninyong Golf Club gathered at the clubhouse on Saturday 30 April to celebrate ninety years of golfing.

The Sunset Room was decorated with flowers provided by members including delightful table flowers arranged by **Elaine Waight**.

Guest speakers were **Simon Brookhouse**, CEO of Golf Victoria, and local historian **Doug Bradby**. Simon presented information on the state of

golf in Victoria and referred to strategies to assist golf clubs.

In his entertaining style, Doug Bradby gave historical anecdotes about the uses of the Buninyong Reserve prior to the formation of the golf club in 1926. He highlighted events and activities held there including picnics, rifle practice on the range, Highland Society gatherings, and of course, the race meetings.

#### **Memories**

Previous members Pat Fisken, Elaine Randall, and Lois Marriott together with Gerard McCarty spoke about their own and others' golfing exploits. Ivan Crowley recalled beginning to play golf on the course with his father, as well as setting down the foundation of bricks and sand in the formation of grass greens in the 1960s when water came to Buninyong.

Life Members Marg Bradshaw, Ken Vale and Ivan Crowley cut the 90th Anniversary cake, each of the three tiers being boldly decorated in Club colours and sporting Club logos.

At the Dinner the Club also launched its booklet From Track to Green: Ninety years of Golfing at Buninyong Golf Club and offered special vintages of red and white wines to celebrate the Anniversary. These are available from the Club.



Simon Brookhouse CEO Golf Victoria, Tim Duncan, Director of Course, and Ron Delaland President

## **Bringing life back to Union Jack Creek**

The Union Jack Creek is a vital feature of Buninyong's central area, meandering through UnionJack Creek Reserve, James Reserve, and, of course, Desoza Park, the village's major public open space.

But over the past 150 years it has suffered from a lack of co-ordinated management, as well as significant mining activity along the stream from the 1850s, as evidenced by names such as Scotchman's Lead, Union Jack Reserve and the Dredge Reserve.

#### **Project grant**

In 2015, the Upper Williamsons Creek Landcare Group received a Corangamite **Catchment Management Authority** Landcare grant to implement the Union Jack Creek Revitalisation Project (UJCRP).

This project provides an opportunity for the Buninyong community to engage in the enjoyment, awareness and improvement of this key feature of their natural environment which for so long has been neglected.

The project creates an opportunity for local families and school children to learn and experience through local actions and community involvement.

#### **Planting**

The Leigh Catchment Group will be helping to manage the project which will include running four planting days this winter involving schools and the community and two community cleanups.

The group will also be designing and installing up to ten signs along the creek that will include cultural and gold mining history, waterway care, environmental and habitat themes as well as linkages and directional information.

To get involved in this work, send an email to janelcg@iinet.net.au to be added to a list of persons who are kept informed about all upcoming activities. As well, check the website www.leighcatchmentgroup. org/ and to get event updates, Like the Facebook page www.facebook.com/ LeighCatchmentGroup/

Residents who have any information about the creek, especially old pictures or historical material that might be included on the signage, are asked to contact the group. The group is especially keen to involve any landowners adjacent to the creek which runs close to many backyards.

For all enquiries please contact Jane Bevelander, Yarrowee Project Officer at Leigh Catchment Group on janelcg@iinet.net.au or 0426 873 202.

### **Good Support for RSL Golf Day**

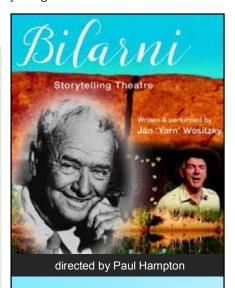
A strong field of 160 players competed in the 47th Buninyong RSL golf day at the Buninyong Golf course on 16 April.

The reasonable morning conditions deteriorated as the day progressed. However, players stayed on to participate in the club house activities and presentation of trophies.

The proceeds from the day are directed to the RSL Welfare program. The RSL extends thanks to the Buninyong Golf Club, players and trophy donors for their support.



RSL members provided warm food to brace players against the chilly morning



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# Geoff Howard MF

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Gardens group luncheon

# Play and peace in the gardens

The Friends of Buninyong Botanic Gardens will hold their Annual Winter Luncheon at the Buninyong Town Hall on Saturday 18 June, 2016. Guest speaker will be Dr Barbara Chancellor who is a lecturer and researcher at the RMIT University School of Education.

A specialist in early childhood education and development, she will speak on the topic *Letting Children out of the Bubblewrap – Children and Nature Connections*. Barbara's talk will focus on the relationships between children, natural environments and playspaces, and the role of parents, grandparents and teachers.

She will discuss issues concerning the engagement of children and adults with the local Botanic Gardens. These will include making time for play, why play matters, play-space design and management, and the physical and psychological benefits of play.



Also presenting at the Winter Luncheon is *Global Gardens of Peace*, an apolitical, non-religious Australian charity founded by **Moira Kelly** in 2013. Its aim is to plan, design and deliver natural play spaces to communities around the world that have suffered significant hardship through war or natural disaster.

Their philosophy is that Gardens are Forever, and their belief is that gardens are the centre around which to build a community - valuing and respecting children's right to play.

For more information or bookings, please contact **Karen Hulston** e: info@buninyongbotanicgardensfriends.org.au or p: 5341 3947.



#### Buninyong Probus Club

# Busy and growing group

The Buninyong Probus Club was established in 2004. The Club's original membership was limited to 85 members. However, because of a long waiting list to join the club, the limit of members was raised to 100 in 2009.

One of the fastest growing organisations in Australia with over 2000 clubs, Probus is an association of retired and semi-retired people, providing regular opportunities for friendship, fellowship and fun.

The Buninyong club, which enjoys a reputation of being a very friendly and welcoming group of people with varied interests, arranges many activity groups and interesting guest speakers. Guests or partners are welcomed on outings and as visitors to general meetings.

Each month, members meet on the third Wednesday. Meetings commence at 9:30am, have a break for morning tea, and conclude at midday followed by a lunch.

The activity groups which operate within the club include walking, books, dining

out, busy bees, get-away, theatre and movies, travel, coffee, bicycle riding, trips and outings and bowls. Groups have activity co-ordinators who organise get-togethers for members.

#### Life member

At the March 2016 meeting, Life Membership was awarded to **John Emery** who, in March 2004, was instrumental in the establishment of the club in Buninyong. With his vision, hard work and enthusiasm, John gathered a group of about sixty people to a meeting which he chaired, and at which the provisional Probus Club of Buninyong was formed.

Particularly in the early days, John's contribution was outstanding. He supported each committee member who gradually formed the nucleus and foundation of the club. He served as Vice President in 2005, President in 2006 and Immediate Past President in 2007.

John is the first, and to date, the only life member of the Buninyong Probus Club.

Anyone interested in joining the Club could contact current President, **Frank Nolan** (5341 3173), Secretary, **Patti McGregor** (5341 3368) or Membership Officer **Helen Long** (5334 4428) for further information.

Outgoing President, Naomi Howard presents John Emery with his certificate of life membership.



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#### Robin Nuttall

# Key city role to village biker

After living in Buninyong for fifteen years, and having spent 42 years as an engineer mainly in local government posts, Robin Nuttall, aged 80, has watched recent developments in the village with an expert eye.

Starting in 1976 Robin Nuttall spent some eleven years as Ballarat's City Engineer after stints in other municipal areas such as the Avon Shire (East Gippsland), Edenhope, the Shire of Ballarat and at Avoca.

He retired from the City Engineer's role in 1987, along with long-term Town Clerk **Ian Smith** when the Council decided to do away with these two positions and appoint a CEO.

For the next thirteen years or so Robin Nuttall undertook engineering consultancy work, especially involved with waste management, and water works such as large dam construction on farms and vineyards.

#### Interests

Away from engineering, he has had a wide role in various community organisations such as with the Ballarat East Rotary Club, and until recently was a member of the Buninyong Town Hall Committee. For much of his life he was active in the Scouting movement. He became a Boy Scout at the age of eleven, and retired in 1993 as the

President of the local Region after 45 years of involvement.

He said a highlight of that period was the organisation of the 1992 Scout Jamboree held at Victoria Park, Ballarat, attended by some 15,000 scouts from all over the world. "It took five years of planning to get that show together," he said.

#### **Old bikers**

Now his principal interest is as a member of the Ulysses Motor Cycle Club, a club he has been involved with for over 30 years.

With their shining motorcycles (and in Robin's case, also shiny side-car), club members meet for coffee at Mt Helen's *Krooze Inn* each Saturday. They also head off on monthly Sunday rides.

After spending some 25 years in Moss Avenue, he and wife Val now live in a very central Buninyong location just a



With his signature handlebar moustache Robin Nuttall is easy to spot riding on his 2001 Suzuki GSX 1400 and sidecar. Recently his bike clocked up 80,000km on his 80th birthday

few metres from the roundabout and Buninyong's shops and businesses.

"I often say Buninyong's the sort of place that many people would love to go to for a holiday. We've now got a great coffee culture, and things like the street vines give our village such character. It's no longer Ye Olde Village, but a place where people love to come and walk and talk and meet friends," he said.



#### The Buninyong tannery

# **HUGE PART OF LOCAL HISTORY**

At the western end of Desoza Park lies a major piece of Buninyong's history - Tannery Flat, an area which, for many, has been long forgotten or unknown. But for more than fifty years it was the heart of Buninyong's largest industry, the tanning of leather.

The tannery in Buninyong commenced when **Herbert Burrington** purchased the site in 1860. Burrington came from a long line of tanners in Devon. Soon he was exporting bales of leather to England, and employing a number of curriers.

After some time he sold to **Andrew Charles Davies**, a local saddler, who had been in Buninyong since the early 1850s.

In about 1873, Davies entered into partnership with the Graham Brothers, shoemakers, and, in the buoyant 1880s, the tannery expanded into the largest in the Southern Hemisphere. In 1890, Davies retired from the company and Graham Brothers assumed complete ownership.

#### Village lifeblood

The publication *Ballarat and District in* 1901 described it as 'the lifeblood and pride of the village', directly employing 170 people. It employed many others indirectly, such as those cutting wattle bark for the tanning process. The residue left after the tanning process was a very useful fertilizer for the local market gardens.



The large Graham Bros tannery buildings and dam, with row boats on it -taken around 1900

With its large demands for water, in the 1890s it received permission to lay a pipe from the Gong to the Tannery.

In 1903, following a fire which destroyed the buildings, the Graham brothers rebuilt the tannery.

By the early 1920s, the tannery was in decline, unable to compete with cheap English exports.

In 1923, a new Buninyong Tanning Company was formed, which operated the tannery until 1927, when it closed. It was a death blow to the village, losing its last large employer. The area became infested with weeds until moves were made to develop the area as a park in the 1970s through the energies of the Buninyong Festival Committee. Tannery Dam became a beauty spot, with a walking track through the area, and conservation groups planted many native trees and shrubs.

It might be hard to imagine now, but next time you stroll through the western end of Desoza Park try to picture there the large dam and factory shown in the picture taken around 1900.

Anne Beggs Sunter



# Japan comes to school for a day



For a whole day, on 5 May, pupils at the Buninyong primary School participated in a Japan Festival. The day was carefully chosen as, in Japan, this fifth day of the fifth month, is known as Kodomo no Hi or 'Children's Day' a national public holiday, and a popular festival for children.

On this day in Japan, many families fly banners in the shape of a carp – a fish which is a symbol of vigour and determination. The day is set aside to "respect children's personalities and to celebrate their happiness."

At the Buninyong school, many students came dressed in traditional Japanese

or Asian dress. They ordered gyoza (Japanese dumplings) and experienced many traditional Japanese cultural activities. These included kendo (a form of martial art), taiko drumming, Mokuhanga woodblock printing, and manga drawing.

Some students even came with faces caked in white make-up in the style of the geisha or maiko, an apprentice geisha.

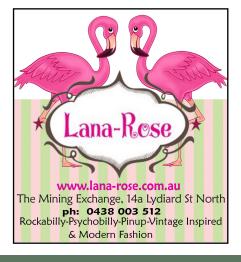
A Japanese sports festival (undoukai) was held, and students were engrossed in other creative activities such as making paper fans and lanterns, creating miniature zen gardens and much more.



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#### **POLICE BEAT**

A VEHICLE was entered in Scott's Lane. Scotsburn on 24 April by unknown offenders. The owner of the vehicle was out riding his bike when he returned to find that force had been used to enter the canopy section of his ute. A first aid kit and bike maintenance tools were stolen.

TWO DAMAGE INCIDENTS were reported to Police in May. On 6 May two windows were smashed at the Hall belonging to the Uniting Church in Scott Street Buninyong. The value of the damage was \$700. A vehicle parked in Cornish Street also had a window smashed on 8 May by unknown means. Police are investigating both incidents.

WINTER STREET is not a race track! Residents and police have had enough. Expect to see a continued visible Police presence. Police will be conducting patrols and utilising speed detection devices. The speed limit is 50 kph in all residential streets unless otherwise posted. Zero tolerance will be enforced and infringement notices will be issued to all offending drivers.

**RESIDENTS** in Scott Street came home to discover that an unknown offender had attempted to enter their house, by force, on 10 May. Damage to the timber frame indicates a tool was used to attempt to gain entry. Thankfully the house was not entered. If any members of the community observe any suspicious behaviour at any time, please contact 000.

**TWO GERMAN SHEPHERDS** were involved in an incident in Inglis Street Buninyong, on Sunday 17 April. As a result, a much loved family pet had to be put down, and its owner suffered dog bites to her hand. Police and the Ballarat City Council are investigating the incident. Both German Shepherds have been seized by Council. Residents are accountable for their pets at all times and a zero tolerance approach will be taken to any dog found unsupervised, or showing any form of aggression to a person or animal in public.

#### Old Police Station restored

# School and community bring a piece of history back to life



Two Buninyong Primary School students said it all, "you don't know how grateful we are" and "thank you from the bottom of our hearts". So said Chloe Taylor and Amy Wells to the large audience at the opening on 22 April of the renovated Old Police Station in the school grounds adjacent to the Botanic Gardens.

For the building will be a useful adjunct to school activities – especially music practice for trumpeters and drummers, as it is well separated from other buildings. It is also being shared with the Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens group who will use it as their 'home base' for meetings and as a nursery for potting up plants.

The project evolved with joint funding from the School and the Friends as well as the Buninyong Community Bank and the Ballarat City Council.

#### Sixteen strong

The building was originally commissioned in 1859 for the local police of which sixteen were based in Buninyong after gold was discovered there in 1851. Back in those days the new building must have been greeted with similar joy as the police had previously operated out of tents while the local courtroom was a nearby hut!

Dr **Anne Beggs Sunter** told the audience of its early history while **Beth Ritchie** remembered the contributions made by **Derick Leather** when they jointly managed to get the building onto the National Trust Historical Register.

The Old Police Station now has a new lease of life, with proud and enthusiastic users amongst the Buninyong and district community after a joint effort to fund and to renovate a grand old building.

Russell Luckock



**Buninyong Uniting Church Hall** 

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Ernie Neale's Monthly
RAINFALL REPORT



"A waterless cloud" is the tag sometimes applied to a person who is full of promise, but does not deliver. April this year is also worthy of the title, literally. We recorded precipitation on only eight days of the thirty, none of which were above 10mm – a very dry month of waterless clouds. So the long dry which started in October has not been broken.

Traditionally ANZAC day signals the start of colder weather so unless good rain falls in the first half of May, the likelihood of strong germination and growth of crops and pasture will be limited. I'm writing this early in May, with forecasts of up to 16mm of rain by mid month being the best on offer.

Reports from Tasmania are even direr (and drier) than here. Much of that state is exceptionally dry, with limited feed for stock. Hay supplies are low and much is being shipped across from Victoria (where supplies are dwindling and prices are increasing).

Back here at the Blueberry Farm rainfall for April amounted to only 19.0mm, well down on our recent average of 48.6mm. In total we've received 115.0mm to the end of April, down on the progressive average of 172.5mm recorded for the same period in recent years. To get things growing we need at least 30 mm of rain by mid May. If it falls watch the farmers' smiles grow. If it doesn't, watch out for lots of trucks carrying heavy loads of hay trundling through Buninyong.

APRIL 2016			
Date	Rain	Date	Rain
6th	5.6	17th	1.5
7th	2.0	21st	3.3
11th	3.0	28th	0.3
12th	1.0	30th	2.3
Total			19.0mm



### Lions Youth of the Year – great show by Maggie

After winning the Ballarat district final, Buninyong's **Maggie Murphy** represented the Lions Club of Buninyong/Mt Helen in the Zone Final of the Youth of the Year Program held at Carisbrook on Saturday 2 April. Maggie competed against the other district winners from Ouyen, Bendigo, Melton and Melbourne.

Maggie is a Year 12 student at Mt Clear Secondary College, and also can sometimes be found working part-time at Buninyong Newsagency.

In the Zone Final, the students were required to undergo interviews, provide evidence of their community involvement, answer two impromptu questions and present a prepared speech on a topic of their choice.

The night was won by Kelly Phan from Bendigo Senior Secondary College, and she will now represent this zone at the next level in Melbourne later this month.

Maggie represented her school, her family and the local Lions Club extremely well – congratulations on an outstanding effort.



Maggie Murphy of Buninyong (right) with the other Zone Youth of the Year Finalists.

#### Jayva off to China



The March 2016 edition of the Buninyong & District Community News carried the story of a local school boy, **Jayva Goriss-Dazely**, who is a star at the sport of futsal.

Now he has been selected to represent Australia again as the goalkeeper in the Australian U12 Boys Futsal team in the Chinese national championships in August.

A lunch-time sausage sizzle is being held at the Buninyong Primary School on Friday 10 June to help raise funds for his trip to represent Australia. The public is welcome to come along and join in.

#### Josh backs bus stop move



Member for Western Victoria **Joshua Morris** has put his weight behind BDCA moves to have the V-Line bus stop on Warrenheip Street near Forest Street moved to the existing stop location just north of Eyre Street.

On 3 May he directed the following question in Parliament to the Minister for Public Transport. "Will the Minister

work with the Buninyong and District Community Association to see that the bus stop that is currently in front of the Pig & Goose Restaurant in Buninyong is moved some 150 metres to the north of its current location? The current location severely impacts upon the availability of parking in Warrenheip Street, Buninyong, and also impacts on the sight lines of traffic approaching Buninyong from Ballarat. The most sensible solution to this simple issue is to move the bus stop, and I implore the Minister to see that this is done."

### Maybe you can join the RSL

The Buninyong RSL is looking for new members to join in its activities and community work. And you don't have to be a serving or ex-ADF member to join.

If you are over 18 years and

- have served at least six months with the Police, CFA, SES or Ambulance service, or
- are a relative of a living or deceased Service or Life member of the RSL, you would be very warmly welcomed at the Buninyong RSL.

The Club meets at the RSL Hall on the second Monday of each month at 7.30pm. The joining fee and annual subscription are very moderate. Contact RSL Secretary Bob bennet on 5341 2369 or at rcem.bennett@bigpond.com or any RSL member for more details.

#### **Plans for Royal Park**

Stage Two of the Concept Plans for Royal Park is now complete after consultations with the Friends of Royal Park, Buninyong Soccer, City of Ballarat and Crown Lands.

Once there is in-principle support, this Plan and a draft Management Plan will be submitted to the City of Ballarat. There will be an opportunity for further community consultation at that point.

A copy of the Concept Plan can be viewed at http://findingnorth. net.au/images/RoyalParkPlan/ RoyalParkStage2\_draftConceptPlan.pdf



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AND DESIGNATION



In recent years the profile of netball has increased considerably. The success of the Australian Diamonds on the international arena and the fierce rivalry with New Zealand's Silver Ferns has put netball in the public eye.

In addition the establishment of the ANZ Championship league, with its increased exposure on national television and a revamped organisation of state and regional leagues, has given netball a focus that it has never had before.

The Buninyong Football-Netball Club is a great example of how two sports can participate successfully alongside each other and still retain their own identity and love of their sport. Both sports are supportive of each other on and off the field/court. There is no "little sister-big brother" element in the organization of the club.

#### Same venue

The Buninyong netballers take to the court each Saturday from 9.00am. The day starts with the Under 13s, followed by the Under 15s, Under 17s, C Grade, B Grade and finally A Grade to complete the cycle. Danielle Innes, an A Grade player and the B and C grade coach, said that the increased support generated by playing at the same venue as the footballers has been great for the netballers.

The Buninyong head coach is **Belinda** Hayden. An experienced coach, Belinda is in her second year with the Lady Bombers. Belinda recruited indigenous players **Alicia Janz**, and her daughter Jordan Kickett to join the core group of local players in 2015 and former West Australian, Lauren Miller joined the group this season. Alicia, a former West Coast Fever player is currently a member of the Ballarat Sovereigns Championship squad and Zoe Otavi, an exciting young local is part of the Sovereigns 19 and under squad.

#### **Target**

A preliminary final appearance in 2015 is the target to beat this season. According to Danielle, a top four finish and finals success is the goal for 2016. At this stage of the season, the club is sitting around the middle of the ladder. The recent strong performance against Waubra should be a good springboard towards moving up the ladder.

Danielle is also excited about the junior support program at Buninyong. Every Friday afternoon the Buninyong club runs ANZ NetSetGO, the netball equivalent of Auskick. ANZ NetSetGO is Netball Australia's only junior entry netball program.

It has been developed to provide children with the best possible introduction to the game that is currently being played by over 500,000 Australian 6-13 year olds.

Ray Sullivan

# Ray Sullivan's

#### Rare double

One of the most sought after achievements amongst golfers is to post a stroke score under your age. Buninyong life member, 79-year-old Ken Vale recently achieved this feat, scoring 76 in a recent Saturday competition. The feat also gained Ken the runner-up spot in B Grade in the national Genesis Golflink Cup.

Not to be outdone, well-known local lan Corcoran scored a hole-inone on the 12th hole at Buninyong in a Thursday event in April. lan generously shouted the bar to celebrate his feat.

#### Anniversary

Incidentally, well done to the organisers of the Buninyong Golf Club's 90th birthday celebrations and events. It was a great week of reminiscing off and competition on the course.

#### No Pennant Titles for Golfers

Buninyong Golf Club, Division 1 and 4 men and the Division 1 ladies have just missed out on the 2016 titles after just falling short in the recent Grand Finals. Congratulations to all teams for making the finals.

#### Under the dome

A Buninyong Bowling Club team has been competing in the inaugural Dome Series, under the 'big top'at the Sebastopol Bowling Club. The Buninyong side finished off the minor rounds with a big win over Learmonth but will not take part in the final series.

#### **Promising season**

The Buninyong football team is poised to establish themselves in the top four after strong wins against Newlyn, Skipton and top side Waubra. They sit in a log-jam of 7 sides at the top of the ladder with 5 wins. Congratulations to joint coach Jarrod Morgan on being appointed Captain of the Central Highlands Football league combined side.

'Mount' concert a great success

# Kids share amazing music



The Buninyong Primary School held its first ever Music On The Mount event on Saturday, 7 May. It was a wonderful opportunity for students to perform with the New Palm Court Orchestra and the music that resulted was simply amazing.

The experience of performing with an orchestra is something the students won't forget. For example, Year Four student Thomas Deans described Music on the Mount as "a great experience, especially as I performed with a famous violinist Jeremy Blackman." He said that he "can't wait to audition again next year, and that, on stage, I felt like a professional violinist."

Year Six student Grace Davidson said that it felt "brilliant" being on the stage. "It was a privilege and a heart stopper, and while I have been on stage many times before, this was special - really special," she said.

The event was a successful fundraiser for the school, with all proceeds being used to support the delivery of music and performing arts programs. The success of Music on the Mount 2016 means there may well be a Music On The Mount 2017.

#### PRD nationwide

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#### Napoleons equine learning program

# Makes a lot of horse sense

Emily McVeigh, 40, has been involved with horses all of her life. She started at an early age by mustering cattle on her parents' cattle stud at Hamilton in Western Victoria. Since then she has been around horses, even including stints as a track rider for racing stables in Victoria and NSW

But it was in 2009 that Emily came across a program in 'equine learning' that was showing great results with disturbed students and prisoners in the United States.

At that time she was a case worker at Ballarat training organisation *Finding Futures* and was curious to find out if the program involving close contact with horses would work here.

#### **Developing**

Then living in Buninyong, she began to float her team of eight horses to nearby Unicorn Park Equestrian Centre to develop the 'equine learning' program, particularly with children.

In 2011 she bought the 20 acre property at Napoleons, which with the help of her partner, has now been developed into a top-class equestrian facility.

Her program involves children and adults being able to experience various forms of non-riding sessions in close proximity to horses.

#### Changes

Emily said that parents and teachers had noticed a distinct change in children who had been involved in the program. It appeared to be especially effective with children with autism or ADHD problems,



or those having learning difficulties. Both adults and children having problems of depression, anxiety, anger or grief have been helped by the program.

"The 'feedback' and reactions of trust and empathy that comes from the horses leads to behaviour changes in participants such as better communication, body awareness, patience and relationshipbuilding," she said.

The effects of the Equine Learning Program is presently being clinically analysed by **Dr Christine Sadowski**, a researcher from Federation University. Sixteen participants, human service workers and educators were interviewed. Preliminary reports indicate very positive results from the program across a number of age groups.

This research has been made possible by a significant grant from the Buninyong Community Bank. Bank Board Director, **Peter Mees**, said that the Bank was pleased to support a local rural woman and a program that seemed to be achieving outstanding social and personal results.

#### **Finalist**

The effectiveness of her work saw Emily as a Finalist in the recent Victorian Rural Woman of the Year Awards.

Emily now has a team of ten horses of many sizes, colours and personalities with which she conducts sessions at her Napoleons property. For more details on Emily and the program look online at elea. com.au or email her at emily@elea.com.au.



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