

Golfer pinned for two hours when massive

Tee tree topples

A huge gum tree uprooted by wind gusts of almost 100 kph crashed onto a male golfer on the eighteenth tee at the Buninyong Golf course on 9 October pinning him by the legs for some two hours.

Several 45 cm thick branches of the tree fell across the 71 year old male golfer, believed to be from a visiting social group, as he waited to hit off at around 1.00 pm.

Paramedics from two ambulances, SES members, local CFA rescue members and police officers from two vehicles from Ballarat attended. Fifteen professionals from the various emergency services spent some two hours working to free the golfer who sustained leg injuries. He was later taken to hospital in a stable condition.

Tanker stuck

A Buninyong fire tanker which attended became bogged in the centre of the soggy eighteenth fairway and had to be towed out by a heavy haulage vehicle.

The golf course proved to be a dangerous spot during the gale-strength windstorm with several other trees being brought down. Club Captain **Frank Nolan** and his wife **Patrece** had a narrow escape. A tree limb crashed onto clubs attached to the rear of their golf cart seconds after they had moved away from it during a Club competition event.

Fallen trees were reported in several areas of Buninyong during the wind storm including a tree that fell onto a car in the supermarket car park. Eucalypts were the most affected with their shallow root systems being ripped out of the soaked soils by the powerful wind gusts.



Members of four emergency services worked for almost two hours to free a golfer trapped under a large gum tree.

Mt Clear's Tim a hero

CLOSE CALL FOR ROBBO

Popular Buninyong golfer John (Robbo) Robertson, 70, has had a rough time over the past twelve months. Since December he has had two hip replacements and three other surgical procedures.

All of that paled into insignificance however in late September when he and his wife **Kay** decided to attend a day-time screening at the Regent cinema complex. With a long school holiday queue waiting for tickets, Kay headed for the box office leaving John seated on a chair across the foyer.

All of a sudden John tumbled to the floor, unconscious. Later he was assessed as clinically dead. He had no heart beat. Although he had heart surgery in 2006 to insert stents into arteries, and in 2008 open heart double by-pass surgery, he had had no sign of heart problems since then.

Young hero

Amongst the cinema patrons, most frozen into inaction at the sight of John lying unmoving and face-down on the cinema's terrazzo floor, was a young teenager **Tim Yordonopulo**, a Year 9 student at Mt Clear Secondary College. He quickly turned John onto his side and began CPR.

The paramedics who arrived several minutes later said that Tim's actions had saved John's life as his heart had stopped

beating. It also certainly reduced the chance of serious ongoing damage.

Taken to the Base Hospital, John was put into an induced coma in the Intensive Care Unit for some 48 hours, but awoke with a mild concussion, a loss of short-term memory, a sore chest from the CPR and the paramedics' defibrillation work, but seemingly had escaped serious cardiovascular damage.

Visit

Soon after he awoke he was overwhelmed to be visited in the ICU by young Tim who expressed his delight in John's condition.

"While I had basic CPR knowledge, I never thought I would have to use it in such a critical situation," Tim said. He had learnt CPR from his parents (his mum had been a nurse) and from school friends who had been present when a school mate collapsed.

"From what I have been told that young lad was amazing," John said. "I really don't know what you say to someone who has just saved your life by his calm,



Tim Yordonopulo chats with a battered John Robertson in the ICU at the Ballarat Base Hospital soon after John was brought out of an induced coma.

quick and skilled action. All that I could do when I met him in hospital was to give him a big hug!"

John now has had a small defibrillator implanted to guard against any future electrical stoppages of his heart.

"I know playing in A Grade golf competitions I have figuratively 'come back from the dead' once or twice. But this time it was for real," he said.

Editor's Note: This incident underscores the importance of the BDCN's current "community access defibrillator project" for Buninyong which has now been funded and is close to being put in place.

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Howard agrees to changes to traffic lights

Member for Buninyong, Geoff Howard, jointly with VicRoads, announced in September that major revisions had been made to the plan to install fully-controlled traffic lights on Warrenheip Street, Buninyong, near the corner of Forest Street.



Gantry out

The large over-the-road gantry signage is out.

Key changes in the “compromise” version of the traffic lights project include

- dropping the large overhead gantry which usually spans the road carrying a set of lights
- reducing the size of the light panels from three lights to two (red and orange only)
- reducing the size of the poles carrying the traffic lights and painting them in a heritage colour
- having the lights illuminated only when the crossing button is pressed
- reducing and coordinating associated signage.

Importantly, the two-panel lights unit will only be illuminated when the crossing button is pushed

Divided views

These changes followed a community consultation session by VicRoads held at the Buninyong Town Hall which indicated that there was an almost evenly divided community opinion between those who favoured the full traffic light crossing, those wanting only a zebra crossing, and those not wanting a crossing at all.

The modifications also followed meetings of VicRoads engineers with representatives of the BDCA who had proposed a trial of a ‘no-lights’ zebra crossing, or an in-ground LED ‘crosswalk’ lighting system as used in Europe and in the USA.

During this meeting, the “compromise” proposal, which greatly reduced the visual impact of the traffic lights infrastructure, was put on the table and discussed with the BDCA.

While still contending that traffic lights were not needed, the BDCA considered the substantially modified ‘compromise’ plans to be a “vast improvement over the original project” which it submitted would have had a permanent negative impact on the historical street aspect.



Two lights in

Two panel lights similar to these at Bendigo will be used. A similar two-light set is on the Geelong Road near the Midvale roundabout at Mt Clear.



Changes announced

Ben Anderson (VicRoads) and Geoff Howard MLA at the public announcement.

Victorian community newspapers judged *News features at the Awards*

The Buninyong & District Community News was named in the top three placings in two categories of the Community Newspapers Association of Victoria (CNAV) Awards announced at the 2016 CNAV Conference held in Bendigo.

In just its second year of production, the new-look *Buninyong News* was judged to be one of the top three community newspapers in the State in both the *Best Layout and Design* and also in the *Best Sports Report* categories.

Some seventy community newspapers across Victoria are members of CNAV.

These range from community papers produced in small local communities such as Creswick, Learmonth, Buninyong and Brown Hill, to papers produced across several sizeable towns such as the *Waranga News* which covers the townships of Kyabram, Stanhope, Tatura and Rushworth, to substantial not-for-profit papers produced in city-fringe areas such as Rowville, Ferntree Gully and Warrandyte.

Big and small

Chair of the Management Committee of the *Buninyong and District Community News*, **Gayle Adams**, said that she believed that there should be a distinction made between community newspapers put together by all-volunteers in small communities, and those having paid staff in larger community areas.

She said that building on its three awards in the 2015 competitions, the *Buninyong and District Community News* is highly regarded among Victoria's community newspapers.

The judge of the *Best Layout and Design* section was Associate Professor **Simone Taffe** from the School of Design at Swinburne University of Technology. Among her comments on the *News* entry was that "This is a non-nonsense, easy-to-read

newspaper. The layout is clear and ordered. The big headings and choice of typeface are straightforward making the news easy to follow for the reader."

The Sports reporting category was judged by journalist **Lisa Dennis** who has been a general news and sports journalist for the *Castlemaine Mail* and *Midland Express* newspapers for some nineteen years.

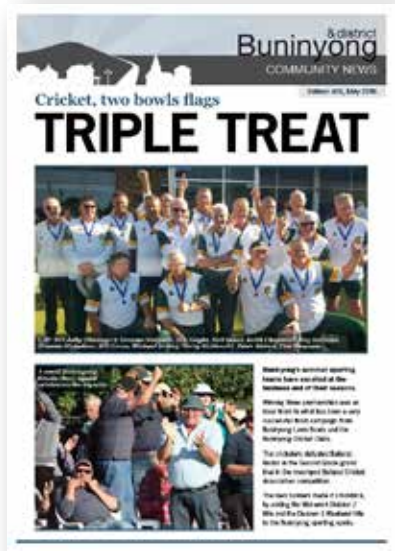
Fantastic

Her comment on the *News* entry – the report of the premierships won by Buninyong's bowls and cricket teams - was that "... it presented a fantastic Triple Treat bowls and cricket finals spread. This publication used clean layouts, great pics and very succinct editorial coverage which was short and sharp and to the point which is sure to keep the readers engaged.

I think it was terrific the way they included the picture of the elated bowls crowd celebrating the win on the front. It was great the way the editorial was broken up into three clear sections where readers could learn more about each final showdown rather than presenting the story in one big slab of text."

(Upper) Award-winning entries were the News editions with the cover about the battery problems and the one reporting on the bowls and cricket premierships.

(Lower) Buninyong Community News Chair Gayle Adams with Sarah Greenwood Smith of the Brown Hill Community Newsletter at the CNAV awards function





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There's more to Ballarat than the Eureka Stadium

PARKS PLANS PARKED

While Councillors and senior Council administrative staff continue to get quite excited about progress towards a mini-AFL stadium development up there at windswept Creswick Road, and continue to rattle State and Federal money boxes for more funds for that project, two recreational projects in Buninyong seem to be gathering dust on someone's desk at the Town Hall.

These are the upgrade projects for Buninyong's Desoza Park and for the Royal Park Reserve.

The former has been staggering along since a 'Master Plan' prepared by landscape architect **David Turley**, dated September 2010, was made available to the public in March 2011. What followed was a series of community 'consultations' conducted primarily by Recreation Planning and Development Officer, **David Ronaldson**, who is no-longer with the Council.

Lots of talk

The various meetings included public meetings at Desoza Park on 15 March 2011, and at the Royal Park pavilion on 26 March, and a Buninyong Progress Association meeting with Council top brass **Anthony Schinck** (CEO) and **Eric Braslis** (Director Growth & Development) on 26 April 2011.

At the latter meeting Mr Schinck said that he was "not comfortable with Master plans as they often created high, and often unreasonable expectations of what could be achieved in the short term." He said he proposed to "halt the master planning

process." He certainly managed to do that!

Since then another community-based group was put together in 2014 and came up with a detailed schematic plan, based on more much community reference this time. This appeared in August 2015 (see *Buninyong Community News*, September 2015) with comments again invited.

But twelve months on, with those comments on someone's desk, there's still no sign of action on Desoza Park at the Town Hall.

Royal Park

So too with plans for Royal Park. In 2015 there was a flurry of activity with consultants engaged, ideas called for, and the emergence in early 2016, of another detailed and quite exciting set of Stage 2 Concept Plans for this historic reserve.

The plans included desperately-needed soccer facilities and provided a range of interesting community access features. But over the past eight months or so, the 'draft management plans' haven't even made it to the council table for at least the mandatory tick-off to enable some serious work to be done in finalising them.

So if the newly-elected trio of South Ward Councillors, whoever they are, want to show some mettle and some energy, they might just wander by all of the desks in the Council bureaucracy to see if there is one desk piled high with a stack of public comments sitting on top of a couple of dusty plans for the upgrade of these two key recreational facilities in Buninyong.

We'll watch to see if their post-election action matches their pre-election hype!

& district
Buninyong
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.

Published monthly

Management Committee:
Gayle Adams, Michelle Corcoran.

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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.

The views expressed or information provided in this publication are not necessarily those of the Buninyong and District Community Association, the City of Ballarat or of the Buninyong Community Bank, including any officers, members, agents or contractors.

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Bessie... an Archies finalist

Buninyong Primary School's Bessie Chadwick, is once again a finalist in the national *The Young Archie* portrait competition. Portraits submitted are judged on merit and originality.

As well as being put online, works of all finalists are displayed at the Art Gallery of NSW in conjunction with the Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prizes exhibitions. Artworks receiving an honourable mention are also displayed online and, since 2014, at Sydney's SH Ervin Gallery.

Bessie commented: "I painted a portrait of my Nan (**Anne Petty**) and entered it into the *Young Archies* competition. It took a whole week for me to finish my artwork and everyone, including me, was very proud of my efforts."

Over 2000 children entered the competition and 300 were selected as finalists. Bessie said that while it is still being decided as to who has come first, second or third, she is "very proud of being a finalist."

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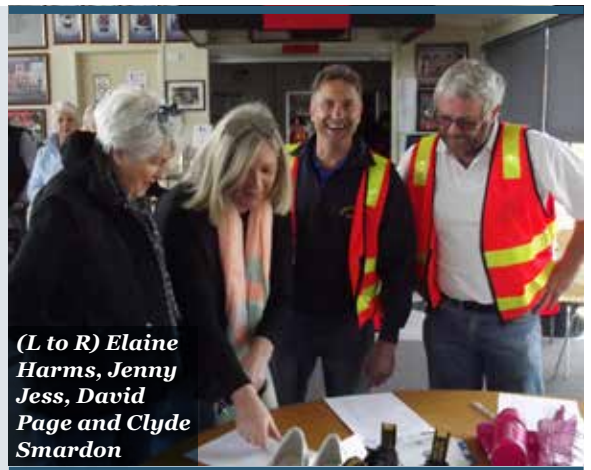
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Car trial boosts funds for Shorter kids

Last month several district Lions clubs combined to conduct a Car Trial with funds raised going to assist the installation of a hydrotherapy pool for the three Shorter boys afflicted with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). An article on the family was included in the October edition of *The News*.

Thirty-two cars participated in the trial which took entrants on a journey of about 70 km through various parts of Buninyong, Delacombe and Haddon. On their return to the Buninyong Sports Pavilion, as well as a popular BBQ, various silent auctions were held to raise additional funds.

Organiser **Simon Jess** said that some \$3500 was raised by the car trial bringing the 'pool' project total to \$8500.



(L to R) Elaine Harms, Jenny Jess, David Page and Clyde Sardon



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streettalk

SHINY NEW PLAQUE has appeared on a bluestone wall just near Espresso Depot. Marks the completion of the “civic space” near the Town Hall. On it, logos of the State Government (which largely funded it), and the City of Ballarat (which carried out the works). But no sign of the logo of the Buninyong and District Community Association which just came up with the proposal for the project, prepared the initial sketch plans, lobbied the Council to move on it, and liaised with Council planning and other staff over a couple of years. Maybe someone couldn't find the BDCA logo on Facebook!

MISSING FACE down at the community bank. Business Development Manager **Greg Veal** has handed in his resignation to take up a position with Ballarat-based PINARC, a not-for-profit service organisation for children and adults with a disability.

IF THAT OLD MINE SHAFT, slap-bang in the centre of the local sports ground, had opened up in the football season it could have had very serious results. While only about a metre in diameter at the surface, just a few centimetres down it widened out to a deep and cavernous pit. Just a metre or two away from the cricket pitches, it could have given a whole new meaning to fielding at silly mid-on!

OK!OK!OK! The bowlers DID offer the CFA fireys a drink after the pumping of the flooded greens operation at the bowling greens a while back. Shows that at least the bowlers read *Street Talk!*

NEW FACE on the Warrenheip Street North business strip. **Cathy Hopper** has purchased the Divine Vintage business from **Wendy Lynne** and has given it a makeover and introduced many new products. These include a range of hand-made soaps and candles, cushions, sets of tea cups, in addition to retaining some of the previous clothing, furniture and crystal. Cathy says business has been “great” so far and looks forward to people dropping by for a look at the new-look store.

NEW TOURISM CHIEF COMES TO TOWN

Newly-appointed CEO of Ballarat Regional Tourism (BRT) Noel Dempsey recently spent a morning in Buninyong meeting local business people, and looking at highlights of the township and surrounding district.

Coming to Ballarat from a senior tourism position at the Gold Coast, Noel Dempsey said that he was really interested to see the attractions of Buninyong for the first time. “The village certainly has retained its historical feel, and can offer visitors some unique experiences and places to visit in a tight geographical area,” he said.

Guide popular

Mr Dempsey said that the recently-released *Buninyong Visitor Guide* provided a very comprehensive cover of local attractions, and was proving very popular with visitors at the Ballarat Town Hall.

The tour of Buninyong was arranged by the BDCA's Tourism and Business Development Convenor, **Barry Fitzgerald**. After an inspection inside the Town Hall, the visitor was taken on a tour which included Desoza Park, notable homes and buildings, the Buninyong Cemetery, various sporting

facilities, the Botanical Gardens, the Mt Buninyong Reserve, the Lions bookshop and the Old Library.

At the Old Library, he met with volunteer **Ken Nicholls** (pictured) and looked at and discussed the resources available to visitors at the Information Centre. The Warrenheip Street centre is open for six days each week between about 10.00am and 3.00pm.

Mr Dempsey said that he had had just a brief visit to Buninyong previously “for a coffee and a short ride on my motorcycle” but that he was very impressed with the tourist potential of the historic village.



Australian first by local bank

Community to strike gold again

About thirty local businesses and community groups were present at the Buninyong Golf Club in early October for the launch of a new community-support initiative by the Buninyong Community Bank.

To be known as Community Gold the project will involve the bank providing support to local groups and charities through the distribution of small 'gold' cards of \$10 and \$20 'denominations' which can be used to purchase goods or services from listed local businesses.

Groups which apply for and are granted assistance by the Buninyong Community Bank may decide to use cards as prizes, gifts or other forms of incentive either singly or in multiples. Cards are for single

use enabling purchases from one of the twenty participating businesses in the bank's "area".

For example, in addition to some eighteen Buninyong businesses, the cards may also be used at the Napoleons General Store and at the Little Hard Hills Hotel, Enfield. The list of participating businesses is increasing month by month.

Profits back

Speaking at the "launch" function, Bank Board Chairman **Stephen Falconer** said that this was yet another initiative by the local community bank to invest much of its profits back into the community which supports it. Mr Falconer said that since the community bank started in August 2010 it has provided some \$600,000 in wide-ranging grants to worthy community projects and other forms of support.

The bank's Business Development Manager, **Greg Veal**, told the gathering that the Community Gold project was designed to help stimulate the regional economy by supporting local businesses.

He said, "It is hoped to achieve win-win results that can come from a new approach to

the age-old problems of raising money for clubs, schools or other not-for-profit organisations. Spending the funds with a local independent business could have a multiplier effect of up to three times the amount spent."

As a first in the 310 Bendigo Bank community bank network around Australia, this project is sure to be closely watched.



Greg Veal at the launch



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Celia went to my school too

Celia Burnham is a local resident from the Scotsburn area who was a pupil at my school. She started at Scotsburn Primary in 1961 and finished in 1967. She enjoyed school here a lot, just like me.

Celia is one of the Scott family who live in Scotsburn as well. An interesting thing about the Scott family is that Scotsburn is named after the Scotts. They had a big marsh in front of their house, and when they moved here Scotsburn was named Scotsmarsh. They then turned the marsh into a river. In Scotland a river is called a burn – so the name Scotsburn lives on.

Family

Celia has two sisters who are both older than her. When she started at Scotsburn school she had five cousins and one of her sisters to keep her company. But there were no other girls in her grade.

Celia has three daughters too. Their names are **Sarah, Emma** and **Lisa**. Emma also had no other girls in her grade, or even the grades above or below while she was at the Scotsburn School. She didn't mind because she comes from a mostly female family.

Scotsburn has always been a small school, and only ever had eighteen or twenty kids in it. That meant they only needed one classroom. The room Celia used still remains now, but it is no longer

divided into two classrooms.

Teachers

Celia was taught by three male teachers by the names of **Mr Horsman, Mr Brisbane** and **Mr Thompson**. They went on many excursions like Gould bird watching, tad-poling, and visiting Buninyong Primary School. A special part of the visit to Buninyong was the lunch!

Scotsburn held Fiskens sports where schools from around the district participated in the sports. Scotsburn only ever won one time while Celia was there.

At lunch and recess times students played in climbing trees and cubby huts, and on the monkey bars. At the end of the year they organised Christmas concerts, which we still do now.

Enjoy

Celia enjoys the Buninyong/Scotsburn area a lot and tries to help out where she can. She was once President of the Buninyong kinder.



I have really enjoyed writing about Celia and I found out a lot about Scotsburn primary school from many years ago. So thank you Celia for the time and effort you put into helping me with this article. If I didn't get to pick your brains on Scotsburn, this article wouldn't exist.

*By Amelia Plier, Grade 6,
Scotsburn Campus*

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

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Uniting Church concert Brilliant Welsh choir returns

In late June the Victorian Welsh Male Choir charmed over 200 guests with a magnificent concert at St Peter & Paul's Church, Buninyong. The concert was reported in the August edition of the *Buninyong and District Community News*.

Now the *Cor Bach* (Welsh for 'small choir') of some 20 singers is returning for a concert at Buninyong's Uniting Church on Sunday, 4 December commencing at 2.30 pm. Those who were disappointed at missing the June concert should book early for the coming event as the word is around that this will be another outstanding musical event.

This brilliant choir has performed at overseas venues, at the Sydney Opera House, the Docklands Stadium during the World Rugby Cup and at many smaller



venues throughout Australia. A few days ago the choir joined international soprano **Silvie Paladino** at the Melbourne recital centre.

Their repertoire usually includes a range of beautiful Welsh music (including the stirring *Men of Harlech*), music from popular stage shows, and even an audience – participation song *The Battle*

Hymn of the Republic. There will also be some music with a Christmas theme.

Tickets are \$25 and are available from **Bill Pryor** (5341 3397) or **Trevor Booth** (0418 503 388) or at the door. However early booking is recommended as there is only seating for some 120 at the historic Uniting Church, next to the Fire Station in Learmonth Street.

Plaque marks old cottage

Some forty members of the Ogilvie family, friends and local historians were present for the unveiling of a plaque at the historic Ogilvie cottage (on the Midland Highway, Mt Buninyong), in late September. The cottage is currently owned by Michael and Margaret McKee.

A plaque, recording the building of the cottage in 1866 by **Robert Ogilvy**, a native of Arbroath, Scotland, was unveiled by local historian, **Anne Beggs-Sunter**.

Robert Ogilvy was the father of **John Ogilvy**, curator of the Buninyong Gardens from 1924, and the grandfather of local identity **Don Ogilvie**.



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RSL gets Avenue plaques ready



RSL members Jason Goldsmith, Vic Bradley and Dennis Meehan with one of the 164 Buninyong Avenue plaques (Photo Ron Fleming)

Across Australia there are many WWI Avenues of Honour in need of restoration. The Buninyong RSL has been involved in two of these projects. More news on the Buninyong Avenue is included in News at a Glance in this issue.

The Cambrian Hill Avenue has been relocated across the road to be clear of

overhead power lines, 54 English Oaks have been planted, and a new plaque fitted to the original stone.

The RSL's Annual Dinner, open to all members of the community, will be held at the Buninyong Golf Club on Friday 25 November. Information and bookings from **Max Thorne**, 5342 0755/ 0418 519 529.



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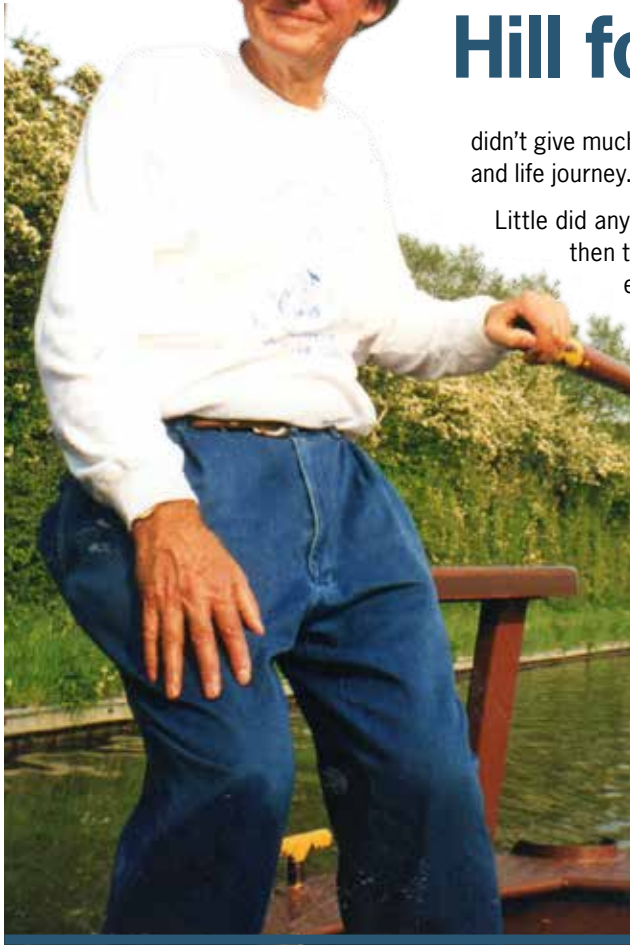


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At the tiller of a canal boat on the Llangollen Canal, UK in 1999.



Academic, grape-grower, walker, greenie... Patrick... baron of Bowen Hill for over forty years

didn't give much of a clue to his career and life journey.

Little did any of the family imagine then that young Patrick would end up as a Faculty Dean at a University, a grape grower, and recipient of an OAM.

Teacher

In 1963 he was taken on by the Victorian Education Department and posted to teach Business Studies at Footscray Technical School (business studies would not have exactly been the first choice of subjects by the Footscray Tech kids in those days!)

After four years there, he became a foundation member of staff of the School

of Mines Ballarat (SMB) in the Business Studies Department. He moved with SMB to the Mt Helen Campus in 1972 and, following SMB's merger in 1976 with the SCV Ballarat (the old Teachers' College), he then became Head of the School of Business in the new Ballarat CAE.

He remained in that role until 1996 after some 27 years with the SMB, BCAE and subsequently the University of Ballarat.

The year 1972 was also significant for Patrick as it was then that he bought five acres ('a cow paddock'), for \$4500, on Bowen Hill just south west of the town centre of Buninyong. He built a home on the property and, in 1982, started off his own vineyard there, planting chardonnay, riesling and pinot noir grapes.

The property was opposite a bushland Reserve in Cathcart Street. Upon returning home on Australia Day in 1999, the Hopes saw a Bartrop Real Estate For Sale sign on it. This sparked the two Hopes and other locals including **Eric McLeod, Alan Bath, and John and Jill Hurley** into a furious, and successful, battle to save it as a Crown reserve.

The Hope home and vineyard became somewhat notorious for the rollicking parties which followed the grape harvest around April of each year, with up to fifty friends, neighbours and work colleagues partying long and hard after picking the grapes. The last of these was held in 2010 when Pat's health had begun to wane.

He and wife **Pat** (Kelso) moved to a smaller home in central Buninyong in 2011.

Active

Patrick Hope was busy in Buninyong community affairs being the long-term Treasurer of the Historical Society, a volunteer at the Information centre, and a member of the Board of Regional Tourism. For his services in the latter role he was awarded an OAM in 2006.

Thirteen year old Patrick Hope arrived in Australia in 1950 with his mother, brother and a sister as a 'Ten Pound Pom' on the SS Cheshire. His father, an electrician, had arrived earlier and had set up home in the Melbourne working-class suburb of Sunshine.

Schooling at Sunshine Tech, work as a telegram boy and a clerk at ICI, also

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Authorised by Geoff Howard MP, 15 Main Road, Ballarat VIC 3350

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Patrick at home at Bowen Hill with pet cat *Mystopholes*, in 2008.

He is still active in the Great Dividing Trail Association of which he is a Life Member.

The two Pat Hopes shared a love of cycling – once even spending a week riding around the world’s largest fresh water lake, Lake Baikal, in Siberia. This lake is near Irkutsk – coincidentally the home town of Buninyong’s recent Russian exchange student, **Violetta Makarova**.

It was around 2006 when he was first diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease, with the tell-tale shaking of his hands being the first signal that something was wrong. Now a resident of Nazareth House, his keen mind still is still very much focussed on Buninyong happenings - perhaps not surprising after the 44 years he spent as a resident here.

Remembrance Day 2016 Come to RSL Park on the eleventh

The Buninyong RSL will be conducting a Remembrance Day ceremony in RSL Park on Friday 11 November, commencing at 10.45am. Light refreshments will be served in the RSL Hall following the service.

Anyone, or any organisation wishing to lay a wreath at the ceremony is welcome to do so but should advise the RSL in advance.

Earlier this year local RSL President, **Ray Mende**, travelled to Belgium and laid a wreath on behalf of Buninyong RSL members at the Menin Gate Memorial which is dedicated to British and Commonwealth soldiers killed at Ypres during World War I. He had been personally invited to take part in the moving ceremony and recited the exhortation.

He said that he felt “very proud, humble and honoured to have been chosen to take part in the ceremony.”



Pictured is Ray Mende with members of the local Belgian Fire Brigade which has played the Last Post and Reveille at a ceremony each night since 1928 (except between 1940 and 1945 during the German occupation).



POLICE BEAT

TWO MASKED OFFENDERS

attempted to car-jack a resident In Darrivell Drive, Mount Helen on 31 August 2016. The victim was preparing to reverse her car out of the garage when two males crept up alongside the car and demanded the keys to her car. There was some quick thinking by the driver who utilised the horn to scare them away. A 17 year old male has since been arrested and charged in relation to the matter.

A FORD FAIRMONT sedan was stolen from a drive way in Oak Bank Drive, Mount Helen on 31 August 2016. The owner of the vehicle had left his keys in the ignition overnight. Earlier the same day, three vehicles were stolen from an address in Henry Avenue, Mount Helen. The offenders located a garage door remote in a car parked outside the address and used it to access the residence, locating the keys to all three cars. The same male charged for the attempted theft in Darrivell Drive has been charged with these offences also.

AN UNKNOWN OFFENDER has caused significant damage to the security gate at the top of the Mount Buninyong Tower. The gate leads to the Fire Tower which is utilised by DELWP during the fire danger period. Although no access to the Tower was gained, the damage caused was quite significant.

MT CLEAR SECONDARY

COLLEGE became the victim of an unwanted burglar on 28 September. A single male attended the school and located an unlocked door on the second story. A small amount of damage was caused and some loose change stolen. Detectives are viewing CCTV footage and are currently making enquiries as to the identity of the male offender.

PARKING FINES have been issued to owners of vehicles around the Buninyong Primary School who continue to disobey No Stopping signs. Please be aware of these surroundings. With such a large number of children walking around before and after school, we do not want it to be an unsafe place for them.



Ridge roof renew

Buninyong is a village with strong historical roots. Settled even before Ballarat, by 1851 it had stores, blacksmiths, a medical practice and a boarding school, according to various historical accounts. It is described as 'a charming village that hasn't changed much for decades'. (Traveller)

Fast forward to the present day however and it was apparent to **Shirley Ford**, owner of the building which is now *Ridge Clinic*, that even galvanized iron, after sitting out in all weathers since 1882, will show the passage of the years. The aerial photos taken during one of the earlier Buninyong bike races showed the roof, the rust and just how bad it looked.

Grant

Fortunately, *The Courier* had earlier published an article about grants available through Heritage Victoria for remediation

work to appropriate buildings. This was just what Shirley needed.

Shirley submitted an application proving that she owned the title, information about the history and heritage of the building, together with photographs of the building and the roof. Heritage work requires thicker iron and better grade material than normally used and Shirley was granted reimbursement of half the quoted cost.

Unfortunately when plumber **Gary** removed all the rusty iron he found that the whole roof had to be re-battened, which was not expected and would not be covered by the grant.

But Shirley and **Micheal** say the extra cost was well worth it and their next project is to get the timber repainted.

If there are aerial shots at the next bike race, the new roof will be proudly on display.

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Market restarts

On a sunny but brisk Spring Sunday morning last month, the Buninyong Village Market which had been in recess since February came back to life. Much of the credit for the rebirth must go to the Good Life Festival's **Lisa Cressey** who has taken on the role of market manager.

Prior to her opening the popular business *Celebrate* in 2015 on the north business strip of Warrenheip Street, Lisa had a background in events management when working for local company Pilkington Productions.

With 25 stalls, a couple of buskers, and a sausage sizzle run by the Scotsburn School, the comeback Market attracted a good crowd of locals, passers-by and at least one of the candidates for a spot on the City Council.

In a good sign most of the stall holders indicated that they had "booked for



the rest of the year." These included (pictured below) **Toni and Craig Alden** (from Brown Hill) who had their range of soaps and body products on their Lady Bug Luxe stall. On the adjacent stall, Just Coz Candles, was **Sarah Conder** (Haddon), who went to school and grew up in Buninyong.

The market will run on the morning of the last Sunday of each month from September to May. However the December market will be a twilight market to be held on 10 December to coincide with the community's Christmas Carols.

New Avenue trees go in

Council contractors were in action along Learmonth Street in late September planting 34 new oak trees to fill vacant spots along Buninyong's Avenue of Honour.

The additional trees brings the number of trees in the Avenue to 164 – equating to the number of men from the former Shire of Buninyong who were killed or

who died in the First World War. Each will be honoured by a plaque mounted on a concrete plinth.

The Buninyong RSL is planning to re-dedicate and 're-open' the restored Avenue of Honour on Saturday 1 July 2017 to coincide with the centenary of the planting of the trees in the original avenue which took place on Saturday 30 June 1917. A major community celebration is planned.



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AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, 5 LYDIARD ST NTH BALLARAT 3350

Lisa's lucky cocky flies free

A couple of months ago, a young white cockatoo spent a week sitting high in a tree near the post office in Warrenheip Street. Although visited by his mother each morning to be fed, he sat there, squawking loudly but not moving during that time.

Local shop-owner, **Lisa Cressey**, who watched the daily ritual, called the noisy youngster George. After George didn't show any signs of flying away after the week or so went by, Lisa called the animal rescue group BADGAR to see if there were any issues with him.

Injury

On the afternoon of Buninyong's first day of snow in 2016, Lisa together with BADGAR's **Gary** and **Leanne**, managed

to catch the young cockatoo, and found that he had a wound under his wing.

Taking the bird into their care BADGAR called in a vet who determined that George had been bitten by another bird or animal and that the wound had gone septic. Had he not been captured and looked after when he was, George was facing a certain death,

After four weeks of being cared for by BADGAR volunteers, George was taken to Desoza Park, much to the delight of his mother, who came to him and they happily flew off into the blue sky.

For help with any injured wildlife, contact BADGAR Emergency Wildlife Rescue on 1300 223 427.



In the Spring

In the spring, the sun casts a bright yellow glow
behind grey gum trees
waking up sleepy birds
who chatter quietly
then fly high overhead.

Children run around in circles outside
laughing after winter's hibernation
whilst parents sit in plastic chairs
facing the sun and
listen to the gentle hum
of lawnmowers in the distance
wallabies and rabbits run across
gardens nibbling the first young grass
laden with dew
the first narcissus and hyacinth start
to flower
braving the cold winds

Golden globes of wattle flowers hang
down
from grey tree branches and drape
the ground

Pink camellias mass amongst shiny
green leaves
and drop their petals over sodden ground
but when the rain comes back again
and dark clouds cover yellow light
everyone goes back inside
to hibernate a little longer
but the flowers stay open for another day.

Pauline Porteous

Editor's note – this is an unpublished poem about springtime in Buninyong and Mount Helen written by a local resident.

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JOSHUA MORRIS MP
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Big grant for fire zone

The Victorian Government has provided a grant of \$624,000 to assist the Leigh Catchment Group (LCG) to restore and revegetate the Scotsburn bushfire affected area. The group is partnering with the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) to work with affected landholders.

CCMA Chairman, **Alice Knight**, said that the Corangamite Regional Landcare program and the Leigh Catchment Group have already provided much needed assistance and support to property owners impacted by fires last season.

LCG Chairperson, **Andrea Mason**, said "Our Landcare network is a community-based organisation which has delivered natural resource and community projects into the area since 1999. We have the expertise and ongoing commitment to deliver this important project into our community."

The Scotsburn Phoenix Project will deliver a range of programs designed in

consultation with the affected landholders, CCMA, local Landcare groups, council, agency and local expertise to provide informative, educational and on-ground activities that will help restore and create a more resilient natural environment and community in the fire affected landscape.

Property plans and environmental advice will inform where activities such tree planting, waterway protection, sustainable agriculture and bushland enhancement are best placed.

A project scope and guidelines will be developed as soon as possible to enable landholders to begin planning.

Call either **Nick McKinley**, LCG Coordinator (0455 147 398) or **Andrea Mason**, Chairperson, (0427 338 482) for more information.

Coming Events

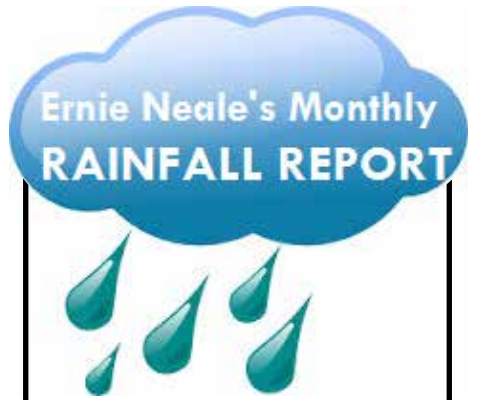
Friday 11 November, 10.45am. Remembrance Day Ceremony, RSL Park.

Sunday 20 November, 12.00-5.00pm. Beneath the Mount. Lunch, wine tastings, cheeses, music. Sinclair of Scotsburn, Wiggins Road. Details and booking-beneaththemount@gmail.com

Sunday 27 November, 9.00am-1.00pm. Buninyong Village Market. Town Hall Precinct. Get out and support it.

Friday 2 December, 6.45pm. Buninyong Golf Club, Christmas Party with live band Mad Cow. Two course meal with bubbly on arrival, \$60. Book 5341 3217.

Sunday 4 December, 2.30pm. Victorian Male Welsh Choir, Uniting Church, Learmonth St. Tickets, \$25, Trevor Booth 0418 503 388.



Wettest in a century

They say you should be careful of what you wish for. Last year September opened with above 30° temperatures and drying winds, the start of a very early long hot summer. By the end of it we were all wishing for the return of a cooler, much wetter year in 2016.

Now it's a year later and, instead of 30° days, September 2016 has delivered several 30mm days. Our total of 152.3 mm made this September the wettest in a century (last September's 37.2 mm made it one of the driest). As a result the land is almost crying with joy.

Hastie's Spring in Innes Lane is gushing, with a small lake full of frogs loudly celebrating the rain. Lal Lal Falls is roaring with energy. Now is the time to walk Buninyong, to see and hear the vitality throughout our creeks, tracks, paddocks and in the bush.

Valuable rain has fallen, waterways and springs are flowing strongly, dams are full, aquifers are up and soils are certainly moist. A wonderful winter is being followed by a sensational spring – we couldn't wish for more.

SEPTEMBER 2016			
Date	Rain	Date	Rain
5	1.0	19	3.7
10	34.4	20-23	12.8
11	2.0	26	6.4
12	5.8	27	9.0
13-14	56.6	28-30	15.2
15 - 16	5.4		
TOTAL		152.3 mm	
Year to date		597.0 mm	



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Wet start for summer sports

After a brilliant finish to the 2015-2016 seasons with premierships in cricket and lawn bowls, record rainfall in September and continued falls in October have made it difficult for our Buninyong summer sports teams to prepare for the coming seasons.

Green flooded

Buninyong lawn bowlers are frustrated that the wetter than average spring is making it difficult for them to spend any quality time on their home greens. Buninyong green keeper **Scott Roberts** and his team have done an amazing job to prepare the green considering it has been totally under water twice in the last month. As a result of this latest rain event, bowls was cancelled throughout the district.

After premierships last season, Buninyong's top weekend and mid-week sides step up a division this season. President **Wayne Morgan** said the club has worked hard over the last three or four seasons to achieve the success that has put them into the Premier Division and Division 1 (Mid Week). The club is confident that both sides will be competitive and looks forward to them taking on the challenge of playing in tougher company.

Cricket stalled

The Buninyong Cricket team have also been set back in their preparation due to the condition of cricket grounds around the district. The first three weeks of the season have already been lost due to water logged grounds and it is unlikely that Buninyong will play any early fixtures on their home ground after a huge hole appeared after the heavy September rains.

After tasting success last year in their first year in the Second XI competition they are keen to make sure that they play finals and have the chance of 'back-to-back' premierships. **Daniel Kitchen** takes over the captaincy from **Dale Harris** who will drop down

to mentor younger players in lower grades. The Under 14 and 13 teams will be looking for stronger seasons having another year of experience under their belts. The Club is looking forward to running "In2 Cricket" sessions for five to eight year olds at the Buninyong primary school oval. The sessions will be on Thursday nights from 5-6 pm, commencing on the 27 October. Contact **Russell Sharp** 0437 074 547.

Tennis juniors on show

The Buninyong Community Tennis Club has been less effected by the weather than our cricket and lawn bowls teams. Playing on the hard courts of the Buninyong centre has allowed them to commence their season without interruption. Buninyong will field eight teams in the summer season. Seven junior teams, three in A Grade, one in B Grade, and three in C1/C2, give an indication of the strength of the Buninyong junior program. As 'A' Grade defending champions, the club has high expectations of success. There is also one senior team in the A3 section.

The popular Fast4 competition will commence in November on Wednesday evenings, and then again after Christmas. In conjunction with the Good Life Festival, there will be the annual Central Highlands Masters Series tournament in Buninyong on 30 October.

Ray Sullivan



Ray Sullivan's SPORTS NEWS

Bowls loss in top tier

Buninyong's start to their Premier campaign didn't go as planned with a 17 shot loss to City Oval on a heavy, home green. The side is determined to bounce back in their first trip to Geelong in round 2. The midweek Division 1 team has also found the going tough, starting the year with back-to-back losses.

The Buninyong side's undefeated run in the Dome series at Sebastopol came to an end in the semi-finals. Their only loss in the series. This was a great performance in a fiercely contested competition.

Medal tied up

Buninyong golfers will have to wait until next month to know who wins the October monthly medal. A three-way tie between B-graders **Ron Delaland** and **Alex Jenkins** and A-grader **Kevin Robinson**, with a score of 71, led the field in heavy conditions.

C-grade winner was **Jason Lee** with 74. The Ladies winner was **Helen Pascoe** with 34 pts.

Good start in tennis

Buninyong started off the season in good form. Wins in A3 seniors, two wins in Junior 'A' Grade and a win in Junior C3 was a good lead in to the summer competition.

The Club welcomes social members to use the courts. Anybody who would like any further information on anything tennis in the Buninyong area can contact **David Ebbs** on 0409 577 753.

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Steve Doddrell Master of his profession

After more than sixteen years in Buninyong, physiotherapist Steve Doddrell has just completed another professional milestone. A few weeks ago he graduated with a Master's Degree in Sports Physiotherapy from LaTrobe University.

He said that after practising for 26 years he found the three years of study for

the higher degree “very stimulating and professionally refreshing.”

After graduating with his Bachelor's degree in Physiotherapy in 1990, Steve spent three years travelling and working through Canada and Europe.

Family

In 1996 he married **Emily**, a qualified massage therapist, and they have two teenage daughters – **Sophie**, 18 currently studying for her VCE at Ballarat Clarendon College, and **Phoebe**, 16.

In 2000 he opened up a physiotherapy practice in Buninyong, initially based at the Ridge Clinic building in Learmonth Street. Then, in 2007 he moved to his present rooms in the old Eagle Hotel building in Warrenheip Street from where he currently practises, and where Emily is the smiling front-of-house manager.

Steve also helps out on the local sporting front, being the team physiotherapist for the Buninyong Bombers football club.



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5. Cut back overhanging tree branches close to property – no branches within 10 metres.
6. Keep gutters and roof areas clear of leaf litter (if you are physically able to).
7. Remove all materials from around the home that could burn, such as boxes, furniture and woodpiles.

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Springtime at the bowls

The *Buninyong Community News* rain watcher, Ernie Neale has reported that September 2016 has seen the highest rainfall – 152mm – in Buninyong for at least a century (see p 17).

The first three weeks of October also saw rain continue to fall on a regular basis across the district. Perhaps the most dramatic example of how the Buninyong area is saturated can be seen in the two photographs of the greens at the Buninyong Bowling Club.

The picture (right) was taken in late September and shows **Tom Gallagher** trying out the pace of the greens which were just slightly slower than is usual for this time of the year.

The dramatic lower photograph of the club's historic original clubrooms was taken by News sports reporter **Ray Sullivan** on 21 October, just past the half-way mark of the Spring season.

Despite the efforts of the local CFA brigade who were called in to pump water off the flooded greens, and the work of curator **Scott Roberts** and his volunteer team, Buninyong lawn bowlers have had severely curtailed practice sessions for much of the months of September and October.

