



Twelve line up for three Council spots...

CROWDED HOUSE

Twelve nominations for the South Ward, which includes the Buninyong area, have been received by for the City of Ballarat Council elections to be held on Saturday 22 October.

Each of the three retiring Councillors, **Des Hudson, Peter Innes** and **Jim Rinaldi** have re-nominated. A former Councillor **Ben Taylor** has nominated, and another, **Tony Goodfellow**, stood for the Greens in the 2014 State election. The other candidates are facing the electorate for the first time. The nominations are

- David Armstrong
- Peter Innes
- Koby Bunney
- Brian Pola

- Dianne Colbert
- Tony Goodfellow
- Merle Hathaway
- Des Hudson
- Tim Powell
- Jim Rinaldi
- Nick Shady
- Ben Taylor

More information on each of the candidates can be found at pages 4-5 of this edition where their brief answers to two questions are shown. Candidates were asked to summarise in about 40 words (i) why they decided to nominate for Council, and (ii) why district residents should vote for them.

The Buninyong & District Community Association will again organise a Public

Forum to which all candidates have been invited. At this stage ten candidates have advised they will be attending. All residents are invited to come along.

Each nominee will give a brief summary of his or her background and then will respond to set questions put to them by the Chairman of the Forum. Following, there will be opportunity for questions from the floor.

The Forum is set for the Buninyong Town Hall on Thursday, 6 October 2016 between 7.30pm and 9.00pm. Supper and a chance to chat with candidates will follow.

On Sunday 16 October

Lions car trial to help three very sick kids

District Lions Club raise funds for many community charities. But the 2016 Lions Car Trial, a project of the combined-Ballararat Lions clubs, has one aim – to raise funds to help a local family with three very sick kids. Three of the four young children of Mount Clear’s Belinda and Leigh Shorter have a life-threatening disease.

In late 2013 two of their boys, **Max** now 7, and **Will** 5, were diagnosed with the debilitating Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) disease. The disease results in muscle loss, initially in the legs but then spreads to other parts of the body. In early 2015, another younger son, **Hudson** now three years of age, was also diagnosed with the same disease. One year old sister, Sofia does not have the disease.

The Car Trial funds will be used to help install a hydrotherapy pool at the home of the boys to provide some relief and support as the muscles in their legs and arms progressively weaken. The Lions also recently ran a raffle for the same project. Winner of the \$500 voucher to the Rich River Country Club was **Jodie Porter**.

Rare

One in some 3500 boys will contract DMD with the symptoms appearing around the age of two or three years. Most children are wheelchair bound by ages of ten or twelve, and average life

expectancy is only some 25 years.

While there is some promising research involving stem cell replacement therapy and gene replacement, DMD is still regarded as a terminal disease.

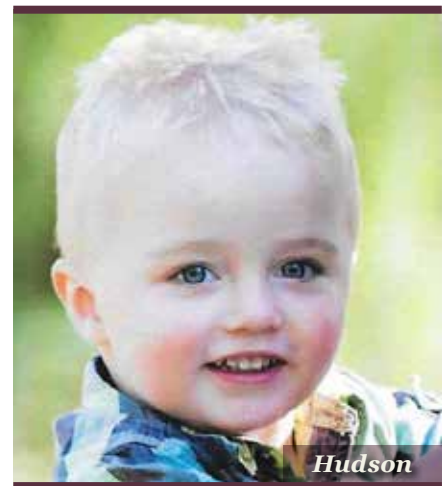
Organiser of the Lions Club car rally, **Simon Jess**, said that all were invited to join in the fund-raising event. The entry fee of \$20 per car will include the chance to win lots of prizes, and the Club will have food and drinks for sale when cars return to the oval.

Have fun and help

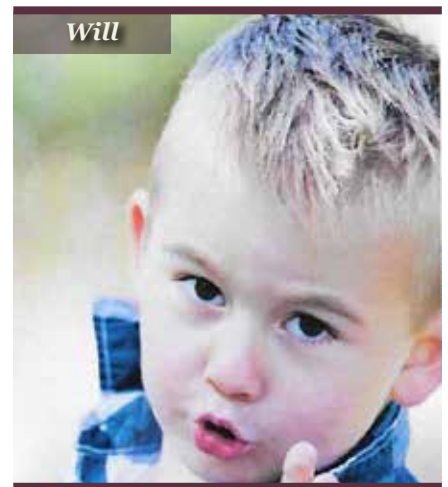
“This is a chance for young and old community members to show their navigation skills, have a fun time, and help a really great cause,” Mr Jess said. “The Shorters are a terrific family. While Belinda and Powercor-employee husband, Leigh, are shattered by the sickness of their boys, they are doing everything to give them a happy and normal life for as long as they can.”

The start and finish of the event will be at the Buninyong football/cricket oval and registrations start at 9.00am for a 10.00am start on Sunday 16 October. Or early registration can be made at lionscartrial@gmail.com.

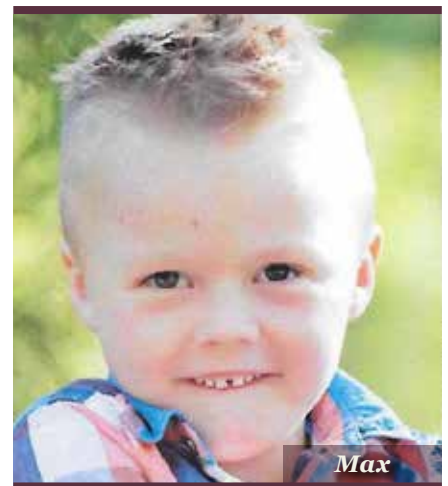
The event will take vehicles over a distance of some 70 km and most entrants are expected to take two to three hours to complete the course.



Hudson



Will



Max

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Industry award to Buninyong LIZ'S WEBSITE TOPS THE REST

The Buninyong Community Website gained the top award in the Community Website section at the recent Australian and New Zealand Internet Awards (ANZIA) event held at the Plaza Ballroom in Melbourne.

The Buninyong website (buninyong.vic.au) was created and is maintained and developed by **Liz Lumsdon** as a community service on behalf of the Buninyong Joint Library Trust.

In 2007, the Trust decided to extend the reach of the Buninyong Information Centre by developing an extensive on-line presence in the form of the website. Over the past ten years or so the website has been greatly enhanced and now contains a huge amount of historical, reference, business and community group information.

It also carries all copies of the *Buninyong and District Community News* with the 'new-look' editions being in full colour.

Recognition

The ANZIA is an annual function, held variously in Australia or New Zealand which recognises website excellence in terms of innovation, information, accessibility and security. The six categories of the Awards are open to businesses, organisations and individuals. This year the Buninyong website was the

winner in the *Leonie Dunbar Memorial Award for Community Websites* category. This award goes to the site which best "reflects community interests such as local business, tourism, historical information, culture, sporting groups, local events and news."

Other finalists in this section in 2016 were the Bowraville Community Website from northern NSW and the Harcourt Valley Community Website from Central Victoria.

Winners

Recent winners in this category were the Tamahere Forum (NZ) in 2015, and in 2014 the Apollo Bay Community Website.

Liz Lumsdon said she was "over the moon" when the Buninyong website was announced as the winner. "There are literally hundreds of community websites in Australia and New Zealand and it is a great honour to be announced as the best community site for 2016," she said.



The handsome ANZIA trophy is now on display at the Old Library.

She is very well-qualified in her role with the community website, holding both a Graduate Diploma and a Master's degree concerning the educational uses of computers in the community.

In addition to her voluntary work as designer and co-ordinator of the Buninyong website on behalf of the Library Trust, Liz also conducts a small Buninyong-based commercial website business called *UpThere*.

Photo: Kit Haselden

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In their own words

CANDIDATES PITCH FOR YOUR VOTE



David Armstrong

I'm standing for Council because I strongly believe that the current Council has largely forgotten about working class people. I want a fair go for the silent majority. People are not improving their properties because their rates will go up.

Other obvious problems include parking, the state of our roads, and the awarding of Council

contracts such as the Meals on Wheels contract to a Melbourne company - these are examples which are of great concern to me and to many others.



Tony Goodfellow

I grew up in Ballarat and love the place. I care for the future of the city in which my daughter will grow up. The Council needs another strong, progressive voice to ensure development is sustainable and focussed on community needs, not just those of property developers.

Local issues I would focus on include action on climate change, sustainability, heritage, housing affordability, better links between the CBD and Fed Uni. A key priority is active transport –walking and cycling. Buninyong could be a success story as a pedestrian and cycling-friendly town.



Koby Bunney

The community has continuously been angry or dismayed by the action of Councillors of the City of Ballarat. I know the level of responsibility and trust that I am asking you for. I know I will have a positive impact. I will not let you down.

Buninyong holds a special place in my heart. My family was a

founding family, and my early years were spent in Buninyong. It is a community and not just a town. It is vital that its beauty and magic be protected. It's presently missing out on opportunities.



Merle Hathaway

I am shocked by Councillors' lack of understanding of community, arts and environmental issues, their failure to listen, or even read Council's own policies. I want to make Ballarat an even better place to live.

I came to Buninyong for its unique environment and will work to preserve that. I am hard-working, honest, politically independent, with experience in arts/tourism management, and am committed to social justice and environment.



Dianne Colbert

I want a local government that is transparent and values community input, and that is run efficiently and economically. Ballarat Council rates place a strain on household budgets. The impact of Council decisions on residents' mental health is a concern.

I will support residents to get their genuine concerns

heard by Council. In Council decision-making I would consider its impact on the community – economically, socially, psychologically and community safety. My consultation process would listen to and value the locals of the area.



Des Hudson

I stand for Council because Ballarat is a thriving city with enormous potential as a centre for jobs, economic development, tourism and sport. I want to be part of the team that continues this success.

Buninyong is a growing community with a unique village feel. It requires representatives who can deliver progress while preserving its natural character. I will honour this responsibility and work hard for more.



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Peter Innes

The South Ward needs a strong voice within Council. In overall planning, budgeting and resource allocation there is always the risk that "central" concerns can swamp the things that matter to the 'district' areas. I'll make sure there is a balance.

I live in, know and love this community. I have worked hard

to represent South Ward residents over many years now. I will continue to be visible and accessible, will listen, and will act on local concerns with energy.



Brian Pola

I love Buninyong with its village feel, its strong sense of community, its arts community, its history. I'm keeping an eye on the Buninyong Township Plan. Proposed traffic lights are controversial, but the bottom line is public safety.

Secondly, the Buninyong Town Hall must remain a community hall for Buninyong.



Tim Powell

The Council needs a better mix of business, community and technical voices. I plan on being the technical voice of reason. As an engineer I know that I will bring the methodology back to decision-making.

The Council's debt projections are \$69million over the next five years. This will take decades to pay back. I want

to steer the debate away from 'big ticket' projects, and back to essential services that will benefit all residents.



Jim Rinaldi

In 2012 I stood for Council because I was angry at its mismanagement and at the failure of councillors to make the then-CEO and senior officers accountable. I believed that I had the good experience and strength of character to make a stand. I still do!

In my eighteen months on Council I have pushed to

improve proper financial control and accountability. Council must direct its priorities back to the basics and stop wasting money. I want to get value for every dollar spent. Common sense has been sadly lacking



Nick Shady

The growing community debt, with the current five year plan increasing it to \$70million is a big concern to me. I am sick of the damage that poor planning and representation is causing. Lack of drainage is causing roads to break up.

Traffic and parking are a concern in our village. We need a future plan to remove

heavy vehicles from Buninyong. I am a candidate with extensive business skills and experience. I care about the community and the future of our residents.



Ben Taylor

When I left Council in 2012, there was a debt of some \$9.3 million. In only four years since it has grown to a staggering \$48 million. This Council needs a new direction and vision for the future and control over its spending.

I love Buninyong and will continue to work with the community to secure funding to deliver on local projects. In addition there

needs to be a better focus on the basics - rate levels, rubbish, and importantly future management of traffic on local roads.

Some information about the election

The election for the Ballarat Council will be conducted as a postal ballot. Ballot packs will be mailed to registered voters by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) between 4 and 6 October.

Completed ballot papers must be mailed or hand delivered to the Ballarat VEC office, 5B Doveton Street North to arrive before 6.00pm on 21 October. The phone number of that office is 132 326.

Voting will be preferential, all squares should be numbered 1 – 12. The candidate with the lowest number of [1] votes will be eliminated and his/her preferences distributed. Then the next lowest candidate will be eliminated and so on.

A person with multiple properties within the South Ward is entitled to only one vote.

Buninyong & District Community Association BALLARAT COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2016

SOUTH WARD CANDIDATES' FORUM

All Buninyong and district residents
are invited to the above forum to

be held at the Buninyong Town Hall on

Thursday 6 October at 7.30pm

Buninyong now home

Heart and soul is in his music

The Courier (8 July 2016) carried a story headed *Buninyong Hits Right Notes for Soul Artist*. It concerned Buninyong resident Geoffrey Williams, who among other activities, teaches Contemporary Voice at both Ballarat Grammar and at Ballarat College.

Some ten years ago, UK-born Geoffrey was busy with song writing and recording. During his career he has written hits for **Michael Jackson** and **Dusty Springfield**, has collaborated with **Colour Me Badd** and played alongside bassist **Bootsy Collins** of Parliament-Psychadelic fame. He has also recorded five of his own albums.

He described life then as “interesting but unsatisfying.” One day he realised that he was “living life but not enjoying it.”

He and his Australian wife **Georgina** (also a musician and music teacher) then decided to move to Australia. Their first choice was Daylesford.

At the time they were quizzed by **Gordon Harvey**, a local reporter, about what brought them to Daylesford from such an exciting life, with Geoffrey performing at major venues around the world.

The response was that there were two main things – raising their family, and seeking new horizons.

Move

The move to Buninyong came a few years ago when, during a bad bushfire season, the family had to leave their Daylesford home for several days. While they were very happy in that town, enjoying the surrounds and the creative population, they realised

the potential dangers of being trapped with few options of escape from their home there during a bushfire.

A second reason for the move here was that they wanted their two young daughters to attend the local Steiner school.

In addition to his teaching roles at the two Ballarat private schools, Geoffrey is a songwriter at the Victorian College of the Arts, runs choirs in Ballarat and Daylesford, and teaches voice to private students.

Choir project

He also has been heavily involved in putting together the *2016 Boite Schools Chorus* project. This is an unauditioned choir project for schools and community youth choirs across Victoria. This year’s project, titled *A Windrush*, draws on songs of the Caribbean, and on the new sound and culture which developed in the UK as a result of the post-WWII migration from the West Indies.

Now, on his one day off each week, Geoffrey and Georgina enjoy walks in the hills around Buninyong, they pat horses, have “gorgeous” neighbours, catch the bus at the end of the street, love their family and are enjoying life. They feel “very safe” here. Geoffrey describes Buninyong as “the icing on the cake.”

Cassandra Carland



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Conciliation on village traffic lights dispute

A balance of amenity & safety

The recent VicRoads community consultation exercise at the Buninyong Town Hall about pedestrian crossing issues, arranged through Geoff Howard MP, did not result in any clear trend in community opinion.

After collating some 150 responses from residents who either attended the session at the Town Hall or who gave their opinion in other ways, VicRoads has reported that there was a fairly even split between those in favour of a controlled crossing (lights), those favouring a zebra crossing in the vicinity of the post office, and those who didn't think any crossing was required at all.

Conscious of the strong views of the Buninyong & District Community Association (BDCA) and many others who felt that traffic lights would seriously impact on the heritage feel and amenity of the town, VicRoads' engineers supported by Mr Howard, have proposed a number of compromises on the 'crossing with full traffic signals' project that has received State Government funding.

Compromise elements

In lengthy discussions with BDCA representatives about the proposed crossing at the corner of Warrenheip and Forest Streets, VicRoads has suggested several elements on which compromise is proposed. These included

- the elimination of the usual large overhead gantry carrying traffic signals
- reduction in the dimensions of the poles carrying the signals
- having a smaller two light (red and orange) system that would only be lit up when a crossing-button was activated. At other times they would be not lit.

- moving the control box for the signals around the corner into Forest Street
- making the poles less obtrusive by painting them in an agreed heritage colour
- reducing/coordinating the amount of signage associated with the crossing.

An official announcement on the above is expected to be made by Mr Howard/VicRoads in the near future.

Related issues

In associated discussions about the crossing and safety issues, in addition to these proposed concessions, VicRoads was also asked to give serious consideration to

- removal of the very large green direction signage from outside of the community bank in Warrenheip Street.
- painting solid double white lines on either side of the present pedestrian 'refuges' along the business section of Warrenheip Street. The BDCA suggested that this would largely eliminate the many present illegal and dangerous U-turns by motorists.
- the further moving back of the 60 kph speed zone in Learmonth Street West from the golf clubhouse area to near the township entrance signage

VicRoads was also asked to support BDCA efforts to convince Public Transport Victoria (PTV) to relocate the V Line bus stop from near the proposed pedestrian crossing on safety, amenity and business grounds.

In this traffic lights issue the BDCA started way behind scratch. But maybe if the above concessions are firmed up it's the best outcome that could have been achieved.

Buninyong & district
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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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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SOUTH WARD
City of Ballarat Council Elections

JAYVA'S TEAM BRINGS HOME THE GOLD



Jayva Goriss-Dazeley (right) celebrates the Australian U12 Futsal team's win in the Pearl River Championships in southern China.

A few months ago, the News reported on a BBQ being held at the Buninyong Primary School to raise funds to assist Grade 6 student Jayva Goriss-Dazeley to travel to China as the goal keeper in the Australian U12 futsal (indoor soccer) team.

The Australian team was participating in the Pearl River Delta Futsal Championships held in Jiangmen in August. Most games were played in temperatures in excess of 40°C.

Jiangmen is a river-port city of 4.5 million people about 60km from the well-known city of Guangzhou in southern China.

In the U12 competition involving 18 teams the Australian team battled through to the Grand Final, holding the local Chinese championship team to a 3-3 draw in the final. The teams then entered into a penalty shoot-out which was won by the Australians.

Jayva became a hero to his team in the penalty shoot-out, not only by saving an opposition shot on goal, but also by scoring with a penalty shot he took.

Following the championship, the team toured in other provinces in Southern China continuing to play hard and win most games. The team had a great time making friends with the Chinese players and even

having a Kung-Fu lesson at the studio in Foshan where **Bruce Lee** learnt the craft that made him a famous movie actor.

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Wimmera wheat to Walkely Award

When the *Buninyong Community News* heard that a winner of the prestigious Walkely Award for news photography had moved to Buninyong to live, it sparked interest at the BCN editorial desk.

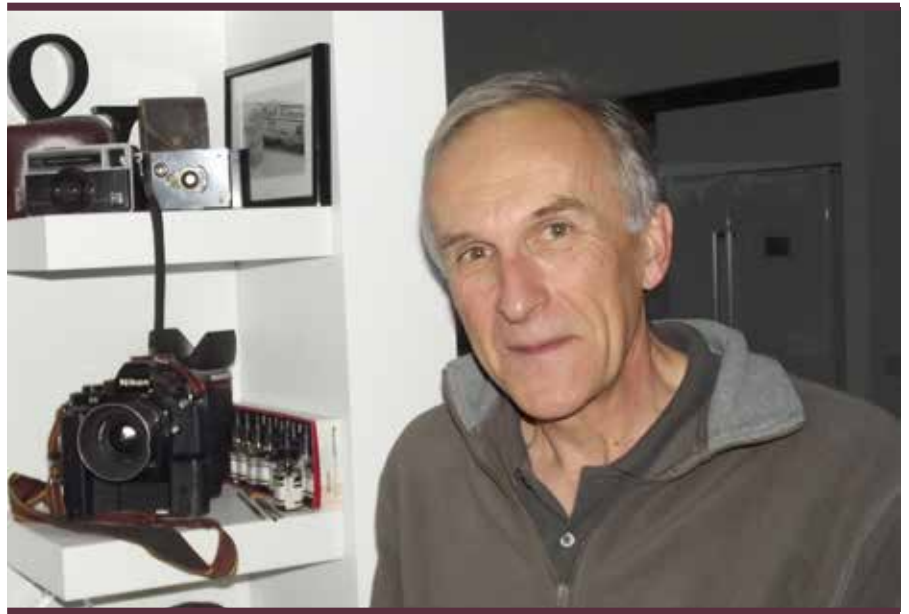
Unassuming former senior photographer for the *Wimmera Mail Times* (WMT), and now a freelance photographer, **David Fletcher**, and his Sri Lankan-born wife, **Tania**, moved to Buninyong in 2015 and recently have settled into their newly-built home on Mt Buninyong.

David was born and bred on a wheat and sheep farm in the tiny district of Ashens, some 10km from Murtoa. The farm had been selected by his great-grandfather in the 1870s and has been in the family for four generations.

Change

After a stint at farming, David undertook a course in photography at RMIT in the mid-1970s and, some years later, became a photographer for the WMT on a casual basis. When the paper's senior photographer retired in 1995, David took on his role. In 2005 he transitioned to freelancing.

Tania's family moved to Murtoa in 1970. Her father Dr **Theo Brito-Babapulle** was the first Sri Lankan doctor to



David Fletcher at home with his display of his old press cameras

graduate from Melbourne University. Despite an interest in becoming a surgeon at St Vincent's Hospital, there was a lack of rural GPs at the time, and he took up practice in Murtoa. He then devoted two decades to the Murtoa community before retiring to Melbourne.

Tania followed in the medical footsteps of her father training as an RGN at the Royal Melbourne Hospital. Then her passion for photography and travel took her to over fifty countries and a career in the travel industry.

Fate

David's marriage to Tania came about following a strange twist of fate. In 2006 following a twenty year lapse in friendship, **Margaret** (David's sister), was rung by Tania. David answered the phone. The couple arranged their first date in Ballarat (halfway between Melbourne and Murtoa) and the 'rest is history'. They married in 2010 on tiny Taprobane Island, Sri Lanka.

Searching for a lifestyle retreat, the hard choice was where to live. Invermay and Nerrina were contenders until the couple spotted an idyllic block for sale on the slopes of Mt Buninyong.

Wimmera win

The Walkely Award – Australia's highest for journalism – was won in 2002 by a group of WMT journalists for a series of articles on the plight of the Wimmera River. David was the photographer.

Recently he won another national photographic award, the *2016 Wetlands in Focus Photography Prize*, from about 700 entries, for a dramatic black and white photograph taken at Elmhurst during a plant-out in local wetlands.

Both David and Tania share a love for photographic creativity and artistic expression. They intend to use these skills in their new Buninyong-based business called *Over the Fence*. For a personal photographic shoot at your property contact David on 0429 335 706.

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AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, 5 LYDIARD ST NTH BALLARAT 3350

Last concert for Grade Sixers was a hit



Wow... what an amazing two nights of action packed entertainment we had! On 25 and 26 August Buninyong Primary School conducted its school concert. As we are in Grade 6, this sadly was our last performance at primary school.

Our concert theme was *Lights, Camera, Action*. All of the acts were unique and creative ranging from foreign movies to cartoons, to musicals and spy films. We had a bit of everything to entertain our audiences.

All teachers and students worked hard to create costumes, which were wonderful and very colourful. The Grade Four's outfits, based on the movie *The Smurfs*, were outstanding and a hit with everyone.

We are sure everyone laughed when they walked out covered in blue face paint wearing their little white hats. We don't think they had much fun trying to wash it off and the kids were sporting green faces several days later.

Exciting

As a class we decided that we would perform *High School Musical The Movie* with many its catchy songs and exciting dance moves. Half the class showed off their basketball skills as one of the lead characters is a basketballer, while the other half showed us how fabulous they are with a favourite song, *Fabulous*, from this movie. Our costumes were red and white because they are the school's colours in the musical.

Finally, the big day came. First we had a dress rehearsal at Founders Hall which is at the Federation University. We are all in the school choir so we were the first to perform. Then we did our class act which really helped us to get the hang of the stage.

On the first night it was the real thing and what a night it was. Emotion was running through us. We had a blast. As soon as we got on stage we were extremely excited as the lights shone on our faces and we saw the crowd watching intently. All of our class put in 100 per cent effort, and as we ran off stage we heard the applause. The next night went really well and once again everyone did their very best.

Tam Petrov, Abby Vamplew & Aysha Brown, Grade Six

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Defibrillator project moving

In the August edition of the News, a project to get an accessible defibrillator in place in central Buninyong was floated.

Since then, two meetings of community and service groups have been convened by News Editor, **Barry Fitzgerald**, and over \$1,800 has been raised to part-fund the purchase of a machine. The Community Bank has agreed to underwrite any additional funds required, with the all-up costs expected to be some \$2800.

A small management committee has been formed to move the project to the next stage. The three person committee will be convened by **Louise Feery** (Ballarat Community Health) and will have members from each of the Community Bank and the RSL (Community group).

The machine will be located in the Buninyong Newsagency and it is expected that emergency calls will be able to be made to 000 who will



Looking pleased with progress on the defibrillator project are (Front) Ron Delaland, and Frank Nolan (Probus) and (rear) David Page (Lions Club), Bill Jolly (Mens' Shed), and Bob Bennett (RSL). Also in attendance was a rep of the Community Association

then contact newsagency staff who will convey the machine to the patient pending the arrival of an ambulance.

streettalk

NICE LOT at the bowling club.

Called the local CFA crew to pump off the flood water covering their greens a couple of weeks ago. While the fireys worked away, a crowd of thirsty bowlers carried on inside with their Drinks Night. Probably had to get permission from the Firefighters Union to shout the crew a drink!

TWO SOUTH WARD councillors certainly sprung into action when told by the News of the move by Council bureaucrats to pull the plug on the power source in the Town Hall Square "because of the cost". Told of the distress caused for the Village Market people, **Cr Innes** emailed the Town Hall officials that he "wanted this situation fixed!" Mayor **Des Hudson** had an email back to the News within minutes with the assurance that "they (the Good Life Festival) will have access to power and we will cover the cost." Smart action to reverse a stupid decision!

LONG OVERDUE recognition by the Buninyong Football Club of the 45 years of service by **Gerard McCarty** came with the recent award by the Club of a Life Membership to him. While he was telling a few golfers about this the other day, there was one bloke at the table who is a Life Member of the North Ballarat Football Club. Up there when a Life Member passes on, the wake at the club is entirely on the house. Gerard said he might raise the matter at the next AGM!

SAD TO HEAR that the Board of UFS Medical has been "unable to recruit" another GP to replace **Dr Terry Gibson** at the UFS Buninyong surgery located behind the pharmacy. The affable and friendly Dr Terry is retiring at the end of September. The St John of God pathology service there will also close, but will continue to operate from the medical centre up the hill.

ANOTHER RECENT MOVE from Buninyong to a retirement village is **Meryl McLeod** who has lived in the 'Hiscock Cottage' in Learmonth Street for eighteen years. Meryl has been active in various local groups such as the Information Centre and the Historical Society, and has links to the extended local McLeod family such as **Eric** (The Ridge, Buninyong), long-term Bowen Hill resident **Roger**, and recently arrived osteopath **Geordie**.

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Buninyong

James Reserve Many turn up to help

The Yarwoe Leigh Catchment Group (YLCG) recently held a community planting day along Union Jack Creek in central Buninyong. Jane Bevelander, the Yarwoe River Project Officer, was joined by fifteen volunteers, including local residents and a Scouts group.

This enthusiastic group planted and 'guarded' approximately 200 plants, whilst having the chance to meet and chat with other local residents.

This planting built on the amazing work undertaken by Mount Clear College students who have been spending their Friday mornings working on this project. Their involvement began in June when they laid the weed matting to prevent weeds taking over whilst the new seedlings establish themselves. The students have been doing a fantastic job since, even extending their commitment to see the end of the project.

On the money

Another group from the State Revenue Office (SRO) also helped out in early August when ten staff worked with the YLCG. A whole day's work saw 500 plants in the ground and 'guarded'. The Scotsburn Primary School also will soon join in to plant a small butterfly garden as part of the project.

The work of these students, the SRO staff and the recent working bee will help revitalise the James Reserve area by planting local indigenous flora along the creek edge.

This project will reduce the spread of weeds, protect river banks and create a habitat corridor for local animals. Creatures such as frogs will thrive with the addition of the many semi-aquatic plants being added.



L to R: Jane Bevelander, Lesley Tucker, Helen Downes, Chris Downes, Neil McCracken

Media gardener at Scotsburn

On Sunday 2 October 2016, the Scotsburn Fire Community Recovery Committee will host a Gardening Workshop to provide information on how to re-establish gardens after they have been affected by fire. The workshop will run from 9:00am – 12:00pm at the Scotsburn Hall.

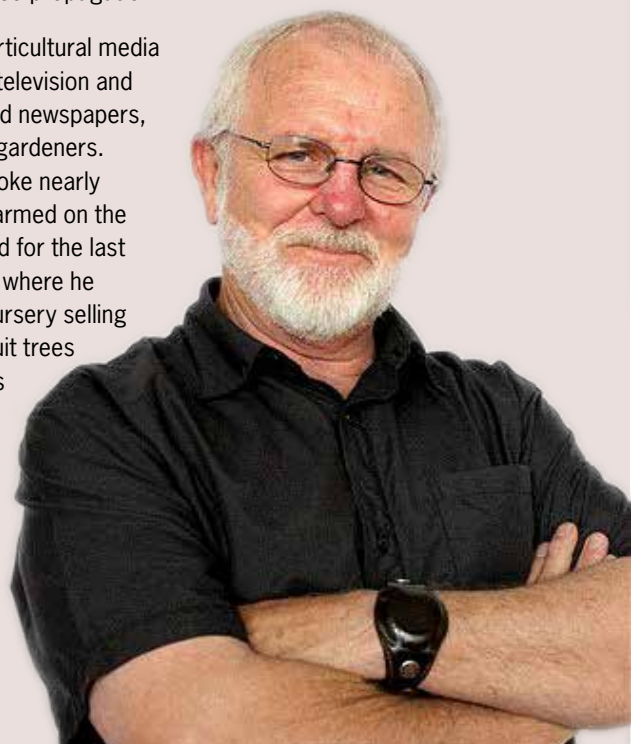
The workshop will feature guest presenter, **Rob Pelletier**, who is a qualified horticulturist and has had extensive experience in civil and landscape construction, garden maintenance and fruit tree propagation.

With over 35 years in horticultural media including radio, national television and writing for magazines and newspapers, he is also well known to gardeners. After quitting the big smoke nearly 20 years ago, Rob has farmed on the Mornington Peninsula and for the last fifteen years at Beaufort where he operates a successful nursery selling traditional varieties of fruit trees nationwide. The business is called *Heritage Fruit Trees*.

Rob can be currently heard on ABC radio every second Tuesday morning talking with **Steve Martin** about gardening and farming matters.

Information will be provided on garden design, weed management, pruning, soil care, and longer term recovery measures. There will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions.

Everyone from the local community is welcome to attend this free event. A BBQ lunch will be provided on the day. If you are interested in attending, please contact Scotsburn Recovery Committee Member, **Nick McKinley** either by phone 0455 147 398 or email leighcg@ncable.net.au.



MICK THE TWITCHER

Buninyong is home to several *Twitchers*, or bird watchers, and Mick Fenelon is one of them. His interest started years ago when the family took a few months off work and school to travel around Australia. Then they really became aware of so many birds around.

The News asked what is needed for successful 'twitching'. At the top of the list are binoculars, which needn't cost much to start with. But apart from making the birds actually visible, the binoculars will also help show their colours to assist with identification.

Mick says to "look for the birds flying – it makes them easier to spot and their flight pattern is distinctive, as is the way they drop."

Take time

He added that "it's also important to take time to sit or stand still or walk quietly and then, listen for the calls, which help with direction, giving a chance of spotting them. In the mating season they call right through the day."

For example the Eastern spine bill has a very distinctive sharp, loud incessant whistle. Mating birds tend to return to

the same spot each season – as long as that spot is still there!

Locally there are several good bird watching areas including the Union Jack Reserve, the Goldfields Walking Track, and the Buninyong Botanic Gardens. Sunrise and sunset are the better times to be out and about.

Plants

Mick suggests that to encourage the native birds, plants such as grevilleas, native flowering species and honey nectar bushes should be in local gardens. He prepares mixtures of bran, fat (cophera), oats and brown sugar by heating the cophera so that it is runny and the sugar will dissolve. That is all mixed up and a block of it is put in some wire netting with only a small opening for small birds.

Have a bird bath....and keep the cat indoors... are other essentials for bird watching.

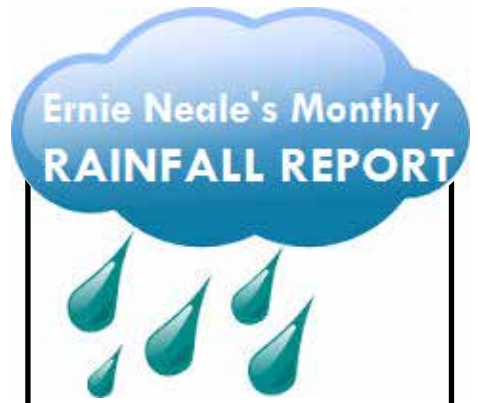
The list of birds that Mick Fenelon feeds in his backyard is amazing. He feeds parrots, galahs, cockatoos, crimson rosellas, lorikeets, magpies, currawongs, bronze winged pigeons (very cute), blackbirds, honeyeaters,

silver eyes, occasionally a green finch during late winter when it migrates, butcher birds, numerous wattle birds, kookaburras, yellow tailed black cockatoos, grey thrush, white winger chucks, new Holland honeyeater (forever chatting and friendly).

A goldfinch sometimes also pops in.

Mick says there seems to be an unwritten time-line among them in that they take it in turns to feed.

Cassandra Carland



Get ready for the "R" months

I'm writing this report in early September, the first of the long run of months having an "R" in their name. The "R" months are the busy months for all plant-based agricultural production in this district. They emerge, grow, flower and deliver their crop before going into some form of decline as the months from September to April pass.

For farmers relying on rainfall this introduces a challenge, because generally speaking the "R" months are our drier months. This year the lead up months have done their bit to prepare us well for the challenge ahead. May, June and July all delivered above average rainfall, and August has supplied a very acceptable 65.5 mm.

It was a little under average, but contributed well to a tally of 444.7 mm for the year to the end of August. Dams and reservoirs are filling nicely, soil moisture is up and hopefully the much-anticipated wetter trend this Spring will unfold – particularly after the failure of last Spring.

So farewell to one of the best Winters in recent years, now it's over to the "R" months to hopefully deliver the moist conditions forecast regularly of late.

AUGUST 2016			
Date	Rain	Date	Rain
1-6	12.3	18-23	30.0
7-13	13.7	25	2.2
15	1.0	26	1.0
17	0.5	31	4.8
Total			65.5mm
Year to date			444.7mm





Scotsburn geocaching

There will be a morning of fun and exercise on Sunday 16 October when the Scotsburn geocaching fundraising event is held.

Competitors will try to find secret locations (caches) using maps and coordinates set out by the senior class at the Scotsburn campus. The campus is located on the Midland Highway at the corner of Platts Road.

Two courses of 6km or 11km have been set. Entry costs are Adults (\$7), U16 (\$5), and family (\$15). Registration is at 8.30am with an expected finish time of 1.00pm.

Getting ready for the Carols



Pictured at a planning session in the park are (L to R) Bronwyn Booth, Jill Spencer and Andy Paterson

Buninyong's Community Christmas Carols will be on again this year in Desoza Park

on the evening of Saturday 10 December. Starting at 5.30pm there will be free children's activities and a BBQ, with the carols commencing at 7.30pm.

For many years the carols have been arranged by the Buninyong/Mt Helen Lions Club along with the local combined churches. The organising committee meets monthly to arrange for matters such as booking sound and lighting, music and acts, programs, candles and glo-sticks, permits, food advertising, signs and decorations.

Society Excited

The Buninyong & District Historical Society is excited about their "rescue" of an old railway carriage from the Ballarat-Buninyong Railway which operated between 1889 and 1932. A presentation on this 'rescue' will be given by Bob Skewes at the Society's AGM to be held in the Old Court House on Thursday 20 October at 7.30pm. An article will also appear shortly in the *Buninyong Community News*.

The Historical Society is also looking for any World War I photographs that could be scanned into their collection.

Refugee advocate here

In 1997 the Asylum Seekers Centre was established by **David Spitel** and his wife **Yvonne**. Since then 4000 asylum seekers have been assisted and some \$5.5 million has been provided in material aid. David will be guest speaker at the 10.00am service at the Scotsburn Union Church on Sunday 2 October at 10.00am

Elaine Cricket Juniors

The Elaine Cricket Club has entered U13 (Beginners grade), and U14 (First XI grade) in the Ballarat Cricket Association

for the 2016-17 season. New players for these teams will be made very welcome. Call Junior Co-ordinator **Shane Dunne** on 0448 291 074

Meet at Maggies

The changeover from the Fig Leaf Café to Maggie & Kate signalled in the *BCN* several months ago is now complete. A new exterior colour scheme and signage are up, and inside, the new paintwork and furniture add a fresh new look.

Owner **Kate Taylor** and staff seem really pleased with the new name and new look.



Blooming good Daffodil Day

Organiser Helen Stephens reports that the 2016 Daffodil Day stall held outside Buninyong Foodworks on 26 August was a great success. Some \$780 was raised in support of the Cancer Council. Thanks are extended to all who gave generously through donations or the purchase of merchandise.

Merle Hathaway

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Authorised by Merle Hathaway, 107 Yulle St, Buninyong 3357



Eighth anniversary on Grand Final day

It's cool to cruise into Krooze

There's probably not a person from the Buninyong district who hasn't noticed on the Geelong Road opposite IBM, that beaten-up old black 1968 HK Kingswood station wagon topped by a surfboard with Krooze In emblazoned on it, and carrying the number plates HKKOOL.

That's the innovative sidewalk advertising of **Janeen** and **Allan Sternberg**, Buninyong residents, who opened their quirky café there eight years ago.

Prior to establishing Krooze In, Janeen had spent seven years as the Manager of the cafeteria at Ballarat Clarendon College, and husband Allan was a cleaning contractor at Mars Confectionery for nineteen years.

Until the mid-1990's the Krooze In premises had been occupied by the "chandelier man" who also drove a strangely decorated vehicle locally, and who became notorious for painting the old store opposite the Ford dealership in Sebastopol in a gharish pink colour

Empty

"We saw that the premises here had been vacant for quite some time, and wanting to set up our own business and also noting the absence of any local café, we took the plunge here in 2008," Janeen said.

Allan's initial idea of advertising the café was to decorate the station wagon, but then he came across a longboard which he painted up himself and mounted it on the roof rack.

He said that when he did that the couple's six children vowed "that they would not ride in that thing ever again." The painted surfboard is the only advertising the couple has ever done.

The café décor is highlighted by posters, artefacts and laminate tables and furniture from the 1950s. "We both loved the cars, the music, the fashion and the design styles of the fifties," Janeen said. It didn't take us long to settle on that theme."

Popular

The café is now firmly-established as the local coffee and meals spot for both locals and visitors. It offers well-priced breakfasts and lunches including

American-inspired diner food and drinks (including shakes and spiders!)

Krooze In is also popular with employees of Tech Park and the University opposite, is a regular stopping off point for groups of travellers from Geelong, and, on every Saturday morning is the meeting place for the twenty or more veteran members of the Ulysses Motorcycling Club.

"Many of these people have now become life-long friends," Janeen said.

At Krooze In you'll find Alan and Janeen working alongside long-term staff members including some of their adult children.



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Masons Master the Mats



L to R: Guiding Star team captain Jim Benney with Vic Bradley, Wayne Walters and Secretary Graham Williamson.

Forty Lodge members, partners and friends of Sturt Buninyong and the Guiding Star Lodges met at the Buninyong Masonic Centre for their annual indoor bowls tournament.

The competition was keen and friendly across the four mats in use.

Some regularly play bowls both indoor and outdoors. But for the majority this was their once a year opportunity to play, surprising with their skills and enjoying the fun.

After supper, the cards were tallied with Guiding Star Lodge retaining the shield.

CWA members hot on the stage

Local CWA members are celebrating their success after the State Performing Arts competition held on 31 August at Swan Hill.

Buninyong member **Marg Jarvis** took first place in the solo costume item *I Dreamed a Dream* and the trio of **Pat Howden, Carole Bartlett** and **Marg Jarvis** (pictured) also gained first place in the Lip Synch (mime) section with a piece entitled *Perfectly Finished?*

Pauline Kennedy competed in a solo reading *Reinvention by the Stars*, and a trio of **Pat Howden, Jenny Bridgewater** and **Marg Jarvis** did a reading entitled *Ned Kelly's Return*.

Several other Buninyong members participated in the Ballarat District Group Song in Costume third placed item *Two Different Worlds* and five members sang with the State Choir.

A total of 35 items of song, mine, reading, choir and drama from branches and groups across Victoria kept the audience in anticipation.

Members have now just finished work catering in the CWA cafeteria at the Royal Melbourne Show.



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HIGH TIME AT HIGH TEA

The very first High Tea was held at the Buninyong Bowling clubrooms in early September with the proceeds being donated to the Ballarat regional Integrated Cancer Centre (BRICC).

Organised by the Bowling Club's Ladies Auxiliary, the High Tea was attended by 99 guests who enjoyed home-made scones, sandwiches, slices and other delights accompanied by teas and coffees served in fine china provided by the ladies.

Guest speaker was **Libby Cornish**, a Buninyong resident and the 'face' of BRICC. She gave an enlightening talk on her past experiences.

With the great response and the positive feedback, the Ladies Auxiliary is already planning next year's High Tea.

Coming Events

Saturday 1 October

9.30-11.00am, Chat with Peter Innes on the Sidewalk outside UFS. Try Council or Buninyong matters... or even FOOTBALL

Sunday 2 October

9.00am-12 noon. Scotsburn Fire Recovery Committee. Garden Workshop. Scotsburn Hall. Guest speaker, media-gardener, Rob Pelletier. Enquiries Nick McKinley, 0455 147 398

Sunday 2 October

10.00am. Scotsburn Union Church. Midland Hwy. Guest speaker refugee advocate David Spitelier. All welcome.

Thursday 6 October

7.30pm. Meet the Council Candidates Public Forum, Buninyong Town Hall, arranged by the Buninyong & District Community Association. All community members and groups welcome.

Sunday 9 October

11am-4pm, Grannes Open Garden and Gallery. 207 Pomonal Road, Stawell. Exhibition of art works by Chris Nicholls, guided garden walks. Entry \$10. 0409 423 827

Tuesday 11 October

4.00pm. Buninyong Marmalade Association AGM. Buninyong Town Hall. All welcome

Wednesday 12 October

10.00am-12 noon. Buninyong RSL Ladies Auxiliary. RSL Hall, Learmonth Street. Morning Coffee party, floral demonstration, raffle. Door prizes. Cost \$5. Enquiries Emmie Martin, 5332 2958

Thursday, 13 October

3.30pm-5.30pm. Meet Merle Hathaway – your Candidate. Old Brewery, 107 Yuille Street, Buninyong.

Friday 14 October

5.00pm – 7.00pm. The Old Brewery, Yuille Street. Book Launch. Jehovah's Joust – A Story of the Hugenots. Meet the author, James Fearn. Free refreshments provided.

Sunday 16 October

8.30 am Registration. Geocaching. Scotsburn School Campus, Midland Hwy.

Sunday 16 October

Lions Club Charity Car Trial. From Recreation Reserve, Forest Street. Registration 9.00am. Start 10.00am. Entry \$20. Details lionscartrial@gmail.com

Thursday 20 October

7.30pm. Buninyong & District Historical Society AGM. Old Court House, Learmonth Street. Guest speaker Bob Skewes will talk on The Bunny Railway and the Rescued Carriage. All welcome

Tuesday 25 October

7.30pm. Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group AGM. Royal Park, Buninyong

Wednesday 26 October

7.00pm. Steiner Education Information Night. Steiner School, Moss Ave. 5341 8188

Thursday 27 October

7.00pm Buninyong & District Community Association Meeting & AGM, Buninyong Town Hall.

Saturday, 29 October

10.30am -3.30pm. Spring Fair, Uniting Church, Learmonth Street.

Teddy Bears' Picnic, jumping castle, cakes and plant stalls, auction items, sausage sizzle, bands and buskers... and more.

Saturday, 29 October

CFA Open Day. Fire station open, equipment inspection, kids' activities, safety information.

Sunday 30 October

9.00am-1.00pm. Buninyong Village Market, Town Hall Square

Sunday 30 October

12 pm Tee Up for Kids Foundation – Family Fun Day. Buninyong Golf Club. BGC and the Bendigo Community Bank Golf, BBQ, fun activities to raise funds for children living in out-of-home care. Call 5341 8066 or 5341 3217.

1-7 November

CFA Annual Calendar Drive. District door-to-door visits by CFA volunteers.

2 December

6.30pm Christmas Party, Live Band – Mad Cow. Buninyong Golf Club. \$60 two course meal, Sparkling wine on arrival. Book 5341 3217. All welcome



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Heartache for Bombers

But U 15s and Redbacks win

Springbank proved too strong for a gallant Buninyong in the grand final of the Central Highlands Football League. The Bombers matched Springbank in a tough first half but were not able to stay with the experienced Tiger outfit in the second half of the game and went down by 29 points.

The final score line was Springbank 16.12 108, Buninyong 11.13 79. Best players for the Bombers were **Ned Gilbert, Jack Robertson, Joel Otavi, Sam Turner, Alex Bomitali** and **Beau Guest**.

Juniors' success

Unfortunately for Buninyong fans the reserves grand final was a similar tale to that of the seniors. The Bomber's reserves, undefeated throughout the season and three games clear on top of the ladder, also went down in an upset loss to Springbank.

The Bombers got off to a slow start and were not able to recover in a hard fought game, eventually losing by 14 points. Springbank 8.9 57, Buninyong 6.7 43. Best players for the Bombers were **David Kelly, Joshua Finley** and **Joshua Mann**.

The only red and black victory for the day was provided by the under 15 Bombers topping off their undefeated season with a strong grand final win over Hepburn. Buninyong 10.5 65,

Hepburn 6.4 40. Best for the Bombers were **Hunter Donald, Lachlan Atkinson** and **Kyden Brown**.

Proud

Football manager, **Wayne Morgan** made the following comments in summing up the day. "Well done to both senior teams on making the Grand Final. Unfortunately, Springbank proved to be too experienced when it counted on the day. However, supporters should still be proud of the efforts of both Buninyong teams - losing only three games between them for the season. We now need to stick together and reload for next season. We are a strong and proud club and we will be back in 2017."

Redbacks - winners

Two Redback Buninyong soccer sides took part in the Ballarat District Soccer Association Grand finals. The Division 2 Open side and the Under 13s Div 2 finished on top of the ladder and went into the finals as favourites. The Division 2 Open side claimed Buninyong's first ever premiership with a 4-2 win after extra time was played. Buninyong's **Jonah Healey** was man-of-the-match.

Unfortunately, the under 13s went down to Creswick 3-1, but Buninyong's **Joe Labas** won the man-of-the-match award.

Ray Sullivan



Lady Bombers final series over

The finals are over and while there are no Buninyong premierships to celebrate, the Lady Bombers proved to be competitive across the board. Bombers netball sides made finals but it wasn't to be Buninyong's year of finals success. The best Bomber performance was the under 15 side who were runners up to Hepburn 46 to 37.

Bowling under the Dome

The Buninyong side has had a flying start in the second "Dome" series at Sebastopol Bowling Club. After four games the team skipped by **Mick Storey** is undefeated on top of their section.

With the Lawn Bowls season due to commence on 9 October, Buninyong lawn bowlers are looking forward to getting on the greens. After last year's successful season, the Buninyong top sides will be competing against the best in the district with the top side playing in the Premier Division and the mid-week side competing in Division 1.

Almost a course record

Congratulations to **Mick Innes** for winning the September monthly medal and A Grade, with a great score of 66. Six strokes under the course par of 72. Playing off scratch, Mick was only one short of the club record of 65, currently held by Brett Tolliday.

Dean Cinque won B Grade, with a score of net 70, and **Bill Cosier** won C Grade, with a score of net 69.

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LOTS TO DO AT THE CFA

The Buninyong CFA has put out a call for new members interested and able to take on either front-line activities or to assist with community and/or fundraising events.

Des Sunderland, the Brigade's 4th Lieutenant said that "we are looking for local people over the age of sixteen to join our Brigade. You will need to be fit and able to work in a team environment, and to follow directions in sometimes stressful situations.

Volunteer fire-fighters respond to a wide range of situations. These include bush and grass fires, house and structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, fuel reduction burns, incidents involving hazardous materials and various other natural disasters.



Other helpers would be welcomed to assist with fund-raising, community events, and other non-operational duties.

But as can be seen in the photograph, in more relaxed times CFA members such as **Matt, Matt** and **Maddie** do find time for some fun. If you are interested please call in or contact **Des** (203barkly@

ncable.net.au). Or come along to our Open Day at the Fire Station on 29 October and have a chat to one of the members.

CFA members meet at the Fire Station in Learmonth Street, Buninyong, every Tuesday evening at 6.50pm.

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Buninyong

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Robert carries our colours in France

An Australian Defence Force contingent, together with one from New Zealand, led the 2016 Bastille Day Commemoration parade along the Avenue des Champs-Élysées at the invitation of the French Government.

Australians and New Zealander service men and women suffered great casualties in battles to defend France during the First World War 100 years ago, and the French people remain ever grateful for the support during the occupation.

Buninyong resident Lieutenant **Robert Powell** was a Colour Ensign in the parade and carried the Colours of the 8th/7th Battalion, The Royal Victorian Regiment.

Sacrifices

The French National Day parade in Paris was one of a number attended by all three services of the ADF during the month long commemorations that remembered the sacrifices of servicemen and women in northern France and

Belgium during the disastrous years of WWI.

The Australian contingent also participated in the events at Fromelles, Pozieres and at Bullecourt where the remains of a number of soldiers had recently been recovered and re-buried within the military cemeteries.

At Fromelles six of the 250 recently-discovered soldiers were identified using DNA techniques and so were able to have their details recorded on their headstones. Others are simply recorded as An Australian Soldier of the Great War.

Tours of duty

Robert Powell joined the Army Reserve soon after becoming enthused at the age of sixteen as “it seemed like an adventure at the time”. Subsequently, he has completed tours of duty in the Solomon Islands and Malaysia, as well as with the Army’s support for tsunami relief, Border Force activities and the Black Saturday bushfires.



Robert’s great grandfather, **Robert McMaster**, was a Sergeant on the Somme battlefields with the Royal Irish Rifles when he was hit by a bursting artillery shell. Fortunately, he survived.

So Robert was proud to be representing Australia ceremonially at these historic battlefields where his great grandfather had served a century earlier under such dire circumstances.

Russell Luckock



The Colour Party at France’s National Bastille Day celebrations in Paris with the Arc de Triomphe behind. On the right is Sergeant Daniel Purcell from Ballarat with Lt Robert Powell next to him.