

# 5000 crowd flocks to new festival

*Graeme Kent enjoyed himself as the MC for many of the on stage acts*

**Blue skies, warm weather, a perfect venue and an outstanding program all helped to make the 2017 Buninyong Festival a great success. Desoza Park was humming at the new-look Buninyong Festival as locals and visitors responded by turning up in droves to browse and buy from the wide variety of merchandise and produce available, and to have fun at the many entertainment sites.**

Soon after the fair opened at 10 am, business was bustling for the 91 craft stalls and the sixteen food vendors set up under the trees of Desoza Park.

## **Venue**

The festival was all about bringing the whole community together and it certainly did that. By mid-morning crowds of locals

and visitors were enjoying the activities, entertainment and vendor stalls.

The variety of activities for children proved popular right from the start. Queues soon formed at *Farmer Daryl's Animal Farm*, the pony rides, face painting and *James the Fire Engine*.

## **It was all about bringing the whole community together**

The "Active Zone" was also a popular spot for children and adults with local sports, fitness and dance groups providing displays and participation activities.

Even the strong winds that arrived in the afternoon didn't deter those who were content to sit around the main stage.

This area was a focus point for crowds throughout the day. The organising committee aimed to provide entertainment that was interesting to all ages and to showcase local talent. There is no doubt that they nailed it!

*Toby the T-Rex* created great excitement along with the *Birds of Prey Show*, local, world class entertainer **Geoffrey Williams**, *Dance Makers*, the *Ballarat Ukulele Group* and *Hanz on Drummers*.

A sizeable audience was still there at the end of the day when local band, *The Infusers* closed the show.

Event organiser, **Lisa Cressey** said the committee was "thrilled with the success of the Festival. We have been inundated with positive comments about the day."

*continued on Page 2*

# New look festival a winner



The effects of the day were not just restricted to Desoza Park. Lisa said she had received encouraging feedback from local businesses who also benefited from the spill-over of the large crowd attending the festival.

Lisa and her growing band of Committee colleagues are already taking notes for the next Festival. The organising committee's AGM is on 13 December.

They are looking for more support. If you loved it and have something to offer or would just like to support this special event, please attend.

The festival attracted a crowd estimated to be between 5000 and 6000 people. Locals and visitors joined forces to make the day a success.

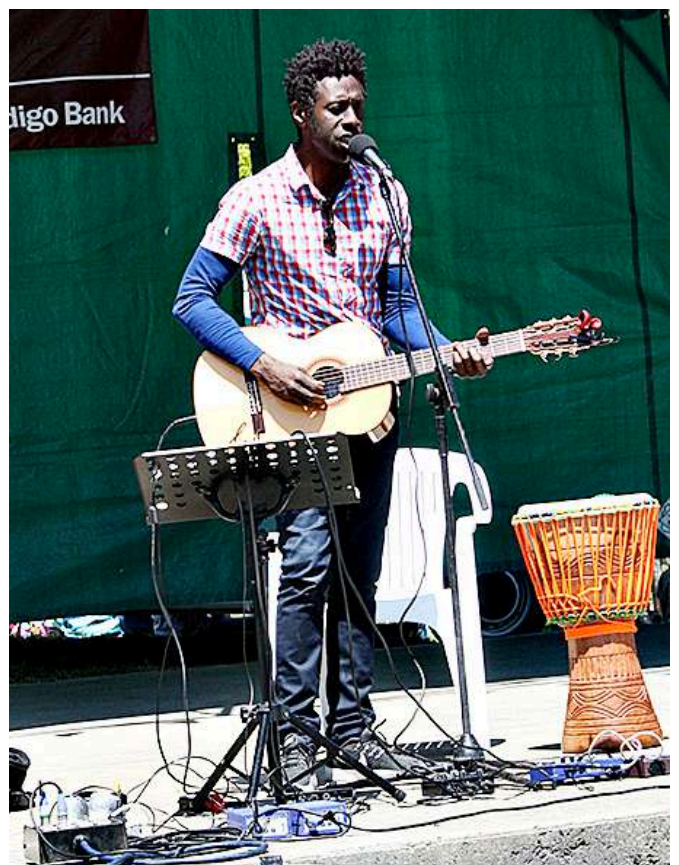
(Above) Festival Committee members were very happy with the turn out and the donations received. (L to R) Indrani Wells, Sonya Sutcliffe, and Laura Chibnall.

(Below L) The Animal farm was a popular attraction for young ones

(Below R) Local music star Geoffrey Williams on stage.

The teamwork and organisation of the committee of volunteers, local businesses, community groups and sponsors has once again done the Buninyong community proud.

Ray Sullivan







The property also features many outdoor yards with shedding, an outdoor jumps area, a round lunging yard, tack room and areas where horses are agisted. Owners of horses agisted at Unicorn Park get the use of the property's features, and anyone with a horse is invited to visit and try out the facilities at *Unicorn Park*.

Standing at stud there for a fee of \$1000 is the classic black 16.2 hh Hanoverian/Oldenburger stallion *Cherrymount Luclien* (stable name *Woody*). The Hanoverian warmblood breed with German origins has been extremely popular and successful in dressage, show jumping and eventing competitions at many Olympic Games.

### Expert

Originally from Pearcedale where her father Noel was the district pony club Commissioner, Tracy Landt is a highly qualified and experienced horsewoman having represented Victoria in national show-jumping championships. In addition to maintaining the property and tending to the horses there, she now spends much of her time handling and educating 'problem' horses.

So next time you are driving to or from Geelong along the Midland Highway just past Clarendon, look out for that large blue *Equestrian Centre* sign pointing up the hill to the east and spare a thought for that iconic local equestrian property and its gutsy owner both still recovering from the traumas of December 2015.

# After horror fires Fight back at Unicorn Park

Coming up the treed driveway to the *Unicorn Park Stud and Equestrian Centre* at Clarendon recently saw a markedly different scene to that of two years ago when on 19 December 2015 the property, its owner and its 30 horses were at the centre of the smoke, flames and terror of the horrific Scotsburn/Clarendon bushfires.

On that horrible December day the fires destroyed most of the fencing, sheds, troughs and other outdoor facilities at the property. But due to the courage of owner **Tracy Landt** and over 25 of her friends,



the massive indoor equestrian arena and all of the 30 horses there were saved.

In the aftermath of the fires Tracy was outspoken about the CFA's refusal to allow veterinary surgeons past roadblocks into the fire ravaged areas for some 18 hours to treat or to euthanase horses and other animals. Although her own horses survived, several on adjacent properties suffered serious burns.

### Start

The 13 hectare *Unicorn Park* with its huge 80m x 30m indoor equestrian area had been bought and set up by Tracy and her three sons in 2002. The arena, with a sand and silicone surface and an overhead sprinkler system to reduce any dust, provides an outstanding venue for lessons, practice, rehearsals and shows and demonstrations.

Renowned international horse instructors have given lessons and demonstrations at *Unicorn Park*. On the day *The News* visited, famous German instructor, **Arne Koefs**, was working there.

## Welsh choir returns

**The outstanding Victoria Welsh Male Choir which has sold out two previous concerts in Buninyong over recent years will be back again in a few days' time on Sunday 3 December.**

The choir will be "in concert" at the historic Buninyong Uniting Church in Learmonth Street commencing at 2.30 pm on that day.

With only some 120 seats available, early booking is suggested. Tickets are \$25 and can be booked with **Bill Pryor** (5341 3397) or with **Trevor Booth** (0418 503 388).

# Hats off to Lisa

**Often this column takes up the role of expressing strong views about some lack of action, questionable decision, or deficiency in local or state governments, or threats to the lifestyle of Buninyong or district. Recurring issues relating to traffic, developers, tourism, planning, projects and parks provide plenty of scope for comment and opinion.**

But this month, the great success of the new-look *Buninyong Festival* held in late October calls for comment and community applause.

Coming as it did on the heels of the *Good Life Festival* and the older *Gold King Festival*, this new event had a bit of baggage and local scepticism to overcome.

But the huge crowd turnout was testimony to the event's marvellous mix of attractions and its appeal to a wide cross-section of locals and visitors.

## Credit

Much of the credit for the vision, planning, obtaining of funding, marketing and organisation of the event must go to the unassuming **Lisa Cressey**, owner of *Celebrate* on Buninyong's Warrenheip Street.

She put in countless hours sitting at her desk at work and at home putting this event together.

One only had to look at the three special colour pages of information included in the November edition of *The News* to get some idea of the wide scope of the

attractions and comprehensive program content

With an array of food trucks and stalls, some eighty craft and information stalls, active and play zones, a five hour program of on-stage performers, happenings at the Town Hall precinct and more, organisation of this event was a huge task.

Probably not known to many, after coming to the Buninyong area from Queensland in 2005, Lisa completed a Diploma in Event Management at the then University of Ballarat.

Since, she has been involved in organising events such as annual fireworks displays for both the Moorabool and Pyrenees Shires and assisting in the organisation of the Begonia Festival.

## Markets

Over the past twelve months or so she also has taken on the major organisational role for the periodic Village Markets. Some have been disappointing with poor levels of local support and dwindling numbers of stallholders.

But the November one held in the beautiful setting of the Botanic Gardens was a well-attended success, and then there is the Twilight Market planned for the late afternoon of Sunday 9 December, fitting in with the Lions *Christmas Carols* in Desoza Park.

With a supporting Festival Committee now coming together to assist, it is to be hoped that there will be another whopping Buninyong Festival on the local social calendar.

Buninyong & district  
COMMUNITY NEWS

**Member of the Community Newspapers Association of Victoria**

**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. 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).

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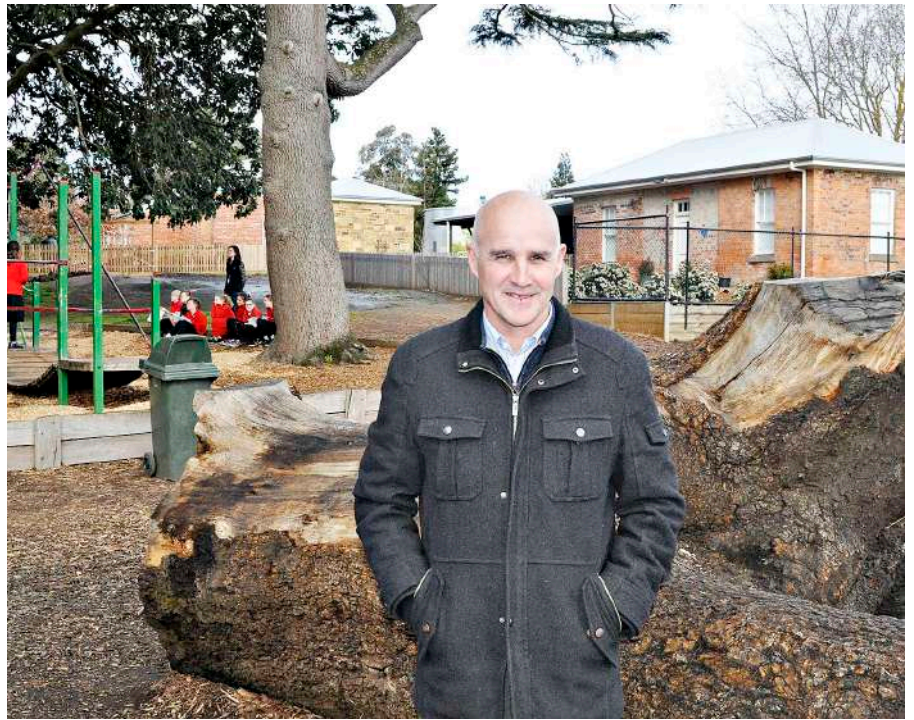
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In this final part of The News series of must-see places in Buninyong, primary school Principal Bernie Conlan was invited to list his five favourite places in this village.

His nominations turned out to be not so much individual places but more the enveloping characteristics of the village and its residents. Since arriving here seven years ago from Swan Hill, Bernie has developed a great enthusiasm for his new home town.



# Just a great place to live : Bernie

**Bernie's Buninyong highlights are:**

## Facilities

The facilities available to residents and visitors are second-to-none in a smallish country town. Whether it's the skate park or whispers of a new soccer field, this strong community will come together and develop worthwhile facilities, even if we have to roll up our sleeves and develop it ourselves.

"Partnerships such as those between the school and the Men's Shed, the Friends of the Botanic Gardens and the Community Bank get things done," he said, "sometimes with Council's help."

## History

History abounds in Buninyong even from the time before it helped to kick-start the gold rush – with all the excitement, the activity, the sheer hard slog and the losses. Bernie finds this fascinating as it gives depth to the community through the original buildings that remain.

He cites the Old Police Station building as an example. Unused for many decades, it has now been re-purposed after the community came together to renovate it. It is now shared between the School, the Botanic Gardens Friends and others.

## Bushland

A keen cyclist, Bernie knows the bush and its tracks well. With his footballing days behind him he now cycles in the bush where he can simply enjoy the fresh air and the exercise without the smell, noise and danger of cars. He loves the sights and sounds of the bush as well as its beauty, for example, after rain with water running everywhere as well as the sunlight and the mists of the mountain

## The vistas

With the first 45 years of his life spent in the flat landscape of Swan Hill, Bernie now really appreciates the topography and the hilly landscapes that reward anyone who likes to get out and about.

Some of the views from the township itself are dramatic, he says, with the Mount often shrouded in winter fog and with the occasional snowfalls.

## Friendliness

Bernie remarked on the friendliness of the villagers and the warmth of the welcome to newcomers such as his family.

He quotes a school mother who had recently re-located here from Melbourne who said, "I can't believe how friendly the people are."

*Russell Luckock*

## COMING EVENTS

**Wednesday 29 November 6.00pm**

*Opening of Football/Netball Club Pop-up shop.* Old MG Brown Store, Learmonth Street. Then 30 November. 1,2,3,7,8,9,10 December from 10am.

**Wednesday 29 November 7.00pm**

*Buninyong Community Bank AGM* Buninyong Town Hall.

**Thursday 30 November 6.00pm**

*Italian pop-up movie, drinks, pizza at Red Door Pizzeria.* \$50. Book on [buninyongfilmfestival.com.au](http://buninyongfilmfestival.com.au)

**Sunday 3 December 2.30pm**

*Victoria Welsh Male Choir in Concert.* Uniting Church, Learmonth St, Buninyong. Tickets \$25. Contact Trevor Booth 0418 503 388 or Bill Pryor 5341 3397

**Saturday 9 December 4.00pm-**

**8.00pm.** Twilight Village market, Town Hall precinct.

**Saturday 9 December 5.30pm-**

**8.30pm** Community Christmas Carols, Desoza Park. Kids' activities from 5.30pm. Carols commence at 7.30pm



# Run and fun at Scotsburn

Recent news from the Scotsburn campus of the Buninyong Primary School has involved student participation at the State level of school athletics and a very successful third geocaching event.

Two of the students, **Freya Palmer** and **Scarlett Menhennett** (pictured below), ran in a relay event and even though they were unplaced, they reached the State finals - an amazing effort.

The geocaching event involved a different course to that used in previous years. The course was set (twice) by **Grant** and **Campbell Palmer**.

Behind the scenes organisation was undertaken by campus teaching staff; **Graham Plier** supplied the support vehicle and the **Moore** family helped to pack up the course.

Ten hidden caches were involved and the large group of competitors returned

muddy but happy for the BBQ that was awaiting them under control of **Mick Durham** and **Ken Morris**. Prizes were donated by Scotsburn campus families



**WE THOUGHT THAT** last year's Street Talk jibe to the Council about their letter to "Vacant Landowners" might have seen the grammar and syntax for this year's version fixed up. But no, the same letter to the owners of vacant land in the district has again rolled off Council printing presses!

**CAREFUL READERS** of *The News* would have noted that in the back page story about **Lachlan McKenzie** in the November issue it was reported that he part-owned an imported Japanese racehorse named *Tosen Stardom*. It was predicted that he "may well feature in major (Spring) races". Since then he has had three runs winning the \$500,000 Toorak Hcp at odds of 10/1 and on the last day of the Cup Carnival winning the \$2,000,000 Emirates Stakes at odds of 6/1.

**SEEMS CERTAIN** that another Warrenheip Street business will be closing down in the near future. Makes it even more urgent that the Council gets its act together on and finds funding for the North End project. It is hoped that the now-completed concept plans for the strip can be included in the next edition of *The News*.

**TIGHT MEASUREMENT.** Given the requirement of a minimum lot size of 800m per dwelling in Buninyong (outside of the business strip), the developers of that block to the west of the Old Burial Ground, and now on the market, didn't have much to spare when they cut the land into two blocks recently. One block is 801m<sup>2</sup>, the other 815m<sup>2</sup> !!

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# Gardens fun Kids' day out with nature

Neither wind nor rain could stop intrepid young naturalists from exploring the Buninyong Botanic Gardens earlier in November.

Four-year-old Buninyong kinder groups learned through a playdate with nature, thanks to volunteers from Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens.

And the children's smiles lit up the gardens – even though the sun might have refused to shine on some of the groups.

Volunteer **Merle Hathaway** said the program had been running for about four years. She said that "it was exhausting, but enjoyable and we look forward to seeing more of the children in the botanic gardens."

Over two days the volunteers each took twelve classes, and were rewarded with a BBQ on the last day.

The young visitors were offered four workshops, including planting seeds, making kites, storytelling and making crowns and wreaths using leaves and flowers.

Buninyong Preschool teacher **Louise Jackman** said it was a positive experience for children to bond with



Archie enjoyed his day in the Buninyong Botanic Gardens

local community groups, strengthen their awareness of the natural environment and explore the local community.

The program was started by **Richard Patterson**, with the aim to introduce children at a young age to enjoy and appreciate the Buninyong Botanic Gardens.

Amy Darby Walker



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# Durham Lead...Belgium...Hong Kong **Hunt for soldier's burial site**

| NAME                      | DISTRICT      | TREE |
|---------------------------|---------------|------|
| Allan, Clarence Robert    | Durham Lead   | 1    |
| Anderson, David Vallance  | Buninyong     | 2    |
| Andrews, Robert Petford   | Napoleons     | 3    |
| Armstrong, William James  | Lal Lal       | 4    |
| Atkinson, Robert Peter    | Cambrian Hill | 5    |
| Atkinson, Bertram         | Buninyong     | 6    |
| Barber, William Owen      | Buninyong     | 7    |
| Bell, John                | Warrenheip    | 8    |
| Bergin, Joseph Felix      | Warrenheip    | 9    |
| Boak, Alexander John      | Yendon        | 10   |
| Bourchier, Arthur Patrick | Warrenheip    | 11   |

**The very first plaque in the restored Avenue of Honour near the corner of Learmonth and Inglis Streets, is dedicated to Clarence Allan of Durham Lead who was killed at Passchendaele, Belgium, on 25 October 1917, aged 27 years. His body was never recovered.**

Recently his grand-nephew, **Allan Bell**, now working and resident in Hong Kong, contacted *The News* with some background on the soldier.

### Trench maps

Mr Bell had travelled to Belgium on the centenary anniversary of Clarence Allan's being killed in action and, using a website developed by the National Library of Scotland, was able to locate the site of the trench where Clarence Allan was killed.

Two other Australians from the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion were killed by the same shell.

The technique overlays the original WWI trench maps with modern satellite maps to provide GPS coordinates.

Mr Bell said that the Allan family originally lived at Durham Lead where his mother

was born. He is not aware if there are still any of the Allan family living in this district, but that he can remember visiting, more than 50 years ago, one of his grandmother's sisters who lived in a small cottage in Buninyong.

When he contacted *The News*, Allan Bell included a copy of a letter written in 1921 by Clarence Allan's brother to the Officer-in-Charge of base records.

If anyone knows of relatives still living in the Buninyong/Durham Lead district, contact *The News* (5341 2844) and details will be passed on.



*Clarence Robert Allan of Durham Lead*

*Dear Sir,*

*Some weeks ago I wrote to you re personal effects of my brother killed at Passchendaele on 25 October 1917. Since then I have received an answer from you stating that there was none other than was sent to my father in 1918.*

*I now wish to thank you for the trouble you took in trying to find out the location where he was buried. In my letter to you I wrote saying that I could give you the names of his mates who buried him, also the exact location. I am now sending it along to you to see if his body can be found.*

*I also think that if you should require any further information the young man would readily give it. His address is Jas. J Pearce, late 3582 Stretcher Bearer, A Coy, 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gunbower PO. The location as I got it is about half a mile from the village, and about three miles in line with Ypres on the railway line to Roulers.*

*I remain yours truly,*

*E A Allan*





Meeting opposite the site at the corner of Boak and Eddy Avenues are local residents (L to R) Martin Russell, Kevin Zibell and Kevin Flynn. They are among many Mt Helen residents angry at the proposal for the ten unit, three level development proposal.

**Over-the-top unit proposal**

**Battle of Boak Avenue**

Many Mount Helen residents were astonished and dismayed at the proposal to build ten townhouses over three levels plus a basement carpark on a small prominent block on the corner of Eddy and Boak Avenues, Mount Helen.

Community reaction resulted in 55 formal objections being lodged with Council, and a number of others signing a joint objection.

Council responded by inviting interested parties to a Special Council Meeting on 16 October where locals put a strong case challenging this proposal, essentially on three major grounds:

- its incompatibility with existing neighbourhood character and the potential for setting a precedent for

future developments resulting in the progressive loss of the Mount Helen environment as an area of natural beauty and interest

- the inappropriateness of the proposed design intensity for the small, prominent site at 2 Eddy Avenue
- a serious increase in road traffic risk at an already complex intersection.

Council will now consider the application pending advice from its Planning Department.

**Group formed**

Following the Council Meeting, a group of Mount Helen people continued to communicate about this and other developments in the area. A working group met at the *Krooze Inn* on Saturday

4 November and decided that to form a *Mount Helen Residents Group* for people concerned to ensure that Mount Helen retains its character in light of several current development proposals.

At present these include

- the Greenhill Road development
- a proposal to develop an area of significant native vegetation and habitat into a small housing estate of 23 dwellings at 1832 Geelong Road
- the 2 Eddy Avenue townhouse development that prompted the formation of the Residents Group.

The group indicated that it “certainly shares the concerns raised in the November edition of *The News* (“Thin Edge of the Wedge”) at the Greenhill Road land sale.”

The *Mount Helen Residents Group* will now communicate widely through Mount Helen with the aim of enabling residents to share their ideas, aspirations and concerns for the neighbourhood. Anyone interested is invited to contact Kevin Zibell at [kevinzibell@bigpond.com](mailto:kevinzibell@bigpond.com)



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AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, 5 LYDIARD ST NTH BALLARAT 3350

After 99 years

# Village remembers WWI peace

About 250 local residents, army cadets and members of the Buninyong RSL gathered at RSL Park on a sunny 11 November morning to mark the 2017 Remembrance Day.

RSL member **Max Thorne** was MC and President **Ray Mende** introduced the Guest Speaker for the morning, **Ian Simpkin**. Mr Simpkin, formerly a teacher at Mt Clear College, has taken ten groups of students and others to visit Gallipoli

and the battlefields of Europe. He is also interested in military history and is a guide at the Shrine of Remembrance.

The catafalque party comprised cadets from the 300 Australian Cadet Unit, and bugler **Claire O'Brien** sounded the Last Post and Reveille.

A presentation was made to **Vic Bradley** OAM, aged 94, who is a Life Member of the Buninyong RSL and who was present at the opening of the hall in 1946.



Cadets from the 300 Australian Cadet Unit (L to R) Nick Patterson, William Mc Donell, and Sasha Tsobanopoulos get ready for the service.

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# New fire name on show at Festival



Buninyong-Mt Helen CFA's tanker was on show at the Buninyong Festival and sisters Brianna and Patricia Harris from Buninyong explored the fire-truck with local CFA member Ron Gilchrist. The tanker now carries the new name of the brigade.

A year ago, Mt Helen joined Buninyong CFA, and two months ago **James Witham** took over as captain from **Marc Cannan** who had held that position for many years.

Back in February 2017, Marc was involved in the launch of the booklet *The Art of Roadside Burning* by Captain Michael Rowe which aims to bring back the preventative roadside burning in early summer. These strategic firebreaks made it easier to control any hot-day bushfires.

Also, these pre-season roadside burns help with the training of fire crews which is such an important factor in the CFA's role in saving lives as well as property when disaster strikes.

Russell Luckock



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**We are looking forward to meeting members of the local community and assisting with their care health needs.**

# Action starts on marmalade challenge

Following on from Australia's win in the 2017 *Marmalashes* the challenge is on in 2018 to send a team of the best local home-made marmalade to again compete against the England XI at the International Awards in Cumbria, England. The score so far is Australia 4, England 2 with one tied result.

The first entry has arrived for judging at the 2018 Buninyong Marvellous Marmalade Fair which will be held on 3 February 2018 at 1pm at the Buninyong Town Hall.

Each entry must include two jars of

Marmalade from the one batch, plus entry form and \$8 entry fee per two jar entry.

All entry fees are donated to Ballarat Hospice Care or a nominated local home hospice. Entry forms are available from local Buninyong retailers or from the website [www.buninyong.vic.au/marmalade](http://www.buninyong.vic.au/marmalade).

Entries can be posted to PO Box 563, Buninyong 3357 or delivered to *Buninyong Foodworks*, 310 Learmonth Street, or to the *Buninyong BP Service Station*, 510 Warrenheip Street, Buninyong by 25 January, 2018.

The AGM of the association was held recently and the new committee members elected were:

- President – **June Henderson**
- Vice-President – **Russell Luckock**
- Treasurer – **Russell Luckock**
- Secretary – **Karen Hulston**

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Traffic Study

Your article *Truck Study Cash* in the November 2017 edition of *The News* should surely raise the concern of all Buninyong residents.

I wonder what calibre of study, and importantly, what outcome could be expected of the \$150,000 budget to be spread across a twelve month process? Indeed, the rig photographed with the article would come at a price tag significantly north of \$150k.

As proposed by the BDCA President, it will be critical that the terms of reference for the study address those community concerns that were so comprehensively identified at the township planning workshop in June.

It would be most disappointing if the small investment being made were merely to fund a whitewash of a proposal that is so critical to the future of Buninyong and our most fortunate lifestyle.

*Roger Permezel*

## HOME FOR BAGS

**Buninyong Boomerang Bags** is looking for a permanent home where they can store their materials and run workshops - a space that can comfortably host approximately 10 people during a workshop and has power and water connected.

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Merry Christmas.

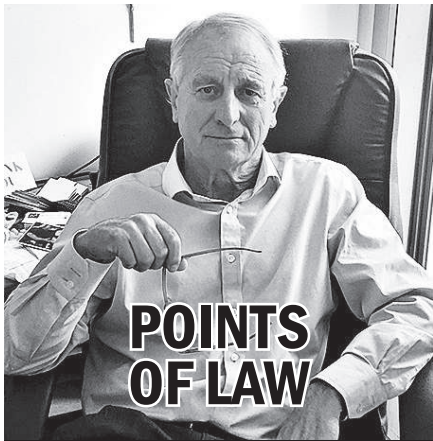
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A recent survey found that some 231,000 mobility scooters are in use in Australia. Their legal status on footpaths and roads, and also the use of motorised golf carts on footpaths and roads away from a golf course, has prompted a reader to ask about the laws governing these vehicles.

## Scooters, golf carts & the law

A few weeks back, Nationals Senator John Williams grabbed some headlines when he proposed changing the laws to limit the speed of motor scooters. In Victoria, the laws relating to the use of such vehicles on footpaths and public highways can be summed up as follows.

### Golf carts

- A golf cart can only be used for the purpose for which it was manufactured i.e. as a transport vehicle for a golf-related purpose.
- It must be operated by a person with a current driver's licence and while it can

travel on a public road within a two km radius of the golf course again, this travel must be "only for the purpose for which it was built."

- It is not defined as a motor vehicle and does not require registration, but is subject to normal traffic regulations.
- If used for any other purpose, conditional registration is required through VicRoads. This conditional registration stipulates the specific routes, speed and vehicle operating times.

### Mobility scooters

Motorised scooters are designed for use by a single person and are propelled by an electric motor.

- There are no regulations for scooters of power less than 200 watts and speeds of less than 10 kph.
- Motorised scooters of more than 200 watts which can exceed 10 km per hour, are vehicles which require registration, third party insurance and be operated by a licensed driver.
- The users of scooters on footpaths or nature strips must keep to the left and give way to pedestrians.

More general information about scooters, carts and other wheeled vehicles can be found in a recent publication of the RACV *Assessment of New Recreational Transport Devices (October 2016)*

Dean Cinque

*Disclaimer: The enclosed information is of necessity a brief overview and it is not intended that readers should rely wholly on the information contained therein. No warranty express or implied is given in respect of the information provided and accordingly no responsibility is taken by Cinque Oakley Senior Lawyers or Buninyong News for any error or omission within this article.*

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Authorised by Joshua Morris MP, 211 Dana Street, Ballarat. Funded from Parliamentary Electorate Office and Communications Budget.



**AROUND THE CHURCHES  
CHRISTMAS 2017**

# Mix of blankets, bowls and Bartrop

**The blanket stocks at Uniting Ballarat increased when Sturt Buninyong Lodge delivered a further ten units. The gift was a joint venture by the Lodge and Freemasons Foundation Victoria.**

Lodge Master **Ron Fleming**, said that this project had now delivered 80 blankets since 2010. "With many cold nights over the winter and rising energy costs the demand for blankets by Uniting Ballarat clients had increased. The Lodge will continue to support Operation Winter Warmth."

The annual indoor bowls championship between SBU and Guiding Star lodges in September came down to the wire with SBU regaining the trophy.

During supper at the September meeting, members were challenged to exhibit their skills as artists and use the white table coverings as a canvas.

For some people drawing comes naturally while others have to work hard but in the spirit of laughter and encouragement some surprising drawings emerged.

**Long service**

A jewel and certificate recognising 65 years of service by **Carl Hoffmann** to the Sturt Buninyong Lodge was presented by Past Grand Master **Bruce Bartrop**. A number of Lodge members gathered with Carl and his family to mark this achievement during afternoon tea held at his home on 7 October.

**Graham Dawes** is now midway in his Masonic journey in becoming a master mason. Lodge members performed a ceremony of advancement to the Fellow Craft Degree for Graham during their October meeting. Graham is now a Fellowcraft Freemason



*(Above) Warrick Davidson, Uniting Co-ordinator for the Entry Point and Homeless Support Program, Wendy Ferguson Uniting Housing Manager, Lodge members Ken Jenkin, Len Tyzack and Ron Fleming.*

*(Left) Graham Williamson, Carl Hoffmann, Ron Fleming, Alby Peart and Bruce Bartrop following the presentation.*

**ST PETER & PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Fisken Street, Buninyong  
Contact **Margaret McCarty**  
5341 3243

Mass times: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays at 10.30am. 2nd and 4th Sundays at 9am  
Christmas Eve 7.00pm

**UNITING CHURCH**

Learmonth Street Buninyong.  
**Rev Lindell Gibson** 5341 3200  
Services: Buninyong: Sunday 9.30am  
Meredith: 2nd Sunday 11am  
Sebastopol: 2nd, 4th Tuesday 11am  
Christmas Eve:  
Buninyong 7:00pm  
Meredith 10:00pm  
Christmas Day:  
Sebastopol 9:00am

**HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH**

Warrenheip Street, Buninyong.  
**Rev Mark Schnerring** 5341 3281  
www.buninyonganglican.org.au  
Sunday Services: 8.30am and 10am  
Christmas Eve 6.15pm  
Christmas Day 9:00am

**BAPTIST CHURCH**

Pastor **Noel Mitaxa** 0414 776 789  
Service held in Buninyong Town Hall,  
Sundays 10am

**SCOTSBURN CHURCH**

Midland Highway, Scotsburn  
Contact **Heather Stokes** on  
5341 7609.  
First Sunday in the month at 10am  
Carols under the trees: Friday 1st  
December 7.00pm

# Sally strong after struggle

Not only has Sally Warren forged a positive mindset through adversity, but she's formed a business to also help others. The Mt Helen resident, 26, who grew up in Buninyong, faced personal tragedy when she was aged eleven, losing her sister, Sarah, 12, to brain cancer.

It was heart-breaking for the child, and her life spiralled negatively from that time, having already suffered from negative thought patterns from an early age.

"I was already trying to end my life and it was confusing for a child to feel the need to do that," Sally said.

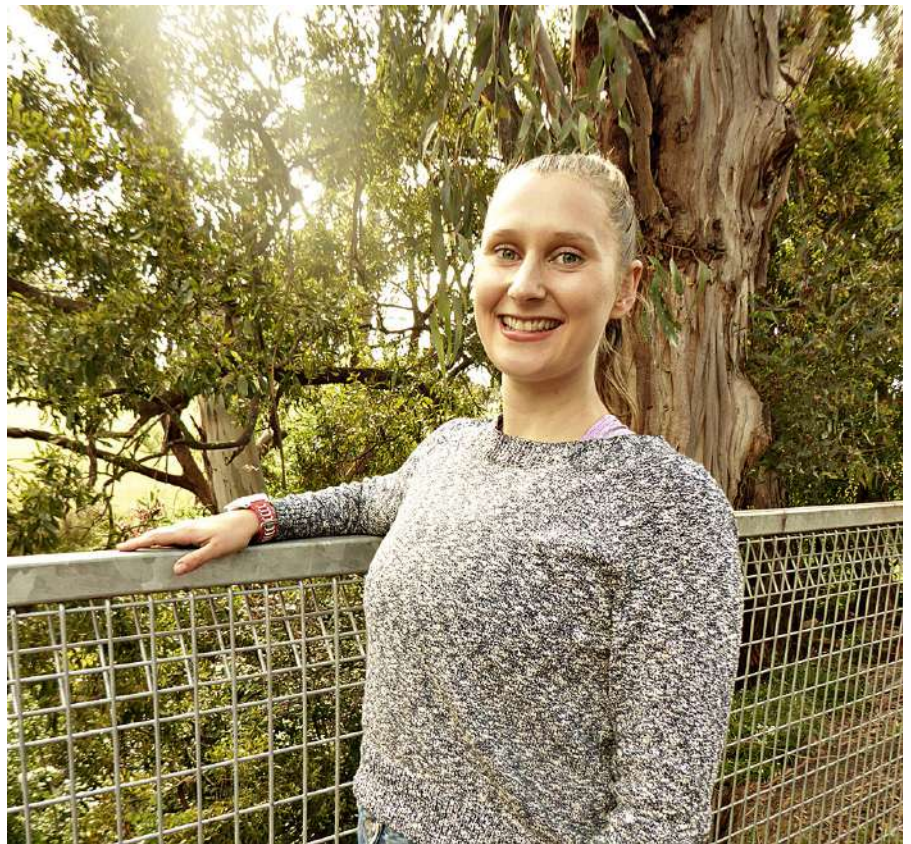
## Running

To overcome these emotions, at the age of twelve with the encouragement of concerned adults, she began running but lost control through anorexia, bulimia and depression, being hospitalised at ages 17 and 18.

It was only four years ago when she turned her life around through a wholefood, plant-based diet combined with her love of running that helped her to finally tackle the demons.

"Running had a lot to do with my recovery because I was not allowed to run when I was bulimic or anorexic, and this became my why-power. It was something bigger than myself that helped me dig in to recover," she said.

"That's what others need as well, their reason, their why-power, a reason bigger



than themselves, and to help them overcome things in their lives."

That's where the idea for her business took shape. Although she had an offer for a course in horticulture, Sally said that helping others to find a breakthrough like she did was always on her mind. "I feel like I've discovered something different and I feel wrong not to share this," she said.

"I was about to start studying but this was always on my mind, I was always thinking about health and I thought why not try

doing this now, I can't know unless I try and people's responses show me that I've found the right path."

She launched her business *Healthy with Sally* in September 2017, offering health coaching, mentoring, workshops and inspired speaking. She offers free 30-minute consultations.

There is more detail about Sally on her website *HealthywithSally.com*, or through Facebook, Instagram or YouTube @ healthywithsally.

Amy Darby Walker

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**booklets** invoice books **posters** envelopes **stickers/labels...**  
 ...the list goes on.





## Pop-up shop back again

The very popular Pop-Up Shop returns to Buninyong in November and December. Opening night will be Wednesday 29 November at 6pm, and then followed by another eight days of trading.

The iconic MG Brown Electrical Shop has been kindly made available and the Pop-Up Team look forward to once again welcoming the many Buninyong locals into this wonderful space.

Perfect for all Christmas shopping needs, this temporary shop will be show-casing local products and handmade goods from far and wide.

With a focus on artists, designers and craftspeople, this shop will not only offer a unique shopping experience, it will also provide participating artists the opportunity to exhibit and sell their work in a professionally-appointed and well-promoted venue.

This shop is an initiative of The Buninyong Football Netball Club with all funds raised to assist the club's 2018 season. Opening night is supported by *Red Door Pizzeria* and *Saltbush Kitchen* – all welcome.

Featured artists include *Living Leaf Designs*, *Trudy Nicholson*, *Golden Book Creations*, *Tansy Ansy*, *Amy's Jam*, *Saltbush Kitchen*, *Buninyong's Men's Shed*, *Rohz Candles* and lots more.

## Italy in Main St

The Buninyong Film Festival Committee is having an unusual event on Thursday 30 November – a pop up movie.

There will be an Italian-themed movie night at the Red Door Pizzeria. The movie to be shown is titled *Pizza and Dates* (in English).

Tickets are priced at \$50 which includes a drink on arrival (including a delicious Italian cocktail), three courses of pizza and the movie. There's lots more information, and also a link to book tickets, on the Film Festival's new-look website – [buninyongfilmfestival.com.au](http://buninyongfilmfestival.com.au).

## Old pool pics wanted

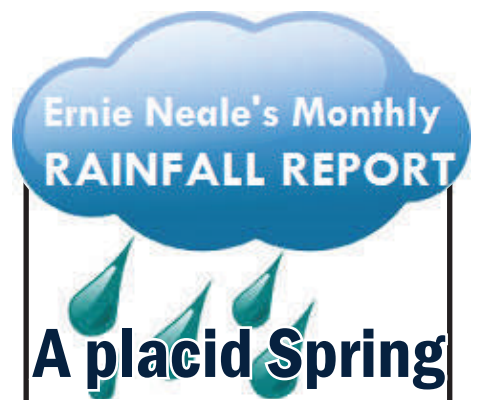
Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens group is searching for any historic photographs of the old pool area in the Gardens when they were functioning as the township's swimming pool. This would span the period c 1870s to the 1950s. If you have any photographs that might be available to copy please contact **Roger Permezel** on 5341 2758. It seems that the Historical Society would love to get some of these into their collection also.

## Maj Bunney's final fall-out



In the November 2015 edition of *The News* there was a story about a Buninyong lad, Bryan Bunney (pictured above), who joined the Australian Army over 40 years ago and even now from his Queensland base, looks forward to reading each month's copy of Buninyong's community newspaper.

Now his sister **Gaele Bruhn** has advised that Bryan, who attained the rank of Major, will be retiring from the army on 10 December after forty years of service. A retirement dinner was held earlier in November at the Gaythorn (Qld) RSL where he is the Vice President.



Spring this year unfolded as one of the most placid we have had for some time. October continued the pattern we experienced through September, with rain fronts arriving on a weekly basis. They delivered a total of 51.6 mm over the month.

The moisture, combined with warmer temperatures, prompted plant life to proliferate. I expect almost everyone in Buninyong felt a bit caught out in October when their gardens suddenly needed more of their time than expected. We even had field mushrooms coming up in the paddocks. It has been a particularly long and strong growing season.

Our monthly rainfall total for October was down about 15per cent on the recent average. YTD rainfall reached 597.8 mm, very close to the long-term average. It seems 2017 is unfolding as a comfortably routine year weatherwise – even our wet April was offset by a dry June.

The BOM climate outlook released mid-October hinted that rainfall might be slightly up on averages for the rest of the year.

| OCT 2017        |      |                |      |
|-----------------|------|----------------|------|
| Date            | Rain | Date           | Rain |
| 5-6             | 5.7  | 9              | 0.8  |
| 12-13           | 15.6 | 19             | 8.2  |
| 23              | 2.0  | 25             | 10.1 |
| 26              | 0.3  | 30-31          | 8.9  |
| <b>Total</b>    |      | <b>51.6 mm</b> |      |
| <b>OCT 2016</b> |      | <b>106.4mm</b> |      |
| <b>2017 YTD</b> |      | <b>597.8mm</b> |      |
| <b>2016 YTD</b> |      | <b>703.4mm</b> |      |

# Cycling back with circuit change

At the end of the 2017 Road National Cycling titles held on the Buninyong circuit there was serious doubt about the event remaining in the area next year and beyond. It wasn't until some months after the event that newly appointed Cycling Australia Chairman Steve Bracks AC announced that the event would continue in the region for at least three more years.

In addition to the event remaining in the region, local Federation University has been confirmed as the new naming rights partner for the event. A further indication of the right to call this region the cycling capital of Australia. As well as providing sponsorship, Fed Uni will offer access to the elite sports training facilities at the campus.

## Changes

The 2018 titles will look a little different from previous years. The programme has been changed to include extra events. Two new categories - the Under 19 and Paracycling events - have been added to the cycling programme and new spectator and community activities are planned for the Buninyong area.

Australia's club riders will also be able to get involved in the new *Club Teams Trial Championships* and the *National Teams Relay*. Novice riders will be able to participate in new rides and activities including a twilight festival



The time trial stays on the Mt Mercer circuit but will run over two days with additional events added.

## Uni Loop

The circuit will be changed with cyclists coming further down Gear Avenue, swinging right into the University's East Terrace, proceeding to Residence Drive and University Drive, then through Technology Park before returning to Gear Avenue.

There will be no *Gran Fondo* in 2018 but there will be a Buninyong recreational ride on "Super Sunday". Plans are also being discussed for a University or Buninyong-based party, a village market and an open air film in the Botanic Gardens to coincide with the weekend races.

The national championships will be held between 3-7 January 2018. Details of these events will be in the daily press

Ray Sullivan

## Easy to get on new courts

# Hit the computer, pay, PIN and go

Courts at the outstanding Buninyong tennis centre can now be booked and paid for at any time using the website [www.buninyongtennis.org.au](http://www.buninyongtennis.org.au).

One of the high quality Rebound Ace courts can be booked for any time between 8.00am and 10.00pm for just \$6 per half hour plus \$2.75 for on court lights if required.

The system asks for credit card payment and once the booking is confirmed a unique PIN code is issued to gain entry at the gate. The system knows if lights are required and turns them on/off automatically. There are no keys, no cash and no fuss.

Anyone wanting to play more regularly might look at the value in signing up as a Social member of the Buninyong &

District Tennis Association. For just \$10 per month (via an annual membership) the whole family can enjoy unlimited court access when required at no additional charge. Book on line for free and only pay if lighting is required. Visit [www.buninyongtennis.org.au](http://www.buninyongtennis.org.au) and follow the Social Member guide on the home page.

For more information contact **Phillip Anstis** on 0427 311 105.

# Ray Sullivan's SPORTS NEWS

## National stars

Buninyong golfers performed well at the recent 2017 Australian Veteran Golfers Union National Championships held on the Gold Coast. Two of the three rounds were played in very wet and cold conditions .

**Helen Pascoe** tamed the conditions, completing her three rounds with 78, 82 and 81 for 241 shots to win the ladies title by a massive 21 shots. Three-time men's champion **John Ciezki** just failed to add to his 2012, 2013 and 2014 titles. He finished strongly, but just fell two shots short of taking out his fourth title, finishing runner-up.

## Back home

November seemed to be hole-in-one month at Buninyong. **Betty McGuinness** scored a hole-in-one on the 12<sup>th</sup> hole (*The Bunny Hop*) in a recent round. Also **Steve Taylor** aced on *The Bunny Hop* and **Brett Tolliday** on the second hole.

## Medals to Angie

A Year 7 student at Ballarat Grammar, Buninyong's **Angie Selkirk** won a Silver medal in the 200m and a bronze in the 100 at the recent Victorian All-Schools championship with a personal best in each event. She will now go on to represent Victoria in the national U14 Schools' Championship in Adelaide in a few days' time.

## Regional Champions

Buninyong bowlers **Brian Wilcock** and **Terry Jordan** recently won the Over 60s Pairs Regional Titles. They now go on to represent the region in the State Championships.

A Buninyong Ladies 4s team of **Yvonne Clarke, Helen Slater, Pam Hayes** and **Barb Glover** performed very well in their regionals but were unlucky to lose in the final.

After six rounds of weekend competition, Buninyong Div. 1 is just outside the Four in fifth place with 4 wins and 2 losses. The Div. 3 side is third, Div. 5 is on top and Div. 8 is fifth.

## Scott Best

Buninyong Cricket Club have had a mixed start to the season. Two wins and two losses has them just out of the four after four rounds in the Ballarat Cricket Association Seconds competition. Leading the way with the bat is **Scott Boadle** who has scored 228 runs at an average of 76.



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A fundraising initiative of the Buninyong Football & Netball Club

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|----------|----------|-------------|----------|----------|-------------|
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| Friday   | DEC 1st  | 10am to 8pm | Friday   | DEC 8th  | 10am to 8pm |
| Saturday | DEC 2nd  | 10am to 4pm | Saturday | DEC 9th  | 10am to 8pm |
| Sunday   | DEC 3rd  | 10am to 4pm | Sunday   | DEC 10th | 10am to 4pm |

Opening night sponsored by Red Door Pizzeria Buninyong (we love Trev)

**AT THE 'MG BROWN' BUILDING 317 LEARMONTH STREET BUNINYONG**

Youth award winner

# ‘Lucky’ Jake helps the poor

From a very early age Buninyong’s Jake Sbardella 11, has been worried about the plight of the homeless people he sometimes sees on the streets of Ballarat and Melbourne. Over the years he often wondered how he could help out these people

His mother Emma, said, “Jake has been really concerned about people who are homeless and wanted to do something to help them out.” She said that Jake feels that he has been given the gift of a home and a loving and caring family. He told her that “some people in the world don’t really have that, so it means a lot to me that people who are homeless have somewhere to sleep.”

## Soup bus

Emma said that Jake, a student at Emmaus Catholic Primary School, was so keen to help these people that “we looked into volunteering at the local soup bus but volunteers have to be over 18.”

Disappointed by that, when he was 10 Jake asked his mum to print him up one quote each day to remind him how lucky he is in his life. He told his mum that she was “always so good at making me happy when I am sad and telling me things to remind me how much you love me”.

So the idea of producing his *Happiness Advent Calendars* was born. Jake carefully



chooses a selection of quotes and jokes that he hopes will make people smile and with a little help from his mum (who has a marketing and business background) , and sister Ellie, 15, he designs them up into cute little cards

## Calendar

These are then professionally printed into a calendar that people can purchase. All the funds raised go towards helping out Ballarat’s homeless.

In 2016 after paying printing costs for his *Happiness Advent Calendars*, Jake was able to donate \$2800 to Anglicare’s breakfast program for homeless people. He hopes to raise at least this amount again this year by selling the calendars.

They can be ordered from [facebook.com/happinessadventcalendars](https://www.facebook.com/happinessadventcalendars). For his work for the homeless Jake won the City of Ballarat 2017 *Ballarat Youth Awards* (12-17 years).



# Tim’s Dutch treat

Buninyong resident and keen cyclist **Tim Boshier** headed to the Netherlands recently to join up with some *University of the Third Age (U3A)* cycling friends for the cycling tour of a lifetime.

After meeting in Amsterdam, Tim and the U3A group took off to tackle the 1300km *Ronde van Nederland* route which circumnavigates the country. This was not a race and took

some nineteen days to complete with the emphasis being on seeing the countryside and meeting the locals.

Tim said that the Netherlands was chosen because of its cycling culture, road infrastructure and cycle-friendly towns. (Perhaps the lack of hills was also a factor!!)

If this type of cycling appeals to you check out *U3ABallaratCycleTourers* on Facebook.