

# GO AHEAD FOR CFA LAND SALE

The sixty members of the Buninyong Golf Club who attended a Special Meeting on 20 March voted overwhelmingly to give the Committee the green light to finalise negotiations with the CFA over the sale of vacant land with a 60m frontage to Learmonth Street, east of the present Clubhouse.

President **Ron Delaland** and club solicitor **Dean Cinque** explained the background on the proposed sale to members, indicating that proceeds from the sale would enable the club to undertake a range of major projects such as the construction of a new major water storage on the course and repairs to or replacement of the clubhouse.

The 60m x 60m area of land under discussion extends to within 15 metres of the Clubhouse. The present access ramp



would have to be moved some five metres closer to the clubhouse. It is understood that a figure in excess of \$800,000 has been agreed to with the CFA bearing subdivision and other costs.

The sale of the golf course land follows a breakdown in earlier moves by the CFA to purchase land on the corner of

Warrenheip and Palmerston Streets. The 3600m<sup>2</sup> golf club block compares to the CFA's present Learmonth Street site which has only a frontage of some 16 metres, no side or rear access and an area of 950m<sup>2</sup>.

Pictured below is the new CFA premises in Carngham Road. It has a frontage of some 55 metres.



# Music Festival a big hit

Despite the wintry weather conditions which caused changes of venue and which impacted on the crowds wandering along Warrenheip and Learmonth Streets, the first *Bended Knee Music Festival* was voted a great success.

Some eighty people enjoyed the first event – the Bush Dance at the Town Hall on Friday evening. Local folk band, *The Infusers*, provided the music.

Then came the busy Saturday with events at the Town Hall, the Uniting Church, the Crown Hotel and the two last-minute venues – the RSL Hall and the historic Anglican Church which replaced open air events scheduled for *Netherby* homestead and the Town Hall square.

School musical groups were featured at the RSL Hall where the Buninyong Primary School, St James Primary School, and an outstanding bluegrass group from Ballarat Grammar, in addition to the *Ballarat Ukulele Group* and *The Bandits*, performed to full houses.

Brilliant Ballarat guitarist/singer **Shane Gilbert** wowed the crowd at the Town Hall, along with foot tapping Melbourne groups such as *The Boondockers* and *Blue Limit*.

Festival organisers said that despite the cold weather, they were pleased at how the initial Festival came together and the way people wandered from venue to venue, all of which were within easy walking distance in the town centre.

Vendors in food trucks did brisk business as did the local coffee and takeaway shops.

The Facebook post summed up the response of most “A lovely intimate festival of super-talented and generous musicians. Congratulations to the organisers.”



*The Town Hall was packed early in the day as the Melbourne country group the Boondockers had the crowd tapping along with their music.*



*With music teacher Heath Joyce (right) leading the group with his mandolin, the Ballarat Grammar Bluegrass Band put on a great show at the RSL Hall, (L to R) Lucas Burke, Aeron Johns, Tom Burnett, Rueben Rasmussen, (at rear) Gillian Chataway, Henry McNeil and Ethan Johns*



*The Buninyong Community Choir, led by Georgie and Geoffrey Williams, put on a fine performance at the Anglican Church.*

# Residents claim **STREET TREE MASSACRE!**



**Deborah Gilchrist**, a member of the BDCA, was outraged by the hacking of the trees and was moved to write the following in the style of a famous English playwright.

***They came, they sawed, they butchered!***

*Friends, tree lovers and people of Buninyong, lend me your eyes!*

*Is it not ignoble to butcher our trees, our heritage vista?*

*Why do our words of sustainability and aesthetics fall on deaf ears?*

*Do those who hold the keys to the chainsaws and other sharp equipment understand?*

*Many of us have communicated directly or indirectly to those who hold the keys!*

*The Mayor, Councillors and Council employees.*

*Do they listen - apparently NOT!*

*If they did our trees and in particular our plane trees would resemble balanced sculptures and not abominations.*

**Many residents were angered recently following the heavy lopping of stately deciduous trees along a heritage strip in Warrenheip Street north. The lopping was part of a program to ensure trees were kept clear of overhead power lines.**

But residents claimed the nature of the work was unnecessarily severe and left the trees mis-shapen and ugly.

Several residents wrote letters of protest to Ballarat City's Director of Infrastructure and Environment **Terry Demeo** who responded that the work was designed "to minimise risk of fire between electrical apparatus and Council-controlled vegetation."

Another part of his response suggested that this "management of vegetation" had the objective of "maximising the cultural and environmental qualities of the City's trees."



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# Signs of the times



**United Children, the previous operators of the child care centre in Buninyong refused to have any contact with *The News* after the article on the large and over-the-top gharish signage that had been erected at several points on its Learmonth Street frontage.**

Most of the signage was removed after Council intervention following *The News* editorial 'Circus Tent Signage Must Come Down' (July 2018).

Now the new operators of the centre, who have gone out of their way to communicate with this newspaper, have installed tasteful, well-designed signage that, as required by Council rules, fits neatly within the gable ends at two points of the building. Well done to them !

However those squiggly symbols on the front fence (part of United Children's graphics) could be better placed in the children's playground at the rear.

## Bring link back

For several years, the township and the local area, was well served by having one of the members of Council's Community Engagement team, well-known **Graham Kent**, visible and available to bring local

matters to the attention of relevant Council officers. He was a go-to figure that gave Council's efforts to "engage" with smaller communities a lot of credibility.

There is strong support for Council's administrative heavies to again get this role back into someone's position description in at the Phoenix Building. Surely South Ward Councillors can tackle this "no extra dollars" one that could be fixed with a stroke of an administrative pen.

## Choice and quality

This edition of *The News* has several pages and stories about (or even written by) children of local schools, and reinforces the attractiveness of this area for family living. There is a great choice between excellent and accessible large and small State, Catholic and the Steiner schools.

In addition to their educational programs and experiences, each of the schools is active in community events, in supporting good causes, and in engaging parents and others in their activities.

All locals, whether having children of school age or not, should get involved with and support our local schools whether it be by attending a fete or an Open Day, a concert, a sports or other event, or by following their news in this newspaper or elsewhere. Many communities would indeed be very envious of our choice of local schools.



**This publication is a community project of the Buninyong & District Community Association (BDCA) 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).

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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## Progress at Lal Lal windfarms

# Locals get up close

**Three busloads of interested visitors recently were shown various aspects of the windfarm now under construction at Lal Lal with explanatory information on the role it will play in electricity generation.**

While there has been community disquiet at the location and size of the proposed wind turbines as well as the likely level of noise generated, the project is now a reality despite a significant increase in the size of the towers.

Construction of the 38 turbines, the electricity sub-station and cables to the grid are now well advanced in the Yendon section which is centred on Lal Lal Estate and neighbouring farms while the smaller Elaine section with 22 turbines will commence soon and will connect directly to the adjacent Elaine Terminal Station.

At the time of the visit there were seventeen fully-completed turbines at the Yendon end of the project. Turbine components for Elaine will start to arrive on site over the next few months. The project is on track to be completed around September 2019.

### Huge

Each turbine is made up of the tower, the nacelle and three blades and reaches to a height of 161m with the lowest point of the blades being 20m off the ground. Each tower sits on a body of concrete that is 20m in diameter and 4m deep.

The towers have a lift and stairs. In addition, construction and maintenance staff must be able to abseil down in an emergency and always carry such equipment whilst on the job.

This windfarm is now owned by junior partner *Macquarie Capital* in conjunction with global infrastructure investors, *Northleaf Capital* and *InfraRed Capital*. Construction sub-contractors are *Vestas* and *Zenviron*. The operators estimate that, when completed, the combined windfarms will generate sufficient power for about 95,000 homes each year.

Typically these projects have a ten year gestation and a 30 year productive life.

### Birds

The permit to operate has provisions for the monitoring of bird and bat strikes especially for Wedge-tail Eagles, Brown Falcons and Swamp Harriers. Noise levels are also to be monitored and are restricted.

The blades are equipped with a serrated section at their edge and this reduces the wind noise by 3dB.

(The author claims a hand in the development of these serrated edges as over two decades ago he was published saying blade manufacturers “should study the owl’s wing as these birds have to fly silently to survive”).

The companies have made available \$100,000 annually to fund community projects in the affected areas, notably around Lal Lal, Yendon, Dunnstown and Elaine. This Community Benefit Fund is administered by a local Reference Group that is chaired by Yendon resident **Mike Stephens** and grant applications open in May and close in July.

*Russell Luckock*



*Photo shows turbines at Lal Lal Windfarm in various stages of construction while the new power pole in the foreground carries the three 30mm thick power cables (lower bank of 3) that will supply power to the grid at the Ballarat Area Terminal Station.*



# The Shearers of Scotsburn

This is the second in a series of articles written by district primary school children and co-ordinated by News reporter Rita Russell.

This month's author is Claire Plier (pictured right with Graham Shearer) of the Scotsburn Campus.

**Graham Shearer is a Scotsburn local through and through. His family have a long history with the Scotsburn Campus. His dad, Robert, attended the Scotsburn Primary School in the 1920s and Graham and his four siblings also attended in the 1950s and 1960s. This was followed by his own children, Tom and Sam in more recent years.**

**Graham's** memories of being a student at the Scotsburn campus are very positive. He remembers fondly making the 3km journey by foot or on the bike to school and particularly enjoyed dinking his siblings on the front of the bike.

## Post office

Graham can remember his Head Teacher, **Mr Sweeney** and the many fun experiences from his school days. One highlight that remains vivid to this day was of watching the 1956 Olympics on the TV at the Post Office that was next door to the school. He was also a keen runner and enjoyed competing in the Fisken Sports.

Just as the Scotsburn students do today, Graham and his classmates would attend the Buninyong Campus for group days. Although a bit overwhelming at the time, he remembers how much fun it was to mix with new students and make new friends.

A highlight of the year for Graham was the Christmas concert at the end of the school year.

## Involved

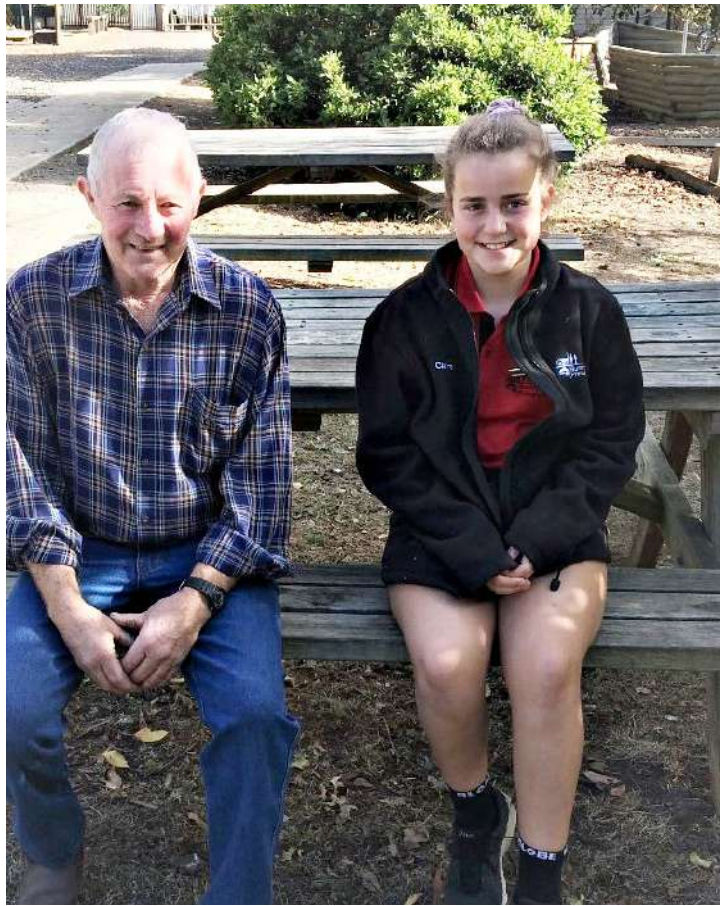
Graham certainly loves the Scotsburn district. He is still heavily involved as the Chairman of the Scotsburn Hall Committee along with being an honorary member of the Mt Buninyong Fire Brigade.

He also works at the Back Creek School helping out with various farm duties such as fencing, tractor work, hay carting and wool classing.

Although the Scotsburn district has changed quite a bit, Graham still feels that it is the wonderful people that make it a great place to live.

*Claire would like to thank Graham for taking the time to be interviewed for this article.*

*Claire Plier*



After leaving the Scotsburn campus, Graham took a wool classing course, which led to him becoming a shearing contractor and overseer. This led to a lifelong love of sheep and wool, a love that still keeps him busy today.

He has always given his time unstintingly to the Community - and still does. He joined the Buninyong Fire Service at the age of 15 and was rewarded recently with a long service medal after 45 years with the service. He also still serves on the Landcare Committee at Williamson's Creek and the Clarendon Cemetery Trust.

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AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, 5 LYDIARD ST NTH BALLARAT 3350

# Festival over but Aussies again win Marmalashes

Unless you were of royalty or peerage announcing an engagement, getting a run in the august London newspaper, *The Times*, used to be as difficult as getting into the Royal Box at Wimbledon.

Maybe things have changed over the years but the recent 20 March 2019 edition of *The Times* went quite overboard in reporting a win by the Australian XI entries in the annual *Marmalashes* contest against the English marmalade makers.

Even the pithy remark by local marmalade doyen **Russell Luckock** was quoted – “Golly – we won!!”  
The win came after the mid-2018 close-down of the Buninyong Marmalade Festival after eight years.

THE TIMES, Wednesday March 20 2019



## Jammy Aussie side knocks us for six

**I**t uses Spanish oranges, owes its origins to an ancient Roman recipe and borrows its name from the Portuguese via France. In all other respects marmalade is as British as it comes (Valentine Low writes).  
It was therefore only a matter of time before the Australians said that anything the Poms can do, they can do better. Unfortunately they seem to have been right.

An Australian team has beaten the British to the coveted MarmalAshes trophy at the world marmalade awards. Again. It was close but Australia has a 6-2 series lead.  
“Golly ... we won!!” Russell Luckock, 73, founder of the MarmalAshes, said. “That’s great news as our cricket has been in the doldrums lately.”



The Dalemain estate in Cumbria hosts the annual MarmalAshes, judged by the star baker Dan Leppard

The awards have been hosted since 2005 by Jane Hasell-McCosh, 65, on her Dalemain estate

in Cumbria. Mr Luckock, an Australian, devised the contest after England’s cricket team won the 2010-11 Ashes. “Like a lot of Australians, he has a willingness to fight Britain at the drop of a

hat,” Dan Leppard, the baker and TV presenter who is head judge, said. Leppard, 55, said that the British marmalade was “absolutely stonking” but that Australians benefited from having lemon trees

### The easy recipe

Jane Hasell-McCosh’s anytime economy marmalade

- 6 ordinary sweet oranges
- 3-4 grapefruit
- 3 lemons
- 4 pints water (2 litres)
- Granulated sugar

Put fruit whole in a pressure cooker with two pints (1 litre) of water. Pressure cook for 40 minutes and leave to cool without depressurising.

Chop up fruit, removing pips. Add two more pints of cold water. Measure into jam pan. Add 1lb (450g) of sugar to every pint of liquid and fruit (warm the sugar first). Boil rapidly until setting point is reached.

in their gardens. “The way to get the best result is to have the freshest fruit,” he said.

Few know what is in the small jar used as a trophy but rumour is it contains a batch of burnt marmalade.





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# RSL decides to soldier on

After brief consideration was given last year to a possible merger with the Sebastopol RSL, it was reported at the 2019 AGM of the Buninyong sub-branch of the RSL that the Branch has decided to continue in its own right.

This decision was made in view of the branch now having 46 members and was strengthened at the 2019 AGM when the retiring Executive was re-elected for a second year. Nineteen members were present at the AGM.

At the AGM, President **Ron Fleming** reported on recent activities of the branch and its members which included the two commemorative days held in Buninyong, visits to many events and to other RSL clubs.

Funds for various RSL charities were raised through the annual Poppy Day (\$3,800) and the RSL annual golf day which raised in excess of \$4,000.



Ron Fleming was re-elected (as President) as were the following Executive members – **Bill Barr** (senior Vice-President), **Simon Fechney** (Secretary), **Dru Parker** (Assistant Secretary), **Lyle Thorne**

(Treasurer), and **Max Thorne** (Assistant Treasurer).

Other roles filled at the AGM included **Brian Parker** (Burial/Ritual Officer) and **Vic Bradley** as Welfare Officer.

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# Three fix jobs for Council

Community members have contacted *The News* to point out several Council maintenance tasks that have been left now for many months with no sign of action.

The first of these is the bent street vine post outside of the UFS Pharmacy. Apparently struck by a heavy vehicle several months ago, the post has a significant lean and has resulted in the wires holding the grape vines hanging loosely.

The second urgent task is the replacement of the bluestone pitchers that have been knocked from kerbing at many points around the township. These include the edges on both sides of the road opposite the RSL and *Crown Hotel*, kerbing near *Foodworks*, along the service road near the Golf Club, and at several other spots.

Over the past year or so, Council workers have removed two mature plane trees in the stretch between the *UFS Pharmacy* and the supermarket. One was damaged by vandals but the reason for other's removal is not known. Two new trees are needed there. Also the garden beds along this strip are in a sad state and could do with some serious attention.

*BUT as this edition was going to print Council staff were spotted trimming low branches from trees at the western end of the Avenue of Honour. Great job being done there by Council's Darryl Wallis and his team again.*



**The bent post**



**The bluestone**



**The missing trees**

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## Hope for Warrenheip Street upgrade project

# Groups join for funds fight



(L to R) Michaela Settle, Ben Taylor and Simon Coghlan (together with Gayle Adams who took the photo) meet to discuss the Warrenheip Street project.

Two of Buninyong’s key community groups have joined forces to lobby Council and the State Government for funding to kick-start work on the Warrenheip Street upgrade project in the coming financial year.

Gayle Adams, President of the Buninyong & District Community Association (BDCA) and Simon Coghlan, President of the Buninyong Business Network (BBN), are working together to seek funding from Council, the State Government and local sources to enable the long-awaited project to start.

### Councillor support

The three South Ward Councillors have been urged to press for the City of Ballarat to include some funding provision in Council’s 2019-2020 Budget. Cr Ben Taylor has met with Council’s Director of Infrastructure Terry Demeo to support the provision of Council funding for the first stage of the work – repaving and landscaping works on the east side of the

block between Forest and Eyre Streets. This is now ‘under review.’

Cr Des Hudson has told *The News* that he “is happy to support this project through the Council Budget deliberations in coming weeks.” He added that he believes “the potential for a three way partnership approach including the City of Ballarat, State Government and indicated support from the local community bank... is a positive way forward.”

Gayle Adams and Simon Coghlan, together with Cr Ben Taylor, recently met with Member for Buninyong Michaela Settle to discuss State Government support for the project.

Moves for the business strip upgrade in Warrenheip Street to the corner of Eyre Street were first proposed by the BDCA in 2014. After lobbying by that group, a draft concept plan for the eastern side of

Warrenheip Street was prepared by City of Ballarat’s Malcolm Wilson in 2016.

This was followed by a review of the strip by a Council team of four senior staff which resulted in the release of a more detailed *Streetscape Concept* in late 2017.

### On Display

This plan was displayed around the town in early 2018 and was the subject of an article in *The News* of February 2018.

The project is planned to be undertaken in three phases. The first and major component will be on the east side of the street involving remedial works to the gutters and nature strips, new footpath paving, paved areas adjacent to the Post Office and the Red Door Pizza, replanting of street trees and reorganising of street furniture.

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# Stephen on a journey

**During the March meeting of Sturt Buninyong Lodge, Stephen Matthews was advanced to the second level in his masonic journey.**

The ceremony was led by Lodge Master **Ian Crosbie** and supported by members of the current lodge ceremonial team.

The No23 Masonic Social Committee continued its support to the *Ballarat Cops and Kids* camp with a donation of \$1,500 comprising \$500 from the committee and \$1,000 by the Freemasons Foundation Victoria Limited.



*Ian Crosbie, Lodge Master, Sam the Lodge Steward; Stephen Matthews and Anthony McKnight following the advancement ceremony.*

# CHW fountain to school

**Chair of Central Highlands Water (CHW) Jeremy Johnson visited Buninyong Primary School recently to present the school with a new Be Smart Choose drinking fountain in recognition of pupils' efforts in collecting and disposing of single-use plastic bottles.**

At the 2019 Ballarat Begonia Festival CHW's display centrepiece was *Squirtle*, a giant turtle, and the collection of 250 plastic bottles by BPS pupils helped to fill the display which aimed to show the environmental impact of plastic waste.

The school has made a pledge to stop using single-use plastic bottles and to make use of the new drinking fountain which Principal **Bernie Conlan** said was to be located down near the grassed playing fields.



*Grade Six pupil Hillary helped Jeremy Johnson to unveil the new drinking fountain*

## streettalk

**BEING CIVIL.** Local fans of the ABC TV's *Hard Quiz*, hosted by comedian **Tom Gleeson**, spotted a familiar face recently when Buninyong's **John White**, well known for his involvement with the Victorian Welsh Choir, went within a whisker of winning the night's competition. His chosen topic had nothing to do with Wales. His topic was *The American Civil War*.

**ACTION.** Sign that things are hotting up again at *The Shared Table* came on 10 April with the appearance of that huge crane lifting a bob cat over adjoining property to start works at the rear. Our tip is for a September 2019 opening. Springtime *al fresco* dining under the vines sounds appealing.

**SIGNED AND SEALED.** *Street Talk* hears that the paperwork for the sale of the golf club land to the CFA (See story p1) was formally signed off on 5 April. Now look for some hard hats down at Learmonth Street pretty soon.

**SHOP NEWS.** Two presently vacant shops on the west side of Warrenheip Street are about to come to life. The former Studio 408 in the Old Library building will soon become an antiques shop. And further down at the corner of Barkly Street, the little stand-alone building that has housed Severino Builders, the Red Door Pizza, and the bike shop will soon become the Lions Op Shop!

**IN A JAM.** For years the local band of marmalade makers have been outraged by *The News'* editor playfully referring to the jars of the sticky orange stuff as "jam". He was delighted to see *The Times'* sub-editor's headline (see story page 7) referring to the "Jammy Aussie side". Doubtless heated letters of protest are already on their way from Buninyong to London!

**SPOTTED.** The two vandals who damaged various buildings at the Buninyong Golf Club recently escaped by a whisker when angry President **Ron Delaland** and police arrived. Flags were stolen, the rotunda wall smashed and roof vents broken. Suspects are in trouble though, as good descriptions have been given to police by a resident living nearby.

# Parents and public at Child Care Centre's **OPEN DAY FUN**

The April edition of *The News* carried an article about the local child care centre which recently had a change of ownership and change of name. What used to be the United Children Child Care Centre in Learmonth Street has become the Buninyong Child Care Centre (BCCC)

While reportedly there were some 'changeover' problems, these are being addressed and the new owners invited parents and the community in at their recent Open Day held on 13 April.

## Noisy and happy

The atmosphere when *The News* visited on their recent open day was vibrant, colourful, busy, noisy and happy. There was face painting, lots of glitter, Matthew 'the Balloon Guy' from Ballarat, and children were enjoying the play pit and climbing frame.

From the street, the size of the centre is deceptive. Inside it is spacious and colourful and at the rear there is an adventure playground, big sandpit, rock and nature area, cubby house, climbing frame and obstacle courses.



*Astrid looked gorgeous after face painting by Annie Ross.*



*BCCC's Marion McKenzie showed Xander, 14 months, around the playground.*

BCCC Director **Geet Gaba** said that there was a very good response to the Open Day with lots of people coming through to have a look and the feedback has been that they like the program and the amenities and enrolments are now going well. Eight new enrolments were taken on the day.

## Upgrade

The role of popular Educational Leader at the centre **Jo Anne Neal** has been

upgraded to give her more management functions.

In addition two local senior educators **Sue Deans**, formerly vice-Principal of the Buninyong Primary School and **Dr Barry Fitzgerald**, former Dean of Education at Ballarat CAE and Director of ACU's Aquinas Campus, have been invited to review and advise on various aspects of the centre and its relationship with the community.

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 ...the list goes on.



(L to R) Bianca Fammartino from the Leigh Catchment Group, Carol Bond, Donna Hart and Joan Smith from the Centre's Committee.

# Fire film hits home

**The new Clarendon hall recently was the venue for a screening of the film *Forged from Fire: The Making of the Blacksmiths' Tree*. It documents the efforts that evolved after an interested group of blacksmiths and metal designers banded together to construct the various parts of a seven metre high tree in the decade after the fires that killed 173 people on 7 February 2009 - the worst fire day in Victoria's recorded history.**

The tree comprises some 3,500 metal leaves that literally were forged in blacksmiths' forges around the fire-affected areas.

Leaves were also posted in from some twenty countries around the world where blacksmiths and their organisations had heard of this self-help story and wanted to contribute.

## Meaning

This remarkable blacksmiths' metal tree is full of meaning in the recovery of the communities that were affected by the disastrous Black Saturday bushfires in Victoria.

It's one inventive way to ease the affected communities' pain of loss.

The tree represents the willingness, the motivation and the ability to gather in and mutually support those who suffered from those raging fires. It represents renewal – just as the new green shoots in the forests do.

Wildfires have always been part of the Victorian scene, but, it seems society is now much better at handling the trauma of the aftermath.

## Local group

This film documents another such contribution in the re-building and re-awakening of affected communities.

It was produced and directed by **Andrew Garton** and this screening was paid for by the *Leigh Catchment Group* which has been very active in the area since the 2015 and 2018 fires in the Scotsburn and Clarendon areas.

Appropriately the screening was held at the new Clarendon Community Centre that was opened in March, some three years after the fire that came so close to their town.

It was built with a State Government grant of \$300,000 plus \$30,000 from the sale of their old hall decades ago and over 1,000 hours of community work.

The Centre is available for hire (bookings at [crrcom2@gmail.com](mailto:crrcom2@gmail.com) or Facebook).

Note:

*The writer's parents were burnt out in the 1944 grassfires that took lives as well as farms, livestock and houses. Back then, the army came in and shot (too) many sheep but then you simply got on with re-building fences, structures and your lives.*

*Nowadays, volunteer groups such as BlazeAid are widely recognised, not just for their fence-building, but for their emotional support for distressed land holders along with the local government-provided professional help.*

Russell Luckock

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# Harvest Festivals at Steiner School

Ballarat Steiner School and Kindergarten celebrated the coming of Autumn with Harvest Festivals across the school. In celebrating the season, the school reinforces the connection of people with the natural world.

The festivals included a variety of performances that showcased poetry, singing, acting and dancing from the students.

The class one to six Harvest Festival culminated in the presentation of the Harvest, which was decorated with seasonal vegetables such as pumpkins, potatoes, corn, onions and carrots. These were brought by the children to school on the day. Then, the children and school

kindly donated the entire Harvest to the Soup Bus.

## Help project

This tied in with a project by Murray Hassell (a year six student at the school) who also collected donations from the school community to donate to the Soup Bus. In addition to the Harvest, Murray collected two boxes of non-perishable items that will be distributed by the Soup Bus to those in need.

As well as supporting and feeding homeless people in our district, the Soup Bus also provides educational scholarships to young people. The donation of vegetables and non-perishable items was delivered and graciously accepted on a Saturday behind the *Ballarat East*



Murray Hassell with some of the food items he collected to donate to the Soup Bus.

(Lower) In traditional Harvest Festival costume the recorder ensemble performs.

*Men's Shed*. This is located on the corner of Fussell and Eureka Streets where donations are accepted each Saturday at 10.30am.





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## Good news on restaurant



**Barely a week passes without someone asking *The News* ‘what’s happening with the new restaurant in Learmonth Street?’ Looking at the building, things appear to have been at a standstill. But much has been happening behind the scenes.**

Because the building had never been previously been used for the preparation of food, satisfying State planning laws, administered by the local Council (and complicated by three objectors), proved to be a long process. But all is now approved and permits granted.

This approval now enables an application to be made for a liquor licence. This has been done and is and is likely to take some two months.

Builders will again be seen in the building in coming days, and the hope is that the restaurant will open “about September” according to owner, **Dianne Ray**.

She said that a website will be completed soon, and there is already a posting for *The Shared Table* on *Instagram* where those interested can follow progress.

## Hollywood Here

During the coming Film Festival there will be free screenings of a documentary *Mooramong: Private Hollywood*. This concerns an amazing property just out of Skipton that once was the home of a Hollywood actress who redesigned the 1873 Victorian homestead in 1938. Bequeathed to The National Trust, the property and gardens is open to the public on Sunday 5 May. Entry is \$12.

Open between noon and 4.00pm the property is at 635 Mooramong Rod, Skipton.

## Two shows to go

In the four show concert series at the Buninyong Golf Club's upstairs showroom, there are two more to go. On 1 June the concert will be Australian Creedence show *Ramble Tamble*. And then on 3 August there will be the *Ultimate American Rock Show* with tributes to about fifteen of the world's greatest rock stars.

Tickets for the two-course Dinner and Show are \$55, and for the show only \$30, are available online at [www.trybooking.com/440165](http://www.trybooking.com/440165) (for *Ramble Tamble*) and at the same site for the 3 August show but with the end number 442645.

## Police medals to two students

Two students from the Buninyong Primary School received ‘good citizenship’ medals from **Leading Senior Constable Des Hudson** at a recent assembly at the school.



Medals were awarded to junior school student **Harriet Blair** (shown in picture) and to senior student **Thomas Ross**.

## Line up for King visit



**Federal MP for Ballarat Catherine King brought her mobile office/ caravan to town recently for one of her periodic ‘meet-the-people’ visits.**

She spent more than an hour listening to the twenty or so persons who lined up on Learmonth Street to take their turn to discuss a variety of issues with her. While concerns raised with her ranged across diverse areas such as traffic, pensions, and police presence, most issues related to her role as Shadow Minister for Health and included problems with the NDIS and access to medical services in Buninyong.

*Pictured above with Catherine King is President of the Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens, Roger Permezel, who discussed possible Federal funding for the project under way to restore the old Police Stables in Buninyong.*



Loving their cooking class are Jack Conroy, Asher Wenzlick and Claire Plier. (Lower) Xavier Wooding and Maggie Eustice with some of their garden produce.

# Students are having a ball at Scotsburn

**Students at the Scotsburn Campus have had a wonderful time during Term 1. With two new teachers commencing at the campus (Ana Anderson with P-2 and Liz Morgan, Specialist) along with the enthusiastic bunch of students, they have managed to fit in an enormous amount of learning and fun.**

As well as a wide variety of learning opportunities in the classroom, the students have thrived on the extra outdoor opportunities that have come their way. From gardening to cooking and developing their awareness of how to be more conscious and aware of their environment, the students are certainly building a wide array of life skills.

The students at Scotsburn have also benefited from the strong links that they have to the Buninyong campus. Through these links, the students have

been involved in the very successful school fete, athletics events, camps and much more.

Students are now settled back into school life after the commencement of Term 2 a few days ago.

To find out more about the Scotsburn campus, go to the link <http://buninyongps.vic.edu.au/curriculum/scotsburn-campus/> or call **Shaun O'Loughlin** (Campus Leader) on 53413496.



## Ernie Neale's Monthly RAINFALL REPORT

### Records Tumble

**Buninyong has just achieved a worrying weather triple record. First it was the record dry Spring last year. Then followed January's record daily top temperature average. Now we've had the driest January to March quarter on record.**

March sealed it by delivering only 24.6 mm of rain, with over half of that just scraping in on the last day. The total for the three months was just 51.3 mm, well under half of the long-term average of 137.3 mm.

At the time of writing in early April, the annual anxious wait for the Autumn break has started. January to March are our driest months, so low rainfall then is not out of the ordinary. But from now on it gets serious.

If we score up to 25 mm of rain by ANZAC day, while the ground is warm enough, then we can expect good pasture and crop growth.

MARCH 2019			
Date	Rain	Date	Rain
6	0.8	10	3.2
11-12	3.5	21	1.1
26	3.5	31	12.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>24.6mm</b>	
<b>Average</b>		<b>39.9mm</b>	

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# Little Athletics now goes cross-country



Above: Being briefed on the cross country events by Club President Shane Bicknell, are (L to R) Harry, 5, Will, 6, River, 7, Nathan, 8, Ethan 10, and on the right side of the President are Ethan, 6, Lachlan, 6 and Xavier, 11.

After an initial summer track and field season which Buninyong Little Athletics President Shane Bicknell described as “tremendous”, the next few months will see local little athletes tackling cross country events in Desoza Park.

The cross-country season starts on Tuesday 30 April with events for those Under 6 (500m), U7/8 (1 km), U9/10 (1.5km), and the under 11/12 group running a testing distance of two kilometres.

During the summer season held at Royal Park, there were 138 children registered.

A number of young athletes qualified for regional and even State level event.

### State Events

An outstanding performance in the State Championships held at Casey Fields in Cranbourne, came from **Lucy Jones** who placed fifth in the U11 800m event and tenth in the 400m.

Another U11 girl, **Alish Ryan**, ran a creditable sixteenth in the 1500 championship event.

The opportunity to also compete at higher levels later in 2019 will be available to Buninyong cross-country athletes who meet qualifying standards.

Any ‘new’ children can register for the cross country season at the club’s website [buninyonglittleathleticsclub.com.au](http://buninyonglittleathleticsclub.com.au).

## Bowlers burn up finals greens

# FOUR OUT OF FIVE AIN'T BAD

**Buninyong lawn bowlers have just completed an amazing finals campaign with five teams playing in grand finals. Four premierships and 56 premiership medals is an achievement of which all club members can be proud.**

The Weekend Division 3 and Division 5 teams, and the Midweek Division 1 and Division 3 teams (pictured below) winning their Grand Finals sets an impressive record that will be very hard to beat in future seasons.

### Move up

Changes will be made to the structure of the competition for next season due to the end of the Ballarat-Geelong premier competition. The success across the board for Buninyong will mean that six of the seven Buninyong teams will be playing in higher divisions in the 2019-2020 season.

The Club recently conducted its End-of-Year celebration dinner with 65 members

and guests present. The victorious teams were congratulated and club awards were presented.

### Bill's green

A highlight of the day was the announcement that the Club's top green will be named the **Bill Innes** Green. This announcement was well received by all club members as an appropriate way to recognise Bill's lifetime of playing and service to the club. BDBD Secretary **John Holt** also presented Bill with his Super-Veteran's badge. Bill joined the Club in 1969 and has played in excess of 700 games.

Votes for the most valuable player were also counted during the dinner. **Mick Storey** won the weekend award and **Brian Wilcock** won the Midweek award. Runners-up were **David Draffin** and **Wayne Morgan**.



*Bill Innes*

*Ray Sullivan*



# BUNINYONG FILM FESTIVAL

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A happy family at the fete - Catriona, Jacob and Monty Fox.

## Records set at school fete

# CASH TO FUND PROJECTS

**On March 22 Buninyong PS held its biennial fete. The weather was brilliant and an enormous crowd went along to enjoy themselves and support the school. There was a great range of delicious food on offer, meaning lots could take the opportunity to eat out for the night.**

The fete had something for everyone, with loads of action, challenges and treats for

the children and things such as market stalls, coffee, wine and craft beer tasting and silent auctions for the adults.

Over \$20,000 was raised through the fete which is considerably better than the results of any previous Buninyong Primary fetes.

The funds raised will target two separate projects. The first is the construction of an

outdoor BBQ area at the Scotsburn campus, and the other will involve the conversion of a meeting room into a Home Economics room at the Buninyong campus.

The school thanks everyone who contributed to the fete in any way, including the many who attended and helped create a successful community event.



CFA volunteer, Sharon Jacobsson, has fun with grandchildren Oliver 3 and Marlee 21 months.