



169 callouts for volunteer firefighters

Busy year for CFA

At its Annual Awards Dinner held at the Buninyong Bowling Club on 17 August the Buninyong-Mount Helen Fire Brigade reported on many aspects of its year's work.

Captain **James Witham** said that the brigade was called out 169 times in the past year with the major event in the summer fire season being on 6 December 2018 with the bushfire in the Nash's Rd/ Devonshire Road area.

Members

An average of ten members responded to each primary call, and nine to each 'support' call. With twelve new members joining during the year, the brigade now has 71 members.

A major recent development has been the brigade's involvement in the pilot work on the DEBRIS program which is designed to help manage risk on the fire-ground and to minimise risk associated with exposure to contaminants. In the next few months new breathing apparatus will be in use.

Fire Safe Kids

The brigade is active in various community education events such as involvement at the Buninyong Primary School Fair (where its new 'mini-tankers', pushed along a track by jets of water were on display). They also have offered many *Fire Safe Kids* programs at local schools, kindergartens and child care centres.

Residents living in areas identified by the CFA as being of *Extreme Risk* were offered information and advice including the pilot program conducted at the end of the last fire season.

Work on planning the move to the new premises in Learmonth Street adjacent to the golf club is continuing. In addition to much needed space for equipment, the building will also provide appropriate laundry, shower and toilet facilities, and will incorporate a Local Command Facility to support work on fires and incidents in the surrounding areas.

Above: The Buninyong CFA strike team attend the Mount Bolton fire in February 2016.

Birds in the Bush

Nestled peacefully within fourteen acres of bushland in Mount Helen is a lovely surprise – the Ballarat Bird World.

Formerly known as the Buninyong Flora and Bird Park, this bird sanctuary is run by the second generation of the **Sperber** family, **Paul**, wife **Lisa** and son, **Daniel**. Paul's parents, **Paul** and **Joan Sperber** bought the land in 1974 with the dream of building a bird park which they could open to the public. With the help of their sons, **Paul** and **Edward**, and Joan's brother **Bob Davies**, a plan was set in place to build a park with raised walkways, native gardens, waterfalls, bird aviaries and a kiosk. As most of the work could only be done at weekends, it was a long process until the park was eventually opened in 1992. Sadly, Joan passed away in 2016 but Paul's father, now 92 years old, still retains his passion and love of birds which is clearly evident when he talks to people visiting the tourist park.



Above: Paul Sperber with friendly, red-tailed black cockatoo

Black Cockatoo

There are many species of exotic and native birds but the black cockatoo is by far the most popular and a fantastic photo opportunity is available – it's not everyday that you can have a red-tailed black cockatoo sit on your shoulder. The free flight walk through the aviary is one of the largest in Australia.

A recent addition to the park is the dinosaur display. The animatronic baby triceratops and archaeopteryx (the first dinosaur bird fossil ever found) are proving a hit with all ages but especially the children and watch out on the website

for a full-size triceratops which will be appearing at the park very soon! The dinosaurs have been built by Paul (Junior) himself, his background in the automotive industry and his interest in computer programming proving most useful.

Relax on the deck

The café is open all day for coffee and cake. It is warm and welcoming on a cold day and during the warmer weather you can sit out on the deck, relax and just listen to the birds, with the sound of the waterfall tinkling in the background.

The park is of interest to all age groups but with school holidays looming on the horizon, a visit here would be a great idea for parents looking for somewhere to take their children – with the added advantage of it being educational!

– Rita Russell

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Pioneer remembered Moss statue stands tall at home



One of Buninyong's most famous pioneers, nurseryman Francis Moss, has been honoured by the couple who have lived at his old homestead and the surrounding seven acres of land in Winter Street since 1993.

Steve and Veronica Carter recently “unveiled” a carved wooden statue of Moss, created by timber sculptor **Brandon Kroon** who also completed the statue of the Coxall settlers at the corner of Webbs Hill Road and the Mt Mercer Rd in early 2018.

The life-sized carving of Moss, showing the nurseryman in his 70s, together with a range of his tools, was created by chain-saw artist Kroon from the trunk of a huge cypress tree which had stood at the entrance to the property but which had been shattered in a storm.

Food

Francis Moss is a very significant figure in the history of Buninyong. He arrived here from England in search of gold in 1853, aged just nineteen. But, with his father a gardener responsible for estate gardens in several English counties, Moss soon decided that a better living could be made by supplying food to the miners.

He commenced growing vegetables, then fruit and seeds, and a wide range of trees. Thus *Mossmont* nursery was established

adjacent to the very successful *Buninyong New Gold Mine* in Webbs Hill Road. Soon Moss moved on to importing fine specimen trees and plants from around the world and incorporating these into some of the district's finest gardens.

Some can still be found in the Botanic Gardens and at the Buninyong cemetery.

Return

With the business thriving, Moss moved to Gippsland in the 1880s, leaving the *Mossmont* nursery to his son William. But he eventually returned to Buninyong and died here in 1916, aged 82 years. He is buried in grave 244 in the Episcopalian (Anglican) section of the Buninyong cemetery.

When the Carters purchased the property in 1993 both the extensive gardens and the large homestead were in a neglected state. They set about the major task of restoration. To assist in the re-creation of the gardens, they engaged well-known horticulturalist **Kevin Walsh**. Trees were sourced from a nursery in Macedon and planted in positions similar to the original grand garden design.

They have now restored the homestead and even renovated a significant self-contained section of the building to its original 'heritage' condition and suited for letting or short-term accommodation.

The *Mossmont* grounds and gardens were last opened to the public in the 1870s, but the Carters have agreed to again open it again on 26 and 27 October as part of the Open Gardens Day arranged by the Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens.

Above: Veronica and Steve Carter with the carved statue of Francis Moss at the front of their Winter Street home. Below: Francis Moss and family in the gardens of the homestead.



TREES STRUGGLE ON MANY FRONTS

In 1988 a major survey reported on the extent of tree losses since 1835 through pastoral settlement, mining, and timber harvesting in forests owned by the Crown. There had been destruction of up to two thirds of what was to be seen in 1835. In the 30 years since that study, that trend has worsened.

In a city like Ballarat landscape values are further compromised as productive land on the fringe becomes urbanised or given over to ten acre allotments.

More threats

Now there is a further threat with the push for wire barriers to be installed on rural roads. This means that the road-side reserves, often the last bastion of trees pre-dating settlement, are being wiped out by the eager projects of the TAC and Rural Roads Victoria.

A lamentable precedent has been set with the Western Freeway duplication west of Beaufort. Over 1350 mature trees, some 400 years old were destroyed in the first phase. More are threatened.

Closer to home, there is now the battle against extensive tree losses in the section of the Midland Highway between Clarendon and Buninyong preparatory to the installation of wire barriers. These works require widening of the pavement and the removal of any trees growing close by.

Modern litigious society also produces its own assault on trees. The private corporations which own the power lines are in constant battle with trees, heavily pruning or stunting them. Ballarat's and Buninyong's street trees are often pruned grotesquely.



While the move to solar power generation has been positive and relatively unobtrusive, such is not the case with wind power which is resulting in a considerable loss of landscape amenity.

Massive wind farm

We are being surrounded by large installations: at Burrumbeet, at Mt Mercer, at Elaine and now a massive wind farm on the Lal Lal Estate. Sadly the rolling, park-like country of the larger pastoral holdings is being sacrificed in this assault. Installation costs are huge, the visual scars are permanent. The scattered remnant eucalypts which once gave grace to the pastoral landscape are now subordinate to these massive structures.

Surely Governments could zone areas where they can and cannot be built! Who would challenge a succession of massive solar and wind farms between, say, Mildura and Broken Hill or in sections of the LaTrobe Valley close to existing electricity infrastructure?

Sadly, the current opportunistic approach can only lead to further degradation of a cherished countryside.

– Peter Hiscock

Buninyong & district
COMMUNITY NEWS

This publication is a community project of the Buninyong & District Community Association (BDCA) supported by 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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He chuckled when he recalled another time at a local funeral when many of the mourners were off picking mushrooms as the coffin was being lowered.

He says that things have changed a lot. For 25 years or so he dug all graves by hand using pick and shovel. Now, small excavators are used to do 90 per cent of the preparation of each grave. Graves dug to take two interments are two metres deep and some 650mm wide. For each grave some four cubic metres of soil has to be removed and then replaced after the burial.

Legislation

He said that in recent years the legislation has changed to require larger graves to be dug, For example the old size of 2000mm by 600mm has been increased to 2200mm by 650mm to accommodate coffins which have been getting larger.

“These days, occupational health and safety issues have become much more important. You need to be very careful about possible soil collapse, people being too close to the open graves, or tripping over soil or other graveside equipment,” he said. Metal cages and steel plates are used to reduce the chances of soil slippage. He is required to hold insurance cover for \$5 million.

In addition to being the grave digger at the Buninyong Cemetery, Neil also has that role at other small cemeteries at places like Rokewood, Smythesdale, Coghills Creek, Staffordshire Reef, Cressy and Shelford.

This gravedigger knows a hole lot

After being a grave digger for over 37 years, Buninyong’s Neil Beer, 71, reckons he has heard most of the jokes about grave-diggers, coffins and ghosts.

With a wry grin he says he “fell into the job” after working as a seasonal worker and at old Ballarat factories such as the Sunnyside and Morleys mills after leaving school.

Cyril Thornton had been the grave-digger (and also Cemetery Secretary) at Buninyong for a long time but when he decided to retire in 1982, Neil was appointed as the local gravedigger.

Now, after almost four decades, Neil knows the historic Buninyong Cemetery better than anyone and can quickly point to the final resting place of many local residents – some famous, some ‘characters’, and some as a result of tragedy. “Digging a grave for a young child is still pretty tough,” he said.

Stressful

He said that it’s funny to recall some incidents, funny, that were a bit stressful at the time. These included the time when he had an 8hp pump running to empty a grave of water as the funeral procession was coming in the gate.



Steiner Education Information Night
7pm Wednesday 23rd October tel 03 5341 8188

244 Moss Avenue Mount Helen ballaratsteinerschool.com.au



UniNats for Steiner School Summer Lewis

Class three student at Ballarat Steiner School, Summer Lewis will be defending her title in the Australian Unicycle Championships in Canberra on the 4th-7th October.

She already holds the Australian Record for girls under 10s 100 metre sprint and girls under 10s Muni (down mountain) on Unicycle. She won the title in 2018 and hopes to break her own records this year.

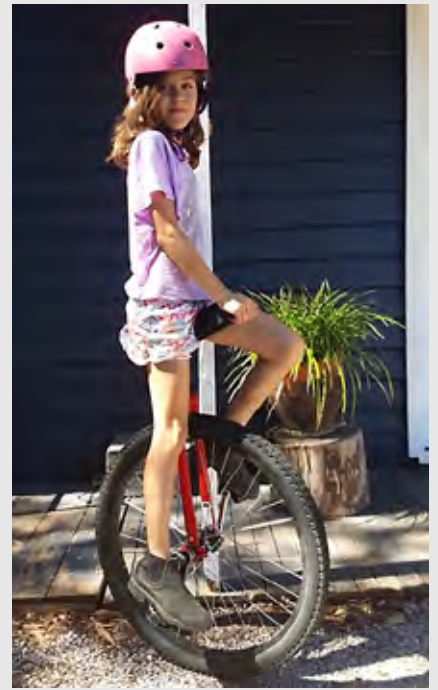
Unicycle Club

Summer's dad, **Ben Lewis** started the Ballarat Unicycle Club which runs every

week welcoming absolute beginners and more experienced riders. Summer's elder sister **Suraya** and Dad will also compete in the National competition. Summer's mum **Crystal** can also ride but is not quite ready to enter a race.

School lessons

Many of her classmates have also learnt to ride unicycle after her parents came to teach a class at the school. Summer and her Dad recently rode the Goldfields Track from Ballarat to Creswick on a unicycle. This was a challenging and exhilarating adventure.



Community Garden

The Buninyong Community Garden at Royal Park Warrenheip Street now has four raised garden beds thanks to a grant from the Bendigo Bank – Buninyong & District Branch. The raised beds are ideal for people who enjoy gardening and growing food but have limited mobility.

Organic methods

Membership of the Buninyong Community Garden is open to Buninyong and District residents for a joining fee of \$10. Current members not only enjoy growing and eating the produce from their garden beds but also enjoy sharing their experience and knowledge of vegetable growing using organic methods. A herb garden and composting bins are shared and Wednesday morning working bees

have recently been introduced to help with general maintenance tasks such as moving and spreading compost and keeping the surrounds tidy.

Harvest

This month gardeners have been harvesting leafy greens including lettuce, broccolini, cauliflowers, silverbeet and radish. Recent plantings include seed potatoes, snap peas, lettuce seeds and seedlings, strawberry runners and raspberry canes and compost has been spread in preparation for summer crops.

To enquire about joining the Community garden or to see what is currently growing, call into the gardens from 9:30am on Wednesday mornings or phone Liz on 0419 589 433.

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Catherine King MP
Federal Member for Ballarat

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Buninyong community*

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AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, 5 LYDIARD ST NTH BALLARAT 3350



Looking at images on the store's CCTV are Foodworks' Alan Nielsen and local police officers Mark Arnold and Sean Almeida.

Blitz on shop thieves

Local police and store management have combined to start an all-out blitz on persons responsible for a recent surge in shoplifting offences from the Buninyong Foodworks supermarket.

In one week in mid-August five cases of theft were reported. These have included two instances of theft from the liquor department and others of food and goods from various sections of the store. These followed another five instances of shoplifting earlier in the month.

Cameras

Senior Constable Sean Almeida from the Buninyong Police said that the thefts from the supermarket were being taken very seriously and that some culprits had already been identified from footage on instore CCTV cameras. The store is covered by sixteen interior and three exterior CCTV cameras.

He said that many leads in such cases come from the footage on external cameras which capture registration or other details of vehicles used by offenders. "Those involved in shoplifting or other offences of theft often forget that there are also external cameras on other nearby premises that can provide excellent images of suspicious people or vehicles," Senior Constable Almeida said.

"The offence of shoplifting carries substantial penalties of fines of at least \$300, and in cases where prior convictions have been recorded or where a person comes equipped to steal, imprisonment is possible."

Foodworks store manager Alan Nielsen said that notices had been placed around the store warning that offenders certainly would be prosecuted.

FAMILY FILM NIGHT AT GRENVILLE HALL

The next Family Fundraising Film Night is on Saturday 26 October. Films are suitable for all ages and are a great way for the community to enjoy a quality film and support a local charity.

This film night will raise funds for *The House of Welcome*, a local charity supporting refugees and asylum seekers.

Entry prices are \$8 or \$20 per family. There will be a kiosk with savoury and sweet options. The Grenville Hall committee will be serving dinner with vegetarian and gluten free options. Volunteers will be selling cakes and sweets, with all proceeds going to the charity.

For ticketing and information visit: www.trybooking.com/554732



YET ANOTHER promising suggestion has been knocked on the head by Council administration – the proposal that an investigation be made into converting the roadway on Cornish Street between the Gong and the lower gardens into a pedestrian walkway. No discussion or consideration of options – just a blunt response that "Council has considered this matter and it is felt that the maintenance of a vehicular connection is appropriate". That "it is felt" bit sounds really high tech!!

MEANWHILE DOWN on Learmonth Street West there has been massive expenditure on the construction of a strip of service road covering about four properties. Large sections of nature strip have been ripped out to make an exit to the highway (why??) and the Avenue of Honour areas have been churned up by the heavy vehicles that have been on site for weeks. Traffic management costs alone could have paid for many other township improvements.



THE PARKS crew, however, have been on the ball again with the annual pruning of the street vines.

AN OMEN. Placed on Bill Innes' grave at his recent funeral was a huge bunch of black and white balloons. Windy weather saw them soon finish stuck high up in a nearby tree. Surely there's got to be some sort of Magpie line about that!

DON'T THROW THEM AWAY

Those pesky, sometimes hard to twist off, plastic bottle tops from drink and milk containers are valuable. Charity 'Envision Hands', a not for profit community initiative, is using 3D printing to turn them into prosthetic hands.

It is an all-round winner, not only preventing more plastic going into landfill but turning that plastic into mechanical hands and arms for kids. The initiative is now worldwide but the local focus is with the Envision Ballarat site at 401 Lal Lal Street.

New Project

A recent report written by **Rochelle Kirkham** from the Ballarat Courier

Below: Volunteer Ondria helping out in the Lions Club Op Shop.

highlighted the “relatively new project run by work for the dole organisation Envision that is engaging and motivating communities to be a part of an innovative recycling process, to reduce plastic waste and be educated about the possibilities of 3D printing”.

One Million Tops

It is estimated that more than 1 million bottle tops could be donated each year in Ballarat. The Buninyong Lions Club Op Shop, one of our local supporters, is very happy to take your bottle tops and, while dropping them off there, have a browse through the shop which is open on Fridays and Saturdays and is well loved by the community.



Glimpses of Buninyong

Members of the public and of the many district community groups are invited to come along to the Buninyong Town Hall for an hour or so on Tuesday 22 October, between 5.30pm and 6.30pm, for the launch of a short vignette on Buninyong.

A vignette is like a short film or commercial that can be used, across all digital platforms, as a promotion on the many attractions of Buninyong. It should be invaluable when promoting a local business or organisation, or for showing visitors, friends or relations where we live or work.

The project is the result of collaboration between the Buninyong Community Bank, the Buninyong Business Network and the Buninyong & District Community Association. The casual session will also involve a community sausage sizzle and bar facilities.





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Bush kids see city show

Recently, Lal Lal Primary School was awarded a grant by The Arts Centre Melbourne, which involved the students being bussed to Melbourne to watch a live musical show.

Year 5 student **Harrison Murley** wrote a review of the Melbourne performance:

On Friday the 2 August, Lal Lal Primary School students went to the Melbourne Arts Centre to see The National Theatre of Parramatta perform a musical called The Red Tree. Guess what? It was all free, even the bus trip.

The plot was based on a girl called Ava who suffered from anxiety and depression. She wasn't able to go outside because she was too scared, and she imagined what would happen if she went outside. It was

based on a book by Shaun Tan, also called The Red Tree.

When we read this book as a class it seemed impossible to make a musical about it, but it was terrific! It was clever when the stage moved to change the setting, and how the lighting changed to set the mood. My favourite song was 'Inside a Fish's Belly', which was when Ava imagined she had been swallowed by a fish.

I have no negative comments – it was all great! In the end the play was amazing. I rate it 9/10 stars.

Workshop

The Melbourne trip was followed up a week later with a visit to the school by

performance artist **Sally Smith**, who conducted a Dance Workshop.

In the workshop Sally, a dancer, helped the students learn much about moving in creative ways and exploring space. She cleverly used the idea of an origami boat (which formed part of *The Red Tree* story) to help the students explore different elements of dance in an informal way.

She was impressed by the students' enthusiasm and commented on how wonderful they were to work with. "The students were very supportive of one-another in having a go and experimenting with different ideas," she said.

Lal Lal Primary School is currently preparing for its bi-annual Arts Week which will showcase its strong Visual and Performing Arts program. For enrolment enquiries, phone Principal **Siobhan Gosney** on 53417580.

Enjoying the Dance Workshop are (Left) Sophie Mitchell and Izabellah Lovett.



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CRACK THE CRATER RUN CHALLENGE



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 FRI, SAT & SUN

SPRINGTIME
 IN BUNINYONG
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 SAT & SUN

LIVE MUSIC!

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RETROFITTED DANCEMAKERS

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BUNINYONG ART PRIZE & EXHIBITION

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CFA OPEN DAY
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* program and times subject to change

A weekend of events

SPRINGTIME in buninyong



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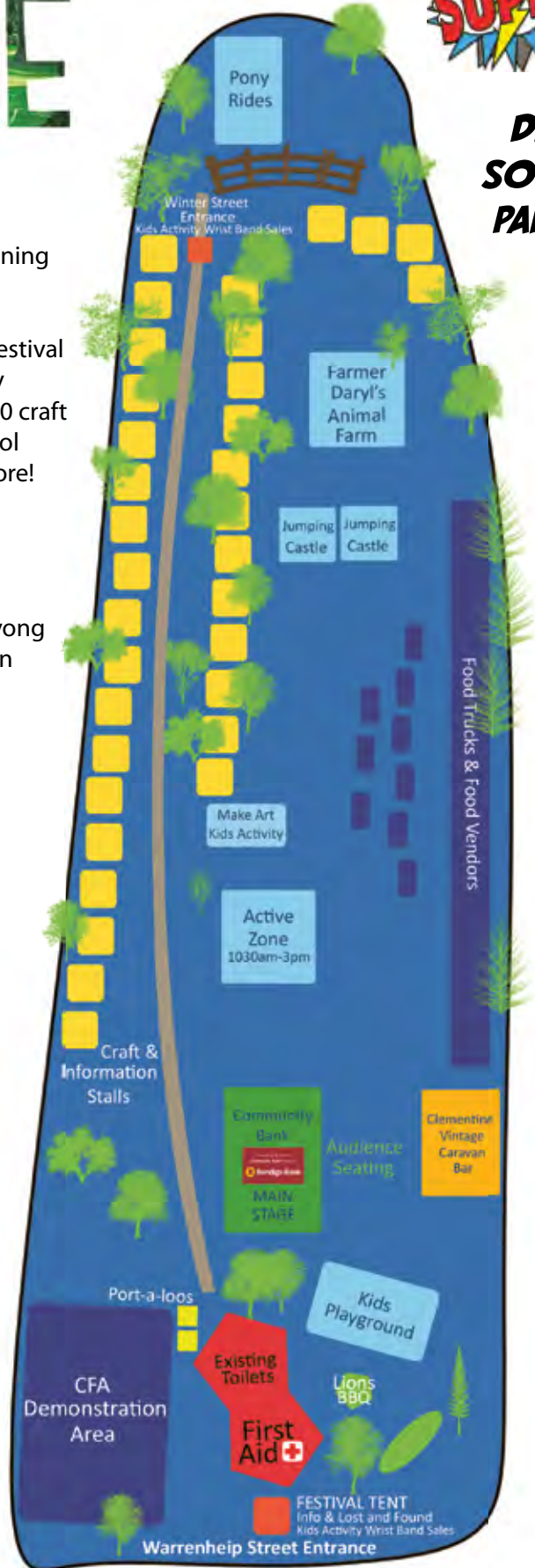
Buninyong Community Events Inc. presents the 2019 "Springtime in Buninyong" weekend - an array of fun events happening in Buninyong from Friday 25 October to Sunday 27 October.

With something for everyone - including the biennial Buninyong Festival on Sunday 27 October - enjoy a free family friendly community day out with amazing musical acts, CFA displays, kids activities, over 100 craft stalls, jumping castles, Farmer Darryl's Animal Farm, Make Art School Art Workshop, and an array of delicious food trucks and so much more!

You can also meet your favourite Superhero at 1pm on the Main Stage and get a photo with them at the photobooth!

New this year is the Crack the Crater Run Challenge and the Buninyong Art Prize & Exhibition - as well as the Springtime in Buninyong Open Gardens from 2018. Another new addition is the Teen Zone at the Buninyong Skate Park organised by Freeza with live music, skate comps, badge making, learn to skate clinic and demonstrations.

Make sure you keep up to date with what's on offer and for more information by visiting the website and Facebook!



BUNINYONG ART PRIZE & EXHIBITION - 2019

GALA NIGHT

FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER FROM 7PM

YOU ARE cordially invited to attend the inaugural Buninyong Art Prize & Exhibition Gala Opening Night.

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ALL ARTWORKS ARE ON SALE UNTIL THE FIRST OF SEPTEMBER.

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SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER - 10AM TO 4PM
SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER - 10AM TO 4PM**



FOR ENTRY DETAILS SEE OUR WEBSITE
WWW.BCEINC.COM.AU/BUNINYONG-ART-PRIZE-EXHIBITION



For more information and entry details see the website!

Apple trees with loads of history

Two apple tree seedlings, with a long Buninyong history, were recently planted as part of National Tree Day at the front of the Old Police Station by children from the local Child Care Centre.

The Stewart's seedlings are descendants of those developed by **Francis Moss** at his nursery at *Mossmont* on the corner of Warrenheip St and Webbs Hill Road in the second half of the nineteenth century. And the trees were planted by young Buninyong residents in order to watch them grow.

Just as importantly, the children learnt what was necessary to help the plants grow – water, soil, nutrients and sunshine – and what can be harvested from the trees when they mature.

The Old Police Station is the unofficial home of the Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens who have a close relationship with the adjacent Primary School which uses it for music lessons and the like as well as plant studies.

These particular bare-rooted Stewart's seedlings (also called *Ballarat seedlings*) were sourced from **Rob Pelletier** at *Heritage Fruit Trees* in Beaufort and were grown on small root stock which means they will grow to only about 4-6 metres rather than to 8-10 metres in height. This means the apples should be much easier to harvest – especially by small children!

Above right: Steve Carter of Mossmount and Child Care Centre Supervisor Jo-Anne Neale watch as the toddlers plant one of the special apple trees near the Old Police Station.



Meet the new sushi bar faces

One of the busiest Asian food shops in Ballarat is the Sushi Noodles shop in Mair Street just down from Armstrong Street. Business owners Leon and Annie (pictured) now have decided to open a Warrenheip Street business specialising in sushi later this year.

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John calls it a day after Twenty years on Trust

At the 2019 AGM, members of the Buninyong Cemetery Trust farewelled and thanked John Bedggood who has retired after serving twenty years on the Trust. Membership of the Trust is an honorary appointment by the Governor-in-Council for a term of five years.

John's roles included some ten years as Chair of the Trust. He has agreed to continue assisting as a volunteer by being responsible for fixing plaques to the concrete plinths at the cemetery and in general maintenance tasks.

The small social event prior to the AGM, was attended by eight Trust members and others involved with cemetery work including Chris and Frank Nicholls, and Graeme Penhall.

Below: John Bedggood at the farewell function at the Old Library chatting with Trust Life Member Dawn Whykes.



Trust Chair **Barry Fitzgerald** said that John was one of the last members of the **Dads' Army** group which had included **Derick Leather** and **Alan Bath** and who, during the 1990s had much to do with bringing the cemetery back from "a disgraceful condition -being neglected and over-run with noxious plants".

"Thanks to people like these we now have an historic community resource that people can be proud of," he said.

Life Member **Dawn Whykes**, who first joined the Cemetery Trust in December 1980 also thanked John for his long service. "Unlike the situation at the larger cemeteries we have no paid staff and voluntary work by people such as John is what keeps our historic community cemetery going," she said.

Ernie Neale's Monthly RAINFALL REPORT

Expect a dry spring

What a classic Buninyong winter. With 89.0 mm of rain falling in August, the winter total was 279.4 mm, the wettest since 2012. The year's total rainfall of 531.5 mm is nearly 100 mm above average. Plus, we had some snow – but what happens now that spring has arrived?

BOM's outlook for the rest of the year was for a 75+% chance of under median rainfall, but that was further exacerbated in early September when a rare phenomenon called Sudden Stratospheric Warming (SSW) happened. BOM reported that the upper atmosphere above Antarctica had suddenly warmed by up to 40 degrees in a few days. This had only been observed once before, in 2002 – a record dry year for Australia. This event is not believed to be caused by global warming, but it has provoked warnings of an even dryer and hotter spring and summer ahead...

AUGUST 2019			
Date	Rain	Date	Rain
2	0.8	5	1.5
8-9	28.7	10-12	28.5
13-14	2.8	17	4.6
20-22	14.0	24	0.2
26	2.1	29-30	5.7
Total		89.0 mm	
Average		74.3 mm	



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Dig starts on CFA site

The first sign of action on the new CFA site adjacent to the golf clubhouse in Learmonth Street came in late August with the arrival of heavy machinery on site.

Workers from the Australian Cultural Heritage Management (ACHM) company were undertaking an archaeological dig on four small sections of the site to check for the presence of any aboriginal artefacts.

ACHM supervisor **Renee Johnson** said that they had been retained by the CFA as



part of the process needed to get planning approvals. "We search data bases, engage with traditional owners, examine soil samples from the site, and produce a report to statutory authorities," she said.

Above: Lodge members Ron Fleming and Ken Jenkin are pictured with Assistant Guide Leader Trish Latrobe during the presentation to the Guide troop.

Below: ACHM staffer Renee Johnson (second from right) watches the shallow excavation being undertaken. Soil sifting equipment was ready should any objects be found.



Refugee girls become Guides

Two girls from refugee backgrounds have joined Girl Guides Victoria thanks to Sturt Buninyong Lodge and Freemasons Foundation each contributing \$150 to support their involvement.

As Guides in the Eureka Butterfly troop, the girls are able to participate in the weekly youth program that provides opportunity to connect with peers, grow in confidence and learn valuable life skills.

A State Government funded four year project is supporting seven selected Guide groups in rural and regional areas but its age criteria did not include these young girls.

Ballarat Guide groups are actively working to help communities from disadvantaged and diverse backgrounds.

Guiding is making a difference in these communities by helping young people access services, connect with peers and empower them to an active role in their communities.



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A coffee with the President New President at Buninyong Bowling Club

Ian Voigt has taken over the presidency of the Buninyong Bowling Club (BBC) from past president, Wayne Morgan.

The News recently met Ian for a coffee and a chat about the coming lawn bowls season and his new role with the club. Before discussing his own appointment, Ian acknowledged Wayne's outstanding four years at the helm and the achievements and improvements made in that time both on and off the greens.

Ian grew up in and attended primary and high school in Horsham and then joined the State Environment Department. He moved around the state before taking on an administrative role as Manager of South West Victoria.

Retired

Ian retired to Buninyong in 2008 and soon joined BBC. He quickly proved to be very competitive on the green and was a valuable contributor to Buninyong's successes at the top level. He recently partnered team-mate and good friend, **Keith Chapman** to win the Ballarat Over 60 Pairs Championship.

Ian's wife **Barb**, also more than handy on the green, is one of Ballarat's top lady bowlers. She has won multiple BBC championships and has represented the district on a number of occasions. Not to be outdone by Ian, Barb has just taken on the role of president of the Buninyong Lion's Club.

Ian sees his challenge will be to support the BBC to build on the strong structures

and connections that have already been put in place. The future of the Club is closely linked to the partnerships with local businesses and community organisations. He wants to see the BBC continue to develop avenues for the community to enjoy the facilities of the Club. Further expansion of the links with Buninyong Primary School and the continued development of BBC's popular Corporate Bowls competition are firmly on the agenda. The upgrade of the "Bill Innes Green" has been on the books for a few years. Ian believes now is the time to push this project

ahead with the possible establishment of an all-weather synthetic green.

On the competitive side the BBC is coming off what is undoubtedly the Club's best ever performance with all five sides making finals. The demise of the Ballarat-Geelong Premier league competition and the resultant restructure of the local competition will throw out challenges for BBC. The challenge to continue to perform at the highest level in all divisions will be the incentive for further success.

– Ray Sullivan



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Packed house for Woodstock concert



in Buninyong. Like the original event, the crowd was of one mind, and embraced the social theme of peace, love and music.

Packed house

The Buninyong Town Hall was packed with some 150 people celebrating amazing local music. Geoffrey Williams was MC and gave context to the history of the original concert.

The *Ballarat Ukulele Group* started the night off with a bang and was followed by a variety of solo acts as well as *The Infusers*, the *Buninyong Community Choir*, the *Daylesford Soul Choir* with **Geoffrey Williams** soloing, *The Winter Berries*, with the night finishing off with *Retrofitted* who brought the crowd to their feet – a sing-a-long of *With A Little Help From My Friends* by Joe Cocker being the penultimate song of the night.

Five decades ago, close to half a million young people gathered on a farm in the USA for three days of peace, love and music. It was one of the most famous concerts in history. Woodstock showed a conservative country in a traditional era that the times were indeed a'changing.

For three hours, on the 10 August 2019, the spirit of Woodstock was recaptured

Woodstock – an Aquarian Exposition 2019 was organised by a subcommittee of the newly formed, Buninyong Community Events Inc. Plans for next year of a similar musical exposition are in planning. For more information of upcoming events, visit their website:

www.bceinc.com.au

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Cyclist qualifies for world event

Talented local cyclist Travis Dawkins, 26, has just returned from Lake Tahoe, California, where he qualified to join the 2020 Enduro World Series (EWS), a ten round event spanning cities and countries all around the world.

Travis said that the first events he planned to participate in were scheduled for Columbia in late March 2020 and then in Chile. The Columbia event is run over a famous course at Manizales. Other events are held in areas such as the US and Canadian Rockies and many venues in Europe including the Swiss and French Alps. The EWS event involves downhill mountain biking but requires not just speed and control but also tactical planning and rhythm.

Study limit

Competitors are able to study maps and have one practice run on the course during a strictly limited period beforehand.

Travis has been partly sponsored by local business Dynamite Cycles and also by GT Bicycles.

World famous brands

Dynamite Cycles owner Trent Johnston said that he had recently become the district distributor for other world famous brands such as *GT, Kona, Focus* and *Specialized Cycles*. In September **Trent** and wife **Cass** took up an invitation from *Specialized Cycles* to attend a major conference at its home base in Morgan Hill, California. Morgan Hill is on the edge of the famed Silicone Valley and is home to many hi-tech companies. Dealers from all around the world attended.

Specialized Cycles, now owned by Taiwanese company *Merida*, employs some 400 people at its California plant.

Below: Travis Dawkins (right) with "Dynamite Cycles" owner Trent Johnson.



Tai Chi Classes

In a few days' time Sandra Pearce is starting Beginners' Tai Chi classes in Buninyong at the hall at Royal Park in Warrenheip Street.

Classes will start on Tuesday 8 October and run through until 17 December between 11.30am and 12.30pm.

Call Sandra on 0409 662 106



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Join us for the community launch of the brand new Buninyong vignette.

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(A vignette is similar to a TV commercial that can be used across all digital platforms.)

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At the Buninyong Town Hall
5:30pm to 6:30pm
Bring the family!**



This project is a community collaboration between the Buninyong Community Bank, the BBN (Buninyong Business Network) and the BDCA (Buninyong District Community Association).



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If you would like more information on our members, membership benefits, initiatives and how you can be involved please get in touch.

Challenge is to crack the crater

After the success of the inaugural event last year the new look Crack the Crater run challenge up the slopes of Mount Buninyong is again set for late October.

Coinciding with the Buninyong Festival, Crack The Crater is a trail run that will see participants take to the slopes of the Mount to test their strength, courage and endurance.



The three distances (10.5km, 7.1km and 4.6km) are designed to be inclusive for all levels of age and fitness. Starting at the tennis centre in central Buninyong, runners will climb up the Mount, through the fern and eucalypt filled crater with the tough Gold circuit taking runners up to the summit and then descending with spectacular views to the south west.

Why not grab the family and enjoy a lovely walk along the bronze (4.6km) course or get the children involved in the Kids Canter?

If you are looking for a challenge and a bit of adventure why not try to Crack The Crater? It will be part of the Buninyong Festival on Sunday 27 October and more information can be found through the website link: www.buninyongfestival.com.au/about-1

Left: Two of the runners in the 2018 run up the mountain were (left) Joe Foley, 12, and Joachim Henderson, 13.



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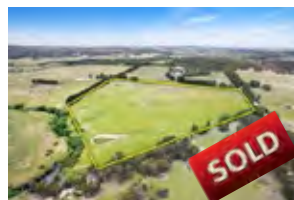
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Buninyong loses a favourite son

William Francis (Bill) Innes passed away peacefully on Friday August 23, 2019. Loving husband of 62 years to Jean and father of Billy, Cheryl, Joanne, Neil, Ricky, Tony and Brett. Pa to 17 grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren.

One of seven children of **Bill** and **Joy Innes**, Bill grew up in Buninyong where he attended Buninyong Primary School before going on to Humffray Street secondary school. He left school at fourteen and joined his dad picking onions. He moved on to Myttons in Eureka Street and then to Ballarat Brewery where he worked for many years until his retirement.

Nineteen-year-old Bill met Sebastopol girl **Jean Snowden** and they married in 1962. They settled in Buninyong, and raised seven children of their own.

Great bloke

A large crowd of relatives, friends, teammates and acquaintances joined the Innes family at Buninyong's Uniting Church to pay their respects and farewell a great bloke. Family members spoke about the many fishing and hunting trips, ferreting, his garden, football, greyhounds and lawn bowls and even his prowess in the kitchen with his perfect sponges being a family favourite.

Bill loved his sport. He played with the Buninyong Football Club for many years and continued to support them after his playing career ended. His peers remember him as a tough, no nonsense team man. Anyone who had a chance to talk football with Bill will know that he was also passionate in his support for his beloved Collingwood Magpies.



Greyhounds also played a huge part in the Innes family. Bill was a well-known breeder and trainer of racing greyhounds and his dogs were well known in the greyhound racing fraternity. All of Bill's dogs were called Senni, which is Innes backwards. Many of them were named after family members.

Bill took up lawn bowls in 1969 and joined the Buninyong Bowling Club. It was here that he really thrived. His service to the Club was unrivalled. He served as president, selector, committee member and green keeper. He also excelled on the green. He played over 720 games, winning championships, tournaments and premierships and was still playing

in premier division in his last season of bowls in 2019. Bill was a valuable part of Buninyong's two recent Division 1 premierships playing alongside sons, **Brett** and **Neil**.

"The Bill Innes Green"

The Buninyong Bowling Club recently named one of their greens "The Bill Innes Green" – a lasting testimony to the service Bill had given the Club over 50 years.

The legacy and memories that Bill Innes leaves behind will live on through his family, his friends, his workmates and teammates.

Vale
William Francis (Bill) Innes

