



Long arm of the law has a heart

When a police 'divvy' wagon pulled up outside of her house on 1 October, and two armed police officers walked up her driveway to her front door, Buninyong's Flo Goodwin was more than a little puzzled. With her failing eyesight, Flo, who reached the milestone of 100 years two days later, didn't notice what they were carrying.

Buninyong police officers **Sean Almeida** and **Brian McGuinness** were there on official business to explain to Flo that Covid restrictions would not permit her Melbourne-based daughter **Audrey Orr** to join her mother and other sister, **Rosalie Brown**, who is Flo's carer, to celebrate her centenary on 3 October.

Local police had been contacted by Audrey who asked them to visit Flo to explain the lock-down rules which prevented her from travelling to Buninyong. The link there was

that Audrey's husband is the son of former police officer **Jamie Orr** who had been stationed at Buninyong many years ago.

Sen Constable Almeida said that they had decided that as they had to visit Flo on "official business", they would stop by and buy a small cheesecake to take along for her to have with her morning tea on her 100th birthday.

Flo and Rosalie were overcome with the visit by the police officers, and especially with their gesture of bringing the cheesecake gift and singing *Happy Birthday* as they reached the front door.

Despite the problems encountered by those members of her family stuck in the metropolitan area a small group of Flo's family was able to gather for a meal on the outdoor garden terrace at the *Flying Horse Bistro* on 3 October to celebrate her birthday (see photo below)

A story about Flo Goodwin who has lived in her Eyre Street home for 72 years was in the September edition of *The News*.





New gold rush to hit town

The Community Bank Buninyong has announced that it is about to relaunch the popular *Community Gold Program* in the lead up to Christmas 2021.

Funds of \$10,000 will back the program which is expected to provide a boost to both participating local businesses and also to eligible community groups which can apply to receive up to \$500 in *Community Gold* cards. These will come in denominations of \$10 and \$20.

The *Community Gold Program* is all about supporting the sustainability of local business and service providers. Its purpose is to increase local spending and at the same time to acknowledge the important role played by local community groups.

Action needed

Any reputable local retailer or service provider operating a registered business (holding ABN) operating primarily within the Buninyong area can apply to be a *Community Gold* participant.

For administration purposes and for *Community Gold* cash to be banked, the business will need to hold (or open) a deposit account with Community Bank Buninyong.

Businesses should express interest online at www.communitygrowshere.com.au/communitygold and once approved, call into the Community Bank Buninyong branch to register the relevant deposit account and collect the support pack. This includes flyers and window decals to show involvement in the program.

The business also will be listed as a program participant on the website www.communitygrowshere.com.au

Not-for-profit community clubs, groups or organisations need to be prepared to act quickly and spread a little cheer for a 1 December kick-off. Groups may apply for up to \$500 in *Community Gold* cards. These must be distributed before Christmas Eve 2021.

Expressions of interest must be received no later than Friday 12 November 2021 and can be made online at communitygrowshere.com.au/gold. Selection criteria apply and successful groups will be notified in mid-November.

How it works

The cards are to be distributed by the clubs amongst members for specific fund-raising or 'reward' purposes. The cards can be redeemed at participating businesses. These businesses then bank the redeemed *Community Gold* cards as cash. This 'pile of gold' must be redeemed by 28 February 2022 to help spark immediate impact.

Bank Board Chairman **Ian Corcoran** said, "Community Bank Buninyong is excited to re-launch our *Community Gold* program. It's been a long-time favourite and we couldn't think of a better time to reintroduce it.

"Everyone's had an extremely challenging year. After another twelve months of lockdowns, adjusted opening hours and business practices, this boost is needed more than ever right now."

Bank Manager Randall Dreger with two large bundles of \$20 and \$10 Gold cards ready for distribution.



Victor A Bradley OAM

Vale to 'old Vic'

One of Buninyong's most active loved and recognisable characters, Vic Bradley, died on 8 October, just short of his 98th birthday.

Over the 75 or so years since he returned from active service in the Second World War, Vic was active in groups such as the Senior Citizens Club, the RSL, the Masonic Lodge, the Buninyong Bowling Club, Legacy and Probus.

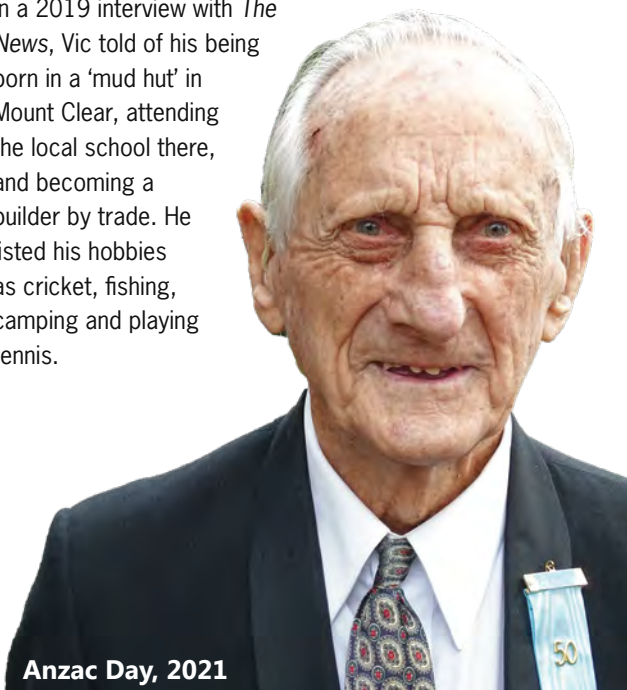
Born in 1923, Vic enlisted for Army service in 1941, was imprisoned by the Japanese, but managed to escape and make his way back to his unit. Following his return to Australia he was instrumental in establishing the Buninyong RSL.

Over the years, his long involvement in, leadership of, and service to the many community groups earned him a swag of Life Memberships and other awards. In 2011 he was awarded an OAM for his service to veterans and the Buninyong community. One wall at his Geelong Road home in Mt Helen was covered with certificates and testimonials to his wide range of community interests (see picture right).

One special project in which he was heavily involved was the erection of the statue of *The Grieving Mother* in the lawn garden near Ballarat's Arch of Victory.

Up until the COVID restrictions hit in 2020, Vic really enjoyed the Thursday night dinners at the Golf Club where he greeted all and sundry with his 'special' handshake and a twinkle in his eye.

In a 2019 interview with *The News*, Vic told of his being born in a 'mud hut' in Mount Clear, attending the local school there, and becoming a builder by trade. He listed his hobbies as cricket, fishing, camping and playing tennis.



Anzac Day, 2021



Anzac Day march, 2016



Lunch with Senior Citizens, 2017



A wall of awards, 2019

Pop Up stalls popular

After the great success of the Christmas Pop-Up Shop in the Buninyong Town Hall last year, there has been huge interest from those wishing to book a stall for this year's event which is set to open on Friday 3 December. Many new stall holders have been approved to come on board.

Some returning favourites from last year include Purple Fox, Just Coz Candles, Dimple Dot Designs, Trudy Nicholson Art, Wendy's Bags, The Rosie Collection, Saltbush Kitchen, Sharon's Kitchen, Amy's Jam, Big Jim's Chilli, Durham Carnivores, Occasional Creek Jewellery, and the wooden reindeers and Christmas trees to name a few.

This year's new stalls include Sweet Sage Farm, the Green Loft, Vegas and Rose, Grow Kind, Oaky and Ginger, Anne Chibnall and Nicola Cerini.

Organisers are looking forward to a busy eight days' trading with late night shopping until 8.00pm on the opening Friday.

Shown chatting about plans for the pop-up shop are Keith 'Chappy' Chapman from the Men's Shed which again will have a supply of wooden Christmas trees available, and Martine Foerg.



Get those numbers up

The CFA has reported that over the past few fire seasons a number of district houses and rural properties have been difficult to locate due to the lack of clear numbers at or near their entrances.

At times these numbers have been obscured by vegetation or by the use of very small numbers. At worst, a minority of properties had no existing property identifiers.

Modern technology allows CFA units to locate the majority of properties promptly and accurately. It does not however always allow accurate location, particularly in rural bushland or properties adjoining bushland.

How best to help? Clear vegetation from around your property number. Check that the numbers are still in place and if necessary, replace. Can the number be clearly seen from the roadside, particularly at night time. Install a number on your front or main entrance if this did not previously exist.

All that is required are clear, sizeable numbers, visible in all weather conditions. This will make the work of the CFA in helping you so much easier.



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Hearing dogs and wandering Lions

At one point during July and August it seemed that there were more Buninyong-Mt.Helen Lions members n
outback Queensland than there were in the local area. At various times all were affected by border closures, permit applications and COVID lockdowns.

Some returned via the NT/SA route. Others made it home after a 24hour dash through NSW. Some suffered tortuous lockdowns and iso/quarantine restrictions.

Back home

But all are now back and rearing to get stuck back into what Lions do best – raising funds for charities and needy causes or groups. The twin retail ventures reopened recently to much fanfare, and with the wonderful volunteers on the doorstep ready to serve.

The funds raised are going to many good causes. A summary is on display at each shop and is continually updated. The community support here is amazing!

The October edition of *The News* carried an article about the Club's donation of \$2000 to *Aussie Action Abroad* for assistance projects in Nepal. It seemed that no sooner had the ink dried on the cheque than a reply came in from the Kathmandu Lions Club thanking our local Lions Club for the donation.

As promised, **Graeme Kent** had sent part of the monies to that Lions Club, and the warm response we received shows that together we are making a difference. And that feels good.

Other news

With the festive season fast approaching once again, our famous and delicious Lions Christmas cakes are available from the book and op shop – \$17 for the 1.5kg cake and \$13 for the pudding. Get in early.

Next month there should be some news about another well-known local who will be inducted into the Club. New members are warmly welcome. Membership chairperson **Ian Voigt** (0419 505 816) would welcome a call.

Finally a few words about another project supported by this Club. The *Lions Hearing Dog* programme is a major national Lions initiative. The 600th dog recently was placed by the Lions Club of Brunswick with a Brunswick family at no cost to them. The dog, **Jakeb**, is helping a family of four whose first language is Auslan (sign language).

Some \$37,000 is involved in the training, delivery and support of each dog which reacts to and alerts the owner to unusual noises, or to sounds such as a doorbell, alarm, or telephone.

– David Searl

JUST WHEN those wire barriers around the wrecked veranda at the old *Eagle Hotel* look like coming down, directly opposite the street, barriers have gone up around the old bottle shop building at the *Crown Hotel*. Locals have been guessing wildly about the reason. Demoliton? Conversion to accommodation? A new garden bistro? All wrong. Reason is that a very large *PFD* food truck copied the bus episode opposite by rolling backwards down the slope at the hotel car park and crashing into the southern wall of the bottle shop causing significant cracking



AT LEAST TWO itinerant food vendors seem to have found regular Friday night spots – one in the golf club car park and up near *Jim Vagg's Motors*. The first sells fish, the other paella. While they seem to be proving popular, there's a few rumbles around about the question of licences and also the impact on the village's permanent businesses offering food for sale of an evening.

WHILE STREET TALK was at a recent meeting of *News* staff at the *Old Bluestone Café* recently, former owner **David Robey** wandered in to buy a coffee. He and partner **Marilyn** have now taken over the *National Hotel* at Stawell. When here, they commuted from Melton, but are now living in Stawell.

BACK AGAIN. There's been another change of tenant in the leased section of the Old Library. **Annie Ross** there for a few years with her art studio is back again taking over after a stint by **Cathy Micich's** antiques store.



Afraid of the B-word

The City of Ballarat's quarterly full colour give-away publication *Our Ballarat* seems to have trouble using the *B-word* – Buninyong – in any of its stories. Yet again this is true of the Spring 2021 edition that recently made its way into local mailboxes.

This time, however, it is perhaps understandable why the editors shied away from the *B-word* because of the heavy coverage of the City's focus on pushing ahead with the Ballarat Link Road. From the full cover pic, to the *Message from the Mayor*, to a double-page spread on pages 4 and 5, the call was loud about "the critical solution infrastructure (project) that will address connectivity issues and reduce congestion."

Big jump

Traffic data along Dyson Drive are quoted (see side panel) and, indeed, the increase in average daily traffic usage over the fifteen years between 2005 and 2021 is scary... jumping from 1,783 to 10,490 vehicles per day.

TRAFFIC CONGESTION ON DYSON DRIVE

The average daily number of vehicles has increased substantially:

Year	Average Daily Vehicles	% Increase
2005	1,783	
2016	6,529	266%
2021 (July)	10,490	60%

Source: City of Ballarat traffic counts

The push by the City of Ballarat to obtain funding commitments as State and Federal elections loom large makes sense. The main article in *Our Ballarat* leads with the assertion that

"It's good planning for the years ahead that traffic heading to Victoria's south-west will be able to loop around central Ballarat along the Link Road."

That in the years ahead traffic heading to Victoria's south-west will be able to loop around central Ballarat along the Link Road is good future planning. But yet again, the City refuses to look beyond the Link Road itself to where it will meet the Midland Highway at Magpie. What then?

The 'head in the sand' attitude of both Council and Regional Roads Victoria, about the impact of all of that traffic shunted around the city onto the Midland Highway is puzzling. There seems to be no concern about the likely flood of traffic to be fed into and through Buninyong.

Silent

The time is long overdue for City and RRV engineers, State politicians and particularly the three South Ward Councillors to look at, respond to and say something about the question of 'what does all of this mean for Buninyong?' The sounds of silence from those quarters is deafening.

Those trying to cross the highway at Winter Street with children or dogs, or those nervously crossing at the roundabout, know about the present surge in heavy vehicle traffic numbers though the village along the Midland Highway. Many are now using another version of the *B-word*!



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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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Off-grid house gets top star rating and No power bills

The Denniston family have moved into their newly built Buninyong home - with no connection to the electricity grid! For the energy comes free from the sun, while battery storage allows them to distribute it according to usage needs throughout the day.

Peter Denniston said that when faced with the near-\$100,000 capital cost to connect to the electricity grid, it was not a difficult decision to go 'off-grid'.

"But there was a great deal of research work to be done, especially to cope with Buninyong's winter. The solar energy/battery storage combination would need to meet the coldest day but with little extra capacity since any additional electricity generation after the batteries were charged to capacity would be wasted as this could not be fed up to the grid", he said.

Back up

There is a back-up in the form of a gas-powered generator which can also facilitate heating and cooking in the event of a failure in any of the primary appliances.

The principle of off-grid housing generally covers three areas – passive design, materials, and technologies. An example of passive design is where the concrete slab is heated by the winter sun shining in through the north facing windows. Automated skylights and blinds are able to further ameliorate outside temperatures within the house.

Materials used include the walls that are constructed of poured concrete encasing a foam inner core for built-in insulation. The window glass is also covered on the inside with a heat-reflective coating that reflects the sun's rays back to the concrete slab rather than allowing this heat source to escape back out the window.

The living areas are hermetically-sealed so that draughts of cold air do not enter, while Danish 'air scrubbers' ensure that the stale air is replaced with clean air.



Peter Denniston in his workshop with the controls that regulate the house's energy production and usage. On the right is the battery storage array that, although expensive, is designed to last for thirty years.

The technology of the 21kw of solar panels and the Lithium-titanate batteries is all controlled with a smartphone app that coordinates usage with the energy generated especially over the differing demand periods of the day and night. The house has gained a 7.9 star rating for sustainability.

The Dennistons moved into their home in the middle of what the locals say was about the coldest and wettest winter in recent memory.

"We love it here with our quiet semi-rural lifestyle. And we can further complement the sustainability aspect of the 'off-grid' house with the home-grown produce from the apple orchard now planted and vegetable garden to come," Anne Louise said.

– Russell Luckock



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On a sunny day in Spring outdoor dining was proving popular at the old Bluestone Café.

Historic bluestone store A VILLAGE ICON

The October edition of *The News* included an article on a young couple – Nic and Jimmy Tieu– who have recently taken over the coffee and meals business based in the Old Bluestone Café building. But the old building itself, one of the oldest in the village, has a history some of which should be known by anyone who calls Buninyong ‘home’. The following is largely derived from notes of the local Historical Society.

Since it was built around 1856-57, the old store constructed from large bluestone blocks in Learmonth Street, near the

corner of Warrenheip Street, has been a landmark in Buninyong. It has a fascinating history.

It was built as a General Store by a family group comprising **John Hedrick** and his wife **Agnes Brydon** who had migrated from Scotland in 1853, together with Agnes’ brother **David**, and also John’s brother **Peter Hedrick** who had arrived in 1854.

Family venture

First based in Geelong, the group had established a trading firm supplying the goldfields. They then built the store in

Buninyong, and were listed as the store’s owners in the first *Buninyong Business Directory* of 1857. The names of the two families – *Brydon & Hedrick* – can still be seen on the building’s façade (see photo left).

Peter, later to become the first Mayor and civic leader of Buninyong, purchased the business from his relatives in 1858 and operated it until his death in 1896. Peter Hedrick is buried in the Episcopalian (Anglican) section in Grave 258.

The grocery and wine business in the store was taken over by **David Kerr**, and then in 1903 by **Ern Tonkin**, who lived in Eyre Cottage on the corner of Winter and Eyre Streets. Tonkin died in 1925.

A letter of 1926 from the Ballarat Trustee Company indicated that the property, then “rather run down”, had been sold to a **W W Dowling**.

Milk Bar

Apart from a seven year period, from 1955-1962, when the store (together with the adjacent corner shop) was run as a milk bar and fruit shop by **Bill** and **Rita Brown**, the shop’s history is not well known during the latter part of the 1900s.

It seems to have first adopted the name *Bluestone Café & Tea Rooms* around 2006. Recent owners of the business have been **Clayton** and **Tess McIlvena** who were there from April 2013 until April 2017, when it was taken over by **David Robey** and **Marilyn Delfin**.

In September 2021 that couple sold the business based in the historic store to **Jimmy** and **Nic Tieu**. While faces and owners may change, the historic old building continues on as a village icon.



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Real estate in Buninyong stays hot **BOOM** despite shutdown

Moving into a new business in June 2021 was not the best piece of timing for Stu Brien the new owner of the local PRD real estate office. “Six lockdowns in four months caused us to make some pretty big changes to the way we could operate,” he said.

For example many key elements of real estate work had to be put on hold or dramatically adjusted. These included live inspections, property appraisals, photography of the property, and even the ability to erect signage.

Hot demand

Stu said that despite such challenges there has been very strong demand for the quality properties that have come onto the market. He said that properties were selling “at the right price” within a few weeks, many within a few days.

He put the popularity of the Buninyong area down to factors such as the larger house blocks, the village feel, its proximity to Ballarat, Geelong and to Melbourne, and to the feeling held by buyers that the Buninyong property market represented good present and future value. “Lifestyle properties with a sense of room and space are very popular,” he said.

Stu Brien said, “Buninyong continues to be a very buoyant market with prices having risen by some 10 per cent in the past year.” He said that while he felt that the hot market of the past year or so would “soften” a little, he felt that there was still a way to go yet.

Concern

PRD Buninyong sells about 30 per cent of all local properties that come onto the market. PRD usually has between six and ten properties on their books each week.

“Over 90 per cent of buyers are second or third home buyers coming from Ballarat and the region,” he said.

He expressed concern about some agencies coming into the area and



providing wildly inflated appraisals to vendors to obtain a listing. “You will find that the sign boards will still be up for many weeks or months when the properties carry unrealistic prices,” he said. “Such practices go against my sense of integrity and professionalism.”

Happy

Stu said that he has been warmly accepted by locals. “Quite a few people have stopped by to say hello after recognising me from our advertising in *The News*, and while I have a way to go to catch up with **Phil Crosbie’s** local recognition factor after fifteen years here, I am really happy to come into the office in Warrenheip Street each day.”

Propertyvalue.com.au reports that “there have been 64 houses sold in Buninyong in the past twelve months with a median sale price of \$714,000, up 25.9 per cent annually.

On average they take 17 days to sell.” And according to *realestate.com.au* an average of 1764 visits are made to its website for Buninyong properties on sale.

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Your questions to Council

In response to reader enquiries, *The News* recently put questions about local services to Council. These are the responses received from their Media Department.

What's happening with the Mobile Library service to Buninyong?

The City of Ballarat Libraries' Outreach Service has been temporarily suspended across the municipality due to the challenges of the pandemic including stay at home orders, inability to access sites and staff work bubbles, all affecting Council's ability to deliver this service.

We look forward to resuming services once lockdowns are ended and health authorities deem it safe and possible to do so.

In the meantime, all Council library branches offer click and collect as an alternative. Buninyong Outreach users are encouraged to visit the Sebastopol branch where possible.

And please visit our website to explore all the entertaining and informative online activities available from Tai Chi and Laughing Yoga, to sessions with bestselling authors.

Bookings are via the library website and enquiries can also be made to the Ballarat Library branch, 5338 6850.



Where are things at with the Royal Park project?

The exciting transformation of Buninyong's Royal Park into a sustainable community hub and sports precinct has moved a step closer.

Two new soccer pitches, lighting, and change rooms have been added to the precinct as part of the \$1.8 million Council redevelopment.

There have been some delays to asphaltting work to the accessible carparks, but once these are completed, the project will be at sign-off stage.

The new female-friendly facilities will be a welcome addition and will help with the growth and participation of sporting clubs using the reserves as well as supporting greater participation of women in sport.

The City of Ballarat looks forward to joining the Buninyong community, in particular the Buninyong Soccer Club, for an official opening of the new soccer facilities once lifting of restrictions allows this to happen.

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Some facts on the Buninyong Cemetery Things you have been dying to know about

The October edition of *The News* carried an article about the Buninyong Cemetery Trust's current project to review and digitise all its records. During work on this project some facts emerged that may be of interest to local residents.

There is a total of 6895 plots in the cemetery. Of these 1685 are in the Lawn section, 4970 in the older denominational/monumental sections, and there are 240 Ash Garden plots. The recently-completed *Dell of Memories*, a place to remember loved ones buried elsewhere, also has some large 'memorial' rocks in a peaceful corner area straddling the creek.

A tough life

A review of the older burial records shows how brutal were the living conditions on the local gold fields in the latter half of the 1800s. Dozens of deaths were from mine 'falls' or other forms of mine accident. Many hundreds of burials were of still-born children or infants who lived for a few hours or days. About ten children died by drowning – in the dams at the tannery, at the Imperial Mine and even in the Botanic Gardens.

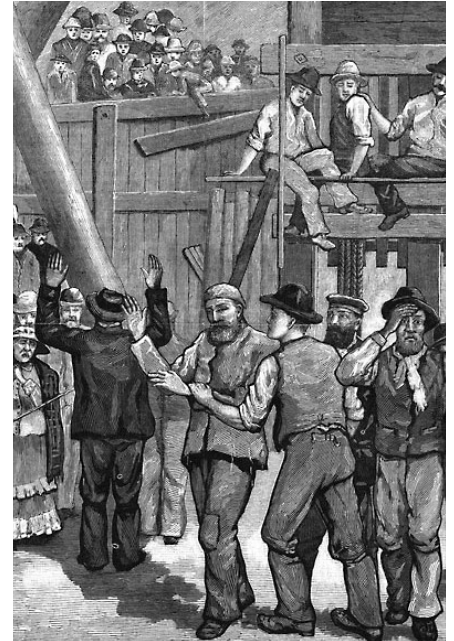
Many other children died at an early age from diseases such as typhoid, scarletina, whooping cough, marasmus (undernourishment), meningitis, consumption and particularly from diarrhoea. Dentition (infection from teething) was another common cause. Some families lost infant children year after year. There is one unmarked grave at the cemetery with eight infant children from the one family in there.

Adult causes

For adults, common causes of death included old-fashioned diseases such as dropsy, hydatids, dysentery, phthisis (tuberculosis), colonial fever, exhaustion, and even 'general decay'. One soul died of 'alcoholic poisoning'. Cancer was rarely listed as a cause of death.

Suicides, particularly by hanging, were not uncommon. One description of the cause of a death was that the person was "found hanging in Biddle's paddock". Another common note in the records was the cryptic "found dead".

The addresses of persons buried at the cemetery included many places now



Mining accidents were common.

forgotten such as Billy Goat Flat, Hiscocks, Black Lead, Whim Holes, Cobblers' Gully, Kitty's Lead and Dog Trap Creek.

Those recording burials in the early days were very generous with their description of many males as a "Gentleman" – although very few were likely to have had a landed gentry background. For unmarried women the term "Spinster" was regularly used, even for those as young as eighteen years.

Over 9000

With the first burial in 1853, the 1000th burial was recorded in 1865, indicating the extremely high death rate in the local mining districts in that era. As at a few weeks ago there had been over 9000 persons recorded as being buried at the cemetery. The current burial rate there is between 50 and 60 persons each year.

Over recent years over 90 per cent of burials have been in the Lawn Section. At present there are some 500 plots left in this area, but at the current rate of burials there, this will last only for another ten years or so. A big worry!





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New life ahead for Cambrian Hill bore

In the drought year of 1967, a bore was sunk in Heinz Road, Cambrian Hill to provide an emergency water supply to local landowners and for use by the Fire Brigade.

A covering shed was constructed over it and a power line brought about 500 metres to provide power for the pump.

In recent years the bore has had some use during dry spells, but discussion by the Golden Plains Shire about decommissioning it have now met with local opposition as it seen by many as both part of local history and also an emergency water source that may be needed in future.

Local farmer and former Golden Plains Shire Councillor **Kevin McManus** said that the bore was “a major community asset” and that, along with most locals, he hoped that the Council would find the funds needed to refurbish the pump and install a new tank.

Shire Deputy Mayor Councillor **Ian Getsom** told *The News* that “things were now looking pretty positive”. He said, “There were still a few matters to be sorted out, but that the bore refurbishment project was moving ahead.”

Golden Plains Councillor Ian Getsom (right) chats about the future of the bore and pump with local resident Les George.



Ernie Neale's Monthly RAINFALL REPORT

A patchy September

Based on long-term records for the Buninyong district, September was once the wettest month and Spring was the wettest season. In recent decades though, things seem to have changed.

At first, diminishing October totals led to lower Spring averages. Now it seems that lighter September totals are adding to the trend. The 55.4mm we received in September was just low enough to nudge our recent average below 70mm for the first time, to 69.3mm. It wasn't much of a change but compared to the 165-year September average of 81.6mm at Scotsburn, it is significant.

Our September total could very easily have been more. The end of the month came with forecasts of significant amounts of rain from an extensive unstable system that was dragging in moist air from the tropics. These systems can deliver heavy rain, but it is very patchy. We scored only 15.4mm from it as October arrived.

SEPTEMBER 2021			
Date	Rain	Date	Rain
4	20.0	18-22	15.9
6	1.0	25	2.8
14	9.3	30	6.4
Total		55.4mm	
Average		69.3mm	

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A different approach to education Miranda puts her shine on learning

It's not as if Miranda Donald has lots of time on her hands, what with being on the Town Hall Asset Committee, involved with organising community events such as the Christmas Pop Up Shop, and appearing in the occasional a stage show such as the coming Ballarat National Theatre's production of *Steel Magnolias*. But she is really relishing her latest venture – managing the *Shine Learning* educational company.

Started by her in July 2021, *Shine Learning* is a small scale education centre that provides one-on-one and small group tuition from a central base in a small, beautifully decorated and set-up, purpose-built educational property in Hertford Street, Sebastopol.

In addition to Miranda who holds a BA degree and a Dip Ed, there are three other tutors on staff each with excellent educational credentials and interests to work with students on an individual or small group basis.

Imogen and **Emma** have specialised in early childhood and primary education, while **Carli**, who holds both undergraduate and post-graduate degrees in secondary education is experienced in working with older students.

While most classes and sessions are held face to face, *Shine Learning* also offers programs for students via remote learning. Both primary and secondary students are catered for.

The present range of activities covers



Mathematics, English (including Reading and Spelling) and Creative Writing together with a Homework Skills program. Sessions are scheduled in the late afternoon on three days a week. The after-school Homework group program offers students the chance to do their week's homework in a quiet, supervised space with the opportunity to have a tutor assist with questions or problem.

Future holiday programs are planned in areas such as Screen Acting, Public Speaking and Art.

Miranda said that *Shine Learning* aims to keep students positive about schooling in the present stop-start educational situation. "Anything that helps learning and gives a sense of optimism is a good thing... I hope we have created a space and program that offers just this," she said.

Program details can be found at shinelearning.com.au or by phoning 0409 954 283.



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Remembrance Day celebrations

Buninyong RSL invites district residents to its Remembrance Day ceremony in RSL Park at 10.40am on 11 November. A welcome, wreath laying and an address by RSL President Ron Fleming will precede the Last Post at 11am.

Wearing of medals is encouraged. The protocol of wearing medals not awarded to you requires them to be worn on the right pocket.

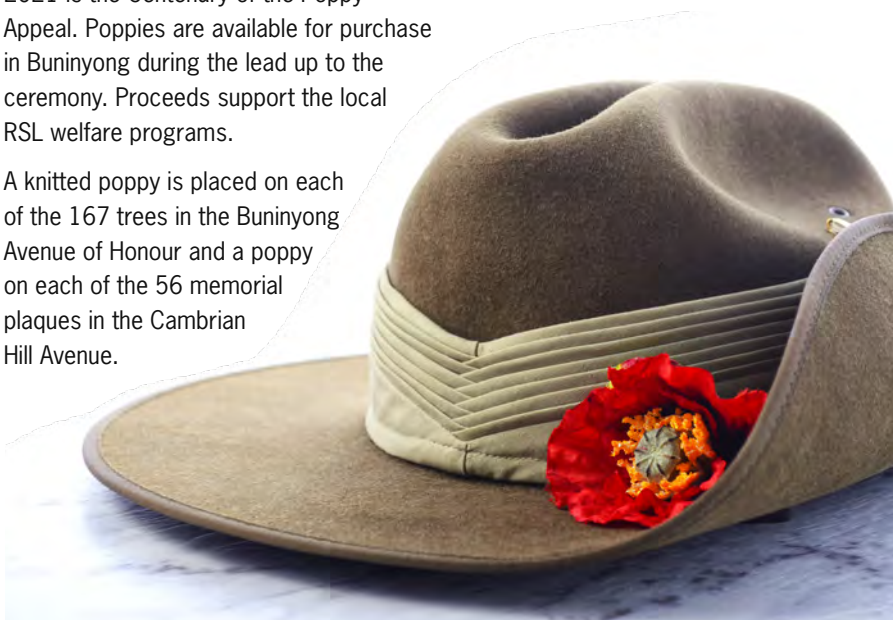
The ceremony will be conducted within the COVID restrictions prevailing on the day in regard to attendance numbers, social distancing and QR code registration. Serving of refreshments will also observe COVID requirements.

There will also be a wreath laying service at the gates of the Buninyong Cemetery Gates at 1pm and at then at the Cambrian Hill Avenue of Honour at 2pm.

Poppies

2021 is the Centenary of the Poppy Appeal. Poppies are available for purchase in Buninyong during the lead up to the ceremony. Proceeds support the local RSL welfare programs.

A knitted poppy is placed on each of the 167 trees in the Buninyong Avenue of Honour and a poppy on each of the 56 memorial plaques in the Cambrian Hill Avenue.



Streetscape project closer

Council sources have advised that the two Buninyong projects- to upgrade the business block in Warrenheip Street and the works on the car park area in Learmonth Street near the old Post Office – are on track.

The streetscape tender for the Warrenheip Street works has closed and is being evaluated by Council officers. The tender recommendation will go to Council on 24 November.

In order not to have works in progress during the Australian Cycling Championships, current planning is for the streetscape works between Forest and Eyre Streets to commence in late January 2022.

Books for a buck

The “greatest little bookshop in the world” in Warrenheip Street, Buninyong, operated by the local Lions Club and its group of volunteers has a huge sale coming up.

It will be on Saturday 13 November between 10.00am and 3.00pm. There will be countless books for sale for just \$1, all under the marquees and tables to be set up outside of the cottage.

Here’s a chance to grab a stack of books (many in as-new condition) for just a dollar apiece. And if you haven’t yet ventured inside of the historic cottage, that’s another experience not to be missed.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

More on the trucks

The front page article, *Truck Terror*, in the October edition of *The News* suggests that the increase in truck traffic through Lal Lal has come about because of the speed limits and delays caused by the Midland Highway works. I don’t believe that this is correct.

When the works were being done in Yendon, on the eastern side of the level crossing, there was a sign to the effect that the work was being funded by a ‘heavy vehicle’ program.

This work included the corner of Yendon-Egerton Rd and Yendon-Dunnstown Rd, and at the Lal Lal level crossing, eastern side. It appeared to be a deliberate strategy to make it easier for heavy trucks from the Dunnstown quarries to go south to access the Midland Highway by this particular route, rather than have them negotiate Yendon Number 1 or Number 2 Roads.

The western side of the Yendon level crossing was not improved, despite that crossing being the site of a number of serious traffic accidents, because this was not part of the preferred route. The trucks do go through Yendon (often at higher speeds than the nominated 60kph) to reach Yankee Flat Rd and further west, but do not go through Navigators or Warrenheip.

I don’t know that there was much consultation with the local communities before the work was commenced, and it is probably too late now. Lal Lal might be successful in obtaining fencing along the pathway to the school, but I think that would be only a token gesture, and not really provide much safety for the children.

**– Yendon Resident
(name supplied)**



Kids' magic day out

Since 1918 one of Australia's most loved children's books has been Norman Lindsay's *The Magic Pudding*. It's the story of a talking pudding called Albert who travels about with his three friends Bunyip Bluegum, Bill Barnacle and Sam Sawnoff.

Friends of Buninyong Botanic Gardens are celebrating the heritage-listed Gardens' 160th anniversary on Sunday 5 December with an invitation to local children (from two to eight years of age) to become members of the Noble Society of Puddin' Owners.

Wandering

The duties are light. The members are required to wander along roads, indulgin' in conversation, singin' and eatin' at regular intervals at pieces of the puddin'."

A performance of excerpts from the 1918 kids' classic will be presented by some of the popular actors from Gardens'

favourites *The Bard in Buninyong*, dressed in fabulous fun costumes.

The first 'slice' introduces Albert the Puddin', Bunyip Bluegum the Koala, Sam Sawnoff, the Penguin brave, Bill Barnacle and the Puddin' Thieves, and tells the history of the magic pudding through song and story.

The program, being coordinated by *Ballarat BotaniKIDS*, includes *The Bard's* performance to be followed by related playful activities for the kids. Adults attending with children are invited by Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens to enjoy celebratory refreshments to mark the Gardens' anniversary.

There will be three sessions presented throughout the day and booking details will be advertised on the *Ballarat BotaniKIDS* Facebook page. But mark down 5 December now for some great fun time with the kids in the Gardens.

Bank backing for tennis

The Community Bank continues to assist the Buninyong & District Tennis Association with various forms of support. The last period saw a subsidy to enable low-cost access to junior, midweek and senior competitions, floodlighting for night tennis, an online system for court bookings and the provision of affordable professional coaching.

When asked about what's next for the Association, Treasurer **Phil Anstis** said "we recently formed a partnership with Universal Tennis Ranking (UTR) which provides additional opportunities to offer tennis experiences based on equal tennis ability, which is extremely important for all players, regardless of age or ability. We also established a *Player Support Fund* which can provide individual membership fee support to member clubs".

If any community group or organisation may be interested in applying for Community Investment project funding, ask in Branch for more information, eligibility criteria and/or apply online at www.communityhouse.com.au/cip



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No risk for Ray's record

Amazing cricket performance 50 years on

As the Buninyong Cricket Club gets ready to start its 2021-22 season in the Ballarat Cricket Association (BCA), one person following their progress with interest will be Ray Sullivan, the sports reporter for *The News*.

In addition to his local reporting duties, Ray's name has been etched into the BCA record books for more than fifty years as the holder of the best bowling performance in BCA history.

At Ballarat's Eastern Oval on 7 March 1970, Sullivan's team Brown Hill was up against Mount Clear. Although of slight build, Sullivan was one of best medium-paced bowlers in Ballarat. In an unbelievable performance, he dismissed

the entire Mt Clear team (which boasted local stars such as **Holloike**, **Hallahan** and **Tuddenham**), finishing with the figures of 10/12. This was then, and remains, a BCA record.

Defeat

While Mt Clear was dismissed for the paltry total of just 59 runs, the game came to an unexpected end when Brown Hill themselves could only manage 57 runs.

Living in Buninyong since 2009, Ray Sullivan, 74, along with former team-mate **Trevor McCann** currently is involved in compiling the history of the Brown Hill Cricket Club which started its involvement with the BCA in 1947.

Above: Ray Sullivan (left) and bowling partner Trevor McCann back at the Eastern Oval.

Ray grew up in Brown Hill. He attended the local Primary School before completing his secondary schooling at Ballarat East High School, where he first met **Nancye**, later to become his wife. Russell Square, then the home of the Brown Hill Cricket Club (his father was a leading batsman), was just a few blocks away from the family home.

He later studied at Ballarat Teachers' College, graduating as a primary teacher in 1966.

His teaching career spanned almost 40 years, taking Ray and Nancye to places such as Brimpaen, Linton, Lal Lal and Arcadia before returning to Ballarat's Dana

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Street, Eureka Street and Little Bendigo schools. While on the staff of Eureka Street, he and Nancye took up two-year teaching positions at the RAAF Butterworth base at Penang, Malaysia.

After a brief return to Ballarat, it was then back to Asia in 1993. Firstly to Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam for three years, and then off to Yokohama, Japan, as Primary School Principal of the International School there. A 'two-year' appointment saw them stay for nine years. He retired from teaching at the end of that period.

Other sports

Ray has maintained his sporting interests nowadays with his membership of the nearby Buninyong Golf Club, and playing an occasional game of bowls (while in Japan he won the 2005 All-Japan Men's Pairs Lawn Bowls Championship).

With a strong Sullivan family presence in Thornbury and Northcote he spent many holiday hours and Saturday afternoons at the old Fitzroy ground, Brunswick Street Oval. He remains a loyal member of the Brisbane Lions.

During coming months, as *The News* sports reporter, he will be keeping a keen

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REGISTERED AS THE OFFICIAL SCORE BOOK OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES JUNIOR CRICKET UNION

COMPETITION: **B.C.A.** CLUB: **BROWN HILL** GRADE: **A**

MATCH AGAINST: **MT CLEAR** PLAYED AT: **EASTERN OVAL**

TOSS WON BY: **BROWN HILL** INNINGS OF: **MT CLEAR** DATE: **7/3/70** ROUND NO: **FINAL**

TIME IN	TIME OUT	AGE IF UNDER 15	BATSMEN	RUNS AS SCORED	HOW OUT	BOWLER	TOTALS
			1. G. JOLLY	14 22	CAUGHT	SULLIVAN	9
			2. R. PLOVER	13	CAUGHT	SULLIVAN	4
			3. R. HOLLIOAKE	1	CAUGHT	SULLIVAN	1
			4. F. BOLTON	4 4 13	CAUGHT	SULLIVAN	12
			5. M. HALAHAN	1	CAUGHT	SULLIVAN	1
			6. M. BESHARA	11	CAUGHT	SULLIVAN	2
			7. L. TUDDENHAM	11 2 14	CAUGHT	SULLIVAN	9
			8. D. ILLOTT	1	BOWLED	SULLIVAN	0
			9. D. TUDDENHAM	11 1 3 4 2 2 1	CAUGHT	SULLIVAN	20
			10. M. O'KEEFE		CAUGHT	SULLIVAN	0
			11. R. MULLROONEY		NOT OUT		0

SCORE AT FALL OF EACH WICKET: 1-13, 2-13, 3-18, 4-27, 5-27, 6-30, 7-30, 8-54, 9-54, 10-59

RESULT: **WON/LOST** BY: **BROWN HILL**

BOWLER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	OVERS	RUNS	WICKETS	ECONOMY
1. T. McCANN	0	6	11	9	14	25	26	28													8	2	0	29
2. R. SULLIVAN	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	7	10	12
3. R. WHITCHER	4	12	14	15																	4	1	0	17

eye on the progress of the Buninyong Cricket Club, but in his heart he probably will be hoping for a resurgence of the Brown Hill Cricket Club. He has two grandsons (the fourth generation) playing with Brown Hill Under 13 team.

One thing is almost certain... his bowling record of ten wickets for twelve runs will still be on the BCA record books come March 2022.

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