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# Gisborne Gazette

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MARCH 2022

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## The fun's back in life

Holy Cross preps Eva Thomson and Alma Death try their best worst faces with teacher Caitlyn Blake on their first day of school. Picture: Wendy Tattersall

With schools back in person, local groups resuming most pre-pandemic activities and COVID restrictions having eased even further on February 26, energy levels are up around town. The past two years have taught us to seize the moment and it is great to see the Gisborne community doing just that.

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## From the Editor's desk

We're back! After two pandemic-muted years, local events and activities have kicked back into action and you can feel the buzz around town. Cafes and restaurants are bustling, sporting grounds and club meetings are busy, live events are back on and the popular Gisborne market has restarted. As Preps Eva Thomson and Alma Death and their teacher Caitlyn Blake show so well on this month's cover, fun is back and the community is loving it. I found it very special to be back watching a drama at the Mountview Theatre last week, just like 'old times'.

And hasn't it been wonderful to see full faces again in most settings after the mask mandate eased on February 26! What lovely smiles everyone has.

This edition is full of articles and reports on activities happening around Gisborne, Macedon and Mount Macedon and I encourage you to take advantage of what's on offer. The pandemic has certainly highlighted to me the value of not putting off until tomorrow what you can do today. Maybe it's time to finally join that club you've been reading about for years that sounds up your alley.

An exciting event at this time of year is the new school year starting and I congratulate the 337 students who started their formal education at local primary schools last month. Starting school is a major milestone for children and their families and carers and our Prep spread on pages 24-25 captures some of the joy and emotion it brought locally.

With the commercial media currently reporting on the Russian invasion in Ukraine, it almost feels frivolous to be writing this upbeat message about happy local news. We are so lucky. I have always felt very fortunate to live in this friendly, active and inclusive community in this beautiful part of the world, and do so even more at this moment.

Finally, thank you to Bryan Power for editing last month's edition which allowed me a most welcome break. I am back refreshed and ready for another great year and hope you are too.

Happy reading,

*Corinne Shaddock*

## Local artist enters Archibald



*Mt Macedon artist Kaye Levannais and workplace mental health champion Nigel Gould with her portrait of 'Gouldy' that she is entering in the 2022 Archibald Prize with proceeds going to mental health initiatives. More next month.*

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### OBITUARIES

To submit an obituary for publication, please email [elgrae@bigpond.com](mailto:elgrae@bigpond.com) or phone 5428 2522. Please also provide a photograph for publication and restrict the article to about 250 words.

### Where you can find the Gazette

If you do not receive the *Gazette* in your letter box, you can collect a copy at:

**Gisborne:** Post Office, Village Shopping Centre, Priceline Chemist, Gisborne Medical Centre in Brantome Street, Puma Service Station, Coles and Foodworks supermarkets

**Mt Macedon:** The Trading Post  
**Macedon:** Post Office and United Service Station on Black Forest Drive  
**New Gisborne:** Baringo Food & Wine, Station Road; Cafe at 3 Ladd Road  
**Riddells Creek:** Newsagency  
**Woodend:** Coles supermarket

## A MINUTE WITH MAXINE

Barbara and Geoffrey Rosewall have been delivering the *Gazette* for five years.

They met on a blind date and were married within two years. After first living in Melton, they found their Gisborne home in 2004 and after a lot of work outside, they now have well-established gardens with manicured lawns, a bird aviary and an impressive "Geoff's shed" complete with a model railway – first for the children and now the grandchildren.

They have two daughters, one son and seven grandchildren.

Barbara worked at various schools in administration and now volunteers part-time at St Paul's Op Shop. Geoffrey was an engineer for TAA/Qantas for 48 years, 7 months, 1 week and 4 days.

Now retired, they are both 'crafty' – Barbara enjoys diamond art and has many framed works on the walls around their home, the same with Geoffrey's painting by numbers and an impressive display of ships he has built over the years, and aircraft too.

They also both enjoy doing jigsaws.

Barbara is a Western Bulldogs supporter and



*Barbara and Geoffrey Rosewall*

Geoffrey supports the Brisbane Lions.

A memorable holiday for them was a nine-week driving holiday around England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

### Another few seconds with Maxine

Our thoughts and condolences are with Lucy Padovani on the passing of her dearly beloved husband, Italo.

Our thoughts and condolences are also with Barbara Vasilevski on the passing of her dearly beloved husband, Ivan.

*Maxine*

# A bear-y lovely thing to do



Warrina Aged Care resident Ruth Marriot, who will be 97 in October, kindly donated hand-made teddies to Goodstart Early Learning New Gisborne and Macedon Early Learning Centre in February.

Warrina lifestyle coordinator Kim said Ruth loves to knit teddy bears and had quite the collection before her generous donations.

Ruth (centre, with walking frame) donates teddies to Goodstart Early Learning in the car park as COVID rules did not allow her to enter the centre.



Ruth's teddies bring smiles at Macedon Early Learning Centre.

## Gisborne's market returns

After two years, the Gisborne Olde Time Market returned on Sunday February 6.

Central Gisborne was a hive of activity and car parks were full, signs that many were delighted that the well-known monthly local market was back in action after pandemic restrictions shut it down in early 2020.

Reinstating the market was a huge task for the volunteer market team of GREAT (Gisborne Region Events Activities & Tourism) and they are to be commended.

The group hopes many others will help in future and invites residents to email [info@gisborneoldetimemarket.org.au](mailto:info@gisborneoldetimemarket.org.au) to get involved. The next market will be on Sunday March 6.



Visitors browse the stalls.



February market volunteers (from left: John Frearson, Karen Grieve, Dorothy Murray, Phyllis Boyd OAM, Rick Arden and Deb Fleming).

### WEEKLY JP SIGNING STATION

Should you require a Justice of the Peace in Gisborne, please note that there is a Signing Station in the GREAT Centre, 23 Hamilton Street (opposite Foodworks).

The Signing Station operates between 12 noon and 2pm each Thursday. Appointments are not necessary. If you would like further information, please call 0413 781 501.

## New book for Macedon writer

Macedon author Margaret Lygnos explores the power of connection in her latest novel, *Group Therapy*.

A group of women meet in their semi-rural town and get to know each other through weekly cafe meetings started by the local shire council. Slowly, as they learn to trust each other and form a bond, secrets begin to tumble out.

"The story is fictional but the women in this story all have their problems, which they work through with the help of their group of friends," Margaret said.

The book touches on childhood traumas, infidelity, work pressures and isolation. Margaret said she hoped the story would open people's eyes to some of the challenges women and children may have faced.

"I like to write about women and children as I feel they are often disadvantaged," she said. "I am a retired nurse with a lot of ideas in my head due to life's experiences therefore I have a few more stories to write yet."

*Group Therapy* is Margaret's second book and was released at the end of last year. It is available on Amazon and at Mount Macedon Trading Post, New Leaves, Woodend, and Collins Booksellers, Sunbury.



Margaret Lygnos with her new book.

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# Gardiner's female friendly facilities are now official

Upgrades at Gardiner Reserve in Gisborne costing \$2.5 million were officially opened in February by the Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson, and the Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas.

The new facilities are a shared-use female-friendly football and cricket change pavilion (\$1,084,847), a shared-use female-friendly netball and umpire change pavilion (\$964,555), the construction of a second lit netball court (\$262,220) and an upgrade of the oval lighting to LED light fittings (\$165,668).

Back when Gardiner Reserve's facilities were first erected, the role of women was still restricted to making the tea and clapping politely as the blokes belted a cricket ball for six or booted a few good goals.

Cr Anderson said that approximately 300 women and girls currently participated in sporting activities at Gardiner Reserve in netball, cricket and football, and ensuring that there were female-friendly facilities was extremely important.

She said the projects were the result of collaboration between Council, Gardiner Reserve user groups, Sport & Recreation Victoria, Netball Victoria and AFL Victoria. As well, "I need to mention the substantial contribution from the Gisborne football netball clubs and the Bendigo Bank [Community Bank Gisborne] in the delivery of the second netball court, a tremendous effort by all involved," Cr Anderson said.

"With five tenant clubs, Gardiner Reserve is the Macedon Ranges' busiest outdoor sporting reserve."



Cr Anderson (left) and Mary-Anne Thomas are joined by Darren Mitchell (Gisborne Football Netball Club) and Dominic Andreacchio (Gisborne Community Bank).



# Flying into a new play option

Bryn Graham enjoys a ride on the new flying fox at Ash Wednesday Park in Macedon on his way to school at Macedon Primary.

Adding a flying fox to the central Macedon park was part of the park Master Plan and became a reality thanks to a grant of \$18,725 from Community Bank Gisborne & District last year.

## Talk on how to be 'Rainbow Active'

On March 19, the CEO of sport inclusion advocates Proud2Play will speak on how clubs, community organisations and businesses can host an LGBTIQ+ inclusive 'come and try' session.

The talk is from 2pm to 4.30pm at 1 Caroline Chisholm Drive, Kyneton (next to the hospital). To RSVP, or if you are interested in being a community ambassador for the Rainbow Active program, please contact Belinda Brain on 5421 1666 or email belinda.brain@scchc.org.au.

The Rainbow Active free come and try sessions will be scheduled between March and May across the Macedon Ranges.

## SEEN AROUND TOWN

### Wild weather

Storms on January 29 brought flooding and more trees down in the area, including this big oak across the road from the Gisborne Court House and a few on Station Road, New Gisborne.



The Macedon Seniors Club finally started back again on Tuesday February 8. Welcome to our new members. Anyone wishing to join our club please contact Robin, our president, on 0409 610 458.

### Farm gate

Villa Pileggi Olive Oil in Leslie Road, Gisborne, has begun opening its light cafe and shop at the farm every second Saturday of the month. This month, March 12 and 26.

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## Not far from Camel's Hump are some camels' humps

A friendly local tipped the *Gazette* off that dromedaries had appeared on a roadside property on Lawson Road, Macedon.

Indeed, two dromedaries of Circus Royale have been enjoying the fresh Macedon Ranges air and munching on the grass since while being agisted there.

Damian Syred's Circus Royale visits 100 sites around the state annually, but everyone gets a rest sometime.



Damian Syred at Macedon with his camels and a horse checking out the newcomers.

• By coincidence, the local recollections of a member of the family after whom Lawson Road is named are the subject of an engaging history article this month. ▶Page 16.

## Autumn Festival lineup offers something for everyone

With a fantastic line-up of events to tickle your fancy at the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival (Sunday March 26 to Monday April 25), it is time to check out the program and make some plans.

Ticketed events will sell quickly, so book ahead to ensure you don't miss out. Local events include:

- A Day at Duneira, Mount Macedon, with live music, local wine, food trucks and CWA plant stall: 10am-2pm on March 26 and 27, and April 9 and 10.
- Mountain Writers Festival Author Lunch at the Wine Collective, Black Forest Drive, Macedon: Saturday March 26, 12 noon to 4pm, featuring Tony Birch, Evelyn Araluen and Tom Griffiths.
- Latin tango workshops in Gisborne: 1pm to 6pm Sunday March 27, Sunday April 3 and Sunday April 10.

For wine and food lovers, there is a bevy of events to tantalise the tastebuds, including a Sourdough Crumpet Masterclass with Millet Road Maker baker Simon Matthee at DV Cider House, Darraweit Guim, followed by a cider-paired Longest Brunch on Sunday April 3, 10.30am to 2.30pm.

Gisborne palate tempters on board the Pie and Tart Trail include Gisborne Peak Winery, offering a special pumpkin creme brulee, and 3 Little Pigs with



a caramelised onion, mushroom and gruyere tart.

For the creative at heart, several autumn workshops and classes are available, including botanical art classes at the Mount Macedon and District Horticultural Society.

There are also plenty of free experiences and events on offer, such as immersive art displays, interactive light shows, guided nature walks, open art studios, chalk art and New Orleans-style street bands.

To see the full festival program and buy tickets, visit [www.visitmacedonranges.com](http://www.visitmacedonranges.com)

## Locals alerted to planned increase in aircraft noise

Households across Gisborne and Macedon/Mount Macedon

were letterboxed

by Melbourne Airport

last month to alert residents to increased aircraft noise likely with construction of a third runway, and to seek feedback.

The plans went on public exhibition in February, with the community invited to give feedback until mid-May.

The new runway will run parallel to the existing north-south runway and will increase the airport's capacity by allowing simultaneous arrivals and departures. It is expected to be operational by 2027.

An airport statement said construction of the new runway would necessitate the shortening of the east-west runway and require changes to flight paths. Airport authorities have produced an online interactive noise tool that allows people to insert their address and explore future aircraft tracks and time-of-day comparisons, at [www.caportal.com.au/melair/virtual/m3r](http://www.caportal.com.au/melair/virtual/m3r)

It is unclear whether the proposed changes will affect a pre-pandemic plan for greater use of the east-west runway which set new flight paths over South Gisborne for arriving aircraft in certain weather conditions. Previously, only departing aircraft used these flight paths – aircraft reached a higher altitude quickly, thus less noise at ground level than with landing aircraft.

Melbourne Airport CEO Lyell Strambi said the existing two-runway configuration was nearing capacity before the onset of the pandemic, and as aviation recovered, the third runway would be needed to cope with future demand.

"There is no doubt that additional activity does bring more noise to the surrounds," Mr Strambi said. "[The effect is] hard to say at a suburb level."





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Dr Rashida Moiz	Dr Robert Hetzel
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## Staying strong at the gym

This happy group were encountered working out at the council-run Gisborne Fitness Centre next to Gardiner Reserve in February.

They are members of the Stay Strong group which meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10.30am.

Many members have been participating for years and like the fitness and social sides of the program.

Staff member Nat Jeffery, who has been working at the gym for four years and loves it, said the



From left: Di Dawe, Nat Jeffery, Joy Whitton and Teresa Crook at a morning workout.

group is very committed and she has seen plenty of improvement, which is exciting.

Di Dawe has been a regular

at the gym since 1987 and is currently building strength after a knee replacement with a personalised workout program.

## Dark times and nature inspire artist

Like many of us, Fiona Farrugia finds nature a supreme healer when life weighs her down. As a landscape artist she extends the healing further, channelling both her positive emotions and pain into paintings invariably of her favourite places.

Fiona, 36, is the creator of the hauntingly beautiful artwork, 'Stay While I Swing', installed in late February outside the Corner Coffee Bar on the corner of Brantome and Hamilton Streets, Gisborne.

Painting has helped Fiona navigate significant challenges as a carer of loved ones with severe mental illnesses in their daily lives and darkest moments.

"I have been my most creative when I've been at my lowest. During difficult times I also turn to nature; a walk in the bush or visit the beach," says the Gisborne mother of three.

"Since I've been painting I can find beauty anywhere. I am so much more aware of our environment and its healing powers. Our landscape can tell our story."

Fiona is one of four artists selected for a community Art Bomb project launched this month by Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group. The project, funded by the North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network, acknowledges the positive impact of creative pursuits on mental health and continues the



The Corner Coffee Bar in Gisborne kindly agreed to be 'art bombed' on February 26. Inset: the artist, Fiona Farrugia.

conversation around suicide prevention.

Another Gisborne artist, Aimee Timpson, is presenting a multimedia work, 'Audacity of Hope', a three-minute video featuring the artist's edgy digital mixed media art, on a screen outside the council office in Mollison Street, Kyneton.

All the artwork will be available for viewing on location until the end of March and will then be for sale via the MRSPAG website, [www.mrspag.com.au](http://www.mrspag.com.au).

### Welcome to Gisborne and the Macedon Ranges!

Recently we have had an influx of new people join our community. If this is you, welcome! Here are some facts about our area to help you settle in.

**1. Winters are cold!** Like Melbourne, you can get four seasons in one day in Gisborne but beware that our winters are particularly chilly.

**2. We have a market:** The Gisborne Market is on the first Sunday each month and the town can get very busy. If you are not visiting the market, I suggest avoiding the town centre. The other Mace-



### KAT'S KORNER

with Kat Buttigieg

don Ranges markets occur across the Saturdays of the month.

**3. Our natural surroundings bring much joy:** The Ranges are on Wurundjeri, Taungurung and Dja Dja Wurrung soil. We are blessed with many beautiful natural wonders, children's parks, gardens, bike paths and walking trails.

**4. You can get involved:** There is a wide range of sporting, hobby,

social, volunteer and play groups to join in our area. This is one of the best ways to meet new people and make connections.

**5. We love local!** It's not always possible but go local first when you can. We enjoy supporting our Ranges shops and cafes because they are people from our community and they offer stellar service.

**6. We are a friendly lot!** Whilst Gisborne is growing, the small town vibe is still prevalent. People may say 'hi' when you are out walking, strike up a conversation at the shops, or give a wave if you let them merge into traffic. It's just part and parcel of Ranges life!

# Meet Gisborne's new officer in charge

## Senior Sergeant Amanda Cohen

Whoever came up with the phrase "a change is as good as a holiday" was on to something.

After spending the majority of my 17 years as a Victoria Police officer working across suburban and metropolitan Melbourne, I am excited to have taken on the permanent role of officer in charge at Gisborne Police Station.

I will also be overseeing Woodend, Macedon and Riddells Creek police stations. As the Neighbourhood Policing coordinator, I will also be responsible for driving partnerships with community and other organisations to address local safety issues.

I am lucky to have learnt from some of the best police officers within Victoria Police during my career so far, through roles in various uniform and investigation units as well as Crime Command.

Most recently, I held the Detective



Senior Sergeant Amanda Cohen

Sergeant role at Armed Crime for three years. In managing complex criminal investigations and leading high-risk operations, my focus was on disrupting and preventing some of the most serious offending in the state.

As a female leader in a previously male-dominated space, I am passionate about driving cultural change. I strongly believe that inclusivity fosters a positive work environment, which is vital in achieving excellent organisational outcomes that ultimately benefit the entire community.

When I'm not in uniform, you will find me spending time with my two young children and my two dogs. Together we enjoy the great outdoors including camping, hiking and kayaking. I am a big promoter of getting out in nature and taking a break from a fast-paced work environment.

I am embracing my new role at Gisborne Police Station with an open heart and open mind and am very much looking forward to being part of this community and getting to know its people.

I will be hosting a 'Coffee with a Cop' event on Wednesdays at various locations, which will be advertised on our local Eyewatch-Macedon Ranges Police Service Area Facebook page. This month's dates are March 2, 9, 18 and 23 at Gisborne Village Shopping Centre. Please come along for a chat and let us know about any issues or concerns you may have.

Amanda Cohen

I am a big promoter of getting out in nature

Kristin with children Mila and Jasper, from Macedon, shared a coffee and chat with Inspector John Greene and Senior Sergeant Amanda Cohen, on February 23.



## Vale Frank Willey 29-12-1937-12-2-2022

We are saddened by the passing of one of our long-time locals.

Frank Willey, who has lived in



Frank Willey

Macedon close to 50 years, loved nothing more than coming in daily for his paper and having a chat. We kept an eye

on him – and he kept us in line! He took an interest in our families, teased us about the footy and delivered the local papers weekly to his many neighbours.

'Frankie Boy' you were one of a kind and it's been a pleasure to have been a part of your life.

May you rest in peace.

Macedon News and Post Office



Clean Up Australia Day is Sunday March 6. Registration is free for communities and schools (businesses pay a small fee) and this ensures that participants are covered by public liability insurance, and receive a free Clean Up Australia kit. For more information and to register, visit [cleanup.org.au](http://cleanup.org.au)

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## Players celebrate 50th anniversary



The Mount Players are proud to announce that 2022 will mark their 50th anniversary. Throughout those years the theatre has never missed a season of performance (albeit a short one after their original theatre was burnt down in 1983).

With a diverse season of four productions, play readings, the return of the One Act Play Festival and a dinner dance in October which will include the launch of our book ... it is going to be a busy time all round!

The year kicked off with *Love Song* which opened on February 18 and will complete its season on March 6. A successful, social evening was enjoyed at the AGM in February, when two Life Membership Awards were presented. Kath Addicoat and Roger Farley were acknowledged for their years of service to the theatre.

Kath was awarded for her incredible work on designing, creating and organising costumes



*New life members Kath Addicoat and Roger Farley.*

over many years and Roger for his commitment to overseeing the technical aspect of shows since learning the ropes when he was just 17.

Our second show is now in rehearsal and is sure to be a crowd pleaser. *The Odd Couple*, which most will be familiar with, will open in May. For all things theatre go to [www.themountplayers.com](http://www.themountplayers.com)

Chookas!

*Karen Hunt*

## ...And a milestone at the Gallery too

The artists of The Gallery Mt Macedon are proud to celebrate their 17th birthday this month.

We have decided to extend our exciting current exhibition, 'Japanese Traditional and Modern', until April 3. So, take advantage and learn about Anna Konecny's love of mizuhiki and admire how Yukimi Breaden converts authentic old obis and other Japanese fabrics into new designs for the home.

Our Portraits on the Mount portrait prize is inspiring local artists to submit portraits in different media. Entries close on March 15. Download the form from the gallery website. We have invited three independent judges to select the winning entries. We look forward to this special event during the Autumn Festival in April. Thanks to Bendigo Bank for sponsorship of this event.

The Gallery is located behind the Trading Post in Mount Macedon and is open Friday to Tuesday 10am-4pm. More information at [www.thegallerymtmacedon.com.au](http://www.thegallerymtmacedon.com.au)

*Colleen Weste*



## Lighten Your Carbon Footprint

Created by community members from five to 75 years of age, *Lighten Your Carbon Footprint* sees footpaths across Macedon Ranges Shire activated with an array of colourful hand-drawn footprint artworks inspiring us to consider our environmental impact and get helpful tips on how to lighten our "carbon footprint" in daily life.

Conceived by local environmental artist Jo Mott and funded by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council's *COVID Creative and Cultural Support Program*, the footprint artworks, printed on sustainable eco-adhesive material, are scattered on footpaths at the Gisborne Aquatic Centre, Romsey Community Hub, Lancefield Mechanics Hall, Woodend Library and Kyneton Town Hall.



*Audrey, Genevieve and Ruby were interested to check out the footprints with artist Jo Mott.*

## Phoenix art show returns

Come and see our exquisite art and craft works and speak to the artists who created them. Our members work in a wide range of creative activities including painting, glass art, ceramics, jewellery, paper craft, woodwork, textile art and knitted crafts.

Original works are on display and for sale and entry is free.

The Phoenix Macedon Ranges Art and Craft Group was formed after the 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfires. Our group promotes friendship, learning and interest in arts and crafts in general and helps to produce the motivation to work towards a goal, namely our exhibitions and sales.

Our next exhibition, after a long absence of two years, will be on Saturday and Sunday April 2 and 3, at the old Courthouse at the end of Hamilton Street, Gisborne. Doors open at 10am on Saturday and 9am on Sunday and close at 4pm. All welcome.

*Susan Holgate*




Where to find our organic sourdough this month...

### LOCAL RETAILERS

Gisborne Foodworks - Wednesday to Saturday  
 Riddells Creek Foodworks - Thursdays  
 Macedon IGA - Fridays  
 Mt Macedon Trading Post - Thursdays  
 Apples & Sage - Thursdays & Fridays  
 Mountain View Garlic - Thursdays

### MARKETS

Woodend Farmer's Market  
 Saturday 5th March - 9am-1pm

Riddells Creek Farmer's Market  
 Saturday 19th March - 9am-1pm

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[www.millettroadmaker.com.au](http://www.millettroadmaker.com.au)





March 25 - 27

Some of the images in the exhibition ▶



Steamrail and VLine: Cherry Cole



Bicycles on Honour Ave: Hubert Weisrock



Bushfire Volunteer: Paul Fletcher



Pigs: Michelle Ryan

## 'Magnificent Macedon Ranges' photo exhibition

The members of the Macedon Ranges Photographic Society are preparing for a special exhibition in March. They will be presenting a range of photographs that have been taken in and around the Macedon Ranges to highlight the best of what our region has to offer.

The exhibition is open to all and promises to have visitors wondering about the locations, the subjects and the inspiration behind the beautiful Macedon Ranges images.

The photographs will be presented in two different formats throughout the exhibition. There will be a terrific selection of prints for visitors to peruse, in addition to a digital presentation of even more images. The online presentation will be available to view on the club website from March 28 and will also be on display for those who attend this special event.

The opening night of the exhibition will be held on Friday March 25 from 7pm until 9pm. On Saturday March 26, the exhibition will run from 10am to 4pm,

with the opportunity to meet the artists and discuss their images, techniques and inspiration from 2pm onwards. Sunday March 27 will be the final day and will run from 10am to 2pm.

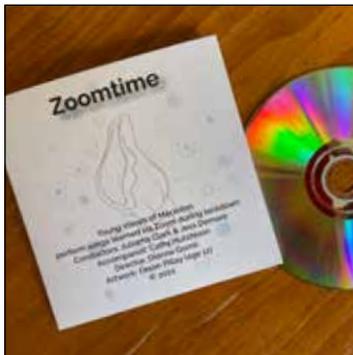
The exhibition will be held at Dromkeen – where the group regularly meets for their club nights – at 1012 Kilmore Road, Riddells Creek, with plenty of parking available on site.

For more information, please visit [www.macedon-ranges-photography.org.au](http://www.macedon-ranges-photography.org.au) *Colleen Mahoney*

## Young Voices produce CD in record time

Young Voices of Macedon is immensely proud of its CD *Zoomtime*, containing songs learned during last year's lockdown. Because of the need to observe the Melbourne lockdown and with several of our singers living in Sunbury, we were not able to record until late November, after only one week back at live rehearsals.

James Clark, father of two choristers, took charge of recording, and his wife and Cantabile teacher Juliarna did a great editing job. Production was carried out by Implant Media and the CDs, with artwork by chorister Orson Pillay, were ready a few days before Christmas. The choir gratefully acknowledges financial assistance from the Community Bank Bendigo Bank, Gisborne, in making the project possible.



The new CD, *Zoomtime*.

With new artistic director Polly Christie at the helm, ably supported by Jess Demare and accompanist Cathy Hutchison, the choir has embarked on a great program and has welcomed several new members. Our first performance will be at *Choralfest* in May. Following a two-year COVID-induced break, this festival is resuming at Montsalvat in Eltham, providing a great day out for our families, and the opportunity to hear other choirs and to showcase our own work.

Youngsters from the age of five are invited to join this friendly group, which values quality music education through choral singing. For further information visit [yvmacedon.org.au](http://yvmacedon.org.au).

*Dianne Gome*

## Singers gear up for performances

*the Gisborne Singers* The Gisborne Singers are enthusiastically working on their concerts coming up in May. Henry Purcell's Baroque opera *Dido and Aeneas* will be held at the Bluestone Theatre in Kyneton on Sunday May 1 and Sunday May 8. The opera is based on a tragic love story between Dido, Queen of Carthage, and the Trojan Prince Aeneas, who is destined to help found Rome.

The choir is also very happy to be singing again at the Lancefield Relay for Life on March 5, after two years of postponements due to COVID. Performing for community events is one of the great pleasures of choral singing.

In other news, the choir has been happy to welcome some new singers. For enquiries please go to [www.gisbornesingers.org.au](http://www.gisbornesingers.org.au)

*Alison Kinghorn*



### What is Clinical Pilates?

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does not include clinical pilates)

Committee members Julie Dworak and Lorna Jackson hold the certificate saying Gisborne Genealogical Group is a designated Family Research centre.



## Gisborne gets more local history access

The Gisborne Genealogical Group has recently become an Affiliate Family Search Library. We regard this as an honour as we are only the 11th library or family history group in Victoria to become such an important repository for family history.



It means that we can now access original documents that you previously had to visit an LDS Family History Centre to procure.

As a result we have decided to reopen the Family History Room, adjoining the Gisborne Library, on Tuesdays from 10am to 1pm, starting on March 1, so that more people can have access to our resources. There will be a Genealogical Group volunteer present but they will not be assisting with genealogical queries, you will still need to do that on Thursdays (2pm-5pm) when two volunteers are available.

Saturday Workshops will recommence on March 5 when Julie Dworak will present 'Using the National Archives of Australia'. The workshops run from 10am to 12 noon and are limited to 10 people. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members.

Please contact Lorna on 0402 091 034 to book.

Our next meeting will be our AGM on Thursday March 24 at 7.30pm in the Uniting Church, Gisborne. The Member of the Year will be announced at this meeting. The AGM will be followed by members sharing stories about 'the ancestor you would most like to meet'. We look forward to hearing some interesting stories. Supper will follow. Please check our website [www.ggg.org.au](http://www.ggg.org.au) for more details.

Lyn Hall, President

## Notes from a wobbly Woodend Warbler

What! Me? Sing?

When my daughter suggested I join her to give Woodend Warblers a try, all I could think of were obstacles. I hadn't sung in a choir since school, over half a century ago. I don't read music. I am rather deaf and wear hearing aids.

But we summoned our limited courage and turned up at 7.30pm on a Wednesday evening. We were welcomed by conductor Andrew Price. No audition, no try out, we were just directed to the appropriate section!

This is a most friendly group. Andrew keeps it fun and the music covers a range of popular songs and music from different countries.

During the last year we have had tedious pandemic times when we could not meet. But now, unmasked (outside), double vaxxed, and with more singers returning, we are in great voice.

And me? Buzzing confusion has given way to greater confidence. I have new friends. Singing in this choir is therapeutic. I love it!

If you would like more information contact Andrew Price on 0419 604 444.

Lindsay Cumming



The Woodend Warblers rehearse in February.

Goldfields Libraries

## WHAT'S ON AT THE LIBRARY?

### Movies at the library

In February we had our first movie screening for the year. We had great attendance with 17 people booked to see the film *Respect*, the story of Aretha Franklin. Movies are held monthly on the second Wednesday of each month (except during school holidays) and we are showing movies based on books.

Coming up, we have *White Tiger* on March 9 at 1pm, based on the book of the same name by Aravind Adiga. Bookings are required as we have limited space; book via [www.goldfieldslibraries.com](http://www.goldfieldslibraries.com)

Let us know if you have a movie in mind that you'd like to watch.

### Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival

Gisborne Library is excited to be a part of this festival. We have some great things planned including special autumn storytimes with face painting, as well as a Bluey storywalk through the Gisborne Botanical Gardens for children and families. For adults we have horticulturist Craig Castree presenting 'Understanding Soil, Composting and Worm Farming'.

Keep an eye out in the library for our autumn program coming out soon. Make sure to also regularly check out our website, Facebook or Instagram pages for further info.

### Looking for a change of scenery?

If you're still working or studying from home and looking for a space away from home with great (free) wi-fi, look no further than the library.

Did you know we also have a little kitchen for you to use to fill up your water bottle, make tea and coffee, heat up your lunch, or even make yourself a toastie? We'd love for you to use our space however you need.

Sara Shaw

## Kyneton Town Hall.....March performances

All through March, Kyneton Town Hall is presenting inspiring artists and stunning performances.

So, spring into autumn with the Irish music dance sensation *A Taste of Ireland* on Friday March 4, 8pm. Or revel in the late 80s and early 90s with the band 1927's live show as they play all their hits, on

Saturday March 12, 7.30pm. If you love old movies and live music, then *Sounds of Silent* is your show. Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin, accompanied by a five-piece jazz band. Friday March 18, 11am.

To buy tickets, call 1300 888 802 or visit [www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets](http://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets)

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# Gazette's longest-serving reporter

By Bryan Power

Lyn Hall has been the Gisborne Genealogical Group's reporter to the *Gazette* for 15 years. Since the *Gazette's* very first edition in September 2006, Lyn has sent articles for publication every month – she has never missed a single edition.

Even when travelling overseas for extended periods Lyn has ensured that her articles would be sent in advance to cover all the months of her absence.

Lyn caught the family history bug at an early age. She considers herself lucky to have had a mother and a grandmother who were great storytellers and their tales of family events fascinated Lyn as a young child. Lyn recalls, "Those were the days when kids were supposed to be seen but not heard, but, of course, we had ears."

Since then Lyn has taken on the task of recording the stories of her and her husband's ancestors – a task that goes on and on without any ending because, as Lyn says, "Family history research is like doing a jigsaw puzzle with no edges."

Lyn is always keen to collect family stories and recounts the following as a good example of an event that should not go unrecorded: "I remember during the Ash Wednesday bushfires my grandmother phoning me to see if we were safe. And as I looked out at Mount Macedon burning she told me of the time in 1898 when she, as a small child, had been sent home from school because a bushfire was burning nearby in the Gippsland forest. After walking with her older sister for seven miles through the bush she arrived home to find her mother desperately bucketing water from the well over the roof of their house."

Lyn joined the Gisborne Genealogical Group in 1993 (two years after its foundation by Gisborne librarian John Bourne and professional genealogist Marion Button) and has been an active member ever since, serving on numerous occasions as President or Vice-president. As well, she has been the group's librarian since 1996.

Lyn had seen a lot of Victoria before finally arriving in Gisborne. She was born in Melbourne and her first five years were spent on the family's poultry farm in Springvale. Then her parents took up a fruit block in Irymple and Lyn started her formal education in the small school at Irymple South.

Lyn went on to Mildura High and after matriculating she was hoping to get a position with the CSIRO but her appointment was delayed so she took up a job with Mildura Shire Libraries, starting at their Irymple branch. She enjoyed the role so much that she stayed on and began a librarian course by correspondence.

About this time, Lyn was seeing a young man who



Lyn in her study with her Gazette service certificate.

had been a couple of years ahead of her at high school. Graham Hall was then a primary teacher working at Lake Meran, near Kerang, but he later studied for the ministry. In 1970 Lyn was appointed to the Moorabbin Library and continued her librarianship studies with RMIT.

Lyn and Graham married in 1971 and two years later Graham was called to the Methodist Church in Longford, Tasmania. Their first two children, David and Lisa, were born there and Lyn's library career was put on hold. Leaving Tassie in 1976, Graham returned to primary teaching in Coburg but they both hated living in busy Bell Street so Lyn started looking for a place away from the city, but close enough for Graham to commute to on his motor bike.

They found their new home in Howey Street, Gisborne, and Graham later transferred to Gisborne Primary where he taught Grade 6. Their next three children,

Steven, Mark and Peter, were born at the Gisborne Bush Nursing Hospital.

In 1977 the Uniting Church was created and Graham, Lyn and many others who had attended the Presbyterian Church formed a congregation and started holding services at the Masonic Hall.

Graham and Neville Wood negotiated the purchase of the Mercedes Benz garage in Brantome Street and set about the refurbishment of the building to provide a permanent home for the Uniting Church in Gisborne.

Following the disastrous Ash Wednesday fire, their home in Howey Street became the headquarters for the legion of support services people sent from Melbourne to assist the traumatised locals. Graham too was involved in providing many months of pastoral care while Lyn remembers making endless cups of tea.

In 1983 Lyn successfully applied for a part-time librarian position at Gisborne High-Tech School and was there for 27 years before retiring in 2010.

One of Graham's parishioner's picture framing premises had been burnt out. He had re-established but decided to retire. He suggested that Graham buy the business. He did and enjoyed the change of career for eight years before returning to the ministry by commuting to callings at Ballan and West Brunswick. Following that, in 1998 he became the first chaplain at Gisborne Secondary College, retiring from that role in 2005.

In 1980 Lyn and about 10 other Gisborne people succumbed to a virus that resulted, in Lyn's case, in the onset of chronic fatigue syndrome. For a year she was laid low with this distressing illness but was supported by many local people and groups and particularly Tricia McLay, who ensured that her young family was well cared for. Lyn eventually returned to her usual energetic self but was to suffer relapses in 1994 and 2017. "In all, I lost about three years of my life," Lyn ruefully remembers.

However, her illness was the reason she became so involved in genealogy. She had to give up playing tennis which she loved, but could pick up genealogy whenever she was well enough. "There is no time limit for genealogy – your ancestors aren't going anywhere!" she said with a smile.

Lyn has taken six overseas trips and has used that time to research her own and Graham's ancestors in Scotland, and in over 15 of the English counties. She has organised several family reunions, some of which have run over two days with up to 200 people attending.

Lyn is now enjoying another term as President of the "Genies" and is looking forward to a year of good health and the possibility of 2022 being the year when the group's meetings and other activities can return to being at least near normal.

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## Thought-provoking speaker events return

Macedon Ranges Rural Australians for Refugees are pleased to announce that two long-awaited events, cancelled in 2021 as a result of the pandemic, will soon take place.



Christine Cummins

Christine Cummins has worked with NGOs in Sri Lanka and Iran as well as indigenous communities in the Kimberley region of WA. She spent five years on Christmas Island supporting asylum seekers as a torture and trauma counsellor. Christine will appear at an information session on Saturday March 12 at the Norma Richardson Hall, Buckland Street, Woodend, at 2pm. She will discuss her experiences working with refugees and sign copies of her book, *Dignity in a Teacup – True Stories of Courage and Sacrifice on Christmas Island*.

Attendees should register their interest at [www.trybooking.com/BXHDW](http://www.trybooking.com/BXHDW). Admission is free, but any donations offered at the door for the support of refugees in Australia will be gratefully accepted.



Don Watson  
Picture: Louis Trerise

Another highly anticipated event will be an appearance by celebrated speechwriter, screenwriter, satirist and traveller Don Watson. Don has been an adviser to leaders of governments and is the author of 13 books. His latest offering, *Watsonia: A Writing Life*, features musings on subjects as diverse as travel and terrorism, language and leadership, football and faith and, most intriguingly, the question of Australia: Who are we? Where are we? And where do we go from here?

This event will also be held at the Norma Richardson Hall in Woodend, where Don will share his thoughts in conversation and sign copies of his books on Saturday April 2, 4pm to 6pm.

Book online at [www.trybooking.com/BVEOJ](http://www.trybooking.com/BVEOJ). All proceeds from the \$25 admission will be donated to the support of refugees in Australia.



Lions Gisborne president Ross Sapwell (left), Bruce Hudgson and Russell Walker at last month's meeting.

## Donation helps mobile skin checks

The Chairman of the Lions V Districts Cancer Foundation, Bruce Hudgson, attended the February meeting of the Gisborne and District Lions Club to thank the club for its \$2000 donation towards the Mobile Skin Check and Awareness Unit. The foundation is very appreciative of the broad range of entities who donated funds towards the cost of the unit, including the various Lions Clubs.



When the club donated the funds, the mobile unit had not been constructed. The unit is now in operation playing an important role in screening, self-check awareness and disseminating information on sun and skin care through volunteer dermoscopists, drivers and Lions members. The unit is operating in rural Victoria and southern NSW.

Recent storms caused significant flooding in the Creswick area resulting in the inundation of a large number of homes. The Lions Club has contributed \$2000 to this cause by providing 40 Bunnings vouchers valued at \$50 each to be distributed to those in need by the Creswick Lions Club.

The Lions Club is very appreciative of the community's support of the club's various fundraising activities, including the purchase of raffle tickets and Lions Christmas Cakes, which enables it to support those in need.

Russell Walker

## Support After Suicide Macedon Ranges

When Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group (MRSPAG) formed in 2013, one of the first actions was to support people bereaved by suicide in the Macedon Ranges community. Training for seven people, themselves bereaved by suicide, was led by Melbourne-based Jesuit Services 'Support After Suicide' who were considered the best practitioners in this area of suicide support.



Since then, the peer supporters have facilitated monthly opportunities for people who have been bereaved by suicide to come together and access helpful information, build a sense of community and mutual support, in an empathetic and confidential environment.

The Support After Suicide group meets at the Newham Mechanics Institute (1292 Rochford Road, Newham) on the second Monday of each month, even if a public holiday, from 7 to 8.30pm. It is a safe space that is specific to the complex grief of suicide. To ensure people are comfortable, some of the peer supporters sometimes meet one-on-one prior to a gathering so that a familiar face is there when a person first comes along. Alternatively, a support person is most welcome.

If this is desired, or there are any queries, please contact us on [peersupport@mrspag.com.au](mailto:peersupport@mrspag.com.au)

## St Paul's Op Shop jottings

After the Christmas/New Year break, St Paul's Op Shop volunteers are fully refreshed and ready for another year of serving our wonderful customers.

The past two years have thrown us all many challenges, and the generosity you have provided with your donations of clothes and household goods etc has been much appreciated. Please keep them coming!

Our opening hours this year remain the same: Tuesday and Saturday 10am – 1pm, Wednesday to Friday 10am – 4pm.

Our sister op shop in Riddells Creek, Charity's Secret is also welcoming customers to their shop in Station Street.

Graeme Millar 0413 781 501





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# A plea to parents about children's GisBus behaviour

Before your children leave home each day, please ensure they have a mask, sufficient cash to pay the fare if required and impress on them the need to "do the right thing".

Unfortunately we are still operating under the constant threat of COVID and already some children have missed school though isolation. One GisBus driver has also been infected in the line of duty.

It is still a legal requirement for passengers to QR code and wear a mask when entering the bus. Disappointingly we are finding our younger



passengers are the most forgetful in both regards, requiring a regular reminder.

GisBus is not a free service. If the bus trip is connecting with a train service, the cost is included in the train fare. But if the trip is not connecting with a train then the cost is \$1.20 for minors or concession

card holders and \$2.40 for all other passengers.

Sadly, some advise us they are catching a train, wait for us to leave the station, then walk away having evaded the fare. We are also experiencing "runners" from our buses. Cameras are installed at the station and we do reserve the right to forward images of fare evaders to police. Some services may also cease due to this behaviour. Imagine no GisBus!

All our drivers are local, so if you are occasionally short of cash, please tell the driver and we can always "catch-up" next time.

## CFA planning for Good Friday

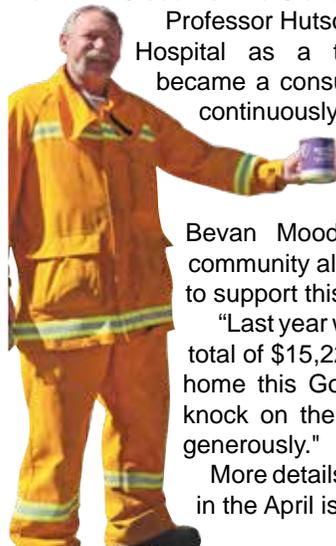


April 15 is Good Friday and the Royal Children's Hospital Appeal will be in full swing again.

Every Good Friday the Gisborne Fire Brigade collects for the hospital with both Gisborne Scout groups by working the town centre and door-knocking homes to raise money for life-saving equipment and research. This year we will also be joined by Bullengarook Fire Brigade.

GisBus will supply transport for our troops and Goodstart Early Learning New Gisborne staff will feed our troops.

Gisborne Captain Henry Neal said the brigade was privileged to have the support of Professor John Hutson of the Royal Children's Hospital who will be at the Gisborne Fire Station on Good Friday.



Professor Hutson joined the Children's Hospital as a trainee in 1974 and became a consultant in 1984, working continuously at RCH throughout his career before retiring at the end of 2021.

First Lieutenant Bevan Moody said the Gisborne community always did a fantastic job to support this important cause.

"Last year we raised an impressive total of \$15,222," he said. "If you are home this Good Friday, listen for a knock on the door and please give generously."

More details about collection points in the April issue of the *Gazette*.



Gisborne Little Athletics replaced its ancient timing gates with new wireless ones this year thanks to a bank grant.

## Autumn grants open

Community Bank Gisborne & District's autumn 2022 community investment round is now open until March 31. Not-for-profit community groups in or serving the towns of Gisborne, Macedon and Riddells Creek are invited to apply for funding for projects of all types and sizes that improve the lives of local residents.

Recent projects receiving funding include wireless timing gates for Gisborne Little Athletics, a flying fox in Ash Wednesday Park in Macedon, the lease of the Macedon Ranges L2P program vehicle, a teen wellbeing program and club sponsorships.

For program details or to download an application for a grant or sponsorship, visit the Gisborne Bendigo Bank website.

Email [mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com](mailto:mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com) with any questions about the Community Bank's support programs. The volunteer board of directors who manage the return of local branch profits to the community is always interested in hearing about new ways it can support the local population.



## Back to business at Gisborne CWA



Our February meeting discussed the upcoming Creative Arts exhibition to be held in Lancefield in April, the Group AGM on March 19 at Romsey and the State Conference in May at the Melbourne Showgrounds.

Our two Helens provided lunch and worked the kitchen under COVID regulations.

There was a celebration for Val Jarred's 80th birthday and she received warm wishes from all and special cupcakes made by Kathy. Val has been a member for over 20 years and given her time and service to the community.

Our next meeting is March 7, a week earlier than usual because of the long weekend. We meet at 10am at Gisborne Secondary College stadium. We will have a small morning tea only as after the meeting we will be going to Gisborne Peak Winery for lunch and a presentation of service awards to ladies who have been members for 10 and 20 years by our Group President, Rosemarie Jones.

Coffee, Craft and Chat will be on March 21, when any ladies can pop in and see what we are up to and share a cuppa; 10am at Gisborne Secondary College.

*Christine Edwards*

## Vale Jack Styring

Former Gisborne resident and renowned race caller John (Jack) Styring, OAM, died on February 9, aged 92. Jack and his wife Dolores (dec'd) resided in Cherry Lane, Gisborne for a number of years. His funeral service was held in Sunbury on February 21. A true legend with a distinctive voice.

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## A musical event to help care for carers

There is no doubt that Athol Guy AO is more than a living treasure. Athol's care for our community is legendary and Woodend Lifestyle Carers Group (WLCG) has appointed Athol Guy as their Patron.

WLCG is developing property on MacGregor Road into a respite for those with and those caring for people with dementia.

As Patron, Athol said, "Daily and residential respite care is at a premium everywhere and currently resources are inadequate in our region. For 20 years, I have been a carer and understand



New Patron Athol Guy to perform at fundraiser.

both the demands on – and consequences of –being a carer.

"Equally, I have witnessed the tragedy of this too often where proper affordable day or longer-term respite is lacking."

Since 2012 the carers group, which has members all around the local area, has been undertaking emotional, social,

legal, and medical support for those in need.

In conjunction with the Anglican Parish of Gisborne and supporting WLCG, Athol will be presenting two performances at Jubilee Hall, Macedon: 7.30pm on Saturday March 19 and a matinee show at 2pm on Sunday March 20.

The 60th Jubilee of The Seekers is approaching, and Athol's show will feature seldom-seen footage and stories as well as The Seekers' music. Local arts and memorabilia will also be available for purchase at Jubilee Hall across the weekend.

Tickets are \$50 per person and can be booked via [www.trybooking.com/BXFNM](http://www.trybooking.com/BXFNM)

Tickets are strictly limited to 80 people per show.

Gisborne vicar the Reverend Dennis Webster said, "Care of people with dementia in all its forms is demanding on the whole family, but more particularly for live-in carers, be it a spouse or child.

"We are asking our generous Macedon Ranges community members to show their support to establish more respite care in our region whilst enjoying time with Athol Guy."

Rev'd Dennis Webster

## Teeing off for charity

One hundred players took to the Gisborne Golf Course on February 4 to play in the annual charity fundraiser that is put on jointly by the Rotary Clubs of Gisborne and Strathmore. To the delight of everyone involved, we had perfect weather and no COVID-related disruptions this year.

The day began with a classic sausage sizzle breakfast cooked by Gisborne Rotarians and a competition to hand-roll a ball from the edge of the 18<sup>th</sup> green to the flag to see who was closest to the pin. Only one player managed a hole in one.

A highlight was the competition at the 16<sup>th</sup> hole where players teed off in the hope of crossing the lake and getting their ball onto the green on their first shot, to win tickets in a raffle.

The major sponsors were Gisborne Power Products and Kyneton Toyota along with many others who donated numerous prizes.

Lyn Robinson, President of Gisborne Rotary, said the day was a great success and all funds raised would be put to good use in community projects.

For any enquiries including how to join Rotary to do good things for your community, contact [gisbornerotary@gmail.com](mailto:gisbornerotary@gmail.com)

Barry Wills

Rotary Club of Gisborne



Heading out to tee off at the Rotary Charity Golf Day.

## Driving program helps more learners



The Macedon Ranges L2P Program is continuing its success with two learner drivers recently gaining their Ps.

Congratulations to Katelyn on gaining her probationary driver's licence in December. A huge thankyou to mentor Phil Parker who took her out on numerous drives around the local area and beyond.

Then Chloe gained her licence in February, thanks to the support and mentoring of David Lorkin. David regularly picked Chloe up from her home in the morning, after which she drove to work in Kyneton, then repeated this at the end of her working day.

We extend our congratulations to both young women and a thankyou to both Phil and David for the time spent assisting our learners, who have now gained further independence as a result of the program.

Should there be other learner drivers aged 16 to 21 years in need of support, we have numerous volunteer mentors waiting to assist you. The L2P Program is free, though it requires you to have no



Chloe gets her P plates.

or limited access to a supervising driver or motor vehicle. So, contact Denise now on 0409 246 416 to register.

Phil Tennant

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# PROBUS PERSONALITIES

## Helen Thompson



Helen settled in Gisborne in 1981. Many will have met her at the Gisborne Westpac Bank, where she worked until retirement.

As a child, Helen always loved visits to the library. Hence, when her son attended Braemar she took the opportunity to volunteer in the school library. She later volunteered at Gisborne Library where she developed further skills. Then, when her grandchildren attended St Brigid's Primary School, she volunteered for 10 years covering and repairing books and entering data into the library system.

Helen also enjoys gardening, reading, crosswords, photography, genealogy and Probus. The club has provided her with friendship, fellowship and fun.



Helen Thompson

She has enjoyed many extended trips including to Lake Eyre, the Top End, Tasmania, Merimbula, the Kimberley, Warrnambool and Mt Gambier. Also monthly outings to gardens, mansions, art galleries and museums and theatre outings such as *The Lion King*, *Jersey Boys* and *Les Misérables* to name a few.

Helen has been a very active volunteer in Probus – from setting up for meetings, undertaking roles as bulletin officer and membership officer to supporting finance officers for over 10 years. Helen is certainly a valued member of Gisborne Probus.

The club held its first meeting for the year in February and the AGM is planned for March 3.

Anne Ciesielski



## MACEDON MUSINGS

With Belinda Carlton-Doney

There were a lot of things we couldn't do last year in lockdown. Many of us suffered home haircuts, hopefully never to be repeated! But not everyone found this to be inconvenient.

For Laura Dettmann, it meant a bit more time to grow her gorgeous locks. Laura had been planning to donate her hair for a while. Her last haircut, four years ago, resulted in a long ponytail, chopped off, ready to donate. However, she did not know how or where to do so.

Enter our very own sustainable hair salon, Foxx and Beagle. Located in Victoria Street, they are partnered with Sustainable Salons, who in turn are partnered with the Kids Leukaemia Foundation.

Laura had locks that Rapunzel would envy, hair down to her waist. The ladies at Foxx and Beagle kindly donated their services and worked their magic. Four plaits later, Laura has a new style... and the plaits of hair are off to be made into wigs for some very special kids.

Laura is now enjoying her fabulous new do,



Laura before and after her haircut for charity.



though she is thinking of growing it a bit longer. She may even make this generous contribution again sometime in the future.

If you'd like to know more about Foxx and Beagle and the environmental work that Sustainable Salons undertake, visit their website, socials or drop in for a chat. The salon's contributions alone are quite impressive.

Congratulations to you, Laura, on your generous gift.

## Foodbank here to help, no judgement, no fuss

It's been a tough couple of years for many people in our community and we hope that as we learn to live with COVID-19 and slowly move forward and back out into the world again, people can start to get back on their feet both financially, mentally and socially.

It's not easy making ends meet and we understand that sometimes while people are struggling to pay all their bills, thinking about putting food on the table is often the last consideration in terms of stretching their weekly income. No-one should ever feel ashamed when times are tough, we all struggle from time to time, and that is what the Gisborne Foodbank is here for. We want to support you during difficult times with compassion



and absolutely no judgement.

We are so lucky to have so much support from our community. Hundreds of people donate to the Foodbank every month, people who understand that we all need assistance from time to time and who want to help make life easier for their fellow community members. Please do not hesitate to contact us so that we can help.

The Gisborne Foodbank is open on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 3pm. If you need assistance with food and general household items, please contact the Foodbank on mobile 0492 850 520, drop in on Wednesday or Friday, message us via Facebook (@GisborneFoodbank), or visit our website ([www.gisbornefoodbank.org.au](http://www.gisbornefoodbank.org.au)).

Julie Ireland



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# Boyhood recollections of Gisborne and Macedon

As told by Frank (Mick) Lawson in 2005

My father Jim Lawson had a farm at the 36-mile post, on what became known as the Calder Highway at Macedon. We had 150 acres of land and rented about the same area adjoining our property from my Aunty Bridget as my father and Briget had been born on that property and their father willed the land to Bridget who had not ever married.

I was the second youngest of my family, born at Macedon in 1917 and baptised Francis Colin, but my father wanted me to be Michael. My mother objected to Michael on the grounds that with a Catholic name like that, I would never get a job! Heaven knows what she thought about Francis, but my father always called me 'Mick', as did all my family.

Our farm was 2½ miles from Macedon State School and four miles from the Gisborne State and Higher Elementary Schools, so getting to and from school played an important part in our childhood experiences. I was 4½ when I started at Macedon State School. With my brothers and sisters, I walked to and from school every day and we also carried groceries and other supplies home for our large family, from Keating's store in Victoria Street. I think that J.W. Keating was a relation of Keating's Real Estate Agency in Woodend.

Carrying the groceries was precarious in the rain, the hardest thing being to carry the bread. Every day we bought two high tin loaves and although Keating's kindly wrapped them in newspaper, it became soggy within minutes.

The walk was bitterly cold and wet in winter and our boots and shoes were inadequate. Often we had holes in the leather soles, stuffed with cardboard insoles which were absolutely useless. In the classrooms we had wood fires where we used to dry our boots and where kerosene tins of cocoa made with water only, stood heating for us to drink at play and lunch times. In the summertime, the walk to and from school was a much more pleasant experience.

Mr Abercrombie was the Head Teacher at Macedon State School and Miss Campey was the Mistress of the little children up to grade four. There seemed to be about 40 children at the school and we all received a good education. I think back on this now when I read of the current inadequacies of the education system, when such a high proportion of students are inadequate in the 'three Rs', as there was not one child at Macedon who was not able to read and write fluently.

Our nearest neighbours were the Wiltshire family who were about a mile

James Lawson and Ellen Foley married in Count Clare Ireland, arrived in Australia in 1852 and soon took up farming land in the Macedon area on the Mount Alexander Road. Their son James Francis, born at Macedon in 1870 married Alice Gamble at Macedon in 1903 and they had ten children, one of whom died as a child and is buried in the Gisborne Cemetery, together with many other Lawson family members. Francis Colin, the second youngest child of James Francis and Alice, known as Mick, married Mary Behan and they had seven children. This is Frank's story.

Edited by Phyllis Boyd OAM



Frank and Mary Lawson with a friend at the Lawson Road sign.

from our house. Their boys were adept at all sorts of bushcraft including killing snakes, catching rabbits and birds. Another activity for which I later felt ashamed, was accepting a ride in the local baker's cart and then hollowing out the insides of some of the loaves.

At about the age of 10, the scene for me shifted from Macedon to Gisborne, because Gisborne had the Higher Elementary School, which went to Leaving Certificate, so I transferred from Macedon on a scholarship worth 6 pounds 10 shillings. Now we children had 4½ miles to travel to and from school. We knew we

wouldn't be late for school if by 7.30am we heard the whistle of Cherry's factory when we were half way to school. Cherry's best-known product was a beautifully designed butter churn, still sought after by collectors today.

At Gisborne, the Higher Elementary School was at the site of the present State School and Mr Tate was the Head Teacher and although he was strict, he ran a very good school. Mr Godfrey and Miss Dora Taylor are two of the teachers I remember well. I started in Form 1, or Grade 7, and some of my companions were Walter Clarebrough, Tom

Hoare, Bill Keily, Frank McCormack, Tom, Frank, Maurice and Bernie Dunne, Bernie and Jim Morris, Florrie Fitzgerald, Ella and Jim McGregor and Gina Sansom.

When we could get a horse from home, we rode to school, but this was very seldom. On such an occasion, we sometimes raced our horses around the Gisborne Racecourse. The 'starters' included Russell Blythe of Blythe's Store in Mount Macedon.

All the boys of my age or a little older were in love with Letty Judson whose father [Albert] ran the lolly shop in Aitken Street, but it wasn't for the lollies that we loved Letty, she was just beautiful! Even in recent years I met a man in Rockhampton and Charlie Glover from New Gisborne, who both admitted to being in love with Letty.

The Higher Elementary School closed about 1930 because of a lack of students and many of the smarter students ceased their education then. I was lucky as my sister lived in Melbourne, so I lived with her while I attended the Workingman's College (RMIT) to do a trade course, for which I was totally unsuited. I completed the Intermediate Certificate when I was 14. I later attended night school doing Accountancy to assist in my job.

It is interesting to recall how I got that job, so back to Macedon.

My father worked as a cartage contractor for Mr Grimwade of 'Drusilla', who was a director of Australian Glass Manufacturers (AGM), so Dad took me to meet this gentleman who agreed to assist me in finding a job. About three weeks later, I received a letter from AGM, offering me three weeks work in Melbourne, and I stayed there for the next 17 years, so thank you Mr Grimwade me for giving me a chance.

Our love for Macedon and Gisborne has remained strong in the Lawson family and has been renewed and rekindled by membership of the Historical Society over many years, especially via their 'newsy' newsletters.

The Lawson family is very pleased and proud to have a road named in their honour, recommended to the Shire by the Historical Society. This road runs along the south of the former Lawson farm, which we sold for 14 pounds per acre many years ago.

Since the bypass of Gisborne, the freeway runs through our old farming property and somewhere in the maze of new roads can be found Lawson Road in Macedon.

**All the boys my age or a little older were in love with Letty Judson whose father ran the lolly shop in Aitken Street**

## Historical Happenings

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## Music festival at new venue



The Macedon Ranges Music Festival, held at the Gisborne Steam Park for the past few years, will be held at the Hanging Rock east paddock this year on Saturday March 27 as part of the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival.

The family-friendly event offers live Australian music, local food and drinks and a great day out with the spectacular backdrop of Hanging Rock. For details and tickets, go to [macedonrangesmusicfestival.org](http://macedonrangesmusicfestival.org)

# Historic house up for auction

## Pink house set for a new life

The pink house is up for auction. The unmissable property on the corner of Hamilton and Prince Streets that was home to Middy's Electrical until recently will be auctioned on March 9. Middy's have built a new store across the road. Also bright pink.

The old property has a heritage overlay and is significant architecturally and historically to the shire, although unfortunately for history buffs, the overlay is not extensive.

The house is best known as home to the Dixon family, starting with Henry Reed Dixon in the early 1860s. HR Dixon was working as paymaster for rail contractors Cornish and Bruce when he first arrived in Gisborne. He set up business as an auctioneer/estate agent in 1861.

Originally called 'Leven Cottage' the house was home to three generations of Dixon families – HR Dixon, his son Humphrey Campbell Dixon and his grandson Humphrey Pearce Dixon, and all were auctioneers and estate agents, the family business running in Gisborne for over 100 years.

In the past, the house was described as containing "formal lounge, large lobby area, four bedrooms, dining-room, wide hallways, kitchen and pantry and storage-room; open fireplaces to most rooms, original timber mantelpieces, carved archways, pressed



Picture: Kennedy & Hunt

The former Dixon home, built in the 1860s, is due to be auctioned on March 9.

metal ceilings, bay window and stained glass, timber panel ceiling."

The house was built on bluestone foundations.

The property is classified as significant by the Macedon Ranges Shire Heritage Study only to the extent of the early residence, which is the central part of the house, and the barn and loft.

What are thought to be early additions at both ends of the house are not covered by the heritage overlay.

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## Council announces new appointments and structure

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is delighted to announce the appointment of four key roles within Council's executive and management teams. Joining Council during March and April are:

### Lauren Wall, Manager Communications and Engagement – to start March 7



Ms Wall is a communications specialist with wide-ranging experience across the not-for-profit, government and private sectors. She is currently Manager Marketing and Communications at Ballarat Community Health. Prior to this she held a range of communications and media roles.

### Maria Weiss, Director Community – to start March 21



Ms Weiss has more than 20 years community services experience through senior leadership positions at Moonee Valley City Council, having been Group Manager Community Services, leading community care services for aged residents, alongside family and children's services. She is currently Manager Legal and Governance. A member of the Municipal Association of Victoria Emergency Management Board Advisory Committee, she is skilled in delivering high quality, responsive services to the community.

### Rebecca Stockfeld, Director Planning and Environment – to start March 21



Ms Stockfeld brings a wealth of experience from local and state government leadership roles in town planning, strategic planning, infrastructure, assets and sustainable development. She is currently General Manager for Infrastructure, Assets and Planning at Central Goldfields Shire. Rebecca relishes this opportunity to lead strategic and statutory planning and environment portfolios to guide the future of the local community.

### Adele Drago-Stevens, Director Corporate – to start April 26



Ms Drago-Stevens is an experienced strategic leader with extensive public sector and higher education strategy, business transformation, operations and performance experience. Her current role is Director, Digital Transformation and Operations Consulting for Pricewaterhouse-Coopers consulting firm (PwC) specialising in government and public sector, and prior to that she was Director Strategic Planning for Swinburne University of Technology. Adele is familiar with and passionate about regional issues and wanting to contribute to the Macedon Ranges community.

Chief Executive Officer Bernie O'Sullivan said the Council was also implementing a revised organisational structure in conjunction with the new appointments.

## 'Cool Changes' – community-led climate action

*Help shape the future you want to see in Gisborne*  
Council's Cool Changes program brings together community members to collaboratively create a Community Climate Action Plan unique to their town. It is now the turn of Gisborne.

Three workshops will be held in Gisborne during March and April, and residents will have the opportunity to make use of the skills, knowledge and wisdom held within the community, as well as create big picture visions for community climate action into the future.

To kick the program off, we ask that you fill in the quick survey (scan QR code below to access) – these surveys will be used to shape workshop agendas.

If you are unable to participate in workshops, updates will be available for commentary via [www.mrsc.vic.gov.au](http://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au), just click through About-Council/News/Have-Your-Say/Cool-Changes-Gisborne

For more information, contact Justin Walsh on 5422 0376 or email [juwalsh@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:juwalsh@mrsc.vic.gov.au)



## COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN

With Cr Rob Guthrie

I hope everybody had an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas and New Year break with family and friends. The new year unfortunately brought more COVID-19 infections and deaths which impacts all of us. Council is encouraging you if you haven't already, book in for your third dose as soon as you are eligible.

Council put a number of strategies and plans out for community comment in 2021 and I thank everyone who responded. There will be more this year and I encourage all residents to get involved so that we can accurately represent community wishes.

The "Have your say" page on Council's website ([mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay)) is a simple way to access what we are seeking feedback on and provide comment. The surveys can be completed online at the website mentioned and closing dates for each survey are provided.

Council has received a Development Plan for 89 Ross Watt Road, also known as the Barro land. The indicative Subdivision Layout Plan included in the application for the 85-hectare residential site proposes 700+ lots, a childcare centre and neighbourhood shops. A webpage has been created: [www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/Build-Plan/Planning-For-Our-Future/Town-based-Projects/Gisborne-and-New-Gisborne#section-2](http://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/Build-Plan/Planning-For-Our-Future/Town-based-Projects/Gisborne-and-New-Gisborne#section-2).

I encourage all of you to view this application and have your say.

I live opposite the proposed development and will have a conflict of interest under the Local Government Act and must exclude myself from any action in relation to this matter.

Please free to call me on 0419 309 953 or email [rguthrie@mrsc.com.au](mailto:rguthrie@mrsc.com.au) if I can be of any assistance.

Rob Guthrie



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## Have your say on public open space priorities

As our townships grow, the demand for quality open spaces for recreation, conservation, environmental connectivity and social gatherings increases.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is developing a new strategy to provide clear direction for planning, management and delivery of its public open space, including conservation uses and developer contributions from new residential growth.

Phase 1 of the Open Space Strategy consultation started on February 14 and runs to April 8, and Council seeks to understand community preferences, perceptions and values related to open space. Community feedback is essential.

The strategy will determine how Council invests in infrastructure and manages day-to-day operation of open space. These issues directly affect many local community members, park users, recreation, sporting and environmental groups and volunteers.

There are a number of ways to get involved.

The *Macedon Ranges Open Space: Present and Future* consultation paper and a community survey are available online at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay) or in hard copy at customer service centres. Consultation closes on Friday April 8.

Council is also calling for expressions of interest from residents to get involved in our Open Space Community Assembly. To submit an application to join the assembly, visit Council's website or email [strategicplanning@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:strategicplanning@mrsc.vic.gov.au)

To receive project updates, please register at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/open-space](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/open-space)

## Crossing supervisors helping everyone get to school safely

With children back at school after a disrupted couple of years, it is important that everyone gets back in the habit of following some simple safety rules in the School Zones: When driving through a school zone or dropping-off or picking-up your children, reduce your speed to or below the signed speed limit and look out for unpredictable pedestrians and children, and importantly, obey instructions from the school crossing supervisors.

Council would like to hear from responsible and outgoing people, who can work flexible hours and short shifts, and would enjoy being the friendly face that people know and trust. Aspiring school crossing supervisors must be punctual and comfortable in all traffic and weather conditions, must hold a current driver's licence and a Working with Children Check (or be able to obtain one) and will need to complete a pre-employment medical examination. If you are interested, apply at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/jobs](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/jobs)

## MUSIC IN THE STICKS WANTS YOU

Macedon Ranges Youth Services are recruiting for young people aged 12 to 25 years to join the Music in the Sticks program. The program provides valuable skills and experience to young people aged 12 to 25. It is an amazing entry point into the world of event management, performance, and live and recorded music.

It is free to join and offers hands-on experience in areas such as event management, sound and lighting, photography and film, publicity and management, live and studio recording, sound production and hospitality. The group is responsible for facilitating live music and cultural events around the Macedon Ranges. Meetings are held once a fortnight and food is provided.

Many past Music in the Sticks participants have found employment in the music industry. If you are interested in joining Music in the Sticks, or you would like to find out more, please contact Macedon Ranges Youth Services at [youth@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@mrsc.vic.gov.au) or call 5422 0333.

## Youth music event

**Music in the Sticks is hosting a live music event at the Romsey Skate Park on Saturday March 19. The event will feature food trucks and live performances from five young local artists and bands. Gates open at 12 noon.**

**The event will be fully supervised, COVID-safe and drug, alcohol and smoke free. Tickets are \$2 and are now on sale. For more information, visit [facebook.com/MacedonRangesYouth](https://www.facebook.com/MacedonRangesYouth) or call 5422 0333.**

## Funding available to businesses for outdoor operations

Businesses are encouraged to apply to Macedon Ranges Shire Council for funding through the State Government COVIDSafe Outdoor Activation Program.

There are two streams of funding:

- extending the life of existing outdoor eating and entertainment facilities and to provide new facilities for other businesses, including hair and beauty, art and entertainment, and health and fitness, to operate outdoors.
- to establish semi-permanent and permanent outdoor precincts that will be of lasting benefit to local communities.

Businesses can apply for funding support to improve the amenity of their outdoor spaces which can include, but is not limited to, extra seating, shade, heating and 'parklet' installations.

Applications close at 5pm on Thursday March 31 and assessment will take place during April.

Visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/outdoor-activation](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/outdoor-activation) or contact the Economic Development Team on [ecodevadmin@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:ecodevadmin@mrsc.vic.gov.au) or Mani Heck on 0400 406 157 for more

## Youth Mental Health First Aid

Subsidised Youth Mental Health First Aid courses are on offer for adults wanting to increase their knowledge about mental health issues affecting young people and gain confidence in supporting young people to seek help and stay well.

This interactive course uses films, case studies and group activities to support the learning. To complete this course, participants will need to work through a series of e-learning modules and complete them before the face-to-face component begins.

The face-to-face sessions will be held at the Kyneton Town Hall on Wednesday evenings March 16, 23 and 30. A light supper will be provided. For more information and to register please contact Vishal Tandon at Youth Services on [youth@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@mrsc.vic.gov.au) or call 5422 0333.

## Listening to tomorrow's leaders today

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is looking for young people aged 15-25 to get involved in the the Macedon Ranges recently revamped Youth Ambassador Program. To find out more, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/youth/leadership](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/youth/leadership) or call 5422 0333.



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# HEALTH & WELLBEING

## New logo – same shed



Did you notice our new logo in the last *Gazette*? The main driver of this change was the need to include a prominent display of the word Gisborne in the logo.

There are more than 1200 Men's Sheds registered with the Australian Men's Shed Association and when we meet members of other Sheds or have our logo on the internet for any reason, it's important for others to know where we are from.

We've been talking about a change for quite a while (most things progress at a leisurely pace at The Shed) and dabbled in some design ideas. Late last year Shedman Terry showed us his artistic side by coming up with this new design.

We all thought it fitted the bill beautifully. Now we start the process of updating all our graphics, a bit like our own episode of *Utopia*!

Although we have the new logo, we

are the same old community-minded Shed. We are now back to normal, at least Covid normal, open during the mornings of Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

We are of course still taking all the necessary Covid precautions, including requiring all members to be fully vaccinated and wearing masks indoors.



Terry R with his new logo design



## BETTY'S BOOP

With Betty Doolan

My daughter Judith recently came down from Queensland and it has been many months since I have seen her. The first thing Judith and granddaughter Fiona did was to take me to church, then for lunch at the Telegraph Hotel (best fish and chips). We ended the wonderful day at Aldi.

I don't know if I like shopping with Judith, her motto is 'If it's not on your shopping list you don't buy it.' Most times when I get home from shopping, I still have my list not touched but somehow I have lots of groceries.

Our next day drip was to Altona Plaza. So many wonderful shops, it was a day to look at them all. Judith introduced me to different types of food for lunch. We finished the day with a McDonald's ice cream.

The next day was by far the best – we went to Fawkner Cemetery. We

were loaded with beautiful flowers from Gisborne Cottage Florist and we knew where Brian's and Mum and Dad's graves were. Judith and Fiona looked on their phones and found four more family graves.

We had lunch at a little café in the cemetery. When I left, Judith and Fiona were going to look for more family graves.

For many years, Norm and I would spend the whole day at the Fawkner Cemetery. We would take a very large shopping trolley filled with flowers, Thermos and lunch. We looked after 15 family graves. Norm also said it was a wonderful day when it finished with KFC.

There is no doubt family is everything, you see the residents' lovely faces light up here when they see their families.

Stay safe,

Betty

## First Time Buyers could shear up to \$5K from their Lender's Mortgage Insurance.

New owner occupier and investment loans. Principal and interest repayments. Min loan size \$250k. LVR above 80% up to 95% at time of approval.

T&C's and exclusions apply<sup>1</sup>.

RAMS Home Loans Northern Melbourne  
Shop 7, 50 Aitken Street, Gisborne

Chris Lee  
5420 7951



**More Information:** 1. Offer available for eligible First Time Buyers approved for their first home loan with loan to value ratio (LVR) greater than 80% and up to 95% including LMI premium at time of formal approval. LVR stands for the initial loan to value ratio at loan approval. LVR is the amount of the customer's loan compared to the Bank's valuation of the property offered to secure the loan expressed as a percentage. First Time Buyers are applicants applying for their first home loan for their first property. For joint applications, at least one applicant must be a First Time Buyer. Available on New Owner Occupier & Investment loans with Principal & interest repayments. Not available on Interest Only repayments. Offer current as of 13 July 2020. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Min loan size of \$250k. Max one security property per application. Excludes Line of Credit, Constructions Loans which remain on Interest Only repayments after completion of the initial Interest Only period, Land Only Loans, RAMS Fast Track home loans, company and trustee borrowers, refinances, and switches and refinances of home loans within the Westpac Group which includes RAMS, St.George, Westpac, Bank of Melbourne and BankSA. Offer not available in conjunction with RAMS New Purchase Buyer \$2,000 Rebate offer. Lender's Mortgage Insurance premium will be reduced for eligible customers up to a max of \$5,000 with a premium of at least \$1 payable for LMI by the customer. This will be reflected within the Home Loan Agreement. Where the LMI premium is more than \$5000, RAMS will pay \$5000 towards the premium. The balance of the LMI premium will be payable by the customer. LMI subject to approval and customer must adhere to LMI obligations during the loan agreement. This information does not take into account your personal circumstances. Terms, conditions and limitations apply. Credit criteria, fees and charges apply. Funds to cover transaction costs are required. Residential lending is not available for Non-Australian resident borrowers. Westpac Banking Corporation ABN 33 007 457 141 AFSL and Australian credit licence 233714 is the credit provider for home loans originated by RAMS Financial Group Pty Ltd ABN 30 105 207 538 AR. 405465 Australian credit licence 388065. RAMS Home Loans Northern Melbourne is owned and operated by In Unity Pty Ltd ABN 87 114 063 071.

# What to do in a mental health emergency?

PS My Family Matters and Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health are hosting a community forum on April 6 to address the issue 'What to do in a mental health emergency?'

"For people calling 000 in a mental health emergency, it can be a real step into the unknown," said Tamara Yeend, president of PS My Family Matters.

"People often ask us, what will happen when emergency services come to my house? Who will come to the house? Should I ask for a CATT [Crisis Assessment and Treatment] team? What is a CATT



team? These issues can add a high level of stress to an already difficult situation."

There will be short presentations by speakers from Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria, Emergency Mental Health and Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health, followed by a question and answer session.

The forum will also focus on strategies for developing a mental health safety plan and a simple template will be available on the evening.

Light refreshments will be available after the event.

The event is free. Bookings are essential. Please call 0475 269 965 to reserve a place or book online at [www.trybooking.com/BXCNO](http://www.trybooking.com/BXCNO)

For further information, please contact Mike Hamer on 0411 549 432.

**Where:** Hume Global Learning Centre, 44 Macedon Street, Sunbury. 6.30-7.30pm, April 6.

## Eye can see clearly now ...



By Julie Ireland

A regular article about general health

I received an email a couple of weeks ago to inform me that I was due for an eye test (it had been a couple of years due to COVID-19) and I realised that maybe my laptop screen was looking a bit blurry and if I was honest, I was squinting slightly trying to read street signs while driving.

This started me thinking about the importance of having regular eye tests, not just to check for a deterioration in eyesight as you get older, or to update a current glasses prescription, but to also ensure that we do not have any otherwise hidden eye problems that might rear their ugly heads later!

Problems with vision can affect anyone and eye specialists advise that sooner or later as we age, we are likely to experience some issues. The most common vision issues such as dry eye, floaters (small moving spots in your field of vision) and eye allergies are usually easy to treat. Conditions such as short- or long-sightedness, astigmatism and presbyopia (which affects everyone in some way after the age of around 40) can be mostly corrected with prescription lenses.

However, some eye conditions can be more serious and have no early symptoms and, if left undiagnosed, may greatly impact our

quality of life. Other more serious conditions may occur such as cataracts, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy and age-related macular degeneration.

It is important to have your eyes tested regularly by an optometrist so that any possible issues can be detected earlier, so that they can be treated. There are a number of great optometrists in the Macedon Ranges, so there is no excuse not to have regular check-ups to ensure your eyes remain in tip top condition.

We only have one pair of eyes, so we must look after them.

Take care of yourselves, everyone. Julie

'Audacity of Hope' by Aimee Timpson  
window display Macedon Ranges Shire  
129 Mollison Street, Kyneton

'A Path Upward' by Lachlan McKenzie  
Romsey Hub, 96 Main Street, Romsey

ROMSEY  
KYNETON  
GISBORNE  
WOODEND

ART

BOMBING

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'Stay While I Swing' by Fiona Farrugia  
external wall, The Corner Coffee Bar,  
cnr Hamilton & Brantome Sts, Gisborne

'The Key' by Mark Ingall  
external wall, Holgate Brewhouse,  
cnr High & Anslow Sts, Woodend

Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group in partnership with North Western Primary Health Network is dropping an ART BOMB on the Macedon Ranges Shire to instil the importance of mental health care and to educate the community about suicide prevention.

Four local artists have created public artworks inspired by their lived experience of mental illness. The artworks are accompanied by a QR code linked to the MRSPAG website with more information on the artists and also where to get support for mental health if you or someone you know needs it. Artwork will be for sale after the installations are removed at the end of March.

### PUBLIC INVITATION - ART BOMB LAUNCH

Wednesday March 2nd 11am  
Macedon Ranges Shire Council  
129 Mollison Street, Kyneton

### MRSPAG COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Wednesday March 9th 6pm (followed by AGM at 8pm)  
The Vic Hotel, 67 High St Woodend  
All welcome!  
RSVP essential - [chairperson@mrspag.com.au](mailto:chairperson@mrspag.com.au)



## A little piece of NZ in Macedon Ranges

With its well-established New Zealand plantings and spiritual connection to the Māori god of forests, Tāne, the Gisborne Botanic Gardens has become a point of focus over the past two years for the NZ expat community in the Macedon Ranges, particularly while travel to NZ has been so restricted.

The Friends of Gisborne Botanic Gardens were delighted to join the group 'Kiwis in Macedon Ranges' on February 6 in marking Waitangi Day, NZ's national day, with an informal social gathering (hui). The occasion also drew a small contingent from Bendigo, as well as stranded NZ visitors, to the gardens for the first time.

Waitangi Day marks the anniversary of the initial signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840. The Treaty



Expat and stranded New Zealanders enjoy a social gathering in the Gisborne Botanic Gardens on Waitangi Day 2022.



is regarded as the founding document of the nation. The group meets in the gardens on the first Sunday of the month. If you would like to know more, look for the Facebook group 'Kiwis in Macedon Ranges'.

Their next meeting also coincides with Clean-up Australia Day on March 6, so the group will be assisting the Friends to clean-up the Gardens from 2pm. All other volunteers welcome!

Friends of Gisborne Botanic Gardens  
infogisbotgard@gmail.com

## Walk among the gum trees at Daly Reserve



Wednesday March 23 is National Eucalyptus Day. There are hun-

dreds of species all of which have adapted according to their climatic and soil conditions.

In Daly Nature Reserve there are many to observe, a few examples being: *Eucalyptus dives* (Broad-leaf peppermint) *Eucalyptus obliqua* (Messmate stringybark) *Eucalyptus radiata* (Narrowleaf peppermint) *Eucalyptus tricarpa* (Red ironwood) *Eucalyptus rubida* (Candlebark) and *Eucalyptus viminalis* (Manna gum)

Friends of the reserve have been busy mulching tracks for visitors to follow through the bushland. Council has plans to spray some areas, to control introduced grasses, which in time will be replaced with

plants which exist naturally in this location.

We will be participating in Clean-up Australia Day in the reserve on Sunday March 6. Sign in at 9am at the scout hall if you would like to join in. Litter collection bags and gloves will be supplied. We expect one hour will cover the whole area.

Tuesday March 8 will be our next working bee, starting at 9.30am. Newcomers are most welcome. We work in groups until 11ish, then we enjoy a social chat and cuppa. Gloves and tools supplied. Please wear sturdy footwear, sun hat and BYO water.

Enquiries to [dalynaturereserve@gmail.com](mailto:dalynaturereserve@gmail.com)  
Friends of Daly Nature Reserve



Messmate stringybark in Daly Nature Reserve.

## Horticultural Society celebrates 100 years

Mount Macedon and District Horticultural Society turns 100 years old in 2022.



To celebrate our centennial year, the society is holding a variety of autumn-inspired events during a month-long program starting in late March. All events coincide with the

Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival.

### Schedule of events

#### Autumn Competitive Show

Saturday March 26 (3-5pm) and Sunday March 27 (10am-4pm).

**Autumn Botanic Art Show:** Saturdays, Sundays and Tuesdays April 2-17, 10am-4pm. Artists Open Studio: Tuesdays April 5, 12 and 19, 10am to 4pm.

#### Botanic Art Workshops

Advanced: John Pastoriza-Pinol on April 6, 7 and 8. Intermediate: Steph Goss on April 13 and 14.

#### Dreaming Gardens

'Three master gardeners compare notes' A day of dreaming and discussion, with Stephen Ryan, Simon Rickard and Michael McCoy, April 20.

#### Gardening Workshops

Propagating, with Stephen Ryan, April 21.

Floristry, the art of flower arrangement, with Alan Randell Smith, April 22.

How to make beautiful things from garden off-cuts, with Greg Block, April 23.

All events will be held at the Mount Macedon Horticultural Hall, 583 Mount Macedon Road, Mount Macedon, and entry is either by gold coin donation or ticketed with charges. For details and bookings, please visit our website, [www.mountmacedonhorticulture.org.au](http://www.mountmacedonhorticulture.org.au).



## Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group Community Conversation

Wednesday March 9th, from 6pm  
The Vic Hotel, 67 High Street Woodend

Do you live or work in the Macedon Ranges? Come along and share your ideas on what we focus on in 2022. We are on the lookout for new members, so if you are passionate about working together to prevent suicide in our community come and join us!

Everyone welcome to attend Annual General Meeting (8pm).

RSVP essential for catering and COVID safety planning.

Please email [chairperson@mrspag.com.au](mailto:chairperson@mrspag.com.au)



Guest Speaker Jeremy Forbes, Co-founder and CEO of HALT - Hope Assistance Local Tradies.

HALT's vision is that every tradie in Australia knows how to look after their mental health and wellbeing.

HALT has delivered close to 1000 'Save Your Bacon' Brekkies and other events, reaching more than 100,000 tradies in Australia.

## Vet Talk Muster courage to choose the right dog

with Dr Caitlin Horwood-Skelton



I confess I shed a tear or two watching the recent ABC series *Muster Dogs*.

Dogs and their humans – it's always emotional. I do harbour an unnatural fear though, whenever I see delightful dogs on TV. I fear that the consequence will be dealing with a subsequent spate of inappropriately placed "fashion frenzy four-legged friends". You know how it goes. Dalmatians aplenty with nowhere to play (long ago, when 101 of them hit the screens, and I adopted my first dog who had quickly outgrown the starry-eyed expectations of his 9 to 5 city family).

But what I saw in *Muster Dogs* was a true to life, honest display of this breed

of dogs doing what they love, with people to guide and support them.

A kelpie is a barrel of energy. It's a full time, real life, high volume, energy shot. I loved how the expert trainers shook their heads at the prospect of getting their pup "trained" by 12 months of age. We have an entire lifetime to work on our dog's behaviour. It's not going to happen in just a day (or a year).



Lenny the kelpie

Here are dogs on a job. Being rewarded with performing the behaviour that is in their nature, and loving every minute of it. They are active, alert, and agile. But hard work too.

A good lesson in the making. If you want a couch potato, then don't get a kelpie!

## News from Macedon Ranges Obedience Dog Club



Our first day of training for the year kicked off with 11 new puppies, and the weather was perfect to welcome our newest members.

It was also great to see returning members; in total we had 60 dogs and handlers to start the new training year.

Macedon Ranges Obedience Dog Club is run by volunteers, including our instructors, and without them we could not operate each Sunday morning from February to November. Each week these people give up a good part of their Sunday to provide a safe and friendly environment for each member and their dog/puppy to learn and socialise.

So, if you have a new addition to the family, or are getting one in the future, we look forward to seeing you. Details can be found on our website [www.macedonrangesdogclub.org.au](http://www.macedonrangesdogclub.org.au). Or contact us via our Facebook page, or email [info@macedonrangesdogclub.org.au](mailto:info@macedonrangesdogclub.org.au) and a representative from the club will contact you.

Take care, stay safe and remember, a dog is for life... not just for Christmas or COVID.

Carol, Instructor/Treasurer

### Pet registration reminder

Dogs and cats must be registered annually with Council, so make sure to renew your pet's registration by April 10.

### Me and my dog

Constable Blake Pretty brings his long-haired German shepherd Thor to work at the Gisborne Police Station regularly as he finds it relaxes people.

Thor looks as though he's up for a pat!



## Super wildlife warriors

Late last year, this team of Wildlife Warriors from New Gisborne Primary School and some furry friends set up a fundraiser stall and raised \$229 selling icy poles and Freddo Frogs. They have also raised an additional \$384 online, making their overall donation so far a whopping \$613.

The group's online fundraising page said, "It all started with the rescue of a butchy boy [woodlouse]...then the idea of fundraising to help animals that are sick began!



Some February starters.



Open on Wednesday and Friday  
10am to 3pm

We are here to provide temporary food assistance for those in need

Enter via Heritage Way at the back of the Gisborne Uniting Church  
Enquiries: 0492 850 520  
Email: [gisbornecfc@gmail.com](mailto:gisbornecfc@gmail.com)



## PODIATRY

Do you have fungal nails?



We can help you

Shop 12, 13 Goode Street, Gisborne (behind McDonalds) Call us for an appointment P: 1300 650 293

## Gisborne



◀ GPS: Aria and Elliee.



GPS: Twins McKenzie and Indi on their first day with parents Courtney and Nick.



GPS: Arthur on his first day with mum Jess and sister Pearl.



MMPS: John and Rhonda with prep Alfie.



GPS: Ella arrives at school with parents Gary and Rachel.



School captains Poppy and Lucinda help foundation students Daphne, Heidi and Cressida cross the road safely at Mount Macedon Primary School, assisted by crossing supervisor Alan.

## Mt Macedon



MMPS: Hutchie (front left) arrives at school with brother Edward (Grade 2) and parents Sam and Peter.



MMPS: Ada and mum Claire arrive at school.



GPS: Siblings Bailey (Grade 6), Logan (Grade 2), Elliee (Prep) and Mia (Grade 4)

# STEPPING INTO PREP

Over 335 children started their formal education at local schools last month, supported by family, friends, carers, school buddies and staff. With Willowbank Primary in the south of Gisborne welcoming its first students (including 42 Preps), there are now eight primary schools in the local area. The *Gazette* wishes this year's school starters a wonderful education journey full of learning, friendship and discovery.



MMPS: Frankie (centre) with baby Archer and George (Grade 1) and parents Derek and Samantha.



▲ GPS: Isabella gets a cuddle from mum Sally on her first day at school.



◀ Montessori: Spencer focuses intently on his task.



Montessori: Tom works out his numbers.



Montessori: Cooper practises writing.



Montessori: Exploring outside appeals to Ilija.

## Montessori



MMPS: Prep Mia (right) with Harry (Grade 1), mum Amy and baby Lila.



MMPS: Hugo rides to school on his first day, with dad Jay and mum Lisa.

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**Willowbank**



Willowbank: Maci



Willowbank: Gregg



Willowbank: Daphne and Ari



HC: Joel Hovancek on his first day of Prep with his big sister Scarlett and mum and dad, Vanessa and Zlatco.



◀ HC: Zachary Penza builds with blocks on his first day of school.



HC: Grace Lewis settles into her first day with a book.



◀ HC: Meadow Vassallo enjoys her first day of Prep.



HC: Max Walker with his big brothers Flynn and James.



MPS: New Prep Felicity supported by her sister Mia (Grade 5).



St Brigid's: Zoe and Alastair



St Brigid's: Wilbur

▶ St Brigid's: Alistair, Jayden and Luka



**Macedon**



MPS: Maggie gets a cuddle from dad Simon.



**Mt Macedon**

▶ MPS: Julius, Melissa and Jodie with Sophie and Tess.



▶ MPS: Emma and James with children Isabella and Oskar and dog Brutus.



MPS: Lauren with sons Beau (Prep) and Myles (Grade 3)



MMPS: Ashton and Parker on their way to school with mum Errol.

▲ MMPS: Cressida with parents Angus and Daisy.



NGPS: Evie

**New Gisborne**

NGPS: Darcy

NGPS: Emilia

NGPS: Charlie

NGPS: Olivia



◀ MPS: Big sister Baylie (Grade 3) welcomes her brother Easton and his friend Edwina to Macedon Primary.

**Holy Cross**



## New beginnings at Swinburne kinder

February saw the start of term one at Swinburne Avenue Kindergarten. A sea of little faces entered the kindergarten rooms, and although a few tears were shed (by children and sentimental grown-ups alike) the overwhelming emotion was one of excitement.



For the three-year-olds, this was the first tentative step of their formal learning journey; a chance to gain a little more independence, make new friends and explore new ideas. This was also the case for some of the four-year-old children, however for some it was a return to familiar territory.

All of the children at Swinburne Avenue Kindergarten have an exciting year to look forward to. The kinder prides itself on its outstanding teachers, rich learning experiences, engaging incursions and excursions as well as a keen focus on sustainability and the environment.

We welcome all new families to the Swinburne Ave Kindergarten community, and hope that our new groups of three- and four-year-olds have a wonderful year.

*Shannon Ingleton*

*Big smiles for Mila, top, and Fergus as they start three-year-old kindergarten at Swinburne Avenue.*



## Gisborne Toy Library welcomes members

The Gisborne Toy Library welcomes new and returning members with some new and exciting toys, games and puzzles.

We are based in the Manna Gum children's centre in Robertson Road. Families or carers are welcome to drop into any of our borrowing sessions and chat about how it all works. If you are a returning member, we will be emailing you to renew your membership.

We are open and our borrowing sessions currently are every Saturday 10am to 11am and by appointment via Facebook Messenger. Our opening times are also listed on our Facebook page and at the Manna Gum Centre in Robertson Road.



We are currently organising more regular open times and would love community input; send us an email or go to our Facebook page and provide feedback of times that would suit you, and the new committee will see what we can do to meet the community needs.

We are a volunteer-run service and could use help in running our sessions or managing our committee obligations. It's a great way to meet other young families, learn about childhood development and get to know our catalogue of toys. If you are interested in joining us, please contact us through our Facebook page or email [gisbornetoylibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:gisbornetoylibrary@yahoo.com)

*Kimberley Norman, President*

### This month's layout team



*Holy Cross Primary School students Denzil Green, Ben Ritchie, Jessica Hayes, Lila Lowther, Lucy Whiting, Zane Bennett and Thomas McCormack do the honours.*

*Gazette* editor Corinne Shaddock was delighted to be able to resume "cut and paste" sessions at local schools this month.

This lively group of Grade 6 students was helpful and efficient at laying out this edition and hopefully learnt a thing or two about newspapers and our community along the way.

Everyone had been in the *Gazette* before and thought that was pretty cool. Asked by the editor how community papers differed from commercial papers, one student said "they're about the community." We couldn't say it better ourselves!

## Sunday's the day the teddy bears have their picnic

The New Gisborne Playgroup invites all to attend its annual Teddy Bears' Picnic Open Day on Sunday March 27, 10am to 12pm.



Come and see what the playgroup has to offer, from arts and crafts to an extensive range of indoor and outdoor toys and play equipment. And for tired parents, we will have a coffee van onsite for your caffeine fix.

You will also have the opportunity to meet members of our playgroup community, and ask questions about joining up. So bring along the family, a favourite teddy bear, and a picnic basket – there will be lots of fun and entertainment for your little ones!

For updates on the event, you can follow New Gisborne Playgroup on Facebook and Instagram.



If you can't make it and would like to see the playgroup, please get in touch to arrange a visit. We are at 252 Station Road, New Gisborne.

New members are always welcome; for more information, see [www.newgisborneplaygroup.com](http://www.newgisborneplaygroup.com) or email [newgisborneplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:newgisborneplaygroup@gmail.com).

*New Gisborne Playgroup Committee*

## JOKES & RIDDLES

**What's red and really bad for your teeth?**

A brick.

**How do you stop an elephant from charging?**

You unplug it.

Today I saw an ad that read, 'Radio for sale. \$1. Volume stuck on full.' I thought, "I can't turn that down."

Yesterday I bought a dictionary. When I got home, I discovered all the pages were blank. I have no words for how angry I am.

**What question can you never answer yes to?**

Are you asleep yet?



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'Spirit of the community'

# SCHOOL'S IN



## St Brigid's students get into the garden

We have had a very busy start to the 2022 school year. We have welcomed the new Preps for the beginning of their learning journey and they have settled in beautifully.



Sustainability has always been a focus within our school, led enthusiastically by Emma Barker. We aim to encourage our students to be change makers by looking after our resources, act sustainably, reduce our footprint, learn about indigenous plants and bush tucker food and build a legacy and culture of sustainability for future generations.

Students across the school will create green spaces for all to enjoy by growing and nurturing plants and using the produce from our gardens to cook and enjoy as a community. We hope the knowledge the students gained here will transfer into their home life.

Seniors have led the charge by spending the day in the gardens of St Brigid's, developing the garden beds, Yarning Circle and enjoying the opportunity to cook once again. Senior students have worked hard and have taken a lot of pride in their work and what they were able to achieve in such a short time.

*By Senior students*



*Luke and Olly prepare the vegetable garden.*

## Meet Gisborne Primary's school captains



Hi my name is Jack and I'm really looking forward to being school captain at Gisborne Primary School this year. My main passion is sport, and my favourite sport is football.

I play for the Gisborne Rookies in the under-13s. I have a four-year-old boxer named Bronson who loves to play, walk and eat. I want to make this year fun for all the students by hearing other student voices and improving the school. I am really excited to be school captain this year!



Hi, my name is Hayley and I'm one of this year's school captains at Gisborne Primary School. I love writing, drawing, piano, tennis and my crazy puppy. My greatest achievement so far is having a poem that I wrote published in a book... oh and getting voted school captain of course! I hope I can make this year a fun and exciting year for all the students at GPS.



Hi, I'm Chloe and I'm one of the school captains this year. The school can look up to me because I am confident, friendly, kind and caring. I believe I will be an amazing school captain because

I'm a great role model; I'm very responsible and I'm caring towards everyone. I have always wanted kids to look up to me because I'm capable of being a leader. I am really looking forward to this year!



Hi, I'm Lenny. I am looking forward to being a leader because I can help everyone in different year levels. I have wanted to be a school captain ever since I came here in Prep because all the Year 6 leaders were nice and caring. People can look up to me as a leader and talk to me when they need to. I hope everyone has a great year.

## Willowbank Primary School starts its journey



Willowbank Primary School has opened its doors to our new community in what has been a very exciting time for families. Eighty students from Prep to Year 6 have begun their learning journey in what has been a seamless transition to our new school.

Our students have engaged in learning straight away, in our state-of-the-art classroom and specialist facilities such as the library, science room, food tech room, art studio and gymnasium.

Our students have also established inclusive relationships with their peers and teachers as we continue to develop a positive school culture underpinned



*Prep student Miller learns the ropes at Willowbank.*

by our values of courage, inclusion, excellence and collaboration.

On February 3 we welcomed Education Minister James Merlino and the Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas, to open our new school. Students were very proud to welcome our guests to our new school and show them around.

*Brett Sinnett*

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# Student leaders at New Gisborne



Have you ever wondered what it's like to be a student leader at New Gisborne Primary School?

It is a role with lots of hands-on experience where a Year 6 team gets to learn new skills and show responsibility.

Eight students were selected from an application, formal presentation and shortlisting process. As a team, we will work together to present assembly, represent the school and many more things.

Our prime role is to host the weekly assembly by planning, setting up, presenting anything that's happening around the school and announcing the weekly awards.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions we now have an additional filming role so that parents can still feel connected to our assemblies via our live video link.

These are the things that are important to our new 2022 group about being a student leader:

**Ella:** Helping out with the work that goes on behind the scenes.

**Tahlia:** Being a good role model and leader for the students and visitors.

**Oscar:** Talking about the important fundraisers and sports days at our assemblies.

**Micheal:** Representing the school, at school and in public.

**Alana:** To communicate and figure things out.



New Gisborne Primary's new student leaders. Front, from left: Eve, Katelyn, Michael, Oscar. Back: Tahlia, Ella, Alana, Skye.

**Skye:** Working as a team to create the weekly assembly.

**Eve:** To look after the other students and help them if they need it.

**Katelyn:** Following the school rules and values.

This is what it's like to be a student leader and we look forward to helping our school's students by communicating with them and proudly representing them.



Skye, Year 6 School Leader and reporter

# All systems go at Mount Macedon



Fresh new faces have filled the halls of Mount Macedon Primary School, all excited for the new year of school. It feels a bit different from other years but everyone is adapting, and getting used to it.

A friendly atmosphere, the chatter of children, tales of holidays and the energy of a new school year mean there is a lot of joy and anticipation in the air. The opening of brand new books, the smell of stationery and the receiving of new laptops. It's all systems go.

The new Foundation students are excited and some are a bit scared or nervous about starting school, but are all having a ton of fun already. They have Grade 6 buddies who help them to get to know the school, settle in and work out routines and schedules. Friendly faces greet them every day and there are smiles all around, and chatter everywhere.

The swimming carnival has already come and gone – a great day out with lots of splashing around, getting wet, and lots of fun! The Grade 6 students have received their leadership roles and are making plans on the type of legacy they want to leave.

Students are also excited about the lunch time clubs. The Lego club, the art club and the games club seem to be generating the most interest.

So we're back and we're ready to go. We are excited and looking forward to the year ahead.

Eliza Ransome

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*Learn*

## Open Evening

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The Garner family were able to be at school for Tillie's first day.

# First day of school at Holy Cross



For the first time our Prep children started school before everyone else. They had the whole school to themselves and enjoyed exploring with their teachers and classmates.

This also meant any older siblings were able to visit the classroom, help settle the Preps in and share the excitement of the first day of school before they returned the next day themselves.

Of course, this meant our Preps were also very excited to return the next day and meet their Grade 6 buddies for the first time. They shared a snack together outside, had photos taken and just enjoyed time together.

As we have settled into the term, there have been many learning opportunities for the children including new chickens arriving, a visit from the Gisborne Vet Clinic to teach us how to care for our sheep, lots of experiences with our Outdoor Education classes in the vegetable gardens and swimming trials for the Grade 3 to 6 classes.

The teachers and staff of Holy Cross congratulate Millie Irwin on receiving a scholarship to Sacred Heart College Kyneton.

Kellie McDonald



Millie Erwin with her parents Paul and Sue with the Principal of Sacred Heart College Kyneton, Dr Darren Egberts.

## CAPTAIN'S RAP with Bridget H



Hi everyone, I hope your year so far has proved positive. At Gisborne Secondary College, each cohort has been keeping busy settling back into routine.

The first week of school was full of excitement for the Year 7s who were able to go out for a memorable day at Funfields, while also being allocated their very first lockers and meeting their new teachers and peers. Year 9s have experienced their first RAID days – Respect, Achievement, Innovation and Diversity – a recurring event every second Wednesday throughout the year, when students are able to develop helpful skills for greater independence later in life.

In the senior school, there has been no time wasted getting into the swing of VCE and VCAL, where students have already begun preparing for upcoming assessments.

In the coming weeks, GSC will be holding its annual inter-house swimming and athletics carnivals where students will enjoy a day in the sun away from schoolwork, while having a laugh at the year 12 costumes and getting into the competitive spirit.

On another note, the community has much to look forward to later in the year with the performing arts faculty beginning to plan and organise the school's next production which will not fail to disappoint!

# Macedon Primary's swimming sports

A few weeks ago we held the house swimming carnival at Kyneton swimming pool. It was fantastic to see everyone in their house colours participating for their house, and cheering on the swimmers in the pool. There were swimming races and novelty events. There were three swimming strokes which we ran races for: freestyle, breaststroke and backstroke. There were some fantastic efforts in the swimming races.



Congratulations to everyone who competed for their house in the swimming races and the novelty events. The winning house was Curtin and was presented at assembly with much excitement.

It was a great day and we had lots of fun. Thank you so much to the parents who came to help and support, and also to all the teachers for their help.

Declan and Erica, Sports Captains



A lot of fun was had in the pool at Macedon Primary School's swimming sports.

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# GISBORNE PEAK WINERY



## Macedon-Woodend Scouts have awesome summer

Members of Macedon-Woodend Scout Group have had the shackles of the past couple of years' lockdowns shaken off them with a series of fantastic outdoor adventures this summer.

VicJam in January proved to be the experience of a lifetime with rafting, scuba, caving, flying, sailing, robotics and rock climbing at Elmore enjoyed by our Scouts in the 11-14 age group.

Our Venturers navigated the Nadgee Wilderness Hike in NSW in December; a Grade 5 level experience along pristine coastline during which they sleep in dunes and drink from clear water inlets over the course of five days. Then in January, the Venturers undertook the week-long Overland Hike in Cradle Mountain and St Clair National Park in Tasmania.

Not to be outdone, our Cubs have hiked the Goat Track to the Memorial Cross at twilight and rafted on the adjacent Macedon reservoir – earning their Canoe Handling Badges.

The Queen's Scout presentation for three of our Venturers who completed the highest junior award in Scouting last year was held in February and we applaud Thomas Shaddock, Henry Wilcox and Noah Camilleri-Seeber for achieving this prestigious honour.

Our Group looks forward to more adventures this year and we thank our leaders for donating their time and expertise to Macedon-Woodend Scout Group.

For more information or to join, visit our website, [macedonwoodendscouts.com](http://macedonwoodendscouts.com) *Jane Walduck*



Venturers on the Overland Track in Tasmania.



Very damp Cub Scouts recover from water activities.

## New Gisborne (Church of Christ) Scout report

Scouting is well under way at New Gisborne. The warm evenings are perfect for the fun of very wet water activities.



We were delighted to help with the first Gisborne Market in nearly two years, setting up the bins and signs.

February 22 is "Founders Day" and we'll be celebrating with a Canoeing Night at Nursery Lake, Macedon. Always much fun.

We continue work planning our Scout Hut, confident we can see it erected before autumn sets in. That will be a wonderful home for our equipment and a base for our outdoor activities both in New Gisborne and in our "backyard", the Macedon Ranges.

Our first 2022 camp after the fun of the Scout Jamboree is a Cub Scout camp at "Noonameena" near Kyneton. The Cubs will be hosting Joeys and Scouts for some fun in the bush. Venturers will be heading to their "Anything Goes" camp near Warragul.

Through these challenging times we remember our Law and Promise, living out "love thy neighbour". Our thoughts and prayers continue for all frontline COVID workers.

We meet on Wednesdays, 6:30 – 8.00 pm, Venturers on Fridays. Contact Group Leader "Skipper" (0450 922 787 or [johnfearson@mac.com](mailto:johnfearson@mac.com)) to learn more.

## News from 1<sup>st</sup> Gisborne Scout Group

All sections of 1st Gisborne Scout Group have been making the most of the (mostly) fine weather and enjoying the outdoors this term.

The Joey section have been discovering interesting facts about kangaroos and went on a walk to the Gisborne Golf Club to see numerous mobs of kangaroos enjoying the grass and shady trees on the course. The Joeys are also excited about having their first sleepover for the year this month, in preparation for the state-wide 'Kangaree' later in the year. A Kangaree is like a condensed version of the Jamboree for Scouts.

One of the 1st Gisborne Venturer Scouts, Dylan, gained his Queen's Scout Award earlier this month, the highest award in the Venturers. Well done Dylan! Venturers are looking forward to 'Dragon Skin' over Easter in NSW. It is a hiking and initiative competition involving up to 1000 participants.

1st Gisborne is also looking for some new leaders. No previous scouting experience? No problem – training and support is provided by experienced Scout Leaders from Scouts Australia and there is no cost involved. Training normally involves a combination of e-learning, practical experience and a few residential weekends. For more information on becoming a leader, email us at [info@1stgisborne.com.au](mailto:info@1stgisborne.com.au) *Carolyn Goode, Assistant Joey Leader*



Holli and Alice made nature boats to float down the creek.

## Guides think about a better world



Gisborne Lightning Guides are glad to be back together and enjoying time interacting as they work on their badges.

The first challenge for the year is the Thinking Day badge which this year has the slogan 'Our World, our equal future'. Discussion focuses on the impact of climate change on the environment and how this affects opportunities for girls, particularly in poorer countries.

The girls will investigate topics including native planting, the impact of water shortages and the long-term impact of using plastics. The girls are encouraged to become advocates for a better world.

The Community Hall was flooded in the downpour last month which means Guides will be undertaking activities outdoors around Gisborne, so look out for our blue shirts on Thursday evenings.

There are vacancies for new members so if you would like to come and try Guides, like our newest member Ashley, call Deb on 0409 542 619 for details.

## Hamilton Street Vets

Providing high quality, friendly, veterinary services in the Macedon Ranges. 74 Hamilton Street, Gisborne.



Phone 5420 7000 for an appointment





# SPORT IN PICTURES



Tuesday bowls  
February 1  
– Macedon  
v Gisborne.  
92-year-old Allan  
Pollard bowls for  
Gisborne.



Tuesday bowls  
February 1 –  
Macedon v Gis-  
borne. Macedon's  
Lindsay Gent  
prepares to bowl.



Senior cricket February 19 – Gisborne v Macedon –  
Macedon's Chris Ingelton at the bat.



Senior soccer February 11 – Gisborne v Darebin.



ALL  
PICTURES  
BY CHRIS  
FLEMING



Junior cricket February 5 – Gisborne  
v Lancefield. Nathan Hynes bowls  
for Gisborne.



Johnson Shield Cricket February 19 – Gisborne v Macedon  
– Sam Graham bowls for Gisborne.



U15 Girls' cricket February 11 – Gisborne v  
Riddell. Gisborne's Zoe Kays bowls.



Gisborne Football Netball Club netball



training February 3. Games start on April 9.



Junior cricket February 11 – Gisborne v Bacchus Marsh. Hamish McDonald wields the bat for Gisborne.



Cricket February 19 – Gisborne v Rupertswood – James McKibbin bats for Gisborne.



Senior cricket February 11 – Gisborne v Aintree. Gisborne’s Archie Shore executes a pull shot.



U15 Girls’ cricket February 11 – Gisborne v Riddell. Isobel Campbell bowls for Gisborne.



Senior cricket February 12 – Gisborne v Romsey. Gisborne’s Luke Walford keeps his eyes on the ball.



Senior cricket January 29 – Gisborne v Aintree. Bad luck for Mackay.



An expectant gallery awaits the result of the PM playoff.

## Doing It For Jarrod charity challenge

Sincere thank you to the committee and the club members at Mt Macedon Golf Club who volunteered and assisted in putting the day on and making the 'Doing It For Jarrod' day the outstanding success that it was. This was reflected in the numerous accolades and comments on how much participants, especially visitors, had enjoyed the day together, with their commitment to participate in the next event.



With a full field of 72 players we were at capacity, however the flow of the golf in both the morning and afternoon was really smooth with very little if any hold ups in the progress of the field.

**AM Winners:** Tony Carter, Jack Carter, Jeremy Clare, Trevor Toholka

**PM Winners:** Phil Thomas, Dave Dunstan, Frank Manago, Spiro Kourkoumelis

**Ladies Winners:** Noni Harvey- Little, Suzie Ferrari, Ann Hudson, Janine Lord

The winners of the afternoon event were determined by a 'sudden-death' playoff on the Par 3 10th hole. This saw the two teams pitted against each other in an enthralling test of 'skill' and 'nerve'. Watched by a packed gallery of spectators, the teams hit off with each of the team members succumbing to the pressure, resulting in some very ordinary drives. Once on the green, it was a 'put-off' with both teams having chances to wrap up the play-off. However it was the team of Phil Thomas, Dave Dunstan, Frank Manago and Spiro Kourkoumelis who showed the greater nerve and won the play-off. A fitting end to a great day at Mt Macedon Golf Club.

The revenue generated for donation to the Doing It For Jarrod charity totalled \$5000, which is an outstanding result and well above our expectations.

The club is looking forward to our next opportunity to run this event and support a very special and deserving cause, which contributes to supporting kids and their families.

## Ladies Get Into Golf@MMGC

This program has been so successful that it is back again!

Go to the MMGC Facebook page for more information on how to register, or make contact through our website. Numbers are limited so get in asap.

Walrus

## Basketballers make Vic grand final



The Division 1 and 2 Junior Victoria Country Basketball Championships took place in Bendigo on February 19-20, showcasing country Victoria's best U16 and U18 teams.

Macedon Ranges Basketball Association proudly sent an U16 boys' team, who had been training hard under the direction of head coach Dylan Cole. The squad was a competitive group and made it to the Division 1 grand final.

After a hard-fought game, they went down to Bendigo by four points, making them the second-best team in country Victoria.

We would like to congratulate the players and thank the coaches and volunteers who make these experiences possible. The Junior Country Champs



Macedon Ranges are Junior Victorian Country Division 1 runners up.

have tournaments in March and April and we wish all our competing teams the best of luck.

Tamara Collins



President Noeline in the croquet club's newly renovated clubroom.

## Macedon Ranges Croquet Club

Our members are back playing regularly on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays and are enjoying a newly renovated clubroom.

Pennant started on February 3. Three teams will play a short six-week season. We thank Angela, who has now formally resigned as our secretary, for her wonderful service and wish her 'happy holidays'. Kristina has offered to take over as secretary until the AGM in May. We are most appreciative.

Our Interclub Social Day will be held on March 23 when we hope to host many visitors from other clubs.

Visitors are welcome to come and try croquet. You may play up to six times before joining the club formally. All players need to be fully vaxxed.

A big thankyou to Elizabeth and Roger for checking our watering system.

Our next general meeting will be held on March 2 in the clubhouse.

The committee of management's next meeting is Monday, March 7, at 1.30pm.

Faye Armstrong

## Bank sponsorship saves clubs' money

The Riddell District Football Netball League is pleased to announce a new sponsorship deal which will see Bendigo Bank as the major sponsor of the RDFNL for the next two years with the option of a third.



Community Bank Gisborne & District was a sponsor last season and when the opportunity presented itself, happily agreed to increase sponsorship and support of community sport and brought other branches in the RDFNL area into the partnership.

League CEO Jordan Doyle said, "The Bendigo Bank are a wonderful community-oriented organisation ... and we thank them for their support of our competitions and clubs."

The agreement has allowed the RDFNL to reduce its fees considerably, which means less out of pocket expenses for players, families, coaches and clubs.

The sponsorship agreement and contribution of the community bank branches will mean a saving of 24% for RDFNL members.



Angela Dickins (incoming branch manager Community Banks Lancefield and Romsey), Dominic Andreacchio (Community Bank Gisborne & District), Jordan Doyle (CEO RDFNL), Suzanne Ewart (Community Banks Lancefield and Romsey), Sarah Barton (Community Bank Gisborne & District) and Aaron McLean (RDFNL).

## Gisborne Tennis Club hive of activity

There's been plenty of action at the Gisborne Tennis Club over the past month.

The club was represented at the Australian Open this year, with 10 kids given the opportunity to be involved in Tennis Australia's Kids On Court Experience. This year we were lucky enough to get on Rod Laver Arena.

On February 15, Gisborne Tennis Club's mid-week ladies competition players ran a tournament for members of the MDLTA (Mountain District Ladies Tennis Association) who did not attend Country Week. Our winners from the day were Wendy Szatkowski (Visiting from Qld), Ruth Humphryis (Gisborne), Vera Collis (Sunbury), Jodie Kreig (Toolern Vale) and Angela O'Brien (Gisborne).

Junior competition resumed after the break, with teams across Friday nights and Saturday mornings looking to secure a finals spot in their sections. The new D/C3 'US Open' and 'Grand Slam' Gisborne teams are currently first and second!

The MRTA Autumn Thursday Night Competition also kicked off, with four Gisborne teams playing.

For anyone looking to get involved in tennis, the club's coaching team, Chapman Tennis Coaching, offers lessons Monday to Friday. To get involved you



*Gisborne Tennis Club members at the Australian Open.*

can find the team on Facebook or their website.

The club is also looking for mixed doubles players for the MRTA Open Competition held on Saturday afternoons. Interested players can contact Kay Hudson on 0408 718 818 or email [jandkhudson@bigpond.com](mailto:jandkhudson@bigpond.com)

The club also offers various social hits and competitions during the week and on weekends.

For more info, head to [www.play.tennis.com.au/gisbornetennisclub](http://www.play.tennis.com.au/gisbornetennisclub).

*Sam Rogers*

## South Gisborne to celebrate milestones

The South Gisborne Tennis Club committee are working feverishly to host an event day rolling into one the many achievements and milestones that were not acknowledged in the past two years.



On Sunday March 20, 10-1pm, we celebrate 21 years of supporting people with disability participating in our All Abilities tennis program. The program started with eight students from Sunbury Macedon Ranges Specialist School. In following years more than 150 individuals from local and neighbouring shires have taken part in weekly coached lessons.

While group lessons continue today, the highlight of the journey is the eight individuals who have transitioned into being coached by the Spark team at a time and day of their choosing. Their passion and will to achieve is amazing.

We welcome all to come along to the club's Open Day and check out the programs we have to offer, join in a cardio session, beat the coach, hot shots, wheelchair trails and other activities on offer. Discounted memberships, giveaways and a bite to eat. Details on our website [www.sgtennisclub.com.au](http://www.sgtennisclub.com.au)

Looking forward to having some fun! Members, don't forget to sign up for the Junior Club Championships on Sunday March 27.

*Gail Scott*

# The lucky ones get caught.

Right now, Victoria Police are out in force catching drivers doing the wrong thing. Catching these drivers helps protect them from harming themselves and other road users. Please drive safely, for everyone.

**TAC** **VICTORIA**  
State Government

## Riding clubs ecstatic as bank ponies up

The equestrian clubs using the IR Robertson Reserve at South Gisborne received welcome news just before Christmas. Their application for a grant to build a new all-weather arena was successful in gaining a pledge of \$30,000 from Community Bank Gisborne & District (Bendigo Bank).

The three clubs, Gisborne & District Adult Riding Club, Gisborne Pony Club and Melbourne Show Jumping Club, are very grateful to the Community Bank for its generous support.

The clubs will pool their funds to contribute to the construction of the new arena with the grant, which makes it possible.

The three clubs have grown considerably over the past two years. They now have about 300 members. This has created a lot of pressure on the two arenas currently in use. With the wet weather over the past year in particular, many of the monthly rallies held



From left: Zoe Olive and Corinne Shaddock (Community Bank), Lisa Newman (Gisborne Pony Club), Evelyn Crawford and Gillian Leach (Gisborne Adult Riding Club) and James Sheawick (Community Bank) celebrate the funding pledge.

by the three clubs have had to be cancelled. The wet weather along with increased use has meant the current arenas require constant repairs.

The new all-weather arena will also provide a top-class venue enabling the clubs to hold larger competitions attracting more competitors and spectators to the

Macedon Ranges region.

The equestrian clubs welcome new members.

If you are interested in joining or want to come and try, information is available on their websites. (gisbornedarc.com.au, gisborneponyclub.com.au, melbourneshowjumpingclub.com.au)

Gillian Leach

## Get into Bowling With Babies



Gisborne Bowling Club is running the Bowling With Babies program through March, from 9.30-11am every Wednesday – a five-week program.

Bowling with Babies is a fitness and social activity that you can enjoy with your little ones. It brings new mums and dads as well as expecting mums together to enjoy a coffee, a chat, and a social roll.

It aims to assist less-active parents to become more active and enable them to focus on their physical wellbeing in a fun, relaxing and comfortable environment – with their baby.

The sessions are free and all necessary equipment as well as instruction will be provided, so just bring yourselves. Family and friends are always welcome and encouraged to join in the fun with you.

No registration is necessary, however if you would like more information, please contact Helena Cyrulo on 0403 705 211.

The program is supported by VicHealth.



## Mt Macedon Petanque Club out and about

Members of Mt Macedon Petanque Club have been enjoying getting out and playing petanque. Competitions are going ahead and a small group from the club travelled to Apollo Bay on the weekend of February 12 and 13.

There are a number of competitions coming up. The Golden Boule competition is likely to expand this year with other teams in the North West region potentially joining in with Mt Macedon and Maldon.

Mt Macedon will host the friendly competition, the Jolly Roger, against Camberwell.

Teams will also travel to Maldon, Nagambie, Avoca and Hall's Gap in coming months.



ca and Hall's Gap in coming months.

The club is always looking for new members. If you'd like to have a go, drop by to one of our practice sessions at the grounds behind the Caltex Service Station in Gisborne. Equipment provided.

The weekly Wednesday playday runs from 2pm to 5pm. Coaching sessions are held on from 1- 2pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays for those keen to improve their game skills. Saturday playdays run from 10am-1pm on the second and fourth Saturdays.

For enquiries please go to our website: mtmacedonpetanque.org and for updates visit our Facebook page.

Alison Kinghorn



The beautiful setting of Apollo Bay.

### 2022 FOOTBALL AND NETBALL REGISTRATIONS

# GISBORNE GIANTS

**FOOTBALL: Under 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19.5s**  
**NETBALL: Under 11, 13, 15, 17, 19s**

**Registrations for 2022 season now open. We encourage all past and new members to go to our website for further information and to register: [www.gisbornegiantsfnc.club](http://www.gisbornegiantsfnc.club)**

**GISBORNE BULLDOGS BASKETBALL CLUB**

**NOTICE OF AGM**  
**MONDAY 28th MARCH, 7.30pm**  
**GISBORNE SECONDARY COLLEGE STADIUM**

**ALL POSITIONS OPEN**

**NOMINATIONS TO: [secretary.gbcb@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.gbcb@gmail.com)**

**MT MACEDON GOLF CLUB RESULTS**

The club gratefully acknowledges the generous sponsorship of these recent events and congratulates the winners:

**Inform Osteopathy**  
**January Monthly Medallist**  
**RYAN TOHOLKA, nett 65**

**UFS Pharmacy**  
**February Mug o' the Month**  
**TREVOR TOHOLKA, 44 points**



'Tyre-kick' at Gisborne in February.  
Picture: MRUB Committee

## Bikes released, we're on the road again

And so it came to pass that Members of the Macdon Ranges Ulysses Branch (MRUB) had a busy and action-packed February. Released from months of restrictions and lockdowns, we took advantage of the wonderful weather and hit the roads with friends.

The month kicked off with a great Saturday lunch ride to Tallarook led by our Treasurer Deb. The same weekend some of our members headed for the Grampians and the 600-strong "Blue Ribbon Foundation – Grampians Ride to Remember". Then rounding out the first half of February was a jaunt to Euroa for the monthly Victorian Breakfast Club with other Ulyssians, followed by a meandering monthly branch



ride to Bendigo. All in the context of our regular Saturday tyre-kicks in Gisborne, Wednesday road rides and Tuesday dirt and dust outings. Something for every type of rider.

By the time this article is published, MRUB members will have endorsed a new 2022-23 Committee at February's social night in Sunbury. More info next month.

If you are interested in motorcycling, come along to Gisborne's Saturday morning tyre-kick where the bikes are always on display. Check us out online at [www.mrub.org.au](http://www.mrub.org.au) or join in on Facebook for the latest news. See you riding the Ranges!

Cherry Cole

## BRAINBUSTER

- 1 Camels were first brought to Australia for which famous expedition?
- 2 How many children does Queen Elizabeth II have?
- 3 In what sport is the Bledisloe Cup awarded?
- 4 How many people took refuge on Noah's Ark?
- 5 What planet gave birth to Superman?
- 6 What millionaire pastoralist was recognised as Australia's cattle king?
- 7 What is the official language of India?
- 8 What does IQ stand for?
- 9 How many months does it take the moon to revolve around the earth?
- 10 What did Sir Galahad search for?

Compiled by Graeme Millar

ANSWERS PAGE 39

## CROSSWORD

### Words starting with 'D'

Questions compiled by Graeme Millar

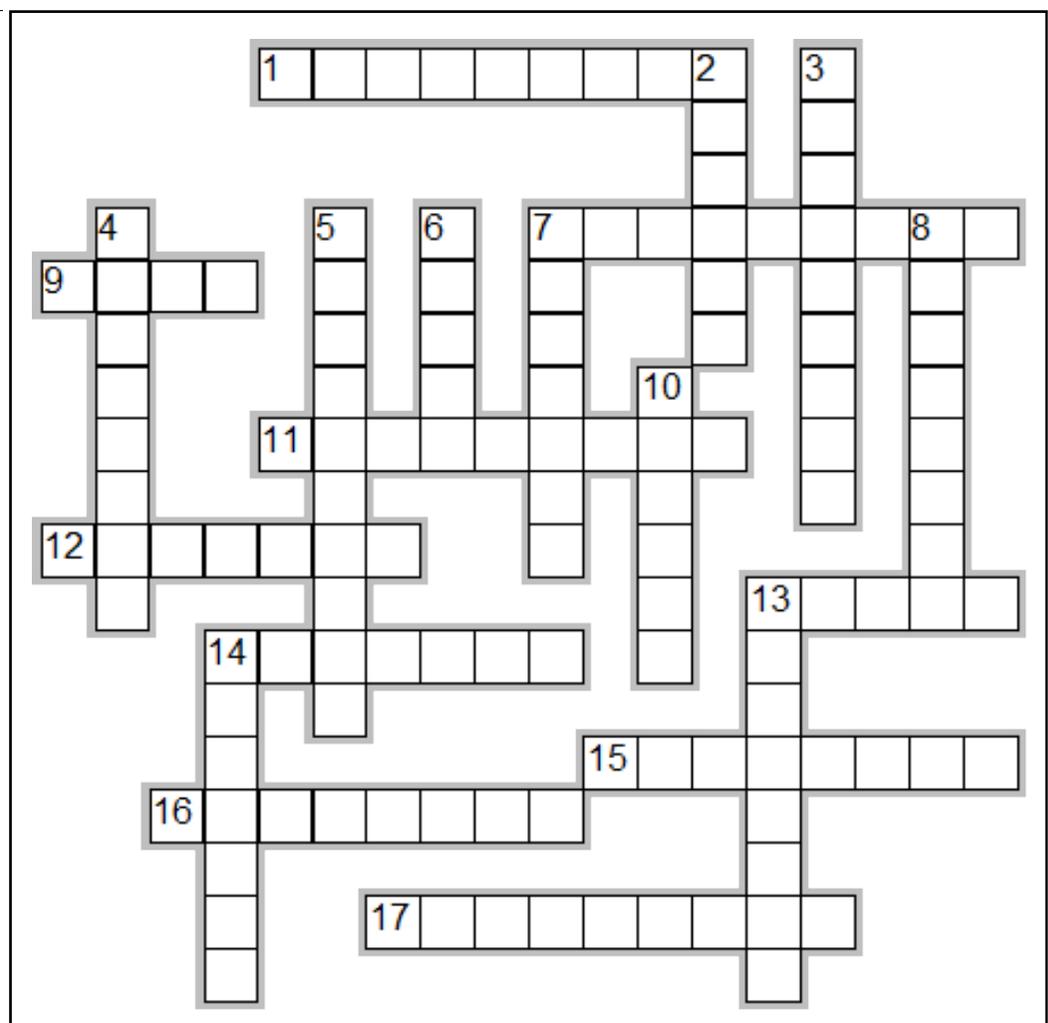
#### ACROSS

1. A dog with long body, short legs and drooping ears.
7. The Melbourne Star Observation Wheel was located here.
9. Once found only on the island of Mauritius. Now extinct.
11. They died out over 60 million years ago.
12. The sixtieth anniversary of a marriage.
13. A person, plant or animal much below average in size.
14. The Murray and this river meet at Wentworth, NSW.
15. Act of giving money to charity.
16. A female child.
17. Trees that shed their leaves in autumn

#### DOWN

2. Australia's second Prime Minister.
3. A group of 10 different contests at the Olympic Games.
4. Simile: As dead as a .....
5. A book containing, alphabetically arranged, the words of a language.
6. A member of the dog family found only in Australia.
7. Copenhagen is the capital city of this country.
8. The 12th month of the year.
10. The only word in the English language that ends in the letters "AMT".
13. The oldest present day capital city in the world.
14. A line of kings of the same family

ANSWERS PAGE 39



## New Elders at St Andrew's Church



On February 13 we were thrilled to officially welcome

Peter, Bruce and Adrian into Eldership at the Gisborne Presbyterian Church.

The Ordination and Induction Service was a blessing to us all and we look forward to the wisdom and care that each of these three men will bring to their new role.

Youth Group has also started up again for the year. The teenagers gather monthly on a Friday evening to enjoy food, games and Bible discussions together.

We're also running a series of classes in March called "Understanding the



Peter Jellis, Bruce Ellis and Adrian Guillot.

Presbyterian Church". If you are curious about the Presbyterian Church and would like to dive further into discussions about what our church be-

lieves, we'd love to have you join us.

You can contact Pastor Wayne McArdle on 0437 133 800 if you're interested in participating. *Lizzie Mills*

## Stories of love and need

Tentative at first, now the attendance and energy of the Uniting congregation at 23 Brantome Street is returning. Omicron has thrown the proverbial curve ball (perhaps for cricket lovers that should be a yorker) so vaccinations and masks remain in place to keep all safe.



Not so safe was our much-loved Ellie Mann. For some years a resident of The Oaks, a song which best described Ellie would surely be *When Irish Eyes are Smiling*. It was not her 102 faithful and productive years on this earth which took Ellie but COVID.

Coincidentally, her mother had died in the last great pandemic, the flu of 1920. Ellie is remembered with love and stories.

Stories also were on hand recently from our member D'Arcy Wood, whose parents went to Tonga in 1924 and where he was born. This began 98 years of family connections. His father inaugurated the annual village choir competitions, still keenly competitive. His mother became the medical doctor for the hundreds of boys who boarded at Tupou College. Since then there have been a shared love of music, visits back and forth and royal funerals and coronations.

So some 40 people joined with us in concern for the current situation of the people of the Friendly Islands. The media cycle for any crisis is short and it could be some time before the undersea communications cable from Tonga is repaired. What we do know now is that the needs of the people are many. Salt water and ash destroyed crops and poisoned drinking water.

D'Arcy is willing to talk to other groups about these fascinating islands and their resilient people.



D'Arcy and Janet Wood with Tongan crafts.

And a reminder: the church is a place of prayer, worship, pastoral care and has an extensive library on topics related to matters of religion. Contact our ministers Annette (0457 608 539) and Rose (0416 805 022) or the Gilbertsons (0405 876 148). *Janet Wood*

## Caring community can make a difference

### St Paul's Anglican Parish

Bible passages use both "Blessed are" and "Woe to" statements.

The Bible comes to the current generation through a long process of translations.

Sometimes, the past language compared to that of now filters out some of the nuances of the ancient languages.



Aramaic, the tongue of Jesus, was a very nuanced language.

The word "blessed" is one such nuanced word. It meant 'to be aligned with God's purpose immediately, but also for the future'.

To be blessed was to be complete in the journey with God.

Elsewhere in this issue of the *Gazette*, I wrote of the Woodend

Lifestyle Carers Group and the upcoming concerts supporting the building of respite care for those with and supporting people with dementia.

Can you give a moment to help carers find refreshment for their souls? Even Jesus needed to rest at times.

Please take a moment to care for any you know who needs refreshment. And join us in helping provide that which is lacking within our community.

*Rev'd Dennis Webster*

## House of the Rock



From a bumper sticker: "That thing I said about loving your neighbour? I meant it!" – God. In today's world we need to be reminded of this phrase. Could we try the "Random Acts of Kindness" campaign again? These acts don't have to be as expensive as unexpectedly paying for someone's groceries – unless of course you feel so inclined. Common courtesies with a smile cost nothing.

I'm saddened when I see notices places saying, "Abuse of staff will not be tolerated". This should never be necessary...or maybe I'm naive?

My sister takes a plastic bag when she walks the dog and picks up rubbish along the way as a simple means of leaving the place better than she found it.

A quiet 'thank you' note left in a clean public toilet for the cleaner, doing a thankless task, could make their day

A patient I knew while I was a chaplain in a Sydney hospital had horrific burns where only his eyes and feet were untouched because of his goggles and heavy boots. After months enduring painful skin grafts, he was about to be discharged when the whole staff of his ward including the surgeons came to thank him.

"Whatever for?" he asked. "Because you never swore or abused us even though the pain we caused changing your dressings was so severe," they said.

A lovely lesson.

*Evelyn Sims*

## Mount Macedon Uniting Church busy again

Our new website [www.mountmacedonuniting church.org.au](http://www.mountmacedonuniting church.org.au) recently "went live" providing information about the church and our activities. It is already getting noticed, leading to quite a few inquiries.

Our Men's Group recommenced on February 1 when Rob Coulson showed photos of his trip to western Canada, the Rocky Mountains and Alaska. The mountain and glacier scenery was spectacular. Close-ups of a woodpecker and another of a hummingbird on the wing taken by Rob were highlights.

Men's Group meets on the first Tuesday each month at 10am. We would welcome any other old blokes with time to spare to join us.

The Thistle Club also restarted on February 23 with a commitment service and a good catch-up on what everyone had been doing over the holidays. On Wednesday March 30, the ladies will have a picnic up on the mount and raise funds for Tongan relief. Other ladies are most welcome.

On Sunday March 27 at 4.30pm, we are hosting a violin and harp duo recital by M2V from Melbourne as part of the Autumn Festival.

Our Sunday services continue as usual at 10.30am weekly. All are welcome! *Neil Tweddle, 5426 2045*



# 100 YEARS AGO

From the pages of the old *Gisborne Gazette*

(NB Copies of the old *Gisborne Gazette* from 1922 are not currently available to examine.)

## MARCH 1922

**Startling evidence Macedon crash – bad coal, bad engine, bad loading** – On 3<sup>rd</sup> February, at about 8.15 p.m., a fast goods train bound for Bendigo moved out of the Melbourne yard... There were 45 trucks, most of them fully loaded, and the weight of the train was 625 tons.

Two engines were required to pull this formidable load... but [one engine] was not behaving itself. There was a defect in the smoke box, which interfered with the furnace draught, and there was inferior coal aboard.

The usual stops were made at Sunbury, Riddell and Gisborne to get steam and water. The train ran on through Macedon and when about two miles and a half from that station, on a heavy grade, the defective engine could not keep steam and the train stalled about half a mile from the top of the hill. [The driver] Garland, taking a light, went back through the darkness, inspecting the brake hose connections. The fireman on the second engine, looking back, saw the light of the guards' van, and it seemed to be stationary. A little while later, Garland came back and said "The train has broken in half. I heard the trucks rolling down the hill. God help the Guard!"

Extract from *The Age* 8 March 1922

(The Guard, Edward Thomas Evans, was killed in the accident.)

**Cricket matches in the country – state governor a spectator** – The Earl of Stradbroke was present at the semi-final of the Gisborne District Cricket Association, played on the Macedon ground between Macedon and Gisborne on 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March.

Macedon batted first and made 220. [School principal] Henry Scott scored 96 without giving a chance. Abercrombie made 34 and T. Bawden 25.

Gisborne totalled 102 in the first innings and 92 in the second. A. Oakley compiled 40 not out and 42. [Harry] Goodear, bowling for Macedon, got eight wickets for 34 runs. He bowls a nice length and breaks both ways, being very deceptive.

At the conclusion of the match, the Governor congratulated the Macedon captain, Scott, for their success, also for some very fine catches.

The final will be played at Gisborne next Saturday between Macedon and Lancefield or Lancefield Junction.

Extract from *The Age* 27 March 1922



# WHAT'S ON REGULAR MEETINGS

New members always welcome

\*\*\* NB: Check with organisations re COVID restrictions \*\*\*

- ADULT RIDING CLUB** (Gis) 2nd Saturday I R Robertson Res
- ADULT RIDING CLUB** (Bullengarook) 2nd Saturday Rec Reserve
- ANGLING CLUB** 2nd Wed 8pm Railway Hotel Macedon
- BOTANIC GARDENS** working bee every Thurs 9.30am-10.30am
- BRIDGE CLUB** Mon 12.30, Tues 7.15, Thurs 12.30 St Mary's Church Hall, Woodend 5420 7595
- BUSHWALKING CLUB** Various locations 0438 260 792 or 0419 610 811
- CANASTA CLUB** 1.30pm every Mon except first Mon of month Parish centre (behind St Pauls Church, Gisborne)
- CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** last Wed of month MRH
- CAR CLUB** 1st Wednesday 8pm Steam Park, New Gisb
- CARERS GROUP** (Mac Ranges) 2nd & 4th Thurs, 1pm Woodend RSL 5420 7132 (Note: 4th Thurs carers only)
- COMMUNITY GARDEN** Wed 9am Church of Christ
- CROQUET CLUB** Wed & Sat 10am Dixon Field
- CWA GISBORNE** 2nd Monday 10am Gis Secondary College
- CWA MACEDON** 3rd Tues 1pm & 7pm 662 Mt Macedon Rd
- DALY RESERVE WORKING BEE** 2nd Tues 9.30am Scout Hall, Daly Res
- FILM SOCIETY** 2nd Wed Woodend Neigh'hood House 5427 2323
- FLY FISHING CLUB** 4th Wed 7.30pm MRFEC Gisborne
- FOCUS CLUB** 2nd Fri 12 noon Gisborne Golf Club
- FRIENDS of JACKSONS CREEK** working bees 3rd Sun 10-noon David Tunbridge 0415 534 477
- GARDEN CLUB** 2nd Wed various venues 0424 038 474
- GENEALOGY GROUP** 4th Thurs 7.30 Family Hist Rm, Library
- GIRL GUIDES** Thursdays 5pm Gis Scout Hall
- GISBORNE SINGERS** Wed 7.30pm Gisborne Uniting Church
- HISTORICAL SOCIETY** open Wed 10am-4pm Court House
- LIBRARY: TODDLERS' STORY TIME** Mon 10.30am, Wed 10.30am
- LIONS CLUB** (Gisborne) First Thurs of month, 7.30pm 247 Station Rd
- MARTIAL ARTS** Thurs from 6pm St Brigid's Hall; gisborne@juseikan.com.au
- MASONIC LODGE** 2nd Thurs 7pm Masonic Hall Aitken St
- MASTERS AFL** Wed 6.30pm Sankey Reserve
- MT MAC & DIST HORT SOC** 1st Tues 8pm Horticultural Hall
- MUFFINS 'N' MORE** 2nd Tues 10am-noon Uniting Church
- MUMS' GROUP** 2nd Mon 9.30-11.30am 49 Fisher St
- OBEEDIENCE DOG CLUB** Sun 9am Riddells Rec Res
- PETANQUE** 2nd & 4th Sat 10am behind Caltex service station, Station Rd, Gisborne 0439 887 178
- PHOENIX ART & CRAFTS** 1st Thursday phoenixmrac.com
- PHOTOGRAPHIC SOC** 1st Tues & 2nd Mon 7pm Dromkeen, Riddells Ck
- PONY CLUB** Bullengarook 1st Sunday Rec Reserve
- PONY CLUB** Gisborne 1st Sunday Robertson Reserve
- PROBUS** 1st Thurs 10am Mechanics Inst.
- QUILTERS** (Gisb) Wed 7pm Room attached to Gisb Library
- RAMBLERS** Fridays 9.15am Tennis Club Dixon Field
- ROTARY** (Gisborne) First & third Tues evening, email gisbornerotary@gmail.com for confirmation of venue
- ROTARY** (Macedon Ranges) 1st & 3rd Monday Baringo Food & Wine
- RUNNING GROUP** Tues & Thurs 6pm, Sun 8am Gis Aquatic Centre
- RSL** 1st Mon 2pm Gis Golf Club 5428 2233
- SENIOR CITS** (Macedon) Tues 11am Tony Clarke Res
- SPINNERS & FIBRE GROUP** Wed 12 noon Rec Reserve Bullengarook
- SUPPORT AFTER SUICIDE** 2nd Monday each month, even if public holiday, 7 to 8.30pm Newham Mechanics Inst. (1292 Rochford Rd) E: peersupport@mrspeg.com.au
- TABLE TENNIS** Wed 7.30pm Tony Clarke Res, Macedon
- THUNDER SWIMMING CLUB** 2nd Sat 5pm Gisborne Aquatic Centre
- TOY LIBRARY** Every Sat 10-11am; first & third Wed, 8.45-9.30am, second & fourth Fri 9-10am 71 Robertson St
- ULYSSES GROUP** 3rd Tues 6pm Sunbury FC
- VINTAGE MACHINERY** Working bees 1st Sun of month, 8.30am at Steam Park; meetings last Friday of month, 7pm at Steam Park
- WRITERS GROUP** Last Sat of month 2-5pm Woodend N'hood House
- WRITERS** (Scribes & Scribblers) 2nd Tues 10am-12 Riddell N'hood House
- YOUNG VOICES** Thursdays 4.15-5.45pm Norma Richardson Hall, Buckland St, Woodend, 5426 4801 or sddgome@patash.com.au

## Baringo Film Club

### Baringo Film Club Summertime showings

3pm Wednesday  
3pm Saturday  
7pm Saturday during daylight saving

**Dates** **Film**

2 to 5.....	<i>No Time to Die</i>
9 to 12.....	<i>The Magnificent 7</i>
16 to 19.....	<i>Antoinette in Cevannes</i>
23 to 26.....	<i>The Father</i>
30 to 20 April 2.....	<i>Ford v/s Ferrari</i>

For membership details see [www.baringofilmclub.com](http://www.baringofilmclub.com)

## CROSSWORD ANSWERS

### ACROSS

1. Dachshund
7. Docklands
9. Dodo
11. Dinosaurs
12. Diamond
13. Dwarf
14. Darling
15. Donation
16. Daughter
17. Deciduous

### DOWN

2. Deakin
3. Decathlon
4. Doornail
5. Dictionary
6. Dingo
7. Denmark
8. December
10. Dreamt
13. Damascus
14. Dynasty

## BRAMBUSTERS ANSWERS

- |                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Burke and Wills expedition | 6. Sidney Kidman        |
| 2. Four                       | 7. Hindi                |
| 3. Rugby Union                | 8. Intelligent Quotient |
| 4. Eight                      | 9. One                  |
| 5. Krypton                    | 10. The Holy Grail      |

## THE CHURCHES



### ST BRIGID'S PARISH CATECHETICS – ENROLMENTS – 2022

Parents who wish to enrol their children (from Government / Independent Schools) in the Sacraments of:

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Reconciliation (Grd 3) | Monday February 21 to<br>Monday March 28 |
| Eucharist (Grd 4)      | Monday July 11 to<br>Monday August 22    |
| Confirmation (Grd 6)   | Monday May 2 to<br>Monday June 6         |

contact the Parish Office for information and enrolments.

**St Brigid's Parish Office: 5428 2590 or email [gisborne@cam.org.au](mailto:gisborne@cam.org.au)**

# RAISING TEENAGE BOYS

## IN THE MACEDON RANGES

TUE 8 MARCH - TUE 26 APRIL 2022  
6:30PM - 8:30PM VIA ZOOM

EXCLUDING TERM 1 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Led by expert facilitators, this virtual program will take parents and carers through six weekly workshops where we explore ways to support your teenager's journey into adulthood.

### REGISTER NOW

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/raisingboysinMR](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/raisingboysinMR)

TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT:  
[kathryn.chai@scchc.org.au](mailto:kathryn.chai@scchc.org.au)



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Beyond Gender Expectations



## WE ARE HIRING

The Telegraph Hotel requires a full-time Restaurant/Functions Manager

Due to the continuous growth of our business, we are looking for an individual to become our Restaurant/Functions Supervisor in our recently renovated intimate dining and wine bar.

### DAILY DUTIES INCLUDE

- Train and mentor staff
- Ensure daily procedures for operating the restaurant are adhered to
- Lead and liaise with your team to achieve KPIs
- Communicate with the kitchen
- Regularly update our social media



### THE RIGHT APPLICANT WILL HAVE

- Strong communication skills
- Ability to lead and mentor
- Sound food and wine knowledge
- A minimum 1 year front of house in dining environment
- Knowledge of wage and stock control

APPLICATIONS TO  
[info@telegraphhotel.com.au](mailto:info@telegraphhotel.com.au)