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Gisborne Gazette

serving the southern macedon ranges

DECEMBER 2022

FREE



Buckets of love

Members of the Gisborne Uniting Church have been busy filling buckets with cleaning agents to send along with mops and scrubbing brushes to flood-affected households in north-central Victoria.

Margaret and Colin Chapman, well-known sheep breeders, and Norman and Merren Stockdale, support workers with the Victorian Council of Churches emergency assistance project, are part of the local church community and

shared insights into the many challenges facing flood-affected households around Charlton and Rochester.

The group hopes the buckets will help recipients with the stressful task of cleaning up.

Gisborne loses a great citizen.
Obituary and tribute
to Graeme Millar OAM
 ▶ page 10

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From the Editor's desk

With a heavy heart but also awe and gratefulness for his exceptional service to the community including to the *Gisborne Gazette*, I joined many community members in farewelling Graeme Millar OAM at his funeral on November 24. In the words of many I spoke with, Graeme was truly "Mr Gisborne" and his passing has left a hole in many hearts. Read about his incredible community service and love for all around him on page 10.

Like Graeme, who was always looking out for others, and often provided help in unexpected but very relevant ways, the Gisborne Uniting Church crew on this month's cover has sent cleaning kits to flood-affected households in north-central Victoria – such a creative and kind act.

The much-loved Gisborne Festival and community carols in Gisborne and Macedon return this month after COVID-related breaks (details on pages 4 and 5) and I really hope the weather cooperates so the community can make the most of these opportunities to come together in seasonal spirit.

It's that time of year when we reflect on what the year has brought, and many club and school reports in this edition do just that. Congratulations to all of you for all you have achieved and thank you for sharing it with the community in the *Gazette*. Special congratulations to the teachers and staff at Willowbank Primary for the school's successful first year of operation.

It is exciting to see young community members thrive and we are pleased to celebrate some exceptional local students in the *Gazette* Student Awards on pages 27 and 38. I look forward to seeing them take on the world. Youth need not be a barrier, as the many young contributors to the *Gazette* show each month. And Sienna and Xavier proved this when the two juniors won the senior club championships at South Gisborne Tennis Club last month (story on page 33).

December can be a busy and emotional month, with end-of-year deadlines and celebrations, seasonal shopping, longer days and holidays. Katrina Buttigieg and Julie Ireland provide helpful tips on pages 6 and 15 respectively, on how to make it through the season with a smile.

Thank you to everyone who has been part of the *Gazette* team this year. If any other readers would like to join us next year, we would love to hear from you.

The next edition of the *Gazette* will be published on January 31 and submissions are due by January 18. New advertising rates for 2023 can be found on page 38. These details are also available on our website.

I wish all our readers, reporters, volunteers, advertisers and supporters a happy and peaceful end to 2022 and start to 2023. I hope you have the opportunity to fill your bucket and the buckets of those around you with love, and that you have a merry Christmas however you celebrate.

Happy reading.

Corinne Shaddock

Graeme Millar

The *Gisborne Gazette* expresses its sorrow at the passing of Graeme Millar OAM, a member of the *Gazette* team since the paper's inception and always a dedicated, enthusiastic and much-loved member of the team. Graeme will be sorely missed. We express our profound condolences to Elaine and family.

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- Gisborne:** Post Office, Village Shopping Centre, Priceline Chemist, Gisborne Medical Centre in Brantome Street, 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
- Supported by Macedon Ranges Shire Council

The *Gisborne Gazette* acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners of the country upon which we publish. We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community and pay respect to elders past, present and emerging.

Available at www.gisbornegazette.org.au and Issuu.com

DEADLINES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

ISSUE	MONTH	DEADLINE	DISTRIBUTION
181	February	January 18	January 31
182	March	February 15	February 28
183	April	March 15	March 28

For advertising sizes and rates, please see website.

DISCLAIMER

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

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OBITUARIES

To submit an obituary for publication, please email bryanp2@bigpond.com or phone 0417 140 828. Please also provide a photograph for publication and restrict the article to about 250 words.

A MINUTE WITH MAXINE

This month's column and photo were kindly supplied by Justin Hunter, Todd's support worker.

Todd Brown has been involved with the *Gisborne Gazette* now for over five years. Together with his support worker Justin, he delivers the *Gazette* in and around Gisborne each month.

Todd loves delivering the papers and is always happy to stop and chat with homeowners along the way. He enjoys the exercise and feels very important knowing he has a job to do.

The concentration Todd shows when folding each *Gazette* and making sure it is placed in the letterbox (especially when it's raining) is great to see!

The process of collecting and delivering the papers is of huge importance to Todd, making him part of a team and helping others in the community stay



Todd takes care to ensure the papers are folded and delivered correctly.

connected. It also helps Todd to slow down, count and concentrate on one task.

If you see Todd, don't forget to say a big hello and stop for a chat ... Todd is always ready to talk about anything, especially his love of V8 Supercars.

Gisborne Olde Time Market

**December market:
Sunday 4**

For more information, call 0431 563 566
or go to www.gisborneoldetimetmarket.org.au



JPs available

Every Thursday 12 noon to 2pm

at the GREAT (Gisborne Region Events Activities & Tourism) office, 23 Hamilton Street, Gisborne.

Community House opens

To the delight of the volunteer committee that has worked tirelessly to reach this point, other community members who worked over many years to preserve the building and site, and their supporters, the Macedon and Mount Macedon Community House was officially opened on Tuesday November 15.

Wurundjeri elder and descendent of William Barak, Uncle Ringo, gave a moving Welcome to Country and blessing and representatives of Council and the committee spoke about the project and vision for the house.

The building at 47 Victoria Street, Macedon, once a Maternal and Child Health Centre, has been refurbished and has started hosting and running events. Council's Cool Climate Macedon and Mount Macedon workshops are being held there as well as a Permaculture course by the Macedon Ranges Further Education Centre.

A "School's Out" break up is planned for Tuesday December 20 with a variety of Macedon Ranges youth bands and musicians performing and activities for kids. See the house's Facebook page for more information.



The opening ceremony for the Macedon and Mount Macedon Community House on November 15. From left: Jennifer Anderson (mayor at the time), Blake Byron-Smith, Jenny Brusey, Dean Michael, Samara Hodson, Karen Goltz and Karen Clifford.



Hazel Gilbert ready to cut the cake, with granddaughter Brooke.

Hazel enjoys 100th birthday

Warrina resident Hazel Gilbert turned 100 on October 29. She enjoyed a beautiful party at Warrina and later a celebration with 80 family and friends at Baringo Food and Wine. Hazel was delighted to receive the congratulations of all the Australian official people from the Governor-General to the State Premier. She is still waiting to hear from King Charles.

Continued ► page 22

ASH WEDNESDAY MEMORIES

The Gazette will be publishing a 40th anniversary book about the 1983 Ash Wednesday fires that will include the experiences of more than 40 residents on that day and the recovery efforts that followed it.

For details on pre-ordering, please see page 36.

Family expresses heartfelt thankyou

Parents Rachael and Brett would like to thank everyone for their support and generosity during a very difficult time after their daughter Charlotte's accident at Bullengarook in August.



A happy Charlotte is back at home.

We thank the owner of the property for her quick response and

incredible care and all the emergency services that were at the scene ensuring Charlotte's safe arrival at the Royal Children's Hospital.

Our families would also like to thank everyone for the amazing support we have received over the past three months – from businesses, community groups, families, individuals, people we know and people we have never met. This support was received through donations which will be used for Charlotte's medical bills and ongoing rehabilitation.

To all the people who feed us and our families, we thank you, and all the beautiful presents Charlotte received have been much appreciated.

After two long months in hospital and two operations, Charlotte is now back at home. She is enjoying all the attention she is receiving and is taking her new journey in her stride, never complaining and just getting on with loving life.

She will start three-year-old kinder next year and lots more new adventures will be coming her way.

Once again, we say thank you to you all.

From Brett, Rachael, the Briggs family, Borys family and Footner family.

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SEEN AROUND TOWN

► Many residents enjoyed having a bookstore in town again in November, albeit just a temporary two-week pop-up shop in the Gisborne Village Shopping Centre. Owner Brian of Trentham said if sales were strong enough, he would consider opening a book shop in Gisborne.



◀ Picture framing and digital imaging shop Maddison's of Gisborne has opened next door but one to Simon Leong's on Hamilton Street.

► An application for a liquor licence has been made for a proposed cafe-beer garden called Fallen Freight at 16 Prince Street, Gisborne.



Don't miss the GISBORNE FESTIVAL

Gisborne Festival, Friday December 9, Gardiner Reserve

The festival, run by Lions and sponsored by Community Bank Gisborne (Bendigo Bank), is an outdoor event to celebrate the festive season, with no entry fees and various free activities to ensure that the entire community can join in the fun. It starts at 4.30pm at Gardiner Reserve.

Entertainment will include live music and entertainment, a variety of stalls, and carnival rides. There will again be a focus on families, with a range of free activities for children.

The popular parade, which will include a large range of community groups, floats, pipe band, stilt walker, Chinese lions and of course, Santa, will begin at 5.30pm.

The winner of the Christmas Wheelbarrow Raffle will be drawn on the night. Keep an eye out for ticket sellers at the ground and good luck to everyone. All the proceeds will be directed to Victorian flood victims.

The festival will conclude with a fireworks display.

Inclusion project finding welcoming places

#SeeME

#SeeME is a project creating visibility plus recognition of young people with a disability in our local neighbourhoods and communities in the Macedon Ranges.

The project is led by artist Leisa Shelton and is inspired by her experience as a carer for Riddells Creek resident Shae Benfell.

As a carer, Leisa has negotiated with Shae the often difficult terrain of accessing everyday experiences that so many of us take for granted – going to cafes, shops, parks etc.

Together, they have discovered a network of businesses and public spaces that have enabled and invited community engagement for Shae.

#SeeME has been working with these businesses



Shae Benfell.
Picture: Sofie Dieu

and public spaces to create a photo exhibition with Shae, to promote visibility and invite other families, carers and young people to discover safe and welcoming spaces in their area.

Each nominated site will be added to an interactive map as the project develops and expands, creating a resource for connecting with and engaging more inclusively with our diverse communities.

The community is invited to the launch on Saturday December 10 at 3pm at the Corner Coffee Shop, Hamilton Street, Gisborne. For more information visit www.artistascarer.org/projects/seeme

The project is made possible by the support of Community Bank Gisborne (Bendigo Bank) and Riddells Creek Neighbourhood House.

You are invited to the launch on Saturday December 10, 3pm at Corner Coffee Shop Hamilton Street, Gisborne.



GISBORNE GOSS

Science honour

Congratulations to Dr Ngaire Elwood of Mt Macedon who was inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women in November for her successful career in scientific research.



Macedon House

The heritage-listed Macedon House in Gisborne was sold after auction on November 5 for \$2,525,000. According to the agents, the buyer is part of a development group based in the Macedon Ranges

The 1847 former hotel will need to be retained in any future redevelopment proposal.

Hamilton Street Vet

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Gisborne

Carols by Candlelight

Sunday December 4 from 6.30pm at Dixon Field
Pre-entertainment by Song Sisters will start at 6pm. There will be a sausage sizzle, ice cream and coffee van, and candles and glow sticks for sale. Come along and listen to the choirs from the local primary schools as well as the Young Voices of Macedon choir, and join in the singing of carols with the Carols by Candlelight Choir. Come and see who will be awarded the Local Hero for services to the community over many years.

Bronwyn Tacey, Carols by Candlelight Committee



GISBORNE COMMUNITY
CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
Sunday 4th Dec
6:00pm
DIXON FIELD
Robertson St, Gisborne.
Carols sung by local Primary Schools & Choir
Pre-entertainment by Song Sisters

Macedon and Mt Macedon

Hosted by **Shane Jacobson**



FREE EVENT
Macedon & Mt Macedon
Carols by Candlelight
Wed 7th
December
From 6pm
Tony Clarke Reserve

Carols by Candlelight

Wednesday December 7 from 6pm

Tony Clarke Reserve, Macedon.

Local bands, musicians and schools performing from 6pm. Sausage sizzle, ice cream and coffee. Santa visit. For more information go to Macedon and Mount Macedon Carols by Candlelight on Facebook.

Gisborne Santa Run is on

Gisborne Fire Brigade is happy to announce that we will be continuing the annual Christmas Eve Santa Run.

We will kick off as usual, paying a visit to both the Oaks and Warrina nursing homes (COVID-19 conditions permitting).

Firefighters, fire trucks and Santa will then travel the town in fire trucks, starting in New Gisborne at approximately 12 noon and finishing about 7pm. Santa will be travelling with his usual goodies of a bag of lollies for the kids supplied by the sweet shop in Gisborne.

Firefighters on the day will have two dedicated response vehicles should a fire or emergency call take place. A lead vehicle will be in place which will alert people that Santa's sleigh is 5-10 minutes away.

Intense planning is underway to ensure that we make our way to as many people as possible. Keep an eye on our Gisborne Fire Brigade – CFA Facebook page where maps of Santa's route and updates will be.

To ensure that we can still get our firefighters home to spend Christmas Eve with their families, Santa's sleigh will not be able to stop for photos.



Gisborne

Carols by Candlelight

Friday December 16 from 6pm at Aitken Reserve

A non-denominational free community Carols by Candlelight event. All welcome.

For more information call 0425 781 581.



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Christmas church service times
▶ pages 38, 39



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Locals win shire business awards

Three south ward businesses have won awards in the Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards.

The Millett Road Maker, a bakery in South Gisborne, was awarded Champion of Social, Environmental or Sustainability Principles, Braeside Mt Macedon Country Retreat received the award for Excellence in Tourism and Visitor Experience, and Gisborne Family Dental received the award for Excellence in Health, Wellness and Care.

Kyneton Dry Stone Walling was named Business of the Year. For the full list of winners, see mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-awards



Simon Matthee of Millett Road Maker. Angelica James Photography

Gisborne CFA active in flood areas



Gisborne CFA firefighters are continuing to support our colleagues at the State Emergency Service with the flood crisis likely to affect communities for days and weeks to come.

Over the past three weeks, Gisborne has sent more than 16 firefighters to assist in Rochester and Echuca, which has been badly affected by the flooding, with Gisborne Tanker 1 also spending three days in Echuca.

Firefighters have taken on many roles to assist in the flooding response.

Initial crews assisted in the establishment of the sandbag walls and levees. This also meant helping in the setup of the major pumps which at time of writing are continuing to pump water away from homes and essential community hubs. Crews continue to patrol these areas ensuring that the levee and sandbags are holding. They also monitoring the water level in areas around the town.

Crews have also been assisting in roles at the Local Command Facility, with firefighters operating radios coordinating fire-fighting and ground vehicles, and with trained and experienced members also operating as a divisional commander reporting directly back to the incident control centre in Bendigo.

Gisborne will continue to assist in the Victorian flood situation as long as we are required to.

Submitted by Jordan Whitefield, 3rd Lieutenant



Braemar students work on the artistic side of the concreting.

Veterans memorial vandalised at Macedon

In November, after months of planning to upgrade the veterans area at Macedon Cemetery, the Cemetery Trust had a decorated path laid.

We received a grant from the Department of Veterans Affairs. With the aid of our volunteers and creative work involving some Year 10 art students from Braemar College, we were very pleased that this stage of the project was completed.

The night after the path was laid, a vandal came and scored the new concrete. This is very disappointing and we believe unrepresentative of our community.

Macedon Cemetery Trust

New fire danger ratings

The fire danger rating system has changed. The new system has four levels instead of six. The new ratings are Moderate, High, Extreme and Catastrophic.

The fire danger ratings provide information so people can take action to protect themselves and others. The higher the rating, the more dangerous the conditions are and the more impact if a fire were to start. Each different rating will have a clear set of messages and actions that people can take to reduce their risk.

The new rating system is nationwide.



The new rating system



KAT'S KORNER

with Kat Buttigieg

Go gently this end of year

December can be an exhausting time with end-of-year celebrations, festive season shopping, longer days and a full calendar. Here are a few tips to staying calm and cruisy in the craziness.

Get out into nature: Self-care is important, and even more so when life gets busy. Take a regular walk or schedule some time in nature to settle your mind. The Botanical Gardens in Gisborne and bushwalks around Macedon are the perfect places for a time out.

Say No: It's okay to say 'no' to events. There is no point in getting run down from attending every single get-together. Advocate for yourself and your family.

Choose less stressful gift options: Ask family and friends to compromise when it comes to gift giving as well. Opting for a Kris Kringle system, having a price limit or simply organising a day out instead of swapping presents is better for the environment, saves money and lightens everyone's mental load.

Make a plan: If you have an extensive gift list, put it together and start shopping as early as you can. Be sure to note where you put presents and who they are for as you buy them! Sometimes a scheduled day of shopping is a good way to get the bulk of it done in a short amount of time.

Sustainability for the win: Opting for an e-Christmas card, reusing gift bags, or wrapping presents in your small children's artworks (with their permission) are some ways of saving time, money and reducing waste.

Find joy in the little things: Remember that this time of year is meant to be full of cheer. If it is overwhelming, it's okay to step back and not worry so much about the presents you give. Often the best gifts are a heartfelt card, a small, thoughtful gift, or a hug.

Wishing you a wonderful festive season!

Kat

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Lions members recognised for their service



Friend of Lions Graham Boyd and Lions member Russell Walker OAM have been recognised for outstanding service to Lions International.

The secretary of the Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation, Helen Maunsell, recently presented Graham and Russell with the Mary Jamieson Recognition Award for their significant support to the foundation, which is a major Lions service project that makes a difference in the lives of many children, allowing them to walk with pride.

Proceeds from the sale of stamps collected by the Gisborne and District Lions Club are used by the foundation to obtain walking devices that get children out of wheelchairs and onto their feet.

Over the past two years, a staggering nine shopping bags full of stamps have been collected, trimmed and categorised prior to being forwarded to the foundation.

The community can support this program by dropping off your stamps at the Lions collection point at Hardy's UFS Pharmacy, Brantome Street, Gisborne.



From left: Russell Walker, Foundation representative Helen Maunsell and Graham Boyd.



Amanda Wendt, Diana Taurins and Martin Taurins

Decades of service earns couple prestigious award

Two members of Gisborne Rotary, Diana and Martin Taurins, have been presented with the Royce Abbe Award in Rotary in Australia for their amazing dedication to finding a cure for multiple sclerosis.



Their journey in this cause began when their son, Jacob, was diagnosed with MS in 1989. As a result, they embarked on a path to find a cure and have worked diligently for over three decades, making them both very worthy recipients of this prestigious award. They attended and participated in more than 20 Rotary International Conventions all over the world to establish and promote the Rotary Action Group Against Multiple Sclerosis worldwide.

At a recent gathering of the Rotary clubs in our region, Diana and Martin presented a cheque to Australian Rotary Health to support a PhD student in research in the amount of \$36,000. Rotary District Governor Amanda Wendt, from the Rotary Club of Melbourne, accepted the cheque on behalf of Australian Rotary Health. The money was raised by Diana and Martin with the support of the Rotary Club of Gisborne and this is not the first PhD student funded to help find a cure.

Submitted by Lyn Robinson

Changes at the top



Ian Hay has stepped down from the top job of Group Officer after serving the Mount Macedon Group of Brigades in various positions for more than 27 years. Greg Snart, former Captain of the Macedon Fire Brigade, has been promoted to Group Officer.



Greg Snart (left) and Ian Hay.

MACEDON RANGES



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Gisborne Bendigo Bank's spring grant night at the Gisborne Church of Christ. Picture: Rebecca Baber

Latest round of Community Bank grants handed out

Twenty-four groups were awarded funding at the spring community investment evening of Community Bank Gisborne (Bendigo Bank) on November 14.

Grants and sponsorships worth more than \$180,000 in total will enable local projects and activities in the ar-

reas of arts, education, health and wellbeing, community infrastructure and sport and recreation.

The manager of Gisborne's locally owned and operated branch of Bendigo Bank, Sarah Barton, said that hearing grant recipients talk about their projects was

one of the highlights of her job.

"I feel very privileged that the hard work of my staff helps not only our customers but also the wider community," she said.

For list of recipients and amounts ► see page 12

South Gisborne cow in mammoth record

South Gisborne Highland cattle breeder Glen Hastie has sold a 14-month-old heifer for what could be a world record price of \$67,500. Glen has bred Highland cows in Gisborne for 26 years and has never seen such demand for the breed.

"It's out of this world for us," Glen said. "It's certainly going to look after our next lot of imported genetics and put up a shed for us. In the previous sale we had six months ago, the average price was \$13,000, which we thought was amazing back then."

It was certainly a record for Australia, he said, and the price was roughly double the previous records for Scotland and North America, which it is believed makes it a world record.

The price for Highland cattle has been rising since the pandemic started, when more people began moving to regional areas.



Above: A perfect specimen on the farm.



Right: Glen Hastie with two of his Highland cattle.

Genealogical Group wraps up for the year



The year is fast coming to a close. The Gisborne Genealogical Group only has one activity left for the year – our Christmas

dinner on Friday December 2 at Canteena, when we will be drawing our usual hamper raffle for the first time in three years.

Let's hope next year we can get back to even more 'normal' activities.

I would like to thank all the members who have helped during the year by being on duty on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Family History Room, and those who have led discussions at meetings and helped in any way.

Special thanks to Kerry, our newsletter editor, and to Leanne, our website manager, and to all the hard-working members of our committee.

All voluntary organisations depend so much on reliable helpers.

Our members have been wonderful. Thank you also to our loyal local sponsors – many of you have supported us now over many years, and we are most grateful.

The Family History Room adjoining the Gisborne Library will close on December 20 and reopen on February 2 – our volunteers deserve a little break.

Perhaps 2023 will be the year to get started tracing your family history. If you need advice, please come and see us.

Have a Happy Christmas and a safe New Year.
www.ggg.org.au

Lyn Hall
President



Lyn Hall

Hampers and gratitude from Foodbank

Gisborne Foodbank will be packing Christmas hampers on December 5 so there is still time to donate.

Some suggestions for Christmas fare for our hampers are Christmas cakes and puddings, mince pies, nice biscuits including shortbread biscuits, blocks of chocolate, scorched almonds, Cadbury Favourites, Roses, Ferrero Rocher, Toblerone, lollies, nuts, coffee, teas, crackers with relish, etc.

Donations can be dropped off at Foodbank or at one of our community drop points (details can be found at www.gisbornefoodbank.org.au).

A big thankyou to the men of the Gisborne Men's Shed, who have again built a fantastic cubby house and are selling raffle tickets (see page 15), with proceeds going directly to Gisborne Foodbank.

There's still time to buy your tickets before the winner is drawn on December 19.

Please go to www.a-cubby-house-for-christmas-



Foodbank Inc.

-2022.raisely.com to buy your raffle tickets.

The Foodbank will close for a few weeks over the holiday period so that our volunteers can spend some time with their families. Our last day for 2022 will be Wednesday December 21, and we will reopen on Wednesday January 18.

Please phone our mobile on 0492 850 520 if you or anyone you know has any emergency food needs over the holidays. We can also be contacted via email (info@gisbornefoodbank.org.au) or via Facebook @GisborneFoodbank or www.gisbornefoodbank.org.au.

We sincerely thank everyone in our wonderful Macedon Ranges community for their continuing support. Thank you also to all our amazing volunteers. We could not operate without you. Have a wonderful Christmas and new year.



Stallholder Profile

Tony's Toy Boxes

News from GREAT



One of Tony's special toy boxes.

Tony and his wife Natassja run their toy box business from their home garage.

They made their first toy box for their daughter and the business escalated from there. Tony says they have made around 150 boxes since they first began four or five years ago.

Gisborne is the only market they attend and most of their business comes through word of mouth from satisfied customers. You can contact Tony or Natassja privately or just pop into the market if you are after one of their beautiful toy boxes.

Custom-made toy boxes, 100cm x 58cm x 60cm. Tel 0421 468 301 or email aquilina85@hotmail.com; Facebook [@tonytoyboxes](https://www.facebook.com/tonytoyboxes).



The GREAT Association Inc held its AGM on November 16. Its new committee is a mix of old and new faces, which is encouraging as we move into a busy and challenging 2023 after a difficult couple of years.

As many will know, the Gisborne Region Events Activities and Tourism Association Inc (GREAT) is a not-for-profit community fundraising organisation, run by volunteers for the purpose of helping the local community. It is the coordinating body for the Olde Time Market and the *Gazette*. It also promotes tourism in and around Gisborne and distributes grants to community groups. Proceeds from the market are distributed in the form of these grants.

Hence the GREAT Association has distributed several hundred thousand dollars of grants in the past decade alone, to organisations such as the SES, CFA, Gisborne and New Gisborne Scouts, Gisborne Chaplaincy Fund, the Gisborne Cemetery Trust and the Gisborne Festival.

We wish the new committee well in 2023.

Rick Arden, president

Next markets:

Sunday
December 4

Sunday
January 1

Vale Remo

Just a few days before the November market, it was with great sadness that the market committee was advised of the sudden death of Remo Ulpiano of Greenberg Nurseries.

Remo was a much-loved stallholder who joined the 'market family' in 2005 and who was always willing to have a chat and share his broad knowledge and love of plants.

A mechanical engineer by profession, Remo was a young man with a beautiful disposition, a friendly smile, and nothing was too much trouble for him.

Originally he propagated and sold mostly verbenas,

roses, salvias and fuchsias, but in more recent years had branched out, selling hardy seasonal plants such as cornflowers, petunias, pansies and daisies.

A small memorial to Remo provided by his family and market committee members was in place at Remo's usual stall site for the November market.

Remo's presence at Gisborne Olde Time Market will be sadly missed, but memories of him will last for many years to come in the colour and fragrance that linger in the gardens of many homes in this district.

Gisborne Market Committee



The GREAT committee for 2022-23: Dorothy Murray (treasurer), Deb Fleming (secretary), Rick Arden (president), Graham Dickinson (vice-president), Karan Grieve, Lesleigh McCloy, Phyllis Boyd OAM and Sue Markwell. Absent: John Frearson.



Top: Remo Ulpiano at his stall in 2016, as featured in a *Gazette* profile.

Above: the market memorial.



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GRAEME MILLAR



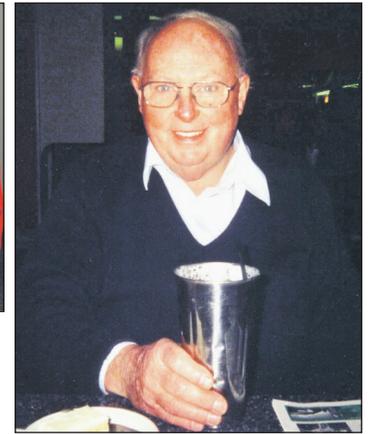
Elaine and Graeme celebrate together.



Graeme at the Anglican Op Shop.



On duty as market marshall.



Graeme enjoyed a regular milkshake with his men's coffee group.

A GOOD MAN

A life dedicated to the service of others

The funeral of popular Gisborne resident Graeme Millar was held in Gisborne on November 24. Mourners filled St Paul's Anglican Church and the Masonic Hall which had been set up to take the overflow, and St Brigid's Catholic Church generously opened its doors and linked into the streamed service too, and mourners filled it up as well.

It represented a coming together of the churches and the community that perfectly encapsulated the loving and community-minded way that Graeme lived his life.

GRAEME ALLAN MILLAR OAM JP

6 December 1940 – 12 November 2022

Gisborne has lost a great citizen. Around this town there has never been anybody quite like Graeme. His genial manner, genuine interest in people and his willingness to help out in any way that he could endeared Graeme to all who came in contact with him. His passing is being felt keenly not only by his family but by the legions of Gisborne people who were proud to consider themselves a friend of Graeme Millar.

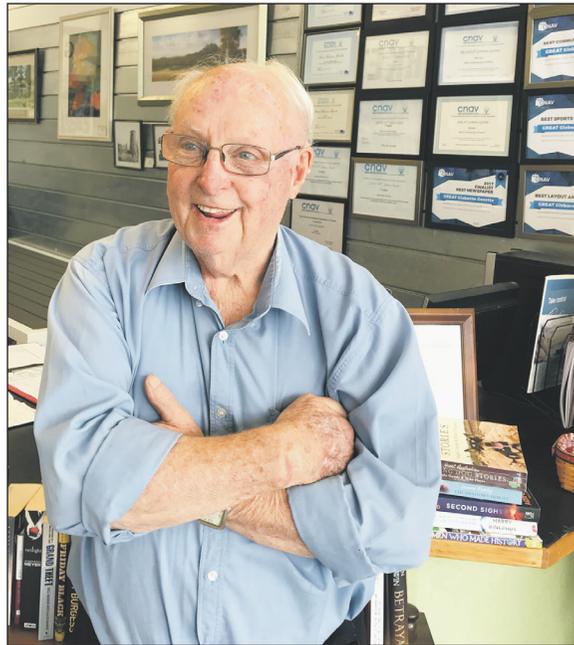
Graeme was born in Mildura, the first child of Allan and Mavis Millar, but he was five years old before he met his father, who had spent much of WWII as a POW at Changi in Singapore. Allan returned to his job in the post office in Irymple with later postings to Maryborough and Korong Vale. Graeme's sisters, Trish and Jan, were born in these years.

One day in early 1956, when Graeme was in Form 4, his father came to the school to take him out of class and send him to Wedderburn Post Office where a job as a junior postal officer was waiting for him. And so began a long career in the postal service that only ended when Graeme took early retirement at the age of 51.

In 1960, his life changed when he met a young lady from Golden Square, Elaine Meager. They met at a dance in Bendigo and there was a Glen Miller tune being played. It was then that Elaine encountered Graeme's unique sense of humour for the first time, when he claimed the band leader was his Uncle Glen.

They married on 27 April 1963 and moved to Kyabram where they built their first house. Rohan was born in Kyabram in April 1966 and Carolyn followed in September 1968; younger sister Heather is a Gisborne girl – born here in August 1976.

It was while in Kyabram that Graeme's commitment to community service was born and he became involved in many clubs and organisations there.



Graeme was a cheery and endearing presence in the *Gazette* office.

The family moved to Gisborne in April 1975 when Graeme was promoted to the position of Postmaster. And what a boon his coming proved to be for this town! Soon he was on the Anglican Church Vestry, then the Primary School Council. He played tennis, and became President of the Gisborne Tennis Club. He was involved in the Freemasons, holding many esteemed positions. He had a philatelic society up and running in Sunbury and was involved in the early days of Braemar College. He joined the Lions Club – becoming President and Zone Chairman. And through Lions he was involved in so many projects, particularly after the 1983 bushfires.

Graeme was invited to become a Justice of the Peace in 1979. He was very proud of being a JP – and in that capacity he met many local people, never minding what time the call came to witness documents.

He was the chair of the local Bicentennial Committee, presiding over Gisborne's festivities in 1988.

He became even more active locally after his retirement. One of his more eclectic interests from that time was being part of a barbershop quartet called Short Back and Sides.

He became very involved in the GREAT Association and was the president and treasurer for many years, a big job as the monthly market grew to hundreds of stalls. He was the chairman of the Gisborne Festival

from 1992 to 2007. One year he and Elaine were driven around town as the King and Queen of the Festival. He was named the Local Hero for Gisborne in 2013.

Graeme also put countless hours into many lower-profile roles. He took the bookings for the parish hall and the Masonic hall. He spent hours each week in St Paul's op shop. He was on church vestries from 1966 to 2010. He would always run a stall at the church fete.

He ran monthly men's dinners in the church for years. He worked as a volunteer at the Oaks nursing home; he drove for Meals on Wheels for 10 years. He served on countless committees – but he was not someone who was just talk; he rolled his sleeves up and held working bees and got things done. For 25 years he was the local chairman of the Red Shield Appeal and he was an active collector for the Red Cross for 20 years, and for Vision Australia. He was President of the Macedon Legacy group and personally looked after a number of war widows and others who had served the country.

He was surprised and delighted to be awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day honours list in 1999. He was even more pleased when Elaine received the same honour 20 years later. Graeme joined the Order of Australia Association and, like so many other organisations he joined, he was soon on the committee and became the Regional Chairman. And as he usually did with organisations he joined, he soon had them running trivia nights. He conducted more than 50 of them over the years, raising many thousands of dollars.

In recent times Graeme enjoyed putting together the monthly crossword for the *Gisborne Gazette*. As well as the crossword, he contributed the jokes for the Kids' Page. Graeme loved jokes – classic 'dad' jokes. He had a great sense of humour. For many years he and Elaine also proofread the *Gazette*.

The last months were very sad – to see him decline so rapidly. He had the best of care but life being cared for didn't agree with Graeme. He was the helper, and not the helped. It just wasn't him at all.

Graeme and Elaine would have been married 60 years next April. For almost 60 years he carried around in his wallet as a token of his love for her the words to the song they had sung at their wedding in 1963 – *All the Way* by Frank Sinatra.

As a husband, father and grandfather Graeme was much loved. He was a wonderful role model – you couldn't help but feel a better person when you spent time with him. He is much missed by all of his family, and by all others who knew him, after a life well lived.



Seven of the Gisborne book group's members with author Joan Atherton Hooper, centre.

Book club enjoys author visit

Recently one of Gisborne's book clubs enjoyed a special treat in meeting the author of their discussion book.

Each month a member of the group chooses a book, supplied in sets of 10 copies by Gisborne Library, and the group meets at alternating members' homes to review their impressions of the book.

Each member of this group particularly enjoyed reading the incredible life story of (now 86-year-old) Joan Atherton Hooper and was delighted she agreed to meet them in person. Joan told them they would be the last group she would be meeting.

The members felt fortunate indeed to hear even more details about the many challenges this inspiring woman went through which are revealed in her book *Nothing to Cry About*.

Submitted by Lorraine Broad

Four books by local writers

Local authors have been busy lately, with two new books released and a launch in December, and a fourth book due out before Christmas.

A story of loss

Warwick McFadyen, journalist with *The Age* and occasional *Reflections* column writer for the *Gazette*, has produced a collection of articles and poems written over the three years since the death of his son Hamish, chronicling the evolving nature of the grief that swamped his family.

In his book titled *The Ocean*, he has been able to put into words, with heartbreaking acuity, the pain of a parent in this most unbearable of circumstances, and describe how the nature of his emotions has changed, though not diminished, over this time.

This is perhaps not a book for everyone, but the strong response that Warwick received from other bereaved parents when some of his articles were published in *The Age*, *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Guardian Australia* demonstrated that his ability to express the inexpressible has struck a chord with many.

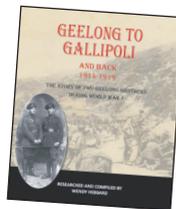


Warwick McFadyen

The Ocean is available through online retailers in hardcover and ebook at \$28.

Launch: Gallipoli stories

The launch of Wendy Hebbard's moving collection of letters and articles written home to Geelong from Gallipoli by her uncles and other young soldiers will be held at Woodend Library on December 14 at 2.30pm. Wendy, now residing in Bupa at Woodend, lived in New Gisborne for many years.



Geelong to Gallipoli – And Back was released earlier this year but Wendy was unable to attend a launch until now. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the launch and are also available online.

All welcome.

Women and friendship

Macedon's Margaret Lygnos has published her fourth book, a story of friendship and dilemma titled *Orchard Lane*.

The book follows the trials and tribulations of an ensemble cast of characters, headed by the main character who leaves the country for life in a small street in inner-city Melbourne. She soon becomes reluctantly caught up in the lives and at times very dark dramas of her new neighbours.

Orchard Lane follows the publication of *Ladder on the Fence* earlier this year, a book which drew heavily on Margaret's childhood and, prior to that, *Group Therapy* and *Poppy*, a historically based book drawing on Greek-Australian migration and a particular traumatic event in Greek history. All are available online.

Orchard Lane is available online at \$19.99.



Margaret Lygnos

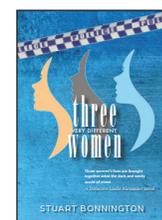
Crime and investigation

A third new local book titled *Three Very Different Women* and written by Stuart Bonnington, is due out mid-to-late December.

Stuart, who currently divides his time between Gisborne and Queensland, has written his second crime novel featuring the character Detective Linda Alexander. Stuart's books fall into the police procedural genre, and both feature the local region as well as Melbourne. The first novel was titled *Murders Galore*.

Three Very Different Women delves into some seedy areas as the three women of the title are brought together through the world of crime.

The book will be available online at around \$24.



Wishing you all a
MERRY CHRISTMAS

As Christmas approaches, we would like to remind all patients to organise any necessary appointments, prescriptions and any required travel vaccinations for overseas holidays before the holiday break begins.

Please take note of our opening hours when booking your appointments.



CHRISTMAS HOURS

Friday 23/12

8:30am - 5:00pm

Saturday 24/12

CLOSED

Monday 26/12

CLOSED

Tuesday 27/12

CLOSED

Wednesday 28/12

8:30am - 5:00pm

Thursday 29/12

8:30am - 5:00pm

Friday 30/12

8:30am - 5:00pm

Saturday 31/12

9:00am - 12:00pm

Monday 2/1

CLOSED



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Going orange against family violence

Gisborne CWA's orange day alerted us to be more aware of family violence. Orange in

November also represents a worldwide movement to recognise those more rare health conditions that do not get as much publicity.

We have been able to make a few donations after our fundraising during the year. CWA head office will receive \$1000 for the Emergency Fund to help with flood relief in Victoria, \$500 to the Welfare Fund and another \$500 to general funds. The Gisborne Foodbank will receive \$1000 and Gisborne and Bullengarook CFA \$500 each.

These monies are raised on stalls selling craft and baked goods and we have a couple coming up. Saturday, December 3, from 10am to 2pm there is a Christmas



Gisborne CWA members show support for the cause.



fair at the Macedon CWA Hall on Mt Macedon Road where a few of our local branches will be selling all sorts of Christmas goodies.

We also have a stall at Bunnings in Sunbury on Thursday, December 8, from 6 to 8 pm, so hope to see a few locals there.

December 12 is our last meeting for the year at Gisborne Secondary College Stadium followed by lunch at Macedon Lounge.

Have a safe and happy Christmas.

Christine Edwards



Christine Edwards

Community Bank grants

From page 8

Funding recipients in Gisborne were South Gisborne Tennis Club (\$18,000 for court resurfacing), New Gisborne Primary School Parents Association (\$4855 for a water bubbler on the school oval), 1st Gisborne Scout Group (\$4000 for a trailer), PS My Family Matters (\$3000 for carer events), and Gisborne Community Carols by Candlelight (\$2000).

A 2021 pledge of \$30,000 to the equestrian clubs of IR Robertson Reserve in South Gisborne (Gisborne Adult Riding Club, Gisborne Pony Club and Melbourne Showjumping Club) for an all-weather arena will be actioned as all funding and approvals required for the project have been secured by the clubs.

Macedon groups receiving funding were Macedon and Mount Macedon Community House (\$5000 for digital communications project), Mountain Writers Festival (\$5000), Mt Macedon Anzac Day Dawn Service (\$4000 for 2023 service), Macedon Cemetery Trust (\$3500 for gazebo refurbishment), the Mount Players (\$3000 for a show computer and software), Mt Macedon Golf Club (\$2500 for tee repair), Macedon Ranges Art Collective (\$3000 for landscape art prizes), and Macedon and Mt Macedon Carols by Candlelight (\$2000).

Pledges to large projects at Macedon Tennis Club (\$20,000 for fencing repair and replacement) and Gisborne Golf Club (\$20,000 for a shelter on the new driving range) were also made on the night.

News from Macedon CWA



After a busy month in November, we are now looking forward to our Christmas Pop-Up Fair at the CWA Hall in Mt Macedon on Saturday December 3. Along with other branches in our Central Highlands

Group we will be selling a variety of homemade goods.

Across the stalls will be traditional Christmas cakes, puddings, shortbread etc. Also, yummy jams and preserves, great for gifts or to treat ourselves.

There will also be handmade gifts and Christmas decorations. Come along to kick-start your Christmas shopping or to fill in the gaps in what you have already bought.

We are looking forward to our branch Christmas break-up — we always have a happy time together.

Then one last fundraiser for 2022 as we cater for a Christmas break-up for another organisation.

We at Macedon CWA wish all at the *Gazette* and readers a wonderful Christmas and health and happiness in 2023. Stay safe and if you have been thinking of joining or seeing what CWA is all about, contact Anne Fyfield on 5426 2210 for more information.



WHAT'S ON AT GISBORNE LIBRARY?

Summer at the library

The Gisborne Library staff would like to wish everyone a very happy and sunny summer holiday with plenty of time to read some perfect books.

Please share the information that the library has NO FINES, we simply would like any outstanding items back especially if they were borrowed early 2020!

Where the Crawdads Sing was a blockbuster book and now the library is showing the movie on December 14 at 1pm. Bookings are space limited so get in early; book online via goldfieldslibraries.com and search Events, or call the friendly Gisborne Library staff.

Be Connected: Researching and booking travel online is on Tuesday 6 December, 11.30am-12.30pm.

There are a lot of major programs being run over the summer break. The popular Summer Reading Club for children, Big Summer Read, begins December 1.

A new program this year is children's **Tuesday movies** at 11am. We will be showing *Minions Rise of Gru* on January 10; *Lightyear* on January 17 and *Turning Red* on January 24.

Damo: Music for Kids looks like fun on Thursday January 19, 11-12pm, suitable for ages 3-7.

Working in partnership with the *Gisborne Gazette*, the **Gisborne Writing and Illustration Challenge** is a first for the library. Residents of Gisborne/Macedon-Mt Macedon/Bullengarook and Gisborne Library members are invited to enter the challenge for some creative fun over summer. Covering all ages and interests, the library will be hosting free writing and illustration workshops covering poetry, drawing manga faces and comic panelling. There will be prizes donated by the *Gazette*. See poster on page 40, and keep an eye on our website for further details. www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au

Christmas Week opening hours:

December 24-27: closed

December 28-30: open 10am-5pm

December 31: open 9.30am-12.30pm

January 2: closed

January 3: return to normal hours 9.30am-5.30pm

The library would like to thank the wonderful people who produce the *Gisborne Gazette* and keep our community informed.

Georgina Harvey

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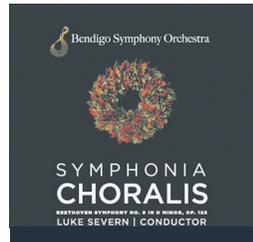
Big Beethoven and 2023 plans



Symphonia Choralis, the joint venture of The Gisborne Singers and Bendigo Symphony Orchestra, is just around the corner. It's being held on December 10 and 11 at the Ulumbarra Theatre, Bendigo.

On Saturday December 10 at 7:30pm, five choirs (Women of Note, Woodend Warblers, the Victoria Welsh Male Choir, Bendigo Chamber Choir and the Gisborne Singers) will showcase their own repertoire in *A Choral Celebration*. All tickets \$25. Tickets can be booked at www.bendigoregion.com.au/arts-culture-theatres/event/the-gisborne-singers-choral-recital or call 5434 6100.

On Sunday December 11 at 2:30pm, the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra and the Gisborne Singers plus members of the other choirs will perform Beethoven's



Symphony No 9 in D minor. Soloists are Merlyn Quaife, Kristen Leich, Michael Petruccelli and Teddy Tahu Rhodes. Concession/student \$45, full \$55.

For tickets go to www.bendigoregion.com.au/arts-culture-theatres/event/bendigo-symphony-orchestra-symphonia-choralis or phone 5434 6100.

The choir's plans for 2024 include Mozart's Requiem in May, our Cabaret in July, and a December Christmas Concert which will include items from a European tour that the choir is very excited to undertake in October.

Choir practise night is Wednesday from 7:30pm to 10pm at the Gisborne Uniting Church, 23 Brantome Street, Gisborne. New members are always welcome.

Enquiries: visit www.gisbornesingers.org.au or phone 0408 156 263.

Alison Kinghorn



The Gallery is a great spot for unique Christmas gifts.

Annual art and craft exhibition



Phoenix Art & Craft Exhibition, December 3 and 4

Phoenix Macedon Ranges Art & Craft Exhibition is on at the Court House in Gisborne on Saturday and Sunday December 3 and 4.

Phoenix members produce a wide range of work including pottery, painting, papercraft, woodwork and glassware, as well as textile crafts such as spinning, weaving, thread painting and puppets. At the exhibition you will have the chance to view the artists' work and to buy a one-of-a-kind item at a reasonable price just in time for your family and friends this Christmas.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday December 3 from 10am-4pm and Sunday 4 from 9am-4pm.

If you want to find out more about our history, work and



Pottery by Kate Paul

the next exhibition you can visit our website at Phoenix Macedon Ranges Art & Craft Inc. If you are interested in joining our group, you can contact our longtime member Kay Beale on – ph. 9744 2646.

Submitted by Dianne Egan

December at The Gallery

The Gallery Mt Macedon will again provide a wonderful selection of Christmas gift ideas to suit everyone and their pockets. These are all made by local artists so come in and shop locally.



In December, The Gallery will have its Christmas display in the Focus Room. This promises to be rich with beautiful craft and art as you have come to expect at The Gallery.

The rest of The Gallery will have its usual selection of artwork by our talented members. Many of these items would make wonderful presents or would put the finishing touches to those holiday redecoration projects.

We have woodwork, textiles, paintings, pottery, jewellery, origami and lots more. Why not buy your gifts and Christmas cards from our beautiful selection?

We have had a busy year. Over the year there have been a variety of exhibitions, including traditional and modern Japanese art, drawings of people with tattoos, as well as our inaugural Portrait Prize.

In July we presented some wonderful fashion in our Art to Wear Parade.

We are really looking forward to next year's Landscape Prize, supported by the Community Bank-Bendigo Bank, which will offer prizes for landscape painting and photography. Look out for entry details early next year.

Our Arts Collective thanks you for your support throughout the year.

The Gallery opens 10am to 4pm Friday to Tuesday.

The Gallery will be closed December 25 and 26 and New Year's Day.

Sue Anson, 0413 581 632

Players wind up their 50th year



The Mount Players

After the disappointments of the previous two years, the Mount Players kicked back with a vengeance in 2022 to produce four successful shows in this, our 50th anniversary, year. The shows included *Love Song*, *The Odd Couple*, *Reservoir Dogs* and *Madagascar*, displaying absolute diversity and continuing to attract new audiences.

The highlight has been the publication of our book *Box Office to Back Stage – 50 Years of Community Theatre*. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our history group, this magnificent 332-page book is packed with stories, shows and photographs covering our 50 years from 1972 to 2021. The book can be purchased through our website, www.themountplayers.com.

A huge thanks to the Community Bank Gisborne-Bendigo Bank for a generous grant of \$3000 which will be spent on a new computer and software for our technical team in the bio box (technicians' room).

The year will wind up with our Christmas picnic in December and we then look forward to a busy 2023 – we have a jam-packed calendar already in place. Our first show for 2023 will be a very funny radio play, *The 39*



The Mount Players launch their history book at the troupe's 50th celebration. From left: Allan Cameron, Marg Cameron, Chris Finch, Karlana Santamaria and Bernadette Tonna.

Steps, by director John Rowlands. It opens on February 24 so check out our website for full details.

The Mount Players sends out a huge thanks to everyone who comes to our shows and of course to our wonderful sponsors for their support. We wish all a peaceful, happy Christmas season with friends and family. See you at the theatre in 2023!

Karen Hunt

Talking about crochet ► page 36

Woodend Art Group

Summer art workshop series

Cold Wax Oil Painting with Dawn Lim

Experience making and painting with the cold wax medium. It can be used in all painting styles including mixed media. Saturday January 7, 10am to 4pm. \$90 members; \$95 non-members. BYO lunch.

Hand Building Ceramic with Sam Varian

An introduction to the basics of handbuilding large sculptural ceramics using the best techniques to make creative works or functional pieces. Sunday January 8, 10am to 4pm. \$95 members; \$100 non-members. BYO lunch.

Art Therapy with Belinda Mackie

The aim is to explore your creative side and express it through abstract art using colour, design contrast, differences and more. Saturday January 14, 12:30pm to 4:30pm. \$40 members; \$45 non-members.

Acrylic Painting by Hand with Chris Sage

A wonderful way to paint landscape



Woodend Art Group

skyscapes, using the hand, with a latex glove as the brush. This is for

people wanting a fun, free-flowing way to apply paint. Sunday January 15, 10am to 4pm. \$60 members; \$65 non-members. BYO lunch.

Natural Eco Dyeing with Colleen Weste

Using plant dyes, you will create patterns on silk, cotton and paper. Silk scarf and cotton provided and some watercolour paper. Bring a spray bottle & string. Saturday January 21, 10am to 1pm. \$70 members; \$75 non-members.

Watercolour with Lianne Ivankovic

Spontaneity with watercolour. Using three layers, we will do some smaller paintings before a quarter sheet. Sunday January 29, 10am to 4pm. \$85 members, \$90 non-members.

All workshops to be held at the Woodend Art Group rooms at the Railway Station. For booking information and materials lists, please contact Amanda on amanda.aish@candusio.org or on 0419 116 922.



The photo competition. Picture: Paul Fletcher.

Club takes the prize

Macedon Ranges Photographic Society recently hosted the annual Central Victorian Interclub Photographic Competition. Visiting clubs came together from Bendigo, Castlemaine and Maryborough, starting off with a walkabout on Mt Macedon to take some very foggy photos.

Refreshments and judging were at our home base at Dromkeen which was perfect for displaying the print section photos, and the digital images were crisp and clear through our new projector.

External judges from the Rosanna Photographic Club gave feedback on awarded entries and allocated all



photos a score out of 45. These were then added up to find the overall champion club. Macedon Ranges Photographic Society was announced as the winning club by just six points. Congratulations to all individual winners.

The last meeting for this year is Saturday December 3, a social get-together at Dromkeen, in Riddells Creek.

For more information on the club go to www.macedon-ranges-photography.org.au. Wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas break.

Sue Steward

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Healthy habits to get you through the holiday season



By Julie Ireland

After spending the past 12 months trying to get fit and healthy, I'm starting to panic slightly as to how I am going to survive the festive season, a time of constant social engagements where I am surrounded by food and drinks, and a packed calendar making the scheduling of regular exercise more difficult. Anyone else feeling the same way? Don't panic! I read an article recently which had some great tips to help people enjoy the festivities and emerge ready to hit the ground running in the new year, so I thought I'd share some of them with you.

Keep to your routine as much as possible. It's tempting to go into total sloth-mode, but you will thank yourself if you keep to your healthy habits when you can. If you can't get to the gym for your regular workout, go for a walk or do something else that you enjoy – just move your body.

Give yourself the freedom to eat what you want (though I still suggest drinking in moderation). Losing and putting on weight doesn't happen overnight. You are not going to undo months of good work in a few days. So it's okay to indulge, and don't beat yourself up if you gain a couple of kilos. Everything will be okay.

Make sure you get plenty of sleep. This is good for your physical health and also for your mental health.

If you are struggling at this time of year and feeling low, please don't hesitate to reach out for support from a trusted friend or health professional.

And finally, this is the time of year to really slow down and reflect on the past year: the good times and maybe even the not-so-good times. Don't waste this opportunity to recharge your batteries for the year ahead. Take care of yourselves and have a wonderful Christmas and new year!

Julie



Men's Shed men show the cubby with its new, wider doorway design.

Have you bought your tickets yet?



Just a reminder about the Men's Shed Christmas Cubby House Raffle, with all proceeds going to the Gisborne Foodbank. As in previous years, all ticket sales are online and it's as easy as using the QR code below. You could give it a try right now!

We will deliver and install the cubby on easily accessed flat ground within a 30km radius of Gisborne. See the Foodbank Facebook page for dates and supermarket locations of the Cubby House display. Feel free to visit our Shed to see the raffle drawn on Monday December 19 at 11am.



Merry Christmas to all our regular readers. We look forward to you dropping in to The Shed for a cuppa and a chat, any Monday, Wednesday or Thursday morning in the new year.

Living with dementia and driving study

Are you or a loved one living with dementia? Retired from driving or considering retiring in the future? We invite you to participate in our research. We can come to you.



Researchers at the University of Queensland are recruiting for the *Living with Dementia and Driving Study* funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

Stopping driving can be one of the most challenging issues for people living with dementia, their families and health professionals. Particular challenges may include not knowing the right time to stop driving, unlicensed driving and concerns about how to keep people engaged in valued activities without driving.

Participants and their care partner are able to participate in the community-based CarFreeMe program. This offers emotional and practical support for people making the transition to life without driving.

The program includes collecting information about: your needs related to getting around the community; getting education, help and support from a health professional; and being part of a small group or getting help one-on-one at your home.

To participate in the study or find out more, scan the QR code at right or contact donna.rooney@uq.edu.au or (07) 3365 6392; theresca.scott@uq.edu.au or (07) 3365 6723.



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Remembrance Day in Gisborne

Service to Australia was commemorated around the community on November 11.

The Gisborne RSL held a service at the war memorial in Hamilton Street that was well attended, including kindergarten children from Riddells Creek (pictured right) who laid a wreath.



Above: New Gisborne Primary School students (from left) Skye, Michael, Tahlia, Eve and Alana at the Gisborne service with RSL member Gray Stevenson.



Gisborne Library hosted an author talk and book signing with Peter FitzSimons on his latest book *The Battle of Long Tan*, the story of Australia's deadliest Vietnam War battle.



Macedon Ranges Health engaged community volunteers to knit and crochet more than 700 poppies for a commemorative display.



Wattle Day celebration and walk in Daly Nature Reserve

News from Daly Nature Reserve

Friends of Daly Nature Reserve

Looking back on 2022, we have some highlights worth mentioning.

For those who walk in Daly Nature Reserve, or simply drive along Howey Street, you will see that the Scouts' outdoor meeting place is now complete and our Friends group has added lots of native plants to enhance the area.

Our guided nature walks for Year 3 students from Gisborne Primary School continued, now spread to three walks in autumn and again in spring. Our walks featured in the spring edition of the Victorian Landcare magazine. We recently hosted representatives from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) on a walk and talk in the reserve.

The flush of orchids and lilies in the reserve was late to arrive, but a couple of days of sunshine led to a beautiful display, including the elusive sun orchids in early November.

We wrapped our September AGM around the Wattle Day celebrations and invited guests to join a walk in the reserve to identify different wattle species. Council also provided wattle-seed shortbread biscuits to sample during afternoon tea.

We wish our supporters and readers a happy festive season, and hope we see you in the reserve next year.

Enquiries: dalynaturereserve@gmail.com

Friends of Daly Nature Reserve

Probus enjoy soaring heights of cathedral



Gisborne Probus members visited the awe-inspiring building that is the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bendigo in October.

The Cathedral is the third-largest church in the state and by far the largest in a provincial city. It was designed in 1895 in the Gothic Revival style and its interior is flooded by reflections of light and colour from the magnificent stained-glass windows above the entrance and behind the choir loft, as well as those above the altar.

I would like to wish everyone a joyous Christmas season on behalf of the Gisborne Probus Club, as this will be our last article for 2022. We are taking a break, finishing the year with a Christmas lunch on December 1. We meet again on February 2.

If you want to learn more about the Probus Club of Gisborne you are welcome to join us on the first Thursday of each month in the Gisborne Community Hall (old Senior Citizens' Room) at the Gisborne Community Centre. For further information you can contact our president, George Peart, on 0419 610 811.

Dianne Egan



Probus members inside the Cathedral in Bendigo.

So much has been happening...

I have so much to tell you, I'm not quite sure where to start. Well, here goes...

Residents joined staff to celebrate 'Happy Diwali Day', an Indian festival of lights. We had a lovely lunch in the LEP (Life Enhancement) room, followed by some of our lovely Indian staff dressed in their national costume dancing as they do in India; residents clapped their hands.

Then we had Oktoberfest Day with the playing of the pianola, which was most enjoyable. Gisborne Oaks had a Show Day, with an animal farm, popcorn, show bags and milkshakes. To finish the day, a gent by the name of Leon entertained everyone.

We also had a 'Winter Wonderland' with a Christmas menu. The whole of the hostel was decorated for Halloween, some decorations very scary. This was another wonderful day.

I was invited to high tea by a friend named Rita. It was at Black Horse Hotel, Bulla, and the hotel was decorated for Halloween. The food was served on a large black tray, the eggs were turned upside down and eyes had been printed on them. There were about 12 unusual types of food and then came the high tea –



BETTY'S BOOP

With Betty Doolan

beautiful scones, jam and cream and pots of tea. This was the finish of the day.

Residents' next big day was Melbourne Cup when we had a barbecue lunch. I never knew barbecued sausages tasted so good in between two pieces of bread.

Then, we celebrated with high tea on Ladies' Day at the Oaks. Staff and residents dressed up in pretty frocks and lovely hats, and the day came to an end with a man named David who entertained residents.

On the wall at the Elms are lovely, large silhouettes of soldiers – put there for Remembrance Day. Let's We Forget.

I wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Stay safe.

Betty

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Final call out for 2023 Autumn Festival



The event program for next year's Autumn Festival, including the popular Autumn Pie & Tart Trail, is almost finalised, but there is still time to get involved.

Held across nine villages from April 1 to 30, the festival provides a platform to showcase the region's makers, producers, artisans and attractions. The council will be facilitating three Welcome to Country events, bringing back puppets the Gardeners to farmers markets, and curating autumn-inspired driving itineraries, tippie trails and competitions.

Event and Pie & Tart Trail submissions for inclusion in the festival program are due now. For more information visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/autumn-fest.



Arts & Culture: Launch of events program

5.30pm, Thursday 15 December, Kyneton Town Hall

The council's Arts & Culture team is holding a free end-of-year celebration for the arts community.

There will be a sneak peek at shows coming to Kyneton Town Hall and Kyneton Museum in the first half of 2023. Pre-sale tickets for events will be available on the night, making a great Christmas present idea for friends and family.

Performances will include:

Lucy Wise – Malmsbury singer-songwriter.

The Mods – Macedon Ranges-based band which plays rock and pop music from the 1960s to the '80s, and some groovy originals as well.

Babaganoush – Gisborne-based band combining the best of Gypsy/Romani, Balkan and Greek music. Their melodies, hot rhythms and fiery vocals are sure to get you dancing.

Entry is free and finger food will be available. For information and to book your free ticket, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/launch-party or contact the Box Office on 1300 888 802 (Monday to Friday, 8.30am-4pm).

Floods hold up compost delivery

The severe wet weather conditions across Victoria have affected our ability to fulfil compost orders, therefore we have had to temporarily suspend delivery of this service. Please note, mulch has not been affected and is still available.

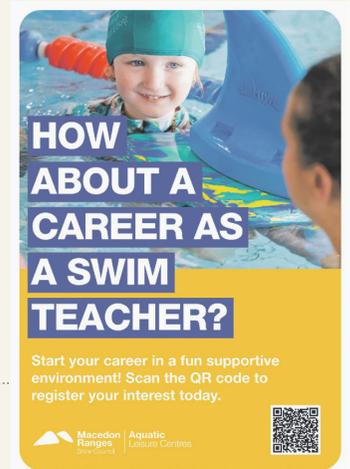
For updates regarding when the compost service will resume, visit www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/compost.

Swimming instructors wanted!

The council is seeking swimming instructors for Learn to Swim classes.

Instructors deliver classes for a range of ages and abilities, including preschool, primary, infant, schools, stroke development (squad), adults, disability and private lessons.

There are also opportunities for you to obtain the qualifications needed for this position if you do not currently have them. Contact us to find out how: Call Wayne Brown on 5421 1490 or email wbrown@mrsc.vic.gov.au.



Gym and pool membership special for Christmas

Finish the year off with a health and wellbeing gift for yourself or someone you love. Buy a six-month membership between December 12 and 24 and get two additional months FREE*.



Anyone can walk to get fit.

Membership gives access to our pools, fitness centres and group fitness classes. Access 24/7 is also offered to gym members 18 years and over.

New members receive a complimentary fitness assessment and a personalised program. Your goals and

program are reviewed with the fitness team regularly, keeping you focused and motivated.

Visit the centres or contact them for information: Gisborne Fitness Centre on 5428 3318 or email gfc@mrsc.vic.gov.au and Gisborne Aquatic Centre on 5421 1452 or email gac@mrsc.vic.gov.au

**Terms and conditions apply*

No changes to Christmas bin collections

There are no changes to kerbside bin collection days over the Christmas and New Year period.

The transfer stations at Woodend, Kyneton and Romsey will be

closed on December 24, Christmas Day, New Year's Day and any total fire ban days.

Download your 2023 bin calendar from the MRSC Waste App or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/bin-calendar. Printed calendars are available at the council offices in Gisborne.



Hanging Rock Koala Count

In November, citizen scientists and council staff gathered at Hanging Rock Reserve for the annual Koala Count.

Koala numbers have declined throughout the Macedon Ranges, and have even become locally extinct in some areas. Fortunately, visitors are still able to observe koalas at Hanging Rock Reserve and it is important that we keep tabs on this precious population.

Koala watchers were delighted to spot two koalas — a male and a female — sitting in manna gum trees.

If you are interested in participating in the Koala Count next year or other environment events, subscribe to the Environment eNews at mrsc.vic.gov.au/Environment-eNews.

REMINDER for Environment and Healthy Landscapes events

Horses – How to graze them in a sustainable way

Sunday December 4, 10am-12 noon, Drummond
Sunday January 29, 10am-11.30am, Gisborne

Grass Identification Field Day

Sunday December 11, 10am-11.30am, Malmsbury

To register, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events. Once registered, the webinar or event address will be sent to you prior to the event.

Healthy Landscapes – Small Property Grazing

Course starting Friday February 24 at 2pm.

For information and to register, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/healthy-landscapes.

REMINDER Dance enrolments open

Dance classes are held at the Gisborne Community Centre and at Buffalo Sports Stadium in Woodend.

Tiny Tackers dance classes are for pre-schoolers aged two-to-five years.

Studio2 MIX dance classes are for school-aged students from six-to-12 years with a mix of ballet, tap and jazz in the one-hour class.

Studio2 hip hop classes and tap dance classes are held on Thursday afternoons for eight-to-12 years and 13-18 years.

Enrolments for 2023 opened in November. For information visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/dance.



Immediate past mayor Jennifer Anderson, left, and new mayor Annette Death.

New mayor elected

East Ward councillor Annette Death was elected Macedon Ranges Shire mayor for a one-year term at a council meeting in Gisborne on November 22.

West Ward councillor Jennifer Anderson was elected Deputy Mayor.

Cr Death said she was honoured to be elected and welcomed the opportunity to lead the team of councillors and work closely with the council's leadership team and the community.



COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN

With Cr Anne Moore

As another tumultuous year is drawing to an end, this time round there are no lockdowns, no masks (for most) and our lives are a little freer.

However, another variant of COVID reminds us not to become totally complacent. Our government is asking us to wear masks indoors and in crowded places to stop the spread of this latest blip on our radar.

Councillors voted on November 22 to elect our mayor and deputy mayor for the next 12 months and I'm pleased to announce that Cr Annette Death from East Ward is the new mayor and outgoing mayor Cr Jennifer Anderson from West Ward is deputy.

Darraweit Guim was adversely affected by floodwaters during the worst of the rain in October. Council has supported these residents and businesses with clean-up efforts, including delivering skips, portable toilets, showers and drinking water to the township.

The 44 road closures caused by the same event are back to near normal and fully reopened for residents.

Sheedy Road works, Gisborne, will begin in late January-early February, weather permitting.

Macedon and Mount Macedon Community House was officially opened in late November and works

have started in New Gisborne on the first stage of the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct.

The Dixon Field master plan was approved and a grant is now enabling detailed schematic plans, which include a new full-sized soccer pitch. And still on the subject of sport, congratulations to Gisborne Soccer Club's Women's State League 4 West who became state champs and are promoted to State League 3 for the 2023 season.

Council was recently rewarded for its innovative Four Bin System (Let's get sorted) at the Waste and Innovation Recycling Awards, taking out the Regional category of Outstanding Waste and Resource Recovery Project, an award for a project that has delivered cost-effective and high-impact success.

Keep it up residents; if in doubt, to sort it out visit www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/Live-Work/Bins-Rubbish-Recycling/Waste-Index-A-Z

Soft plastics are free to drop off at all Council's waste transfer stations; hopefully REDcycle will re-establish supermarket collection.

The fire season is upon us, please ensure that you have a fire plan, yes, even in our townships. Visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/before-and-during-a-fire/your-bushfire-plan.

My grateful thanks go to Crs Guthrie and Bonanno for their wonderful support in all things Council, in a year that has been my annus horribilis.

Merry Christmas, keep safe until we speak again in 2023.

annemoore@mrsc.vic.gov.au
M: 0419 917 278

Help us to make recycling easier

Are you a keen recycler? Did you know that kerbside contamination is an ongoing issue and our recycling contamination rate is 17 to 20%?

Council is relaunching the 'Let's Get Sorted' campaign materials in line with the state-wide campaign – 'Small acts, big impact' and wants to investigate household behaviour, attitudes and knowledge to improve our waste education.



Your valuable opinion will help us understand how we can improve waste and resource recovery services and better support the community to reduce waste to landfill and increase recycling.

By completing a short survey you can also win one of the three lucky draw Visa gift cards worth \$200. Hurry! The survey closes December 20. Find out more at mrsc.vic.gov.au/your-say

A small act makes a big impact.

Enter a lucky draw to WIN one of three gift cards vouchers worth

Let us know how we can make recycling easy for you, take the short survey by 20 December 2022.

Scan the QR code or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/your-say



Outdoor pools to reopen for summer

The outdoor pools in Woodend and Lancefield reopen on Saturday December 3.

For information about pool opening hours and fees, family passes and season tickets, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/outdoor-pools or call 5422 0333.



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Happy Holidays, one and all!

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Barry's Victorian Hotel c.1880.



A much-enlarged Hann's Victorian Hotel c.1903.



Hann's Victorian Hotel welcomed cyclists as well as motorists, c.1912.

The many faces of the Victorian Hotel in Gisborne

With the imminent completion of renovations to the Vic Tavern, as it is fondly known to locals, **PHYLLIS BOYD, OAM**, takes a look at the many faces of this establishment over its long history.

Records indicate that the hotel commenced its life as the Commercial Hotel in 1860 with John White the Proprietor, having been constructed on the allotment south of where the hotel stands today. In 1864, John White changed its name from the Commercial to the Victorian Hotel.

From 1872, Patrick Barry was listed as the new landlord, advertising in the *Bacchus Marsh Express* that, "The Victorian Hotel, Gisborne, now offers to the public select accommodation at the most reasonable terms. One trial will convince visitors that attention, civility and every exertion to give general satisfaction, form part of the present landlord's programme".

In 1899, the *Gisborne Gazette* ran an advertisement stating, "Barry's Victorian Hotel / the Recognised House in Gisborne for the Cycle League / every attention shown to visitors / Wines, Ales, Spirits, Cigars etc. of the best brands. / A large, commodious dining room, everything supplied of the best quality and at reasonable rates; A Good Billiard Table, Bathroom, Good Stabling, Special Stable for Cycles"... P Barry Proprietor.

Barry's Victorian Hotel was greatly extended when the Hann family took over, but signs on the site still supported the cycling fraternity. Mrs Sarah Hann was listed as proprietor from 1902 to 1909, and Ferdinand 'Dad' Hann from 1910 to 1914.

In 1911, Hann's Victorian Hotel hosted a luncheon for Gisborne Shire President, Councillor Bawden, Governor Fuller, Robert Harper MHR, Russell Clarke MLC, AR Robertson MLA and Captain Curwin ADC, at which a basket of flowers and maidenhair fern were presented for Lady Fuller. Before the lunch, the Governor inspected a series of curios that formed quite a museum in the bar of the hotel, the collection having been accumulated by 'Dad' Hann. It was stated at this gathering that, "Men like the Governor, who had only been in the state for a few months, were doing a great deal to cement the bonds of the Empire".



Above: Both Victorian Hotels sit side by side, 1927. The words 'Victorian Hotel' remain displayed across the verandah of the original hotel, and among the words on the wall sign are 'Mt Macedon' and 'Dry Ginger Ale'.

By 1918, the Victorian Hotel, Gisborne, "Absolutely Under New Management, Licensee Jim Green, late of Hawthorn", advertised, "Splendid Meals, Travellers and Motorists Specially Catered For, meals at all reasonable hours, Customers receive Civility and Attention".

A few years later, in 1927, we find that the old double-storeyed Victorian Hotel was still standing when the new Victorian Hotel, with Robert Doherty as manager, was constructed and open for business on the present site. Before long, the original Victorian Hotel was demolished to make way for Gisborne Manufacturing which occupied that site for many years.

A business card of 1927 advises that, "The-Most-Up-To-Date Hotel outside Melbourne; Phone Gisborne 5; Under the Patronage of the RAC of Victoria and SA; Doherty's Victorian Hotel, Gisborne; Meals and



Victorian Tavern from Aitken Street in 1999.

Accommodation; Afternoon Teas a Specialty; Under Entirely New Management; an ideal weekend car run; exquisite mountain scenery. This Hotel was Recently Newly Built and Beautifully Furnished. Pioneer Coaches leave Princes Bridge daily at 8.30am and at 9am on

Continued ► facing page



Many people attended the Macedon Cemetery Walk in November.

HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

Big turn-out for Macedon cemetery tour

Sixty people attended the Mount Macedon Cemetery Walk conducted by the Gisborne and Districts Historical Society.

Society members researched and presented details of the occupants of the following graves: Lord and Lady Casey, Charles Cogger, Thomas Christian, the Campey family, Stuart Stoneman, the Willey family, John Hill, Butz and Charlotte Schmidt and Frank Bowery.

Further cemetery walks will be held in our area next year.

The Stables behind the Gisborne Court House, which house an exhibition of historical articles, unfortunately must now remain closed due to access difficulties.

The Historical Society wishes all members a very pleasant Christmas and new year and thanks the *Gisborne Gazette* for its excellent work.

The many faces of the vic

◀ from previous page

Sundays. Cars meet all trains at Gisborne Railway Station. Golf – Fishing – Shooting”.

On the reverse of this card is a receipt for 1 dozen ale, paid by cash (13 shillings and 6 pence) signed "R Doherty 12.9.1927".

Due to associated crime and graft in gaming and the potential for state income, in 1955 Premier Henry Bolte, Chief Secretary Arthur Rylah and Victoria Racing Club (VRC) head Sir Chester Manifold decided to start the TAB, with the resultant disbanding of the Gaming Squad. The Government approached senior constable Mick Miller, later Chief Commissioner, to form the Special Duties Gaming Squad with a view to controlling starting price (SP) bookmaking, to make way for legal betting via the TAB.

Two undercover police visited the Victorian Hotel in Gisborne, whose publican was at that time was a former policeman, Gilbert Tranter. The bookie was the local taxi owner/driver. As the bar and the taxi were having a busy day, one of the undercover policeman assisted the publican and his brother to transfer the bets from the publican to the taxi driver. The publican was delighted with this assistance until the police returned on the Monday to charge him with SP bookmaking on licensed premises.

Licences were cancelled forthwith prior to the rising of the court. Local police were called and the hotel doors were closed immediately.

The publican was given 28 days to dispose of its assets and the hotel remained closed until a new publican could buy the premises. So, for a short time in 1957, Gisborne had a Victorian Tavern with no beer.

There are many gaps in the licensing records held by the Historical Society but, at some time, it is recorded that Jack Regan, a noted former Collingwood footballer, of the 1930s and '40s, was the proprietor.

The *Herald Sun* of 1995 carried a large article reporting that the Victorian Tavern was a finalist across three categories in the Australian Hotels Association Awards for Excellence, namely Best Pub TAB, Best Gaming Venue and Best Regional Sports Bar.

However, in 2000, a fire at the premises caused a great deal of internal damage to the value of \$500,000, causing the hotel to again be closed. However, with owner Peter Lewis at the helm, the Vic Tavern reopened on September 1, just four months later, amid great celebrations.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council amended the permit for the Victorian Tavern in 2014 to prevent the number of gaming machines extending beyond a total of 50. A percentage of proceeds from these machines is legislated to return to the community via the Community Support Scheme.

So now in 2022, with the doors again opening after renovation, we are looking forward to seeing what new facial expression the Vic Tavern might wear.



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www.gisbornegazette.org.au

Hazel enjoys 100th birthday

◀ From page 3

Hazel is a lively, happy, outgoing centenarian and she enjoys the company of staff at Warrina where she has lived since December 2021.

Hazel was born in Kyneton and went to Riverview State School and later to Kyneton State School to finish Grades 7 and 8 to achieve her Merit Certificate. She left school the day after her 14th birthday. "I was sick of school by then," laughed Hazel.

In 1936 Hazel's first job was as a housemaid and she was paid five shillings a week. Three years later she became a cleaner at the CBC Bank in Kyneton where her weekly wage was two pounds.

At the age of 18, Hazel became engaged to a Kyneton man and they were married at her parents' home in Kyneton in 1941 and moved to Oakleigh.

Following the births of three daughters the marriage failed and in 1949 Hazel moved out with her girls, who were then aged five, two and three months, to live with her parents back in Kyneton.

For the next 11 years, Hazel worked hard as a domestic cleaner before being employed as a cook at the Kyneton Hospital. She fondly remembers riding her brand new bike there on her first day.

Hazel rented a house in Piper Street for six years before being able to buy her first home in Kyneton in 1968. She had worked hard and made many sacrifices to raise and educate her three daughters.

Through friends, Hazel met Ernie Gilbert and they married in Kyneton in 1974 before moving to Shepparton, where Ernie worked for the council. The following year they moved to Castlemaine and were there until Ernie's retirement in 2008. Through these years Hazel continued her interest in golf and bowls – she was always a very active person.

Ernie and Hazel then bought a nice unit in Mollison Street but, sadly, Ernie's health failed and he died in 2009.

Hazel continued living happily and independently in the unit for the next 12 years with her life focused on caring for her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her joy was making sure her place was stocked with homemade soup, sausage rolls, cakes, mini tins of lemonade and lollies for whenever they visited – which was often. It was a hub of activity.

It wasn't until the age of 99 that Hazel decided to make the move to Warrina in order to be close to some of her family members living in Gisborne.

Tips for a safe Christmas with dogs



The last induction for the year at Macedon Ranges Obedience Dog Club saw 13 new members. To be part of our next induction, on Sunday February 5, visit our website for details on becoming a member (www.macedonrangesdogclub.org.au).

Chocolate – and more – can be toxic

Christmas is almost here and while many people are aware of the problems chocolate causes to dogs, other festive treats are also toxic: nuts, mince pies and Christmas pudding... best to keep everything out of reach and, remember, a dog's nose is powerful and can sniff out food under the tree with ease.

We don't often use mistletoe or holly in Australia but often give poinsettia as gifts which are dangerous if eaten.

Candles can also be an issue as dog fur is flammable. A wagging tail can easily knock one over, setting fire to wrapping paper, presents etc.

A dog is curious by nature and, whether it is real or artificial, a Christmas tree can pose a health risk. Adorned with fairy lights, tinsel, edible treats, etc, they are seen as a convenient peeing post or new chew toy. Christmas tree oil/sap can cause skin irritation and, if eaten/chewed, pine needles are mildly toxic. Chewing on an artificial tree has its own dangers such as ingesting bits of wire.

To keep your dog safe, place your tree in a corner, elevated, maybe contained, and save your best decorations for the top.

Lastly, from our family at MRODC to yours, have a Merry Christmas; we'll see you in 2023.

Visit our website www.macedonrangesdogclub.org.au, our Facebook page or email info@macedonrangesdogclub.org.au.

Remember: a dog is for life, not just for Christmas.

Carol

Instructor/Treasurer MRODC

Tertiary scholarships open for those in difficult circumstances

Community Bank Gisborne & District scholarships for local youth starting post-secondary study in 2023 are open now.

The scholarships aim to assist motivated students from the Gisborne, Macedon and Riddells Creek area who will be starting a bachelor, diploma or apprenticeship course at a university, college or TAFE in 2023 and are experiencing challenging circumstances.

The value is \$5000 a year for one-to-three years for the successful recipients. Applications close on January 27. Eligibility criteria include residence at the time of application in postcode 3431, 3437, 3438, 3440 or 3441 and graduation from secondary school in 2022 or 2021.

Applications are online at bendigobank.com.au/scholarships. For further information, please email mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com.



Merry Christmas

Sacred Heart College wishes all in the Gisborne community and surrounds a peaceful and joyous Christmas.

Congratulations Class of 2022

We congratulate our wonderful Year 12 students, the 'Class of 2022', on their achievements. We are confident their results and selected pathways will lead the way to rewarding futures.

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QUIZ

1. In sport, what do the letters MCG stand for?
2. In which year did Queen Elizabeth II die?
3. Beginning with C, what is an irrational fear of confined spaces called?
4. Which cartoon character first appeared in *Steamboat Willie* in 1928?
5. Baby, Scary, Sporty, Ginger, and Posh were all members of which band?
6. Which star is the closest to earth?
7. In which Australian state would you find the opal mining town of Coober Pedy?
8. Which Australian actor played Wolverine in the 2000 movie *X-Men*?
9. How many items are there in one score?
10. Father Christmas is thought to have been modelled on the real life Saint... who?

Answers page 39

Audrey and Daniel Libardi were snapped enjoying Halloween on October 31.



December layout team

This group of Year 6 students from Macedon Primary School did the initial layout of this month's *Gazette*. All the students said they liked writing and preferences varied from persuasive writing to sports reporting, fantasy stories, and planning creative pieces. Some like to write for others to read and others write just for themselves. The *Gazette* encourages them all to keep writing!

The layout team. From left: Oscar, Andrew, Cody, Jess, Ava and Polly.

JOKES & RIDDLES

I'm so good at dropping off to sleep that I can do it with my eyes closed.

Q: Why was the calendar very afraid?
A: Because its days were numbered.

I don't trust trees. They seem kind of shady.

Q: What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?
A: Frostbite.

As a boy I never liked facial hair but years later it just grew on me.

Q: What kind of key opens a banana?
A: A monkey.

Q: Why are teddy bears never hungry?
A: They're already stuffed.

Q: Why do hummingbirds hum?
A: Because they don't know the words.

My dog is very smart. I asked her what 10 minus 10 equals, and she said nothing.



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St Brigid's exciting sustainability news



Throughout our Term 3 sustainability specialist lessons, students at St Brigid's explored the importance of water in our lives and all the capacities in which we use it daily. We also focused on how it makes us feel and why it is important for us to conserve and look after it.

We had an engaging visit from a Greater Western Water educator (and Sammy the Snake) who inspired us further with our investigations.

Our creative students spent time crafting posters about their connection to water and its importance to them and their families, depicting their own 'Water Story'. We entered these into Greater Western Water's National Water Week poster competition.

Our students attended a special award ceremony as finalists in this competition. We congratulate five of our students on their amazing accomplishments. We were the winners in Foundation with a first, second and third placing, and placed third in Juniors and Middles. One of our Foundation students, Darcy, was also awarded the Victorian State Prize for his artwork. Readers might have seen his poster in last month's *Gazette*. An amazing achievement.

Not only did we have these individual successes but the efforts of each and every one of our St Brigid's



Marcus Bonanno investigates some properties of water.

students combined to have us awarded the poster competition's School Prize of \$500 to help undertake a water or sustainability project of our choice.

We are very grateful and excited to brainstorm an idea for this over the coming weeks and then put our plans into action.

Our year as school captains at Macedon



Hi, we're Polly and Austin and we are this year's school captains at Macedon Primary School.

In Term 1, we got into the routine of presenting at assembly every Friday. It was pretty stressful, but we got the hang of it.

At assembly, we start with a Welcome to Country and the national anthem, then we read out the Achievement Awards, which is always exciting for the students (and also very loud). We also sometimes do Gotcha! awards, which are raffle tickets that we draw out of a box.

We end with a few messages from teachers and then everyone goes back to class. Assemblies are usually pretty fun to lead.



Captains Austin and Polly

In Term 2, we opened the new flying fox at Ash Wednesday Park in Macedon. It was pretty cool because we got to cut the ribbon and ride on it for the first time.

Atol Guy, one of the members of The Seekers, was a guest speaker there.

A few weeks later in the term, we went to Bendigo Bank in Gisborne to present our idea for a new sustainability garden in Middle Gully so we could hopefully get a \$10,000 grant to help build it. It went very well and we got the grant!

Overall, Term 2 was very good because lots of fun things happened.

In Term 3, Year 5/6 students planned a shadow puppet show to put on at the school Science Expo. Everyone worked really hard and the finished product was a huge success.

On the same day, the new library was opened officially by two of our Year 6 students.

On September 12, Polly Sawyers, Riley Skehan and Cody Eichorst made an Acknowledgement of Country for the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership. We worked with Justine Mackey, who is a principal in residence at the academy.

At the time of writing we have not done much yet this term, but we are all looking forward to finishing the rest of this year well, and we wish next year's school captains the best.

By Austin and Polly

Our time at New Gisborne Primary School



Our time at New Gisborne Primary is coming to an end, and we are getting ready to graduate. We have had such a great time and have many amazing memories. Here are a few of our favourites.

Year 6 camp

As the bus roars to life, I look out the window and see my parents waving goodbye. The bus toots its horn and we are off on the amazing adventure of camp.

First, we went to the Eureka Centre in Ballarat to learn more about the gold rush and check out the Eureka flag. We were all impressed by its sheer size.

The next day we went to costume school. I still remember the laughter as we saw the boys in their old-fashioned clothes. As we walked into the Sovereign Hill classroom, I saw rows of old-fashioned desks and posters on the wall. Our teacher, Sir, was really nice



Katelyn



Eve

(even though teachers were meant to be mean back then). We had great fun travelling back in time to the 1850s.

Katelyn

Chinatown in Year 3

The streets were bustling with people. We walked in two straight lines, admiring the thousands of lanterns above our heads. We were heading to a Chinese restaurant.

As we stepped in through a little door and took our seats, the smell of delicious food wafted towards our noses from the kitchen and tables around us. Piles of food appeared on our table and I wanted to try it all.

It was interesting to find out about Chinese culture and how we are a much more multicultural place than we thought.

It is sad that we will soon be leaving primary school, but at least we will have lots of fun memories to take with us.

Eve

MILLETT ROAD



Where to find our organic sourdough this December...

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Deliveries as normal right up until Christmas Eve!

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

Woodend IGA - Wednesday to Saturday

MARKETS

Woodend Farmer's Market

Saturday 3rd December - 9am-1pm

Lancefield Farmer's Market

Saturday 17th December - 9am-1pm

Pre-Orders via milletroadmaker.com.au

Christmas/New Year Shut Down

We'll be shutting the bakery for our usual holiday break from 25th December to 10th January 2023. Deliveries will resume on Wednesday 11th Jan :)

A year of fun and excitement (not to mention learning)



Hello, everyone. The year is coming to a close and the last of the activities, excursions and camps are being planned or happening in the next few weeks. There are still heaps of fun, exciting and educational events to come but it's also time to think back and reflect on what has happened this year.

Different sporting days have been spread out across the year such as swimming, athletics, tennis, netball, soccer, basketball, football and, recently,

orienteeing. These events have got us outdoors and made us realise the importance of sports and adventure.

Other events, like the neon disco, happened earlier this year, when we got dressed up and danced under neon lights. Events like this were great opportunities for us to hangout with our friends and have some fun.

The school production, *Bug Boogie*, happened at the end of Term 3. The whole school did a great job, singing and dancing in front of a big audience filled with friends, family and the wider

community. Our school fete was then held in early November. The school did a great job bringing the community together and raising funds at the same time. There were various rides and stalls including a few stalls run by the grade 5/6s. It was a great learning opportunity and a fun day.

There have also been camps and excursions throughout the year. Grade 3/4s are going on a horse-riding camp, and the grade 1/2s had a sleepover at the school. The Grade 6s also went to their camp in Melbourne in Term 2.

The Grade 6 Exhibition is also

underway. It is an inquiry into one of the 17 Global Goals. We are asking questions, researching, finding out and presenting what we have learnt to the community.

And, finally, Christmas is coming up! Carols and various Christmas events are happening. It's an exciting time of the year. Sadly, it also means the end of the year is approaching. Grade Six Graduation is almost here and change is in the wind. This is my last *Gazette* report so I hope you all have a great Christmas and enjoy the rest of your year.

Eliza Ransome

What's going on at Gisborne?



Vandalism at GPS – but all in the name of 'Ephemeral Art'

As you walk, drive or scoot past Gisborne Primary you might notice some colourful drawings all over our windows. No, don't be angry or frustrated at the people who did them, it's all for an Ephemeral Art project.

Every drawing is different, but every drawing is awesome. From inspirational quotes to footy teams or even funny drawings of movie characters, it's all there.

Ephemeral art is something that does not last long, such as graffiti. So next time you are passing GPS, don't forget to look out for the drawings on the windows.

Lukas N, Year 5 Writer's Club

GPS searching for excitement

On November 10, the year 3 to 6 students went to Tony Clarke Reserve in Macedon to participate in an orienteeing day. Each class was split into different teams and were given instructions by an orienteeing expert. The objective was to complete courses as quickly as possible.

After students completed a couple of the easier sheets, revolving around the oval, the groups had the option to

get a much harder map. This would take them into the pine forest where they had to find markers, while hiking through the trees, sticks and tough terrain. Everybody had a great time experiencing something new.

Cooper, Year 6 Writers Club

Skating into Year 7

As the year comes to a close, things are beginning to come into focus. The Year 6s are starting to realise that this is their last year at primary school.

Everyone has mixed emotions, but we are completing an art project that will help make sure we don't forget our primary school years. Each student gets a skateboard – I know, a skateboard! We can do whatever we want on it, as long as it represents us. This is a memento to look back on and see how far we have come. It won't be easy, but I think this class of 2022 is ready to skate on into 2023.

Hayley W, Year 6 Writer's Club



Sophia Lawson shows an ephemeral artwork made with classmates Abbey Wellington and Adele McKibbin.



Happy Year 1 and 2 students (and their teddies) at the Willowbank Primary sleepover.

Willowbank chalks up year one



We can't believe that we have reached the end of our first year of operation. What an amazing first year it has been for Willowbank Primary School.

We would like to thank our dedicated community of teachers, students and families who have embraced the excitement of establishing a new school by working collaboratively to create a positive and inclusive learning environment.

This year has been definitely been a year of firsts at Willowbank. We have

celebrated many milestones that we hope will become ongoing traditions and celebrations at our school. These include Ride 2 School Day, Easter Hat Parade, Mother's Day and Father's Day card-making nights, STEM Family Night, Prep 100 days of school, Book Week Parade, swimming lessons, Halloween Disco, Colour Fun Run and, of course, our camping program.

We are really excited to welcome lots of new families to our wonderful school community in 2023 as our school continues to grow.

Brett Sinnett

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On behalf of everyone from Bound Real Estate we wish you a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



Montessori floats through busy term

We have had and continue to have a busy Term 4.

Cycle 1 through 4 enjoyed their week of swimming at the Gisborne Aquatic Centre.



Cycle 1 are enjoying visits from Gisborne Dance Academy where they get to shake and groove and learn new movements. Cycle 4 are busy planning and preparing their own hot lunches, some dishes including sausages, mashed potato and veggies, curry and sushi.

Cycle 3 students visited the Gisborne Foodbank on November 16 to learn more about it as we are collecting donations for their Christmas hampers and for those in some need before and after the holiday period.

Students were surprised to hear that homeless people use the Foodbank, that they give the food away to people and don't charge them anything, not even one dollar. During our debrief and brainstorming sessions afterwards, students had this to say: "it was good to hear that they ask people how they are and check on their wellbeing." Amy (Grade 6); "it is nice that they give up their time to help people that are hungry and don't have money." Aariz (Grade 5); "it would be good if we could somehow work out to get donations of money so that the Foodbank could ... have a bigger space". Aaysha (Grade 6)

The school is busy planning celebrations for the end of term and the end of the primary years for our Grade Six students. The students will be walking in the Gisborne festival parade. It is our last day of classes so lots of fun and memories to be made here.



Tilly practises her floating skills.



Ribbons are a favourite at dance. From left: Luna, Quinn, Carter and Alina.



CAPTAIN'S RAP

with Oscar J



Oscar J

For Gisborne Secondary College, the past month has been the best start to a school term since the pre-pandemic times.

On celebration day, the Year 10s brought back the annual GSC tradition of holding a lunchtime market. Instead of playing downball, students

from across all year levels helped raise money for charity while spending their lunchtime in haunted houses, eating delicious burritos and throwing whipped cream pies at their favourite teachers (for charity, I swear...).

The school also held an amazing assembly with anyone lucky enough to attend the graduation ceremony getting to say farewell and good luck to the Year 12s. But the true eye-opener was a rare and exciting appearance from GSC's teacher-led band Bloom's Rocksonomy. In their first public appearance they flabbergasted, astonished and knocked two thousand pairs of socks off with their rendition of *Viva La Vida*.

But after the festivities our VCE students knuckled down and prepared for exams. The Year 11s swept through their exams within a week, while Year 12s completed their final high school exams across four weeks. They are now free to enjoy the adult world or anxiously wait for the ATAR results in December. Goodbye for now; the Captain's Rap will be back next year with a new set of GSC College Captains.

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A helping hand in life



Holy Cross class of 2022

A principal takes stock

As I write, it has been 12 months since I started at Holy Cross as Principal.

I remember speaking to the then Year 5 children at their leadership day in November last year and feeling excited about the ideas they had for new leadership roles.

So much has happened over the course of the year: excursions, incursions, colour runs, working bees, learning, playing, discovering, learning from the land and exploring the world around us. Our Year 6 children engaged in an excursion series and were set the task of designing their own day out using public transport. The children had to research places of interest, look up timetables, check walking distances



and organise their own groups. They successfully navigated all the challenges that cropped up along the way and demonstrated flexible thinking and problem solving skills. We visited many places such as Footscray market, Quang Minh Buddhist Temple, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hosier Lane and the Chinese Dragon museum. Each day brought new experiences and generated much conversation among the group.

As our Year 6 children now prepare for their high school journey, we wish them well. We are proud of the young people they have become, and of the interest, care and empathy they show others.

Aoife McCarthy

GISBORNE GAZETTE

STUDENT AWARDS – Primary

NEW GISBORNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Isobel Thomas



Isobel participates enthusiastically in all classroom activities. She aims high and always strives to complete tasks to the best of her ability, achieving excellent results in all areas of the curriculum, but especially in writing. Isobel's enthusiastic participation and unassuming leadership in the

Tournament of Minds Arts Team, this year, undoubtedly contributed to the team's honourable mention and success.

Alex Evans

Alex has filled our year and class conversations with many interesting historical, scientific and random facts, becoming fondly known by the class as our very own Google. He is quick to support his classmates, is a great role model to others and has participated in extracurricular activities such as the RACV Breakthrough Team and GATEWAYS. Alex always strives to achieve his personal best in all subjects.



MACEDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Polly Sawyers



Polly has excelled in her role as School Captain and in representing Macedon Primary this year. She has been on a wonderful journey of growth and development as she has led assemblies and participated in events within our school and the wider community. Polly strives to do her best

and her dedication and attention to detail is evident across all aspects of her school life. She is a model of excellent behaviour and espouses the school values of Respect, Integrity, Teamwork, Responsibility and Creativity. Polly created an outstanding stop motion animation film for her Inquiry project and her calm demeanour and presence sets her above the rest.

Ava Kiely

Ava is a leader of our community and a 'change agent' for students' rights. As the Cultural Captain of Macedon Primary she has led many inclusive celebrations that have given an equal platform for all children to be seen as their authentic and individual self. Ava's deep sense of equality for all and celebration of our indigenous heritage was showcased this year when she led with her peers to have Macedon Primary one of the first schools in the Macedon Ranges to display four flags – the indigenous, Australian, Torres Strait Islander and Pride flags – all at equal height.



The Gazette is pleased to announce this year's student awards. Local schools that contribute to the paper are invited to select two students to receive a certificate and \$50. Congratulations to all recipients!

HOLY CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Will Power

Welcoming, positive, kind-hearted, resilient and fun, are but a few words that describe the amazing Will Power. Will has been a very well-liked and supportive classmate this year. His attitude towards his learning and general school life was exemplary. Will has been a keen sports participant, a collaborative worker in class, and has been prepared to step outside of his comfort zone when learning new things. Congratulations, Will!



Jessica Hayes



Jessica Hayes has been a positive, hard working and easy going student all year. Her lovely nature, energy and kind-heartedness has been evident to both her peers and teachers alike. Jessica has put in 100% effort into everything she does. She has shown herself to be reliable, trustworthy and has a cheeky and great sense of humour. Congratulations on receiving this award, Jessica. Keep smiling!

WILLOWBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ava Hager

Ava is a student who puts 100% effort into everything she does. She has excelled on the sporting field, reaching the state championships in swimming and regional championships in athletics. Ava is an excellent role model during our buddy learning sessions and has been a huge support to our kinder students during kinder visits and prep transition sessions.



Hayden George



Hayden is one of our school leaders. He is a role model who sets an excellent example for our junior students by the way that he conducts himself in all aspects schooling. Hayden led our school basketball team to the regional championships and was a positive team member at all times, always supporting and encouraging his teammates.

GISBORNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ramona Hobman



Ramona is a quiet achiever who takes pride in always achieving her personal best. She always upholds our school values, leading by example. It has been great to see her confidence and resilience grow this year. Her hard work and determination have seen her participate in the Maths and

English high ability programs, as well as enrichment sessions for writing and progressing to the Regional Finals for tennis.

Asher Broad

Asher has thrived in all areas during his time at GPS. He is kind, respectful and thoughtful and always willing to help others. He has excelled in all curriculum areas, including enrichment and high ability programs for English, Maths and Science. He has represented the school as a STEM leader in 2022, running a highly successful whole school chess competition.



ST BRIGID'S

Evan Polidano



Evan has made significant contributions to the school community, specifically in the area of technology but also as a great St Brigid's community person. Always willing to lend a hand and getting tasks done, Evan lends his creative thinking to solving problems and improving things.

Evan is our techspert. He is Mr Fix it, he gives everything a go, has a positive attitude and gives up his break times to support staff and students.

Isla Mifsud

Isla is an outstanding sports person both in and out of the school community. She is encouraging, supportive, inclusive and is a great leader in our community supporting our younger students during her break times. Isla is a good sport, she is cheerful and gives everything her best effort.



MOUNT MACEDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Lucinda Damen



For her exemplary approach to her School Captain's role. Lucy has actively pursued opportunities to explore her leadership role and to add value to many of the activities she has led. Lucy's confident approach to leading the students has been a wonderful example to the other students. She is a considerate and reflective leader.

Poppy Crawford

For demonstrating excellent leadership skills as School Captain 2022. Poppy has worked diligently to engage students in the school and to lead by example. She has encouraged student voice within the student body and has modelled leadership skills to all. Poppy has been a kind and thoughtful leader.



Secondary school awards
▶ page 38



Latest news from 1st Gisborne Scout Group

The past month has been a busy one for all sections of the 1st Gisborne Scout Group.

The Joeys have been on a bike ride around the park in Gisborne and learnt about fire safety and navigation aids. On a rare sunny evening, Eleanor was awarded her Joey Scout Challenge Award at the Bullengarook Recreation Reserve surrounded by her Joey friends.

Challenge Award achievement

The Challenge Award is a big achievement. Scouts have to complete a number of milestones and outdoor skills, go on an 'adventurous journey' and reflect on their journey and time in scouts. Eleanor has done all this with enthusiasm and determination; well done, Eleanor!

The Cubs have been on hikes along the Campaspe River and in Torquay – thankfully the rain held off on both occasions. They were not so lucky one Tuesday night, when they got hailed and snowed on.

The Scouts had fun at a Laser Tag Night and were going on a state-wide camp on November 19-20. The Venturers went on a night hike, finishing off with a nice warm bonfire. They had plans to go by train into the city to see the Myer Christmas windows and have dinner.

The Rover Crew represented 1st Gisborne Scout Group in accepting a \$4000 grant certificate from the



Eleanor receives her Joey Scout Challenge Award.

Community Bank Gisborne (Bendigo Bank). This money will go towards the cost of a new trailer that is fully enclosed and weatherproof, which will be appreciated and well used by all sections of our group. A big thank

you to the Community Bank Gisborne for its support.

If you are interested in joining Scouts, either as a Leader or a Scout, please email us at info@1stgisborne.com.au for more information.

Carolyn Goode (Assistant Joey Leader)



Cub Scouts Jess, Edith, Poppy, Will, Alex and Taliya enjoy the outdoors on their recent camp.

New Gisborne (Church of Christ) Scouts

Twenty-one New Gisborne Cub Scouts and their leaders had a bush camp at the beautiful Rowallan Scout Camp in November. They had exciting adventures such as archery, obstacle courses, hiking, orienteering and campfire cooking. A great opportunity for Cubs Scouts new and old to spend some quality time in the bush, learn something new and have a great weekend.

The contractors have done a lot of work on our Scout Hut site, getting ready for the slab which will be poured soon with the hut erected shortly thereafter.

The Opening Night is planned for February 22 (Scout Founder's Day).

We are working with neighbours and the council on



Cub Scout camping – supper by torchlight.

the planning permit for extended use of the hut as a place of assembly where we can meet, not just store and maintain our gear and trailers.

We meet on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8pm, Venturers on Fridays. Contact Group Leader "Skipper" (0450 922 787 or johnfearson@mac.com) to learn more.

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Gisborne Guides enjoy time together in Woodend Children's Park.

Gisborne Lightning Guides update



With the Scout Hall closed for two weeks in November for use as an early voting booth in the state election, Gisborne Lightning Guides have been spending time outdoors, though it has been a challenge with the wet weather.

They explored the park in Gisborne after the floods and enjoyed a barbecue at Woodend Children's Park. The unit has decided to finish off the year with some fun and exercise with a trip to Bounce in Essendon.

For their service project this term, the girls are donating to the Gisborne Foodbank.

Guides will resume on Thursday February 9. We welcome enquiries from girls aged 7.5 years or older to come and try Guiding.

We meet on Thursday nights between 5pm and 6:30pm at the Scout Hall in Daly Reserve. Phone Deb on 0409 542 619 for details.

Deb



Deb Fleming



MACEDON MUSINGS

With Belinda Carlton-Doney

Mum said the years go quicker
And I think she's clearly right,
'Cause I've finished eating Easter eggs...
Now it's time for Silent Night?!

At the start...

Laura had a haircut,
But that was back in March.
Then Leo and her gorgeous mates,
solved problems near and far.

Then I remember...

Chick "Buddy" had adventures,
Roaming round the streets,
By June we searched for local frogs,
Catching calls from dams and creeks.

The P/O won a great award,
Congrats to Anne and crew.
For all they did, to help us all.
While COVID ran us through.

Our Cemetery, calm and peace,
Kylies' design, for those we loved.
Then expats all rolled up their sleeves,
"Mad Cows" can now give blood!

Writers had a festival,
They came from near and far.
And suddenly it's Christmas time,
"Whaaat"
Break out the tree and star?!

That was too fast, I'm spinning round and round...

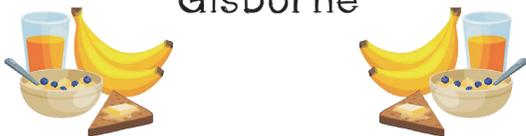
So I wish you joy and laughter,
And a season full of fun.
May your families know peace and love,
Merry Christmas everyone.

Belinda

FREE BREAKFAST

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Adventist Church

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Gisborne



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Saturday mornings

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Rumblings from the Ramblers



Well, my credibility has been checked! Last month I described the Govans Lane walk as an "all-weather" walk only to find it closed due to flooding, the creek obviously overflowing the bridge. My apologies for anyone making an unsuccessful attempt; perhaps by the time you read this, things may be a little more back to normal.

I recently checked out the Wombat Trail at Trentham (one of our scheduled walks) only to find the tracks more like canals! It is going to take some time for the bush to dry out.

As this will be the final column for the year, may I, on behalf of the Ramblers, wish you a safe and happy Christmas.

Many thanks to the *Gazette* for the publication space over the past year and the resulting interest in joining our mailing list.

Below is another local walk you may care to try. This is the Norton Road loop in New Gisborne/Macedon.

If you would like more details of the Ramblers and our walk plans, please email gisramblers@gmail.com and information will be supplied.

Charles

LOCAL WALK

Norton Road loop



Norton Road, New Gisborne/Macedon

An open walk on wide dirt roads with good views over farmland and countryside.

Distance: 5.1km

Level: Easy

Directions: From Gisborne, drive to Mount Macedon Road. After passing under the railway bridge, Norton Road is the first turn on the left.

Park at the electrical substation and begin walking up Norton Road. Along the road great views are afforded of Mt Macedon before reaching Norton Road Reserve. This bushland reserve is well worth a visit and contains a well-filled dam with a central island. Continue along Norton Road until a right turn into Crombie Road. Follow Crombie Road before turning right into Wimbledon Avenue (do not be put off by the 'No Through Road' sign – this only applies to vehicles).

At the end of the avenue, turn left into Dunn Street and follow it until it appears to end as a driveway to a private property. Follow the line of power poles along a wide, grassed corridor towards the tree line, exiting onto Mount Macedon Road through a small pedestrian gate in the fence.

Turn right onto a walking track along the fence line, returning to your car at Norton Road.



The bushwalking group at the labyrinth in Kyneton.

Bushwalkers manage to get one walk in



Walkers are usually keen to get out in most types of weather, but the recent inclement conditions have caused a few of our scheduled walks to be cancelled.

The club has a strong commitment to the safety of our walkers, so the leaders were not prepared to go ahead as planned. The good news is that both of these walks will be rescheduled in early 2023. As our leaders put a lot of time and planning into all walks offered it would be a travesty to forgo them.

We did enjoy one walk in early November along the Campaspe River and around the surrounds of Kyneton. Signs of the recent floods along the Campaspe brought home to all what nature can do.

We admired the intricate work of the labyrinth in the

grounds of Our Lady Church and loved following the beautiful tiles around the labyrinth.

The club is now offering 'Notice Nature' walks which will be shorter in length (five-to-eight kilometres) and designed to allow walkers time to enjoy their surroundings as they journey through the bush listening to the birds and trying to recognise the native flora.

Our year is coming to an end and all members are looking forward to the annual Christmas party to be held at Blackwood, which will follow a short walk in the area to whet our appetites for lunch.

If you are interested in joining us on a walk or require further information, contact Margot via secretary@gisbornebwc.org.au or on 0438 260 792, or look up the club's website at www.gisbornebwc.org.au.

Janeen Edward

Photowalks? Self-defence? Welcome to 2023



Macedon Ranges Further Education Centre (MR FEC) is preparing for 2023 with a great range

of new classes and activities. MR FEC will be kicking off a new free group in February for those who would like to join a group of amateur photographers going for walks and taking photos.

The Gisborne Photowalk Club will be led by local photographer Jeni Marinier from Jeni Wren Photography.

Self-defence for women has

proved popular and more classes including a mother-daughter class will be arranged for 2023.

MR FEC committee of management, staff, volunteers and tutors wish all a safe and happy Christmas holiday period. We look forward to seeing you in 2023.

For more information go to the MR FEC website, Facebook page or contact MR FEC on 5428 3799 or via enquiries@mrfec.net.au.



Macro moth by Jeni Wren Photography

'Old dads and mums' escape to Old Dadswell Town



The excitement built as we gathered at Gisborne's Jolly Miller before embarking on our much-anticipated weekend away to Old Dadswell Town, just west of Stawell near the Grampians. Fifteen of us headed off to the Old Railway Station in Maryborough for lunch, before arriving at our destination.

Our hosts Max and Jenny built the town, consisting of five country-style cabins in the theme of an old post office, general store, bank, etc. Central to the setup is a rustic, shearing shed-style camp kitchen, with an extra-long dining table, a big open fire and the most generous collection of memorabilia imaginable lining the walls.

This is where we all gathered to prepare our evening meal and chat about our daily outings to surrounding districts, such as the Stick Shed at Murtoa, all against the peaceful backdrop of the ancient Grampians.

Everyone pitched in to make the meal we shared, and quietly washed it down with a glass of fine red. Conversation surged up and down the long table, perhaps due to our good fortune with the weather, and given the challenges we've faced together over the past couple of years.

What a joy it was to take a comfy seat



Riders line up in Old Dadswell Town. Picture: Matthew Dridan.

by the fire, lie back and let it all wash over me as I pondered the journey home with my friends.

So, if old age is closing in on you, get on your bike and come join the Ulysses on an adventure. We accommodate a wide variety of riding styles and the

members have accrued a wealth of life experience to share.

Our ride calendar is full of monthly Saturday lunch rides and Sunday trips, plus special annual events, and Wednesday road rides. Here's a great chance to meet new friends with a

common interest.

You'll find us comparing ailments at the Saturday morning Tyre-Kick in Gisborne, so be sure to say hello. Check us out online at www.mrub.org.au or join us on Facebook for the latest news.

Matthew Dridan

First trout on a fly

After the recent success of the Calder Fly Fishing Expo and the influx of new members, we decided the best way to welcome our newcomers was with a club trip. Moorabool reservoir, less than an hour from Gisborne, is the perfect location for all, from newbies to experienced fly anglers. It offers lots of open access and plenty of bays sheltered from the elements.

A contingent of eight Calder members braved the windy and often overcast conditions with fishing ranging from quiet to red hot. While the bigger fish had pushed out to the deeper sections of the lake, it did result in a lot of smaller rainbow trout coming in close, and this set the scene for one of our new members achieving an important milestone – 'first trout on fly'.

New member Damien showed the steely resolve of a veteran angler with trout rising all around him. After a couple of fly changes and some close calls, a small rainbow trout was undone by some great casting and expert fly selection. It is a special moment catching your first trout on fly and you even get bonus points when you catch them on a dry fly.

It was a day that had everything: all



Damien's first trout



CALDER
FLY FISHING
ASSOCIATION

members caught fish, three of them got bogged, and we saw kangaroos, snakes and even a platypus. The only thing missing were the bigger trout, but there's always next time.

For more information on the Calder Fly Fishing Association visit www.calderflyfishing.com.au.

Simon Hall



**YOUNG
BEAT**

with Asher Kroon

Trying something different

I recently played a game of lawn bowls for the first time. I was expecting the game to be quite boring as it looks very repetitive and difficult, but I was shocked when I realised it was actually pretty fun trying to anticipate where the bowl was going to go and whether you threw it correctly.

I had a few extremely lucky shots where my bowl was almost touching the yellow ball, however, I still ended up losing the match two games to five.

Lawn bowls is a really fun game and it's quite hard to get the bowl to curve perfectly. The game has a lot of strategy behind it as well because you

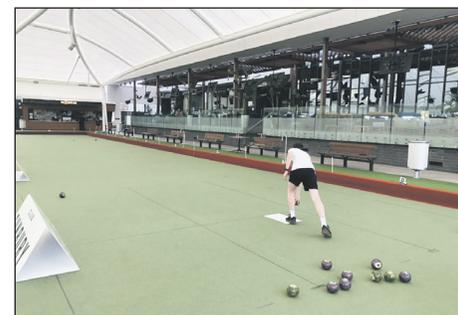
need to almost plan where to put the bowl and how to achieve that. It is hard trying to find the perfect amount of momentum.

I often found myself overshooting and hitting the gutter right at the end of the lane. The bowls are heavier on one side so they curve inwards but they don't immediately begin curving. As the ball slows it begins to curve, so you almost need to guess the perfect amount of power to put behind the bowl to allow it to curve at the perfect time putting it as close as possible to the yellow ball.

Overall, it is a really fun game and I enjoyed playing it and would definitely go again. The food at the Bowls Club is really nice as well, so you can stop

and get some lunch there while still playing bowls.

Lawn bowls is also a great school holiday idea as it is undercover so you can play whenever you want despite the weather.



Asher tries his hand at lawn bowls at the Sunbury Bowls Club.



Victorian Triples win



Mt Macedon Petanque club members Rhonda Shears and Alison Kinghorn recently teamed up with Jennifer Cuthbert from Dove Petanque Club to win the Victorian Open Women's Triples event held in Camberwell. Six straight wins saw them into the final which they won 13-0.

The combination had not played together since a National Plus 60s Triples win in 2019.

A number of club players will travel to Avoca, Ballarat and our neighbouring club Woodend Hanging Rock to compete in the coming weeks. In December a Christmas lunch will wrap up the year after the final Saturday playday of the year (10 December).

Play will resume in January: Wednesday 11 and Saturday 14 are the first dates.

The club is always keen to attract new members, so anyone is welcome to come along. Wednesday playdays are held from 2-5pm at our grounds behind the Ampol Service Station in Gisborne.

Coaching sessions are held from 1-2pm on the Wednesday falling on the same week as our Saturday sessions. 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



Alison and Rhonda with Jenny after their victory.



Varli Fisher on the long jump.

Gisborne Little Athletics back in full swing

Finally...After a slow start due to the weather, Little Athletics at Dixon Field on a Friday night is up and running.

There are lots of new and returning members and the committee is excited for a promising season, with encouraging results already in the State Combined Championships in Albert Park in November.

There are a number of teams, from Under 9s to Under 12s, representing the club on Saturday December 3 at the State Relay Championships in Hoppers Crossing. We wish all our teams the best.

If you are interested in athletics, come and try – visit www.lavic.com.au/membership/new-member/trial-athlete-offer for details. Children who have not been a member of Little Athletics can trial two competition days of Little Athletics free of charge before committing to full membership. The season runs to the end of March.



Why not try barefoot bowls?

Lawn bowls is a great sport for all ages, from school children through to those people who have retired.



A little-known fact is that the average age of the Australian cricket team is older than the average age of the lawn bowls team that represented Australia in the Commonwealth Games.

Barefoot bowls is a great way to learn the game while having fun at the same time.

The Gisborne and District Bowling Club recently started its annual barefoot bowls program, but it is not too late to join in and have fun. You can play on a Tuesday or Wednesday, arriving at 5.30pm for a 6pm start. You can register as an individual or put a team together. For more details contact Rob Paterson on 0417 283 382 to play on Tuesdays, or Sean Lawless on 0418 335 662 to play Wednesdays.

Barefoot bowls runs through to December 14, has a break over the summer holiday period, and resumes on January 31 for six weeks.

The annual registration cost is \$10 with a weekly cost of \$10 which provides you with access to the club bowls and a sausage sizzle.

Croquet Club up and hitting

There was much excitement at the club in early November when the courts were declared suitable to play. This meant we could hold the first of our 'Come and Try' days on November 12. Four ladies took up the challenge and enjoyed the experience, including the hotdog lunch that followed. We set aside November 19 and 20 as follow-up days.

Thirty members and guests celebrated the club's 30th anniversary at the CWA Hall at Mt Macedon. Old and new members had a lovely afternoon poring over old photo albums and other memorabilia.

The MacRobertson Shield was played at Cairnlea headquarters during November. Some of our members went to watch the play.

Eight players enjoyed a coaching session with Bill and Chris on November 14 and picked up some new skills.

Our Christmas break begins after December 14 when we hold our final general meeting for the year, then adjourn for Christmas lunch. Casual play is permitted after December 19 then club play will resume on January 18. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and happy holiday break.

Faye Armstrong

WANTED

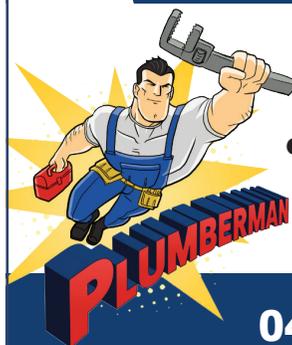
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Male senior club champion Xavier (left) and runner up Paul Sylvia

Community Bank helps Golf Club with driving range



The Community Bank Gisborne (Bendigo Bank) has shown its support for the local community by pledging \$20,000 to the Gisborne Golf Club and its new driving range.

This is a tremendous boost for the club as it continues to improve the course and its facilities and make it more of a destination. It is great to see the Community Bank really being an important part of the region.

So far, the response to the driving range has exceeded expectations, according to club president Alastair Boustead. Visitors have come from Tylden, Heskett and Sunbury, among other sources. The range has been used by parents with young children and by a school group getting a coaching session.

The club is well placed now with three qualified coaches in the professional shop.

Finally, the McGregor foursomes were won by Brendan Larkins and Jason Lock in the men's competition and Maryanne Stoettrup and Jo-anne McPhee won the ladies' competition.

The Club Championships are underway – always an exciting event.

Peter Barker

It's all about abilities



Congratulations to Sienna and Xavier (club juniors) on becoming the 2022 female and male senior club champions!

Lots of tennis was played and for those members who participated, well done to all.

The club will host the 'International Day of People with Disability' tennis challenge on December 1, from 11am-1pm. This event is a highlight on our annual calendar and with cancellations over the previous two years we are looking forward to welcoming back our All Ability community for some fun. All welcome!

Dwaine Duncan is a young and aspiring professional tennis player who has spent the past 12 weeks in intensive coaching to prepare for the European circuits. Club coach Mario and the South Gisborne Tennis Club community wish him all the best.

The club is very grateful to be the recipient of two successful grants, the Gisborne Community Bank Investment grant and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Community Fund grant.

These grants greatly assist the club to upgrade the hard courts and provide accessible seating for all to use in the community.

We look forward to offering alternative programs in 2023 and celebrating all our upgrades.

Summer is the best time to have a hit of tennis! Grab a friend or the family and play on the courts, enjoy a barbecue and the facilities. Happy holidays!

Gail Scott

Sienna becomes female senior club champion 2022.



Michelle Morrison (Bendigo Bank) with Gisborne Golf Club president Alastair Boustead and general manager Brett Campbell.

Basketball competition goes next level

The Macedon Ranges Basketball Association launched its inaugural teams in the Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL) on November 11, with the name of Macedon Ranges Rockies.

The VJBL is the state-wide representative basketball league and the highest level of junior basketball in Victoria. The club is proud to have six Rockies' teams (five boys' and one girls') playing in the VJBL, and to be providing strong skill development opportunities to local young people.

Photos available

Photos taken by Chris Fleming for the Gazette (printed and unprinted) are available for viewing and printing at Madison's of Gisborne, Hamilton Street.





SPORT IN PICTURES



MRNA twilight competition: U15 Giants v Dino Nuggies – November 22



MRNA twilight competition: U15 Giants v Macedon – November 22



Catie Shaw, U18 Girls' – Gisborne v Macedon – November 4



Bailey Holt, U18 Girls' – Gisborne v Bacchus Marsh – November 18



Leigh Brennan, McIntyre Cup – Gisborne v Sunbury – November 12



Jarryd Vernon, McIntyre Cup – Gisborne v Sunbury – November 12



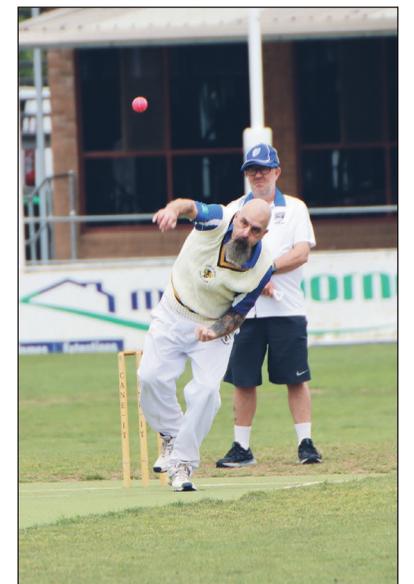
Seamus Sullivan, U15 Gisborne v Wallan.



Charlie Busby, U18 Girls' – Gisborne v Macedon – November 4



James Watson, U15 – Gisborne v Rupertswood – November 12



Steve James, Masters over 50 cricket – Macedon Sunbury v Wonga – November 6



U13 MRNA Saints v United – November 8



Taj Susnjara, U15 – Gisborne v Rupertswood – November 12



▲ MRNA Macedon Cats v Wagtails – November 8



MRNA Giants v Fire Birds – November 8



MRNA twilight – Giants v Boolarra – November 10



Macedon v Gisborne – Cameron Howlett – November 12



One gets through the mighty Dragons on November 6.



Celebration for the Macedon Ranges Rockies joining the Victorian Junior Basketball League.



Macedon's Tuesday bowls' skipper is happy with his team – November 15.



Buz Wasy, Division 3 – Macedon v Kilmore – November 12



David Kerry, Tuesday bowls – Macedon v Woodend – November 15



Gail Hobbs has the moves down pat, Division 2 – Gisborne v Macedon

Water tips to save the planet – and more



Saving water has so many easy environmental and financial benefits. But you may not realise some of these simple tips from Greater Western Water (GWW) could assist in an emergency or even save a life.

Be smart. Choose tap. It's the best choice for your health, the environment and your budget. After all, the best drinking water in Australia is right here in Victoria!

Store water in your fridge for emergencies. In the event of a burst water main or bushfire, you'll always have drinking water on hand.

Be prepared. Water pressure and supply could be interrupted during a bushfire. GWW has backup and staff on call, but if you live in a high-risk area, consider keeping an alternative water supply. Contact CFA to find out more about bushfire preparation.

Check for leaks. Avoid steep water bills by checking



for water leaks now. Read the numbers on your meter, then re-check after a period when you haven't used any water. If the numbers have changed, you may have a leak.

Adopt a hydrant. Help to clear grass and soil from fire hydrants or let us know if you spot one that needs attention – you'll be helping the CFA when they need to fight fires and keep property and people safe.

The three Ps. Remember only flush pee, poo and (toilet) paper down the loo and avoid a costly (and smelly) plumbing fix. Look out for the new flushable symbol on products too. You'll be helping to keep our sewers operating at their best.

Shorten your shower. Save water by keeping your shower to four

minutes.

Can you claim a concession? Shrink your bills with a concession – pensioners, healthcare card holders and Veterans' Affairs gold card holders are all eligible.

Talking about crochet

The 'Conversation and Crochet' group's second meeting was successful. Together, we enjoyed the opportunity of honing techniques, talking crochet and making the impossible possible.

'Crochet and Conversion' group meets on the first Monday of the month at the Gisborne Library, with the next meeting planned for February 6, 2023. All crochet skill levels are welcome.

I encourage you all to attend the local markets where you can immerse yourself in the flourishing craft community this region has to offer. All these makers and crafters are interested in exchanging information with those interested in expanding their world of craft.

The Sunbury Agricultural Show, 100 years old this year, was held on October 8. The homecrafts pavilion housed the crochet section, with judging proving a real challenge. The number of entries increases annually and the quality of the work on display achieves a high level.

I was lucky enough to achieve a first in the adult garment class with a shawl. Congratulations to all the participants, organisers and judges. I look forward to the healthy competition at next year's show.

I'd like to wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I'd also like to extend special thanks to all members of the broad and ever-expanding community that constitutes the *Gisborne Gazette* and look forward to continuing the marvellous work that meets an often overlooked community niche.



Mary-Beth O'Brien

Ash Wednesday book can be pre-ordered

The *Gazette* will be publishing a 40th anniversary book about the 1983 Ash Wednesday fires that will include the experiences of more than 40 residents on that day and the recovery efforts that followed it.

Bryan Power is editing the book and hopes to have the first run published by February 15, 2023.

Pre-orders or indications of interest for the book are invited now, to Bryan on 0417 140 828 or at bryanp2@bigpond.com.

Because the price will be dependant on quantity printed we cannot give a definitive cost at this point, but it is expected to be between \$20 and \$30.

CROSSWORD Words starting with the letter 'L'

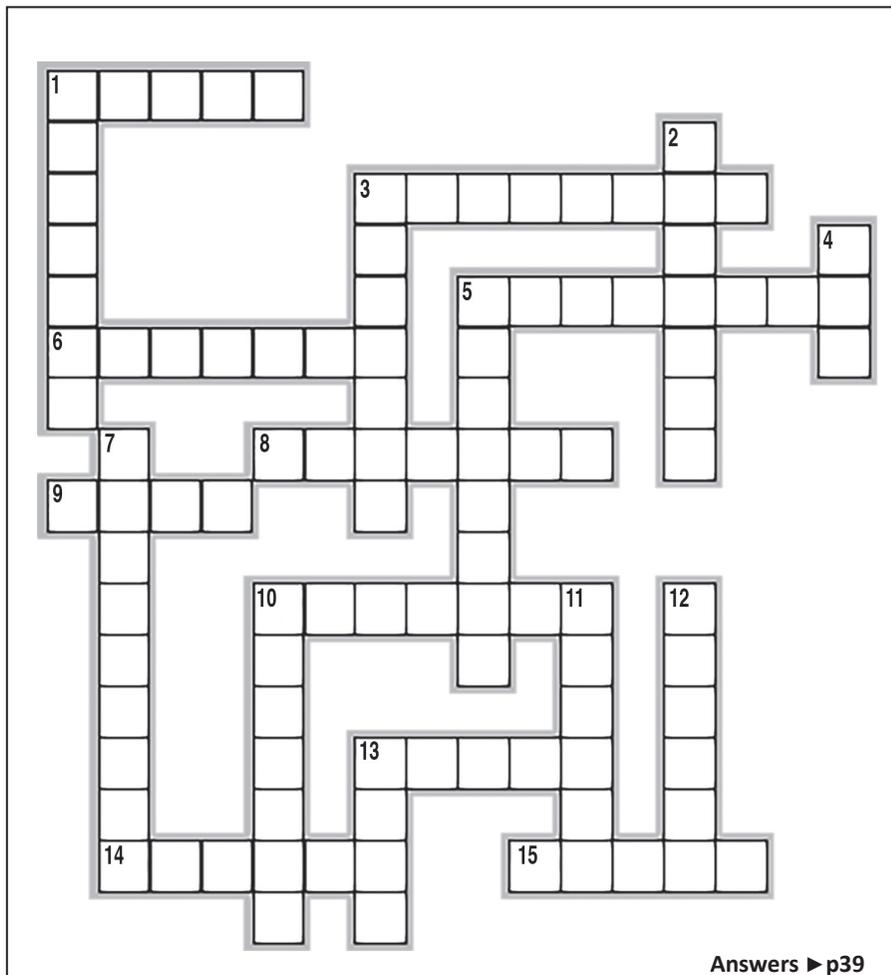
Questions compiled by the late Graeme Millar with his daughter Heather

ACROSS

- Star sign between September 24 and October 23
- An aromatic plant of the mint family
- Distance measured in degrees, north or south of the equator
- A member of the cat family
- Place where clothes are washed
- A famous movie and stage musical: *The _____ King*
- Prime Minister John Howard was a member of this political party
- The capital city of this country is Tripoli
- Kerang is situated on this river
- Australia's tenth prime minister

DOWN

- Capital of the US state of Nebraska
- A garden plant with tender green leaves used in salads
- Australian professional billiard player from 1933 to 1950
- Part of the body in which you would find the tibia
- A person who owns a property and rents it to others
- The Lusitania and the Titanic were both registered in this English port city
- Geckos, thorny devils and land mullets
- Organisation that cares for widows of deceased war veterans
- Trafalgar Square is a well-known site in this city
- A fast of 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter Day



Answers ► p39

BRAINBUSTER

- Which branch of mathematics gets its name from the Latin for "small pebbles"?
- The Bridge of Sighs is found in which Italian city?
- Who wrote the poem *The Raven*?
- Who was the British Prime Minister immediately after the resignation of Boris Johnson?
- Which movie won the Oscar for Best Movie in 2014?
- By what name is the singer born Alecia Beth Moore better known?
- What is the sixth planet of the Solar System?
- Which war was precipitated by the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand?
- By what name is the Chinese gooseberry better known?
- What is the longest bone in the human body?

Answers ► p39



A blue Christmas

Each year, many communities hold services around Christmas to remember those who have died during the past year.

At the beginning of November, members of the local Churches gathered at the Gisborne Cemetery on All Souls Day (November 2).

All Souls Day traditionally remembers those who have died, and prayerfully they are recalled.

Some take the opportunity to visit the



graveyard or resting place of their loved ones.

Christmas often heightens our awareness of our loved ones who are no longer with us.

The first couple of Christmas celebra-

tions can be tinged with some sadness, or as the saying suggests, leaving us feeling blue.

Remembering the gift of life and the love we receive from our loved ones is very moving.

One of the town's best-known personalities will not be with us.

This paper featured many things that Graeme Millar OAM championed and achieved.



Graeme Millar

He edited, wrote, distributed, proofread, and lived up to the name of the organisation he loved: GREAT.

Our love is extended to Elaine, Rohan, Caroline and Heather, and their families.

From the Parish, our love is also extended to you as memories of our loved ones continue to stir within our hearts.

Rev Dennis Webster

A great Aussie Christmas event

Uniting Church



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! An Australian Christmas. We often define this season by the weather. It is supposed to be a hot and lazy time. After the last long wet weeks we can't be sure of this. Water is still making its way across paddocks which are unseasonably green rather than the usual brown.

However, the Gisborne Uniting congregation still intends to sing John Wheeler's rollicking Australian carol 'The north wind is tossing the leaves; the red dust is over the town'. The good folk of Gisborne and surrounds are invited to join us in this happy morning event, 'A Great Aussie Christmas' on Tuesday December 13 from 10-12am.

Out with the holly and in with the banksias and the grevilleas. And while 'See amid the winter snow' might be your favourite carol, instead we will sing from the Wheeler carol book. The writer was born in Colac, attended the local high school, became a teacher and, in



1938, began a long and illustrious career with the ABC.

It is reported that on one very hot day when the leaves from the plane trees along the Colac streets were swirling around, he commented to composer William James how silly it was to sing of robins and snow in the dry dust of an Australian summer's day.

There can be a hole in the very middle of our Australian rituals about Christmas. Carols remind us that the core is

the birth of the Christ child. A church service on Christmas Eve is a time for quiet and awesome recollection of that little town in Bethlehem.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

Join us on Friday December 24 at 7.30pm and Christmas Day at 9.30am in our church at 23 Brantome Street, Gisborne.

Janet Wood

House of the Rock Church



At Christmas I wear a badge showing Santa kneeling at the crib of Jesus.

Had he been there at Jesus' birth, Santa would have been the first to kneel in adoration – and keenly embarrassed by the fuss made of him today, knowing that Santa should not take centre stage. Jesus was the long-predicted Saviour of the world.

Santa's name was in fact Nicholas, a kind churchman whose compassion for the poor was grounded in his love for Jesus. He is associated with Christmas because every Christmas Eve he would identify the homes of the poor, where shoes were left outside to save mud and snow tracking indoors. Secretly, at night, he would fill the children's shoes with nuts, fruit and sweets – treats he knew the parents could never afford.

For a long time, no one knew his identity, although people continued the custom of gift-giving and when the kind-hearted Nicholas was discovered, they named him Saint Nicholas or Santa 'Claus, nowadays, the cheery red-suited 'Santa'. Nicholas' simple gifts, like the more lavish ones of the Wise Men, are homage to the child-King-of-Kings, reflecting God's great gift – his own Son.

Evelyn R. Sims

House of the Rock Church
247 Station Road, New Gisborne

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

House of the Rock Church
Sunday December 18: Annual Children's Christmas Production at 10am

Sunday December 25: Christmas Day celebration, 10am
Sunday January 1, New Year's Day Celebration, 10am

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES



Christmas Mass times for the Catholic parishes – St Brigid's, Gisborne; St Patrick's, Macedon; St Ambrose, Riddells Creek.

December 24 – Vigil Masses

- 7pm Children's Mass at St Brigid's Primary School; 6:30pm for a 7pm start
- 9pm St Patrick's



- 11pm St Brigid's Gisborne – Carols begin at 10:30pm



December 25 Christmas Day

- 9am St Ambrose
- 10:30am St Brigid's



2023 SACRAMENT BOOKINGS

Tuesday December 6 at 7pm, St Brigid's Church, Gisborne

- Reconciliation
- Confirmation
- Eucharist (First Communion)

Booking fee \$75

– Class schedule with dates and details will be handed out after bookings.

– Meet in the presbytery

– All primary school children from all schools are welcome

– We will commence with Reconciliation classes on Monday 20 February

Contact Kevin at pf.stbrigidsg@gmail.com

It's a busy Christmas at Mt Macedon Uniting Church



The Christmas season will be busy at Mount Macedon Uniting Church.

Our church will be open for visitors to view the beautiful Christmas Tree and enjoy some quiet time from early December until Christmas.

Then on Thursday December 15 the Fiore Chamber will perform a Christmas concert at 7.30pm, with some socialising afterwards. Fiore Chamber is a new group of four singers made up of some of the best young professional singers in Victoria who have recently held concerts around Melbourne and Geelong.

On Christmas Eve, at 7pm, the much-anticipated annual Service of Lessons and Carols will be held. A warm welcome is extended to everyone, locals and visitors, to join with us for this lovely start to Christmas.

This supports the Christmas Bowl Appeal of Act for Peace, the international humanitarian agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia.

Then on Christmas morning at 9am there will be a special Christmas church service.

As the festive season approaches, we



Christmas joy at Mt Macedon

wish all in the *Gazette* family of a blessed and safe holiday season. We thank the *Gazette* volunteers for their great work and the readers for their

interest in our activities during the year. We look forward to being with you all again in the New Year.

Neil Twedde
5426 2045

Join carols service at St Andrew's



You are invited to join us for a Christmas Carols service at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Gisborne.

The Carols service is on Sunday December 18 at 5.30pm, so families with little ones can enjoy the event too without having a late night.

We'll be enjoying a wonderful night of singing and scripture readings, including the carols *Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel*, *Once in Royal David's City*, *Silent Night* and *Joy to the World*.

The Presbyterian Church is at 49 Fisher Street, Gisborne. We have a dedicated drop-off zone and wheelchair-accessible ramp so everyone, young or old, can join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

We'll also be sharing a "bring-a-plate" meal and enjoying a wonderful time of fellowship in the church hall after the service.

We're sincerely looking forward to seeing you there.

Lizzie Mills
Member of the Board

GISBORNE GAZETTE STUDENT AWARDS - Secondary (From page 27)

GISBORNE SECONDARY COLLEGE



Oscar James



Bridget Holmes

Bridget Holmes and Oscar James have excelled as College Captains, taking the responsibility incumbent in their captaincy seriously and providing

strong leadership to the student body. They have both represented the College in a manner in which they should be extremely proud, at events such as the College Investiture Evening, Whole-School assemblies and particularly the ANZAC Day Dawn Service on Mount Macedon. They have been the voice of the College to the local community with regular contributions to the *Gisborne Gazette* providing an insight into what school is like from a student perspective.

Congratulations to all students!

MACEDON RANGES SPECIALIST SCHOOL (BULLENGAROOK)

Ryder Turpin



Ryder is a hugely popular student and brings a great sense of humour and fun to our campus. He sets a great example in class, finishing all of his work on time and demonstrating great leadership and behaviour in the classroom and in the yard. Ryder over-

Charlotte Marino



comes great challenges in his daily life and does it all with a smile on his face which makes him a great young person to work with.

Charlotte Marino has been hard working in her schoolwork this year. She is often found writing wonderful stories with fantastic characters. Charlotte really enjoys researching scientific facts and her passion is to work with animals when she leaves school.

Charlotte has been greatly developing her confidence in our school production.

Gazette advertising rates 2023

Due to increased costs, new rates for advertisements in the *Gisborne Gazette* will apply from the February 2023 issue. We aim to keep our rates as low as possible to support local traders and are proud that this is the first price increase in five years.

Advertising Sizes (width x height) and Prices (incl. GST)

8cm x 7cm - \$78.65 (square)

8cm x 10cm - \$111.10 (portrait)

16.5cm x 7cm - \$167.20 (landscape)

16.5cm x 10cm - \$237.60 (landscape)

12.5cm x 10cm - \$175.45

24.5cm x 6cm - \$211.75 (landscape)

24.5cm x 7cm - internal banner - \$251.90

24.5cm x 10cm - (1/2 page) - \$377.30

24.5cm x 15.5cm - (1/2 page) - \$580.80

Front page banner 24.5cm x 4.5cm - \$440.00

Back page (half page) 24.5cm x 15.5cm - \$658.30

Back page (1/4 page) 12cm x 15cm - \$383.90 (limited availability)

8cm x 22cm - \$266.20

1/4 page - internal - \$314.60

Further details including submission formats, deadlines and sponsorship opportunities can be found on our website, gisbornegazette.org.au Please direct all bookings and questions to the advertising coordinator at gisbornegazetteadvertising@gmail.com



100 YEARS AGO

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

DECEMBER 1922

Gisborne Water Problems – Complaints are made by residents in elevated places within the water area in consequence of their supplies being cut off between 6 a.m. one day and 1 a.m. on the following day. It is evident that those on the lower levels and between the head works and the town are using water for irrigation and wasting it. A supply of 80,00 gallons passes through the pipes daily – an amount sufficient to supply twice the number of people entitled to use it. It is suggested that an inspector be engaged for the summer months to make daily and nightly visits to farms and gardens.

The Argus, December 1, 1922

Gisborne Cemetery – Some time ago, Mr Murray, sexton of the cemetery, discovered many of the graves completely covered with St John wort. Apparently, someone unaware of its destructiveness planted it for the beauty of its flower. Many graves were ruined through the plant having worked its way into the foundations and masonry. The assistance of Mr Davy, of the Agricultural department, was obtained and steps were taken to destroy it.

The Argus, December 4, 1922

Colonist Since 1839 – When Mr William Farrell of New Gisborne, who was born in Tyrone, Ireland, in 1833, arrived in Melbourne with his parents, he was just six years of age. The family arrived in Port Phillip in 1839. Mr Farrell's parents obtained a house in Bourke Street... In 1847 the family moved to Kyneton, where they were engaged in shepherding for a short time and were afterwards similarly employed at Yea.

Then they went overland to the South Australian border, where they remained until 1852, when the gold rush commenced. Arriving in Gisborne in June 1852 there were few buildings and the new arrivals were obliged to live in tents. The Farrell family was kept fully employed by the Government in road construction and as they were well equipped with horses and drays, did well.

When town allotments of Gisborne were put up for auction in Melbourne, Mr Farrell senior bought a half-acre block for £36, on which he built a wine and spirit store and carried on the business until his death in 1859. His widow survived until 1881, when she died at the age of 73 years. Mr. W. Farrell began carrying on the roads in the 1850s. The present Church of England at Gisborne [*now the Anglican op shop building in Fisher Street*], built of wood and iron, which was imported from England, was carted from Melbourne by him, 32 miles at a cost of £35 a ton.

The Argus, [edited extract] December 6, 1922

Macedon Notes – The Macedon Tennis Club's annual plain and fancy dress ball was very successful. The snowballing and confetti battles were greatly appreciated.



WHAT'S ON REGULAR MEETINGS

New members always welcome

ADULT RIDING CLUB (Gis) 2nd Saturday of month IR 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
BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP 1st & 3rd Tues 10.30am Gisborne Golf Club

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

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 Mon, Wed & Sat 10am 0426 500 516, Noeline Richardson 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 Goonawarra Golf Club, Sunbury

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@jungeikan.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

OBEDIENCE 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 Saturdays as required 0409 121 025

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 Senior Cits room, Gisborne Community Centre

QUILTERS (Gisb) Wed 7pm Room attached to Gisb Library

RAMBLERS Fridays 9.15am Tennis Club Dixon Field

ROTARY (Gisborne) First & third Tues 7pm Telegraph Hotel, 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 12.30pm 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@mrsppag.com.au

TABLE TENNIS Wed 7.30pm Tony Clarke Res, Macedon

THUNDER SWIMMING CLUB 2nd Sat 5pm Gisborne Aquatic Centre

TOY LIBRARY Every Mon 9.30-10.30am; Thurs 3.30-4.30pm, Sat 9.30-11am 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

WHAT ELSE IS ON



DECEMBER

Date		Page
3	Council's outdoor pools reopen	9
3	CWA Christmas Pop-up Fair	12
3, 4	Phoenix Art & Craft Exhibition	12
4	Gisborne Carols by Candlelight at Dixon Field	5
4	Last day to donate to foodbank hampers	8
7	Macedon Carols by Candlelight	5
6	Booking travel online workshop at library	12
9	Gisborne Festival	4
10	#SeeME inclusiveness project launch	4
10	Gisborne Singers in choral concert in Bendigo	13
11	Gisborne Singers in Beethoven's 9th in Bendigo	13
14	Online travel booking workshop at library	12
14	Where the Crawdads Sing movie at library	12
14	Gallipoli book launch in Woodend	11
15	Council 2023 Arts & Culture events launch	18
15	Fiore Chamber concert in Mount Macedon	38
16	Carols by Candlelight in John Aitken Reserve	5
18	Carols service at St Andrew's Church	38
19	Men's Shed cubby raffle drawn	8
19	Gisborne writing challenge opens	40
24	Gisborne CFA Santa Run	5
JANUARY		
7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 29	Art workshops in Woodend	14
19	Damo: Music for Kids at library	12
27	Community Bank tertiary scholarships close	22

Crossword answers

ACROSS		DOWN	
13. Libya	4. Leg	1. Libra	14. Loddon
3. Lavender	5. Landlord	3. Lavender	15. Lyons
5. Latitude	7. Liverpool	6. Leopard	10. Lizards
6. Leopard	11. Legacy	8. Laundry	12. London
8. Laundry	12. London	9. Lion	13. Lent
9. Lion	13. Lent	10. Liberal	3. Lindrum

Kids' Quiz answers

1. Melbourne Cricket Ground	6. The sun
2. 2022	7. South Australia
3. Claustrophobia	8. Hugh Jackman
3. Mickey Mouse	9. 20
5. The Spice Girls	10. Nicholas.

Brainbusters answers

1. Calculus	6. Pink
2. Venice	7. Saturn
3. Edgar Allan Poe	8. World War 1
4. Liz Truss	9. Kiwifruit
5. 12 Years a Slave	10. The femur

Baringo Film Club

3pm Wednesday | 3pm and 7pm Saturday

DECEMBER

7 to 10	Eiffel
14 to 17	Where the Crawdads Sing
21	A Christmas Tale

JANUARY

18 to 21	The Family Stone
25 to 28	The Last Vermeer

For membership details see www.baringofilmclub.com



Celebrate the wonderful

However you celebrate, whoever you're with, may your Christmas be merry, always.

From the Community Bank Gisborne & District team.

 Gisborne 5420 7210

 **Bendigo Bank**

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 (A1658008) OUT_27014561, 25/11/2022

A small act makes a big impact.

Enter a lucky draw to WIN one of three gift card vouchers worth

Let us know how can we make recycling easy for you, take the short survey by 20 December 2022.

Scan the QR code or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/your-say




 **Macedon Ranges**
Shire Council

 **Let's get sorted**
General Waste Recycled by FOOD Bank

 **Sustainability Victoria**

 **VICTORIA**
State Government

Gisborne Writing and Illustration Challenge

Categories include poetry, short story, creative writing, cartoon or manga strip and book cover design.

For more information and entry forms, visit Gisborne Library at 8 Hamilton Street, or our website below.

Entries open: Mon 19 Dec, 2022
Entries close: Mon 27 Feb, 2023

Need inspiration?

Come along to our poetry, cartoon and manga workshops.



www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/gisbornechallenge

 **Gisborne Gazette**
serving the southern macedon ranges

 **Goldfields Libraries**