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SEPTEMBER 2021

A Gisborne resident made history on August 24. Lifetime lover of football, pioneer of the AFLW on and off the field and proud mother of two, Debbie Lee was announced as the first woman to be inducted into the Australian Football Hall of Fame. See her story on page 10.



Football legend makes history

Picture: Rebecca Rowlands

INSIDE

BEHIND THE FOUNTAIN



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100 DAYS OF PREP



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LOCAL HISTORY



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SPORT IN PICTURES



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and much more...



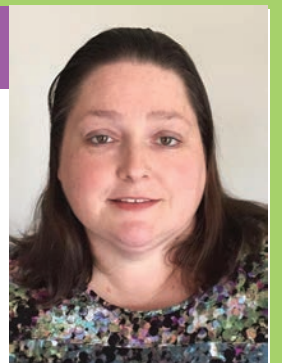
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From the Editor's desk

...And another edition goes to the printer during lockdown! With so much I don't want to think about these days, I continue to appreciate having the happy *Gazette* to focus on — and discovering ever more interesting things about our great community. ...Such as the fact that Debbie Lee, the first woman inducted into the Australian Football Hall of Fame, lives in Gisborne. See the story of this humble trailblazer of AFLW on pages 10-11. ...Or that our iconic Gisborne Fountain was the result of a community project 20 years ago. Barry Wills of Gisborne Rotary Club tells the story on page 15. ...Or that South Gisborne resident Nick FitzSimon was a hostage in Iraq 31 years ago when Iraq invaded Kuwait where he was working on an engineering project. See the article on page 24-25. ...Or that local preps look as adorable dressed up as 100-year-olds as they do normally. See our feature on this annual tradition at three local schools on page 28. ...Or that many members of today's *Gazette* team have been with us for our full 15 years! See who it is in our anniversary feature on pages 20-21.

It is thanks to our dedicated volunteers and permissible exercise that this edition has landed in your letterbox or community basket and I hope it provides some light entertainment and motivation for you to reconnect with our community when the lockdown ends.

Hang in there and try to find something to keep you busy or distracted as our movements remain restricted. Regular learning of something new helped Nick FitzSimon get through his ordeal; or maybe close-up photography would be of interest (see the photo society's article on page 18), crochet (see page 19) or drawing or painting (be inspired by VCE art from Gisborne Secondary College on page 30).

If you are hesitant about getting vaccinated, I hope Dr Masood's article on vaccine myths on page 14 allays your concerns.

Last, and most importantly, remember to keep an eye on yourself and others around you as best you can. Small gestures can make a big difference in times like these, such as the teddy on a swing (below) that appeared on Mount Macedon Road in August and makes me smile every time I drive past. Happy reading,

Corinne Shaddock



Our deepest sympathies to the family of Richard Whiteley. Richard joined the *Gazette* team in 2009 and many will have known him as the Distribution Manager until he had to retire in 2019. Richard died in August. He recruited many 'walkers' and planned new areas of distribution as the houses were built. Rest in peace, Richard.

GREAT Gisborne Gazette
23 Hamilton Street, Gisborne
PO Box 9, Gisborne 3437
ABN 14301 970 177

Web www.gisbornegazette.org.au

The Gazette Team



Editor: Corinne Shaddock
gisbornegazetteeditor@gmail.com
0409 422 492



Production
Pip Butler 0439 816 278 pbutlerhistory@gmail.com
Graeme Millar, Elaine Millar



Photographer
Chris Fleming
0417 322 944



Distribution Manager
Maxine Barker 0438 711 138
maxineandpeter@bigpond.com



Advertising Coordinator
Patsy Smith 0401 810 581
gisbornegazetteadvertising@gmail.com

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OBITUARIES

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

Where you can find the Gazette

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

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

Mt Macedon: The Trading Post

Macedon: Post Office and United Service Station on Black Forest Drive

New Gisborne: Cafe at 3 Ladd Road

Riddells Creek: Newsagency

Woodend: Coles supermarket

The Gazette is supported by Macedon Ranges Shire Council.



A MINUTE WITH MAXINE

Lorraine Theel was asked by Phyllis Boyd if she would be interested in delivering the *Gazette* and now Lorraine is part of the 15 years' celebration team.

Lorraine was born in Peterborough, South Australia, and moved to Adelaide at the age of 16 to complete her schooling and then go to teachers' college.

While teaching at Port Pirie primary school, Lorraine met John. She had already committed to a 12-month teaching post in Papua New Guinea so upon her return they were married in Adelaide in May 1975.

After living in Port Pirie and Adelaide, they moved to Port Augusta in 1977. After five years there and 15 at Ingle Farm, a suburb of Adelaide, they moved to Gisborne in 1997.

Lorraine continued to teach until her retirement in 2017. They have one daughter and one son.

Lorraine enjoys reading, jigsaw puzzles, crosswords, sudoku, knitting, crocheting and going to the gym three times a week (when COVID restrictions permit). She volunteers at MRH/Benetas once a week.



Lorraine Theel

A memorable holiday was in 2019, when they travelled by train through Switzerland, to Paris, and then thoroughly enjoyed touring the UK, especially Devon and Cornwall with a friend.

Early spring is Lorraine's favourite time of year in Gisborne and she finds it a friendly place to live.

Maxine Barker

Major award for Gisborne winemaker

Bindi Wines in Gisborne has been honoured in the prestigious James Halliday 2022 Wine Awards.

Winemaker Michael Dhillon was named Winemaker of the Year at the online awards event on August 12.

He was also shortlisted in the Viticulturist of the Year category, and Bindi in Winery of the Year.

As well, the estate's 2019 Pinot Noir 'Bindi Block 5' received a score of 97 points, thus judged Australia's best Pinot Noir.

Michael is particularly proud of this award as achieving a top quality Pinot Noir is a very challenging task for a winemaker.



Michael Dhillon stands with his awards among the vines of Bindi Block 5 whose grapes produced the wine in the bottle.

The goal posts are up and heads in place at new school

Things are moving ahead on the Gisborne South construction site and Gisborne will be home to its newest primary school and kindergarten in 2022. The school will help support the educational needs of the growing community.

Willowbank Primary School will be open for all year levels, Prep to Year 6, in Term 1 next year. The school will also have a kindergarten on the site. The school is at the Gisborne end of McGeorge Road.

The newly appointed principal, Rynn Anderson, and vice-principal, Brett Sinnett, are establishing the school



Like any school worth its Victorian salt, Willowbank Primary gets the football goalposts up before anything else. The gym is under construction next to the oval.

curriculum and teaching and learning practices and are excited to begin engaging with the school community.

The school facilities will comprise general teaching spaces and specialist areas, including a gymnasium, library, science, food technology and music rooms.

The outdoor facilities will provide lots of room for students to be active, with a large sports field, basketball courts, a performing arts stage, play spaces and undercover areas.

For further information about the school or to enrol your child, please email willowbank.ps@education.vic.gov.au or follow the school Facebook page.



Rynn Anderson



Brett Sinnett

Local author continues children's series

Brenda Gurr of Mount Macedon had the third book in her children's series *The Fabulous Cakes of Zinnia Jakes* published in August.

The series follows the adventures of a multi-talented nine-year-old girl who anonymously provides tasty pastries around town. In the latest instalment, *The Super Spy*, parents at the heroine's school

set a trap to catch the secret pastry chef while their kids are having a sleepover next door.

Born and raised in Western Australia, Brenda has loved to write since she was a child and still finds writing the best way to share her thoughts and ideas. Most of her current writing focuses on the middle primary school years, a period Brenda remembers well from her own life and which she considers magical. She confessed to still seeing the world from that perspective – "My inner self is 10" – and hopes to publish many more titles for that age group.

Brenda studied Arts at university and started her career as a primary school drama teacher. A job ad in a local newspaper saw her move to an educational publisher where she started to write primary school worksheets and readers and was trained as an editor.

She moved to this area with her husband and two boys in 2008 and now works as a freelance writer and editor based at home.

To her delight, Brenda accomplished her dream of being published by a mainstream publishing house in 2019 when Red Paper Kite Publishing released her children's book *Miss Eliza Flowerdew Can Nearly Touch the Ceiling*. The *Zinnia Jakes* series has been published by New Frontier Publishing, the first two titles in Australia, the US and the UK in 2020.

Zinnia Jakes books are available at the Trading Post, Macedon Post Office and online.



Brenda Gurr with her latest book.



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Extra storm recovery assistance available

A new service is being offered for Macedon Ranges residents affected by the June storms.

A dedicated case manager has been employed by Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health to work with residents to help coordinate the various supports available as part of the clean-up and they will be able to tailor their assistance according to the needs of individuals.

"There is still so much to do get properties back to what they were like before the storms," says Justine Maher, team leader of the service's storm recovery program. "The recovery after an event like this takes time and it can be overwhelming. It's not just the removal of trees or the repair of structures; the mental distress and the financial implications can take its toll on people especially as the weeks and months go by."

The program can help with advice on what services are available, including health and wellbeing support, financial counselling and information on payments to help with the clean-up. Call the storm and flood recovery hotline on 1800 560 760.

Charity anthology released for a cause

A much-loved member of the Australian writing community, Aiki Flinthart, lost her battle with cancer in January. To honour her legacy, Gisborne-based independent publisher of speculative fiction Deadset Press created and recently released *Stories of Survival*, a charity anthology with all proceeds going to the Melanoma Institute of Australia.

Austin Sheehan of Deadset Press said that while the anthology was inspired by Aiki's battle, cancer had touched the lives of far too many of us. "Many of the authors have dedicated their story to a

loved one who has fought or is still fighting cancer, and it is our hope that the money raised through this collection can make a difference."

Stories of Survival is available now in ebook and paperback formats from online book sellers including Amazon and Apple Books.



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Roadbuilder backflips on saving historic Gisborne bridge

The state government's regional roadbuilding arm has reneged on its agreement to protect the heritage bridge and trees at the intersection of Melbourne Road and Kilmore Road in Gisborne.

The intersection, which presents problems at times of heavy traffic flow, is to be converted into a roundabout. Works are due to start by the end of the year.

Initial proposals from Regional Roads Victoria involved the destruction of the bluestone bridge, built in 1872, and removal of several of the old English oaks.

However, after detailed work by the Historical Society which resulted in alternative roundabout designs being produced, Regional Roads agreed to a design option which protected the bridge and all but two trees, one on either side of Melbourne Road.

Prior to this agreement from Regional Roads, the council had asked the State Government for heritage protection on the bridge. Council documents show that the minister refused on the basis that it was unnecessary as Regional Roads had agreed to protection.

On August 25, documents presented at a council meeting showed that Regional Roads no



Historical Society president Frank Porter stands beside the bridge, which now has no protection.

longer planned to protect either the bridge or trees in the construction of the roundabout.

Presented with this backflip, the council passed two alternative motions.

One said the council noted the Regional Roads update "and continues to advocate for the protection of the heritage fabric of the bluestone bridge and channel, and trees". The other requested the CEO to progress a Planning Scheme Amendment (C143) to public exhibition as soon as practical. These were moved by Cr Rob Guthrie, seconded by Cr Anne Moore, and passed eight to one.

It is not clear whether the council's last-ditch attempts will be enough, or in time, to save the bridge.

Long-time MRH employee retires

Sandra Reed began working with Macedon Ranges Health as a receptionist/admin assistant, on July 4, 2001 and after 20 years she retired from this position at the end of July.

Sandra said "there have been many changes at Macedon Ranges Health over the past two decades

including six CEOs and three different buildings. Looking back over those years the highlights have been the many friendships I have made with my colleagues and getting to know the lovely clients, who I will miss the most."

Sandra Reed on her last day.



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This Brantome Street cottage is the latest to disappear from the streetscape in the centre of Gisborne.



The cottage was demolished in mid-August.

SEEN AROUND TOWN

A shop closed for lockdown in Gisborne Village Shopping Centre left a heartfelt message with their 'closed' sign on the door. "We should do the right thing". Anyone with lingering doubts about vaccination may be helped by Dr Umair Masood's column on vaccine myths on page 14.



The things you do for love

Simon Walliss rides Henry, Isla and Bombshell the chook in his bicycle cart on Mount Macedon Road on Saturday August 29, just before reaching the hill.

Simon said that with the low gear he can ride halfway up the hill to home, then walks. Both sound very challenging!



A hint of spring and of finding hope in the psyche

Saturday morning. August 21. Beautiful clear day, hint of spring in the air. All things being equal, this would translate to a spring in the collective step. O joy, winter is bidding farewell for another year; hello sunshine.

But there is not a spring about town, more a sharp intake of breath and then a striding back into lockdown, after a few weeks of release. This morning Premier Daniel Andrews announced regional Victoria was returning to lockdown at 1pm, following an increase in coronavirus cases in Shepparton and the likely transmission of COVID-19 to other towns.

How was this news received in Gisborne? For one thing, barbers were rushed. I can't be sure there is a link

REFLECTIONS

with Warwick McFadyen

between the two because I didn't ask those standing in line their reasons, but in the absence of seeing such a queue before, at two barbers, at the one time, on the same day, the probabilities are panic haircutting. The shear numbers don't lie.

Now there's nothing wrong with that, given the imminent lockdown did not give an expiry date, for who would want a town of longhairs? We're not Nimbin 1971.

Though a friend did say of Castlemaine just up the highway, where he lived, that it was Nimbin

without the topsoil, but that was a while ago, too.

Half a century on, here we are on a Saturday morning, cafes are doing a brisk trade, the fairy shop is overflowing with aspiring pixies, footballs are being kicked across the road in Gardiner Reserve, skateboards and scooters are wheeling on concrete, walkers and joggers are a wave of motion, and in the streets, it is – if not a snarl for it's too nice a day – a long stutter of vehicles off to who knows where as if it is the last day on earth. Perhaps shopping. Perhaps one last mad dash up the Calder, travelling further than five kilometres from home and faster than 50 km/h.

But for most, for every leaving,

there is a return. On Sunday morning, we have returned to another lockdown. The town not so much awakes, as sleepily raises an eyelid, peers out, and you could swear as you embarked on your allowed walking of the dog for exercise, you could hear a sigh.

It's easy in such times to let the mind wander into 'what if' games, such as what if this is the new normal? And it is possible in darker moments to side with the line from Canadian songwriter Bruce Cockburn that the trouble with normal is it always gets worse. Equally, you could go with George Harrison, that all things must pass.

One view really is entropy, which is natural in the world, but then the other is also natural, and at least offers hope.



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COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN

With Cr Dominic Bonanno

Hello all,

At the time of writing, once again lockdowns are in force impacting our community in many ways. I implore you to check-in and support each other and our local businesses whenever you can during these difficult times. If you or someone you know is having a tough time, help is not far away. Please go to the council's website for more information (see address below).

Council continues to work with Bushfire Recovery Victoria, the lead agency in assisting with ongoing storm event recovery. I encourage any landowner who is having difficulties with their own cleanup to make contact with the council. Details are on Council's website. A big thank you to the Gisborne SES and CFA teams who attended many jobs across the shire, "We work as one."

Watching our Olympians and Paralympians represent our country in Tokyo was heart-warming and inspirational to our next generation of Olympians. Council is proud to be one of six councils across Victoria joining the Sport4All pilot, an exciting new program to help build capacity for people with a disability to be welcomed into local schools and sports clubs. This is a collaboration between the Australian Government, Sports Australia and Get Skilled Access, an agency that helps remove the barrier between organisations and people with disability.

Work will be undertaken across Council to embed the Sport4All program across Macedon Ranges.

Councillors recently endorsed key strategic documents to go out to the community for public consultation: These are draft documents: Community Vision 2021-31; Council Plan 2021-31; Financial Plan 2022-31; Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25; and Disability Action Plan 2021-25. Your views are important and I encourage you all to provide any feedback via email or online via the Council website.

If you wish to contact me, you can reach me on 0419 829 867 or at dbonanno@mrsc.vic.gov.au or [facebook.com/domformacedonranges](https://www.facebook.com/domformacedonranges)

Take care and hope to see you around town!

COVID help: www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/Live-Work/Healthy-Living/Coronavirus/Your-health-and-wellbeing

Bank grants and scholarships now open

Happy September everyone! We have a spring in our step not only because it's that time of year, but because Bendigo Community Bank has a lot of opportunities for our community this month.

The spring 2021 community investment round is open September 1-30. To apply for a grant or sponsorship for your community group or project, download an application from our website (search 'Gisborne Bendigo Bank').

Applications to the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program 2022 are also open this month and we will offer a scholarship to a local resident accepted into the program.

Lastly, we are taking applications from interested local 14-17-year-olds who would like us to sponsor them to attend the two-day Online Magic Moments Youth Leadership & Business Summit in late January



For more information on all of these programs, pop into the branch in the Nexus Centre, Gisborne, or email us at mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com.

Big thanks to our customers who make our community support possible simply by banking with Bendigo Bank at Community Bank Gisborne & District.

An easy way to stay up to date with funding opportunities is to like our Facebook page.

2022. Students from Gisborne Secondary College and Salesian College who we sponsored to attend the program free in July said they found it very rewarding and beneficial.

Community leadership program seeks applicants

Applications for the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program 2022 are open from September 1 to September 30. The part-time course for emerging community leaders aims to increase participants' skills, network and regional knowledge, and has been growing the capacity and capability of leaders across the region since 1998.

The program welcomes participants from across the region, from Swan Hill to Gisborne, Maryborough to Rochester, and all places in between, and most places are supported by scholarship funding.

Since 2018 Community Bank Gisborne & District has offered a scholarship to one resident of Gis-



borne, Macedon or Riddells Creek accepted into the program each year.

The branch's 2021 scholar Andrew Smyth said, "This program provides a significant opportunity for personal development through a community initiative that, in my opinion, will have a profound impact on future community leaders."

For more information and to apply, go to <https://leadlm.org.au/lmclp/>

Where the road meets the rail...

Have you ever looked closely at our GisBus logo? Really closely? Did you notice how the road meets the rail? This was designed by one of our directors, Pino Gatellaro.

Since the inception of GisBus in 2009 our primary focus has been to safely deliver passengers to and from the railway station to ease congestion on Station Road and take pressure off railway station car parks which have since been upgraded.

Prior to 2017 the railway station was only manned until 2pm, which created great challenges for our demand-response buses identifying arrival times of afternoon rail services when running late or during shutdowns. Planning today is much easier and we



1300 447 287
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no longer need to ring Sunbury Station for information as Gisborne Railway Station is now manned until 8pm by station officers Ron (40 years at Gisborne!) and Joanne.

Please note our 473 Route service bus does not have the luxury of working around late or delayed train services as we are contractually obliged to run to our gazetted timetable.

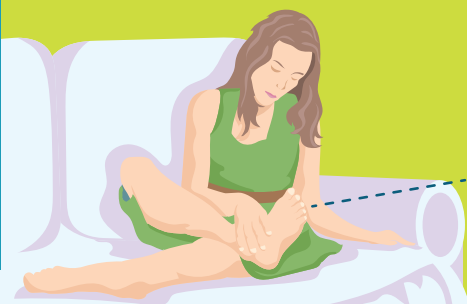
Travel times continue to be affected by roadworks, and masks must still be worn when travelling on public transport, except for children under 12 and individuals with a valid medical exemption.



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UPDATE FROM GISBORNE LIBRARY

It has been an exhausting couple of months and we hope everyone is doing okay.

The library opened and closed several times throughout July and August and it can get quite confusing. Usually (if restrictions allow) we are able to offer a reserve and collect service, where you can place a reservation on an item and then come to the front door and pick it up when we let you know it has arrived. Unfortunately, browsing is unavailable during these times.



If you or someone you know needs books, DVDs, magazines, audio books etc, we are happy to arrange a bundle for you to pick up.

You can place a reservation by heading to the catalogue on the website goldfields.spydus.com, or by emailing us at gisborne@ncgrl.vic.gov.au, or give us a call on 5428 3962 and leave a message and we will get back to you asap. You can also message us through our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/gisbornelibraryau

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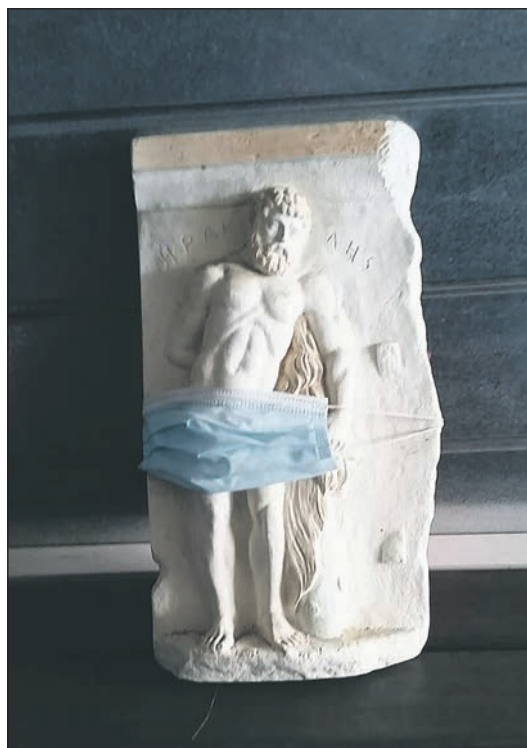
During times of lockdown, if allowed to open for reserve and collect, we will be open 10am-5pm weekdays and 10am-noon on Saturday.

Keep an eye on our website ncgrl.vic.gov.au for any changes to service or we will have notices etc. on our front door so if you're walking past, feel free to have a look.

Our new spring program is now online, with lots of great author talks, movie screenings and much more, available online at www.goldfieldslibraries.com or come into the library when it is open to pick up a copy. Plus keep an eye out for the school holiday program coming soon as well.

Sara Shaw

Playing it extra safe



This 'COVID-safe' piece of ephemera was donated by someone with a sense of humour to St Paul's Anglican Op Shop last month.



MEMBER'S MESSAGE

With Mary-Anne Thomas, MP

This month has been a fantastic one for schools in Gisborne.

Kosloff Architecture has been appointed to design Gisborne Secondary College's \$12.9 million upgrade. The upgrade will modernise the college, including Block B, and deliver new basketball and netball light towers.

I have also been out to New Gisborne Primary School where the state government is providing two new classrooms for the music program, staff planning and student services.

Upgrades will take place to existing classrooms to repair leaks in blocks C and E and two relocatables. Block A will have new carpet installed and cracks in the gym walls will be repaired. The new astro-turf oval with get improved drainage and line markings.

By the way, the competition-grade gym is looking incredible. I can't wait to see it in use.

The landscaping on Station Road and Ferrier Road is being upgraded to include disability pathways and ramps with wider entries, and new seating and a waiting area will be installed next to the Foundations' playground.

Latest council community grants announced

Council's annual funding support was announced in August.

The following are the local projects or events to receive grants under the community funding and COVID-19 support schemes:

St Paul's Anglican Parish of Gisborne animal welfare group – shelter belt project for livestock and biodiversity, \$6700; Friends of Daly Nature Reserve – interpretive signs, \$7804; Gisborne Football Netball Club – First Aid kits, \$2359; Gisborne

and Mount Macedon Districts Historical Society – digital scanning system, \$4400; Gisborne SES – portable lighting equipment, \$3532; Macedon & Mt Macedon Community House – building and land use master plan, \$11,999; Macedon-Woodend Scout Group – equipment, \$4339; Macedon & Mt Macedon Autumn Festival – \$6000; Garden Lovers Fair, Macedon – \$7500.

For a full list of grant recipients across the shire, go to the council's website, www.mrsc.vic.gov.au.

rangesmedical

Celebrating Women's Health Week 6th - 10th September 2021

Ladies, if you have any concerns about your health, have a chat with one of our women's health GP's

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Dr Carlie Di Camillo	Dr Tim Phillips
Dr Pritinsh Singh	Dr Robert Hetzel
Dr Alan Lee	Dr James Owen
Dr Rashida Moiz	Dr Shaima Al-Msari
Dr Karina Tunnecliff	Dr Haritha Puppala
Dr Sean Mcgrath	Dr Emily Wilson
Dr Min Kim	Dr Mark Bronsema
	Dr Vi Trinh

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details

NEWS FROM THE COUNCIL



COVID UPDATE

With the reintroduction of COVID-19 restrictions in regional Victoria on August 21, select council facilities and services closed for the period.

At time of printing, restriction levels were to continue after September 2, with a potential end date not yet announced.

For a detailed table on activities restricted across Victoria go to premier.vic.gov.au/lock-down-acrossregional-victoria-keep-us-safe

Mount Macedon gateway landscape to be revitalised

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has welcomed funding from Regional Roads Victoria of \$80,000 for landscape improvement works for the roundabout and surrounding traffic islands at the entrance gateway to Mount Macedon.

The new landscape architecture will reflect the natural and settled history of the Macedon Ranges.

The centre roundabout planting is to be of low-growing and hardy flora native to Macedon Ranges, with locally sourced stone mulch to the outer sections. Autumn colour will be provided by the extension of the existing deciduous trees along the adjacent road verges.

The trees being retained, including the three in the centre, are of the plantings 15-20 years ago which hold special significance for some long-time residents.

Council's acting director for assets and operations, Simon Finlay, acknowledged the state government and local community support for this project. "Council would like to thank Regional Roads Victoria for funding this community-driven project which will welcome visitors and locals alike to Mt Macedon with natural beauty.

"This project is the outcome of several years of working with members of the community who believed Mt Macedon deserved its own special entrance treatment as the gateway to the shire's 'jewel in the crown'," Simon said.

Works will be managed by Council and were scheduled to begin in late August, pending weather conditions. Preparing the area for construction will include the removal of grass and weeds and minor pruning of trees.

Council will continue maintenance of the area under an agreement with Regional Roads Victoria.

Environment: have your say

Council invites the community to share their feedback on the updated Environment Strategy until 5pm on September 10.

The updated strategy responds to a range of emerging priorities identified by the community, outlines Council's commitment to acting on climate change and sets out priorities for creating a more sustainable shire.

To have your say visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay

Copies are also available to view in person at the Gisborne shire offices (subject to COVID restrictions). Comments can be submitted via an online feedback form, or emailed to environment@mrsc.vic.gov.au or posted to PO Box 151, Kyneton 3444.

If you have questions or would like more information, call 5422 0333 or email environment@mrsc.vic.gov.au



The updated environment strategy outlines the council's commitment to acting on climate change.

Holistic grazing management short course

A regenerative grazing course designed to assist land managers to increase the health of agricultural grasslands will start on October 15. The course is structured for big and small landholders, to improve skills and knowledge about grazing livestock, and increase their perennial pasture species (including natives) and soil carbon.

The course will include in person theory sessions, online sessions via Zoom, and practical on-property sessions. Detailed course information can be downloaded from mrsc.vic.gov.au. Everyone who has expressed an interest will be notified by October 5 whether they have been accepted into the course.



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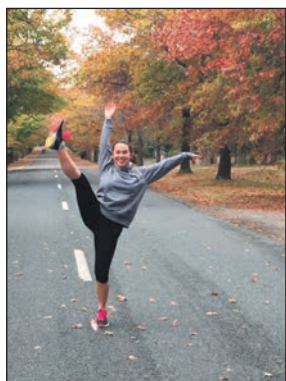
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It's a duck's life, but nobody minds

Who rules the roads in lockdown? Clearly the ducks. They have total confidence in their right of way.

Who in Macedon hasn't had to patiently wait for them to move? But we smile every time.



Above: There is a silver lining to lockdown; it gives Amber plenty of space to dance. Right: Maverick is off to kinder.

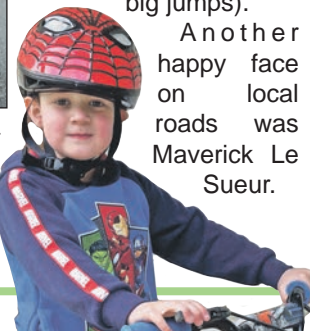


MACEDON MUSINGS

With Belinda Carlton-Doney

When the roads are clear, the dancers also come out! Easy to do with everyone locked away. While not at Steps Performing Arts, Amber was able to let loose in Honour Avenue (mask removed for the big jumps).

Another happy face on local roads was Maverick Le Sueur.



After making it through lockdown 6, it was time for him to return to kinder.

Maverick is five years old and has been riding since he was two. He usually rides with

his family. Both Mum and Dad, aka Laura and Lucas, have had a hand in teaching him. However, on the day I met him, he was riding to Kinder by himself, for the first time ever (with Mum a respectable, discreet and kid-approved distance away).

Starting near the cemetery, Maverick rode all the way along Victoria Street, then around the corner to Kinder. For those of you not familiar with this track, it is mostly uphill. Great effort for five-year-old legs. I might add, he did not stop.

Laura says she feels very lucky to live in this area and be free to do activities such as this.

Feel like a bike ride or a dance yet? I'll see you out there! Stay safe everyone.



Who's road...?



KAT'S KORNER

with Kat Buttigieg

Fighting the brain fog

We have our fair share of winter fog in the Macedon Ranges but many of us are weathering another type of fog at the moment. Brain fog, or 'COVID brain', as I like to call it, seems to be affecting many of us.

In my humble lay person's opinion, 'COVID brain' is a result of not only the normal mental load, but also many other factors. The overwhelming amount of information in these strange times (especially around restrictions) is yet another element of current life we have to deal with. Our sense of time is also skewed with the constant movement in and out of lockdown, and the cancellation or postponement of regular extracurricular activities or events by which we would usually measure our days or weeks.

Friends and I were discussing how we had recently arrived at appointments a week early; didn't know what day of the week it was; or had missed appointments altogether. Whilst I am not sure that the fog can be entirely cleared, I have found a few ways to alleviate it a little.

Share your mental load: Whether you call upon your partner, children, or a friend, have someone with whom you can share things you need to remember. I am part of many messaging groups with other parents, where we can remind each other of upcoming events or ask questions without judgment. Use your community to your advantage.

Have a designated calendar: Have one particular spot where all the events and reminders are listed. Whether it be a shared online calendar, or a notepad on the fridge, it doesn't matter. Just aim to have it all in one place, where everyone can access and add to it.

Be kind to others and yourself: We are all in a similar situation at the moment. If we go into our days with some compassion for ourselves and others, it won't really matter too much if you do get something wrong or miss a coffee date. We are human after all.



GISBORNE REGION EVENTS ACTIVITIES TOURISM MARKET UPDATE

Many people ask when the Gisborne Market is expected to reopen.

The market was suspended last year when COVID first came into play, and continuing caps on numbers as well as social distancing requirements and other COVID-safe regulations have made it impossible as yet to reopen.

The GREAT committee applied this year for an amendment to the market permit and unfortunately a number of objections were submitted to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council by groups/residents.

Some of the objections included the size of the market – mainly too many stalls; the area where the market is held and damage to trees and shrubs; lack of traffic management, and a lack of empathy for Gisborne residents by holding a huge event once a month. These objections are being worked

through by the committee alongside the Macedon Ranges Shire Council to try to find solutions.

GREAT makes the point that over the history of the market, many local sporting groups, schools, community groups and emergency services have benefited from the profits made by the market. Various infrastructure projects, especially around Gisborne township, have been financed by GREAT and all of this, including donations, has totalled over \$600,000 that has gone into the community.

The volunteer GREAT committee and market manager are working hard to reopen the Gisborne Olde Time Market before the end of the year. With ongoing COVID restrictions and the cap on attendee numbers, this is still proving to be an unresolved challenge. Farmers' markets do not have a cap on attendees, however craft markets do.



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Football legend makes history

Debbie at home in Gisborne after the announcement, and inset below: at the first AFLW draft in 2015.

Corinne Shaddock spoke to Debbie Lee about her trailblazing role in women's football.

Lifetime lover of football, pioneer of the AFLW on and off the field and proud mother of two, Debbie Lee of Gisborne was announced on August 24 as the first woman inducted into the Australian Football Hall of Fame.

Sadly, the event could not be held live, or with the full crowd the momentous occasion deserved, so a pre-recorded session was aired on Fox Sports. Due to pandemic restrictions, Debbie had been bestowed the honour while safely distanced from the few other people allowed at the Fox Sports Studio filming the week before. Nevertheless, Debbie feels they honoured her induction in a special way, plus they sent her a lovely gift box.

She's not sure if she will get a trophy or a medal, or if she could ever earn millions from the honour, like the men do. This down-to-earth reaction encapsulates Debbie's humility at being an extraordinary trailblazer in the creation and growth of women's AFL football in Australia.

Born and raised in Pascoe Vale, the youngest of four children, Debbie said, "Footy formed part of my DNA." With two older brothers and a sister, she developed an interest in football at age three and remembers holding a footy under her arm at a very young age while helping sell raffle tickets with her mum at the local footy club.

The game came naturally to her and she loved it from day one. She learnt her craft on suburban bitumen with the neighbourhood kids.

Every day after school there would

[The AFLW] didn't happen overnight like some people think

be a footy match in the street and she would join in, the only girl and usually the youngest. Playing against boys four to five years older allowed her to advance her skills and would add physicality to her game later on in life.

Debbie's family encouraged her to play football but there just was nowhere for girls to play. "It's just how it was, we didn't know any different," she said. "As a young girl, I never saw females in the game and 'If you can't see it, you can't be it'." Debbie kept playing with her brothers' mates in the street and got satisfaction from going to their games.

That all changed when Debbie discovered her first female football team, the East Brunswick Scorpions, at age 17. It was the early '90s and she still remembers how wonderful it was to see women playing footy. She joined up and loved playing with the team in the Sunday afternoon competition. Her nickname was Diesel because she played with physicality and came out like a diesel train.

She was gutted when the Scorpions folded two years later but she had seen what could be and started a women's football team in the western suburbs, the Sunshine YCW Spurs.



Picture: Rebecca Rowlands – The Urban Sparrow



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'Often you didn't get a pat on the back for playing footy, but just the opposite'

from previous page

The Spurs, now known as VU Spurs, are still in operation today.

In all, Debbie played women's football for 23 years, from age 17 to 40, playing 302 VWFL games, winning three Premierships (1991, 2004, 2011) and collecting numerous awards along the way. These include five Helen Lambert Medals for competition best and fairest (1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2001), two Lisa Hardeman Medals for best on ground in a Grand Final (1991, 2004), and being named All-Australian six times.

Off the field, Debbie was an advocate for women's football. She was President of the Victorian Women's Football League, and built it from eight teams to a three-division competition. She also established an exhibition series between the Melbourne and Western Bulldogs football clubs which was the catalyst for the formation of the AFLW competition in 2015.

Debbie's extraordinary success and contribution to the game have seen her become an AFL Life Member, VWFL Life Member, VWFL President 2004–2012 (playing President) and have two medals named in her honour: The Debbie Lee Medal awarded to the best player at the AFL's National Championships and the Debbie Lee Rising Star Medal awarded to the best first year player in the VFLW.

Despite this, she spent the first half of her nearly 30 years in women's football as a volunteer, working a variety of jobs, from swim instructor to debt collector, to fund her passion. She was too early in the piece to be paid to play. It was only when she was hired to the administration of the Western Bulldogs that she could earn a living from the sport. After six years, she moved to Melbourne Football Club for eight years, then returned to the Bulldogs in 2019 where she is now General Manager Women's Football, responsible for running women's



Debbie Lee (right) at home in Gisborne with children Stevie and Mack and partner Lauren.

footy at a state level and AFLW.

It has been a long and successful journey, but certainly not all fun and games. Over the years Debbie has been ridiculed, excluded, felt devalued and ignored, but has never wavered in her efforts to establish a female AFL competition in Australia on a par with the men's.

In the early '90s it wasn't something you'd shout from the rooftops, you'd be ridiculed

She calls football her 'university' and said, "I really grew up through it. I learnt how to navigate change and how to get my ideas across in a male-dominated industry." In her first years as a professional in the industry she wasn't fully comfortable and credits Karen Hayes and Jen Watt, whom she met at Melbourne Football Club, for inspiring and teaching her to be true to herself.

What kept her going? Most obvi-

ously, a pure passion for the game. Debbie simply loves the sport and believes AFL has a special camaraderie and sense of community. She also thrives on riding the emotions of wins and losses. As she has grown older, Debbie has recognised that another driver for her is equality. "What I've realised over time is that the reason I've been so motivated is fairness."

Debbie remembers kicking the football in the street when she was in Grade 5 and running for the bushes when cars came so she would not be seen playing football. And later: "In the early '90s it wasn't something you'd shout from the rooftops, as you'd be ridiculed. Often you didn't get a pat on the back for playing footy, but just the opposite."

What has driven Debbie is not wanting anyone to feel ridiculed for their choice of sport, and the best reward for all her effort is driving around Gisborne and seeing girls and women play AFL without being embarrassed.

She appreciates the recognition she has received by being inducted into the Australian Football Hall of Fame and the opportunity it has created to educate people on all the work that went into establishing the AFLW – hers and

that of others. "It didn't happen overnight like some people think," she said.

The honour was a complete surprise. When the chairman called her to tell her, she thought there was something wrong with her AFLW football team. "I didn't see it coming as the Hall of Fame has been about celebrating men's football." She hopes she is the first of many women inducted and that one day "instead of always referencing 'it's a male-dominated industry', we can just say 'industry'. That would be nice."

Debbie moved to Gisborne in 2018 with her partner Lauren, a teammate from the Spurs, and loves it. It took some time to adjust from life in the 'burbs to the "open arms" of Gisborne and "the way people take the time to talk to you", but they have not looked back. They have two young children, the eldest a prep at Gisborne Primary, and home life is a juggle, especially during remote learning.

Five-year-old Mack started Auskick only after they convinced him that men play football too, and perhaps he and his sister will join the local Bulldogs one day.

Debbie's end goal continues to be for AFLW to have an equal playing field, a fully-fledged competition and full-time positions for players and staff. She is hoping to get there in five years and is convinced it's doable; required are funding, investment, a financial strategy on how to keep the competition sustainable, more training for players and upskilling of staff.

However long it takes, Debbie has already made history by getting women's AFL to the point it is today. Girls and women of Australia will forever be indebted to her for the initiative, perseverance and dedication she gave to create better opportunities and pathways for them.

Congratulations to Debbie Lee who fought the good fight and won.



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Light on a path of darkness

Every single suicide statistic speaks of immeasurable loss: somebody's life lost; hopes and dreams lost; love and connection lost. And those who are left to grieve live with a loss as personal as the story of the one whose life has ended.



As our community continues to be impacted by suicide, Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group believes we can all play a role in supporting people experiencing a suicidal crisis and those who are bereaved.

This month, MRSPAG is inviting members of our community to engage online over five days from Monday, September 6. The focus will be on self-care and checking in with others.

On Friday, September 10 – World Suicide Prevention Day – everyone is invited to light a candle in their homes at 8pm in memory of those lost to suicide.

MRSPAG chairperson, Steve Power, said the traditional walk hosted annually by the group held a special place in calendars across the Macedon Ranges and beyond, but was not viable this year because of COVID unpredictability.

"We are hopeful this five-day campaign will not only provide an opportunity to remember those lost to suicide but also to unite and bring people together, even if online," he said. "It is a challenging time for many people with so many community events and milestones being cast aside as we grapple with this pandemic. We hope people will participate, wherever they are, in a COVID-safe way."

For more information on resources and support services for those bereaved by suicide and keeping mentally well, visit the MRSPAG website www.mrspag.com.au/other-support
If you need help now, call Lifeline on 13 11 14 or text 0477 13 11 14 (6pm-midnight). Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467

The wonders of walking

September 3 is 'Walk to Work Day' and while many of us have been walking to work every day for the past 18 months during lockdown, this has usually involved — at least in my case — walking about 10 steps from the bedroom to our home office desks.

It is a timely reminder to reflect on the benefits of walking, and how placing one foot in front of the other can lead to some seriously impressive physical and mental health benefits.

The Heart Foundation refers to walking as "the wonder drug" and it is hard to ignore the benefits identified by researchers that 30 minutes or more of walking a day can provide.

We're talking about reducing the risk of heart disease and stroke, preventing and controlling diabetes, managing weight, blood pressure and blood cholesterol, maintaining bone density, reducing the risk of osteoporosis and fractures, improving balance and coordination, reducing the risk of falls and other



By Julie Ireland

A regular article about general health

injuries, reducing the risk of developing some cancers, and improving your daily mood which cumulatively leads to better mental health.

Now I don't know about you, but being cooped up inside the house 24/7 with my husband and son for weeks on end during rolling lockdowns is not my idea of the best way of maintaining family harmony.

We all need our space, so my daily walk, either on my own or with my husband and our dogs, or even sometimes with a friend when that is allowed, has been a life saver.

The physical health benefits are an added bonus, but the mental health benefits of just getting out of the house for an hour and (gently) pounding the pavement are a no-brainer.

So, on September 3 (or any day) put one foot in front of the other and walk to work (or school, or just pick a random destination).

Or if you are working from home, get outside in the sun and do yourself and your health a favour.

Take care of yourselves, everyone.

Julie

Working together to improve wellbeing

'Man Box' seminar to find ways to support males

Anyone interested in supporting the wellbeing of men and boys in the



Macedon Ranges is invited to join Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health this month as they welcome Paul Zappa from Jesuit Social Services as he presents 'Unpacking the Man Box' and the findings of a survey aimed at improving the wellbeing of men and boys.

The 'Man Box' survey found that young Australian men who believe in outdated masculine stereotypes were at significantly higher risk of engaging in behaviour harmful to themselves and to others, such as online bullying, sexual harassment, physical

violence and risky drinking. They were also more inclined to experience negative feelings and emotions.

The presentation will compare the Man Box findings to #thehumancode, a similar survey which explored the pressures on men and boys in the Macedon Ranges, and look at how we can work together to improve their health and wellbeing and that of the broader community.

The presentation will run online on Monday September 13 from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Registrations are essential via <https://bit.ly/3rUMNLq>.

Email Kathryn Chai on Kathryn.chai@scch.org.au for more information.



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What to do in mental health emergency

Community forum aims to demystify process and offer strategies

**Community forum: 6.30-7.30pm,
October 12**
**Hume Global Learning Centre,
40 Macedon Street, Sunbury**

In support of Mental Health Awareness Week next month, PS My Family Matters and Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health are hosting a community forum to address the issue of what to do in a mental health emergency.

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

"People often ask us, what will happen when emergency services come to my house? Who will come to the house? Should I ask for a crisis assessment and treatment team (CATT)? What is a CATT? These issues can add a high level of stress to an already difficult situation," Tamara said.



There will be short presentations by speakers from Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria, Emergency Mental Health and Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health, followed by a facilitated Q and A.

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

Light refreshments will be available after the event.

The event is free. Bookings are essential. Please call 0475 269 965 to reserve a place or book online at www.trybooking.com/BTBBB

We will update readers in next month's *Gazette* if the COVID situation is likely to affect the forum.

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



BETTY'S BOOP

With Betty Doolan

On August 4 a lovely resident at Gisborne Oaks called Ellie turned 102 years of age. Ellie is from Belfast and although she has been in Australia for many years, she still has that lovely Irish accent.

The LEP (Life Enhancement Program) girls put on a lovely morning tea as residents and staff wished Ellie a happy birthday. We all enjoyed the delicious cake the kitchen staff had made for Ellie. I must say Ellie is as bright as a button and is looking to her next birthday.

Family took Ellie out for lunch and she certainly had the luck of the Irish because it was announced that we were back in lockdown later that same day.

All Australians should be very proud of our young men and women competing in the Olympic Games events and winning many medals, including 17 gold. I like the swimming and I often thought to myself as I watched the swimmers on TV, 'I could do that', then I thought about it a bit more and the answer was 'No Way!'

My husband Brian would have enjoyed the running. His dad was a trainer and would take a large group of his runners to the Stawell Gift. Brian was quite a good runner until his father caught him smoking – that ended his running career.

Lockdown has not been easy this last time, I think because we do not see our families and friends, but it is better to be safe than sorry.

When I was about 12 years of age, a very nice neighbour, Mr Buchanan, gave me a lovely new tennis racquet with a cover and even tennis balls. I was going to school at the Convent and dear Mum couldn't afford to pay for lessons, but that didn't worry me, I just carried that tennis racquet with its cover around wherever I went.

Stay safe and please wear a mask.

Betty

Genies keep fingers crossed for activities

The next meeting of the Gisborne Genealogical Group will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday September 23 in the Masonic Lodge Hall in Gisborne (COVID willing).

This will be a Member's Night to discuss useful websites that can help us with our genealogical research. It will be led by member Heather Tumber. As COVID restrictions over the past 18 months have kept us at home it has allowed us more time to investigate our family history using the internet.

If any members have found helpful websites during this time we would love you to share them with us.

Our first planned Saturday Workshop on August 7 had to be cancelled due to lockdown. That will now be rescheduled to 2022. Our workshop planned for Saturday September 4 has also now been cancelled after the extension



to lockdown was announced on August 29. We were to look at the free website Genuki, a very useful site for British and Irish research.

On Saturday September 22 our group hopes to visit PROV in Ballarat (again, COVID permitting). PROV has moved into a new facility at the Eureka Centre.

We don't know yet how long the extended lockdown will run, so this visit remains tentative at time of printing. However, we remain hopeful.

For details on the PROV trip and to book just in case, please contact Mary on 5428 3887. Please check our website for updates on all of our events, www.ggg.org.au



Lyn Hall

The Family History Room, adjoining the Gisborne Library, is open each Thursday from 2pm to 5pm (except during lockdowns) and volunteers are available to help you with your genealogical queries.

Lyn Hall

Find updated
info on our
events at
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L-R: Gary, Oaks resident Wendy, Michael, Ken and Joy.

A bit of Shed (and shared) music

May it never end

Some of the Men's Shed projects take a bit longer than they should but there is one we hope is never finished.

Occasionally we remind you, dear reader, that we are not just a carpenter's shop. Making live music has been part of our activities since just after The Shed opened 10 years ago. Our most regular "gig" has now been running for more than five years. Every Friday afternoon (except when COVID keeps us out) Shedmen Gary, Michael and Ken, along with honorary Shedman Joy, lead a singalong in the Grevillea wing of Gisborne Oaks. The great thing about music therapy is that everyone, residents, resident's family members, staff and shedmen, all get the therapy. It's a fun way to end each week.

During these five years they've tried out nearly 150 songs and recently settled on the most popular 40. These are now bound into a set of laminated books so every resident has access to a copy.

If you are harbouring a desire to try your hand at a bit of live music as a player, singer, roadie or groupie, pop in to The Shed at 10 Lyell Street any Monday morning and ask for Michael. He might just change your life!



Health Talk

with Dr Umair Masood

COVID vaccine myths



We are in the process of vaccinating Australians for COVID-19 with both the Astra Zeneca and Pfizer vaccines. There are a lot of myths being spread about the vaccine, mainly on social media. Unfortunately, people are worried about these myths so let's talk about it.

Women's fertility

This myth started on social media due to confusion about a spike protein called syncytin-1. This protein helps in the attachment of the placenta in pregnancy. It was claimed that the spike protein the COVID vaccines fight against is made of the same content and would cause miscarriages. The COVID protein spike is made of different protein and will not affect fertility.

DNA changes

mRNA vaccines such as Pfizer enter the cells. They do not enter the nucleus of the cell, where your body's DNA lives. The mRNA causes the cell to produce protein to stimulate the immune system and then it breaks down very quickly. The cell's DNA is never involved or affected.

Vaccines were rushed

mRNA vaccine technology has been around for 20 years. It was being developed for use in vaccines before COVID came. China also did share the genetic information for the virus openly, which allowed an immediate start to develop vaccines.

These projects had a lot of resources thrown at them by governments, including funding. mRNA vaccine methodology allows for quicker development compared to traditional methods. No steps were skipped in the development process at any point. The clinical trials also proved a good safety profile.

Controversial ingredients

There are normal vaccine ingredients, such as fats, salts and a small amount of sugar in addition to the mRNA (in Pfizer) and modified adenovirus (in Astra Zeneca). There is no foetal tissue, implants, microchips or tracking devices in the vaccines.

Dangerous side effects

Clotting issues can happen with either vaccine but are slightly higher in Astra Zeneca. Myocarditis (swollen heart) can happen with the Pfizer vaccine. Both these issues are extremely rare, and the chances are minuscule that you will have them. Clotting can now be diagnosed early and treated in most cases. Myocarditis is self-limiting in most cases and lasts about one week. There are many other medications in use that have far more dangerous side effects, but we do use them in the right clinical context.

Don't need the vaccine after a COVID infection

There is a lack of information about how long natural immunity lasts after COVID infection. We do know that re-infection can happen with COVID. It is thought that natural immunity is reduced greatly after six months. It is recommended that a vaccine should be given six months after an infection.

Social distancing and precautions not needed after vaccine

Due to COVID variants, the evidence suggests that we should wear masks when there is evidence of local transmission. Given the infectious nature of this virus, social distancing measures are here to stay even after vaccinations. Once the spread of the virus greatly reduces, these measures may stop.

Can't get COVID if vaccinated

Given COVID is a virus and can mutate into different variants, you can still get COVID despite getting vaccinated. The chances of getting COVID is greatly reduced after vaccination. The chance of death is reduced by 92% after two doses of Pfizer and 90% after two doses of Astra Zeneca.

I have done my own research

Social media contains a lot of misinformation and half-truths. Be wary of trusting it blindly. Read it and discuss it with your doctor before making up your mind. A Google search is not the same as a medical degree.

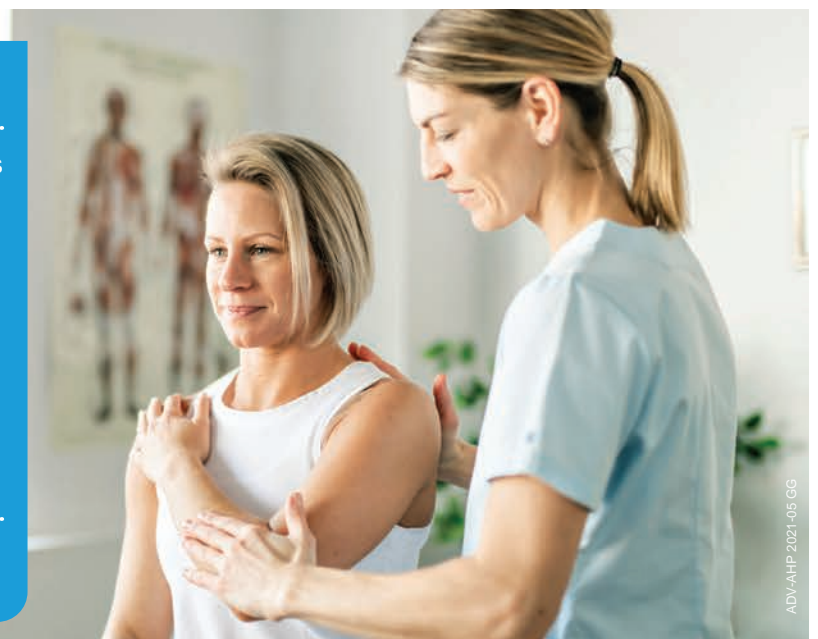
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ADV-AHP 2021-05 GG



The original fountain stood in the middle of the intersection from 1901 to 1929.



Fountain committee celebrates on opening day. From left: Barry Wills, Barbara Fletcher, Kath Jones, Brea Newcombe, Glenys Quaife, John Letchford (front).

The story of the Gisborne fountain

This year marks 20 years since a fountain was restored to the centre of Gisborne. Barry Wills, Rotary Club of Gisborne and former Treasurer of the Fountain Committee, tells the story.

The fountain at the intersection of Aitken and Hamilton Streets quietly passed its 20th anniversary in March, but did you know that it is really much older and originally stood in a London park? It found its way to Gisborne in 2001, during the centenary year of the Federation of Australia. This is the story of how our town fountain came to be.

Until 1929 an earlier fountain adorned the site. It had been unveiled on January 1, 1901, the day of Australia's Federation, and was described as a beautiful fountain, complete with a watering trough for horses. Made of concrete, with waterspouts bubbling from the mouths of artfully sculptured fish, it looked over the township from its central vantage point until March 29, 1929. On that day, the Country Roads Board demolished the fountain for roadworks on the Melbourne to Bendigo Road, which ran through town.

Gisborne's main street was part of the busy Calder Highway, with eventually thousands of cars and trucks per day travelling through the town centre. In 1998, nine years after the Calder Freeway had bypassed Gisborne, a handful of locals started a campaign to help revitalise the town by reinstating the fountain. The aim was to provide a focal point for Gisborne that would enhance the township aesthetics, bring tourism and business opportunities, and unite the community in a common goal.

The Gisborne & District Business Association showed its support by running a fundraising ball on July 11, 1998, and donated the first \$5000 to the cause. The Gisborne Fountain

Committee was formed and soon partnered with the Rotary Club of Gisborne for help with fundraising and management. The initial committee comprised volunteers from the Business Association, the Rotary Club and residents, including Glenys Quaife (secretary), John Letchford (chair), Barry Wills (treasurer), Kath Jones, Barbara Fletcher, Peter Gregory, Brea Newcombe and Jeanette Morrison. When first floated, it was estimated the project would cost \$100,000.

Over the years, various rumours had circulated about where the remains of the old fountain had ended up. In the hope of finding parts that might be restored, committee members set about following up every lead. A strong rumour had it buried on the site of the old Gisborne swimming pool.

Someone else reported they had seen remnants of the fountain during excavations at the back of the primary school oval. In another example, someone that someone knew thought they had seen bits of the fountain in a stately garden somewhere on Mount Macedon. A news report at the time said a resident had bought it for his garden. But without finding any proof, where the old fountain rests is a mystery to this day.

We could hardly believe the luck when after months of inquiring far and wide for a suitable fountain, just the thing was revealed nearby in the back yard of the Antique Centre of Victoria at Lancefield. There, lying on the ground in several pieces was an old fountain that Frank Wiseman, an antique dealer, had collected on one of his buying trips to England.

In later conversation, Frank informed me he found it at a council depot in London, then bought and shipped it back to Australia in a container

load of items for resale. He was told that the cast iron and brass fountain, about five metres high, had originally stood in the gardens of Chelsea, London, from about 1850. The committee quickly negotiated a price of \$74,000 — a bargain, far less than others considered, but more than our original estimate. That, and a higher-than-expected quote for removing the power pole on the roundabout, meant our target had grown to \$150,000 for the entire project.

Fortunately, fundraising was pro-

advertisement in the *Telegraph* in October 2000 for all works required to install the fountain. Upon completion, the opening ceremony was held on Saturday March 17, 2001, attended by local officials and the public.

After the final act of handing the fountain ownership and ongoing operation over to Macedon Ranges Shire Council, the Gisborne Fountain Committee dissolved.

The "new" fountain immediately became one of Gisborne's most identifiable features. During the first few years, particularly, it also provided regular fun for some of the local lads, usually after weekend pub closing time, when occasionally a bottle of detergent or dye would find its way into the pond, creating a frothy spectacle at the roundabout.

Over time, it became apparent that, with or without the mischievous detergent, on windy days vehicles travelling through the roundabout received a "free car wash"

from wind-driven water spray, which not only annoyed and distracted motorists, but was also an accident risk. To fix the problem, Gisborne Rotary Club, with support from the GREAT Association, arranged the installation of a wind sensor and controller that turns the fountain pump off if the wind speed gets too high and back on again after it stays below a set speed for long enough.

However, sometimes residents may notice that the fountain inexplicably stays off for very long periods, even though there's no wind — is it just a glitch in the tuning of the controls, or could it be the ghost of the old fountain playing tricks perhaps?

Now, 20 years on, there is no doubt that the fountain has become a beloved part of Gisborne and an icon of the town. And a wonderful example of our town's strong community spirit.



Workmen guide the fountain bowl into place during construction in 2001.

gressing under full steam, with a powerful response from the local community. Grants were obtained from the Macedon Ranges Shire and State Government along with generous donations from local charitable foundations and businesses.

A major source of funds and publicity were brick-signing days, when individuals, families and businesses would pay to buy and sign a clay brick. If you take a walk on to the fountain roundabout, their engraved and fired bricks can be seen in the paving and pond wall of the fountain. These occasions were emotional and uplifting experiences when people of the town showed how much they appreciated and supported the project.

Tenders were invited through an



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Gisborne SES in bushland rescue

In July, Gisborne SES responded to a request for assistance for an injured male in remote bushland in the Conglomerates Gully area, Riddells Creek.

The crews hiked into the site equipped with a specialised all-terrain 'mule stretcher carrier'. The mule is specifically designed to extricate casualties in remote terrain and is able to negotiate narrow tracks, slopes, and other challenging topography.

The mule was funded by the Community Bank a few years ago and has proven to be an extraordinary piece of equipment to complement our rescue kits, and is a long-term asset for the unit.

Safety tips for bushwalking: Inform someone of your intentions and designated locations, and ensure you have a first aid kit and the correct attire and provisions for the area you are visiting.

Di Dale, Gisborne SES – Volunteer



The SES crew prepare the mule to rescue an injured walker.

KidzFlip youth help fit safe screws on cars

After a long hiatus, the KidzFlip community has been back out in the community assisting the Gisborne Police with 'Safe PL8 Day'. Fortunately for us, the sun was out and our youth fitted more than 100 cars with anti-theft safe screws.



We are excited to announce that we have recently launched our website and would love for you to visit www.kidzflip.epublisher.com.au.

Finally, the committee and members of KidzFlip Inc invite you to attend our Annual General Meeting on Thursday, September 30, at 7.30pm at the Gisborne Men's Shed, 10 Lyell Street, Gisborne. Please RSVP by September 22 to info@kidzflip.org.au. This meeting will comply with all COVID-safe guidelines and may move to Zoom should the need arise. Please RSVP your interest to stay informed.

Tamara Collins

You can brighten children's lives with Samaritan's Purse

This annual project for needy children overseas is now underway.

It is a hands-on way to bless children living in vulnerable situations by packing shoeboxes with educational and fun gifts, which may include toys, clothes, stationery and toiletries.

Pre-printed shoeboxes and brochures explaining how to pack a box are available by contacting Elaine Millar on 5428 2522 or from St Paul's Anglican Op Shop in Gisborne.

Filled boxes must be returned to Elaine or the op shop by October 15.



Happy children with gift boxes.

Notice of Gisborne Foodbank AGM

The Gisborne Community Care Foodbank Inc Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 28, at 7pm.

We hope to be able to hold the meeting at the Gisborne Foodbank at 23 Brantome Street, Gisborne, but this is contingent upon the COVID-19 restrictions in place at the time. If we are unable to hold the AGM on site, the meeting will be conducted via Zoom. All are welcome. Please visit our website for further details. The location of the meeting will be updated on the website and Facebook page when this is confirmed.

As we approach the AGM and prepare our annual report for the year, it is an opportunity for us all to reflect on the generosity of our amazing



Macedon Ranges community in their support of the Gisborne Foodbank.

Thank you to all the individuals, families and businesses who have donated goods and cash over the past 12 months.

The Gisborne Foodbank is open on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 3pm.

If you need assistance putting food on the table, please contact the Foodbank on mobile 0492 850 520, drop in on Wednesday or Friday, message them via the Facebook page (@GisborneFoodbank), or visit our website, www.gisbornefoodbank.org.au.

Julie Ireland

Local women lead state CWA

Two local residents were recently appointed to the senior ranks of the Country Women's Association at the group's Annual General Meeting in August.

Amanda Millar of the Macedon Branch was appointed state vice-president, which includes being appointed as a member of the association's board.

In her new role, Amanda was interviewed by Brian Nankervis on ABC Radio on August 11 to speak about the Macedon and Mount Macedon area and to promote the CWA's forthcoming events including the Festival of Open Gardens which will take place in October and November.

Helen Ryvitch of the Gisborne Branch was appointed chairperson

of the Creative Arts Committee, which oversees the association's extensive array of craft and creative arts activities and the statewide exhibition.

The CWA of Victoria has more than 4500 members across more than 250 country and metropolitan branches, including 11 branches (both day and night) in the Macedon Ranges. They also have a new 'Virtual Branch' for women who want to be involved in CWA activities but cannot get to meetings.

For more information on the CWA, visit the association's website, www.cwaofvic.org.au or telephone 9827 8971.

The state vice-president's badge is presented to Amanda Millar (left) by state president Pam Mawson.



Beating the winter blues

Mount Macedon was covered in mist, the rain was heavy and the wind felt like ice – just the perfect day for Christmas in July.



With utmost good fortune, Probus members gathered at Mount Macedon Winery on the day preceding lockdown number five. Everyone enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch and the chance to catch up with friends in warm, cosy surroundings.

Unfortunately COVID restrictions resulted in the cancellation of activities during August. Members will be kept up to date via email and newsletters regarding future events.

If you would like to find out more about Gisborne Probus, please contact our president, Helen Nettleton, on 0491 174 847.

Anne Ciesielski

Gisborne CWA grabs window of opportunity



The Gisborne CWA branch managed a small meeting in August when regional areas came out of lockdown for a short while, but it is hard to plan anything for the future when all is so unsure.

Macedon branch managed to go ahead with their Association Day recently and we were entertained with a large number of fabulous quilts on display.

Kerrie Thomas of Black Forest Quilting in Macedon showed off her machine quilting and some vintage tops from around the 1860s that she had acquired from America.

Karen Berger explained how her hand-sewn quilts all began with one small pattern on a fabric and evolved into a bed-size quilt. They were beautiful to see. We then enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea.

Congratulations to Amanda Millar from Macedon branch on her election as state vice-president and Helen Ryvitch from Gisborne branch as the new chairperson of the state creative arts committee. They



Above: Kerrie Thomas and Karen Berger show one of their quilts.

will be very busy for the next 12 months.

Hopefully our next meeting can go ahead on Monday, September 13, at 10am, and Coffee, Craft and Chat the following week, Monday 20, both at Gisborne Secondary College. New ladies are welcome to join us to see what CWA is all about.

Christine Edwards



Helen Ryvitch is chair of the state creative arts committee.



Sylvia Veal and Anne DeHaas enjoy Christmas in July at Mount Macedon Winery.

Vision Australia Luncheon update

Members and friends of the Gisborne Friends of Vision Australia are advised that due to the COVID restrictions it has been necessary to make the disappointing decision to cancel the proposed 3S Luncheon. If permitted, the AGM will be held on September 28 at 1.30pm in the Masonic Lodge Hall.



Elaine Millar, secretary

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Photographers get up close and personal

Members of the Macedon Ranges Photographic Society are looking at the world from a very different perspective at the moment by getting up close to their subjects with some macro photography.

The club recently held an online discussion for members to understand more about this subject and to share their ideas. Macro photography shows the detail of a subject by using high magnifications or by getting in very



Picture: John Spring



Picture: Cheryl Connell



Picture: James Holgate

Club members show how amazing subjects can look close up.

close. Some photographers use specialised equipment to enhance their work. This might take the form of macro lenses which allows for a very high magnification, or a light tent which provides a high level of lighting.

However, many of our members just get up nice and close to their subject with whatever lens they have on their camera.

If you want to try macro photography at home, try looking at the delicate parts of a flower, the eye of a favourite pet, a blossom or tree trunk up close. Get down low and up close to see what wonders can be found.

Numerous tutorials, online material, tips, tricks and great ideas are all part of the resources that are exclusively available to club members.

New members are very welcome. The club generally meets on the first Tuesday of the month, followed by the next Monday at Dromkeen in Riddells Creek. These meetings are held online if restrictions are in place.

Social chats start at 7pm with the meeting beginning at 7.30pm. Please visit www.macedon-ranges-photography.org.au.

Japanese rainbow magic on show at the Gallery

During September, The Gallery Mt Macedon invites you to immerse yourself in the radiant joy of rainbows and magic knots, if COVID restrictions allow.

Our guest artists Yoko Kawabata Edwards and Anna Konecny present Rainbow Connect Ecology.



Yoko Kawabata Edwards

Yoko is an award-winning textile artist who creates hand-woven wearable art. She uses her intuition to create one-of-a-kind designs. Traditionally rainbow-coloured amulets have been used in Japan to protect against misfortune and Yoko uses this idea with a modern twist.

Anna uses 'mizuhiki', the traditional paper cords which are commonly used in Japan's gift-giving culture. In the Japan Foundation Sydney's 2020 online talent contest, Anna was the recipient of the Grand Prize.

Exhibition: September 6 to October 3 (COVID permitting). Opening: Saturday 11 at 2pm.



Anna Konecny

The Gallery is open 10am-4pm Friday-Tuesday, 684 Mt Macedon Road (behind the Trading Post).

Mount Players have to postpone Love Song



The Mount Players

The Mount Players were forced to make the call on postponing the season of *Love Song* (again).

Opening night was to have been on September 2, however, due to yet another lockdown and severe restrictions on seating capacity, we have no choice but to reschedule.

At the time of writing this article no dates could be confirmed so we ask patrons to go to our website for information and updates.

Furthermore, *The Vortex*, our last show planned for 2021, has been cancelled. In doing this it allows *Love Song*, well into rehearsal and with the set almost complete, to have room to be staged at a later date.

Difficult, uncertain and challenging times.

But on the bright side...

On a positive note, maintenance and improvements continue. We are pleased to say that our front stairs at the theatre have been replaced thanks to a grant from Bendigo Community Bank.



The Mount Players president Karen Hunt and vice-president David Runnalls on the new theatre stairs with Edyta Wyatt of Gisborne Bendigo Bank.

We look forward to welcoming our patrons up these much safer stairs in the not-too-distant future.

For full details and updates on *Love Song* please go to www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892.

Karen Hunt



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The trials and tribulations of COVID singing

The Gisborne Singers' committee put their heart and soul into a difficult decision to postpone their planned Cabaret. As it turned out, the regions were plunged into lockdown on the very day the event was planned.

The choir has learnt to be very flexible with the ever-changing restrictions. If it's not total lockdown (with sometimes no organised practice) or Zoom practices (of reduced value because you can only sing along to yourself), then it's mask wearing and social distancing in person (with metro members catching up on Zoom or YouTube [every practice is recorded]).

Singing with a mask has issues – restrictions to breathing techniques, muffled sound and lower volume. This is exacerbated by the distance from the next chorister, adding to reduced cohesiveness of the choir and its sound. Special singers' masks have been bought (extra material held out from the face with frames)



Part of the choir wearing singers' masks.

but they are not perfect.

In mid-August, we had the unique situation of our conductor Luke Severn appearing via Zoom on an iPad on a music stand in front of the choir. The practice worked remarkably well, with camaraderie in abundance. The choir is now practising Brahms' *Requiem*, which will be a memorial concert for Stephen Brockman to be held in late November.

Potential new members are very welcome (especially tenors and basses) and will find it much easier to join early in the rehearsal schedule. For further details please contact us at www.gisbornesingers.org.au

Alison Kinghorn



Luke Severn directs the choir via Zoom Rehearsal during Melbourne lockdown.

Yes I crochet, no I'm not old

With COVID restrictions back in play, crochet is a perfect pastime to enjoy and indulge. Crochet's unsurpassed qualities include portability, creativity, beauty and affordability. Immerse your imagination and challenge yourself to crochet.

Mastering any crochet stitch can be daunting, but the accomplishment is worth the effort. There is a broad range of stitches, but the essentials are just three: chain, single crochet and double crochet. With these you can successfully complete most projects – from fine lace doilies to heavy-weight blankets or any variety of garments.

Hook mastery can initially feel awkward and may be challenging; the trick is persistence. Reworking stitches to a satisfactory level is common crocheting practice. And remember, each time you pick up your hook and wool your skill level will improve.

If materials or cost are your hurdle, consider local charity shops. In fact, this very factor can be the driver in your quest to complete a crochet project. On these treasure hunts, be alert for crochet hooks, wool, yarn and any type of fibre that may create a variation such as ribbon, raffia, jute or string. The wool can be in the form of one skein or a woolly garment you can unravel.

My first crochet project was an owl, no bigger than the palm of your hand, and used as a bag-tag, key ring or room decor. With a crochet hook and a pair of scissors I needed materials: wool, buttons, filling, needle and thread. I began by repurposing an old wool jumper. For filling I used lint from the clothes dryer. For eyes, I used a pair of buttons from my button collection. To complete the project, I sewed an old key ring between the ears.

Receiving many favourable compliments inspired me to apply this technique to similar-sized crochet projects; believe you not, doughnuts and cupcakes.

Craft Tip: Collect buttons to store in one location, such as a jar or tin.

Mary-Beth O'Brien



A fabulous small project

PANDEMIC PULLS YOUNG VOICES' PERFORMANCES

It was with great sadness that Young Voices of Macedon had to cancel their 10th anniversary celebrations and workshop on August 14 due to the Melbourne lockdown, which would have prevented our Sunbury children and guest soloist Alex Owens from attending.

The annual concert planned for September 12 has also been cancelled for similar reasons.

The ongoing statewide lockdown has necessitated a return to Zoom rehearsals, which certainly keep the children singing and in touch with one another but are far from ideal in preparing for a live performance in which choir and soloist work closely together. The



concert has been rescheduled for March 27, 2022.

As an alternative, our staff have planned for the choir to make a recording of some songs that would have been performed at this year's concert, assisted by a professional recording engineer (and choir father). But even this plan could easily be thwarted by restrictions.

On a positive note, we have recently welcomed a number of new children to the choir, and our teachers are doing a fantastic job in making Zoom rehearsals fun and productive learning experiences.

Dianne Gome



Joanne McFadyen
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The Gazette is 15

The *Gazette* has come a long way in its first 15 years – from a small, two-toned paper of 24 pages to a large, full-colour 40 pager. And over those years there have been hundreds

of people, clubs and organisations that have contributed to the *Gazette's* success. The *Gazette* is indebted to them all. However, in this anniversary edition, we wish to pay a

special tribute to the people and organisations that have been with the *Gazette* over its whole journey, from its first to its 15th year. Here they are.

REPORTERS



Lyn Hall (Gisborne Genealogy Group)



Colleen Weste (The Gallery, Mount Macedon)

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The Gazette was set up in 2006. The original hope was that it would simply cover its costs in advertising and provide community news "by the community, for the community".

Fortunately it has always done that and often more, with any excess funds from advertising channelled back to community groups and organisations through the GREAT Association (Gisborne Region Events, Activities and Tourism).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Bryan Power (also Editor, Distribution Manager and Columnist)



Pip Butler (also Production Editor)



Graeme Millar (also Distributor and Reporter)

COLUMNISTS



Ian Boyd and Phyllis Boyd OAM (History articles from the records of the Gisborne & Mount Macedon Districts Historical Society). Ian and Phyllis were also on the founding *Gazette* committee and long-serving members.

SPONSORS



Anglican Parish (Ministers, Parish Council and congregation members at St Paul's.)



House of the Rock Church (John and Jenny Barnes)



Gisborne Uniting Church (Members of the Board and congregation)



Gisborne Presbyterian Church (Rev Wayne McArdle and Board member Lizzie Mills)

ADVERTISERS



Gisborne Peak Winery (Bob and Barbara Nixon)



The Computer Company (Russell Barker)



Caddick Designs (Geoff Caddick, daughter Yvonne and son Daniel, who all work in the business.)



Nixon Financial Services (Bob Nixon)

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KNIGHTS OF THE ROAD

From personal recollections held
by the Historical Society

Edited by Phyllis Boyd

Swagmen, tramps or sundowners were a common sight throughout Australia before and during the Great Depression of the 1930s.

The collapse of world prices in agriculture had left many farmers destitute; some reverted to subsistence farming, eating all that they grew. Those men on an unemployment benefit called sustenance, food relief or the dole, received barely enough to survive.

To receive the sustenance benefit, an applicant had to be registered at the State Labour Exchange for at least seven days and make a declaration that they had been unemployed for at least 14 days and had no resources that could be sold to obtain relief.

Many families could no longer pay their rent or lost their houses and were evicted. Unemployed men either relied on charity support or travelled the rural areas on foot, their few meagre possessions rolled up and carried in their swag that was sometimes referred to as 'Matilda'.

As unemployment levels had reached 30 per cent, these men sought work on farms and in the towns that they travelled through. In many instances farmers, if they had no permanent work available, would provide food, tea for their billies and shelter for the 'Knights of the Road' in return for menial tasks.

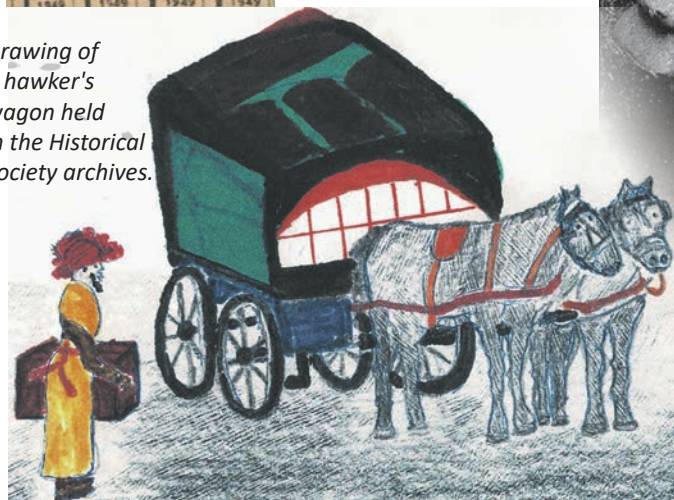
The Brady family had a large shearing shed on the Melton Road at Gisborne that was often referred to as 'Brady's boarding house for the people on the road'. This building had often been used by swagmen, but during the Depression, many husbands, fathers and sons who had turned to seeking work far from their homes, frequented it as a refuge. One evening, 13 men were camping in the shed and before they left, the Bradys gave them some rations of food to help them on their way, as there was insufficient work on their farm to assist all who requested it. Some of these men stayed in and around the area, rather than move on.

One such character was known as 'Dido', his real name recorded as being Dederick or Harry Irvine, who at times was employed by the Beaty brothers in Blackhill Road, Couangalt (South Gisborne). At other times he



Ration coupons
for food.

Drawing of
a hawker's
wagon held
in the Historical
Society archives.



Left: This photo of Dido
is believed to have been
taken at Camelot Cottage,
Mount Macedon.

Below: ration coupons
for clothing.



cared for the horses when travellers stayed the night at the Telegraph and other local hotels.

He also spent some time working at 'Camelot Cottage' at Mount Macedon.

For some time, 'Dido' was known to have slept in half a water tank near the Gisborne Cemetery and he became quite an institution in the town, short in stature but with a long white beard and always seen with his faithful dog at his side. He was said to roam between Diggers Rest and Trentham, but most often would be found in and around the Gisborne district.

One rainy evening when two local men were going home, they saw Dido sitting in the gutter in Hamilton Street, the water rising about him, and he, simply content with a rum bottle in his hand. They gently lifted him out of the drain and set him up against a nearby tree. Early the following morning when they going to work at Cherry's factory, there was Dido, still sound asleep leaning against the tree, but when they checked on his welfare at the morning

tea break, he had moved on.

Many travelling businesses visited farms regularly each two to three months during these difficult times. Mr Moffitt, who had a drapery shop in Aitken Street, sometimes packed up his wares and went about the district selling his goods house to house. Brothers Joseph and George Manassa hawked their goods about the district before eventually marrying local girls and setting up their tailoring business on the corner of Cheniston and Mount Macedon Roads, Mount Macedon.

Several Indian hawkers also called regularly at local farms, initially just with large bundles of goods carried on their shoulders, but later travelling in horse-drawn wagons or jinkers. Some of these men, the Sikhs, wore turbans, others wore small black caps, black coats and trousers with colourful robes, while some wore thick, gold jangling bangles.

It was an exciting day indeed when they arrived, often spreading their goods out on a rug on the kitchen floor.

They offered a huge range of products, from shaving needs, combs and brushes, fabrics, linens, children's and adult clothing, toys, jewellery and lots of herbs, curry powder and exotic spices. They spoke good English and also called at many of the shops in the township, where they sold their wares.

Later hawkers who called regularly at farming communities were the Watkins Man followed by the Rawleigh's Man.

Hardships continued for most families throughout the Second World War, with petrol being rationed in 1940, sugar added to the rationed list in 1942, butter limited to ½ pound per week and linens added to the rationed list in 1943. A booklet of 56 coupons was issued to one adult in each household to control these sales; sheets, depending on the size, required either 25 or 36 coupons and to buy a bath towel, three coupons were required.

This rationing of goods remained throughout Victoria until the end of the 1940s.

Be Kind to Animals Week coming soon

Be Kind to Animals Week takes place from October 1 to 7.

Started by Edgar's Mission, a not-for-profit sanctuary for rescued farmed animals at Lancefield, Be Kind to Animals Week is a time people can demonstrate how simple acts of kindness can have an impact on all the furred, fleeced and finned beings we share the planet with.

What can you do? Pledge to 'eat kind' by choosing plant-based recipes for the week, and this can be extended to shop and live kind too.

To support participants, Edgar's Mission will be sending out free 'Kindness Kits' along with daily emails filled with plant-based recipe inspiration.

Also offered is the chance to win a hamper full of



The youngest lamb Edgar's Mission has ever helped.

Edgar's Mission founder and director, Pam Ahern, said people could show kindness in various ways.

"You can support your favourite animal welfare charity by volunteering or donating, organise a beach or park cleanup, leave water out for local wildlife and so much more," she suggested.

To make a pledge and for more information, please visit bekindtoanimalsweek.org.au.

ethical goodies.

Over the past 18 months Edgar's Mission has rescued 196 animals in need, including orphans such as Kiki, pictured – one of the tiniest lambs Edgar's Mission has ever rescued.

Check your super nomination

If you're not sure what happens to your super if you die early, you're not alone.

Many people think their super automatically forms part of their estate and will be distributed under their will.

Most don't realise that unless they have given their super fund a binding nomination form (assuming the fund rules allow binding nominations to be made), the fund trustee has discretion to choose which of the dependents will receive the super. Most aren't aware that unless they nominate a person who falls within the narrow definition of "dependents" in the superannuation legislation, that person will be taxed on the money received.

I recently had lunch with a friend who had just had a new will prepared. She isn't married and doesn't have children. She knew the legislation defined "dependent" narrowly and thought this meant she could not nominate anyone to receive her super.

She's a lawyer so I asked: "Why wouldn't you just nominate your legal personal representative?"

The upshot? I told my friend what the lawyer drafting her will should have told her: if you don't have dependents or you don't want to nominate them to receive the money, you can nominate your "legal personal representative". This means the money gets paid to your estate and is then distributed in accordance with your will. My friend went home and submitted a binding death benefits nomination form



to her super fund with "legal personal representative" selected as the nominee, meaning that the money will now be distributed to whoever she likes (without being taxed) in the unfortunate event that she dies prematurely.

So, do yourself a favour:

Check who you've nominated as beneficiary. If you don't have a copy of the nomination, contact your super fund; **check** whether the nomination is binding or non-binding. If you've made a non-binding nomination (or no nomination at all), the trustee of the fund has discretion to decide who will receive the benefits in accordance with the terms of the trust deed and legislation; **check** whether the nomination is still valid – it may have lapsed; **consider** whether the person is a dependent within the meaning of the legislation. If they're not, they will be taxed on the money; **consider** whether it is better to nominate your legal personal representative so that the money is paid to your estate and distributed in accordance with your will.

Vet Talk

with Dr Caitlin Horwood-Skelton



Ear the tip of the iceberg

Big ones, pointy ones, floppy ones, hairy ones. Dog ears, in particular, come in all shapes and sizes. So how can we know how to care for them, especially if they seem a bit mucky? The principle is the same, no matter what their shape: the part we see is only the "tip of the iceberg", and the canine ear canal is quite a deep dark hole - potentially hiding all sorts of surprises!

Use your senses: look, touch, smell. A sore ear may look swollen, or be held to one side, or your dog may shake her head incessantly. You may find the ear tip hot to touch, or acutely painful. And mmm, yes, smell! Dirty doggy ears often get described as "yeasty" or like "smelly socks". This makes sense as the *Malassezia* organism which often infects them is in the yeast or fungal family.

To avoid problems, keep ears clean and dry, and use a specific pH-balanced cleaner to break up wax and evaporate moisture before infection takes hold.

Cover the ear entry with a big wad of cotton wool while washing your dog. Check if clumps of hair and wax are actually blocking the canal, and get some advice on whether they need gentle removal.

Tip top ears may have a little wax, that's normal and can be wiped away – but they should not be sore or smelly.

Water Week poster competition open until September 10



Greater Western Water invites primary school children to enter the National Water Week Poster Competition. Artwork should reflect this year's theme, "Caring

for water and Country" and must be submitted by 5pm, Friday September 10. Monetary prizes are offered across several categories and all winners will qualify for a chance at the national prize. Find out more at gww.com.au



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Held hostage in Iraq

Nick Fitzsimon notes firmly that his dramatic ordeal was a long time ago and the situation had many differences to present Afghanistan. Going by what one reads, he says, the circumstances of the people trapped in Afghanistan would be much more dire than his had been. A noticeable difference was the enormous effort made by the Australian ambassador in Baghdad and the number of Australian politicians who went to Baghdad to lobby for his release, compared with now, which would probably be impossible as the embassy in the Afghan capital Kabul was shut down long before everyone could get out. He gave the *Gazette* a memoir he wrote after the event, the writing of which he said settled what was a troubled mind, and probably a cure for some PTSD.

In late 1990, Nick had the weirdest Australian citizenship ceremony ever. It was held in a dark corner of a Chinese restaurant in Baghdad, conducted in hushed tones across a small table by the Australian Ambassador, with a bunch of Red Cross representatives waiting nearby.

For Nick, it was just one more bizarre event in a world that had become full of them; a world of what he calls Alice in Wonderland moments.

An engineer, he was in Kuwait to help construct a power station. When Saddam Hussein's forces invaded in July 1990, he and other Westerners in Kuwait City spent several chaotic weeks moving from place to place, encountering armed – and often terrified – Iraqi soldiers on the streets, battling to stock up on food, and feeling alternatively fearful and then confident of safety.

Finally he was rounded up with others of varying nationalities, taken across the border to Baghdad and held at a city hotel.

Nick was born in Ireland but was married to an Australian architect, Joy, and they lived just outside Gisborne. He had applied for citizenship before leaving to work on a contract in Kuwait but the paperwork got lost in the mail, and so he left on his British passport.

He says that when things went pear-shaped in Kuwait and Margaret Thatcher began posturing belligerently on the world stage, being identified as British was not helpful, but by then there was nothing he could do about it.

With the turmoil in Afghanistan again putting the world's focus on the Middle East region, Pip Butler asked local resident Nicholas FitzSimon about his experience in the region when he found himself a human shield after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait 31 years ago.



Nick FitzSimon in Gisborne in August.

He and three British Army NCOs from a training mission to the Kuwait army were eventually taken off somewhere together: an Englishman, an Irishman and a Scotsman. "These three should have been characters in a joke," he said, "but nothing funny was happening." But he was relieved by the change of atmosphere – it had been extremely tense at the Baghdad hotel. Then, "There we were bowling along in a clapped-out bus, my new associates chatting away, the three [armed] Iraqis in the bus in good humour." Alice in Wonderland stuff.

They were deposited at a water utility west of Baghdad and housed in an old construction camp. He had become one of Saddam's human shields.

At this stage Nick had not been able to speak to Joy back in Australia for some weeks, but had earlier been able to get a message to British embassy staff.

The hostages were treated fairly well. The food initially was good – although this changed after about a week; his cabin had a shower, and there was a camp sittingroom where they could watch TV. But the camp was dilapidated and general hygiene was not great, and over the months Nick was afflicted with many stomach ailments. There was also a time when

he counted 168 bedbug bites on his body at the one time.

In the camp there were Germans, Brits, Japanese, Frenchmen. Nick shared the cabin with an American, Ed, who had learned from his English wife the finer points of tea making, and since this was an obsession Nick shared, it was a fortunate pairing. Ed suggested they study Arabic together, asking their minders for assistance. "I owe Ed more than he knows," Nick said. "Once I had started, the mental discipline of regular study, which I maintained as long as I was at the camp, was, I am sure, a great psychological asset."

Routine developed at the camp around the timing of meals, secretly listening to radio programs, and Arabic study. Nick does not remember being fearful for his life in the early weeks. The principal minders did not refer to the hostages as hostages; they were always welcome 'guests', although surrounded by a barbed wire fence and guarded by men in sentry boxes with automatic rifles day and night. Another flash of 'Alice'.

The captives varied in their psychological states. One who was over 60 was very anxious that no older men would be brought to the

camp, as he thought his age gave him a better chance of being released, and one who was among those who had been there the longest showed signs of being suicidal. There was a loquacious Englishman who always seemed positive and he helped to keep Nick's spirits up. Three of the British captives had a shortwave radio that could pick up Radio Australia. "Every day at 4 o'clock when the program for the Gulf started, I would repair to their cabin. Listening to the radio was definitely clandestine and we were afraid in those early weeks that we might be stopped and the radio confiscated."

Radio Australia broadcast messages from home to the Australians trapped in Kuwait and Iraq at large. There were no Australians in the camps, but many would have been having as bad a time as the hostages in the camps. "These messages were, I felt, more an embarrassment rather than envy for my British friends, who were deliberately ignored by their authorities, Thatcher showing to Saddam how tough she was," Nick said.

"During the early period of desperation, I was surprised at the degree of invocation of things religious in these broadcasts. They were fairly evenly divided between two religions. One was pertaining to God, and there were emotional references to prayers being said [for us]; the other – though limited to Victorians – was pertaining to football....The messages referring to football were spoken in exactly the same emotional tones as those where so-and-so was praying for someone."

Meanwhile, back at home Joy was in frequent contact with the Foreign Affairs Department and at a diplomatic level, efforts were under way by all the Western nations to get the hostages released. Australia was working hard to try to obtain Nick's release.

As weeks turned into months, the captives became fearful that they could be killed by either side – the Iraqis because they were sick of the issue and fed up with British and American threats, and the West because they did not know which installations actually had hostages in place and could bomb the wrong ones. Some of the captives were moved from the construction camp closer to the waterworks, which had an air-raid shelter – the sinister nature of the move was obvious: "we were now in the bull's-eye," Nick said. "I wasn't at all happy to move. I had developed

► *continued next page*

'The citizenship ceremony took place in the shadows of a corner table'

◀ from previous page

a routine to cope with the situation and, far more important, had grown to know the other people in the camp." There was fear of the unknown, and fear of worse conditions than before – which proved to be the case.

There was no violence perpetrated against the hostages.

There is a great deal in Nick's fascinating memoir describing the next few months, a time as stressful and difficult as anyone would expect. Still, the hostages managed to find some moments of humour about their daily lives.

After four months, Australia came through with Nick's full citizenship, and hopefully a stronger chance at release, but how to confer it? On November 13, his birthday, Nick was taken to a Baghdad hotel by an Iraqi minder and was led to a Chinese restaurant – he was unwell, unshaven and his clothes were ragged.

Taken to the garden, he was hit by blinding lights and television. He was introduced to the Australian Ambassador, the head of the

Australian Red Cross, and members of Red Cross delegations from other countries. They all sat down for dinner, where Nick asked the waiter if they had any Australian wine; he said they did, and happily brought him a bottle of Austrian.

A big birthday cake was ceremoniously carried in, and the ambassador told him in a hushed voice that he had his Australian passport and later he would be taken to the back of the restaurant to conduct the formalities. "We were deep into Wonderland," Nick said.

The citizenship ceremony took place in the shadows of a corner table. Nick was asked to swear an oath of allegiance; he could do it on the Bible, or the Koran if he wanted, the ambassador said. Job done, now an Australian citizen. One of the best birthdays he ever had, unreal as it all was.

Nick was told not to let the minder take him back to the hostage site; to feign serious illness if necessary. He stayed in the hotel that night. The next morning, Australia's Red Cross man told him he would be going back to

Australia the following day.

However it was a further month before that happened. All the hostages in the camps were released for Christmas. It would seem that Saddam had realised that his policy was, if anything, counterproductive.

There is much that Nick treats with humour about his months in captivity, and his sense of humour undoubtedly played a big part in his ability to survive the physical and mental hardships of such an ordeal.

He wrote about the experience a year after his return and in doing so exorcised any demons of post-traumatic stress. He has thought about that time very little in the decades since.

Amazingly, he wrote the manuscript while he was back in the Middle East, undertaking a contract in Saudi Arabia. It speaks of immense resilience.

Ironically Nick is currently again separated from Joy, who is in Queensland. The day before he was to fly up to join her, restrictions and rolling lockdowns came into force and travel from Victoria has not been permitted.

Help shape new health and disability plans

Council is seeking your ideas to help develop two new plans that will boost health and wellbeing in the shire and help people with disability.

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25 will contain goals and actions to improve health and wellbeing over the next four years. The Disability Action Plan 2021-25 will aim to reduce barriers and increase inclusion and participation for people with disability.

Residents, local health agencies, disability service providers and community groups are encouraged to participate and help the council understand community needs.

Draft versions of both plans are on public exhibition in September.

To find out more, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/oursay or call 5422 0333.

FOR THE GREEN THUMBS



The latest from Daly Nature Reserve



'Where there's a will there's a way', they say. The Daly Nature

Reserve committee was unable to hold a meeting in a home, so as many clubs and groups are doing during covid restrictions, we opted for an online meeting. All set to go on Monday August 16 until at the allotted time, the power was cut off.

The next morning we exchanged paperwork via email and tied up all the loose ends. Job done.

Our August working bee was held successfully on a sunny, but cool, morning. We inspected the area of April's cultural burn and were pleased to see how quickly nature responds. In spring we will be on the lookout for long-dormant flora, previously smothered by introduced grasses.

Our photograph shows a peaceful place for walks in nature, whilst staying close to our town centre. Enjoy the green surroundings which are proven to help people relax and be good for our wellbeing. Keep to the tracks and enjoy a soothing stroll.

We will hold two working bees this month, on Tuesdays, September 14 and 28. Meet at the scout hall, 9.30am. We welcomed a new volunteer last month. Would you like to join us too? Enquiries: dalynaturereserve@gmail.com

Irene Perkin



Flowering acacia beside a walking track.

Wait bears fruit for Garden Club



August 18 was a special day for Gisborne Garden Club as we were able to meet for the first time since May. By postponing our August meeting day from the second Wednesday of the month to the following week, thus avoiding COVID restrictions, we were able to meet at Post Office farm Nursery in Ashbourne and enjoy the beautiful display of hellebores which flower so magnificently at this time of the year.

After a very interesting and informative talk by the owner Peter Leigh, who established the farm 20 years ago, the 32 members present were eager to purchase from a varied selection of colours and forms and all departed pleased to have been able to renew friendships and replenish their gardens.

Unfortunately, our members from Sunbury were not permitted to join us, which was disappointing for all.

The proposed bus trip to Melbourne Botanical Gardens in September has been cancelled because of the uncertainty of restrictions, especially in the metropolitan area. Members will be advised, as far as possible, if alternative arrangements can be made.

Membership is now being collected. Please can those who wish to renew contact me to organise.

Kerry Langmaid 0408 115 759



KIDS' CORNER

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A brief welcome back to New Gisborne Playgroup

It was with a sigh of relief that we heard the news that regional restrictions had been lifted and that schools, pools, cafes and, of course, New Gisborne Playgroup could be reopened. Once again families could benefit from the cozy, warm, indoor play space of Ross Watt Hall and, on the not-so-cold days, the wonderful, spacious outdoor play area...



The previous photo fundraiser at New Gisborne Playgroup captured a moment in time for Tallulah and Diego Brown.

It did not last long in the end. But when restrictions ease again, why not seize the opportunity to come and visit New Gisborne Playgroup? Whether you are already a member or interested in joining; or maybe you would like to take part in our photo fundraiser on October 31 (fingers crossed), an event that raises money for the playgroup while also producing professional family photos in the beautiful grounds that the hall provides. My family took part in this a couple of years ago and we got the most beautiful shot of my son kissing our daughter, something that has not happened since! Please email us if you would like any information about joining the playgroup or the upcoming photo shoot.

Isabella Easton
Media Officer, New Gisborne Playgroup Committee
newgisborneplaygroup@gmail.com

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



Find six differences between the pictures, and you can colour them in as well.

Try using completely different colours for each drawing.

JOKES AND RIDDLES

Doctor, doctor, I think I'm a kettle.

Sit over there and stop whistling!

Why wouldn't the wallpaper speak to the clothesline?

It was too stuck up to hang out with him.

Why did the farmer plough his field with a steam roller?

He wanted to grow mashed potatoes.

What has ears but cannot hear?

A cornfield.

What training do you need to be a garbage collector?

None. You just pick it up as you go along.

Teacher: You should have been here at 9 o'clock.

Why, what happened?

What did the left eye say to the right eye?

Between us, something smells!



Macedon
Ranges
Shire Council

Limited places

remain at our Gisborne
kindergartens for 2022

Give your child the best start to their learning journey at our Council-run kindergartens. We currently have places available for 2022 at the following Gisborne locations:

- Swinburne Avenue Children's Centre for three and four-year-old kindergarten
- Manna Gum Family and Children's Centre for four-year-old kindergarten

Did you know that five hours of three-year-old kindergarten fees are partly funded in 2022?



Contact 5422 0239 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/kinder-rego and fees

JUNIOR QUIZ

1. What is a book containing the meanings and origins of words called?

2. If you mix yellow and blue paint what colour do you get?

3. Beginning with "R", what is a telescope that uses mirrors called?

4. Which country won the most gold medals at the recent Tokyo Olympic Games?

5. Which canal links the Pacific Ocean with the Atlantic Ocean?

6. Who played Harry Potter in the film series?

7. Which musical children's group has Emma, Lachie, Simon and Anthony in it?

8. Beginning with "A", what is a watch which has hands to represent hours and minutes called?

9. Pharaohs were ancient rulers in which country?

10. Which country is also known as the Land of the Long White Cloud?

Answers page 39



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SCHOOL'S IN



A worldly parade at Macedon Primary



At Macedon Primary School we have learned to cope and become resilient with all the fast lockdowns that everyone has endured.

It is very important to make sure our health and wellbeing is going well during lockdown and through COVID-19. Please make sure you all take time to enjoy nature, breathe and rest.

As a celebration of our learning Macedon Primary School held a book parade on August 26 to celebrate book week (August 21-27). We got to dress up as our favourite book characters. The theme was 'old worlds, new worlds and other worlds'.

The teachers focused on a shortlist of books to do fun, educational reading and writing activities. So don't forget to escape sometimes into another world of magic, fantasy or even science fiction. There's nothing better than going into another world when you open a book and read!

Levi Enge



Macedon Primary's school book parade



Winnie, Jade, Sophie, Isla and Issy on toboggans.

St Brigid's hits the snow



The Year 6 students travelled to Harrietville for their three-day camp adventure from August 3-5.

Along the way, we stopped for morning tea at Euroa and watched the action-filled, authentic and slightly scary Ned Kelly Last Stand Show. We later arrived at the Feathertop Chalet where we had time to unpack our things, explore, and go and have some dinner.

That night we all put on warm and comfy pyjamas and enjoyed a movie night together, watching *Cheaper by the Dozen*.

On the second day, we travelled along the windy roads through Mt Hotham to reach our destination, the snow in Dinner Plains. Our eyes lit up as we got off the bus and saw so much white snow in front of us.

We had so much fun tobogganing down all of the slopes, snowball fighting and making snowmen. We tackled the first hill with ease and stopped for a nice warm lunch afterwards, which consisted of pumpkin soup and sausage rolls.

After our tummies were filled, we were ready for our next task, a steeper slope.

We all had so much fun in the snow, so much fun that when we got back to



Do Xavier and Jake know the scary thing behind them?

camp, everyone fell asleep pretty quickly.

On our last day, we were thrill seekers tackling tree climbs, a rope course, giant swings and much more. After a four-hour bus ride back to Gisborne, we were all happy that we were back and could sleep in our own beds again.

Abi Phegan and Summer Busby

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Gisborne Gazette

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One hundred... days of school



▲ Beau H, New Gisborne Primary

Celebrations abounded in August for local preps' first 100 days on the journey of school life.

New Gisborne Primary School Fresh young faces were replaced with wrinkles, grey hair and walking sticks as the Foundation students at New Gisborne Primary School celebrated their '100th Day of School' recently.

Classrooms buzzed with excitement as students participated in many fun activities involving the number 100. These included counting collections of 100 items and writing about what they would buy if they had \$100. Popular responses included



ice-cream, sweets and toys.

Owen, Foundation A: "I liked bringing in 100 things."

Dylan, Foundation B: "I liked making a picture out of the number 100."

Kara, Foundation C: "I liked acting like an old woman."

The Foundation students certainly looked the part as the 100-year-old versions of themselves, and it was an enjoyable day for students and staff alike.

Rebecca Brennan



Kara L,
New
Gisborne
Primary

► It must have taken this old New Gisborne crew ages to get into position!



▲ Harley Downie,
Gisborne Primary

► Axel MacRae and Charlie Treseder, Gisborne Primary



Gisborne Primary School

Finally, the Preps got to celebrate 100 days of school! It was lots of fun and very exciting for them.

They got to dress up as people that are 100 years old. Some of the girls wore grey wigs, dresses with an apron and a basket of wool accompanied by needles.

Some of the boys wore flat caps, brown overalls, braces and held a long wooden cane. Unfairly for the rest of the school, the preps got

hot chips for lunch!

The Preps got to play lots of fun games and at the end of the day they got a coloured helium balloon that was tied to their bag so it didn't fly away. They all had an outstanding day, ending it with proud smiles on their faces.

Ramona and Hayley – Year 5 Writers' Club



Holy Cross Primary School – Friday August 20 was an interesting day for the students of Holy Cross, as they became overwhelmed with how many old people that were at school!

Prep students attending the primary school celebrated their first 100 days of school. The students and their teachers came to school dressed in their best old clothes and wigs to mark the special occasion.

After a morning of giggling fun and crown-making, the students drew self-portraits of their 100-year-old selves before enjoying a hot chip lunch.

Prep B and Miss Ganesh



Mr Zachary Byars grew a lot of facial hair overnight!



Saige Azzopardi in a beautiful black shawl and pearls.



Sir Isaac Gutierrez-Smith, a very clever Prep!



Scarlett Summerfield looking lovely in her pearls.



Inside Gisborne Primary School's new gym.

New gym almost ready



Gisborne PS

At Gisborne Primary School we have been under construction for about 18 months. We are slowly getting closer to finishing the main project – the new gym. As well as the new gym, we have been working on a new administration building, playground space and so much more.

After the gym is finished, we can have our PE classes in there instead of out in the cold. Overall, the new gym is much bigger and better than the old one. We all think it has definitely been worth the wait as it will make great changes for all the students, staff and the Gisborne community. Our school will be a perfect place once more!

Felicity – Year 4 Writers' Club



CAPTAIN'S RAP

with Hayley Fisher



Hayley Fisher

Who would've thought that yet again most of our final year would be from the comfort of our own home.

2021 Year 12s have experienced a lockdown each term so far and have experienced two thus far in Term 3. Not what we wanted or expected but it needed to happen and these are the

current times we are living in.

Teachers are working very hard behind the scenes and on the forefront to still deliver content to the best of their ability, whilst being prepared to make the change to remote learning at the drop of a hat.

As both a school community and a leadership team at GSC, it has been a vital decision and something I am passionate about to ensure that all students' (especially Year 12s') mental health is a priority. Year 12 brings enough stress as it is, but this has been a tough two years for VCE students so I encourage each and every one of them to prioritise how they are feeling and to make sure they take some time out to focus on themselves and those closest to them.

Whilst there is no covering up that this year and last year have been difficult and somewhat of a struggle, there is some light at the end of the tunnel. We are nearly there! This year has been tough but we will get there.

You all should be so proud of yourselves and keep putting in the efforts that you are. Everyone handles things differently but together we can all make it out.

Junior students set up their own donation project for Foodbank

Each year, lead by our social justice group, the Mini Vinnies, St Brigid's as a school community celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass to begin our yearly collection of non-perishable items, supporting local families who are experiencing hardship.

This year, despite the lockdowns in between, our very generous St Brigid's community donated 475 items of food. We also received financial donations, so the Mini Vinnies ventured into town to buy more goods.

It was great to see the consideration they put into how they spent the money and what their focus was.

Inspired by these actions, four junior students, Eleni, Jono, Samuel and Ollie, took it upon themselves to create a Junior Mini Vinnies group which raised funds across the junior area on Fridays (clever strategic planning for canteen day funds).

This group raised \$100 during this time. The Junior Mini Vinnies team then went for a trip to Foodworks to buy food of their choosing for the Foodbank. But we did not stop there.

Foodworks kindly allowed us to wheel the trolley back to St Brigid's with all of the purchases. This then sparked the idea that we could transport the food ourselves to the Foodbank in the trolley and see where the food went, and the people behind this great community venture.

Senior and Junior Mini Vinnies loaded half of the food and made their way down to the Foodbank. It was heartwarming to see our



The Junior Mini Vinnies have fun doing their shopping.



With the help of a Foodworks-offered trolley, the combined groups deliver food to see what happens to their donations and meet Foodbank volunteers.

students collaborating with the Foodbank volunteers to unpack the food and sort it in the storage area.

Together we really do make a difference. We hope to deliver the other half of the food once lockdown has been lifted.

1st New Gisborne Scouts annual

Tomato Plant Sale



Taking orders now!
Plants will be available for collection Sat 30th October
9:00-11:30
from Church of Christ Saunders Road New Gisborne

Varieties available All \$5 each!

- Grosse Lisse
- Beefsteak
- Cherry
- Black Russian
- Money Maker

To order:

SMS or email your order:
johnfrearson@me.com

0450 922 787

Also message this number to enquire
about other varieties available





Oil pastel drawing by Jake



Painting by Zoe



Oil painting by Jaya



Pen and ink drawing by Dylan

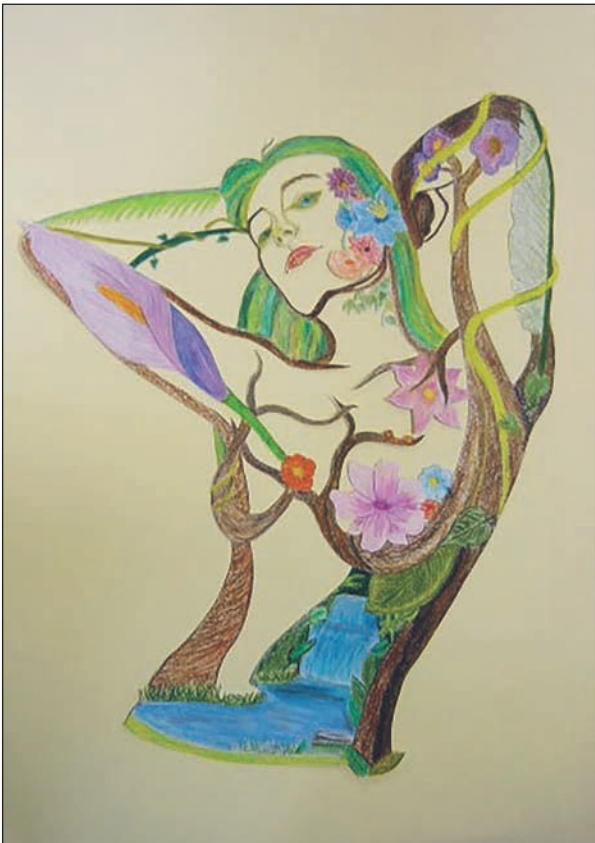


Soft pastel drawing by Nicole



Studio Art

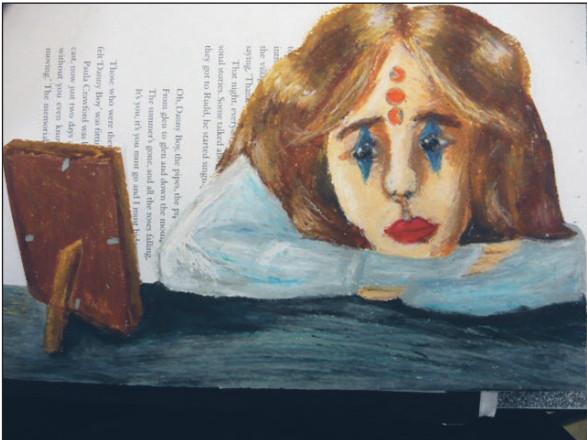
Year 11 Studio Art students have been busy working on their folios. In Studio Art students create work from their imaginations and various sources of inspiration. They also explore and experiment with a wide range of materials and techniques.



Pencil drawing by Codi



Designs for exhibition poster and flyer by Beth



Drawing by Grace

Visual Communication Design

In VCE Visual Communication design, students focus on using visual language to communicate messages, ideas and concepts. This involves acquiring and applying design thinking skills as well as drawing skills to create messages, ideas and concepts.



BRAINBUSTERS

1. How long did the battle at the Eureka Stockade in Ballarat last: Was it 8 minutes, 8 hours, 8 days or 8 weeks?
2. Harvard University can be found in which state of the USA?
3. What is the name of the renowned Russian ballet company?
4. In which city in England is Edgebaston Cricket Ground located?
5. What was Iran formerly known as?
6. What is the highest grossing Australian movie to date?
7. If you bought at your supermarket a "Mainland" brand product, which country would it be a product of?
8. What is the name given to members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints?
9. In which country is Mount Everest?
10. Horology is the science or study of what?

Long-time resident and a big part of local life

OBITUARY

Leslie 'Les' Arthur Kays
1934-2021

A long-time resident of Gisborne, Les was born in Trentham to Michael and Theresa Kays. He had two sisters, Eileen (dec'd) and Margaret. In 1937 the family moved to New Gisborne.

Les attended New Gisborne Primary School, Marist Brothers Kyneton and Essendon Technical School. At age 14 he worked with his father at the Trentham Sawmill followed later by the Bullengarook Sawmill.

Les met Wendy at a dance in Coimada and in June 1956 they married at St Bernard's in Bacchus Marsh. They moved into their first house in Gisborne in 1957 and Les worked with the SEC up until 1963 when the Gisborne depot closed.

Les and Wendy then went into business, selling and delivering petroleum goods, and Les continued to be an agent in Prince Street, Gisborne, until his retirement in 1993. They operated their business under the simple philosophy of honesty and respect. Shortly after, they moved into their current home in Brantome Street.

After retirement, Les and Wendy travelled overseas and enjoyed caravanning throughout Australia.



Les Kays

Les loved his sport. He played cricket for Gisborne and was a committee member for many years. He held a Life Membership for Gisborne District Cricket Association and in 2020 he was named in the Association's Hall of Fame.

Les played football for the Gisborne Bulldogs in the 1940s and '50s and was also on the committee for 20 years, later continuing as the scorer. He was also awarded a Life Membership of the Gisborne Football Club.

Les was also an avid golfer and achieved life membership of Gisborne Golf Club after 50 years as a member. In 2000 he scored the great achievement of a hole in one. In later years Les and Wendy played bowls at Gisborne and at Evans Head.

Les was a keen gardener and each year he would always pick the first red rose and give it to Wendy.

Les and Wendy raised 10 children – five boys and five girls; Terry, Paul, John, Maree, Brendan, Leanne, Libby, Shelly, Michael and Marcia. They have 26 grandchildren – 13 boys and 13 girls – and eight great-grandchildren.

Les passed away on July 6 after putting up a strong fight against cancer. He was farewelled by his loving family and friends on July 14 at St Brigid's Church and laid to rest at the Gisborne Cemetery.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 2 In which Australian state is Tamborine Mountain?
- 6 Which large island lies off the east coast of Africa?
- 7 How many children did Queen Victoria have?
- 8 Which element combines with carbon, hydrogen and oxygen to produce baking soda?
- 10 In which US state is the tourist attraction Graceland?
- 13 What type of bird is a Harlequin?
- 14 Which of Shakespeare's plays is set in Scotland?
- 15 Where is Cecil Rhodes buried?
- 18 Which country is the world's largest wine consumer?
- 19 In which county in England was the novel 'Wuthering Heights' set?
- 20 Which Williams sister was first to win the US Open?

DOWN

- 1 Which type of pasta's name means 'little worms'?
- 3 Which is the most populated town in the Macedon Ranges Shire?
- 4 Which movie gave Russell Crowe his first Oscar?
- 5 In which Sydney suburb was explorer John Batman born?
- 9 After Sydney, which is the most populated city in Australia?
- 11 In Italy, what is Mortadella?
- 12 Sir Stamford Raffles is synonymous with this city.
- 16 Where was Confucius born?
- 17 Who wrote the book 'Animal Farm'? (surname only)

Answers

ACROSS

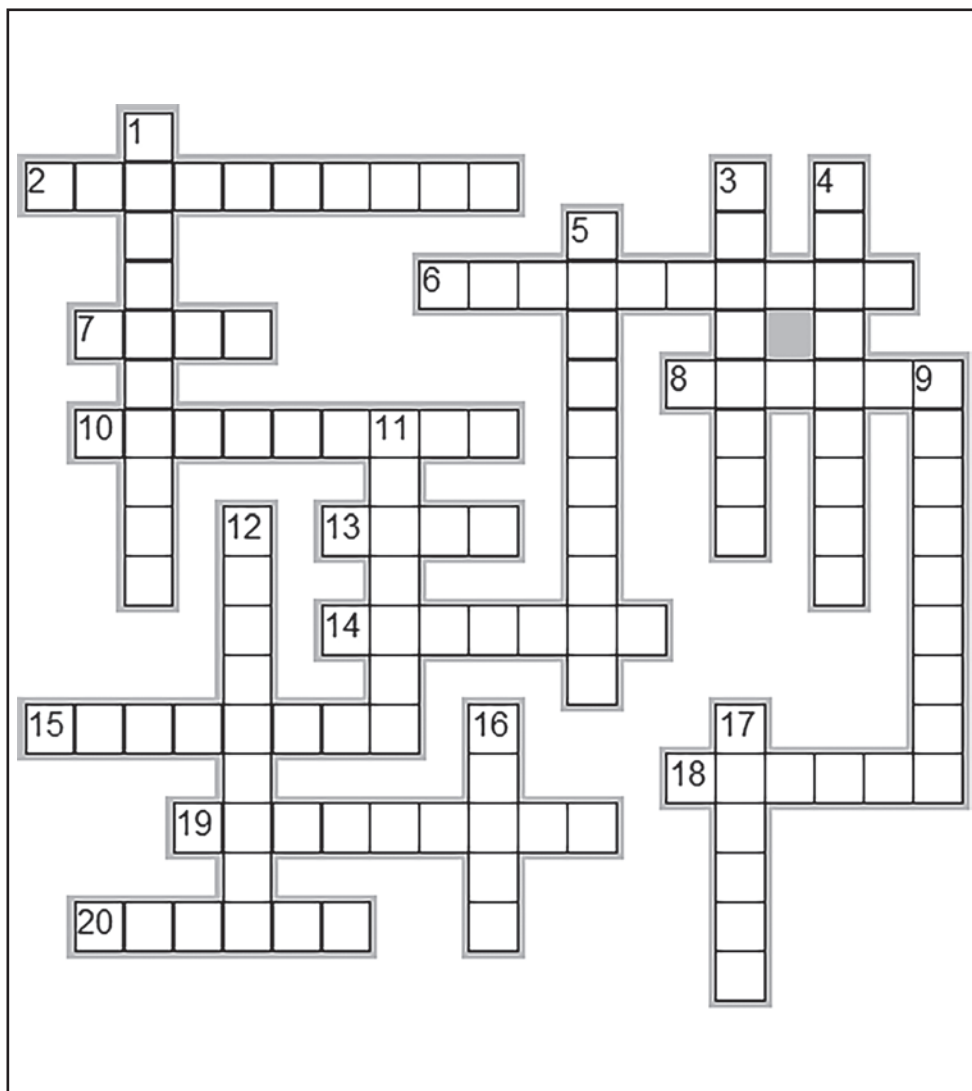
2. Queensland
6. Zimbabwe
7. Nine
8. Sodium
10. Tennessee
13. Duck
14. Macbeth
15. Zimbabw
18. France
19. Yorkshire
20. Serena

DOWN

1. Vermicelli
3. Gisborne
4. Gladiator
5. Parramatta
9. Melbourne
11. Sausage
12. Singapore
16. China
17. Orwell

General knowledge

Compiled by Graeme Millar





1st Gisborne Scouts hang out all over the place

The Scouts of 1st Gisborne were happy that, after yet another lockdown (No 5), we were able to meet face-to-face again...even in the dark. And briefly, as it turned out, with lockdown 6 coming in on August 21.

Cub Scout Sebastian wrote: "On Monday at Cubs, we were learning to tie knots. Halfway through the night, the power went out! Just as well there are lanterns in the patrol boxes and we could keep having fun."

A number of Joeys went on an 'Adventurous Journey' to Hanging Rock with the aim of eventually obtaining their Joey Scout Challenge Award (and to have fun of course.) They planned their walk, took turns in leading the group and ensured that no one got lost.

At the end, they enjoyed a packed lunch and got to watch their boats float down the nearby stream – a successful adventure was had by all.

The Scouts have been testing their knowledge and taste buds by combining a trivia night with pizza – a winning combination. The Rovers also had food on the agenda with a '\$10 Cooking Night' where they had to cook a full meal for, you guessed it, \$10. They also had a District Challenge meeting with the Hang-



1st Gisborne Joeys 'hang around' in some interesting caves on their 'Adventurous Journey' to Hanging Rock.



ing Rock Rovers with some friendly rivalry to see who could change a tyre and do a load of ironing the fastest.

1st Gisborne is looking for new leaders. No previous scouting experience? No problem – training and support are provided and there is no cost involved.

Training includes e-learning, practical experience and a few residential weekends. There is plenty of support and you will be surrounded by like-minded people who want to help young people develop into being the 'best they can be'.

For more information on becoming a leader, email us at info@1stgisborne.com.au

Carolyn Goode (Assistant Joey Leader)

Guides get into science



Gisborne Lightning Guides returned from Term 2 holidays to undertake a variety of tasks to earn their Olympic badge. They engaged in team challenges, physical activities and tasks related to Japanese culture.

During lockdowns we continue to meet online so the girls can still connect with their friends. This has been important in building connections and supporting mental wellbeing.

During the year we have continued to encourage each other to consider our Promise and Law as we cope with changes to normal lifestyle. The girls have chosen three other badges to start working on this term – Science and Technology, Our World and Life Skills. One of the challenges was to design and create a parachute which we tested from a height. Another fun task was to see how many pins we could place in a balloon.

The secret is to tape firmly over the section you are using. Quick science activities can be found on the website 'Go Science Girls'.

If you are aged 8 to 12 and would like to try Guiding, phone Deb on 0409 542 619 for details.

Deb Fleming



Tayla tests her parachute, watched by Holly and Madison.

Update from New Gisborne (Church of Christ) Scouts



Joeys Austin and Aubin are invested.

We've had great times in August, with outdoor activities and a Cub Scout Investiture welcoming Edie and Eadie around a warming campfire. We remember our Law and Promise, living out "love thy neighbour". Our thoughts and prayers continue for COVID workers.

We are progressing with our Scout Hut, delighted with news from Mary-Anne Thomas MP of State Government funding to enlarge the project. Very exciting. Donations welcome and are tax deductible.

Led by parents Rufina and Leona, Scouts are fundraising to help our contingent attend the 2021-22 Jamboree. Our Annual Tomato Sale will be on October 30 and 31 (see details in our ad on page 29).

Our Joeys enjoyed getting together face-to-face at the Scout Hall before the latest lockdown began on August 21. We have held our own mini-Olympics, learnt about fire safety, and practised using a compass – getting ready for hikes!

Joeys is all about building confidence and practical life skills with the support of caring leaders. They always have a lot of fun. When COVID rules permit, we meet on Wednesdays, 6.30-7.30pm. We've just had

Austin and Aubin join us and if you have a 5-7-year-old looking to try something new, contact Group Leader "Skipper" (0450 922 787 or johnfearson@mac.com) to learn more about the fun and challenges ahead.



Cub Scouts meet around the campfire.

Millbrook winter trophy hunting

Located in Gordon, just outside Ballarat, Millbrook Lakes is a private catch and release fishery consisting of over 20 lakes stocked with rainbow, brown and tiger trout.

A winter phenomenon that occurs here, which I haven't seen in the local public lakes, is a thing called 'shore spawning'. This happens on some of the more exposed rocky lakes, the fish have no stream to go up to spawn, but if there is gravel they will congregate there likely reflecting the habit of trout in the wild of spawning in gravel. Also, if there is a strong wind it creates water movement that acts like a river for the fish.



On my last visit it was a windy day and the fish were stacked up along the rock wall. The fishing rig I used was a black nymph and a glo bug pattern (that looks like a fish egg) under a floating indicator.

I cast out upwind into the deep water and let the indicator drift back into the fish that Scott, my guide, had spotted with polaroid glasses from high on the rock wall. The indicator dipped below the surface, and trophy on! Definitely a great place to go for a winter fish.

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

Chris Schrueder



Chris with his trophy rainbow trout.



Bushwalking club members look forward to hiking by Ellis Falls on the Coliban near Malmesbury, left...

---and in sight of the amazing viaduct at Malmesbury, below.



The best-laid plans of bushwalkers

Our walks for the Gisborne Bushwalkers are always carefully pre-planned, and details given out on our website, so we can book in with the leaders and look forward to our adventures! Unfortunately, all of our plans for August were unfulfilled. Please indulge us, and allow us to describe one of our walks, which would have been taken up by 22 of our members and had to be cancelled at the very last minute. It will be offered again as soon as possible.

This walk is in Malmesbury, starting at the lovely lake in the Botanical Gardens. These gardens, first begun in the 1860s, are one of Victoria's earliest regional Botanical Gardens, and are graced with the stunning backdrop of the massive five-span bluestone railway viaduct, which reaches 25 metres high. It was completed in 1862 and is considered the finest example of a bluestone viaduct in Australia.

The walk then takes in a pleasant stroll across pastures and gentle hills along the Coliban channel to view the Ellis Falls, a series of picturesque

waterfalls and rapids situated along a rocky curve of the Coliban River.

Then back towards Malmesbury township we head, and up towards the Malmesbury Reservoir, one of Victoria's earliest water conservation schemes, built in 1865, and originally intended to help supply water for the Bendigo Goldfields. The pretty lake surrounded by low hills is cradled by a long, wide, earth and bluestone wall which can be traversed from side to side, a scenic and exhilarating stroll.

We plan also a peep into the old cemetery on the hill. All in all, the seven to eight-kilometre exploration of Malmesbury is a fascinating experience of local history. So, until we can enjoy this walk and many others, keep fit everyone!

For more info: Call Pierre on 0417 515 468, Jaaneen on 0416 052 366, Nigel on 0437 715 972, or Ashley on 0490 133 656. Or check out our website, www.gisbornebwc.org.au

Margaret Muehlheim

Riders still here, just nobbled a bit



In common with many other clubs and societies, the Macedon Ranges Ulysses Branch (MRUB) has faced challenges in building and engaging its membership throughout this year's rolling lockdowns. Our members are spread across Macedon Ranges towns and communities as well as outer metropolitan areas; a fact which makes coming together even trickier.

Notwithstanding recently cancelled club rides due to COVID, we still engage and ride regularly within restriction provisions, as well as plan for times when more widespread vaccinations and public health controls allow a return to face-to-face activities involving all members.

This month's picture is in anticipation of one such lunch ride we have planned to Blackwood.

With spring upon us, the club's executive and committee are working to schedule larger club



Picture: auspubs.blogspot.com

Ulysses members look forward to riding to Blackwood.

events going forward but in the meantime, those of us who can will shop and chat in Gisborne at our Saturday morning tyre-kick. Come and say 'hi' under the oaks in Brantome Street; we'd love to see you there.

Our cub has something for every style and inclination of rider, so check out the regularly updated calendar for event details at www.mrub.org.au or join us on Facebook for the latest news.

See you riding the Ranges this springtime.

Cherry Cole

Ramblers to resume when they can

The lockdown in August and the continued closure of so many of our bush walks due to the storm damage of July have caused major disruption to the Ramblers activities. Between lockdowns, when restrictions eased somewhat, we could resume our walks, but only with limited numbers. On the plus side, we have added more people to our mailing list. This is increasing monthly and is now approaching 100 names.

Over the past year, the more straightforward walks have been described and published, however, most of the Ramblers' walks are more complex and beyond this columnist's descriptive powers. The mailing list includes a map and a gpx file which can be downloaded to a gps or smartphone, and allows you to follow the walk at your own leisure.

Details of each walk are emailed out each Wednesday prior to the Friday walk. We meet at Dixon Field, Gisborne, at 9.15am. Numbers may be limited, so please do not attend without first making enquiries. If you would like to join the mailing list, please email me and I will include you and forward some details of the Ramblers.

Charles (gisramblers@gmail.com)



SPORT IN PICTURES

Pictures by Chris Fleming



▲ Arthur McArdle (above) and ► Baxter Clarke practise at Gisborne Tennis Club.



▲ Seniors: Gisborne v Maryborough on August 14.



▲ Seconds: Gisborne v Maryborough, August 14.



◀ Gisborne v Maryborough, August 14.



▲ B Reserve: Gisborne v Maryborough, August 14.



▲ B Reserve: Gisborne v Maryborough, August 14.



▲ A Grade: Gisborne v Maryborough, August 14.



▲ Gisborne v Maryborough, August 14.



Flynn Lahey displays the jumper and arm band for the TAC road safety round on August 14.



▲ U15: Gisborne Rookies v Diggers Rest, August 1.



▲ U13: Gisborne Giants v Sunbury, August 2.



▲ U15: Gisborne Rookies v Diggers Rest, August 1.



▲ U18 girls: Gisborne White v Gisborne Red, August 1.



▲ U13: Saints v Possums, August 14.



▲ U15: Rebels v Kyneton.



▲ U13: Gisborne Rookies v Diggers Rest, August 1



▲ U15: Possums v Macedon.



The Mt Macedon Golf Club Sunday Sirens graduates.

Sunday Sirens a big success

A recent delightful Sunday afternoon saw the culmination to the Ladies Get Into Golf sessions.

When we started, the focus was on learning the basics of putting and chipping, however by the final weeks, the marked improvement in our Sunday Sirens saw teams of four players participating in an ambrose format. Though the training sessions have been completed, this has only whet their appetite as four teams were back on course recently continuing their development; albeit with much laughter, encouragement and positivity.

Our plan is to offer these sessions again during spring and, given the level of commitment and the enquiries we have already received from newbies, it looks likely that the ladies will certainly continue getting into golf.

Our new membership year began on July 1; disappointingly, however, it has coincided with our met-

ro members being locked out of golf. We trust this will be just a short period of time before we can welcome them back.

The July monthly medal winner was Mike Smith-eram with a nett 66. John 'Shooter' Dawson added to his collection, winning the August Mug o' the Month with 35 stableford points.

Finally, with our AGM in early September, it would be remiss not to thank the outgoing management committee executive; president Matt Willis, honorary treasurer Brian Collins and club captain Richard Payne, as well as general committee members Nathan Fairley, Peter Semmens, Will Devereux and Dave Hudson for their management of the club through the recent difficulties. Well done, gents.

We invite you to visit our website for a range of pro rata membership options.



Walrus

MT MACEDON GOLF CLUB RESULTS: July

**Mt Macedon Golf Club
congratulates July and
August winners**



Jumbuck Sheepskin and Leather's July
Monthly Medallist – Mike Smith-eram

Calderlink Industries' August Mug o' the
Month – John Dawson



Macedon set to grow girls' and women's cricket

Following from the success of its U17 girls' team last season, Macedon Cricket Club is planning to field girls' U13, U15, U17 and the only women's team in the local area in the coming season.



A number of teenaged girls from the club attended the Cricket Victoria Level 1 coaching course last year and will be taking up coaching roles with the younger teams this year.

www.macedon.vic.cricket.com.au
facebook.com/macedoncc



Netball news from MRNA

As we near the end of the season it is a great time to reflect on what Macedon Ranges Netball Association has been able to achieve in 2021.

We have managed to play most of our season, our players are developing and they are happy to be back. Compared to metropolitan associations we are very lucky that we have been able to run most of our midweek and junior competitions.

The draws for both competitions have had a lot of tweaking – so thank you to our netball community for readily adapting to the changes and guidelines.

The junior competition is nearing finals with two rounds to go. Grand finals are scheduled for September 11.

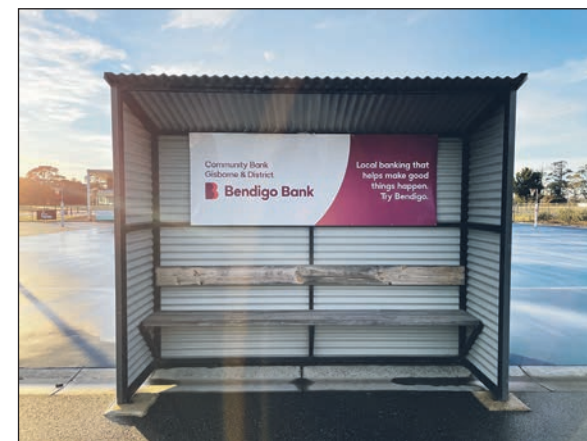
The ladies midweek competition began its second season at the start of this term with 21 teams entered across the four grades. Once restrictions ease we hope that spectators will be able to return.

Due to restrictions, we have pushed the Annual General Meeting to September 6 at 7:30pm, and it will be a Zoom meeting.

Due to the venue restrictions, we have made the tough decision to move our BCNA Pink Day and 40th Birthday Celebrations to 2022. We hope that with eased restrictions we can do both of these days properly.

We are also excited to announce we hope to have eight additional players' shelters installed soon on the external courts. Thank you to our major sponsor Bendigo Bank for funding this project.

Katie Duoba



Eight more shelters will make those wet, windy days at the netball complex much more pleasant.

FIRST AID HELP

Gisborne Football Netball Club was awarded \$2359 by Macedon Ranges Shire Council in August to buy First Aid kits.

Players battle the elements

Mt Macedon Petanque Club's last practice day at the end of July was bleak as cold fronts passed over Victoria, squally showers lumbering across the afternoon, shouldering the moments of sunshine back into submission behind grey clouds. Winter had not finished with us yet.

But like moths emerging from the chrysalis, many gathered at the terrain. This was the first practice day as we ventured out of yet another lockdown. It was surprising to see how many braved the conditions – it must have been desperation to get out once again.

Rugged up in raincoats and beanies, bare fingers clasped the ice-cold steel balls. Gloves allowed by the rules were not worn, so as not to lose the deft touch required to place a winning shot.

COVID rules applied, masks were worn and the players distanced. The penalty for not bringing tape for the bridge of the nose was fogged glasses. "Bugger!" Whether breathing through the mouth or nose, it did not stop that mist buildup. To see the target through a clear corner of the glasses, I tried turning the head this way, cricking the neck that way – alas it was impossible. "I'll damn well bring the tape next time!"

This practice day was important for an upcoming match against Maldon. The coach prepped everyone



Mt Macedon players Danny Green, Terry Hunter, Lindsay Kinghorn and Rhonda Shears show grit and determination.

for what was expected. After two practice games, the wind-driven rain showers started to take their toll. Members departed except for a few desperados who continued with a third game. We'll be ready for that match against Maldon (COVID permitting!)

Bob Bossner

Macedon Ranges Croquet Club news

Our 'off season' has been somewhat different from usual as we have gone in and out of COVID lockdowns and the usual get-together lunches and meetings have been planned and cancelled.

A couple of our members have been busy sprucing up the clubrooms with a coat of paint and have replaced the old curtains with smart roller blinds. Thank you very much, ladies.

We are pressing ahead with plans for our Social Day on October 25 when other clubs in our region

are invited to the club for what is an enjoyable day playing croquet and having afternoon tea together. Hopefully any restrictions on numbers etc. will have been lifted by then.

Teams to play Pennant this season are being organised. We hope to have two or three teams in Division 3. We plan to have the contents of the sheds reorganised and all in readiness for our season opening on Wednesday September 8, COVID permitting!

Faye Armstrong



Girls play cricket!

Season 2021/22

Make new friends & have fun playing junior girls cricket at Gisborne Cricket Club

- Everyone gets to bat, bowl & field
- T20 matches, modified rules
- Friday night competition
- Girls develop their skills

U13, U15, U17
Ages 10-17

Like more info?

Contact **Loren Ward**

lorenward4@gmail.com



THE CHURCHES



ST PAUL'S OP SHOP JOTTINGS

Pop into St Paul's Op Shop and you are sure to find recycled clothing, household goods, toys and books in great quantities. You will also find a selection of items that are new and have never been used.

We get constant feedback from customers informing us how they enjoy shopping in our op shop.

Why are op shops so important? Op shops help many Australians to find a bargain! They also help people financially who are having a hard time making ends meet.

Also, if we didn't have op shops, there would be less opportunity for people to recycle their goods and avoid them going to landfill.

We are ever so grateful to the generous people who donate their unwanted resaleable goods to us. A big thank you!

This month we feature Sue Graham, a volunteer on the front counter.

Graeme Millar
0413 781 501



Sue Graham

Anglican Parish cares for all creatures great and small

Sheep grazer warnings on the increase and biodiversity in decline are deeply concerning to those of us who believe livestock and wildlife are intrinsically valuable as they ultimately belong to and are loved by the Creator God.

Our Anglican Parish of Gisborne Animal Welfare Group's practical activities reflect a moral obligation to altruistically care for God's creatures.

This accords with mainstream Christian theology's assertion that humans are stewards of God's creation.

Consequently, this year our group applied for a Macedon Ranges Shire Council Community Grant for a modest pilot shelter belt project to assist Macedon Ranges farmers to plant shelter belts, and was very pleased to be successful.

Our project aims to raise awareness of the animal welfare and biodiversity benefits of shelter belts.

It aligns with government guidelines for mitigating climate change impact on livestock by providing adequate shelter and shade, also aiming to help protect Macedon Ranges wildlife by creating more safe habitats for species threatened by climate change and inappropriate development.

Our group meets quarterly or less over a pub lunch – COVID permitting. New members, in person or via email only, most welcome.

Janine McDougall

Co-convenor

Anglican Parish of Gisborne Animal Welfare Group

Church reports continue next page



Mount Macedon Uniting Church gives assistance to many



Responding with compassion to human need is part of the mission of the Uniting Church. The Mount Macedon congregation collects non-perishable food and other goods which are distributed to the Gisborne Community Care and Kyneton Community Care foodbanks. Goods are also provided to the Uniting Lentara Refugee Welcome Centre based at the Brunswick Uniting Church.

Food and goods are brought along each Sunday and to Thistle Club meetings. These goods are then delivered about every six weeks to the centres.

Cash donations are also made to Gisborne Chaplaincy Committee, Frontier Services to support remote and inland communities, the Christmas Bowl Appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia and other organisations.

In these various ways we hope we can assist in a small way those who are doing it tough in the wider community.

Neil Tweddle, 5426 2045



Lois Coggin, Anne Fyfield and Graeme Coggin prepare to deliver donations to local foodbanks.

Presbyterian Church starts new youth group

St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Gisborne, is thrilled to be starting up a brand-new Youth Group, where children will meet together once a month for fun and games and to learn from the Bible.

Many years ago, our members were praying for more young families to join the church. And we're thankful to God to have so many young families who have become part of our church community since then.



Wayne and Ruth McArdle



Despite the many challenges of the past 18 months, we are grateful that our new minister, Rev. Wayne McArdle and his family, joined us and supported us throughout this difficult time.

Wayne arrived in Gisborne right in the middle of a lockdown, and worked tirelessly to bring us all together again.

Like so many others in the past year, our tech team have helped ensure our congregation can continue to hear the Bible taught every week. Our on-line live streams have allowed us to continue joining together and supporting one another throughout the six lockdowns.

We continue to live stream to ensure those who want to, or have to, stay home are still able to connect and take part in our weekly service on Sundays at 10am. To participate in the weekly live stream, go to www.gisbornepresbyterian.com.au/live-stream

Bored? Despondent? Try being knee-deep in mice

There's no doubt COVID is draining us of energy and enthusiasm. Our church building has become of sort of half-way house. Masks muffle even the heartiest voices. Sitting apart chills normal human interaction.

We've lost the buzz of busyness. Yes, difficult times call for us to exercise 'an abundance of caution'.

While we are warned to be careful we must also remember the gospel call to be care-full. It's difficult to choose from among the many global, national and local voices of those in need.

The Uniting Church agency Frontier Services recently brought our attention back to emergencies we have forgotten in the smothering urgencies of climate change, Afghanistan, Haiti and so many others.

For many, the terrible bushfires which ravaged the east coast of NSW remain a current story and the need for restoration and repair is still high. Frontier Services has sent 30 volunteers to assist 11 properties. One task included converting a shipping container into a living space for a farmer who lost everything except three pairs of trousers, the clothes he was wearing and his dog.

And remember tropical cyclone Seroja? Not many of us do but it struck communities along the coast of WA. Local farming families, just coming out of drought, lost more to cyclonic winds and rains. Among those helping even now are FS volunteers.

These repair jobs can seem like clean work com-



Gisborne Uniting Church members hope to host a Great Outback BBQ fundraiser later this year.

pared with the daily reality of being knee-deep in mice. Rural NSW and southern Queensland daily encounter these little creatures massed for the destruction of crops, couches and air conditioners. The clean-up continues.

Gisborne Uniting Church is hopeful of being able to host a Great Outback BBQ fundraiser before the end of the year. Every dollar raised will go to farming families across this wide, brown land.

And if we can't gather to enjoy the smells and taste of singed sausages, there's even an opportunity to take part in a virtual BBQ. You can register at greatoutbackbbq.com.au.

Janet Wood 5428 6700

Anglican Parish of Gisborne

Brilliant golden flowers on the wattle and the emerging common heath across our bushland certainly heralds the arrival of spring. Add to that daffodils and the ever-happy jonquils; it is undoubtedly a beautiful time of the year.

For some, this increases allergies, but compared to natural beauty, it is a small price to pay. Even Jesus commented on the flowers of the field and the beauty of nature.

Trivia moment: did you know the second Melbourne bishop (1886-1891) was called Field Flowers Goe?

All around us, there are reminders of nature and the natural order of life. Many of our street names are based on the terms of local plants and areas. It is good to sometimes 'stop and smell the roses'.

When life is challenging, and our movements are restricted, reasonable mindfulness demands we take some mental 'time out'. Making the most of our two hours out for exercise is essential to make sure we refresh and renew ourselves. "Consider the lilies of the field..." is an excellent place to start. Taking time away from the list of restrictions can refresh us.

Some will still find life hard: but it is good to be inspired as we see things that are indeed beautiful.

Fr Dennis



100
YEARS AGO

SEPTEMBER 1921

Aeroplane forced landing: Gisborne was aroused out of its usual lethargy last weekend, 28th / 29th August and numbers of its inhabitants turned out, in spite of the cold wind and heavy drenching showers, to see an aeroplane which made a forced landing near Gisborne. The machine had been left there pending repairs and the recovery of Lieut. [Ray] Parer, who was injured on the day of the landing. Sightseers have interfered with it and have stripped instruments from their positions and thrown them about. [Detectives] have gone to Gisborne to make inquiries.

Thursday September 8: Although he has not recovered fully from his injuries, Lieutenant R. J. Parer is back in Gisborne to supervise the repairs to his aeroplane. A new propeller was sent up to the site and the engine is to be overhauled.

Tuesday Sept. 13: Lieut. Parer expects to resume his interrupted flight around Australia in about a week's time. The new propeller has been fitted and damage caused by souvenir hunters has been repaired. Lieut. Parer is today supervising the final overhaul of the engine and machine. It is expected to that flights will be given at Gisborne on the weekend...

On Saturday afternoon his first passengers were Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, in whose paddock the aeroplane had laid all these weeks. The various Gisborne hostels prepared big feasts on Sunday, expecting crowds, and turkeys were ruthlessly slaughtered in honour of the occasion, but heavy rain on Sunday morning blighted their hopes, though a number of folks had travelled up from Town. That ideal and luxurious guest home, the Golf House, was full with a big company of weekenders, the majority of whom had come up to see the Flights. Fortunately, Sunday afternoon cleared up.

Letter to The Age, September 22, 1921

Sir, I am one of the 50,000 motorists and motor cyclists who are said to annually use the Castlemaine Road. My business takes me weekly from Melbourne to Castlemaine.

The death trap I wish to call attention to is the town of Gisborne, from the Church of England hill to the racecourse. At all hours of the day and night cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, timber wagons, drays, ploughs, steam chaffcutters and other impedimenta are allowed to remain on the roads and streets of Gisborne.

It is nothing strange to see a chaffcutter at work in the street there. Cattle, horses, and sheep camp in the main streets and lazily refuse to move out of the way of motor or other vehicles. ... It is evident that the shire council and the police are not carrying out the provisions of the Local Government and Police Offences Act, otherwise the roads and streets of Gisborne would not continually present the appearance of a badly managed farm...

Yours, etc., Kenneth L. Wilson



WHAT'S ON REGULAR MEETINGS

New
members
always
welcome

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

ADULT RIDING CLUB (Gis) 2nd Saturday I R Robertson Res
ADULT RIDING CLUB (Bullengarook) 2nd Saturday Rec Reserve
ANGLING CLUB 2nd Wed 8pm Railway Hotel Macedon

BOTANIC GARDENS working bee every Thurs 9.30am-10.30am
BRIDGE CLUB Mon 12.30, Tues 7.15, Thurs 12.30 St Mary's Church
Hall, Woodend 5420 7595
BUSHWALKING CLUB Various locations Tel 5428 3490 or 5427 0888

CANASTA CLUB 1.30pm every Mon except first Mon of month
Parish centre (behind St Pauls Church, Gisborne)

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP last Wed of month MRH
CAR CLUB 1st Wednesday 8pm Steam Park, New Gisb
CARERS GROUP (Mac Ranges) 2nd & 4th Thurs, 1pm Woodend RSL
5420 7132 (Note: 4th Thurs carers only)

COMMUNITY GARDEN Wed 9am Church of Christ
CROQUET CLUB Wed & Sat 10am Dixon Field
CWA GISBORNE 2nd Monday 10am Gis Secondary College
CWA MACEDON 3rd Tues 1pm & 7pm 662 Mt Macedon Rd

DALY RESERVE WORKING BEE 2nd Tues 9.30am Scout Hall, Daly Res

FILM SOCIETY 2nd Wed Woodend Neigh'hood House 5427 2323
FLY FISHING CLUB 4th Wed 7.30pm MRFC Gisborne
FOCUS CLUB 2nd Fri 12 noon Gisborne Golf Club
FRIENDS OF JACKSONS CREEK Working bees 3rd Sun 10-noon
David Tunbridge 0415 534 477

GARDEN CLUB 2nd Wed various venues 0424 038 474
GENEALOGY GROUP 4th Thurs 7.30 Family Hist Rm, Library
GIRL GUIDES Thursdays 5pm Gis Scout Hall
GISBORNE SINGERS Wed 7.30pm Gisborne Uniting Church

HISTORICAL SOCIETY open Wed 10am-4pm Court House

LIBRARY: TODDLERS' STORY TIME Mon 10.30am, Wed 10.30am
LIONS CLUB (Gisborne) First Thurs of month, 7.30pm 247 Station Rd

MARTIAL ARTS Thurs from 5.15pm St Brigid's Hall
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 1st Thursday phoenixmrac.com
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOC 1st Tues & 2nd Mon 7pm Riddell's Creek
Neighbourhood House

PONY CLUB Bullengarook 1st Sunday Rec Reserve
PONY CLUB Gisborne 1st Sunday Robertson Reserve
PROBUS 1st Thurs 10am Mechanics Inst.

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

RAMBLERS Fridays 9.15am Tennis Club Dixon Field
ROTARY (Gisborne) First & third Tues evening, call Sec on 0426 500 616
for confirmation of venue

ROTARY (Macedon Ranges) 1st & 3rd Monday Baringo Food & Wine
RUNNING GROUP Tues & Thurs 6pm, Sun 8am Gis Aquatic Centre
RSL 1st Mon 2pm Gis Golf Club 5428 2233

SENIOR CITS (Macedon) Tues 11am Tony Clarke Res
SPINNERS & FIBRE GROUP Wed 12 noon Rec Reserve Bullengarook

TABLE TENNIS Wed 7.30pm Tony Clarke Res, Macedon
THUNDER SWIMMING CLUB 2nd Sat 5pm Gisborne Aquatic Centre
TOY LIBRARY Every Sat 10-11am; first & third Wed, 8.45-9.30am,
second & fourth Fri 9-10am 71 Robertson St

ULYSSES GROUP 3rd Tues 6pm Sunbury FC

VINTAGE MACHINERY Working bees 1st Sun of month, 8.30am at
Steam Park; meetings last Friday of month, 7pm at Steam Park

WRITERS GROUP Last Sat of month 2-5pm Woodend N'hood House
WRITERS (Scribes & Scribblers) 2nd Tues 10am-12 Riddell N'hood House

YOUNG VOICES Thursdays 4.15-5.45pm Norma Richardson Hall,
Buckland St, Woodend, 5426 4801 or sdggome@patash.com.au



The area to be cleared along Bunjil Creek.

Friends of Jacksons Creek plan to clear away woody weeds

Works will soon begin to remove woody weed and stressed poplar trees on Bunjil Creek beside the skate park in Gisborne. The recent wind storms have highlighted the need to do a refresh.

With support from Melbourne Water, a 100-metre strip will be cleared and active weed regrowth will be treated prior to an early spring planting of appropriate natives in 2022.

These works will complement efforts to maintain the health and good flow of the adjacent Jacksons Creek. Recent flooding caused some serious debris dumps which will be the focus of future working bees to ready our great natural asset for locals and visitors to enjoy over the warmer months.

Any help will be gratefully received. More hands always make things easier and quicker. For enquiries please call 0415 534 477.

David Tunbridge

JUNIOR QUIZ ANSWERS

from page 26

1. Dictionary
2. Green
3. Reflector
4. China
5. Panama Canal
6. Daniel Radcliffe
7. The Wiggles
8. Analogue
9. Egypt
10. New Zealand

BRAINBUSTERS ANSWERS

from page 31

1. 8 minutes
2. Massachusetts
3. The Bolshoi Ballet
4. Birmingham
5. Persia
6. Crocodile Dundee
7. New Zealand
8. Mormons
9. Nepal
10. Time

Business banking made personal

How does your bank see you? If your business banks with one of the big 4, chances are they see you as just another business.

At Bendigo Bank, we see you as a person. As a person wanting banking and financial support for your business.

For business banking made personal, phone Sarah on 5420 7210 or search Bendigo Business.

📍 Community Bank · Gisborne & District



Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 A1419239 OUT_2318334 , 25/08/2021

STEAKOUT

RESTAURANT & WINE BAR



Bookings Essential
Open Wed to Sat, 5pm till Late
5428 4011 / info@telegraphhotel.com.au
19 Hamilton Street Gisborne

The Telegraph Hotel
SINCE 1852