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BEST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Gisborne Gazette

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DECEMBER 2021-JANUARY 2022



Picture: Chris Fleming

In an exciting local school excursion, Macedon Primary students helped Victorian Fisheries representatives release 250 rainbow trout into Nursery Reservoir, Macedon, on November 25. Principal Matthew Forrest had a go too, and proved handy with the bucket. With much hilarity, young fish were poured into the Res then eagerly tempted back to shore when students tried their luck at fishing. Restocking of the lake is organised by Victorian Fisheries and takes place every few years. Macedon Primary launches Landcare fishing program ► page 27.



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Trusted and well known local real estate agent Helen Sankey launches a brand new agency, ConnectRealEstate, with the support of its sister enterprise, ConnectLaw

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From the Editor's desk

At the shire business award gala on November 26, Tamsyn Murray said she liked awards because they make you stop focusing on solving problems or improving your business for a moment to appreciate (and be proud of) what you have achieved. This is exactly what the *Gazette* committee thought when we won Best Newspaper at the Community Newspaper Association of Victoria awards last month – again. Like everyone else, we've had our heads down 'doing' all year, so pausing to get and give ourselves a pat on the back was uplifting and restorative.

After the last two years we've had, I think everyone deserves a cheer for something positive they have done or delivered despite the challenges the pandemic has created. Some people have the opportunity to get formal recognition and others don't, but that doesn't make one more important or valuable than the other.

This edition includes local business award winners, youth award winners, student award winners, a sustainability award winner and even a newspaper award winner (I've given that one away, sorry). I congratulate all the recipients on their achievements and these acknowledgements.

Reading the many other stories and reports in this edition, it is clear (as it is in every *Gazette*) that cheers are deserved all around our community. From the Gisborne football and netball community who worked together to raise an extraordinary \$100,000 for FightMND this year to the Men's Shed who have built another cubby to raffle as a fundraiser for the Gisborne Foodbank. From tennis and golf competition winners to the Young Voices of Macedon for recording a CD after months of Zoom rehearsals. From Ray Barden who has published his autobiography to the Community Bank that is supporting 24 local projects. From the Lions Club who are selling cakes for Foodbank hampers to the Foodbank itself that is organising and distributing them.

Add to this the many people who have contributed to this edition in some way – to its content, production or delivery. And everyone who has simply gone about their own business, being kind to themselves and others. Three cheers for our active, supportive and successful community!

As I write this, reports of a new, Omicron variant of the coronavirus are starting in the media and talk of a possible return of more restrictions. Gosh I hope that isn't the case, but if it is, I know our community for one will be able to handle it.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas period and a great start to 2022, whatever it brings. It has been a pleasure bringing our community's news to you this year.

Happy reading,

Corinne Shaddock

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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: Baringo Food & Wine, Station Road; Cafe at 3 Ladd Road
Riddells Creek: Newsagency
Woodend: Coles supermarket

A MINUTE WITH MAXINE



Wrapping up another successful – if tough at times – year, there are many people who deserve thanks.

I would like to thank the *Gazette* truck, bundle and delivery team who are Peter Barker, John Terhaar, Moc Hoyne, Bob Bossner, Steve Burgess, Gary and Margot Sanders, Graeme Millar, Neil Anderson, Michael and Anne O'Brien, Fiona and Jason Mallia and Nick Haslinghouse; a big thank you to you all.

To all the 100 valued distributors who deliver the *Gazette* in Gisborne, New Gisborne, Macedon and Mt Macedon and to Sue, William, Helen, Justin and Todd for delivering to the outer areas of the Macedon Ranges, thank you to all of you for your ongoing help and support during 2021.

Special thanks to Gillian Cafari and Debbie Wilson who I asked to fill in at short notice, several

times.

Thanks also go to Barb Pye, Chris Rhodes and Diane Harle who deliver to the shops in Gisborne and to Dorothy Murray who delivers to the Riddells Creek Newsagency.

Special thanks go to Graeme and Lois Coggin who are retiring after 13 years of delivering the *Gazette* to distributors' homes, schools, retirement homes, cafe and the letterboxes the entire length of Station Road in New Gisborne.

To the five- and fifteen-year-certificate recipients for distributing the *Gazette*, congratulations and thank you.

I finish by saying that we are fortunate at the *Gazette* to have such a dedicated team of volunteers.

Until 2022, stay safe and well.

Maxine Barker

Big investment in facilities for local scouting

Funding for upgrades of the 1st New Gisborne Scout Hall and the Macedon-Woodend Scout Hall in Macedon were announced last month.

The State Government will provide a total of \$150,000 to upgrade facilities at the scout

halls, as well as the Rowallan Recreation and Adventure Camp in Riddells Creek. \$40,000 will be for the Macedon-Woodend Scouts.

This funding will be matched by Scouts Victoria.



Essendon Football Club player Harry Jones and coach Ben Rutten with members of fundraising clubs.

MND fundraising tops \$100,000 locally this year

Despite partly cancelled seasons this year, the Gisborne football and netball community made an amazing new record with their FightMND fundraising campaign this year, raising a phenomenal \$104,770. This brings their three-year total result for the motor neurone disease research charity to more than \$236,000.

This year's local activities were led by the Golden Bulldogs and the Gisborne Rookies and supported by Gisborne Football and Netball Club, Gisborne Masters Football Club and Gisborne Giants Junior Football Netball Club as well as by sponsors, local businesses and the wider community.

Golden Bulldogs chairman Darren Ponton congratulated all involved and told the *Midland Express* it had been all about the Gisborne community coming together for a great cause, and he hoped the partnership between the clubs, supporters, sponsors and Fight MND continues to break records each year.

Business award winners announced

Three local businesses were winners in the Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards announced on November 26.

Cavalli Motorsports at New Gisborne won the award for Excellence in Manufacturing, Trades, Retail and Innovation.

Braeside Mount Macedon Country Retreat at Mount Macedon won the Excellence in Tourism and Visitor Experience category, and Gisborne Family Dental won for Excellence in Health, Wellness and Care.

Gisborne Family Dental are specially proud as their team of dental nurses won a shire youth award the week before.

Other awards included Business of the Year: Macedon Ranges Produce of Romsey and the People's Choice Award: Woodend Nursery & Landscaping.

Finalists were identified by a judging panel comprised of nine independent business professionals who do not work or live in the Macedon Ranges. Despite trying circumstances due to the COVID pandemic situation, 47 businesses completed applications for this year's awards.



Jacob Chan and Rachel Chang (with baby Everleigh), Gisborne Family Dental won the Excellence in Health, Wellness and Care category.



Long time employee

After working at Macedon IGA for 14 years, Emmy Tebble called it a day on November 19.

Her colleagues decorated the store entry and customers wrote messages on a big card posted on the window.

Emmy started working at the supermarket at age 15, when the original owners Greg and Kathy Edwards still ran the store. Still smiling all these years later, Emmy left to start her own family.

Emmy, at right, with store manager Lisa Kirby.



Keep your pets safe from Christmas over-indulgence

▶ page 24



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Benue Lodge before demolition. Picture: Bellholme

Beautiful Benue Lodge is no more

Members of the Mt Macedon and Macedon Residents Facebook group were heartbroken to see Benue Lodge and its gardens demolished in November to make way for a new build.

Located at 10 Syndicate Road, Mount Macedon, the three-acre property sold for \$3.5 million on December 16, 2020.

The real estate listing at the time said, "One of Mt Macedon's most significant hill station properties, dating back to 1885, Benue Lodge has been meticulously restored."



After a long COVID-caused break, the Macedon Farmers' Market returned on the fifth Sunday of October at Tony Clarke Reserve.

THE GAZETTE WINS AGAIN!

To the *Gazette* committee's delight, the *Gisborne Gazette* won the Best Newspaper category at the 2021 Community Newspaper Association of Victoria Awards on November 6, awarded the top prize for a second year in a row.

Committee members watched the awards in the GREAT office on Hamilton Street and the "Woohoo!" when the *Gazette* was announced the ultimate winner was probably heard on Aitken Street.

Thank you to all the reporters, photographers, columnists, proof-readers, committee members and distributors who have contributed to the *Gazette* over the year and helped to win this award. A special thank you to everyone who advertised in the *Gazette* as they make the paper financially viable.

The 'Best Newspaper' judge noted the all-round strength of the *Gazette*, "Interesting articles, informative, sometimes humorous, good photos, strong connection to community. Great layout. I liked the linkages, eg, all the environmental articles and photos on successive pages."

The *Gazette* was also a finalist in three other categories: Best sports reporting (for Bryan Power's feature article on local waterskiers Corey and Jacob Saddington, commended also for its superb layout, images and headline), Best Editorial Comment (for Corinne Shaddock's reflection on the June 9 storms) and Best Design and Layout (for Pip Butler's neat, consistent and friendly presentation of the September 2020 edition).



The committee celebrates the *Gazette's* awards.

Committee members watch the Zoom feed as editor Corinne Shaddock accepts the Best Newspaper award.



Bryan Power is named finalist in the Best Sports Reporting category.



Bryan Power is named finalist in the Best Sports Reporting category.

Sixteen days to focus on awareness and eliminating violence against women

The "16 Days of Activism" is an annual international awareness and call to action campaign supporting the elimination of violence against women.

Why 16 days? Because the campaign runs from November 25, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, to Human Rights Day on December 10.

Through the 16 days, the public libraries in Macedon Ranges have a display relating to the prevention of violence against women. This violence is prevalent in Australia, but it is preventable.

Orange is the globally recognised colour to symbolise the 16 Days.

The Zonta Club of Kyneton invites you to join us

in supporting this worldwide initiative by wearing something orange during the 16 days.

You might like to organise a group to meet for morning or afternoon tea at a cafe near you and encourage everyone to wear a touch of orange: earrings, shoes, socks, scarf, hair or hat? It's up to you. Submitted by Ronda Walker for Zonta Club of Kyneton

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CHRISTMAS MARKETS

ANGLICAN PARISH CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT MARKET



The Anglican Parish of Gisborne is looking forward to meeting the community at its Christmas Twilight Market on Friday December 10, from 3pm to 7pm.

After many years of successful fairs on a Saturday in the church hall, we are trying something different and hope you will be pleased with the resulting celebration. With COVID restrictions making indoors difficult, we look forward to fine weather and enjoying being outside with friends.

There will still be the usual stalls – plants, toys, crafts, cakes, barbecue and drinks, sausage sizzle, books, fruit and vegetables, jams and preserves and cakes, including Christmas cakes, gingerbread and shortbread, and hopefully puddings, all with opportunities to buy Christmas gifts and decorations.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Christmas Twilight Market, 54 Brantome Street. The stalls will be outside, next to St Paul's Parish Hall.

Raffle prizes up for grabs

First Prize – Angel and St Nicholas. The angel lights up and her wings move.



Second Prize – Russ Bears. 32cm high x 23cm wide

Raffle Tickets are available on Try Booking and at the Fair.

CWA POP-UP MARKET

The Central Highlands CWA branches are holding Christmas pop-up stalls at Macedon CWA Hall at 662 Mt Macedon Road on Saturday December 4, from 10am to 3pm.

There will be lots of Christmas goodies and gifts to buy so please come along and support our local branches.



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CHRISTMAS POP-UP STALL**

MACEDON CWA HALL, 662 MOUNT MACEDON ROAD, MOUNT MACEDON

The local Central Highlands CWA Branches are hosting a Christmas Pop-Up Stall at the Macedon CWA Hall on Saturday, 4 December 2021.

Home-baked Christmas cakes and puddings (Please pre-order Cakes & Puddings by email to: Rosemarie cwacentralhighlandsgroupgp@gmail.com OR Contact Amanda on 0478 409 126) plus homemade shortbread, marmalade and jams, Christmas gifts, ornaments and much more.....

Putting some magic back into 2021

MACEDON CWA HALL, 662 Mount Macedon Road, Mount Macedon



Montessori Twilight Market

A gentle 22 degrees is forecast for the Twilight Christmas Market at Gisborne Montessori School, 57 Barringo Road, New Gisborne, on Saturday December 4.

If you are in the mood for a strong dose of community spirit with over a hundred stall owners, food trucks, and lovable animals, then this event promises to please. After coming out of lockdown the need to reconnect with the community is stronger than ever.

It's also rumoured there'll be a surprise visitor so if you need some Christmas cheer or your family needs an outing, head to Barringo Road between 3 and 9pm.



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REFLECTIONS

Warwick McFadyen

And so, on to the end of the road that is 2021. Sun rises, sun sets. My father was a sailor. That's what he believed in. Sun rises, sun sets.

That and love.

The natural calendar not attached to walls or fridges or within computers cares not for the numbered squares. But we humans do. Society couldn't function without order. Even those protesting in Melbourne for their freedom still exist within an order. Without order, their freedom wouldn't exist. Otherwise, as Yeats wrote, mere anarchy is loosed upon the world.

And that order was challenged in 2021 and the year before. Perhaps it will be challenged next year. This is not the disruption of world war, but after so many years of peace, disruption can seem like a bomb going off.

Perhaps there will be a new order; after all that's what nature does, and then it adapts. Then again, perhaps the new order will only be slightly less different to what we knew before COVID. Road maps can only show so much.

But the sun rises, sun sets. That and love.

Above a urinal in one of Gisborne's public toilets are the words COVID = HOAX. In an idle moment I wonder, Who would write that? Is it just mischief, just a kid maybe, is it profoundly believed, is it a messenger from the alternative universe of conspiracists come to Gisborne? And then there's the forum for its message: the wall before which males urinate. There's an irony there perhaps the messenger doesn't realise.

In the past two years, this pandemic has killed five million people worldwide and nearly 2000 in Australia, and more than 1200 in Victoria. Some hoax.

One hundred years ago, TS Eliot was in the throes of writing one of poetry's magnum opuses, *The Waste Land*. Around this time in 1921, he was finding his way through a nervous breakdown. He took himself off to the seaside; he worked on a section of the poem in a sea shelter. "On Margate Sands./I can connect/Nothing with nothing."

Yet he connected word upon word, like a shell necklace. In the personal, sometimes there is the universal. Why is Gisborne the community it is, even as it expands? I like to think it's the communion of souls, even the lost soul of the toilet scrawler, that bind all to one through the good times and the bad.

Sun rises, sun sets. That and love.

SEEN AROUND TOWN



Winds brought down more trees, many probably loosened by the June 9 storm. This tree fell across Mt Macedon Road on November 18.



The variable spring weather created dramatic scenes in the district last month.

After persistent then heavy rains, Jacksons Creek burst its banks again in central Gisborne. Good news for the ducks, not so much for walkers or sporty types. The pictures were taken on November 13.



Here's a thought: Does the bridge stop being slippery when it is flooded?



There has to be a better place for vehicles towing trailers to park than taking out three or four single car spaces. Clearly they cannot angle-park, but as this sight is becoming quite common around Gisborne, both on the streets and in supermarket car parks, we have to come up with a better solution for longer vehicles.

The striking sunset on November 18 bathed the region in glorious evening light – from Tony Clarke Reserve almost looking like fire in the sky.





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Popular cubby house raffle returns



Given the success of our fundraising raffle last year for the Gisborne Foodbank, we are doing it again. By the time you read this, the cubby (or garden shed, man cave or parent's retreat) will be finished and on display at Gisborne supermarkets during weekends leading up to Christmas. See the Gisborne Foodbank Facebook page for dates and locations.

The *Gisborne Gazette* has generously made a significant contribution to the cost of materials so once again, all funds from ticket sales will go directly to the Foodbank. The raffle will be drawn at the Shed at 11am on Monday December 20.

This is exclusively an online raffle and you can buy your tickets at: <http://a-cubby-house-for-christmas-2021.raisely.com> or scan this QR Code.



Despite the extended COVID shutdowns, 2021 has been a very successful year for us, one measure being the signing up of more new members in a year since we've been in this Shed. We wish you all a merry Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Before we close off for 2021, we'd like to congratulate the whole team at the *Gisborne Gazette*. Last month they won the annual Community Newspaper Association of Victoria award for Best Community Paper for the second year in a row. We look forward to a time when the masks come off and we can once again count the smiles in each edition.



A happy Men's Shed construction crew with the completed 2021 Cubby.

Local author publishes railway memoir



Ray Barden with his book at Gisborne Station. Picture: Chris Fleming

Retired railwayman Ray Barden has self-published an autobiography, described by a friend as "a very good social history".

Titled *A Man of Principle*, the book tells the tale of Ray's life from growing up in a small town in country Victoria, leaving school at 13 to work on farms, and starting as a lad porter at Essendon Railway Station at age 17, to a full career in railways finishing as a chief operation manager in 1983.

Ray said the best thing that ever happened to him was starting to work in the railways and

he enjoyed his long career by the tracks immensely.

He estimates that 75% of the book is related to railways so it would likely interest many railway enthusiasts. The book is available at Gisborne Newsagency at \$39.95.

Ray and his wife Carmel moved to Gisborne in 1976 and were told at the time "you're not a local until you've lived here 40 years."

Congratulations on the book, Ray, and to both of you for now being officially "local"!



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Local banking funds 24 projects

The branch staff and volunteer board of directors of Community Bank Gisborne & District, the locally owned branch of Bendigo Bank, were delighted to award the company's spring 2021 community investments in person on November 15.

Twenty-four projects across health and wellbeing, arts and culture, education, sport and recreation and community infrastructure will receive a total of \$74,848. Once these funds are paid, total branch contributions to community groups and projects in Gisborne, Macedon and Riddells Creek will exceed \$1.5m.

Branch manager Sarah Barton thanked the branch customers for making the grants and sponsorships possible by banking with Bendigo Bank at the Gisborne branch.



Project Ready board member Cr Janet Pearce, facilitator Rose Green Jones and Acting Principal Gisborne Secondary College Sarah Rose accept a grant of \$7000 for the year 9 program next year from Community Bank Gisborne & District's Zoe Olive.

The next round of the branch's biannual community investment program for local community groups opens on March 1, 2022.

Busiest time of year for Foodbank



At Gisborne Foodbank we welcome donations for our Christmas hampers, which we will be packing on December 13. If you would like to donate Christmas fare (food only), you can drop donations into the Foodbank or at one of our community drop points (details can be found on our website).

A big thank you to the Gisborne Men's Shed who have again built a fantastic cubby house and are selling raffle tickets, with proceeds going directly to the Gisborne Foodbank.

There's still time to buy your raffle tickets before the winner is drawn on December 20. Please go to <https://a-cubby-house-for-christmas-2021.raisely.com> to buy your raffle tickets!

The Foodbank will be closing for a few weeks over the holiday period. Our last day of operation for this year will be Friday December 17 and we will reopen on Wednesday January 19.

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

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone in our wonderful Macedon Ranges community for their ongoing support of the Gisborne Foodbank. Thank you also to all our amazing volunteers. We could not operate without you. Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.



Projects in Gisborne and Macedon that received funding:

- \$10,000 – #thehumancode project run by Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health
- \$7000 – Project Ready @ Gisborne Secondary College
- \$5000 – #SeeME project to raise awareness and access of local disabled local youth
- \$4853 – Start up equipment, furniture and fittings for Macedon and Mount Macedon Community House
- \$4577 – Wooden blocks & furniture for Macedon Kindergarten
- \$4000 – 2022 Mt Macedon Anzac Dawn Service
- \$3632 – Projector for Gisborne Golf Club
- \$3000 – "Super Sopper" for New Gisborne Tennis Club
- \$2670 – 2022 Macedon Ranges L2P Program vehicle based in Gisborne

- \$2440 – Four sets of ladies clubs for Mt Macedon Golf Club
- \$2000 – Defibrillator for Mt Macedon Petanque Club
- \$2000 – Portrait prize organised by Macedon Ranges Arts Collective
- \$2000 – Camping equipment for 1st Gisborne Scouts
- \$1936 – Aluminium ramp for Gisborne Bowling Club
- \$1499 – Laptop computer for Woodend Lifestyle Carers Group
- \$1399 – GRIP Leadership Conference for 2022 St Brigid's senior students
- \$1300 – Size 5 balls and equipment for Gisborne Bulldogs Basketball Club
- \$1300 – 2021 Community Bowls sponsorship at Gisborne Bowling Club

For details of other projects receiving funding, see the branch Facebook page.

Help those in need by sponsoring Lions Christmas Cakes



The Gisborne and District Lions Club is again this year providing the opportunity for families and/or individuals to sponsor Lions Christmas Cakes to be included in the Gisborne Foodbank Christmas hampers.

These hampers will be provided to those in need in Gisborne and the surrounding area. The Lions Club will be giving 75 cakes to the Foodbank.

The cost of the sponsorship equates to the cost of a Christmas Cake, which is \$13 each. Sponsorship payments can be made via direct debit: A/c Gisborne and District Lions Club Activity Account BSB 633 000 A/c No.152262994. In the 'Description', insert your surname and initials. Payment can also be made via cheque payable to 'Gisborne and District Lions Club' and sent to PO Box 807 Gisborne 3437. All

sponsors will be recognised on forums including the Lions Facebook page and website.

Lions Christmas Cakes and Puddings can also be acquired for your own enjoyment or to be provided as a gift at Christmas. Please refer to the Lions Facebook page on how to place an order.

Cakes can also be purchased at various local businesses.

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'Lone pine' planted on Mt Macedon

The Mount Macedon ANZAC Dawn Service Committee planted a 'lone pine' in the Mt Macedon Cross Reserve on November 14.

The pine tree was propagated from the original Lone Pine at Gallipoli by Dr Daniel Ohlsen from Melbourne University and donated to the Dawn Service Committee for planting.

The tree is of particular significance to one of the committee members, whose grandfather, RQMS Aubrey S. Chidlow, landed at Gallipoli on the first day, April 25, 1915.

Committee chair Bruce Mildenhall said it was an iconic planting for an iconic site.

The four-day Battle for Lone Pine in August 1915 saw some of the fiercest hand-to-hand fighting at Gallipoli, under the backdrop of the landmark pine tree. Seven Victoria Crosses were awarded to Australians in the aftermath of the battle. Tragically, 2277 Australians were either killed or wounded and an estimated 7100 Turkish casualties.

"Through this planting we salute the service of



Dawn Service Committee members (gardening subcommittee!) happy at the successful planting of the Gallipoli pine in the Mt Macedon Cross Reserve.

the combatants," said Mr Mildenhall, "but we also remember the impact this conflict had on so many, both soldiers and their families."

It was a special day for the committee members to be able to carry out the planting so close to Remembrance Day.

CFA warns of heightened grassfire risk with greater rainfall



The Gisborne Fire Brigade has had a busy year with again the added complexity of managing COVID-19 restrictions.

To the date of writing (November 8), we have responded to more than 120 fires/incidents since January. We responded to a wide range of emergencies ranging from building/structure fires, grass and scrub fires, car fires, power pole fires, vehicle accidents and hazmat incidents, including the prolonged and complex gas tanker rollover on the Calder Freeway in October.

The 2021-22 fire danger outlook for south of the Macedon Ranges is indicating that the fire season will start late December to early January. With recent rainfalls and possibly more to come, this will pose a significant grassfire risk due to increased fuel growth.

The forest fire danger will be below average this year but we urge residents not to become complacent as the bush will still readily burn when conditions are right.

For tips and advice on how to best prepare for the fire danger period, please visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au.

From all of us at the Gisborne Fire Brigade, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

Bevan Moody

Bushfires and your mains water supply

As we approach the fire season, Greater Western Water reminds customers that they should not rely on their mains water supply if there is a bushfire in the region.

During or after a bushfire,

customers may experience issues with their water pressure or water quality. In extreme circumstances, the water supply may be cut.

In the lead-up to the bushfire season, Greater Western Water prepares the network and water storages in high-risk areas. They also have emergency plans ready to support the CFA.

Despite these preparations, water supply issues can still be caused by power outages, damaged equipment, or extreme demand for water during firefighting.

It is important to remember this summer that bushfires can affect the mains water supply. The CFA advises that the safest option is to leave early.



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Market volunteers urgently needed

The Gisborne Region Events Activities & Tourism Association (GREAT) advises that due to unforeseen circumstances, the recently appointed Market Manager for the Olde Time Market is now no longer available. As a result, the market will remain closed until further notice, as there is still a lot of work to do and volunteers are few.



Anyone able to volunteer on the market administration committee will be warmly welcomed; please email great@great.gisnet.net.au.

The AGM was held on November 24 and unfortunately the election of the GREAT Committee had to be deferred to December 15 due to low attendance and lack of nominations. Members are urged to nominate and vote to support the association into the future so it can successfully continue contributing to the local community. Volunteers are essential for the GREAT Association, and the market in particular, to continue in 2022. Nominations are open for all positions on the committee.

If you know of anyone who would be interested, please email great@great.gisnet.net.au for a nomination form to be emailed or contact Deb Fleming (secretary) on 0409 542 619.

Wooling Hill repeats charity event

New Gisborne's Wooling Hill Memorial Estate is hosting the fundraising Wooling Hill Run again this year, with proceeds going to Kyneton Health's palliative care program.

Since November 12, participants have been able to run 7.2kms (6 laps) or walk 3.6km (3 laps) of the course at Wooling Hill. The run is not a mass group participation event — the course can be completed as an individual, with your running club, walking group or friends over November/December. It finishes at 6pm on Sunday December 12.

You can run (or walk) this course as many times as you like over the period of the month to log your best times.

The target for Wooling Hill owners Troy and Liddy Upfield is to raise enough money to cover the cost of a "cuddle bed" at Kyneton Hospital. This is a specially designed bed that allows family and friends to lie with a loved one, providing physical comfort during end-of-life care.

They would like to raise enough funds to also update the hospital's palliative care suite.

Funds are raised via corporate sponsorship, participant fees and general donations. For more information please visit: www.woolinghillestate.com.au/charity-run/

Wooling Hill is at 372 Barringo Road, New Gisborne.

Gisborne Genealogical Group



The end of the year is fast approaching, and the Gisborne Genealogical Group, like other voluntary organisations, is breathing a sigh of relief. Somehow we have got through the year. We have had to cancel some activities and postpone others. We look forward, hopefully, to an easier 2022.

The Family History Room will close for research after Thursday December 16. Our volunteers need a rest over January and we need to stocktake the resources.

Our workshops have proved popular this year, so they will be continued next year, starting Saturday March 5.

Details about the Genealogical Group can be found on our website, www.ggg.org.au.



Lyn Hall

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our hard working committee members, the Thursday volunteers, our newsletter editor Kerry, our website manager Leanne, and all who have helped during the year in so many ways.

I would also like to thank the people who have supported us financially, especially our sponsors.

Congratulations and thanks to the many people involved in the production of the *Gisborne Gazette*. It is not surprising that it has again won the Best Community Newspaper this year.

On behalf of the Gisborne Genealogical Group I wish all our readers a Happy Christmas. Stay safe.

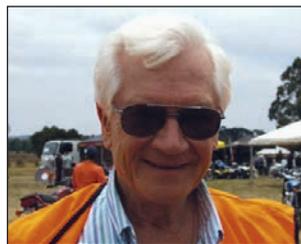
Until next year – happy researching!

Lyn Hall
GGG President

Final farewell for long-serving Rotarian

Gisborne Rotary Club member Jacek Bialobrzewski passed away on November 14 after a prolonged illness.

Jacek joined the Rotary Club of Gisborne in 1996 and was a generous, hard-working and well-respected member for 25 years, who achieved much for the club and the Gisborne community.



Vale Jacek Bialobrzewski

Jacek was club president in 1998-99 and was subsequently named a Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary's highest recognition for service, in 2004 and again in 2011.

His signature community projects were the construction of the Rotary footbridge over Jacksons Creek to gain better public access to the Gisborne Botanic Gardens; and the construction of the Rotary

barbecue rotunda in the parkland nearby.

He organised several well-attended defensive driving courses aimed at improving local young drivers' safety. He was also the motivating force behind the Rotary Macedon Ranges Cycle Challenge, conducted annually for several years to raise money for MS research and other community service projects.

He joins his beloved wife, Patricia, who passed away two years ago and was also a very active Rotary member.

Jacek will be missed. He was always willing to help and get involved.

Barry Wills, Rotary Community Service Director

A public transport graduation

When GisBus started operating, the loudest message we received was from parents of primary school children requesting a service to get kids to school.

Over the years we have been able to provide a limited service, mostly to New Gisborne and Holy Cross schools, as they are on a direct route to the station and therefore not affecting our rail connection times. These services are booked to capacity early in the year.

Many children have been with us from foundation to graduation. We try to use this travel as a way of educating them on the disciplines of wearing seatbelts, sitting properly and safely within the seats and interacting with the bus driver.

During these years we've had the pleasure of watching many children mature into young adults. When these children leave us for the last time, es-



1300 447 287
gisbus.com.au

pecially those who have been with us for a while, it is we drivers who need the time to compose ourselves. Many of these children now use the service to catch trains and go to the usual destination ... "Maccas"!

One of our very early children, Jackson, now waves as he drives past proudly display-

ing P plates.

We hope we have provided comfort for our parents who trust us with their precious little ones, and the kids leave us having enjoyed their first experiences with public transport.

Season's Greetings to all from us at Gisbus. May 2022 bring joy and the end of COVID.

Gisborne CWA grows, ready for new year



We welcomed our Group President, Rosemarie Jones from Lancefield, to our AGM when we were finally able to gather as a branch at the Council's Community Centre in early November.

Our executive looks much the same, with Kerri Diss president, Kay Malinowsky secretary and Margaret Domsic treasurer for the next 12 months. We were also very happy to welcome three new members, Tiane, Allison and Carol.

Thanks to our fundraising efforts this year we were able to donate \$500 each to the local Foodbank and SES, as well as Angel Flight and Riding for the Disabled.

The Central Highlands CWA branches are holding Christmas pop-up stalls at Macedon CWA Hall at 662 Mt Macedon Road on Saturday, December 4, from 10am to 3pm. There will be lots of Christmas goodies and gifts to buy so please come along and support our local branches. Our last meeting for the year will be at 10am on Monday, December 13 at Gisborne Secondary College. This will be followed by lunch at Gisborne Golf Club.

It has been wonderful to get together with friends again after a difficult year so we wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and a better year ahead.

Christine Edwards



Christine Edwards

PROBUS PERSONALITIES

Colleen and David Fry



Colleen and David both grew up on farms in rural Victoria. They met in Warrnambool in 1958 as young teachers and were married in 1961 in Kaniva.

They moved to Elphinstone where David was appointed Head Teacher and Colleen taught at Castle-maine High School prior to the birth of their first child. From Elphinstone they moved to Kaniva for six years with two children, then to Traralgon with four children. They finally settled in Gisborne in 1973 when David was appointed Principal of Gisborne Primary School with Colleen to teach at Mount Macedon Primary.

They chose Gisborne because it was a very appealing small town, close to Melbourne yet still central to family in the Wimmera and West Gippsland. There were secondary and tertiary education options for their children as well as a number of nearby schools, where Colleen and David taught for many years. Colleen is well known locally, having taught for 11 years at Gisborne PS.

After retirement, David drove school buses, worked for the Victorian Electoral Commission and enjoyed driving tourists around Victorian wineries in addition to spending time on local golf courses. Colleen continued teaching in both the state and Catholic education systems for several more years.

In 1988 they embarked on their first overseas trip through England, Scotland and Europe. On further trips they toured New Zealand, Canada, America, Ireland, Turkey, Israel and Jordan, Prague, Belgium, Vietnam and finally France and Norway.



David and Colleen are enjoying renewing friendships with parents of children they have taught.

After buying a caravan in 1999, they explored Australia. With two children living at the Desert Park in Alice Springs, this was a frequent destination. Three of their six grandchildren were born there – another reason to visit. When their daughter moved to Groote Eylandt for two years, a visit to this remote mining and indigenous community was a highlight.

Life is still busy with 'Staying Strong' gym, golf, supporting Essendon Football Club, family gatherings, walking and social activities.

Colleen and David are enjoying being part of Probus, particularly renewing many friendships with parents of children they have taught, meeting new people and participating in organised outings and events.

Goldfields Libraries What's on in December Gisborne Library

Storytime – It's so great to have our children's sessions back at Gisborne Library. We've been having some great numbers and we're so happy to have everyone back. We will continue to run sessions until Thursday December 16, then will return at the start of February. Head to our website or give us a call for session times.

Join us for an **after-school Christmas craft and story session** on Wednesday December 15 at 4pm. Keep an eye on our Facebook page, website and in the library for further info.

Also, keep an eye out for our **school holiday activities** and our super special new Big Summer Read program. The Big Summer Read is a fun way to track your reading over the summer break. It also has lots of fun challenges, plus the chance to win a book voucher or gift card.

The more books you read and challenges you complete, the more chances you have to win. Head to our website for further info: www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/bigsummerread

Christmas closures – The library will be closing at 3pm on Christmas Eve and will reopen for shorter hours between Christmas and New Year – 10am-3pm from December 29-31 – then return to normal opening hours on Tuesday January 4. Pop in early for all of your Christmas reading!

Sara Shaw

Latest news from the VIEW Club



The past few months have been challenging for everyone – cancelling many meetings and outings. We continued to raise money for our Learning for Life students with our 'no bake' cake stall, online raffles, and donations from members. We were fortunate before lockdown to hold a Bunnings sausage sizzle.

We are excited that we now can hold regular meetings and many outings have been planned for 2022. VIEW holds a national conference every second year and we are looking forward to heading to Adelaide in September 2022.

Sunbury-Macedon Ranges VIEW Club meets on the third Friday of each month at "Club Sunbury", 49 Riddell Road, Sunbury. New members are always very welcome. Just call in for a chat at one of our meetings. You can also call our president, Judith McPherson, who would love to chat with you. Judith can be reached by phone on 9740 8310 or email at 38omeo@gmail.com. You can also call Helen on 0411 226 275 or email her at helenb64@bigpcnd.com.

Sunbury-Macedon Ranges VIEW Club members are deeply saddened by the loss of our valued



June Ogston



Roelie Splatt

treasurer June Ogston. We will miss her outstanding contribution to our club, but most of all, we will miss a very special lady and her happy, smiling face.

We would like to recognise Roelie Splatt for her outstanding work over 30 years. Roelie is a founding member of our club and was instrumental in ensuring the future of the club in the 1990s. She has also held many committee positions. Roelie says she enjoys the fun and friendship of VIEW. Thank you Roelie, we appreciate your commitment to VIEW and to our club.

Helen Bird

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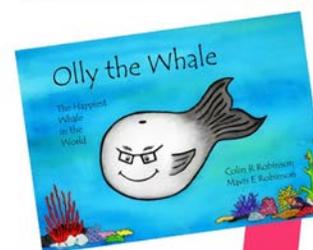
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Young columnist and game creator

Bryan Power speaks to Asher Kroon, the Gazette's Young Beat columnist

Last month I had the pleasure of being taken on a flight aboard an Airbus 320 piloted by a boy who had just turned 13. He took off confidently from Tullamarine and flew the plane out over Port Phillip Bay while I enjoyed the views of Melbourne.

"Not possible!" you say and, of course, you are right, but the experience of sitting beside Asher Kroon at his desk in front of his large, curved computer screen while he played a flight simulator program was uncannily realistic and involving.

As well as being a computer whiz, Asher is a young writer who contributes a column for the *Gazette* each month, covering topics ranging from Elon Musk to the family cat, Tiggy.

In his October column, Asher wrote of his ability to create computer games using platforms such as Roblox and Python.

"I know a lot about scripting and programming, and I have a friend who's really good at building," he said. "We put our skills together."

Last year Asher was a member of a group of students at New Gisborne Primary who assisted the *Gazette* editor with the layout of the paper. Corinne invited Asher to submit an article, was impressed by his writing skills, and, as a result, he has been a regular columnist since then.

Asher lives with his parents Michael and Helen and younger sister Alyssa at their new home near Brady Road in Gisborne, and Asher now attends



Asher at his desk.

Gisborne Secondary College where he has settled in – despite COVID lockdowns – as a Year 7 student. His favourite subjects are humanities and science, and he received the highest score in writing this year.

Asher enjoys playing tennis and is a C Grade team member at New Gisborne Tennis Club. He has also been a member of the Gisborne Fire Brigade junior group for 18 months and is looking forward to resuming hands-on activities when COVID restrictions allow.

Despite his considerable computer skills, at this stage of his life Asher is looking to making a career in medicine as he is keen to find a career through which he can care for people.

The Macedon Ranges is very fortunate indeed to have Asher – and hundreds of other young people like him – who will in time make their unique contributions towards creating a better world.



KAT'S KORNER

with Kat Buttigieg

Celebrating kindness

As the year draws to a close there is so much to be grateful for. We have made it through two truly difficult years. There have been many hardships, which came in different shapes and sizes for different people, but in their wake we have also seen heartwarming kindness.

Over lockdowns, neighbours dropped treats for those who were struggling, coffees were pre-paid for a smile from a stranger we would never see, children adorned the footpaths with rainbows and feel-good words, and people put teddy bears in their front windows so little ones could go on a bear hunt on their daily walk.

We shared ideas of how to keep the kids occupied, we shared understanding and sympathy. We checked in with people when we could, sent flowers on birthdays, notes of encouragement, and FaceTimed to see faces we missed and say 'I love you'.

There has been a lot to remember: check in, sanitise, social distance, wear your mask. Learn the new restrictions. Pick up and drop your child at certain times and locations for school. Got symptoms? Get a test. Play the waiting game. Reschedule, reschedule and reschedule events again. Isolate until you get results.

It has been overwhelming, but we have made it! As the school year draws to a close, and as Christmas and other significant holidays edge nearer, it is important to not lose what we have gained. It's OK to say 'no', to make things simpler, to put your and your family's mental wellbeing first.

Stagger celebrations. Buy fewer presents, or no presents! Share a coffee or meal instead. Write a heartfelt card. More than ever, being together is the ultimate gift we can give ourselves and each other.

Have a brilliant break.

Kat

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Remembrance Day in Gisborne

Remembrance Day was observed with a stand to of members of Gisborne and Macedon Ranges RSL Sub-Branch. Quite a number of local people attended at the war memorial in Hamilton Street.

Warrina Aged Care in New Gisborne created a Remembrance Wall of crocheted and knitted poppies and other themed displays, and had a special service for residents on Remembrance Day.



The Remembrance Wall at Warrina, where Peter Laphorne takes time out to sit and reflect.



RSL president Rob Funston stands to attention as the bugler plays the Last Post at the Gisborne Cenotaph on November 11.

A life well lived

OBITUARY

Peter Dillon

29-3-1934 – 5-11-2021

In her eulogy delivered at Peter's funeral service, daughter Anne Hartican honoured the life of the caring, supportive and hardworking man that Peter was.

Peter was born the first of 11 children to Tom and Kit in 1934 and grew up on a farm near Sunbury. Family legend has it that he milked 64 cows before riding his horse to primary school.

During his secondary school years, Peter boarded at Salesian college for two years and then completed his schooling at Assumption College. He studied electrical engineering at the University of Melbourne and proudly graduated with honours.

During his uni years Peter met Elaine Wright at a local dance and they married in February 1957.

Peter started his professional life working in the Departments of Works and Aviation and the ABC before joining multinational corporations with whom he worked for many years. His work took him on a number of overseas assignments including to the US, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Sweden and France. He worked on high-profile projects including the Moree Earth Station and the signalling for the Melbourne City Loop.

In the mid-1980s he set up his own consultancy, a successful business that saw him travel extensively across country Victoria and southern New South Wales. It was not until he reached the age of 75 that he finally retired.

Peter was a very active and seemingly tireless man, not only professionally, but also socially and in his family life. His active social life was enriched by many events with Elaine and their lifelong group of friends whose fancy dress and New Year's Eve parties are legendary.

For many years he attended lunches with

the Melbourne City Loop signalling group. In his retirement he participated in a cooking class for men and then he regularly caught up with the group on a Tuesday morning until his health made the trips to the Gisborne coffee shop too difficult.

Peter participated in community activities through groups such as the Jaycees and Probus and he was a volunteer distributor of the *Gisborne Gazette* for several years. He pursued a broad range of interests including sailing, scuba diving, tennis and golf but it was Scottish country dancing that really engaged him in his later life.

Perhaps Peter's most enduring interest throughout his entire adult life was aviation, and Anne recalled very fond memories of sitting one lovely summer's evening out the front of her parents' home atop a hill in South Gisborne listening to him name every outgoing and incoming flight at Tullamarine airport.

Peter could be serious – "I'm the head of the household" – but he was also a lot of fun. He loved a joke and a good laugh. He did so much for his family. He cared deeply for his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and did whatever he could to support them when needed.

Peter's life was irrevocably altered after Elaine had a major stroke in 2012. His engagement with life significantly narrowed from that time. While he had the support of his children, and in particular Alex, Peter made Elaine's care his priority. In the past few years his most pressing goal was to outlive Elaine so that he could be there to ensure her care was adequate. Elaine died in February this year.

Peter leaves seven of his siblings and their families as well as his own family comprising five children – Anne, Bernadette, Carolyn, Vivienne and Alex – eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren with two more on the way. Following Requiem Mass at St Brigid's on November 16, Peter was buried at Gisborne cemetery.



Peter at a family wedding in 2011.



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MACEDON MUSINGS

With Belinda Carlton-Doney

Welcome to Christmas, one and all,
Another year has gone.
Let's have a little quick look back,
And remember...not everything went wrong!!

The pub has a beautiful mural,
"Annie's Hall", it is now named
While Emily and Archie
Raised money for the CFA.

The Ranges suffered such destruction,
Heaving storms of wind and rain,
So Andrew's awesome Powercor Crews
Fought hard, restoring power once again.

Maverick rode his bike around
So brave, first time by himself,
While Nunoi and Chris trudged the local track
Through the muddy, boggy shelf.

John Flens gave us gorgeous sculptures,
Graffiti Hedges that astound.
His living art a legacy
He'll continue, but closer to the ground.

Thanks to all the health care workers,
Hero's, each and every one.
While we did masks and jabs and checks,
Home schooling wasn't that much fun!

So pour a glass of bubbles,
Sparkling Pink would be my hint!
Throw in a couple of berries.
And a tiny sprig of mint.

I call it CHRISTMAS joy,
It is my gift to you this year.
May it bring you lots of pleasure,
And a massive bit of cheer!

Merry Christmas Macedon. Well done.

Belinda



HALLOWEEN FUN...

After another year with of lockdowns, Gisborne's young people were ready to dress up for Halloween; many cute and happy, but some mighty scary!



MEMBER'S MESSAGE

With Mary-Anne Thomas

It's been a busy month in Gisborne with a whole range of exciting events occurring as the weather slowly warms.

In November I was delighted to announce that the Victorian Government will support our local scouting groups through \$150,000 to support a scout hall for the 1st New Gisborne Scouts, a new dining and multipurpose facility at Rowallan Recreation and Adventure Camp, and \$40,000 for improvements to the Macedon-Woodend Scout Hall.

These upgrades deliver a huge improvement and will enable many more years of fun and adventure for young people across the Macedon Ranges.

I was also excited to attend the official completion of the Station-Saunders Road intersection upgrade. What an improvement – the safety of our youngest and oldest residents must be a priority. I would like to thank the team at Regional Roads Victoria for completing these works six months ahead of schedule. I would also like to thank residents for their patience while these critical works were underway.



Rothschild Road Kindergarten in Gisborne South.

Finally, it was great to visit Rothschild Road Kinder at Willowbank Primary School, set to open in early 2022.



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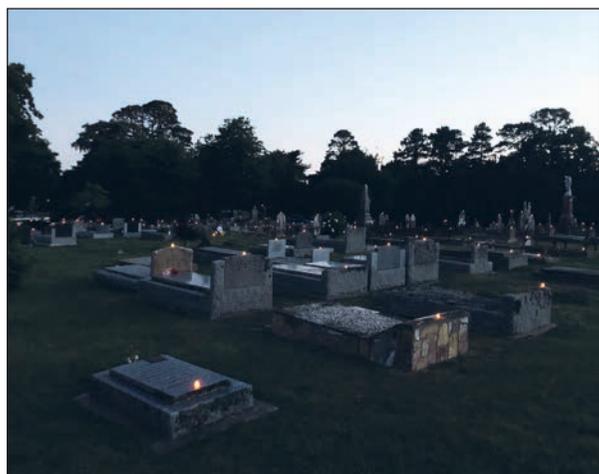
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Christmas light tribute at Gisborne Cemetery



The Cemetery lights are a moving tribute.

Cemeteries hold a special place in the community, and the Christmas period is a time that many bereaved families reflect on the loss of their loved ones.

Since 2009, Gisborne locals Dot and Peter Gardner have provided an uplifting display of lights with the placement of hundreds of tea-light candles at the Gisborne Cemetery.

Initially conceived to honour the passing of a family member, this display has grown over the years, and Dot and Peter, along with a group of family, neighbours and friends, will this year continue with their tradition and place a single battery-powered tea-light candle at each grave.

Dot explained that while many families enjoy decorating their homes and gardens with Christmas lights, they take pleasure and comfort in lighting up

the cemetery in twinkling lights that shine over the Christmas period.

Visitors from past years have described the sight of hundreds of graveside candles glowing in the cemetery as a wonderful opportunity to stroll through the grounds to pay their respects, and to reflect quietly on the tranquil candlelit scene.

The Geelong Cemeteries Trust thanks Dot, Peter and other local community members for continuing to provide this special service to the Gisborne community.

The community are encouraged to drive past or visit the cemetery on Christmas Eve and view this candlelit tribute from dusk, and reminded to please be mindful of safety inside the darkened cemetery.

Locals needed for Cemetery Committee, see ad ► page 37

Be ready for Gisborne Santa Run



The Gisborne Fire Brigade will again be escorting Santa around the township of Gisborne on Christmas Eve – a tradition that has been going for more than 40 years.

Kicking off in the morning, Santa will first pay visits to both the Oaks and Warrina aged care homes, handing out flowers to residents kindly donated by Gisborne Cottage Flowers.

The township will be broken up into six areas, starting in New Gisborne at 12.30pm and finishing off south of the township at 7pm.

Santa Claus will be handing out pre-packaged lollies supplied by The Sweet Shop in Gisborne.

Firefighters will be participating on the day which will include two dedicated response vehicles in the event of a fire/emergency call, a lead vehicle to alert the community that Santa is on his way, Santa's truck, a Gisborne SES vehicle to assist with traffic management and a command vehicle carrying the Officer in Charge coordinating the day.

Intense planning goes into the Santa Run to ensure the safety of the public and kids around vehicles and



The hugely popular CFA Santa Run returns.

that our response capabilities are maintained.

A GPS tracking system will be used with a link provided on our Facebook page. This will allow the community to live track Santa throughout the day.

Santa route maps will also be provided on our Facebook page leading up to the day.

Community club grants on offer

Woo hoo, with pandemic restrictions lifted groups can get together again!

Community Bank Gisborne & District knows how much local clubs and groups mean to our community and would love to help them reconnect or reboot.



We are therefore offering special \$500 Reconnect Community Grants to eligible local groups to spend by March 2022.

The funds must be spent in some way that helps your club reconnect, for example for an end-of-year event, entertainment for an event, a committee meal, or on raffle prizes to raise more funds for your club.

To support local traders and artists, funds must be spent in the Macedon Ranges.

To request a grant for your community group, drop into the branch or email mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com for the simple application form.

The program is open to all registered not-for-profit community groups in postcodes 3431, 3437, 3438, 3440 and 3441 that bank at Community Bank Gisborne & District or are otherwise eligible for branch community investment.

Limited grants available. First in best dressed.



CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES
for St Brigid's Catholic Parish, St Paul's Anglican Parish, Uniting and House of the Rock church, see ► page 38

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Youth Theatre leaders get gong



The Mount Players

Congratulations to our wonderful Mount Players Youth Theatre Leaders who were presented with the Macedon Ranges 2021 Youth Award for Pure Imagination (young people pursuing their passion for creativity through the arts).

These young adult volunteers have given tirelessly of their time, some for several years, to run the weekly Youth Theatre classes and direct and produce full-length productions at the end of each year. It's been a difficult time, and 2021 has seen them running rehearsals via Zoom to ensure December's production is on schedule. Thank you from all of us at The Mount Players, and thank you also to all the other Youth Leaders who have gone before them.

The theatre will wind up the year in December with the annual Christmas picnic for members and then look forward to opening night for *Love Song* on February 18.

Lots planned for 2022 so please keep in touch via our website www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892. From everyone at The Mount Players, we wish you all a peaceful, happy Christmas season with friends and family and look forward to bringing you a theatre-packed year in 2022.

See you at the theatre!

Karen Hunt

Mount Players Youth Leaders: Back row (L-R): Jack Smith, Max Pickin, Chris Santamaria, Dara Hunt, Sian Wilson. Front row: Erica Vandenberg, Ben Obermoser and Adele Gehling.



Mount studio offers portrait prize



Macedon Ranges artists are invited to take part in a special portrait prize and exhibition.

"Portraits on the Mount" will take place during April 2022 as part of the Autumn Festival. It will be hosted by The Gallery Mount Macedon, with prize money donated by the Bendigo Bank.

The invitation is open to all Macedon Ranges Shire residents, using any 2D medium, with a maximum size not exceeding A3 dimensions, and featuring a person known to the artist, or a self-portrait.

The categories are: Major Prize \$1000, People's Choice \$500, Youth 12-16 \$100, Child 8-11 \$50.

Judging will be conducted independently. For further details and an entry form, contact Jo Hoyne on 0418 488 582 or email mtmacedonportraitprize@gmail.com

The Gallery

The Gallery Mt Macedon has a wonderful selection of Christmas gift ideas all made by our talented 25 local artists. There is something for everyone so do yourself a favour and shop local.

All the members of our Arts Collective thank you for your support throughout the year and wish you Season's Greetings.

Gallery open 10-4 Friday to Tuesday. Closed December 25, 26 and New Year's Day.

Young Voices complete their recording project



Young Voices of Macedon recently recorded songs learned during the long Zoom rehearsal period, assisted by sound engineer James Clark.

It was quite a challenge for all: standing absolutely still was hard for the youngest, while the older children found a whole session without a break rather tiring. But the task was completed, thanks to the resilience, good will and hard work of the singers.

The program features the beautiful three-part song *Seashell* by Shayla Black, sung by the entire choir. The Vivo contribution is a rousing rendition of a song about pirates, and *Dreamer* by Joyce Eilers Bacak and *Exsultate Jubilate* by Dave and Jean Perry (both in three parts) comprise the Cantabile group's excellent input.

The choir now turns its attention to Christmas, in particular preparation for the Service of Readings and Carols at the Church of the Resurrection, Macedon, on Sunday December 12. Among the

carols performed by the children will be a three-part setting of the delightful Ukrainian *Carol of the Bells*. And, of course, there will be a party!

The choir will be welcoming new members from the age of five next year. For information and contact details, please see yv-macedon.org.au

Dianne Gome





PODIATRY AND FOOTWEAR



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The choristers of Young Voices of Macedon at work on the recording.

Thinking about singing? Come and try us

the *Gisborne Singers*

Plans are underway for a bright start to 2022 for The Gisborne Singers. On

Saturday February 5, the choir will hold a "Come and Try Day". This will be at their practice venue, the Gisborne Anglican Church at 32 Fisher Street.

The special session will run from 2-5pm with usual choir members in attendance and afternoon tea provided. Budding choristers are welcome and encouraged to attend. Although advantageous, prior singing experience and the ability to read music are not essential. If you're interested in a new activity after the soul-searching of the past two years, then joining a choir might be just the thing you need.

We are an un auditioned community choir who sing a range of music from classical to popular. Under the expert leadership of Luke Severn and accompanist Anna Clarke, choristers are constantly learning new techniques, broadening their horizons and having a lot of fun.

It should be noted that the choir does have a double COVID vaccination policy.



The choir's new trailer and risers.

The first concerts for next year are performances of the opera *Dido and Aeneas* by Henry Purcell, planned for May. Written in 1680, the opera gives scope for small solo parts from the choir, teaming up with professional soloists.

The choir is also delighted to announce the much-needed purchase of new (lighter) risers – steps for choristers to stand on for performances – with a covered trailer to store and transport them. This has been made possible by a \$10,000 grant from the Bendigo Bank.

For choir enquiries, please go to our website, www.gisbornesingers.org.au

Alison Kinghorn

Springing into photographic action

Members of the Macedon Ranges Photographic Society are excited to be able to enjoy everything that spring brings with it. Unfortunately that can sometimes mean spring showers, spring rainfall and those strong spring winds too.



Macedon Ranges
Photographic Society

In the past few weeks the group has ventured out into Mt

Macedon Open Gardens and also surveyed some of the damage that the recent storms caused in the area. Beginning the outing at Forest Glade, there were fields of bluebells, wildflowers, stunning statues and much more to focus on. It was easy for the members to lose track of time as they wandered along meandering paths.

The group also visited the Castlemaine Botanic Gardens. Although it rained for much of the morning, members made the most of the gloomy weather to find spots of colour among the flowers or to focus on the abundant bird life. When it all seemed to get too wet and cold, the group made its way to a local restaurant to discuss the events of the day and to enjoy each other's company.

The club welcomes new members and generally meets on the first Tuesday of the month, followed by the next Monday. 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.

Colleen Mahoney



Forest Glade Mt Macedon. Picture: Chris Antoniou



Tulips at Forest Glade. Picture: Chris Antoniou



MRPS members at Forest Glade. Picture: John Spring



What is Clinical Pilates?

Clinical Pilates is perfect for people who need to build strength or flexibility after injury or operations. The tailored classes are also suitable for seniors or others with mobility issues and pregnant/post partum ladies.

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does not include clinical pilates)



2021 Youth Awards Winners with thrilled parents and supporters.

Youth Awards winners announced

Congratulations to this year's Macedon Ranges Youth Award winners. The awards were presented online on October 28.

Local winners were Mount Players Youth Theatre Leadership Group in the 'Pure imagination' category, and Gisborne Family Dental trainee dental nurses Melanie Horvath, Lorissa Koleceg and Abbey Raynor in the 'Skilling It' category.

Other winners were: 'Willpower': Lara Vicente; 'Nicely played': Hugo Lobb; 'Good deeds' Siena Payne; 'Well aware': Molly Consiglio.

The awards can still be watched on Macedon Ranges Youth Facebook and Council's website mrsc.vic.gov.au/youth

Draft plan for managing pets

Development of the Council's new four-year draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-25 is underway. The plan will outline our priorities and services to promote responsible pet ownership.

Thank you to everyone who shared their ideas in the initial consultation stage earlier this year.

Your input will be valuable in helping shape the draft plan, which we will be inviting further feedback on. To have your say and find out more, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/DAMP or call 5422 0333.



Council wins in Premier's Sustainability Awards

Macedon Ranges Shire Council's 'Healthy Landscapes for Healthy Livestock' project is the proud winner of the Premier's Choice Regional Recognition Award presented at the 2021 Premier's Sustainability Awards on November 23.

The program was designed to help tackle issues around overgrazing, weed invasion, loss of native grasslands and reports that farmers were struggling to afford importing feed stock.

The aim was to build the capacity of local farmers to implement regenerative agriculture techniques that improved soil health, enhanced biodiversity and enhanced on-farm resilience to a changing climate.

An evaluation of 110 participants indicated that 100 per cent of respondents had changed their land management practices in a positive way.

This program—which is now called the 'Healthy Landscapes: Practical Regenerative Agricultural Communities program'—has been extended for 12 months in partnership with surrounding councils. To find out more, visit our website, www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/Live-Work/Environment/Land-Management/Healthy-Landscapes

Feedback sought on nature strip landscaping

Council is seeking your feedback on its Nature Strip Landscaping Policy. The policy includes guidelines for residents keen to explore alternative options to traditional grassed nature strips.

Council's Director for Assets and Operations, Shane Walden, said the policy was developed in consultation with the community in 2019. "Two years down the track we're keen to find out what's working, and identify any areas for improvement," he said.

"It's important that we strike the right balance between adding to the appearance of streetscapes ... and ensuring that any designs or treatments are safe for pedestrians and don't damage our drainage network [or] gas and water infrastructure."

Fill out a quick survey at mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay or send a written submission to PO Box 151 Kyneton 3444 or email mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au
Submissions close at 5pm on December 7.



No and yes for the soft-plastics trial.

Soft plastics can now be recycled at transfer station

The Council is conducting a six-month soft plastics recycling trial. To recycle your soft plastics, drop them off at Council's transfer stations in Woodend, Kyneton or Romsey. This service will be free.

Soft plastics are plastics that can be scrunched in your hand and bounce back to their original shape, or flexible film such as bubble wrap or cling wrap.

They cannot be recycled through the normal kerbside recycling bin as they get stuck in the trucks and sorting machinery.

What can be recycled as part of the trial:

- Plastic bags including reusable shopping bags, bulk bags, for example rice bags, dry pet food and stock feed bags and bulka bags.
- Plastic film including bubble wrap, cling wrap, plastic film from grocery items, pallet wrap and shrink wrap.
- Bread bag tags (collected separately in a clear plastic bag) and
- Plastic bottle caps (collected separately in a clear plastic bag).

Plastics must be completely dry and free of food and other products.

Some common household items, such as silver-lined snack wrappers and bread bags, are not yet able to be accepted in the trial. Council is seeking solutions for the recycling of these items and hopes to add to the list of accepted items as the trial progresses.

Visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/soft-plastics for a comprehensive list of what can and cannot be recycled as part of the trial.

For more information, contact the council on 5422 0333, visit the MRSC Waste app or our website, mrsc.vic.gov.au/soft-plastics



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New financial counselling support for storm-affected residents

The Storm and Flood Financial Counselling Program is open to anyone affected by the storms and floods in June. This program can connect you to a financial counsellor to help you to:

- access relief for utility bills and other payments
 - understand your government income and other entitlements
 - negotiate with your bank on debt issues
 - identify if your insurance outcome is fair and appropriate
 - explore your options and advocate on your behalf.
- Speaking to a financial counsellor can help stabilise your finances, reduce stress and allow you to focus on other areas.

The counselling program is available on the Storm and Flood Recovery Hotline, a single, state-wide number (1800 560 760). The hotline is open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays). Council has welcomed this additional support for residents announced by Bushfire Recovery Victoria, and encouraged people impacted by the June 9 storm to use the hotline.

Six months down the track, how are you going?

Council invites residents to join Dr Rob Gordon for a lunchtime webinar reflecting on the six months since the storm on June 9, and reactions that people may still be experiencing.

Dr Gordon will unpack some of the typical reactions to expect after such an event, and share advice on how to make sure residents establish a successful recovery process.

Dr Gordon is a clinical psychologist who has been working in the field of disaster recovery since Ash Wednesday in 1983.

The session will run from 1pm to 2.30pm on Thursday December 2. Please register your attendance at mrsc.vic.gov.au/storm-recovery

Council CEO Mr Bernie O'Sullivan said it was not just the physical and environmental impacts that it was going to take time for the community to recover from. "We're delighted to have Dr Rob Gordon share his expertise and advice with affected landowners," he said.

The session will be recorded and shared after the webinar via our mrsc.vic.gov.au/storm-recovery

Storm-affected residents newly eligible for federal payments

Macedon Ranges Shire has been added to the list of local government areas impacted by the June 9 storm whose residents can access Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP).

Residents who experienced injury or major damage to their property can apply for the one-off, non-means-tested payment of \$1000 per eligible adult and \$400 per eligible child.

Council's CEO, Bernie O'Sullivan, welcomed the additional funding and encouraged residents to enquire about their eligibility. "The storm on June 9 had a significant impact ... across the shire. Four months on, the community is still in the process of cleaning up and rebuilding," he said.

AGDRP is available for people who have been seriously injured, have lost their homes or whose homes have been directly damaged, whose major assets have been directly damaged or are the immediate family members of a person who has died as a direct result of the storms and floods.

Residents have until May 31, 2022, to apply at www.disasterassist.gov.au or by phoning 180 22 66 (180 22 66 is correct; this is not a 1800 number).

I wish to congratulate Cr Jennifer Anderson on being re-elected to the position of mayor for another 12 months and, representing the South Ward, Cr Rob Guthrie on being elected Deputy Mayor.

Latest council meeting update:

I was pleased to receive a petition from residents of Gisborne South regarding the lack of mobile and internet service in the area.

As many of you know, I am a resident of Gisborne South and I declared a conflict of interest, as per the following:

'I wish to declare a material conflict of interest pertaining to the petition being tabled this evening. The petition is related to internet and telecommunications and in particular, the lack of services in Gisborne South. I believe that if the matter is dealt with to a satisfactory conclusion, my family and I will gain from having mobile service and internet speeds that millions of Australians and in fact, billions of people across the world, including developing countries, enjoy today.'



COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN

With Cr Dominic Bonanno

Council adopted the Roadside Conservation Management Plan 2021

Council endorsed the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025 for the purpose of community consultation and I encourage all animal lovers to read the plan and provide feedback

Happy to report that the Gisborne Tennis Club

Mayoral election

Cr Jennifer Anderson (West Ward) was re-elected Mayor for 2022 on November 23.

Cr Rob Guthrie (South Ward) was elected Deputy Mayor.

courts at Dixon Fields, are one step closer to the installation of new LED lights, towers and electrical switchboard, with capacity allowed for future growth and development at the site and to investigate and resolve 'tripping' issues with some existing lights.

I had the pleasure of attending the Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards. This was a significant event to celebrate businesses in the Macedon Ranges and I congratulate all finalists and winners including our South Ward-based businesses. Get out there and support our local businesses!

Don't forget there is free mulch at all Council transfer stations until 31 December 2021. Residents are encouraged to head to their local transfer station and claim up to one cubic metre of free self-loaded mulch.

It has been another challenging year and I am optimistic about what 2022 will bring for us all. I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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Prince Alfred's visit to Gisborne

In 1867-68, Prince Alfred, the second son of Queen Victoria, became the first British Royal to visit Australia, staying for six months. As part of his visit to Victoria, a Special Royal Train was organised to convey the Prince and his entourage to Sandhurst (now Bendigo).

The Royal Train departed from Spencer Street Station in Melbourne, making stops at Footscray, Sunbury, New Gisborne, Kyneton, Malmsbury, Castlemaine and Sandhurst.

The inhabitants of Gisborne and surrounding district were early astir on Tuesday morning, preparing to proceed to New Gisborne to join in the festivities in honour of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh.

At an early hour, the school children mustered at their respective schools, all in their holiday attire; from thence they were conveyed to the New Gisborne Railway Station, and there took their places in good order in front of the platform, holding flags in their hands with mottoes of welcome to the Prince.

The Station House, Goods Shed, and Hurst's Railway Hotel were gaily decorated with flowers and evergreens, and a display of bunting floated from the semaphore posts. On the side of the station, where the Prince was to alight, stood the motto, 'Welcome, Prince Alfred', prettily worked in roses, the work of Messrs. Smith of the Riddells Creek Nursery. At about 10 o'clock, from 1800 to 2000 people were assembled in the reserve in front of the railway platform.

After half-an-hour's anxious wait for the arrival of the Prince, the scream of the engine was heard in the expected direction; a slight rush was made forward to secure a better view, expectation was at fever height, when all that appeared was a Pilot Engine. A few minutes after, the Royal Train swept up, and to the intense delight of the assembled throng, and amid enthusiastic cheering, the Prince stepped out on to the platform, and was received by Messrs. Thomas Ferrier Hamilton, William Robinson junior, and some members of the Lancefield Road Board.

The welcome at Gisborne was a very pleasant one, and in many respects could not have been bettered. Excellent taste was displayed in the decorations.

Flowers, flags and evergreens of course predominated as elsewhere, but flowers and evergreens are not to be met with every day equal to the flowers and evergreens of Gisborne. Neither is it given to every decorator to

'Whistle-stop' presentations were given in honour of the Prince at each railway station except Castlemaine and Sandhurst, where grand receptions were given. The following account is taken from two newspapers, *The Bacchus Marsh Express* and *The Leader*, of December 21, 1867, describing Prince Alfred's brief stop at New Gisborne Railway Station on Tuesday December 17, 1867.

Edited by Robin Godfrey



Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh.
(Engraving by Henry S Sadd.)



New Gisborne Railway Station in the days of steam locomotives

be successful in the blending of colours and harmonisation of materials to the extent which characterised those seen there. Stepping from the carriage on to the platform was like stepping into a conservatory of living flowers.

Mr William Robertson junior, of Wooling, attended to present an address; but, with a bold originality which I commend for setting the standard for those destined to fulfil the same duty in future times and other places, he contented himself with a simple performance of duty and did not inflict upon the recipient the usual 'long-winded' oration.

The Prince promised that a reply should be forwarded, and received the address, evidently pleased at the courteous and thoughtful speech.

After the presentation of the address, the children present, to the number of 700, led and accompanied by a brass band, sang the first verse of the National Anthem. When this was concluded, a little girl, daughter of Mr George William Knight, of Riddells Creek, stepped forward and offered for HRH's acceptance, a basket of fruit.

The contents were very tastefully arranged, and the red ripe fruit nestling amongst the green leaves looked refreshingly cool.

The little possessor of the basket, too, seemed to be proud of her burden, and very neatly rearranged the fruit after it had been disturbed by the Prince and his Excellency partaking of it.

Another present was also made to the Royal Visitor here, which was in congruity with the whole proceedings at Gisborne, in the shape of a bouquet tendered by a little daughter of Mr Hamilton. The flowers composing it were as fresh as they could well be, and the dew had hardly left the leaves. Both gifts were conveyed to the Royal Carriage.

The Prince and his Excellency and entourage then proceeded to an apartment in the station and partook of some wine, the produce of Mr Knight's vineyard.

The reception at Gisborne proved very successful and seemed to give satisfaction to the Royal Visitor. As the train moved off, preparations, in an adjacent paddock, could be ob-

served for the enjoyment of an *al fresco* entertainment.

Once the Royal Train had departed for the next stop at Kyneton, the children, headed by the band and followed by their friends, marched in procession to Mr Hurst's paddock, where the Committee had arranged for the picnic.

A large marquee erected on the ground contained endless supplies of sandwiches, buns, cakes, fruit, sweetmeats, etc, and as a provision against thirst, an ample supply of ginger beer and tea. No drinks of an intoxicating nature were allowed.

Then commenced all sorts of athletic sports – racing, jumping, throwing the hammer, football, etc, the winners of which were awarded small prizes in money. Dancing to the strains of the band in attendance was kept up during the whole afternoon.

The utmost good order prevailed throughout the whole day's proceedings, and everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. The occasion instilled, especially in the children, pleasant reminiscences for a long time after the event.



New program to support men and boys

VicHealth has invested in improving the health and wellbeing of men and boys in the Macedon Ranges through a project called #thehumancode.



As one of 12 Suicide Prevention Trial sites in Victoria, Macedon Ranges has higher-than-average state and national suicide rates, with men disproportionately represented in the statistics. Research conducted in the Macedon Ranges as part of #thehumancode project found that some local men:

Value stoicism and feel reluctant to seek help, often waiting until they are at crisis point before doing so;

Experience feelings of shame when they do seek help;

Rely on alcohol in order to be comfortable talking about their emotions.

Led by Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health, #thehumancode project is calling for interested members of the community in the Macedon Ranges to participate in a series of workshops led by Tomorrow Man and Man Cave Academy.

These workshops will explore some of these concepts and their potential for harm. More importantly, participants will be supported in trialling activities and conversations that challenge these outdated beliefs and provide positive and healthy alternatives.



Kathryn Chai (centre), accepts a grant from Community Bank Gisborne & District last month.

Recognising the importance of supporting men's mental health, Community Bank Gisborne & District have also committed funding for this project.

If you are a mentor that works with adolescent males or a parent or carer of adolescent males, please contact kathryn.chai@scchc.org.au to find out more.

Mental health strategies for the holiday season



For those caring for loved one with a mental illness, the Christmas and holiday season can be especially testing.

"Although we have finally emerged from lockdown, this time of year can be a time of great stress for some families," said Tamara Wilson, president of PS My Family Matters. "It can be especially tough on young people in our region who have been isolated from their day-to-day friends for most of the year and now may lose contact with their school community."

"Now's a good time to review your mental health care plan, or if you've not got one, to put one into place. Just as we have fire plans, a mental health care plan is a guide to what actions to take in the event of an emergency."

PS My Family offers peer support to those caring for loved ones with a mental health issue. There is a template for a care plan on our website, www.psmfm.org.au, or if you need to chat with someone about putting one together, please call 0475 269 965.

PS My Family Matters will also be running its regular Coffee for Carers get together throughout December – please call us to check.

If you need immediate support or assistance, contact one of the following services: Lifeline on 13 14 11 or, in an emergency, contact 000.

Submitted by Mike Hamer, 0411 549 432

Diabetes and your foot health

Diabetes Australia estimates 1.8 million Australians have diabetes, with about 280 people developing the condition every day. That is one person every five minutes. With these sorts of statistics, it is easy to see why it is considered one of the fastest-growing chronic diseases in the country.

Diabetes can affect your feet in two main ways: circulation and sensation.

Blood flow can be compromised due to hardening or narrowing of blood vessels. This can result in delayed healing. Without good blood flow to your lower limbs, a small cut may not heal. You are then at risk of developing ulcers or gangrene. In serious



Sarah Mullins

cases this may result in amputation.

Damage to the nerves can cause neuropathy. This is a lack of protective sensation in the feet. You may not feel pain, heat or cold. Unfortunately, this can happen without you realising it. Therefore, you do not notice you have that small cut on your foot. If that is left untreated it may become a chronic ulcer and, again, risk infection and worst-case scenario, amputation.

The good news is, all this can be avoided if you

follow some basic foot care and check in with your feet on a daily basis. A great way to achieve this is moisturising your feet daily. This gives you the opportunity to check the skin's integrity, ensuring no cuts, bruises and blisters. If you do detect a change in the foot, seek medical advice from a podiatrist or doctor immediately. Prevention is better than cure.

Diabetes Australia advises annual check-ups with a podiatrist. If your podiatrist determines you are high risk they may recommend more frequent appointments. Ask your podiatrist to complete a neurovascular assessment at your next appointment.

Submitted by Sarah Mullins



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BETTY'S BOOP

With Betty Doolan

Christmas is truly here; at time of writing we are still in lockdown but the residents can have two visitors per day and residents can go out. My lovely granddaughter and her children took me out to lunch at the Telegraph Hotel.

My great-grandson Riley is in a small wheelchair. As I looked at this little boy who has had a big operation on his small body, and add to all this he wears glasses, Riley was so happy. As he went around my large wheelchair, Riley touched my arm and said "old" then the other one – that one was "so old".

Residents celebrated Halloween. Some of the staff dressed up, it was what nightmares are made of. There was a very old lady sitting at the back door and when she turned around I really hoped I didn't look like that.

A service for Remembrance Day was held on November 11. Beautiful prayers and poems were read by Fay and Joan. Every year Brian Austin's grandson, a young soldier, is good enough to bring his horse. He looks like a soldier from the past; a big thank you for this wonderful gesture.

Recently I went to the big shopping centre in Melton. It was so nice to see all the decorations and there were lots of Christmas trees of all shapes and sizes and colours. When I was a little girl we never had a Christmas tree at school. We would make paper chains, and it was a bit of a task to get them home before breaking them. A pillowcase was put at the end of my bed for Christmas presents.

I wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year, and I thank you all for letting me write this column.

Stay safe,

Betty

Social support programs at MRH widen

Social support programs at Macedon Ranges Health have been keeping senior citizens connected with the community for 25 years.

Running weekly on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, the sessions have been a great way for people to develop friendships while participating in engaging activities. Bus trips to Daylesford and Kyneton have been a highlight, and trips to Watergardens Shopping Centre and nearby eateries have also been very popular.

Community Connection–Health Promotion Coordinator at Macedon Ranges Health, Rebecca Harris, reflected on the positive impact the program has on attendees.



Rebecca Harris

"Participants get so much more out of the sessions than just the activities themselves," she said. "The program helps to improve overall wellbeing so people can remain living independently at home for as long as possible."

After having to scale back during COVID-19 restrictions, the return of the program to a fuller capacity is generating excitement for members and staff.

"We have received a lot of feedback from people saying they are enjoying catching up with their friends again," Rebecca said.

Macedon Ranges Health has funded and private places available, visit benetas.com.au or call 1300 23 63 82 for more information.

Rebecca Harris

Christmas ... happiest time of the year?



A general health article by Julie Ireland

After two years of living with lockdowns, working from home and not seeing people's faces except via Zoom, we can finally venture out this year at Christmas to reconnect with family and friends. But after months of not seeing anyone outside of our own households, has our ability to interact in person got a bit rusty?

Let's face it, Christmas with the family (and partner's family!) can be pretty stressful at the best of times as tensions can run high (I'm speaking from experience) but throw in some social awkwardness, having 20 people in the same room, and the emotion of finally seeing family members after many months, and Christmas Day could become a bit of a volcano waiting to erupt.

You can deal with the stress of Christmas Day by mainlining champagne and chocolate scorched almonds (my personal favourites), however drinking and eating to excess just dulls the pain and makes it more difficult not to buy into arguments. I have decided to take a more chilled attitude to Christmas. It's only one day of the year so surely we can all put aside our egos and just enjoy each other's company?

Top tips to survive Christmas Day with the extended family:

Get enough sleep. This will help you start the day in a good mood, meaning you'll be more able to let any niggles just wash over you.

Have something nice to say to everyone. Starting interactions this way encourages others to follow suit.

Help out on the day or in the lead-up so that the host doesn't feel exhausted by having to do everything.

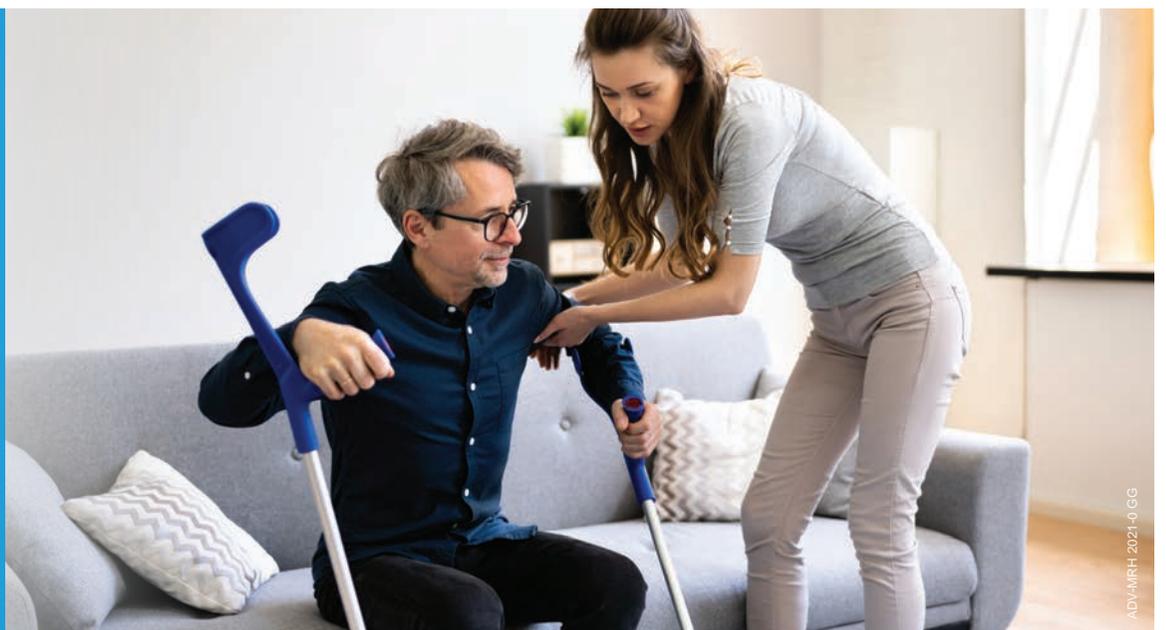
Show compassion. Understand that Christmas can be an emotional time for everyone in the family, not just you, and keep in mind that the past couple of years have been difficult for everyone.

Remember that this is just one day; everyone is human and we all have our faults. Lastly, reward yourself for surviving another family gathering ... until next year! Take care of yourselves and have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Julie

Have you recently undergone a procedure and need short-term support to help you stay independent at home?

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Kalimna Park (Dja Dja Warung country)

A wander through the wildflowers in Kalimna Park was recently enjoyed by enthusiastic walkers from the Gisborne Bushwalking Club. It was only nine kilometres and not a challenging walk so everyone was able to stop to admire as much of the abundant native flora as they wanted to.



With this being an old goldmining area, there are many signs of past activities especially along Moonlight Creek. Abandoned mines dot the hillsides and some trees planted in those times have survived with their blossoms adding to the floral display.

Finally, our metro folk can join us for future walks and we welcome them back and looking forward to catching up with their news.

Members proved they love to talk as they walk and the chatter didn't slow down from start to finish.

Kalimna Park is a dry forest area with easy to traverse valleys and hills dotted with many paths, making it easy to wander for as long as your feet allow. The forest mostly consists of box-ironbark trees which are well adapted to the dry and sometimes harsh conditions of the area. Spring is a wonderful time of the year to see a vast array of wildflowers. Among these there was also a very prolific purple bush but nobody could identify it; we miss Christine Young and her wildflower expertise.

The club is looking forward to our annual Christmas walk and celebration lunch being held in early December.

We have a full calendar of walks for the first six months of 2022 which, hopefully, will not be disrupted by restrictions. If you are interested in joining us on a walk or require further information, contact either Margot at secretary@gisbornebwc.org.au or 0438 260 792, or George at president@gisbornebwc.org.au or 0419 610 811, or visit www.gisbornebwc.org.au.

Janeen Edward

Ramblers offer a holiday ramble



Finally, the relaxation of the COVID rules. Now we can really worry – the stress of Christmas!

Seriously, on behalf of the Gisborne Ramblers, we would like to wish peace, health and happiness to all readers of the *Gazette* as we finish another year.

If you find a sudden weight gain due to the festivities, perhaps you would like to walk it off, following a ramble some of our group did last month.

Conglomerate Gully, Riddells Creek.

This is an undulating, mostly single file track, quite stony in places, through some spectacular rock formations edging a creek line. There is a picturesque waterfall, but at the time of our visit, only a trickle to be seen. This is a popular walk and the track is a well marked loop with an information board providing notes on the geology etc.



Tiny but scenic waterfall at Conglomerate Gully.

Park at the corner of Royal Parade and Wheelwrights Road (both just dirt tracks) then walk uphill to the top of Wheelwrights Road to find the start of the Gully track. This single width track meanders through the bush to a kissing gate and the information board. The walk is just over 4km.

See you in the new year

Charles

Parks Victoria reports on situation after storms



Victorians are still feeling the impact of severe weather that lashed parts of the state on October 28-29. With wind gusts averaging between 100 and 140 kilometres per hour, the damage was widespread.

This storm caused large trees to fall on walking tracks, fences, bridges and access roads at parks in regional Victoria and metropolitan Melbourne.

When severe storms occur, rainfall soaks deep into the ground, softening the soil and reducing the grip of tree roots. Where trees are grouped, some have become uprooted but remain hanging against other trees and could fall without warning – even in light winds.

With more wet weather following, the soil will continue to move and disrupt the structural integrity of many trees.

While some parks and walking tracks have reopened, those hit hardest by the storm remain closed for safety.

It is extremely important for visitors to stay out of closed parks as rangers continue to conduct safety assessments and identify and remove hazardous trees. Remember to observe signs and stay out of fenced or taped-off areas.

Closures at Macedon Regional Park as of November 5 include the walking track between Bawden Road and the Memorial Cross Reserve, Hoods Track and Link 2 Track.

Please visit the Safety in Nature page for up-to-date information on affected sites and closures: www.parks.vic.gov.au/get-into-nature/safety-in-nature.

VIDEO LINK: Watch rangers Angelo Keratianos and Lily Brown take you through the recently opened visitor sites at Macedon Regional Park, which include Cameron Drive, Camels Hump, Days Picnic Ground, Sanatorium Lake Picnic Ground, Harbison Picnic Ground, Cameron Picnic Ground, McGregor Picnic Ground and all walking tracks at Old Scout Camp Area: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dP_BZfZ1CE

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Vet Talk

By local vet Dr Caitlin Horwood-Skelton

Christmas cheer for pampered pets – what not to do



It's exciting to contemplate some upcoming Christmas cheer, as we claw our way out of lockdown. Our families are signing up for a place at the long table, and our fur-babies are licking their chops

over the meaty menu. Seafood or beef roast? That may be OK for Puss-Cat and Fido, but please make a quick mental note of what should NOT be on the menu for your pets this Christmas. We'd rather you spend the weekend arguing about the family rules of backyard cricket, than spend the night at the emergency centre with a sick puppy.

Chocolate's not good for dogs! (Theobromine is the active ingredient: It can cause liver toxicity or even seizures in pets)

Pork Crackling: No. Our pets have trouble metabolising that high fat and salt content. Pancreatitis is a painful outcome: it is often accompanied by vomiting and dehydration, and may need hospitalisation. Enjoy the crackling yourself (in moderation)!

Tinsel: I would hope this is self-explanatory. Tinsel is good for decorating Christmas trees. Cat food is good for cats, and doesn't tend to cause obstructions when they eat it. Keep puss from playing with it.

Panado! You may find yourself reaching for an antidote for some Christmas over-indulgence. Please don't be tempted to share it with puss – it's toxic!

Enjoy good food, friends, and freedom, Happy Christmas!

Caitlin



Labradoodles Winnie and Bailey in the Christmas spirit.

Christmas Pudding: No. Save it for gran. Raisins and sultanas are toxic to canine kidneys. (They might have a bit of an issue with the brandy content too).

Chocolate: No. Listen to your kids who quote their fa-

Dipper finds love



Dipper Diaries

Today is Friday. I love Fridays for three reasons. My family watch movies (one was scary, it had a big green monster in it called the incredible something I forgot); my family eat pizza and they give ME the leftovers, and I GET TO HAVE MY PLAYDATES!!

I have them on Tuesdays too, but

now I get two a week! What a lucky pup am I?

Right now I am ... "Dipper!" wh- who said that? And then it came again, "Dipper!"

I looked up, the playdate people were here! I raced up the driveway and leapt into their van. 'Woohoo, fun here we come!'

When we reached the playdate pad-

dock, there were all sorts of dogs I didn't know. A chihuahua playing an intense game of tug of war with a determined golden retriever... There were all sorts of different dogs doing different things. Then I saw Doris – a beautiful greyhound, she had brown hair with black markings and sweet dark chocolate eyes. My tongue hung out and it was official, I was in love.

We started doing our running laps around the oval,

I'm usually at the front, but she was at the back, so I ran beside her giving her as many kisses as I could.

At morning snack we ate our tidbits together and when we were having free time I followed her.

Then we had to go home. I was sad because I couldn't spend more time with Doris, but there's always next week.

By May Zarins, 11



Finding hidden flora treasures in Daly Nature Reserve.

Daly Nature Reserve News

Our Friends group achieved plenty of outdoor working bees despite COVID restrictions and wet weather during 2021.

Highlights include the perfect day for the cultural burn carried out successfully in April. We are now monitoring the renewal process.

The Cubs of 1st Gisborne Scouts completed their native plant garden with our guidance as part of their gardening badges and it was our pleasure to take Gisborne Primary School students on their autumn and spring nature walks.

Our photo above shows students inspecting the ground and finding carnivorous sundew plants, which like damp conditions. This gave us a chance to explain how Gisborne's ground water travels from the scoria cone of our dormant volcano, Mount Gisborne, down to Jacksons Creek.

Our thanks go out to all our supporters, to our regular volunteers, and those of you who often collect litter while walking through the Reserve.

Our final working bee this year will be Tuesday December 14, 9.30am start. We take a January break and return on Tuesday February 8.

Hope everyone can enjoy the festive season with family and friends as we come to the end of this stop-start year.

Enquiries: dalynaturereserve@gmail.com

Friends of Daly Nature Reserve

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KIDS QUIZ

1. Romulus and Remus reputedly founded which Italian city?
2. What is the flattest continent on Earth?
3. What was the name of the volcano that erupted and buried Pompeii in 79AD?
4. In what year did man land on the Moon?
5. Books with soft covers are usually called what backs?
6. How many zeros are there in 1 trillion?
7. A book of maps of the world is called what?
8. Which is the largest planet in our solar system?
9. What is 40 per cent of 40?
10. What's the motto of Scouts?

Waste not want not at Swinburne Ave

After many delays due to restrictions, the children at Swinburne Avenue Kindergarten were finally able to participate in their 'Waste Not Want Not' incursion in November.

The incursion was provided by the Little Scouts Program and led by Carolyn, who encouraged the children to think about the importance of sustainability and the difference that they could make.

The children came up with some fabulous answers about what rubbish

was, before attempting to sort rubbish items into the correct bins. They also brainstormed ways to make better choices for the environment by reducing our waste and choosing biodegradable products.

The incursion concluded with the children putting their knowledge into action by reusing a 'rubbish' item to create a hanging basket to grow a plant in. They will care for their plants over the next few weeks before taking them home as a lasting memento of their kinder year.

Thank you to the very generous Community Bank grant that provided this rich learning experience, as well as many others for the Kindergarten children in 2021.

Shannon Ingleton

Far left: Carolyn from the Little Scouts Program with Isabel listening on, and left, Emelia plants a seedling in a milk bottle.



JOKES & RIDDLES

What did Santa do in his garden after the Christmas rush had ended?

Hoe, hoe, hoe.

Last night I dreamt I ate a giant marshmallow.

When I woke up this morning my pillow was gone.

A bald man was given a comb for Christmas.

He said, "Thanks, I'll never part with it."

Who gets congratulated when they're down and out?

Astronauts

Would you buy a Christmas tree in Los Angeles?

No, but Hollywood.

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Sophia,
Lainey
and
Maddie

New Gisborne goes Fiji-style for a cause



Everyone from New Gisborne Primary School came to school dressed up in Fiji-style clothing on Friday October 29. We all brought a gold coin donation along for students in Fiji. With the money, teachers and the principal will be able to ship school things to Fiji to help students there.

Ibu Dawson, our Indonesian teacher, said, "We would like to thank the NGPS community for their generous donations of books, stationery, toys, puzzles, games and clothing which will be very much appreciated by the children and families of Navioga Village School. The donations we are able to send will greatly enhance the resources of the local village school. I know the donations will be gratefully received by the villagers."

The Junior School Council did a great job of organising the day, putting posters up and telling all the classes about it. It was so cool to see everyone dressed up in their tropical clothes, even our teachers and principal. We love to have dress up days at school and they are even better when we are doing it for a good cause, like supporting our friends in Navioga village in Fiji.



Lainey, Year 3 reporter

Lessons from the past year



This year was a tough year. With all of the lockdowns, it's been hard to imagine that something good could have come from them. It's been tough but, I think we've learnt some things from it.

A trait we've all learnt this last year would be confidence. We've had to build our confidence to try new things. A majority of us had never experienced home schooling before. After all, the last pandemic was one hundred years ago, the Spanish flu. Pretty much no one from back then is alive today. So, we've tried our best and done something new.

Another trait we've had to foster is creativity. We've only been able to use what we have at home during remote learning, and with so many shops closed, we haven't been able to get some of the materials we needed. So, with only so much material, we have had to think outside the box. Could a trolley act as a train? Can a drone become an elevator? Lockdown forced us to make do with what we've got.

Yet another trait is empathy – we've had to empathise, and envision how our parents and siblings were feeling. If, for example, someone's parents are stressed over the amount of work they have to do at home, one would naturally try to help, yes? You wouldn't want to pester them so they have more to stress over.

And, possibly the most important traits... patience, tolerance and resilience. After all, we've had to put up with staying home all day with our family, which can lead to long, boring days. You can't see your friends, other family members, etc. But we've pushed through.

So, the last couple of years have been hard, but we've got through and done well. I think we've all grown a lot, and everything can be used as a learning experience, for the better. And hopefully that's it for lockdowns.

This is the final report from me, and the last report for this year. Thank you for reading!

Ryan McClurkin

Remembering those who fought for us



Remembrance Day is very, very important to many people around Australia. This day takes place on November 11. Our soldiers were extremely brave, fighting for our country. Every year at the 11th hour on November 11, we have one minute of silence, remembering those who died and also survived in war.

My great nanna Sherly was one of the 59,000 nurses who helped all those who had fallen on their knees, to get back up again. All Australians are proud of this country, because the soldiers fought so hard for us. Our youngest soldier, James Charles Martin, was only 14 years old when he fought in war. We shall remember them.

By Bonnie, Year 5 Writers Club



Year 5/6 students from Gisborne Primary busy at work during an English Masterclass which took place in November.

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Macedon Primary helps restock the Res



Macedon Primary School students enjoyed a fish stocking day at Nursery Reservoir, Macedon, on November 25 in conjunction with the launch of their Landcare fishing program.

The students were involved in helping release 250 catchable rainbow trout and some surprise ex-brood stock trout (called stonkers!). They were educated by Fisheries officers along with a special guest visit by the director of the Victorian Fisheries Authority, Brian Mottram.

The school has a great Landcare program which is undertaken at their Middle Gully reserve. The Res is also within walking distance, so it was with these factors in mind that parent Cara Cummings approached the school to help create this program.

The event focused on sustainable, educational fishing. The students were taught how to identify fish, learnt about size and bag limits, and practised tying a basic fishing knot. They were given the option of participating in a practical lesson where they could try their hand at fishing.



Fisheries officers and students encounter a slippery customer at the Res.

The school has been gifted a class set of fishing rods and the teachers look forward to seeing the Grade 6 students in action at their upcoming school camp.



YOUNG BEAT
with Asher Kroon

Year 7 this year has had its ups and downs. Personally, I thought that COVID would only affect me in Year 6, but that doesn't seem to be so much the case. Due to COVID this year, we had a lot of events cancelled, but that only made the highlights stand out even more.

One of the highlights this year was Funfields. In the first week of school, all the Year 7s got to go to Funfields as a way to find new friends at school. The experience was great and there were barely any lines for the rides. I think we were lucky to end up going because the previous week Funfields had been closed.

Funfields was really good because all the rides (except for one) were open, and all the shops were open as well. There was only one other school there, so we had the whole place to ourselves, and unlike other previous years when my school had gone there, we didn't need to stick with an adult the whole time so we were free to roam anywhere!

Another highlight of the year was when Glenn Manton came to our school. Glenn Manton was a former Carlton AFL player, who told us some amazing and inspirational stories from his book *Real Me, Real You?*

He was a very inspirational person and his dedication to AFL and football is unmatched. Glenn Manton's career had a lot of bumps, but that only made his mindset stronger. Currently he holds one premiership award but he could have got two if he wasn't dropped from the team while playing for Essendon during the 1994 Essendon v West Coast Eagles grand final. Glenn taught us a lot of valuable life lessons, that I surely won't be forgetting anytime soon.

In conclusion, Year 7 was pretty fun despite coronavirus cancelling half of it, and I hope next year we won't have to deal with this virus and its problems any longer.

St Brigid's camp packs a punch

On November 15, the 3/4 students and staff packed the bus to the rim and started their journey to Lady Northcote for middles camp. The 3/4 students enjoyed a spectacular three days filled with action-packed, fun-filled and adrenaline-rich activities such as yabbing, flying fox and giant swing, to name a few!

In the evenings, they enjoyed a movie night and some marshmallows on a stick by the fire. The students and staff had the best time and have memories to cherish forever.

By Abi Phegan and Summer Busby

Camp recount by Coco Sud

After a long time of waiting we were finally going to Lady Northcote Camp. Everyone was so excited and ready to take on the challenges that we would face. The first activity that we faced was the flying fox. I thought it would be a good idea to go first so I did. Our instructor told us all the safety rules and then I took a step off the platform and ZOOM... it felt like I was flying, it was so fun! When it came to dinner time, we had pasta and let me just say it was delicious or as our instructor would say, it was "bellissimo".



Coco yabbing.

My favourite activity was yabbing. The dam was full of yabbies. I had never been yabbing before but it was so much fun! The people from the camp were so kind and friendly I really wish we could have stayed.



The happy "Weather Girls" from Secondary 3: Sienna, Laura and Lucy.

Bullengarook's keen weather watchers



As part of their morning circle activity, the Secondary 3 class at Bullengarook always check the weather radar to see if we might have a wet day timetable. Laura, Lucy and

Sienna do an incredible job interpreting the maps, as well as calling the school leaders with their conclusions and making announcements over the loudspeaker. They have even contacted the Bureau of Meteorology alerting them to glitches in the radar that their eagle eyes have spotted. What a team!

Garry Heald

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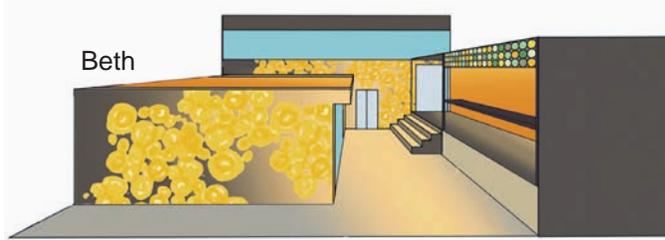
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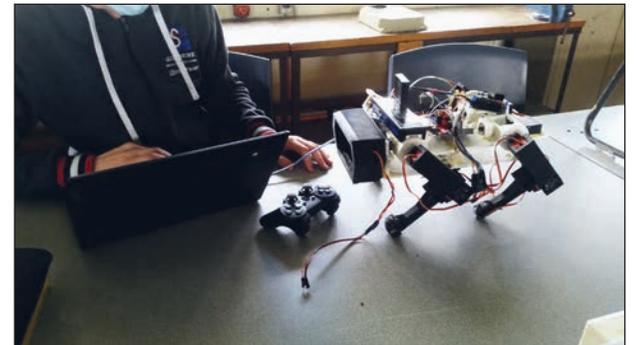
Zoe



Beth

The GSC Art and Technology exhibition is a celebration of the work that senior students undertaking Art & Technology projects have created this year.

With remote learning and difficulty in obtaining materials, students had a struggle to complete their practical folios. The work displayed on this page is testament to their efforts.



Jack
Robodog



Mathew



Lachlan
Electric Drift Bike



Jake



Natarsha



Ryan



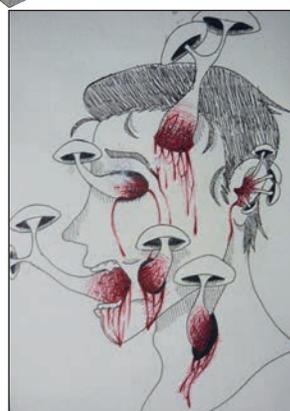
Dylan



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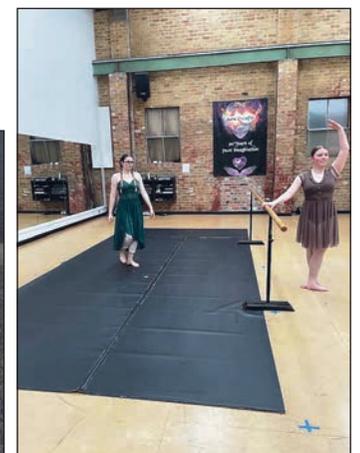
Kiara



Lachlan



Paul



Kim & Emily

CAPTAIN'S RAP with Hayley Fisher



Hayley

Just like that, the school year for 2021 Year 12s is done!

What a privilege it has been, representing the school as College Captain alongside Hamish.

2021 may not have been the year we were expecting, but Year 12s across Victoria have tried their best in difficult circumstances and should be proud no matter the outcome.

A massive thanks to all the Year 12 staff and teachers at GSC for supporting us through our last year of school and making it definitely one to remember.

To all my fellow captains at GSC, thank you for your support and hard work this year in assisting with events and coming forward with ideas for the school.

I wish all Year 12s good luck for next year wherever life takes you, and remind you that there are countless ways to get into your desired courses and to enjoy life after school, especially after our VCE experience.

CAPTAIN'S RAP with Hamish Nicoll



Hamish

Hi everyone. What a whirlwind of a year it has been. It was an absolute honour to be selected and fulfill the role of College Captain at Gisborne Secondary College this year.

Although we have had some challenges this year with COVID, it has been great working with other members and leaders of the school who are all passionate and driven with ideas of improving the school and making Gisborne Secondary College an even better place for students to learn and develop new skills.

It has been a fulfilling year for many of us students at Gisborne and I would like to thank all the teachers who have put in countless hours this year to help better us as students as well as people.

It has been a rewarding experience to be a College Captain and something I will never forget. I will forever keep the skills and experiences I have made throughout my time as a student and captain at GSC.

BRAINBUSTERS QUIZ

1. At which battle was Napoleon Bonaparte finally defeated?
2. What is the predominant religion in India?
3. Name the racecourse in Melbourne where the Cox Plate is run?
4. What is the official language of Brazil?
5. Where is Scotland Yard?
6. Seattle is home to which airline corporation?
7. Name the world capital of country music?
8. Which part of the human body would you find the humerus?
9. In which New South Wales town would you find "The Big Prawn"?
10. In which year was Bankcard introduced in Australia?

Answers ► page 39

Scholarship reminder

Students who just completed Year 12 (or did VCE in 2020 and took a gap year) who are starting university next year are encouraged to apply for one of Community Bank Gisborne & District's \$5000 university scholarships and other Bendigo Bank

network scholarships for which they are eligible. Search "Bendigo Bank scholarships" for details and online applications or email mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com for information. Applications close in February – "You've got to be in it to win it."



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GAZETTE STUDENT AWARDS

HOLY CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL



Mia Freijah

Welcoming, humble, kind-hearted, trustworthy, responsible, diligent and fun are but a few words that describe the beautiful Mia Freijah. She has been a well-liked and supportive classmate this year. Her attitude towards learning and general school life was exemplary.

Mia has been a quiet achiever, she was prepared to step outside of her comfort zone and has never shied away from acting upon feedback. Congratulations Mia!



Lachlan Barnes

Lachlan Barnes joined Holy Cross at the beginning of this year in Grade Six, and from his first day, his lovely nature, positivity and hardworking attitude were evident to us all. Apart from his ability to easily make friends and his great work ethic

when working in class, Lachlan has also shined brightly on the sports field. He has represented Holy Cross with pride when swimming, in athletics and in cross country with great success. Congratulations on receiving this award, Lachlan!

GISBORNE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Ben Luck

Ben is an outstanding student who approaches all tasks with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. He actively participates in all aspects of school life, both inside and outside of the classroom and always works hard to achieve his personal best. Ben is a great role model for his peers, consistently

demonstrating our school values through his caring and respectful nature. He has shown incredible resilience this year when adjusting to the challenges of remote learning, displaying student agency and making the most of all learning opportunities.



Millie Damen

Millie is a hardworking dedicated student who is always willing to go above and beyond to improve her learning. Her kind and caring nature means she has developed positive relationships with all of her peers and she often puts the needs of others above her own. She displays fantastic student agency,

completing all of her work to a very high standard. This year Millie has been a fantastic leader, completing several articles for the school newsletter, participating in many different school activities such as sporting teams while always displaying the school values in everything she does.

Well done, everyone!

The *Gazette* is pleased to announce its 2021 Student Awards. Each year two students are selected by their school and receive a certificate and \$50. Congratulations to all recipients!

NEW GISBORNE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Hamish is a student who has consistently worked hard this year. He strives to achieve his personal best in all subjects but has shown a particular passion and talent in mathematical problem-solving challenges. The extra effort he put in during class and in his own time was rewarded with excellent results in the 2021 Australasian Maths Olympiad, scoring in the top 30%. As one of the quiet achievers, Hamish always puts in 100% effort.



George has approached all school and extracurricular activities with enthusiasm and determination. He has been an excellent role model in the classroom and school yard, showing humour, kindness and tolerance. As a school leader he has brought his problem-solving abilities and maturity to

the role and the school has been a better place for his efforts.

GISBORNE SECONDARY COLLEGE



Hayley Fisher



Hamish Nicoll

Hayley and Hamish have exemplified what college captains should be – demonstrating great leadership ability throughout the year. During the challenging times of remote

learning and the back and forth to onsite learning, they kept in contact with the student body providing reassurance and encouragement whilst managing their own VCE studies. They also consistently engaged with college leadership with ideas to improve the student experience and represented the college at important events such as the Anzac Day whole school assembly.

ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



Amelia McDougall

Amelia is a quiet, dedicated learner who has applied herself across all learning areas. She has entered our St Brigid's community in recent years and fully embraced our school expectations. Amelia excels in horse riding and has successfully represented St Brigid's in a number of inter-school events. Amelia is a cooperative class member and works diligently to achieve high results. We wish Amelia best wishes in all she does in the coming years.



Xavier Thornton

Xavier is a dedicated and self-motivated member of the St Brigid's Learning Community. He applies himself fully to all learning activities and demonstrates a strong sense of leadership. He is an active member of our school Mini Vinnies committee and volunteers his free time for others. He is passionate about sports and always puts

100 percent into whatever he does. We look forward to seeing Xavier excel in his future endeavours.

MACEDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Noah Rocard

Noah Rocard is an outstanding student at Macedon Primary School. His role as Student Council President showcased his leadership qualities and determination to support our community with enthusiasm. Noah is always at the forefront with delivering information to the school at assemblies and we congratulate him on his efforts and wish him great success in years to come.



Alexa Rogers

Alexa Rogers has been a diligent advocate as one of our Environmental Captains at Macedon Primary School. She always encourages others to show care for the environment starting up programs such as 'Waste Free Wednesdays' and supporting the Middle Gully Reserve program with helping to establish our indigenous garden and student Landcare management activities.



Sunbury & Macedon Ranges Specialist School

BULLENGAROOK SECONDARY CAMPUS



Ethan Nicholls

Ethan has demonstrated great maturity over the past year at Bullengarook. Ethan is a real quiet achiever who completes all of his work and sets a great example for others at the school. We are looking forward to seeing Ethan progress further as he enters

the VCAL program in 2022. Congratulations Ethan.



Lilly-Rose Dunne

Lilly-Rose has completed an excellent year across all facets of the school program. She is a key member of the class team that operates the school canteen on Thursdays and is able to work safely, independently and

efficiently. She has a great sense of humour and is a very popular member of the school community. Good luck in Year 12, Lilly!

MOUNT MACEDON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Liv Jacobson

Liv has shown great leadership skills in a year of uncertainty and disruptions. She has been dependable and has been able to adapt and be flexible in her role as School Captain. Her thoughtfulness and care for the students of Mount Macedon Primary have made her a great role model for students in the community. She should be proud of her achievements and growth this year.



Isabella Glenister

Bella has been a wonderful School Captain for the Mount Macedon Primary community. She has exhibited a 'can do' attitude in a year of difficult and variable circumstances. She has consistently shown her caring nature to her fellow students and has acted with compassion and commitment in her role. Bella's kind nature has left a remarkably positive impact on everyone at MMPS. Well done Bella!



Proudly sponsored by
Bruce Ellis, Chiropractor

SCOUTING



Dressing up for Halloween.

Guides hold Promise ceremony

Gisborne Lightning Guides were excited to be able to hold a Promise ceremony for Hollie, Zara, Madison and Isla in an outdoor venue so that families could witness this exciting and important event. The girls were presented with their sash and Promise badge.

This term the girls completed their Science badge challenges, undertook the first nature hunt for the Bush Blitz badge, celebrated Halloween and learnt about being safe in the outdoors.

To finish off the term we will be undertaking Christmas-related craft and cooking activities in preparation for our Breakup party.

Six of our members joined another



er 90 girls from River Region who travelled to Kooyoora State Park, near Inglewood, for outdoor challenges which included a walk through the Melville Caves. The girls all had a fantastic day.

Guides will take a break from December 9 and several of our members will attend the state camp in late January. Guides will resume on February 10.

We welcome enquiries from girls aged 7.5 or older to come and try Guiding.

Phone Deb on 0409 542 619 for



Zara, Madison, Isla and Hollie after being presented with their Guide sash.

details. We meet on Thursday nights between 5pm and 6:30pm at the hall in Daly Reserve.



Some Joeys (ably assisted by an older Scout) canoeing at the Res.

News from 1st Gisborne

Scouts from 1st Gisborne have certainly been out and about this term.

One Wednesday the Joeys kitted up in their life jackets and had an enjoyable time canoeing around the beautiful Nursery Reservoir ('The Res') in Macedon. The next it was off to Gisborne Cemetery to learn more about our Gisborne forebears in the peaceful surrounds of well-tended gardens and stately old trees.

They will soon be making Christmas craft items for the residents of the Oaks.

The Cubs have been canoeing (a popular activity at 1st Gisborne Scouts) and have been keeping the Scout Hall grounds presentable by doing some gardening around the hall.

The Scouts had a successful day walking through the bush, setting up tents, cooking dinner and then packing up the following morning – there were some very tired Scouts at the end of the weekend. They have also been busy preparing for the Jamboree at Elmore at the end of December. A Jamboree is a massive event, held every three years. It is 10 days of action, expeditions and



Joeys at the Gisborne Cemetery.

entertainment, camping with thousands of other Scouts. Excitement, fun and adventure for all.

The Bundaleer Rover Unit enjoyed a campfire on a chilly Gisborne night and are going on another scavenger hunt in the local vicinity – I wonder what they will find?

With COVID restrictions easing, the Scouts of 1st Gisborne have lost no time in joining together to enjoy and explore the great outdoors.

Carolyn Goode (Assistant Joey Leader)

New Gisborne Scouts

(Church of Christ Scouts)

It's been great being outside in November and we look forward to much more as our Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Leaders prepare for the Victorian Jamboree (VicJam) at Elmore the end of the year.

We were delighted to visit Rowallan Scout Camp to listen to local state MP and Minister Mary-Anne Thomas formally announce \$75,000 in state funding towards our Scout Hut.

We are awaiting Council planning permission for the newly expanded project.

Further donations are welcome and are tax deductible.

Our Group is very proud of our Cub Scout Victoria. She has just qualified for her Grey Wolf badge, the highest award in the Cub Scout section.

Victoria is "going up" to Scouts soon and will attend VicJam in late December.

Through these challenging times we remember our Law and Promise, living out "love thy neighbour".

Our thoughts and prayers continue for all frontline COVID workers.

We usually meet on Wednesdays, 6:30pm-8pm with Venturers on Fridays, but our weekly schedule is flexible due to COVID.

Our activities cover the ages ranges from 5 to 18.

Please contact Group Leader "Skipper" on 0450 922 787 or email



New "Grey Wolf" recipient Victoria (kneeling centre) listening to Mary-Anne Thomas MP announce further funding for our Scout Hut.



Cub Scout Emily explains the finer points of dodge ball to Akela.

johnfrearson@mac.com) to learn more about our weekly activities and the fun and challenges ahead.

John Frearson

William Leslie Handley (Bill)

OBITUARY 1933-2021

Born in Brunswick to Bill and Gertie Handley, Bill had three brothers, Colin, Ken and Bob, and a sister, Norma. He attended St Margaret Mary's School in Brunswick.

Upon leaving school, Bill took up an apprenticeship as a fitter and turner with S.J. Brown and with Climatemaster Engineering, and at the Melbourne Town Hall. He later worked as a traffic engineer for the Melbourne City Council.

Bill met his future wife, Lesla, in Brunswick and they married at St Margaret Mary's in 1957. Their first home of 26 years was in Reservoir. They spent 17 years in Bundoora and in 2001 moved to Gisborne. Bill and Lesla have two children, Christine and Mark, four grandchildren, Erin, Paul, Ashtyn and Joshua, and three great-grandchildren, Emme, Patrick and Pia.

Bill and Lesla loved to travel. Bill's favourite destination was Lake Dartmouth where he kept his boat and van; he also loved Eden NSW, the Gold Coast and Noosaville in Queensland.



Bill Handley

He played football for North Brunswick Young Christian Workers and Catholic Young Men's Society. Bill was asked to turn professional at basketball but declined as the couple were waiting to move into their first home. He also was

a member of the Melbourne Mexicans Fishing Club and attended many fishing competitions at Lake Eucumbene. He really enjoyed fishing and gardening. Bill took a great interest in his children's sporting achievements.

While working at the Melbourne Town Hall, Bill came into contact with many celebrities, his favourites being Frida from ABBA and Dame June Bronhill.

Bill and Lesla remained friends with many pupils from St Margaret Mary's and for a number of years would go on an annual four-day weekend together.

Bill was a Richmond supporter and enjoyed most good music, especially rappers. Bill and Lesla were married for 64 years.

In recent time, Bill was a resident of the Oaks Nursing Home. He passed away on October 30. A funeral service was held at St Brigid's on November 5.

Mark James Oliver

OBITUARY 1959-2021

Well-known local chef and cook in the Macedon Ranges Mark Oliver passed away on October 24 at the Epworth Hospital.

Mark was born in Brunswick, the eldest son to Jim and Rikki, on September 18, 1959. He attended Coolaroo South Primary and Sunbury High School.

Upon leaving school, Mark began his long cooking career at the Travelodge at Melbourne Airport. Mark met Karen Vilips while at Sunbury High School and in 1981 they married at St Paul's Anglican Church, Gisborne. Their first home was in Station Street, New Gisborne.

During this time, Mark and Karen owned and operated the Pot Pourri Restaurant in Gisborne until 1984, followed by the Steer and Anchor Restaurant in Sunbury up until 2000. From 2001-2015, together with their son Hayden and daughter-in-law Tash, they operated Black Widow Enterprises followed by RV Trade and Fleet in New Gisborne. Hayden and Tash will now continue to operate this business.



Mark Oliver

Mark played junior and senior football for Sunbury and was a champion goal kicker. He enjoyed fishing, gold detecting and driving his 4WD.

He was also a fine guitarist and regularly played at the Telegraph Hotel in Gisborne and the Railway Hotel, Sunbury.

Mark was an ardent supporter of the Western Bulldogs.

Mark and Karen enjoyed travelling in outback and central Australia. Mark was a history buff and on holidays would follow the routes of explorers and historical gold finds in Central Australia. They also travelled extensively throughout Australia showing their products at all major cities and many country towns, attending 4WD Caravan and Camping shows.

Mark and Karen have two children, Jason, married to Belinda, and Hayden, married to Tash. They have three grandchildren, Alex, Ruby and Emily.

A funeral service was held at the Macedon Ranges Hotel and Spa on Friday November 5.

RAMS loves the Macedon Ranges.

Chris and the team at RAMS Gisborne have been supporting the home ownership dreams of Macedon Ranges locals for more than 20 years. Speak to the team to see how they could help you too, because home loans are what we do.

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

Chris Lee
5420 7951



SPORT IN PICTURES



Gisborne v Gisborne – November 6. Bad luck for Tom Watson.



U11 cricket – Gisborne v Romsey – November 19.



Gisborne v Gisborne – November 6. Wicket keeper Dean Markham gives it his all.



Zack Paterson bats in U17s – Gisborne v Kilmore – November 20.



Bailey Holt, U17 Girls – Gisborne v Malmesbury – November 19.



Mike Allan, Gisborne v Gisborne – November 6.

Gisborne netballers v Gisborne footballers basketball fun day – November 13.



Steve Graham, Macedon v Romsey – November 13.

Pictures by Chris Fleming



More hi-jinks at the fun day – November 13.



Lesley Ritch, Gisborne v Macedon – November 13.



Gisborne v Gisborne – November 6. Will Mackay on the bat.



Petanque Club enjoying freedom



Mt Macedon Petanque Club is benefitting from the easing of COVID restrictions. It was able to run the second part of the inaugural Golden Boule competition with Maldon Petanque Club.

Mt Macedon performed well but did not have the overall points to win the whole competition, with Maldon winning 31-29.

Club members travelled to Ballarat on November 14 and in freezing conditions, two of the teams had success. Rhonda Shears, Danny Green and Earle Ware finished second in the Principale while June Hunter, Bob Bossner and Terry Hunter won the Complementary.

The club is really happy to be able to run the twice postponed Triples competition on Sunday December 5. A maximum of 20 teams have already been filled and the club is looking forward to welcoming members from across Victoria for the first time since 2019. Drop by to the grounds behind the Caltex Servo to have a look at the game in action.

In sad news, the club announces that Danielle Bommarito has passed away. Danielle was a much-loved member of the club.

The weekly Wednesday playday now starts earlier at 2pm, running until 5pm. Coaching sessions are held from 1-2pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays for those keen to improve their game skills.

Saturday playdays run from 10am to 1pm. COVID-safe policies remain in place. For enquiries please go to our website: mtmacedonpetanque.org, and for updates visit our Facebook page.

Alison Kinghorn



Terry Hunter, June Hunter and Bob Bossner, win the Complementary in Ballarat.



Earle Ware, Rhonda Shears and Danny Green, placed second in the Principale in Ballarat.



Midweek ladies competition in action.

Macedon Ranges Netball Association



Wow, after months of no netball we are finally back! We are incredibly pleased to say that our MRNA Ladies Midweek Competition is back up and running for a few more rounds. It was great to have

our players and umpires take the court.

Our new barbecue structure has been constructed thanks to a grant from Rob Mitchell. And thanks to our main sponsor, Bendigo Bank, more player shelters will be installed in the new year.

Our complex will look fantastic for our 2022 sea-

son. Thank you to all our other 2021 sponsors, Macedon Ranges Family Law, Kyneton Toyota, Ranges Medical, RT Edgar, Sopranos and Gisborne Dental Group.

Thank you to our executive committee and to our volunteers who have helped with the 2021 season. Finally, MRNA would like to wish our extended netball community a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We are looking forward to our 2022 season with our belated 40th birthday festivities and season launch scheduled for early in the new year.

MRNA executive

Q: When is tennis all about sitting?



A: When you've got great new facilities.

South Gisborne Tennis club members and Gilligan Reserve users have welcomed the addition of permanent seating and a picnic setting.

The club would like to acknowledge the Macedon Ranges Shire community grants scheme for the opportunity for local groups to seek funding to improve their facilities, from which all users will benefit.

Huge shout out to Chris from Chris's Bricklaying services for the great install and the additional seating. Now if it would just stop raining, we could all be



Sara and Thomas watching some tennis coaching from the new seating.

watching some entertaining tennis being played on the courts!

Looking forward to an uninterrupted year of tennis and events in 2022. Wishing all in our community a fabulous Christmas and New Year.

Gail Scott



Louise Ball is well prepared for when the rush starts.



It's a social scene on the green.

Food and bowls join forces at Gisborne Bowling Club

Gisborne Bowling Club began its Barefoot Bowling season on November 9 with 16 teams turning up for the first rollup of the evening.

The event was well organised by Rob and Ailene Paterson. Ron Formica kept the refreshments flowing at the bar while Louise Ball mastered the sausage sizzle brilliantly, which was evident by how quickly the snags were being consumed.



The weather held up well with a nice balmy evening and both the grass and carpet rings were used to accommodate the superb turnout.

An added event of the evening was a vehicle collision outside the club on Kilmore Road which resulted in the road being blocked to traffic at both ends. Thankfully there were no injuries and the

road was reopened just before the end of the bowling session.

Wednesday's session was called off on November 10 due to bad weather but successfully ran the following week, hosted by David and Robyn Wesney. Beau Warrener manned the refreshments while Maureen Warrener did a fantastic sizzle for all. Twelve teams played on Wednesday. *David Campbell*



Gazette committee member Maxine Barker (second from left) presents the winner's trophy to Kathy Richards, flanked by Maryanne O'Connell (president Gisborne Golf Club Ladies Committee), left, and Louise Le Lievre (ladies' captain), right.

Ladies play for Gazette trophy



Lady members of Gisborne Golf Club gathered on November 17 to acknowledge the winner of this year's Gazette Trophy. The trophy was presented for the second year in a row to Gisborne resident Kathy Richards, by Maxine Barker, distribution manager of the Gazette.

The ladies expressed their great appreciation and thanks to the Gazette for the ongoing support of this coveted trophy, which is a Staleford event played over two weeks.

Maryanne O'Connell



Gisborne B1/2 winning team for the winter season. Jordan Campbell, Ethan Cruickshank, Michael Dodd, Daniel Muggli and Christopher Herrera.



Gisborne A2/3 winning team for the winter season: Fintan Light, Liam McSwiggan, Josh Campbell, Sam Vescovi, Alyssa Patton and Tim Cardillo.

Gisborne Tennis Club able to complete comp



A lot has been happening at Gisborne Tennis Club. Junior competition is back underway, with 10 teams playing across Friday nights and Saturday mornings this summer.

The return of tennis also allowed last season's grand finals to be completed. Congratulations to the A2/3 Steel and B1/2 Nickel teams who took out the premierships!

Leigh Chapman

Ever thought of playing croquet?

Come and join us and meet friendly people while exercising.



Play socially, or if you are more competitive, join a team for pennant competition.

Free lessons available for beginners. A great way to meet new people and be involved with a very welcoming club. Call our president, Noeline Richardson, on 0426 500 516.

This month's club report ► next page



A popular introduction to navigation sports for the family.

Orienteering back for summer series



Central Highlands Orienteers look forward to welcoming you back to our summer series commencing in December. Following on with the success of using Maprun last summer, we will be offering a range of courses with even more controls to locate.

There will be four courses (2.5km up to 9km) on offer, additional to our popular power walking course. Course D will be suitable for older children to run independently with controls avoiding road crossings.

This series is a popular introduction to navigation sports for the family and for fitter people looking to add interest to their regular walk or training run. The events take up to an hour (all in daylight) and use a map of each town.



Orienteers of all ages can take part, either walking or running.



SUMMER ORIENTEERING SERIES

Registration from 6.30pm.

December 1, Woodend. Information centre, High Street

December 8, Gisborne. Dixon Field, Robertson Street

December 15, Macedon. Tony Clarke Reserve, Waterfalls Road.

For more details visit our website: www.centralhighlands.weebly.com

Wendy Taverna
Central Highlands Orienteers

Wow, it's the end of 2021 already



Members of the Macedon Ranges Ulysses Branch (MRUB) are eagerly looking forward to some great summer riding.

You'll see more of us on the road with the easing of COVID restrictions and the promise of great weather. Our members have already enjoyed several good rides post-restriction with more outings and events planned over the festive season.

In the past, motorcycling in December was often associated with large multi-club toy runs as a way of helping less fortunate families in our communities. Many MRUB riders participated regularly and our photo this month features Michael, one of our past club presidents, participating in a local toy run. This year there is some uncertainty about several of the Melbourne-based toy runs with the possibility of "virtual" events and perhaps smaller local rides.

Keep an eye out for any toy runs and their charities, and give generously if you can.

If you are interested in joining MRUB, come along to Gisborne's Saturday morning tyre-kick. Good weather will see more of us with our bikes out of mothballs. Check us out online at www.mrub.org.au or join us on Facebook for the latest news. See you riding the Ranges this summer!

Cherry Cole



Immediate past president Michael and his bike at an annual Christmas toy run. Picture: Michael Bevan



Phil Malkiewicz with his stonker rainbow trout.

Back to fly fishing for trout

October and November saw the return of club members, especially those from Metropolitan homes to fly fishing both lakes and rivers. After the recent rains waters were up and trout food plentiful. Release of



**CALDER
FLY FISHING
ASSOCIATION**

bigger fish by Victorian Fisheries also ensured some better size fish were there to tempt a good cast.

In October Stephan tried Moorabool Reservoir reporting crazy hatches of flies with lots of small, stocked fish beating the bigger fish to his casts. At least he managed to catch two of the smaller ones. Later in November he managed to catch a good rainbow trout that had refused to take the dry fly on top but later smashed the nymph fly below within a second of the first cast.

Norm took the kayak out to Tullaroop in November. He saw some good size trout chasing damselflies on top of the water. He missed a good size one on the first line drift but landed a big brown trout on his second try with an orange beaded olive fly. But late in the afternoon, as can happen, the action just died off. Later he managed to get big brown at Moorabool.

Phil had a great day in November drifting the Goulburn River catching a "stonker" rainbow and more than 20 smaller brown trout and rainbows.

If you'd like to know more about the Calder Fly Fishing Association please visit <http://www.calderfly-fishing.com.au/>

Louis Bokor

Macedon Ranges Croquet Club update



Play has been on-again, off-again due to the very wet weather we have been experiencing. The courts have come up well and 'the lake' subsided.

The council has attended to some drainage issues. Lines will be marked as soon as the courts are really dry.

An in house Social Day was played on November 24. Twenty members had lots of fun playing four games on B courts.

Liz is organising some activities for those interested in playing pennant. Many thanks to Liz for her donation of a new microwave.

The council's Recreation Engagement Program requested a visit, which was held recently. A visit will take place annually.

We send our good wishes to our unwell members.

The club's Christmas lunch will be held at Macedon Lounge on December 8, at noon. A general meeting will be held in the clubrooms at 10.30am prior to the lunch.

We wish readers best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Faye Armstrong



The excitement of Christmas is extra special this year

Unto us a Son is born....

How we need the excitement of Christmas. It's been a long dreary year of checking daily case numbers and exposure sites and thinking carefully about where and even whether to go out. And now it's the season of Advent which means 'coming'.

This year we won't complain about super-market carols. We certainly won't complain that we can visit family and friends. We should also spare a thought for a young man and his pregnant wife, so long ago, making an uncomfortable trip. No reservations for them when they reach their destination; all that's on offer is a shed.



A traditional icon tells the Christmas story.

In remembering that story we are indeed putting Christ into Christmas. Perhaps this December we'll enjoy the quiet of that stable more than reindeer clattering on rooftops.

Our Uniting Church congregation was enthused by this year's Peter Barcham lecture, a usually annual event named for the first principal of then Gisborne High School and one of this town's most community-minded citizens.

The delay of 21 months was no longer important when the Rev Dr Peter Blackwood invited us to share his enthusiasm and knowledge of the ancient tradition of icons, a central feature of Eastern

Orthodox churches. The Holy Family (pictured) is a frequent subject of this wonderful art.

And now it's time for announcements of more opportunities to gather: **Plant Sale:** Another plant sale will be held in the church car park on Saturday December 5 (if snowing then the following Saturday!). **Muffin 'n More** resumes after its long interruption on Tuesday December 14, from 10am-12pm. The theme? Our best Christmas ever.



The Uniting Church Christmas Eve service will be at 7.30pm and a very happy Christmas Day service is planned for 9.30am the following morning. It's time to celebrate.

Janet Wood

Dawn celebrates 90th birthday



Celebrations were shared with Dawn Rasmus on her 90th birthday with a cake and card after the service at the Mt Macedon Uniting Church in early November.

Dawn had a long and diverse career as a Salvation Army officer with her husband before retiring to Woodend several years ago. More recently, Dawn joined our congregation when travelling to the Moreland Army Corps became stressful.

We enjoy her vibrancy and many contributions to our services and Thistle Club. She continues to make the community a better place.

On reflection, this has been a good year for our congregation. We only missed eight services due to COVID as we fit within the 20-person limits and have good vax cover. Thistle Club and Men's Groups also met with only relatively minor disturbances. Next year we hope to have near normal activities again.



Dawn Rasmus's 90th birthday celebration.

Our annual Christmas Eve service of carols and lessons will return this year at 7pm. Our Christmas Day service will be at 9am. Visitors are most welcome to both services.

Thank you to the response to our columns over the past year.

Congratulations to the *Gazette* team on again winning awards. It is a privilege to be able to contribute our news and events.

We wish all readers a blessed Christmas and safe New Year.

Neil Tweddle
5426 2045

- St Brigid's Parish
 • St Brigid's Gisborne • St Patrick's Macedon
 • St Ambrose's Riddell's Creek

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Weekday Masses



- Dec 21 – 5pm St Brigid's
- Dec 22 – 7pm St Brigid's - *Communal Service of Forgiveness*
- Dec 24 – 10am-3pm *Individual Reconciliation by appointment only*

Christmas Mass timetable

- Dec 24 – 7pm St Brigid's (carols 6.30pm) (please bring chair) (fully vaccinated)
- Dec 24 – 9pm St Patrick's (fully vaccinated)
- Dec 24 – 11pm St Brigid's (carols 10.30pm) (fully vaccinated) *Carols subject to current COVID restrictions
- Dec 25 – 9am St Ambrose's (outdoors, please bring a chair) (fully vaccinated)
- Dec 25 – 10.30am St Brigid's (fully vaccinated)
- Dec 26 – 8am St Ambrose's (fully vaccinated)
- 9.30am St Patrick's (fully vaccinated)
- 11am St Brigid's (fully vaccinated)
- 5pm St Brigid's

Jan 1 – 10am St Brigid's (fully vaccinated)

Jan 2022 – Normal weekend Mass times

*Please note if COVID-19 restrictions are still in place, please check the website www.cam.org.au/gisborne to find out how to book in.

St Brigid's Parish Weekend Masses

- Sat – 6pm St Brigid's (fully vaccinated)
- Sun – 8am St Ambrose's (fully vaccinated)
- Sun – 9.30am St Patrick's (fully vaccinated)
- Sun - 11am St Brigid's (fully vaccinated)
- Sun – 5pm St Brigid's

House of the Rock Church

"Glory to man in the Highest, Peace in Heaven, Good will towards God."

Hmm... Somehow, that doesn't sound quite right!

Unfortunately, this sad distortion of the original joyful declaration of the Angels announcing Jesus' birth that first Christmas night, is a truer reflection of our present age.

In recent years, we've given glory to humanity's achievements in



space...our "highest".

Then, looking across our conflicted world, heaven seems to be the only place where Peace reigns

while our busy lifestyles, priorities and attitudes leave little room for even a nod of good will towards God.

A young woman delivering a package to a nearby church office was fascinated to overhear the rehearsal of a Christmas Nativity play. Returning

to her place of work she asked a colleague why anyone would ever name a baby after a swear word? Apparently, she had only ever heard the name of Jesus as an expletive.

His birth wasn't about a cute little baby, pretty lights, gifts and overlaid tables, but a heavenly Prince born in lowly circumstances, living a perfect life, not simply an example to follow, but to die in our place. Because of this, we can thank him personally for

taking the penalty we deserve for the wrong things we do, say and even think, and be forgiven by God who changes us from the inside out, to truly live for Jesus.

"Glory to God in the Highest, Peace on earth, good will toward all people."

Evelyn Sims



HOTRock Church Christmas service, 247 Station Rd, New Gisborne: Christmas Eve, Friday December 24, 7pm.

Reimagining local church as mission communities



The Melbourne Archdiocese has a program to develop mission communities to facilitate three aims: Greater effectiveness in sharing the Gospel, Vibrant, vital and viable communities, and Equitable sharing of resources.

Now that COVID restrictions are easing we have an opportunity to discuss the Mission process with parishioners and gather suggestions and views.

The Mission team consists of Fr Vinoth, Andrea Grant, Jayne O'Callaghan, Paul Sammut and Neville Spiers. Initially the team needs to update contact details of parishioners and determine who would like to be contacted about the mission process. All interested parishioners will then take part in focus groups, surveys and discussions to discuss the future of the parish.

You are invited to update your details on the parish register and advise if you would like to participate in the Mission process by clicking on the link 'Parishioner Details Update Form', or enter the following URL in your web browser: <https://bit.ly/parishmission>

This is a fantastic opportunity for parishioners to express how they would like to see the direction the Parish takes in the Mission and how it will look in the future. Please feel free to discuss this process with any of the team.

*Jayne O'Callaghan 0427 855 471
on behalf of the Mission Team*



ANGLICAN PARISH OF GISBORNE: Church of the Resurrection, Macedon; St John's, Riddells Creek; St Paul's, Gisborne

The gift of ourselves, the 'real thing'



For our community, it is easy to note that this time last year, Christmas was a bit like the time of the birth of Jesus.

Luke's Gospel tells of the need to return to the town of family origin for a census.

The census resulted in the famous 'no room in the inn' and Jesus' birth in the most impoverished circumstances.

2020-21 was a period that saw many of us in our homes, unable to journey to our places of origin.

Being resourceful, we were able to use technology to be 'virtually' present. There is, however, no substitute for the real thing.

What will this Christmas bring?

Hopefully, togetherness and reunion will be foremost.

Buying presents may be important, but it is the gift of ourselves that many will cherish.

To be there.

To be here.

To be ourselves.

What a wonderful gift that will be for all of us.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES



December 12 – Advent and Christmas Carols and Readings, Church of the Resurrection, 7.30pm

December 19 – Carols under the Bridge, Riddells Creek, 7.30pm

December 24 – 5.30pm: All Comers and Children's Service, St John's

– 11.30pm Midnight Mass, Church of the Resurrection (Carols from 11pm)

December 25 – Christmas Service with Communion St Paul's, Gisborne, 9am

December 26 – Feast of Stephen, St John's, 10am.

The Christmas story tells of visiting shepherds and wise seers, as well as grateful elders. Who will grace our homes and tables in 2021?

The Christmas story is about God's love for us. May all at your homes and table share in love the gift of being ourselves.

Dennis Webster

Expressions of Interest for the Geelong Cemeteries Trust Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for Gisborne Cemetery

The Geelong Cemeteries Trust administers twenty-one cemetery sites across the Geelong, Bellarine, Queenscliff, Surf Coast, Colac-Otway and Gisborne Regions, providing services for approximately 3,400 deceased per annum. The Trust is seeking applications from interested persons to be considered for an appointment as a voluntary member of the Trust's Community Advisory Committee for the Gisborne Cemetery.

To be considered for this Committee you will be required to be a community-minded person who is currently active within the community and have strong community networks, including a sound understanding of local and regional issues. You will also be required to contribute consumer and community views from a diverse and inclusive perspective.

For further information regarding these appointments or to download the application, please visit our website at <https://www.gct.net.au/about-us/community-advisory-committee/>

Alternatively, you can contact the Trust Administration Office on (03) 5249 3939 or via email to info@gct.net.au

Application forms will be received until 12.00 noon on Monday 10 January 2022.

John Mitchell
Trust Chair

Brenda Richardson
CAC Co-Chair

Rieny Nieuwenhof
CAC Co-Chair





**100
YEARS AGO**

From the pages of the old *Gisborne Gazette**

DECEMBER 1921

*The 1921 *Gisborne Gazette* is not available so these items have been drawn from other newspapers.

Gisborne Pony Races in aid of the Progress Association. – A well attended pony race meeting was held on the Gisborne racecourse yesterday. The special train from Melbourne was well patronised and as the course is close to Melbourne many racegoers made the trip by motor-car. The course was in splendid condition.

Licences Transferred – Approval has been given by the Licensing Court to the following transfers of victuallers' licenses: Hurst's Family Hotel, New Gisborne: Richard Pearson to Edith B. Williams. Victorian Hotel, Gisborne, Ellen O'Connor to Walter L. Noy.

Mount Macedon – Mount Macedon's boarding houses have been fully booked up for the holiday season ... to secure accommodation bookings have to be made weeks ahead. The tennis club is having an asphalt court laid down at Stanley Park. The progress association has had the tracks to beauty spots put in repair and tables and fireplaces built at the picnic grounds. The weekly dances held by the working men's club will commence on Saturday, December 17.

Confirmation at Sunbury. His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne (the Most Rev. Dr. Mannix) administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 104 children, including 23 from Gisborne, in St Mary's Church, Sunbury, on Wednesday afternoon, 14th inst. His Grace was accorded a magnificent reception on his arrival and all the leading features of his enthusiastic welcome were taken by a cinematograph operator. The film will be displayed throughout the district.

Gisborne Shire Minutes 6th Dec. 1921 Soldiers Memorial Committee asking for permission to erect a Monument in Hamilton Street. That permission granted subject to the Engineer's approval.

Crs. Kneebone and O'Donnell raised the issue of wandering stock; sheep dips need repairs, and draining yards to be coated with cement. – Carried.

A Committee Meeting was held on 20th Dec for the purpose of paying accounts.

General A/c £78.3.9
Country Roads Board £150.4.5
El. Light £1.0.0

**COME BACK TO GISBORNE
BOXING DAY CARNIVAL**
On Island Reserve.

Under auspices of Gisborne Sports Club. Sawing, Wood Chop & Athletic Competitions, Flag, High Jump and Bending Races on Horseback, and numerous other events.



**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 MRFEC Gisborne
FOCUS CLUB 2nd Fri 12 noon Gisborne Golf Club
FRIENDS OF JACKSONS CREEK working bees 3rd Sun 10-noon
David Tunbridge 0415 534 477

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

HISTORICAL SOCIETY open Wed 10am-4pm Court House

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

MARTIAL ARTS Thurs from 6pm St Brigid's Hall;
gisborne@juseikan.com.au

MASONIC LODGE 2nd Thurs 7pm Masonic Hall Aitken St
MASTERS AFL Wed 6.30pm Sankey Reserve
MT MAC & DIST HORT SOC 1st Tues 8pm Horticultural Hall
MUFFINS 'N' MORE 2nd Tues 10am-noon Uniting Church
MUMS' GROUP 2nd Mon 9.30-11.30am 49 Fisher St

OBDIANCE DOG CLUB Sun 9am Riddells Rec Res

PETANQUE 2nd & 4th Sat 10am behind Caltex service
station, Station Rd, Gisborne 0439 887 178

PHOENIX ART & CRAFTS 1st Thursday phoenixmrac.com
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOC 1st Tues & 2nd Mon 7pm Dromkeen, Riddells Ck
PONY CLUB Bullengarook 1st Sunday Rec Reserve
PONY CLUB Gisborne 1st Sunday Robertson Reserve
PROBUS 1st Thurs 10am Mechanics Inst.

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

RAMBLERS Fridays 9.15am Tennis Club Dixon Field
ROTARY (Gisborne) First & third Tues evening, email gisbornerotary@
gmail.com for confirmation of venue

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

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

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

ULYSSES GROUP 3rd Tues 6pm Sunbury FC

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

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

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

Baringo Film Club

The Baringo Film Club runs three screenings per week.

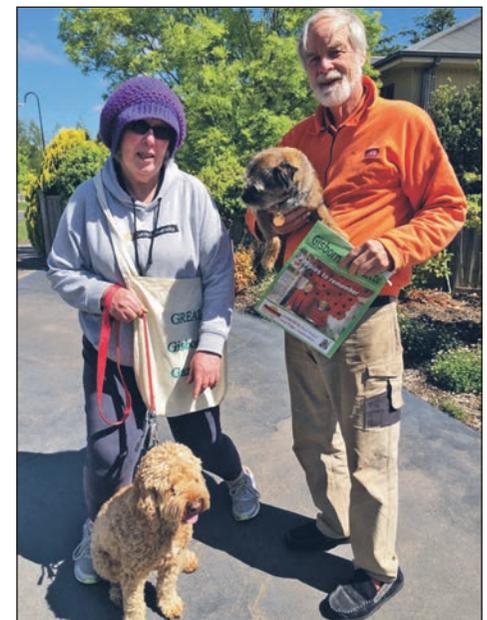
Screening times: 3pm Wednesday
3pm and 6pm Saturday

Dates	Film
DECEMBER	
1-4	<i>We'll End Up Together</i>
8-11	<i>The Mule</i>
15-18	<i>Penguin Bloom</i>

We will take a break until January 12, when films resume:

JANUARY	
12-15	<i>Six Minutes to Midnight</i>
19-22	<i>Six Minutes to Midnight</i>
29 Jan	<i>About A Boy</i>

For membership details see
www.baringofilmclub.com



Gazette distributor Mary-beth O'Brien sent us this happy snap of Gisborne Gazette reader Bernhard Sucher and Nesbo the spoodle who is on holiday in Gisborne while his owner recovers from knee surgery.

JUNIOR QUIZ ANSWERS

from page 25

- Rome
- Australia
- Mount Vesuvius
- 1969
- Paperbacks
- 12
- Atlas
- Jupiter
- 16
- Be Prepared

BRAINBUSTERS ANSWERS

from page 29

- Waterloo
- Hindu
- Moonee Valley
- Portuguese
- London
- Boeing
- Nashville USA
- Arm
- Ballina
- 1974

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



Did you know bushfires kill from **200m** away?

The flames of bushfires can reach temperatures of up to 1100°C. Long before the flames reach you, the wave of radiant heat can kill you from 200 metres away. Planning for bushfire is the only way to survive it.

How well do you know fire?



Plan. Act. Survive. Go to vic.gov.au/knowfire