

# The Bridge

THE KOONDROOK AND BARHAM BRIDGE NEWSPAPER

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A CHAT  
WITH...

PART 3: PAGE 9



*Yours*  
**FREE**  
inside today

## BASIN BOUND: ABSURDITY FOUND



Photo: Sophie Baldwin.

By Lloyd Polkinghorne

Federal government of both sides have presided over a plan to save the Murray Darling Basin.

It is the biggest water reform since Federation, based on political deception, ignorance, scientific perjury, greed, corruption and the raping of our countryside.

And all this is from the information PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.

The Darling, the Murray, the Murrumbidgee, all a mess, but for very different reasons.

The Darling is in trouble from insufficient flow and Murray Darling Basin Plan Sustainable Diversion Limit objectives.

In 2021, in Australia, the average life expectancy for a male in Wilcannia is 38 years, yes 38! For women it is 42, forty bloody two!

If you want to protest about something, how about protest about our brothers and sisters who

are being robbed of the ability to have clean water, food and to teach their culture to their kids. This is happening NOW, as you read this, in Australia, in 2021.

What happens when you remove a food source for people who live on country? What happens when you remove the spiritual mother of the Barkindji? What happens to the kids who have nothing to do?

Michael Kennedy, who cannot teach his kids to fish, described it so well, "Our people were massacred, we then had the stolen generation and now we are the stolen water generation."

Michael isn't hysterically angry, he doesn't preach hate of white oppression, he doesn't want money, he wants access to water! Clean, viable, life giving water!

Their river is now dry more often than not, and yet a flowing river is an integral part of their cul-

ture. We also met Barkindji woman, Muriel Riley, stolen from her home and the river when she was just five years old and now, 60 years later, the river is being taken from her again.

Remember, the two defining priorities of the plan are environment and critical human needs.

The destruction got worse at Menindee, the ecological hotspot that carried more water birds than Kakadu, not to mention fish, kangaroos, and food production.

Fields of dead plantings, lakes like deserts and broken people. The former 2,000 gegalitre, four Sydney Harbours, lake system now targeted to be no more than 88 gegalitres. That's efficiency!

Locals described watching the kangaroos starve to death, fish kills, the death of tourism and depopulation.

The once thriving ecosystems and viable community now another victim of water reform.

Our trip coincided with a NSW Upper House Inquiry into the lake system. We sat and listened as black, white and green all spoke with a common voice. From Elders, environmentalists, town councillors and food producers, a common theme – governments that listen but do not hear, objectives set in stone no matter the cost, expendable people.

Philip Glyde of the Murray Darling Basin Authority once summed up the plan as having, 'winners and losers'.

Maybe that is what happens to areas of limited political power, you become the unfortunates, the losers.

The NSW Government is still pushing ahead to licence floodplain harvesting, a move that could cement the destruction of these communities.

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~ ESTABLISHED 1909 ~

THE KOONDROOK & BARHAM  
BRIDGE NEWSPAPER

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# The Bridge

Dear Editor

In 2015, three years after the start of implementing the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, a Senate Inquiry was held amid concerns about the manner in which this 'plan' was being rolled out. Senators conducted an extensive inquiry and toured the Basin, listening to how the plan was failing communities and the environment. It was obvious, even at this point, that we have developed a dud.

The inquiry made 31 recommendations, none of which has been implemented.

Fast forward six years and we have had more than 100 reports, and the theme has been constant; there are massive problems with a Basin Plan that was built on poor modelling and selective science, is having a greater impact

on communities than was intended and, coupled with other water management changes, is hurting our agriculture sector.

Unfortunately, this has largely occurred because the plan was politically rather than environmentally motivated.

Now, even the plan's instigator, former Prime Minister John Howard, is lamenting its failure, this week describing the plan as a 'tragedy'.

So, with all this evidence, one would expect decisive action to get to the bottom of the problem and do something to rectify it.

Instead, we get nothing.

While the National Party threatens to cross the floor over climate change, its parliamentarians – supposedly at the insistence of leader Michael McCormack – allow the plan to

proceed unchecked. They do nothing to protect vast sections of rural Australia that report after report shows are suffering from a plan that is not working.

We get constant concerns about environmental damage, highlighted by locals along the Murray River and its tributaries, who can see that pouring huge quantities of water downstream as required under the Basin Plan is wrecking

the very environment it is supposed to protect.

But the Environment Minister, Sussan Ley, who presides over much of this damage in her electorate of Farrer, does nothing – presumably at the insistence of Prime Minister Morrison.

I do not know what it will take for this farce they call a plan to be abandoned, or at least something done to correct the damage it is

causing. My greatest wish is that something happens before this damage is irreversible.

Unfortunately, with the lack of political courage, mixed with a bureaucracy that can see nothing but ways to dine out on the \$13 billion of taxpayer funding, my optimism is low.

*Yours faithfully,  
Stuart Hipwell  
Wunghnu, Vic*

## Lack of Political Courage a Tragedy

Dear Editor

Former Prime Minister, John Howard, the instigator of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, describes it now as a 'tragedy'.

So how does he think the rural farmers and their communities are feeling about this disaster?

In particular, how do you think we feel about

current governments who all know, deep down, that this 'tragedy' continues unabated before their eyes?

And that the present-day Prime Minister, his Environment Minister and even the National Party (who *used* to support farmers and regional communities) are allowing the 'tragedy' to go full steam ahead, unchecked.

Yes, the plan is a 'tragedy'. But an even greater tragedy is the lack of political courage to ac-

knowledge the problem and fix it; the unwillingness of those in power to do anything, because decisive action may cause political grief in capital cities and South Australia.

Instead, they pretend everything is rosy, all the while presiding over declining river health and suffering rural communities.

*Yours,  
Laurie Beer  
Mayrung, NSW*

## Victorian COVID-19 Restrictions Eased

From midnight Thursday (today), coronavirus restrictions have eased across Victoria.

From 11.59pm, Wednesday February 17, 2021:

- The four reasons to leave home and the 5km limit no longer apply.
- Masks will be required indoors, and outdoors when you cannot socially distance.
- You may have 5 visitors to your home.
- Up to 20 people are permitted at public gatherings.
- People can return to work up to 50% capacity for both the public and private sector.
- Schools to reopen.
- Retail and Hospitality return tomorrow to previous COVID density limits.
- There is no limit on numbers for funerals and weddings but density limits do apply.
- Sport and recreation to resume along with entertainment and public events, but with caps.

For the full listing go to: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au>

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# BASIN BOUND: ABSURDITY FOUND

## From Page 1

We are asked to trust the same departments who excluded key stakeholders in floodplain harvesting consultation because they 'weren't favourable'. Even former Murray Darling Basin Authority water expert, Maryanne Slattery, has evidence of excessive floodplain harvesting, an estimated 3,000 gigalitres or six Sydney Harbours.

It is also noteworthy that South Australia's water provided from NSW is basically set in stone. Even when the Darling historically provided 39% of SA's water and climate affecting basin inflows, they still receive 100%, pulled from the Murray, as well as the Murray supplying the new Broken Hill pipeline.

Our tour continued down the Darling and on to the Murray, the plan to save the basin kept on demonstrating its failings. Fields of salinity in new irrigation areas of almonds that, 20 years ago, were dry land paddocks.

The explosion of corporate agriculture, opening out new irrigation areas, putting in permanent plantings that require irrigation every year as opposed



Photo: Sophie Baldwin.

to annual-grown when water is available.

Almonds for example, use more water per hectare than rice or cotton, every year. Just a reality.

The Murray issues include the largest geographical shift of water ever. Our Murray eroded more under a plan to save it than the last 100 years of river regulation.

The Murray is not a ditch, it is a living river. It has natural constraints that currently agriculture, dilution, trade, conveyance, and end of system targets all ignore.

Hundreds of thousands of hect-

ares of wetlands and creeks now lay dormant in the mid Murray regions of Northern Victoria and Southern NSW after government water reform.

That is Australian food production and important ecosystem functions. Breeding, feeding, water, bugs, fish, snakes, owls, etc.

Are you starting to wonder why our Federal Environment Minister, Sussan Ley, or Federal Water Minister, Keith Pitt, don't have press releases about these issues?

Let me grab my tin foil hat and continue.

There is also the creation of

a \$2 billion unregulated water trading system. No regulation, no publicly accessible national register.

A water register, like the 2004 national water initiative called for, and the Feds spent \$30 million creating, to then abandon.

The government even trades water. The NSW Government held water in environmental accounts for water traders, the same water traders who compete against people trying to feed their animals and families, the same people who love their land and want to pass it on better than they found it.

The Murrumbidgee is basically

now cut off from the Murray through government assisted expansion of huge dams and corporate operations with pumps that make the river run backwards.

Then there are the community groups fighting government to stop them destroying their environment with ignorance and total disregard for wisdom of old souls.

There are problems with the bottom end of the basin also. The Murray does need water out the mouth but as an estuary, sometimes fresh, sometimes salty. Current basin plan objectives attempt to hold the Murray mouth open with fresh water, totally ignoring the impacts of the dams built down there for fresh water that caused silting up and formation of sand islands.

We are also attempting to hold the lower lakes above sea level, growing the lakes' huge surface area, increasing evaporation and fighting climate change, 50% less inflows and sea level rise predictions.

In a country as dry as ours we have even excluded the lower portion of South Australia from the whole plan, the thousands of

kilometres of drains and ground water irrigation that once fed the Coorong. Country drained by white early South Australian farmers to turn swamps to farmland.

There are basically problems everywhere, from corrupt elements in irrigation companies, government, lobbyists, and traders. Then there are all the good people caught up, the suicides, loss of schools, footy clubs, and health services. The depopulation and drying out of former floodplains.

I guarantee a process that created this huge national disgrace, treason and environmental destruction will not be fixed by the same process that created it, politics.

We need a different approach, communities, old souls, humility, and humans who view our land, ecosystems and sustainable farming in a holistic sense.

Some currently feed off division as they line their pockets.

We went Basin Bound and I'm saddened by what we found.

## Murray River Council UPDATES

visit us at [www.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au](http://www.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au)



@murrayrivercouncil



### Message from the Mayor

Well, just when we thought we were out of the woods, we've been caught in another lockdown.

The damage done to the visitor economy from the last border closure was dramatic and is ongoing. The latest Victorian lockdown will prolong the pain and further delay any sort of recovery. Those business owners (and there are many of them) that have been in a desperate struggle to remain viable will now be tearing their hair out, wondering what's next.

From Council's point of view, we continue to advocate hard for some assistance from relevant Governments. Unfortunately, the NSW Government doesn't want to help because it's a Victorian lockdown. The Victorian Government doesn't want to help because we are in NSW. And the Federal Government doesn't want to help because such assistance "is a State issue". So we are piggy-in-the-middle.

Many of you will have had the opportunity to meet the new CEO as he makes his way round the footprint. Terry is very impressed with the region and the enthusiasm of the people he has met. He sees lots of opportunity to further improve the effectiveness of Council, and to build on the achievements so far.

For my part, I look forward to working with such a dynamic and forward-looking individual. He is clearly not one to let the grass grow under his feet, and will be looking to engage heavily with the community in the days and weeks to come. Watch out for him - he'll be in your neck of the woods soon!

Best Regards,  
Cr Chris Bilkey

### Notice of Council Meeting

The February ordinary meeting of Murray River Council will be held on **Tuesday 23 February 2021**, commencing at **6pm**.

Interested community members are invited to live stream the meeting via: [webcast.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au](http://webcast.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au)

### Contaminated bins over the holidays

With this time of year being some of the busiest for waste production, it was great to see minimal contamination occur over the Christmas and New Year's break.

In the lead up to the holiday break we began notifying customers of contamination occurring within their waste, recycling and (if applicable) organics bins.

Between 30 November and 11 December 2020, we noted 35 instances of contamination in either waste, recycling or organics bins.

Between 20 December 2020 and 8 January 2021, we noted 14 instances of contamination.

Thank you to all our residential, commercial customers and holiday makers for placing the right things in the RIGHT bins.

### Raw water meter install continues

The installation of smart raw water meter devices in **Wakool Ward** has commenced this week. This is stage 2 of our smart meter installation program, following the installation of the new filtered water meters at properties last year.

Those who have a raw water connection at their property will receive a notice at their property with more information.

Please contact customer service on 1300 087 004 if you have any enquiries about the smart meter connection.

### Moulamein Floodplain management options- Have your say

Over the next month we are asking the Moulamein community to take a look at a range of management options that have been proposed for consideration in mitigating existing and future flood risks.

This is part of the Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan for Moulamein.

You can view the options at our Your Say platform...then let us know your level of support for each option via a short survey.

You are also invited to attend a community consultation session on Wednesday 17 March, 5pm at Moulamein Bowling Club to discuss the community's preferred floodplain mitigation options.

► [yoursay.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au](http://yoursay.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au)

### Microchipping your pets

A microchip, which is about the size of a grain of rice, provides secure, reliable, and permanent identification for your pet and greatly increases the likelihood that your pet, if lost, can be returned to you.

But microchipping is only effective if your pet is also registered with your correct up to date contact information.

In NSW all cats and dogs, other than those that are exempt, must be microchipped by the age of 12 weeks or before being sold or given away, whichever happens first. In addition, all cats and dogs, other than those that are exempt, must be registered by six months of age. The registration fee in NSW is a once only payment which covers your cat or dog for life.

For more information contact council's Rangers during business hours.

► 1300 087 004

### Discover Grants Hub

Council has launched a Grants Hub for all businesses, community groups and not-for-profits located in Murray River Council. The Hub provides a comprehensive list of all grant and funding opportunities available Australia wide. This is a FREE service, all you have to do is register and start searching! Once registered, it will send you email alerts with new funding opportunities.

► [murrayriver.grantguru.com.au](http://murrayriver.grantguru.com.au)



# Thank you, Thank you

By Ali Bohn

Saying goodbye is never easy and when the people you are bidding farewell to are not only an integral part of the community but have also become good friends, the goodbyes are even harder.

This week, ‘adopted locals’ Jane and Steve Wall will head off on a new venture which will take them back to the Sydney region where their families reside.

In between packing boxes, loading up the ute and tending to their beloved fur babies Nelson and Biscuit, Jane and Steve kindly set some time aside to sit down with me for a quick cuppa and chat.

Over the past few weeks, I have been stopped in the street by locals asking me if the rumour was true that their favourite police officers were leaving and if so, could I possibly do an interview with them (and beg them to stay!)

Well as much as I hate to be the bearer of bad news, the rumour is correct, although the decision was not an easy one for them to make.

Jane explains – “Well, when we first came here in November 2011, our intention was to stay for 4 years and here we are after almost 9 years!”

“So that should give you some idea of how hard it was to leave,” Steve includes, “we have been so welcomed by the community.”



Prior to coming to Barham, Steve was working in Illawarra and Jane was in Hurstville which for her meant an hour and a half travel to work each day. An opportunity came up for them to relocate to rural NSW with a choice of stations at Barham, Moulamein, Hay or Balranald. Steve visited each of the towns to help in making his decision.

“I knew as soon as I arrived in Barham that this would be the place we would choose but I went to the others anyway. Jane was working night shift

at the time and she flew down for a few days to check it out.”

It seems Jane did not need any convincing.

“I loved it straight away. It had great facilities and all the amenities we needed, and of course the great golf course which was important. I couldn’t believe I could be at work literally in 2 minutes as we would be living directly behind the police station at that stage. Then when we moved into this place, it was just a 2 minute drive.”

Steve took on the role as Lock-Up Keeper at Bar-

ham and Jane secured a job share position at the Deniliquin station, eventually transferring fulltime to Barham with Steve. Immediately the support they received from the local community was overwhelming and something they certainly did not take for granted.

“Right from the beginning the support has been fantastic. Working in a place such as Barham is so much more personal than Sydney. People here are so friendly and because the community is small you get to know everyone per-

sonally. But that can also have its downfalls in a time of crisis,” Steve says.

“I agree,” says Jane, “especially when there’s tragedy because we know the family and we carry that baggage, like it’s a loss to us too. That can be really hard. But it also means that you make more effort with the family and spend more time with them. I think the older we get the softer we get.”

Steve says that his role in Barham has been a massive change from his policing days in Illawarra where he would be attending anything up to 6 jobs an hour. He says that for the most part, Barham has a very low crime rate which is something we should be proud of.

“Maybe it’s because we make a point of getting to know the locals and yes, people will stuff up here and there but both Jane and I have always treated people with respect and kindness which comes back to us. People take notice in a small community, and they look out for one another. Here, you can rely on the public and that helps everyone. It certainly helps us to do our job better.”

Both Steve and Jane had every intention of retiring here, and even purchased a block of land on the river to build a home on. But shortly after purchasing, it occurred to them just how much they were missing their extended families, in particular the special moments they were missing out on as grandparents. So with heavy hearts coupled with a sense of excitement, they knew they had to go

back home to be closer to their loved ones.

Jane smiles through teary eyes.

“As sad as it is to leave our wonderful friends and great community here, we are really looking forward to being near our family. Its been a long time since we left them and so we can’t wait to have the opportunity to spend more time with them now. When we came here, we made a decision that we would make sure we were sociable which we did with golf, and we have made so many friends through that. I think that when you move to a community such as Barham that you need to have a hobby or you’d probably struggle. Another thing we did was to have these Triple 0 parties, so that all the emergency workers had a good relationship and worked well together. We used to do that quite regularly. We think that was really important. Moving back means that I’m going to a 5 day week 9 to 5 job which I haven’t done for many years! My new role will be as Police Citizens Club Youth Case Manager which I’m really excited about.”

Judging by the look on their faces, it is impossible not to be happy for Jane and Steve’s new venture. Although they have made so many friends in their time here, it just does not quite compare with the love and support of family, but my goodness they will be missed.

“I think it will be good for the community to have some new faces. New people come with new ideas

and that will be exciting for Barham,” Jane insists.

“Absolutely, and we’ll come back to visit from time to time. I better keep packing, thanks for everything Ali,” Steve gives me a hug as he heads back out to the ute.

“Ali, I would just like to say a huge ‘thank you, thank you,’ to the entire community. You have helped us do our job better and been so supportive with info to do our job well. Even when things were wrong, they are always respectful to us. We are both passionate about this community and for us to have done our job well we needed your support. I can’t say enough about that.”

Jane hugs me as we conclude the interview but not before a very tricky photo shoot out on the lawn with their two extremely friendly Labradors who think its playtime!

To Jane and Steve on behalf of The Koondrook & Barham Bridge Newspaper, I would like to thank you for your service.

*\* Due to the amount of enquiries we have received regarding Jane and Steve’s departure, I will be passing on cards, letters or well wishes that locals would like to send. If you have not had the chance to thank the Walls personally, please drop in your greetings to me at The Bridge office or email to me at [advertising@thebridge-news.com.au](mailto:advertising@thebridge-news.com.au)*

*I will be sending these on to their new address.*



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture,  
Water and the Environment

## Yanco Creek Modernisation Project Public Information Sessions

The NSW Government is hosting face to face public information sessions on the proposed Yanco Creek Modernisation Project aimed at modernising infrastructure to enable smarter use of water in the Yanco Creek system including Yanco, Billabong, Colombo, Forest creeks.

Join us to find out more about the project as we work in collaboration with local communities to:

- improve community confidence over future water security;
- modernise infrastructure by upgrading old and inefficient structures;
- use the best available technology to modernise the system;
- develop ways to use water more efficiently across the Yanco Creek System;
- ensure town water supplies are secure, and
- improve environmental outcomes.

Attend a session:

Register to attend at [dpie.nsw.gov.au/stakeholder-engagement](https://dpie.nsw.gov.au/stakeholder-engagement)

Date	Location
Tuesday 23 February 2021: 8.30-11.00am	Moulamein Town Hall Moulamein NSW 2733
Tuesday 23 February: 2.00-4.30pm	Wanganella Hall Wanganella NSW 2710
Wednesday 24 February 2021: 8.30-11.00am	Conargo Hall Conargo NSW 2710
Wednesday 24 February 2021: 2.00-4.30pm	Public Hall Jerilderie NSW 2716
Thursday 25 February 2021: 8.30-11.00am	Morundah Hall Morundah NSW 2700

Please visit the department’s website for information at [industry.nsw.gov.au/water/plans-programs/sdlam/yanco-creek-system-project](https://industry.nsw.gov.au/water/plans-programs/sdlam/yanco-creek-system-project)



# From the Lions Den



After a week of cool weather, most of us are looking forward to a few warm days and nights. Doesn't seem right that one has to pull up a blanket or two, at around four in the morning, but good sleeping weather. Although, some of the rice cockies are scratching their heads. Talking to some of the old folks, they are hard put to remember weather like it – middle of February snow in Tasmania, and four degrees at Mt William the other morning.

My bad news this week, I have discovered a lot of fruit fly in my garden. Six weeks since my first tomato pick, they are all in a bucket of very hot water with the yellow peaches, so it is back to my home brew of fly trap liquid.

Members of Barham-Koondrook and Murrabit Lions combined to welcome our District Governor, Carol Kennedy, from Berrigan. She and her husband were on a three-meeting trip, returning to Berrigan after Murrabit. They must be really dedicated to the job. They were accompanied by local past President Judy McKernow.

Murrabit put on a delicious meal; it is a great area behind one of their kitchen areas. It was a lovely evening, next to no flies and definitely no mosquitoes. The evening saw the DG talk about Lions in general. Hopefully most of her speech will be printed in the next 'Roar'.

Barham Lions put one new member up for

membership, Phillip Lloyd, who some of us know well (some better than others, he is the new policeman at Koondrook). He and his partner are looking forward to their life at Koondrook. Lions Lyn and Helen received their 10-year service badges, and if I've forgotten somebody, I'm sure our bulletin scribe will remind me.

Barham-Koondrook Lions are planning some fundraising activities over the next three months. Even though Lions have gone quiet, we still have state commitments.

Don't forget the District Convention, only a one-day event this year on Saturday, February 27. We are planning an Easter Mardi Gras on Easter Saturday, April 3, run on the same lines as the Christmas Eve Mardi Gras. Our big raffle has three days of ticket selling.

Lions have donated to our lad who had an unfortunate accident a few weeks ago, and an offer of help later on if needed.

Lions will be catering for a men's breakfast in March, but no Lions dinner in February.

Bingo has been a success since it started up, new faces, new supper arrangements.

Well, back to the weeding. See you all in March.

– Ev. McConnell

# EASTER MARDI GRAS

When the Christmas Mardi Gras was cancelled in December due to Covid problems, the Lions Club decided to run an Easter Mardi Gras instead. We will be attempting to hold it on Easter Saturday in the Riverside Park. Planning is still proceeding but it will be based on the popular Christmas Eve event. We have found that this is an event which allows locals and visitors to mix together (with safe distancing of course). Many returning locals have found it a great way to meet up with old friends.

At this stage we are planning for the Jumping Castle, Spin-

ning Wheel, Snow Cones, Fairy Floss, a BBQ run by the "Do it for Langy" group, Fruit Salad, a Car Boot Sale, and music provided by a local entertainer. It is hoped that we can run a 'Show and Shine' event as well. So those locals who like to dress up their cars and show them off will be given a chance to do that. If anybody has any other ideas, please let one of the Lions know and we will definitely consider them.

As has been the tradition, we are inviting other local groups to run their own raffles or publicity stands. If your organisation wishes to be there, it would be

appreciated if you could let Garry Cook at Boyd Hardware know so that we can plan a space and table for you.

Lions will be drawing their raffle of the hand carts of Easter eggs or handcart of household items on the night. You can buy tickets from sellers before Easter or on the night.

We are planning a start at about 4pm and finish when it gets dark. This will be the last day of daylight savings this summer so it is our last chance to celebrate a bit later. There will be more information to come in the future.

## UNRESERVED CLEARING SALE

**"YALOE" Deniliquin NSW (PROPERTY SOLD)**

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**Auction via AuctionsPlus – Commences Tuesday, 23rd February @ 9:00am and closes Wednesday, 24th February @ 12:00pm**

**Farming Plant:** 2017 425 Versatile, 1681 hrs, 1 owner, ex con, Cummins motor, Cat trans, Trimble GPS. 9750 STS JD header MY2003, 4899 Hrs, Separator hrs 3192, good con. MY2003 JD 30' draper front, recon, on comb trailer. M.F 7495 Dyna VT, 1 owner, ex con, 3000 hours, FWA, Duals, Trimble GPS. MF 7615 FEL, 1 owner, ex con, 2475 hrs, GPS ready, Pallet & Hay forks, bucket incl. 2007 Western Star FX4800 Prime mover, 757830km, 550hp C15 Cat engine, new turbo @ approx. 600000km, 18 speed trans w 4.3 diffs, good rubber, road train & B-double rated. Tefco 38' grain trailer, 96 build, 6' sides, bull race turn plate, rollover tarp, road train rated, good rubber. Universal "Saucy Rubber Track" x2, New con. Brentwood Low-loader 13m, 99 build, triaxle, hyd ramps, NSW rego. Fiat 1000 tractor. 16' Tipper PIG trailer.

**Farming Equipment:** 2017 Ennor 28 series 88 plate HD hyd fold plough, 1 owner, ex con. Simplicity 45' 45 Janke tine seeder bar, Direct drill knife points, hyd breakout, press wheels, 1 owner, ex con. 2017 Kelly diamond disc-chain harrow, 46ft, hyd fold, ex con. KB 40' grader board. Ennor 14x28" disc plate banker, hyd fold. 19 shank agro plough, 24" shanks, hyd breakout, 1 owner. 30' Vibra Shank cultivator, 30 Janke direct drill tines, hyd fold. Vibra Shank 42 tine cultivator, hyd fold. 23 tine scarifier. 11 tine ripper w 3pt LKG. 30' 3 stage rubber roller. 18' steel ridge roller. Munroe post rammer. Howard rotary hoe, 1.6m 3pt LKG. 5' Slasher, recon deck & blades. Symonds 2t air cart, hyd fan, ground drive. Le Tourneau Scoop 8m3. 30' Howard Bagshaw scarifier. 30' Trailing harrows. Inter 511 Combine w d-drill, needs o/h.

**Grain Handling:** 2017 Dunstan chaser bin, 16t, rollover tarp. Flat pack 50t field silo, PTO auger, hyd wheels. Campbell 30t field silo, PTO auger, hyd wheels. Nelson 15t field silo, PTO auger. JD 30' Hyd drive canola auger. 20' Shelbourne RX66 stripper front, trailer, needs service. 45' Keogh Hawk-Flo 9" auger, Honda motor, elec 3rd wheel drive, winch & start. 35' Mobil Co 6" Auger, Honda motor, elec start. Batco conveyer elevator, hyd drive & lift. 16' grain bin w rollover tarp. Vennings twin-bin grouper, Honda motor, elec start. 1t Lely twin-bin fertiliser spreader. 16' Grain Line hyd auger x2. MF 860 header, suit parts. 30' MF bat reel header front. 18' MF pickup front, needs service.

**Animal Husbandry:** 2020 Tatoma MVL-20-Duplo Silage Mixer, twin chopper, scales. Bromar 2t Twin-bin feed-out auger trailer, Honda GX160, rollover tarp. Renn Roller Mill Centre, 15TPH, PTO drive. Extensive cattle & sheep feeders. Stevlyon elec/hyd wool press w scales. Morton Baker elec/hyd wool press. 3.5m x 2m steel wool table. Round wool table. Woolpack holders x4. Comb/cutters grinder. Stockpro mobile loading race. VE hyd sheep handler. McDonald Sheep yards, 49 panel, elec winch. Rudway cattle scale platform, digital read out. 19' x 8' twin deck convertible stock crate. 4.3m x 2.15m sheep crate. Antique Birmingham wool bale scales. Antique wool baskets x2. Assorted bale stencils. Horse Float.

**Vehicles:** 2017 Mitsubishi Triton 4x4 dual-cab, Manual, Diesel, 67000km. 2020 Honda Pioneer 700 petrol side by side, 2860km, towbar, tip tray, 1 owner. Suzuki DRZ400 4 stroke, 5900km, 1 owner. Honda 400 Foreman 4-wheeler, 21200km. Suzuki Sierra x2 & parts. International tip truck w fiat engine, grain bin, no rego. 1946 Buick parts. Extensive Model T Ford parts. Borgward Isabella Coupe 1961. Hansa Tiger Coupe 1960 suit resto. Volkswagen Beetle w spares. Hillman Hunter station wagon.

**Workshop Items:** Pearlless petrol A/C w Honda motor. Pearlless elec A/C, 3.5hp triple cylinder. CIG Transarc welder. CIGweld 250MIG, Pedestal Drill x2. As new 6x4 box trailer, no rego. Farm maint. trailer, w welder generator & Pearlless A/C. Pneumatic steel post driver. Assorted power, hand & antique tools.

**Sundries:** 150+ Lots of Sundries including extensive hand & power tools, nuts/bolts/screws, Fencing gear, bottle & high lift jacks, PTO Cement mixer, scare guns & duck-lights, farming & animal husbandry equip, spray packs, Ass. Trailers, Ass. pumps & motors, irrigation and laser equip, fuel & water carts, 11ft sailboat. Numerous Antiques incl, tools, Singer sewing machine, furniture & other collectables. Sailing equipment. Various household, workshop & electrical. **TOO MANY TO LIST!**

For full catalogue please visit AuctionsPlus website.

**Inspection dates:** Mon 15th, Tues 16th & Wed 17th February – from 9:00am – 3:00pm

**Payment:** No later than Fri 26th February

**Delivery date:** Fri 26th February – concluding @ 3:00pm (Unless otherwise negotiated with agent)

**\*Proof of purchase must be supplied prior to pick up**

**\*Purchasers Safe Use Notice must be signed prior to delivery.**

**Vendor:** Allan Wragge 0428 851 204

**Agent:** James Sides 0427 236 791

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# Crucial Solutions to Mismanagement of Water

By Neil Eagle – 1 February 2021

Let us focus on the crucial solutions to rectifying the shocking mismanagement of our country's water resources. I applaud and agree with the concerns expressed by an ever-increasing number of representative bodies and individual citizens in our southern-connected Basin regarding the misguided and unnecessary devastation inflicted on our irrigation farmers and reliant industries and communities, and ironically also on our environment in attempting to save that which didn't need saving. This was exposed in the 2004 House of Representatives Report into The Living Murray.

However, to turn this around, the political decision makers, both Federal and State, must be confronted with the indisputable fact that the 2007 Water Act and resultant Basin Plan is based on a fraud. This fraud was exposed by the late Prof John Briscoe (world leader in water policy and management) and more recently by Prof Peter Gell (peer reviewed and supported by the CSIRO).

All political parties are equally guilty of promoting this fraud and must be induced to acknowledge the error and set about to rectify this shemuzzle in the national interest.

There are a number of actions that can take place prior to the absolute necessity, as outlined by Prof Briscoe, of the 2007 Water Act being re-drafted if Australia is to regain its standing as the world leader in arid zone water management. The re-drafting of the Water Act must clearly establish the triple bottom line principle. It must be oversighted by people who understand the issues. (Examples being Peter Millington, Don Blackmore, Mike Taylor and Pat Byrne.)

The immediate actions are:

- Affirming the Estuarine Status of the Lower Lakes utilising Prof Peter Gell's 2007 and 2020 reports and proposing Ken Jury's 'There is a Better Way' as the way forward. Highlighting the

benefits accruing to South Australia:

- Adelaide, the safest city for water in Australia
- South Australian irrigation industry totally secure
- Lower Lakes never again going dry with sulphate acid soil problems
- Return of the mulloway fishing industry in the Lakes.

Utilising the remaining Basin Plan funds to build Lock Zero, automate the barrages and address works in the Coorong as per Ken Jury's 'There is a Better Way'.

- Running the River and Conveyance Losses. Should rightly be borne by the beneficiary, i.e., CHEW, not by the upper states' irrigators prior to allocation assessment.
- The original intent of assuring Menindee replenishment prior to licenced Flood Plain Harvesting in Northern Rivers, needs proper and wide consultation with all concerned to achieve a balanced and fair outcome. Already some progress on this issue thanks to SRI and others.
- As per previously assured by COAG and NWI, a public register of water entitlements must happen, and overseas ownership revealed.
- Re water traders: They must be brought back to the original intent – to facilitate trades but NOT to be speculators manipulating the market for their own benefit.
- Carryover of water should revert to the original intent – to be merely a very valuable insurance policy mechanism. That is, when Hume pre-releases or spills, carryover is progressively lost to allocation.
- Until that change is instituted, CEWH should NOT be allowed to carryover.
- The parking of water to carry over in other licences should be illegal.
- South Australian dilution flow of 300,000ML

should only be provided if ever the salinity at Morgan reaches 800EC. Currently, and for over 30 years, EC levels have been half to a quarter of that figure.

- The annual assessment of water availability should be explained at an open water forum with all interested parties able to be represented, be fully briefed and able to question the data and reasoning.
- The Snowy Resource should also be transparent, and the rules of operation and water delivery and timing be open for discussion. There is obvious conflict between Sir William Hudson's original aim of water for inland as against now maximising value from power generation.
- Following the re-drafting of the 2007 Water Act, the following matters need addressing:
- The CAP on extractions, locking in the SDLs must be reverted to the original intent of a temporary CAP whilst assessing river health needs. Deal with the needs and then remove the CAP.
- The environment's needs must be assessed as per the River Board's Plan, and after wide consultation with those affected, of:
  - identifying any areas of concern
  - putting in place the most cost-effective remedial measures
  - putting in place a monitoring process to gauge the results.
- All Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder's utilisation of water must be assessed on the same basis (as per 4. Above).
- Barmah/Millewa Watering Plan must revert to the original plan which was unanimously agreed to by the diverse Barmah/Millewa Watering Group AND there be no carryover provision.
- The change to the states' share, pre-Dartmouth Dam, of SA 3/13, NSW 5/13, VIC 5/13 to post-Dartmouth of supposed equal shares. This should

be reviewed as, in low inflow years, the states are never equal.

- The part of SA share of High Priority (i.e., Water for Adelaide, towns, industry, horticulture) should be secure as for the upper states. However, their other needs should suffer restrictions like the upper states in low inflow years. Also, post Lock Zero being built, the Lower Lakes' needs will be greatly reduced. Hence, a change will be needed.
- Menindee Lakes should NOT be reduced in capacity through the SDL recovery process de-commissioning parts.
- The deviation from our forefathers' concept of water being made available for production of a wide variety of irrigated goods. Not the recent idea of water going to high value crops with unbridled trade. As any high value crop can, like with the distortion by MIS schemes, quickly become a low value crop. In the meantime, whole industries, associated businesses, towns, capital outlays and jobs are put at risk. I fear for the future viability of large schemes (i.e., MIL, Goulburn Murray and even the small joint schemes) unless something is done to re-balance the water industry.
- As the economist Terry McCrann states – with interest rates at 1% and governments able to borrow at that rate locked in for 30 years – why are we not building new dams that would pay for themselves in a short number of years (e.g. Clarence Diversion, Murray Gates, Bradfield Scheme, Vic Goulburn proposal)? This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to develop inland Australia which is currently being ignored.

Australia is in desperate need of politicians who will not bow to fake science and popularism for political and monetary gain. They need to stand up for true science and base their decisions on getting results that are in the best interest of Australia and its citizens.



## KOONDROOK PERRICOOTA COMMUNITY

### VISION WORKSHOP

FRI, 26 FEB 10-3PM – BARHAM RSL

WMLIG will be facilitating a community vision session off the back of the KP/Pollack tours in Jan 2021 and Dec 2020. All are welcome to attend to help form a bottom-up community led vision for the Koondrook Perricoota Forest. A preliminary survey is available on our website or from Murray Connect. Please register via our website in order to receive some pre-reading prior to the session.

### GRIFFITH INDUSTRY TOUR

TUES, 2ND MAR 7AM – WEDS, 3RD MAR 3:30PM

An overnight agricultural tour to Griffith and surrounds to visit some of the regions most interesting producers and agriculture businesses. Plenty of time to sample some delicious produce too! Subsidised spots are available for Wakool Landholders. Spaces are limited, RSVP essential via our website.

### BREDWELL FEDWELL MALLAN WORKSHOP

THUS, 4TH MAR 8:30AM – 3:30PM – 'SCOTSBURN'

A hands-on workshop delivered by Geoff Duddy, Sheep Solutions about breeding and feeding to make more money. Topics include breeding better ewes, improving ewe nutrition, developing a breeding goal and developing a feed budget. Register essential via [www.mla.com.au/BWFW-Mallan](http://www.mla.com.au/BWFW-Mallan)

### BREDWELL FEDWELL WAKOOL WORKSHOP

FRI, 5TH MAR, 8:30AM – 3:30PM – 'TREWEEKS'

A hands-on workshop delivered by Geoff Duddy, Sheep Solutions about breeding and feeding to make more money. Topics include breeding better ewes, improving ewe nutrition, developing a breeding goal and developing a feed budget. Registration essential via [www.mla.com.au/BWFW-Wakool](http://www.mla.com.au/BWFW-Wakool)

### MURRAY CONNECT TRIVIA NIGHT

#### Gettin' Trivvy with it'

THURS, 25TH MAR, 6:30PM ONWARDS – MURRAY CONNECT

We will be holding a Trivia Night to raise funds for the Barham Medical Trust with the spotlight on community connectivity and positive mental health. Keep an eye out for team registrations. More details to come...

**Jump onto our website [www.westernmurraylig.org](http://www.westernmurraylig.org) or call 03 5453 1577 for more information or help registering for our events. Join our mailing list to receive these updates straight to your inbox.**



**Western Murray  
Land Improvement Group**





# Green Thumb Picks the big one!

Is it a pumpkin? Is it a genetically modified red squash? No, it's a bloody big tomato from the vegetable garden of Bruce McGowan, and it's the real McCoy!

Affectionately known as 'VB Dave Tomatoes,' (an in-joke between Bruce and his mate, Dave, who is quite partial to a VB stubby), Bruce has been growing these big beauties for as long as he can remember. Up until January this year it was not unusual for him to pick a tomato around the 900g mark, but this one is his record so far at 1.137kg.

Not keen to slice it up and wack it on a piece of toast with copious amounts of salt and pepper, Bruce has handed the tomato on to his brother, so don't bother asking him for a sample!



## Your Wellness

By Monique Gibson

### How's Your Relationship With Yourself?

It is Valentine's Day, so I thought, 'what better topic to speak on than relationships?' All the relationships in your life are, in some way, a reflection of your relationship with yourself. If you are wanting to know how well your relationship with yourself is, take note of what is going on with all your other relationships in your life. You will allow people to treat you the same as you treat yourself. It is like Don Miguel Ruiz says in the book, 'The Four Agreements'; people will only tolerate the level of poor treatment that they treat themselves. As soon as it goes below that, that is when they will step in and put a stop to it.

What I notice is that there seems to be a lot of people who have quite a disconnected relationship with themselves. We are raised in this paradigm that finding your life partner is all important and it is why people do a lot of the things they do in their life. Yet, there is very little emphasis on the importance of developing a strong relationship with yourself.

Your relationship with yourself is the only one that is going to last a lifetime. During the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown, people have had much downtime. I

would imagine it has highlighted that stillness can be quite loud when we have not allowed ourselves the time to be alone with ourselves in a long time.

I was reflecting on my work this morning and the main goals behind it. At some point it occurred to me that behind everything I work on with people, behind all the different topics, it all comes back to one thing. How is your relationship with yourself? Then, how is that reflecting and impacting on your daily life?

Perhaps you have recognised that your relationship with yourself is not at its optimal state. What does that mean for you? Where do you even go from there? Most people seem to fear getting to know themselves better, taking the time out of their life to just sit with themselves and ask, "Who am I without the input of those around me?"

Building a better relationship with yourself is not going to happen overnight. Just like any healthy relationship, it takes conscious effort over time. It is about getting to know yourself and about learning how to create comfort with every aspect about yourself. I think sometimes the term self-love can be misconceived, that unless you

adore every part of yourself you are not doing things right. I do not believe you have to love everything; I do believe though, you would benefit from finding acceptance and comfort with all the different parts of yourself.

It is the same as partners and friends in your life. I bet you do not love every single aspect of the important people in your life. However, you have found a way to look past the things that can annoy you, and you love and appreciate them despite their flaws. Do you grant yourself the same courtesy?

When was the last time you spent some time alone and enjoyed your own company - actually enjoyed it, without beating yourself up over something you have said or done? When was the last time you have treated yourself the same as you treat a close friend? Do you put as high a priority on developing a good relationship with yourself as you do on finding love in your life?

What is one thing you can start to incorporate in your life this week to start building a better relationship with yourself?



**Helen Dalton MP**  
MEMBER FOR MURRAY

For weeks, I pleaded with the Victorian Government to ease their border restrictions.

This finally happened in late January.

But our towns cannot survive more rushed, random state border closures.

We should not shut down our rural communities every time there's a Covid-19 outbreak in a capital city.

I have written to the Prime Minister to plead for a national approach to state border management.

We need to ensure our border communities are protected, consulted and compensated well in advance of future border closures.

To find out more, follow my Facebook page Helen Dalton MP.

**Helen Dalton MP for Murray**

*Authorised by Helen Dalton MP. Funded using Parliamentary Entitlements*



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HelenDaltonMP



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228 Cressy St, Deniliquin NSW 2710



# BY THE Riverside

## TOWN HAPPENINGS

Poor old Victorians have copped it again with restrictions. At the time of print they have just finished their five-day circuit breaker. Let's hope Mr Andrews turns regional Victoria into a green zone. However, we're very grateful the borders have remained open this time. Country week tennis in Swan Hill had to be cancelled but the Australian Open continues on.

The River Raiders held their Friday night raffle with local, 'Shagga' winning the \$50 Barham/Koondrook gift card. The Royal Hotel meal voucher was won by Nicky, six pack won by David Salter and the two bottles of wine were won by Doc. Hopefully our region gets back to normal soon and the local fishing comps will go ahead.

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## BUSINESS STREET TALK

This week I dropped briefly into the local podiatrist and met Lisa. I've heard great things about Lisa and going by her welcoming and friendly demeanor it must be true! Lisa operates Rivergum Podiatry out of the Barham Plaza in Mellool Street. She offers a range of treatments from ingrown toenails, warts, irregular nail growth, corns, callous, plantar fasciitis, cracked feet, orthoses, diabetic foot care and much more.

**Name:** Lisa Farrant

**Family members:** Belinda, Michael, Wayne, Ross, Shaannie, Colin, ME! I'm the youngest of seven.

**What's your business?** Rivergum Podiatry. I have been in private practice for five years. Prior to that I worked in both community health and hospital settings. I was also part of establishing the High Risk Foot Clinic in Shepparton.

**If you could live anywhere besides here, where would it be?** The mountains, Mansfield or Bright way. I love the mountains.

**What is your biggest fear?** I don't really have any, especially with four big brothers. Being scared of spiders, snakes and other things would only give them ammunition to tease me with.

**What would you change about yourself if you could?** My Irish knock knees I inherited off my mother. I injured one playing netball and would love to be able to run again.

**What motivates you to work hard?** Making others' lives more comfortable and pain-free. Making people feel better.

**Proudest accomplishment?** I don't really have one per se. I'm always looking for the next achievement. I think it's important to keep looking forward, looking upward and not to rest on your laurels. It's important to continue with new goals and achievements, regardless of your knocks. Something that gives you hope and a sense of purpose in life.

**Funniest thing that's happened this week/month?** I was weeding my garden and grabbed a handful of rabbit. I don't know who squealed louder, me or the rabbit!

**What did you aspire to be when you were a little?** Robert de Costello. When I was eight, I decided I wanted to run in the Olympics. My dad told me, "you better start training now," so I used to run one mile every night down the bush. I lasted three months and got cold feet in winter.

**If you could choose to do anything or be someone else for a day, what or who would it be?** A concert pianist. Musical skills of that level come from years of practice and dedication. There are no shortcuts. It would be lovely to be able to play for people and at such a high level.

**Karaoke machine has one song left, what do you pick?** Righteous Brothers, 'You've lost that loving feeling'. My uncle Gav and his best buddy, Kevin Robby, used to pretend to swoon and dance to it at the end of the night upon pub closing. It always makes me smile to think of them goofing off.

**Have you travelled? Where? Memories?** Not as much as I would like yet. I enjoyed the people of Bali, they had little, but had such gratitude for life. It rubbed off. I came back feeling very lucky with my lot; humbled. I also became a more patient

driver after Bali. Their traffic is crazy, but they are all so polite and give each other a go.

**If there was one thing you could change or develop in the community what would it be?** I'd love to develop a block of units in a communal setting that provides accommodation for women 50+ years, who have lost their financial security due to divorce or other, and now can't afford to purchase a home or afford rental prices; women heading towards retirement that have lost that sense of security or a home. It's an idea I've had in my head for 20 years but seems more valid now due to the complexities of the cost of living.

**Someone you admire in the community and why?** Lloyd Polkinghorne. I think he has been a tremendous voice with all this water debacle and has used his platform for the greater good of our communities and farmers to raise awareness. I think he is an amazing asset, especially since we've lost much of our country's media and voice.

**Something positive you've seen in the community lately?** I see daily acts of kindness in our community so it's difficult to highlight one. But I am always proud of how us country folk smile and say g'day to people down the street, even when they may not be local. Your welcoming smile might be the difference in someone's otherwise sad or difficult day. Your smile to that unknown stranger might encourage that out of towners to move here and become our new GP or teacher. I'm proud that we still do that here.

**There's an empty building in town, what would you fill it with?** Giraffes! That would certainly get the tourism going in town. Probably doctors. We seem to have difficulty getting them to come to the country. But once they've spent time here, they will stay.

**If money was no object, what would you do all day?** My family seems to have a love of old things. One of my family members loves old cars, another likes old bikes, and another likes old furniture. My brothers tease me that if I won Tattsлото I'd spend it saving old houses. I love old houses! I love the way old houses all have individual craftsman touches, like the cornices on the verandas or the shape of the windows. There are some great examples of that in the older homes in Kerang. Every old house is individual and has a soul of its own. There was an artistic skill in our old

builders.

You have three free wishes, what do you wish for? My nanna used to say, "If wishes were horses, beggars would ride!" Ironically, I'd love a day where I could talk to her. She always had a hilarious quip for the way the world or day was going. I'd love to hear her spin on COVID-19 and the world at the moment. It would be quite amusing I'm sure. But otherwise, I'm pretty happy with my lot. I have a roof over my head, a job I love, and good support around me. What more could you want? I would give those wishes to someone who needs it more.

Something we don't know about you? When I was very little I used to play with my dad's stallion and swing on his tail. He was a beautiful horse, very kind and gentle. On occasions my dad would let me ride him. Sometimes I would sneak down the stables and sleep with the horses in the stall in a horse rug, then sneak home before they got up to milk the cows. Even my mum didn't know that! Very happy memories.

\*\*\*\*\*

## BLAST FROM THE PAST (25 years ago)

Barham's new Anglican Minister Rev David Bond was inducted at Barham. Allan 'Specko' Keck was seriously injured when he was knocked to the ground by a Friesian bull at his dairy farm at Little Forest Lane. He spent several days in the Cohuna Hospital. The Barham High School had 253 enrolled students. The township of Moulamein was a tinge of red after experiencing four dust storms over the last few weeks. Brian Heffer celebrated his 40th birthday while Chelsea Hamilton celebrated her 21st. Paul Molin dominated his latest cricket match with 226 runs alongside a 17-year-old Craig Windridge, who also had an impressive day with his second century scored in A grade cricket.

\*\*\*\*\*

## LAUGH OF THE WEEK

Why does a penguin carry fish in its beak? Because it doesn't have any pockets!

\*\*\*\*\*

## WHAT I LEARNT TODAY

You are about 1cm taller in the morning when you first get up than when you go to bed. This is because during the day the soft cartilage between your bones gets squashed and compressed.

# Moulamein NOTEBOOK

By China Gibson

## More Water

I am starting to realise why my Crow Eating mates get ticked off every time there is a water allocation announcement, and they are stuck on 100%. My mates on the NSW Murray have just picked up 4% to go to 50% of what they own. My mates from Victoria on the Murray with high security water have just picked up 3% to get them to 100%. This is the first time they have got their 100% since 2017/18. So, that gives the Crow Eaters and Victoria 100% on the Murray. The Murrumbidgee has 100% on high security as well as general security. It is only my mates on the NSW Murray system that are stuck on 50%. This must mean that every time it rains my mates on the NSW Murray must get the rest of the water that flows into the Murray system. Just a thought. The only thing I have got in common with the Crow Eaters, is that we have 100% of our water. That will not last.

## Bowls Ends in a Whimper

We had it all organised, both teams at home for the last game of the season. Both teams playing on the top green due to our well-organised green keepers. But unfortunately, my friend COVID-19 crashed the party and Victoria is back into lockdown. My mate, Dan, from the republic of Danganistan never ceases to amaze me how many ways you can stuff up. This question was asked; "was the nebuliser given the okay to be used like the man involved said?" When the government stuffs up, the usual response is, "I have already given my answer on that, I will be saying no more."

Unfortunately, if the bowls finals can be played in Danganistan... Both our teams missed out. Division four almost got into the four for their first season of playing. Our division one side held every other team up. Someone has got to finish on the bottom. We gave a few teams a scare in our first year of division one for a few years. We have been recruiting well and we could be a force to be reckoned with next year. We are always looking for new players, so come along next year whether you are a beginner or an experienced player. All will be made most welcome. If we can pick up a few more players, we will try to get our division four up to division three. Only numbers hold us back. Please get onto what is left of our championship's fellas. The greens will be prepared Thursdays and Saturdays and if you ask nicely, maybe other days.

## Footy-Netball Fishing Comp Still on

Even though my friend, COVID-19, is still hanging around in the cities, our MFNC Swan Hill Truck Service Cash Classic is still going ahead on the Labour Day weekend. This will be March 6 and 7. Of course, this will be catch and release only. Most things will be as normal. You will still get five meals, live music, casting competitions, a giant slide and we will pick you up and drop you off in our courtesy bus. We just must feed you under our COVID-19 plan. This is promising to be a great weekend the way our rivers are. Let's hope they can keep the cod catching that we have now until then, and most of our competitors will catch one, two or a dozen. They may be 'Subway' cod and they cannot be measured in, but there are plenty of them. Hope to see you there.

## Lock Smashed at our Lake

Our lake committee goes to a lot of expense to get a heap of keys made up every year for our lock on our boat ramp at our town lake. Some brainless individual has decided to smash our lake lock to save the membership fee. We have not had this problem for years. As treasurer, I will ask you to still pay your membership for this year if you have not already. Membership is a small cost compared to driving somewhere else to ski, or the cost of running a boat. Our Moulamein Town Lake is run by volunteers and we do not need this happening. I am seriously thinking about putting a list of members on the boat ramp post to shame the bludgers that hang on our coat tails. They are lower than a snake's belly.

## School is Back

Just remember when you are driving through any town at around 9am or 3pm, these are the rush hours for school kids. Some of them are not very traffic-wise yet so we have to look after them. They are excited to get to school to see their mates and they are just as excited to get back into the car to go home. Please look out for them, and if you are travelling through another town just pretend that it is your kids or grandkids who live there. It helps you be more careful.

## River Levels

The Edward is dropping very slowly at the moment at almost 2,300 megalitres a day and just under 2.2 meters. There is a good rise coming down the Billabong, as well as plenty of duck weed. This may liven the fish up.

# WAKOOL NEWS

By Greta Ryan | gretaryan@bigpond.com

A huge congratulations to Sandra and Donny who, over the weekend, became engaged. Looks like Cupid did his work on Valentine's Day with an arrow landing firmly. I'm told the farmers are worried about the recent weather not being hot enough for their corn to mature and lots of discussions on mice, while the townies are all happy that they haven't had to swelter though a blistering summer. It's impossible to please everyone all the time.

\*The Wakool Services Club membership number was Wayne Upton, not present, closest Suzanne Hausler, raffle winners were Sandy Pratt Nenin - meat tray, Ann Hamilton - meat tray, Alana Flight - cooler bag, tea towels and chopping board, Joyce Tuohey - chicken tray, Steve Fasham - bowls, and Rob Walker - fuel voucher.

\*Wakool Hotel Kitty jackpot, Greg Lang came out to sell tickets for his club and, low and behold, his name was pulled out first for a throw of the dart. He was unlucky and threw number 20 and the number required was 19, so the jackpot jumps to \$2,320 for next week. Pop in and buy a ticket for only \$1. Sasha won the \$15 voucher, Damian the \$10 voucher, Sandra got a free pot and Blue won free tickets for next week. Social club prizes, and Robbie won the trifecta - meat tray, six-pack and pizza voucher while Sandra's luck continued with the meat tray.

\*Birthday wishes to Lisa Coote, Chelsea Lowry, Ian McDonagh and Fluer Paul.

\*The pub punters saw Grant and Margaret punting at Flemington for bragging rights. Both went with win, each way and Grant throwing in a couple of exotics in his search for winners. Margaret was off to a flyer with her first bet winning, she would only need one more to show a profit. That didn't take long as her next bet saluted at very juicy odds. Grant would need one of his exotics to win the day. He went very close with both of his trifectas but missed the third horse on both occasions; sadly, a wipe out for Grant. The treble fared no better so next week it's M & M week with Mainy stepping up.

Saturday tipping, and it was race four that separated Christine from the field when she was the only tipster of the long shot winner. Many tipsters tried to make up ground, but it was Evelyn who got the closest, missing by less than \$2 and she finished well clear of Grant in third. Early stages for overall but Grant takes the lead over the first two winners, Bob and Christine. Good luck and good punting.

\*The Men's Shed meeting went well with it being decided that the next meeting on March 13 will be down at the proposed premises at the recreation reserve. Great to see so many at the meeting and I was very grateful for the support and suggestions.

\*If you would like me to include any announcements or information please email or call into the pub for a chat. Take care.

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# A chat with... Georgie & Meleeta White – Part 3

See *The Bridge* – Thursday, February 4 and 11, 2021 for Part 1 and 2.

By Ali Bohn  
Epilogue

It has been such an honour to tell the story of Georgie and Meleeta White.

It is quite something to witness firsthand the bond that has never broken, despite being apart for more than 60 years. Having never had to endure those typical teenage years together of the bickering and emotional meltdowns, but also borrowing (or pinching) one another's clothes or listening to their favourite records together may sound, for some, like heaven, but these two no doubt feel a little ripped off they didn't experience it. Something else to consider is the missed celebrations such as birthdays, weddings and of course the birth of their children. But the hardest thing of all, for Georgie at least, was that she never had the chance to see her dear father again, or to see her sister, Dawn, who passed away shortly before Meleeta and Georgie reconnected. This is particularly difficult for Georgie to accept as her father is always in her thoughts, and always has been.

For Meleeta, all those years of not knowing where her little sister was may have had something to do with the path of self-destruction and unsettledness she endured for many years. What might have been if her sister had been by her side during that time? Perhaps it is best to leave the past in the past, the 'what ifs' and 'might have beens' should be filed away and not thought about again.

What matters now is they are together.

Although the interview was finished, Georgie wanted to show me a bunch of court documents that she had only seen recently for the first time.

"Have a look at these, Ali."

Wow. If this doesn't pull at your heart strings, then nothing will.

In slightly faded type written text, here her father pleads his case to the courts to help him to be able to take care of his daughters. He states the incompetency of their mother and the numerous times she abandoned her children. He desperately loved his children which is evident in his speech to the magistrate. But even he knows

he is unable to provide the financial and secure life they deserve with no government support in those days.

It is so very hard for me to read; I can't imagine what this must be like for the girls.

Georgie looks back over the documents, and she is overcome with emotion. Without hesitation, Meleeta grabs her and hugs her tight – "don't worry, don't cry," she whispers to her. This, Meleeta tells me, is what sister Dawn used to say to her when she was upset as a little.

"There are so many similarities, Ali," Meleeta says.

Both the girls stand up and show me one of the physical similarities – matching scars on their backs. Georgie's from spinal surgery, Meleeta's from a pressure sore due to being in a plaster cast after hips/legs surgery while a toddler. They also have identical lines on the palms of their hands.

Finally, I ask the girls about making contact back in September last year.

Meleeta explains. "I'd continued on the journey Dawn had started and finally had a person who could help me through the agency, 'Vanish'. Initially we kept hitting roadblocks because I had her name as Georgina and couldn't find her. After a lot of research, we discovered the name 'Georgia-Lee' and then she was found. Vanish told me they'd found her but naturally couldn't give her details to me."

Georgie continues. "Oh, I will never forget the day! I was sitting at home on the veranda and it was the anniversary of 9/11, so I was just sitting there thinking about all of that and how sad it was. The next thing my phone rang, and on the other end I hear, 'is your name Georgia White?' I said I was, and then the next thing she said was... (Georgie now in tears again) 'I have found your sister!' Well, I just about dropped the phone, I couldn't believe it! Then I made the phone call to 'Lee' and when she answered the phone, I said, 'Hello, Sis, it's me, Georgie!' I was excited and emotional and just, well, over the moon. I mean, after all this time, finally we find each other!"

Meleeta takes Georgie's hand once again, and with the two of them in tears now, they burst out laughing. Their joy is infectious, their gratitude for this moment overwhelming.

"There are so many pieces of the

puzzle that still haven't been found. We know we have other siblings but have no idea where. When we were separated, nothing was documented, not like it is these days, so that makes it very hard to find our extended family. We have so many questions, and hopefully by doing this interview it might spark someone's memory who was in the same situation we were and to reach out to us," Meleeta explains.

I'm curious to know what the future holds for the sisters.

Georgie goes first. "I haven't met with our sister, Tracey, yet so hopefully that will be on the cards. Right now, I'm just so happy to be sitting

here with my big sister, to be able to touch her hand and laugh with her and learn all about her. Now I've got her, I can't bear the thought of being without her. We're already trying to organise her moving here to Leitchville with me and we'll buy a house together. We might go travelling when all this COVID-19 stuff is over. I want to see my dad's grave and Dawn's grave. We want to show each other the places we grew up in. This is just the beginning."

Meleeta. "It sure is. I'm so excited for the future. Hey, I got my sister back!"

I walk away today with a wake-up call as to the undeniable bond shared by siblings. I am proud to say that I,

too, share a closeness with my siblings, and after meeting Meleeta and Georgie I have never been so grateful for the childhood I got to spend with my brothers and share in the many ebbs and flows of life, knowing we've always been by one another's side.

For the years these adorable girls have missed, I am certain they will more than make up for it with every second of the day they spend together going forward. Every tear, every laugh, every cup of coffee and every random comment will now be etched in their memories and locked deep within their hearts. May everyday be even more special than the next for little Georgia-Lee and her protective big sister, Lee...



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**What's On THIS WEEK**  
Every Wednesday night  
**Lions Bingo**, Barham Reception Centre at 8pm.  
Every second Sunday of the month  
**Bar-Rook Field and Game**, 1184 Gonn Rd, Barham at 10am.  
Every second Monday of the month  
**Koondrook-Barham Garden Society** at 1.30pm in the Raiders Football club rooms.  
Every Tuesday  
**Tai Chi** – cluBarham, 9am  
Every Tuesday and Thursday  
**Community Exercise** – cluBarham, 10am

 **10 QUICK ONES**  
1. What does the word 'Bible' actually mean?  
2. The original 'white elephant' was a dubious gift given by the King of which country?  
3. Whose last words were "don't worry, relax"?  
4. A burning candle wrapped in barbed wire is a symbol of which global organisation?  
5. In the 1953 version of 'House of Wax' who played the villain's assistant?  
6. What was Tom Jones' first number one UK single?  
7. The 53rd Academy Awards were delayed for one day due to what?  
8. The hard, rounded objects produced within the soft tissue of a shelled mollusc are known as WHAT?  
9. Which period came right after the Triassic?  
10. What does a Hygrometer measure?  
ANSWERS:  
1. Book; 2. Thailand; 3. Rajit Ghandi; 4. Amnesty International; 5. Charles Bronson; 6. 'It's not Unusual'; 7. The assassination attempt of Ronald Reagan; 8. Pears; 9. Jurassic; 10. Humidity

**UNDER THE BRIDGE** by Scarlett Brandt  
**Episode 248**  
Kissing her full strawberry scented lips, Ian never uttered a word, albeit his promise to Marielle. Instead, he concentrated on tending to her desires with intense passion, leaving her satisfied and oblivious to her wanting to know what Ian had wanted to apparently discuss with her.  
"You're not allowed to fall in love with me," Ian uttered.  
Slightly humiliated, Marielle was not sure how to respond, but with her usual touch of class and sass she snapped –  
"You are not allowed to fall in love with me!"  
She stepped out of the bed, wrapping herself in her satin robe and walking across to the bathroom to freshen up.  
"A cup of peppermint tea would be appreciated, there should already be water in the kettle," she called to Ian from the bathroom.  
Not known for his hospitality towards women, Ian surprised himself when he got up and made his way to the kitchen.  
"Yes, Ma'am!" He shouted back.  
"Please do not call me Ma'am," Marielle poked her head around the bathroom doorway.  
Touchè!  
While Ian was in the kitchen, Marielle took his mobile phone from his trouser pockets and opening the camera, she proceeded to take some provocative shots of herself, ensuring she kept her face covered. She scrolled through the phone to find Nellie's number but could not seem to find it.  
The sound of Ian's footsteps coming down the doorway meant that her little plan would have to wait, for now.  
"I can't find the teabags," Ian explained.  
"Don't worry about the tea, I have changed my mind. Come here."  
Marielle's change in mood made Ian feel uneasy, she was so unpredictable which could also be so very exciting.  
"What's wrong? Is it something I said?" Ian pulled himself back towards the bed head.  
"It is more like what you did not say. I hope you do not think I am an idiot, Ian. I have a wonderful memory. Now, tell me, what is it that we have to discuss?"  
*To be continued...*



# COHUNA

the creek connecting community

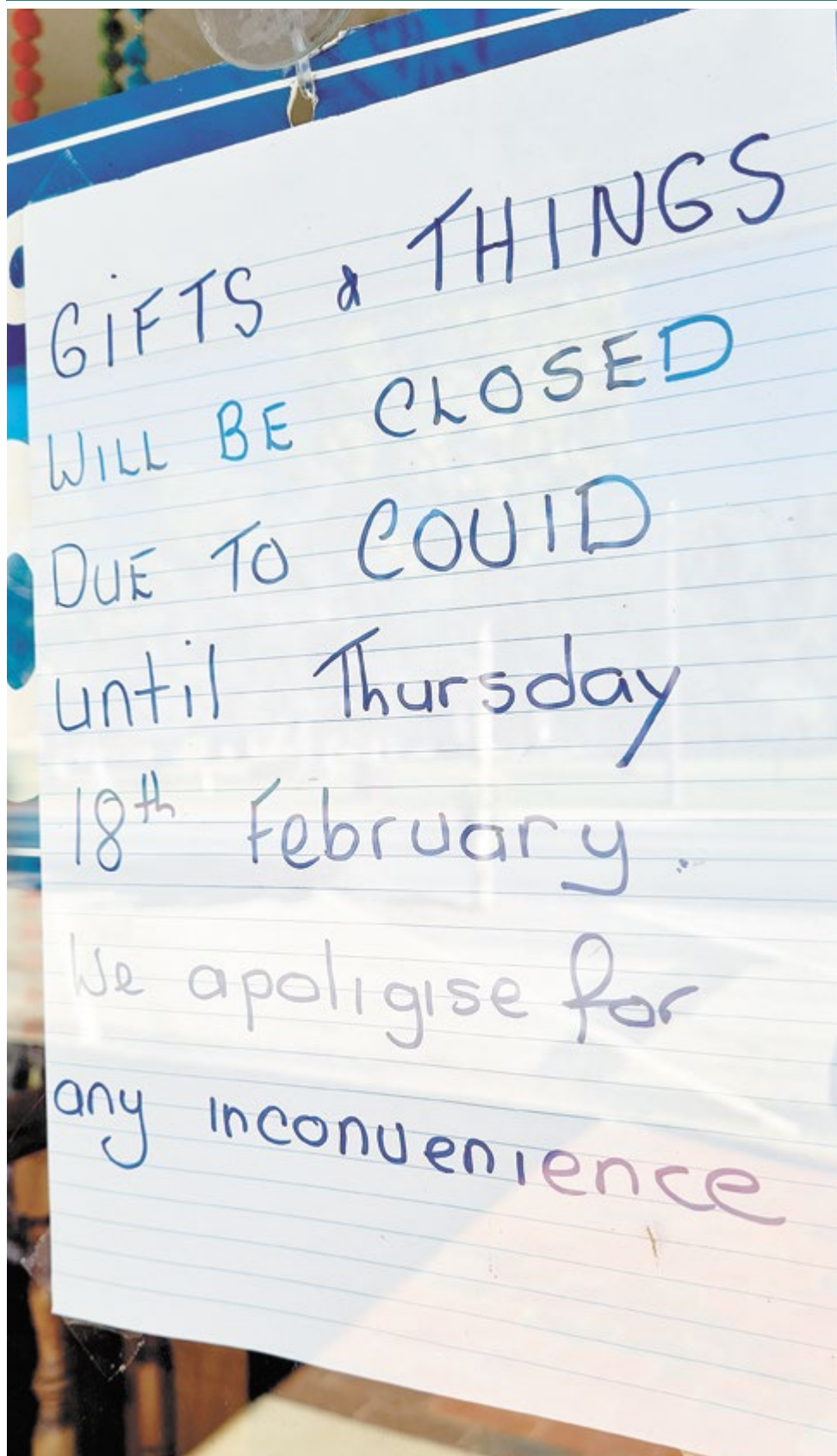
**INVESTITURE CEREMONY**  
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Sunday, February 28, 2021

**SMILES ALL ROUND**  
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## HERE WE COVID-19 AGAIN



Businesses had no time to prepare...

**By Kirstin Nicholson**

Local businesses had to think on their feet when the snap announcement was made to lock down the whole of Victoria on Friday afternoon, giving them little time to make plans for the coming week. Schools were also unsure how to proceed at such short notice, with staff given little direction until after the home bell had already sounded. Confusion reigned for teachers, parents and students.

Weekend plans were quickly dropped as we donned our daggy 'around the house' clothes and switched to home maintenance mode. With the symphony of lawn mowers, Whipper Snippers and power tools playing through the neighbourhood airways, we emerged from the weekend with immaculate lawns and gardens and wondering what our next project would be.

Shops deemed as non-essential barely had time to scrawl a notice of closure for the front door before closing on Friday night. Having done this twice already and for extended periods, some of our food outlets quickly switched to 'lockdown' mode and offered takeaway only.

Like similar dine-in establishments, 3J's Coffee Shack and Beer Garden switched to offering a limited takeaway menu only. Caitlin Jenkins said they were disappointed to be in lockdown again, and thankful to their customers who have continued to support them.

Retailers closed their physical doors but Wendy Toma, owner of 3rd Bird Boutique, took to Facebook and Instagram to promote her sale items. "That's about all I can do at the moment," she said. "Hopefully we can all open our doors on Thursday. I have managed to make some sales, but nothing like it would be with the doors open."

The Cohuna Waterfront Holiday Park was on track for a full weekend of occupancy. That changed in an instant, with travellers already on site having to leave, and others enroute having to turn around and head home. Park manager, Helen Brooks, spent the days following the announcement processing refunds and arranging alternative bookings.

"We had to deal with people who were coming right up until Thursday. Some of them have been able to reschedule their stays, some of them don't have leave so they've postponed until a later date," Helen explained. Those who were already checked in were permitted to stay, but were still subject to the lockdown rules, and did not have access to park amenities such as the pool and jumping pillow that have been closed off, so many chose to return home.

One large group booking was a caravan club,

whose members all returned home following the announcement. "That impact probably ripples throughout Cohuna because they were planning to have functions at different food places, and activities. They decided to leave and go home," said Helen.

Pam Brown has resided in the Cohuna retirement village for just over a year. She looks forward to visits from her daughter, Di Bowles, but since COVID-19 hit last year, the visits and outings have been few and far between. When the announcement was made on Friday afternoon, Di made the trip into town for a visit before she, and other visitors, were locked out.

An anticipated outing to Pam's old home on Saturday had to be cancelled, coming as a disappointment to both Pam and Di. Outings have been limited for Pam, who is not used to mask wearing and COVID-19 social etiquette, and whose impression of the COVID-19 environment is built on what is portrayed on television. It has become an unfamiliar world outside the village walls. "She would be scared to go in a shop because she just doesn't know how it works," explained Di.

If visitor restrictions continue, Di and Pam will return to using the 'window', a window to allow residents and family members to see each other while talking on the phone. "It's hard because Mum can't hear very well. I sit outside, Mum sits inside. I ring the number in there and they have it on speaker for Mum to talk to me. She does like to actually see me," said Di.

The Cohuna and District Historical Society is collecting photos and stories of life in lockdown for its archive and welcomes any contributions. Drop in when the centre reopens or contact the secretary through the website or Facebook.

Almost 12 months on from our first lockdown, we are still living in a world of uncertainty. From the forced time off work and school to the missed sports trainings, appointments and catch ups with friends and family, we have come to realise that plans can change at the drop of a hat. At the time this went to print, all Victorians were eagerly awaiting the announcement from Premier Andrews, an announcement that would outline our next steps. I am hoping the lockdown does not continue, but one thing I can be sure of, we are all a heck of a lot more resilient than we thought we were.

Beyond Blue has a dedicated service for those feeling anxious, stressed, depressed or need assistance during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Phone: 1800 512 348.



# Cohuna Secondary College Student Investiture Ceremony



## By Kirstin Nicholson

Cohuna Secondary College recently invested its leadership students in a ceremony conducted for the extended school community. Principal, Fiona Miller, said, "I am very excited by the prospect of working with these young people who have had the courage to put their hand up to be leaders of our college."

### House Captains

**Burke:** Ellah Gelletly (C) and Tayla Clements (C).

**Hume:** Jackson Gray (C), Madi Purvis (C), Lilly Robinson (VC) and Cassandra Crichton (VC).

**Mitchell:** Kye Treacy (C) and Ella Barry (C), Cora Borchard (VC) and Nathan Taylor (VC).

**Sturt:** Kara Farrell (C) and Ethan Stone (C).

### SRC

#### representatives

**Year 7:** Bronte Bagg, Brianna Bourke, Holly McKenner, Kiera Gilling-

ham and Gus Palmer.

**Year 8:** Blake Nicholson, Saxon Nicholson, Ella Roberts, Jack Warren and Riv Webb.

#### Year 9: -

**Year 10:** Tanah Peacock, Brittney Tierney, Mackenzie Southern and Kiara Robins.

**Year 11:** Jemma Baxter and Alecia McFarlane.

**Year 12:** Kye Treacy and Maddi Purvis.

### Bus Captains

**Gannawarra Bus:** Tess Doyle and Rebecca Bottcher.

**Island Bus:** Riley Mason and Caylee Smith.

**Mead/McMillans Bus:** April Wishart and Kody Borchard.

**Gunbower 1 Bus:** Shelby Flight and Alyssa Bourke.

**Pyramid Hill Bus:** Zoe Stewart, Sammi Moon and Keziah Pacala.

**Gunbower 2 Bus:** Taylah Clements and Madison Neivandt.

**Horfield Bus:** Abel Prout and Kara Farrell.





## RANDOM THOUGHTS

ALI  
BOHN

## Unsung Household Heroes

Oh, how my imagination gets away from me.

My friends often refer to me as ‘weird,’ ‘odd,’ or for the most part, ‘random,’ all of which I take as the highest of compliments. This is most likely due to the left of field/head shaking comments and questions I have been known to make at any given time.

One such subject happened upon my imagination recently when a fellow ‘random’ friend was visiting. We were sitting out on the deck having a chat when my son came out from the living room, slamming the fly wire screen shut

on the sliding door.

“Now, there’s a household item that gets a fair workout – the old bloody sliding door!” my friend announced, and with that, my imagination was like a dog with a bone – I just could not let it go!

When you really think about it, there are many items around the home that do not get the recognition they most probably are not looking for, but certainly deserve.

For example, how about the light that goes on in the fridge every time you open the door? Just ponder this for a moment: have you counted how many times a day

your fridge door gets opened and then slammed shut without any more thought? That tiny globe going on and off all day long, barely getting a moment’s rest, and being at the beck and call of every household member whenever they get the munchies.

How about the humble old toilet seat? I need not go into great detail here, it’s pretty self-explanatory – what a crap job!

And while we are in the vicinity, toilet paper, or as my good friend calls them – ‘poo tickets.’ Nothing screams ‘I have so little regard for you that I will rip you away from

your family, wipe the remnants of yesterday’s digestion with you and drown you.’ How about a high five for toilet rolls?

Tap washers. Now there is a thankless job. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, that small piece of metal engineering genius literally, sits tight so that your tap does not constantly drip like a toddler with a cold. How about a hand for tap washers? I commend you on your efforts to make us save water.

Every single piece of Manchester including your mattress. What a thankless task – to have to support and comfort a dead weight of

sweaty, noisy, gas excreting, scaly footed, hairy legged, talon toenailed beings for up to 12 hours a night. Ever wondered why you wake up in the middle of the night with half your sheet peeled and twisted off the bed or a pillow over your face? I’ll tell you why, never underestimate the intelligence of a humble old bed sheet – it’s half off the bed because its trying to escape the suffocation and possessiveness of your person. And as for the pillow? Pretty obvious it’s trying to muffle the sounds of your snoring! I say the gold medal goes to the entire bed ensemble,

or even better still, why not give it the night off for heaven’s sake and sleep on the floor tonight out of respect?

I am certain there are many more unsung household heroes, and I have merely scratched the surface.

Hopefully you will come up with more of your own examples, all you need is a bit of imagination and a little consideration for the items you are using on a daily basis that you would not trade jobs with.

Toothbrushes, now there is another one...

Lockdown returns  
for Victorians“Oh no,  
not again”

By Ali Bohn

Victorian schools were closed for three days this week due to the latest outbreak of COVID-19 cases in Melbourne. Following the announcement made on Friday afternoon that ‘from 11.59pm February 12 until 11.59pm Wednesday February 17, the entire state of Victoria’ was to go into lockdown, parents went into panic about how to make arrangements for their children, especially for those who had to work. A unanimous “oh no not this again,” could almost be heard bellowing from every household throughout Victoria as many families are concerned the lockdown will go for longer, meaning the return to Remote Learning.

“It was very stressful when we heard the announcement,” said one parent, “it was a mad panic of changing rosters at work to fit in with being able to stay home with the kids. I work nightshift so that was especially tricky, because I need to sleep when I finish a shift which is hard with the kids at home.”

For some parents, the option of sending their children to school if it was not possible for them to stay home was not considered as teachers were not going to be planning any schoolwork, due to there not being enough time for them to organise tasks for the day.

“We were given the option of sending the kids if we had to work, but we had to send them with activities. So in the end, I just had to call my boss and take more annual leave,” a frustrated mother told *The Bridge*.

There was a positive spin on the 3-day lockdown, which was not having to rush

around in the morning packing schoolbags and lunches and dragging sleepy teenagers out of bed.

Keeping this thought in mind has been particularly reassuring for this father, who said -

“It should be more relaxed in the morning at least! I won’t be strict about schoolwork these next few days. I’ll just be happy if they do some quiet reading, it was stressful enough last time. I just hope it only lasts these next couple of days.”

With 2021 hoping to be the school year without interruptions, it seems we are off to a shaky start.

I read a post on social media the other day about our children being some of the silent heroes in all of this. Constantly having to adapt to an unpredictable environment, the stress at home between their parents, on again off again classroom learning, frequently sanitising hands, keeping 1.5 metres distance between their friends, not being allowed to visit loved ones from interstate as well as just down the road – have all made for what must be a pretty scary world for them to live in, as they do so in silence because they are expected to go with the flow. Stop for a moment and think about these little champions who have had a very hard lesson in resilience. As parents, our priority should be to help them let go of the fear and make sure they are still able to be kids. Sure, we will never forget what it was like to go through a pandemic such as what we are going through now, but may we always remember these important years of our childrens’ lives, it is called ‘being a kid.’

Kathryn  
Returns to CCS

By Kirstin Nicholson

Former Cohuna Consolidated School pupil, Kathryn Wilson, has returned to the school she attended as a child, but this time in a teaching capacity. Kathryn, who lived in Melbourne for the past two years, relocated to Cohuna after COVID-19 forced a change in the family’s circumstances. “It feels pretty good to be back here in my hometown, and teaching where I was taught,” said Kathryn, who is teaching a Grade 1-2 class.





# Cohuna Golf Club

The only golf for the men at Cohuna last week was the regular R&R gathering last Thursday. For something a little different, we had a draw for partners and had an aggregate Stableford competition. It was the killer combination of Alan Moloney and Kevin Crane who amassed 70 points between them (35 each) to take out the day. They were also the best individual scores, with Ruff Farrant having 34, and Mal Appleby and Bruce Matson scoring 33 each. NTP's went to John Corry, Geoff Miller, Alan Moloney and Kevin Crane.

## Cohuna Golf Club Wednesday Results 12.02.2021

By Doug Peace

Event: Stroke/Monthly Medal

Sponsor: Ann Wight. Thank you, Ann, for your continued support.

9 hole winner: Jenny Dehne 52 (14.5) 35.5 nett

18 hole winner and medallist: Di Woolhouse 93

(18) 75 nett  
B grade: Viv Moylan 98  
(19) 79 nett  
C grade: Val Hoban 106  
(30) 76 nett  
Least putts: Di Woolhouse 28  
NTP's: 2nd on 3rd: Di Woolhouse  
8th Linda Maloney  
11th Lyn Richardson

Next week: Stableford.  
Book duty: Di Woolhouse and Val Farrant

Sat: Stroke sun: Mixed 4BBB v Stableford

Reminders: Ladies can hit off at 8am to miss the heat if they wish. Organise your own partner or contact Liz. Could the last group of the day please lock the cart shed, thank you.

Numbers were down a little today, maybe the warm conditions had something to do with it.

Our thoughts are with Wilma who is on the sick list at the moment. We hope to see you back at golf very soon. Good golfing.

## COHUNA BOWLS

Sad to say we could not play as Pennant Bowls was cancelled. Before the bowls season ends, our president and secretary remind members that we have two important dates that require good attendance from all of us.

Firstly, our AGM is on Thursday, April 22 at 7.30pm. If you want the club to keep going, put your nominations

in. Selectors come to mind; we all have views of how to pick sides, so here is your chance. We could only get three selectors doing the job instead of five.

Secondly, our presentation night is Friday, April 30. The secretary wants names for catering so give Peter a ring.

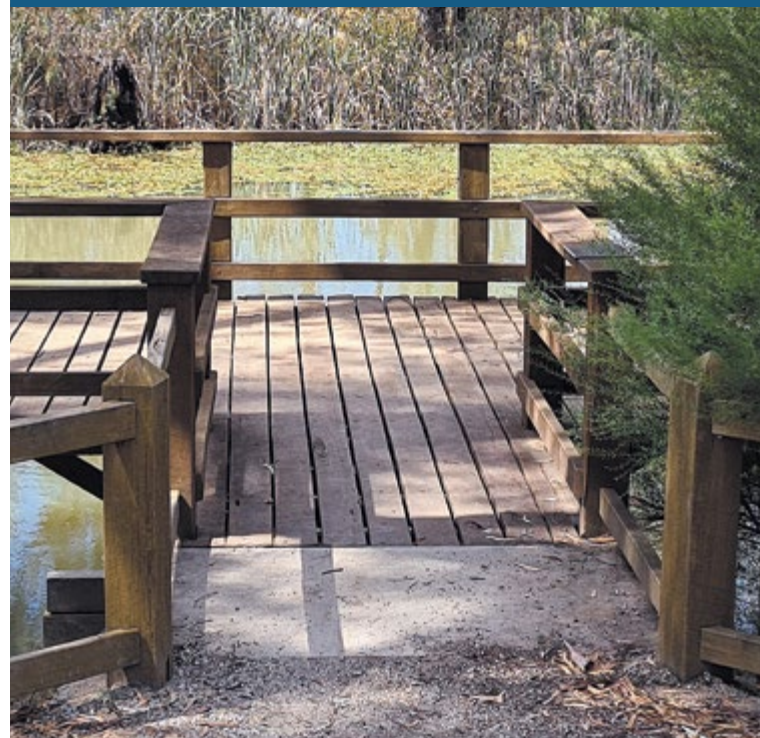
Dusty

## Dad's Jokes



"I had a neck brace fitted years ago and I've never looked back since."

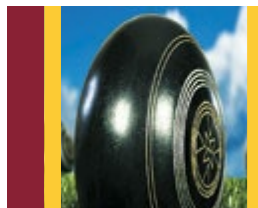
## Where, oh Where?



Where in Cohuna is this location?

Answer for February 11: The Cohuna Beach

## Leitchville Bowls



There was no Saturday Pennant due to Victoria going into a five-day lockdown from 11.59pm on Friday, February 12. Bowls can resume on Thursday, February 18, pending the State Government's decision.

Nine ladies attended social bowls on Tuesday, February 9. Two teams played fours and the winners were Jean Devitt, Heather Crichton, Val Morris and Raylene Hore. Congratulations, ladies.

### Midweek Bowls Division 2 results 10/02/21.

Leitchville was defeated by Cohuna Golf 26 (Opts) to 45 (8pts).

Suzanne Bennett was defeated by Denise Fehring

14/25.

Jean Devitt was defeated by Liz Keely 12/20. This team of Jean Devitt, Heather Crichton, Barbara Hildebrand and Yvonne Dehne will be dining out at the Leitchville Hotel.

Ladies Social Bowls is on every Tuesday morning. Practice for Saturday Pennant is every Wednesday evening from 5.00pm for current and new members. For further enquiries contact President Roma Opie 0458 567 587 or Lady President Raylene Hore 0431 358 382. The next committee meeting is on Tuesday, March 9 at 7.30pm.

The presentation night will be at the Leitchville Hotel on

Friday, March 26 at 7.00pm. Please list names on sheet on notice board or contact Ken Dehne or Roma Opie, as names are required by Monday, March 22 for catering purposes. All members need to return their raffle books by the presentation night to Ken Dehne or Graham Douglas.

The Club Championship Men's Fours final will be between Ken Dehne's team and Kevin Dehne's team. Note: date to be arranged to be played. C of C Men's Fours Sunday, March 21 and 28. Dye Brothers Triples Sunday, March 7 at 12.30pm, entries to Roma Opie 5456 7587 / 0458 567 587, Graham Douglas 5456

### Saturday Pennant Teams – February 20, 2021

#### Division 1: verse Home to Gunbower

Manager: Kevin Dehne

Kevin Dehne(S), T. Cantwell, H. Hooper, D. Irvine  
Ken Dehne (S), T. Hore, W. Fehring, P. Patterson  
Roma Opie (S), D. Opie, P. Griffiths, V. Dehne

#### Division 2: verse Barham Green Away

Manager: Graham Wilson

G. Wilson (S), J. Walters, M. Brewer, A. Thomson  
Ray Opie (S), G. Douglas, G. Brown, N. Woods  
L. Crawford (S), Gary Hawken, D. Dye, S. Griffiths

7428 / 0409 567 428, Ken Dehne 5456 7555 / 0438 200 868 or team entries on club noticeboard.

A/C Triples Tournament is on Monday, March 15 at 7.00pm. Entries to Roma Opie, Graham Douglas or

Ken Dehne. Midweek Consistency Breakfast Tournament A/C Fours Wednesday, March 24 at 8.00am, contact Yvonne Dehne 0437 019 618 or Raylene Hore 0431 358 382.

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## COHUNA GOLF BOWLS CLUB

Before the virus hit the fan, all was rolling along well in our world of bowls. Unfortunately, we then lost the pennant round with all its late season implications.

On Tuesday, the ladies had a day with Hundred-Up matches combined with the regular pickup. Irene, Barbara, Denise and Yvonne (w/o) all progressed to the next round, whilst the daily event went the way of Helen, Lucy, Val and Yvonne.

Midweek pennant saw a win and a loss, with the Ones failing badly over at Pyramid, now having to fight to regain a spot in the four. With this week's games ruled out the task is doubly harder. The Twos continued their winning

way, gaining points once again.

Wednesday night bowlers have only one further game before the finals, with Winko McLoughlan, Leigh Johnson and Helen Hall sweeping all before them last week. Ruff Farrant and team score duty when play resumes.

Thursday Jackpot pairs were played in very warm conditions and resulted in a win to Lee Sutherland and Lyle Baker. The recharge winners in a closely contested battle were John Dickens and Barney McLoughlan whilst, to the organiser's horror, the jackpot number of minus ten was claimed by the pairings of Frank Trezise and Wayne Cowan, also Phil McManus and

Peter Coates. Our Gunbower friends cleaned up in a big way. COVID-19 permitting, we're playing again this week, then having a spell until Northern District finals are out of the way.

Friday night's Italian meal was a great success, with over fifty enjoying an endless amount of pasta, garlic bread and red wine. Well done to the ladies who first proposed the event, then continued to complete the catering.

Pennant this week sees the Ones home to Wakool, the Twos travelling to Kerang and Pyramid Hill respectively, whilst the Threes finish their season with a home game against Cohuna. Good luck to everyone.

### Pennant Teams – Round 14

#### Saturday, February 20, 2021

(Skipper, Third, Second, Lead)

#### Division 1 Vs Wakool at Cohuna Golf

H. Keely (S) R. Fletcher I. Coates C. Whittaker  
J. Hammond (S) C. Barton R. Eckhardt F. Trezise  
J. McGillivray (S) J. Keely G. Easton M. Carmody  
Manager I. Coates

#### Division 2 White Vs Kerang at Kerang

Y. Eckhardt (S) P. Quinn J. Brown L. McManus  
P. Bibby (S) G. Free W. Waters K. Hipwell  
B. Morrison L. Sutherland D. Keely M. Appleby  
Manager Y. Eckhardt

#### Division 2 Navy Vs Pyramid Hill at Pyramid Hill

D. Peace (S) G. Farrant J. Henty R. Ladson  
K. Ballard D. Easton, L. Mathers B. McLoughlan  
Z. Mitchell R. Bateman P. McManus A. Dunne  
Manager D. Peace

#### Division 3 Gunny Golf Vs Cohuna at Home

For those not in the know, the allocation of greens for the finals is as follows:

Mid-Week: Cohuna, Leitchville and grand final Kerang.

Saturday: Barham, Kerang Golf, and Cohuna Golf for the grand final.

All regional events have been put back a week.

*fresh flowers*

**PETALS 'N PLANTS**

We deliver to Kerang, Koondrook/Barham, Leitchville & Pyramid Hill

17 King George St, Cohuna  
**5456 2328**



# Smiles all Round for Dancers

**By Kirstin Nicholson**

In an ordinary year, the return to children's sports and activities goes hand in hand with the hustle and bustle of back to school. This has been no ordinary year, however, and just when we thought things were returning to some normality, we find ourselves in the midst of another lockdown.

Dance classes have been permitted to return recently, and, like other privately owned businesses offering classes, COVID-19 hit them hard. Bek Sherlock, who is an experienced dancer and qualified dance teacher, established the Pro Rock Dance school 13 years

ago when she moved to Cohuna. She explains, "It was very heart breaking. Dance classes were one of the first activities to go when things started to shut down due to COVID-19, and we were the last jobs to be able to return."

"Dance was never on the list of jobs when you

would look up what the guidelines and rules were. It was very hard to follow and no communication for our industry at all. The mixed information was appalling from our government. One week we were under the category of a gym, the next we were a sport, and another time we

were the arts!"

With the generosity, understanding and patience of the dance school community, Bek and her family got through the COVID-19 induced closure. "The support and love of the Pro Rock families, and my own family and friends, was overwhelm-

ing and so kind," she said.

Bek is ecstatic to return with a full program this year, catering to children and adults. "Starting back term one for 2021 will be hard financially, but amazing spiritually. It's such a blessing to be back and seeing these smiling faces. I have missed being

creative and seeing all my students. It's so good for the soul to be able to work in an industry I love and to be able to share it with others. My staff are wonderful and without them I wouldn't be able to run so many classes and offer dance to so many kids and adults. I am ever so

grateful for the community support. This is what keeps my business going."

As children return enthusiastically to these activities over the coming weeks, the beaming faces of the organisers will be shining brightly among them too.



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The Bridge

**Death Notice**

**JONES - Irene**  
1931-2021  
Died in Albury, February 3, 2021, aged 90.  
Loving wife of Jack (dec.).  
Loved Mother of 15,  
Grandmother of 30 and  
Great Grandmother of 22.  
Irene was laid to rest at  
Henty with Jack and son  
Alan.  
Long time friend of Alan and  
Rose Millar.

**SIMPSON - William Kenneth "Bill"**  
26.7.1939 - 16.2.2021  
Formerly of Red Hill  
Station, Hay.  
Dearly loved husband of  
Caroline.  
Loved father of Thomas,  
Annabel, Rachel and Bruce  
(dec.) and their families.

**Funeral Notice**

**SIMPSON**  
A funeral service for Mr  
William Kenneth 'Bill'  
SIMPSON will be held at the  
St. Johns Anglican Church,  
Barham on Tuesday 23  
February 2021 commencing  
at 11AM. Followed by a  
private cremation.

**A.G. ADAMS**  
6 Sons  
Kerang 5152 1111

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**Barham High School is looking for an office assistant in a part time casual capacity for 2021.**

**Duties include:**

- Phone and office reception
- General Word Processing
- Digital and Physical document filing
- Other tasks defined by the Principal

Applicants should be competent in using computers in an office workplace, possess superior communication skills and phone manner, and be able to maintain discretion in a confidential environment.

For further enquiries, please contact Karen Dalley: 03 5453 2322 during business hours.

**Please submit resume by Thursday 4th March.**

Welcome to my  
**Barham Studio**  
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**Atalie Warren**  
ENERGETICS THERAPIST

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**Forestry Corporation**

**Fox and Rabbit Baiting Program**

As part of a wider Local Land Services managed baiting program, Forestry Corporation will be carrying out a 1080 baiting and ejector program on three key sandhills, along the private property boundary/State Forest boundary and adjacent to selected main roads from **3 February 2021 to 31 March 2021**.

1080 baiting will occur along the boundary of Campbells Island, Perricoota and Koondrook State Forests, on Horseshoe, Boysons and Big Bonum sandhills as well as adjacent to selected roads in these areas, including River Road and the main access tracks to popular campsites in these forests.

Signage will be erected at all main entrances and campsites, as well as other strategic locations to advise people of the presence of the baits.

Adjoining property holders and visitors to the forest are advised to be aware of the presence of the baits and keep all animals under close supervision during this time. Children should also be closely supervised during this time.

Please contact Andrew McCurdy, District Manager, on 0428 288 618 should you require any further information regarding this program.

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Articles or new advertising bookings and material need to be submitted **before 12 noon, Tuesday afternoon**. Any proof acceptances, changes, cancellations or booking changes must be received no later than **5pm Tuesday afternoon**.

Any addition, correction or cancellation requests received later may not be possible.

**UPCOMING AUCTIONS PLUS CLEARING SALE - March 12, 2021**

Bidding closes 1pm, bidding to start 3 days prior.  
A/c P & P Goudie

**PROPERTY: "KANOWNA ESTATE"**  
**317 LILFORD LANE, BARHAM**  
Ultrashift cx 95 McCormick, Ford 6600, antique machinery, antiques, brick-a-brack, scrap, garden ornaments, household goods.

**Payment terms: cash, card, D/D - prior to pickup arrangements.**

Ph: Phil Goudie 0458 985 113  
Lauren Polkinghorne 0437 176 322

**INSPECTION TIMES**  
Friday, February 19, 2021 between 12-2pm  
Saturday, February 27, 2021 between 9am - 11am  
Friday, March 5, 2021 between 12-2pm  
Saturday, March 6, 2021 between 9-11am  
Thursday, March 11, 2021 between 12-3pm

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# - 'Minding my Business' -

By Rosemary McCormick

Cloudy skies these days here in Kathmandu. Our weekend hike up one of the high, valley sentinel hills revealed no mountain views, the Himalaya hidden by a snow-laden cloud mass. Clouds drifted across the hill tops in a cool mist, and the valley down below remained secreted beneath a foggy soup. Tiny paths meander through the hillside forests, made by charcoal burners, wood cutters, and forage gatherers. Along the paths at this time of the year, you will

find the air heavy with the sweet scent of wild daphne flowers, and the bushes full of tiny birds searching for insects, and even the elegant long tailed birds investigating empty chip packets left behind by littering humans. Other parts of the trail wind through the ancient, twisted trunks of moss-encrusted rhododendron trees, mysterious and dark. We sat up on the high hillside, in the cool and quiet, to eat our picnic, and watch the eagles soar the updrafts below us – no agenda, refreshing, relaxing

– and I am thinking about how often my stresses are self-inflicted! Sometimes I need to remember to simply 'mind my business'.

One of the major potential stresses related to business operations here in Nepal, is competition. Many foreign owned companies avoid investing here for lots of reasons, one being 'brand security'. Recently, I needed to buy a new wristwatch. So, off to the nearby tiny, roadside, watch and sunglass shops. Such a variety, so many 'brands', all the well-

known names are displayed there, and all at 'bargain' prices. Of course, everyone knows they are fake brands, not original watches, they are cheap copies. Well, that is ok, my previous Nepali watch has worked for the past seven years... The cultural trend here is for copycat businesses, someone starts something, immediately many others will quickly follow suit. Competition is tough in the café business, and usually also in the guest house business. How to stand out from the crowd? To do it

better, different, best?

It is easy to keep looking at what others are doing, and to fall into the trap of envy, or of making adjustments according to what others are doing. Easy to feel discouraged by the news of yet another new business competitor. But we are called to run our own race, I mean, we know it does not work well when runners in a sprint waste time by looking over their shoulder to check the position of their competitors. Seems God has a personal plan for us, and he will guide

and lead us in the best way forward for us. We can access his heavenly creativity, his wisdom, and enjoy the connections that he makes for us. By the grace of God, we can do what he calls us to do, what he gives us to do. It does not matter what the others are doing! God calls us to be 'the head and not the tail', in other words, we can be new trendsetters, pioneers, examples, leaders. My business is to follow my God, and to simply do what he has for me to do. Stress-free, minding my business.

## Soaring on Wings Like Eagles

By Bruce Stewart

On hot summer days out in the rural areas of Australia I have often observed the wedgetail eagle effortlessly rising on thermals and being carried to a great altitude – up to 2,000 metres the scientists tell us. The near two and a half metre wings of the average adult wedge tailed eagle rarely flap as the eagle stays aloft for long periods of time searching for prey far below and perhaps enjoying the scenery!

I vividly remember another occasion when I was standing in the middle of a Western District swamp attempting to photograph the local fauna. I had been standing near motionless for quite a time in the cold,

knee deep water so that the resident birds adjusted to my presence. Unexpectedly, into this scene, I observed a large wedgetail eagle winging its way towards me – checking me out. Obviously, it had not seen me earlier, walking several hundred metres into the swamp. It continued towards me – its large wingspan and wedge-shaped tail looking more and more impressive as it approached. At a point only some 20m from me, it veered and landed atop a large red gum tree and continued to observe. Then with a final close 'pass' it flew off into the distance.

Seeing this wedge tailed eagle on the wing so close to me reminds me of a pas-



sage in the Bible penned approximately 2,700 years ago. It makes mention of the eagle which soars effortlessly in the sky.

*Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary*

*and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.*

*Isaiah 40:28-31...*  
This passage was written for people feeling tired

and weary in the difficult circumstances of life – perhaps lacking hope, losing motivation, feeling weak, powerless, and dealing with grief and loss. Most of us will experience some of these thoughts and emotions at some points in the journey of life. I am reminded of the story of Joseph Scriven, born in Ireland in 1819. He was engaged to be married and just a day before the scheduled wedding his fiancée drowned. A few years later he was preparing to marry Eliza Rice, when she succumbed to illness. Out of the pain and overwhelming grief of the deaths of two fiancées he penned these words to his mother... What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear, what a privilege to carry everything to God on prayer. These words became the

foundation of a song which has been sung by literally millions of people around the world over the last 150 years.

Some more words from this song, Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged, Take it to the Lord in prayer. The Bible reminds us we need help, hope, forgiveness of sin, emotional and spiritual encouragement, and sustenance much greater than our own resources in our day-by-day journey of life. So, next time you see a wedge tailed eagle soaring in the sky, be reminded not so much to focus on the problems, but look to the Lord for our hope, repent and seek His help and place our trust in Him each day in the journey of life.

### COHUNA & DISTRICT ANGLICAN CHURCH SERVICES

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021**

**COHUNA:** Cranmer the Martyr 32 Channel St, Cohuna  
February 17 at 2pm, Ash Wednesday. Holy Communion Rev Sue Allen Sunday 9am. Morning prayer Rev Faye Donaldson

**GUNBOWER:** Christ Church – Cnr M.V. Highway and Church St, Gunbower  
Sunday 11am Morning Prayer

**LEITCHVILLE:** Latimer the Martyr – 23 Findlay Ave, Leitchville  
Sunday 11am Holy Communion Rev Sue Allen

**KERANG:** St Johns Anglican Church – 60 Wyndham St, Kerang.  
Ash Wednesday, February 17 at 6pm. Holy Communion Rev Sue Allen Sunday 9am, Holy Communion Rev Sue Allen.

### Lions Bingo

Twenty four bingo players had a good night, it was a good roll up for a hot day, thanks to all who attended.

One Bingo player had an extra good night congratulations to Gloria for winning game 30 jackpot of \$360.00. The wildcard jackpot is \$1000.00 in 53 calls while game 20 jackpot starts again in 50 calls or less.

The game 30 jackpot of \$80.00 was won by D. Ritchie.

Roster on 24th Feb: - B Brookes, R Daws, T Barker, J Whelan, C. Pye

### Church Notices



ANGLICAN CHURCH

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

**St Johns: 10am:** Holy Communion.

**St Martins: 10.30am:** with Uniting.

**St Barnabas: 2pm:** Holy Communion.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

**7pm:** Parish Council Meeting.

• Enquiries Fr Neale: 0497 359 576



BARHAM – WAKOOL UNITING PARISH

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

**Barham – 10am:** L. & J. McKindlay.

**Moulamein – 10am:** Comb. with Barham.

**Wakool – 10:30am:** SMT.

PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE HELD AT BARHAM FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.

• Enquiries: L. & J. McKindlay 5884 2130

C.C. = Children's Church. SMT = Shared Ministry Team.



KOONDROOK – BARHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

**SUNDAY 10AM**

**50 MELLOOL ST, BARHAM.**

Enquiries: Colin Barnes – 0429 426 156



BARHAM CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Daily Mass: 9 am** - Barham Presbytery chapel.

**SUNDAY MASS:**

**Wakool: 8.30 am.**

**Barham: 10:30am.**

**Moulamein:** every second week at 5:30pm.

**Phone Fr Stan: 0413 311 598**





## cluBarham Indoor Bowls

By Rockin' Kitty  
Thursday, Feb  
11

Too hot for some maybe, as we only played on 1 mat for tonight.

Margaret Troy, Heather, and Margaret D played. 15 ends against Jim O.

Christine (Birthday girl) Barb and Kath resulting in a win by Jim and his girls.

Margaret Troy removed Kitty twice to the river but managed to get the lucky ticket for the night.



## WAKOOL BOWLING CLUB

Wakool Bowls Pennant Teams  
February 20, 2021

Division One

Wakool vs Cohuna Golf (away)

(s) I Main, M Filmer, L McNaul, A Stewart  
(s) G Treweek, J Fairchild, A Shannon, F Ryan  
(s) B Vinecombe, S McNaul, R Grant, J Lolicato

Division Three

Wakool vs Pyramid Hill (away)

(s) C Mills, K Lolicato, W Bourke, S Mills  
(s) S Chalmers, F Burmeister, G Rowland, S Stewart  
(s) R Chalmers, R Walker, A Hamilton, N Free

Emergencies: G Lang, J Amor

## Northern District Bowls Association

### MIDWEEK PENNANT

As at February 10, 2021

Division 1

Barham Blue	12/89	def Barham Green	0/33
Pyramid Hill	10/73	def Cohuna Golf	2/42
Kerang	10/56	def Cohuna	2/46

Division 1	Pts	%
Cohuna	84	119.97
Kerang	75	104.83
Barham Blue	71	120.97
Pyramid Hill	68	94.97
Cohuna Golf	65	101.09
Barham Green	33	68.95

Division 2

Cohuna Golf	8/45	def Leitchville	0/26
Pyramid Hill	6/44	def Kerang2/41	
Barham Blue	6/42	def Cohuna Gold	2/27
Barham Green	6/41	def Cohuna Blue	2/31
Kerang Golf	Bye		

Division 1	Pts	%
Kerang Golf	66.6	148.94
Kerang	49.3	109.88
Cohuna Gold	47	109.80
Barham Green	39	88.12
Leitchville	38	103.49
Barham Blue	36	102.81
Cohuna Blue	31.21	88.64
Pyramid Hill	30	89.40
Cohuna Golf	26	77.83



## Barham Lawn Tennis Club

Well, we did it! We had five teams ready to go for a fabulous round of tennis and then COVID-19 destroyed our excitement. Tennis was cancelled and all teams received a draw.

Still, our club championships are up and running and some matches that could be played from round one have been. Some, unfortunately, have had to wait

for restrictions to lift and player availability.

Round one club champion results to date: Wes O, Matt L, Andy A, Andy E, Peter B, Tania P, Kayla D, and Susan O have all progressed to Round 2.

On Sunday, lucky we live in NSW and our Farm Tour Tennis Trip could proceed. What a great way to spend Valentine's Day, with 30 other tennis enthusiasts and their

kids. The bus left home base and weaved its way around our players' farms, picking up along the way with the aim to show the townies where everyone actually lives. We arrived in Moulamein a little early so had a quick tour of the town, then off to the Moulamein Bowling Club for lunch and an afternoon of social chit chat.

A few took on the challenge of rolling a few rocks down the greens. Then, the match of the day with Andy Arthur taking on Nick Warne in the club championships, Andy proudly coming out on top but a bit nervous for his next match up in round two. Dean picked us up about 4:30 and there was a quick tennis-themed trivia quiz on the way home while we weaved our way back to Barham dropping off our farmers along the way. Unfortunately, five of our Victorian residents couldn't join at the last minute thanks to their fearless leader's snap lockdown, and much to their disappointment.

Thanks to Lakes Coaches for our safe journey and the Moulamein Bowling Club for the awesome food, love heart chocolates and relaxed atmosphere. Cheers to our club members for making the day a great one for all who attended.

Andy, Sue and Taylah. So, now we will do our best to organise five teams for Saturday, February 20 in the hope that lockdown is lifted and the NDLTA matches can proceed.

Stay safe and we will see you next week.

The Barham Curious Writer.



This week's games:

Thursday Night T20

Cohuna vs Barham/Koondrook at Cohuna

Friday night - barbecue tea

Woolworths Blast at Koondrook

U16 GF

Koondrook vs Murrabit at Koondrook

Saturday

U13s

Wandella vs Barham/Koondrook at Kerang

U16s

Barham/Koondrook vs Wandella at Koondrook

B Grade

Barham/Koondrook vs Kerang at Barham

A Grade

Barham/Koondrook vs Cohuna at Koondrook

## Northern District Bowls Association

Due to the virus in Victoria, we are unable to play pennant this weekend. The ladders are the same, but all games have been abandoned and no points allotted, except for byes. The teams still need to be notified to the pennant recorder.

## Northern District Lawn Tennis Association

ROUND 12 - February 13, 2021

Senior Div 1

NDLTA LADDER TO ROUND 13 - 13/02/2021

DIVISION 1	W	L	D	For	Agt	%	Pts
Cohuna	9	1	3	553	485	114.02	42
Koondrook	8	3	2	600	438	136.99	36
Kerang	7	4	2	610	471	129.51	32
Murrabit	7	4	2	600	563	106.57	32
Gunbower	1	9	3	447	530	84.34	10
Leitchville	0	11	2	284	607	46.79	4
DIVISION 2	W	L	D	For	Agt	%	Pts
Murrabit	9	2	2	902	698	129.23	40
Barham Navy	8	2	3	844	572	147.55	38
Gannawarra	7	3	3	766	719	106.54	34
Kerang Red	6	4	3	792	690	114.78	30
Koondrook	6	5	2	765	766	99.87	28
Kerang Green	2	8	3	650	798	81.45	14
Gunbower	2	9	2	691	881	78.43	12
Barham White	2	9	2	548	834	65.71	12
DIVISION 3	W	L	D	For	Agt	%	Pts
Koondrook	9	2	2	701	565	124.07	40
Kerang Green	8	3	2	596	468	127.35	36
Kerang White	7	3	3	604	470	128.51	34
Barham Navy	7	3	3	618	518	119.31	34
Barham White	6	4	3	579	499	116.03	30
Kerang Red	6	4	3	566	565	100.18	30
Murrabit White	4	6	3	603	716	84.22	22
Barham Black	3	7	3	467	623	74.96	18
Murrabit Blue	2	9	2	410	720	56.94	12
JUNIORS	W	L	D	For	Agt	%	Pts
Cohuna Blue	9	2	2	429	295	145.42	40
Gunbower Red	7	4	2	388	347	111.82	32
Cohuna Gold	6	4	3	366	283	129.33	30
Gunbower Blue	5	5	3	310	321	96.57	26
Kerang	5	6	2	374	323	115.79	24
Murrabit	0	11	2	202	500	40.4	4



## Barham Bowling Club

Well, we all thought it was over. And as Victorians, or Mexicans, as our counterparts from NSW tend to call us, we feel that we have had enough.

Last Saturday I was commanded to go to Barham to buy a loaf of bread. I perused everything in the shop, I met up with heaps of people, and I talked to them. The point that I am trying to make is that I was mixing with people. And yet I was not allowed to play bowls in the afternoon.

How can this be? This declaration from the powers-that-be has caused a rift in our club and allowed the likes of Alan Thomas, Lorraine Durbridge and Geoff Walker to win Saturday, and to think that Douglas Carter, and Carol Gent with Don Cross, were runners up is unbelievable. If we were allowed to come across, none of this would have happened.

Anyway, you can stick your club. Us Mexicans are going to have a sit in on the tennis hard courts in Koondrook, and then claim squatters' rights. We may start bowling

on the bitumen but believe me, our new complex will outshine the new one behind cluBarham.

We know our rights and are better bowlers than you lot. This will be the second try for a new club. The first one was going fine at the footy grounds until the treasurer shot through with the money.

As you can tell, there is nothing to report. Just gabbling on.

ONE FOR THE ROAD. He said, "I don't know why you wear a bra; you've got nothing to put in it."

She says, "You wear pants, don't you?"

He said, "Shall we swap positions tonight?"

She said, "That's a good idea - you stand by the ironing board while I sit on the couch."

He said, "What have you been doing with all of the grocery money I gave you?"

She said, "Turn sideways, and look in the mirror."

See you on the green. WEARY.

### BARHAM BOWLING CLUB

#### SATURDAY PENNANT

Saturday, February 20, 2021

DIVISION 1 BARHAM V KERANG (HOME)

Skip	P GOUDIE	J LUNGHUSEN	G FAUL
3rd	R MAUD	KIM WATTS	E WHELAN
2nd	I FASHAM	KERRY WATTS	S MANNERS
Lead	K SMITH	G ARCHARD	E GRACO

Manager: G FAUL

DIVISION 2 BLUE V KERANG GOLF (AWAY)

Skip	A THOMAS	J HOLLOWAY	R SCOTT
3rd	K ASHTON	C BAGG	W BOULTON
2nd	G LAKE	K RYE	M LAURSEN
Lead	L ASHTON	C HOPE	J LAURSEN

Manager: M LAURSEN

DIVISION 2 GREEN V LEITCHVILLE (HOME)

Skip	T KEEGAN	P ORR	K LAKE
3rd	G COOK	R KENDELL	W MCNEIL
2nd	C CASSIDY	A LARPENT	G WALKER
Lead	J CUNNINGHAM	W WALLER	B PIPPIN

Manager: WALLER

DIVISION 3 BLUE V KERANG GOLF (AWAY)

Skip	H ARCHARD	V MAJHROVSKI	G GOODWIN
3rd	B THEOBALD	R BAKER	L DURBRIDGE
2nd	G GRAEME	H MCCALLUM	D MCCALLUM
Lead	R HILLMAN	N NASH	J ORR

Manager: V MAJHROVSKI

DIVISION 3 GREEN V BYE

Skip	L MUES	B FRENCH	B BERRY
3rd	S BARNES	G WISHART	R FRASER
2nd	G MOXOM	G KENNEDY	I MUES
Lead	B FASHAM	P WALDRON	K LOHNER

Manager: G KENNEDY

DIVISION 3 WHITE V KERANG (HOME)

Skip	B PRINGLE	E SCHELBERT	D CARTER
3rd	G WILLIAMS	P MADELEY	C GENT
2nd	Y HENERY	J WHELAN	W COOK
Lead	N MARTIN	D GROSS	R CAREY

Manager: E SCHELBERT

Duty: Division 1 (Lunghusen)



# Teff Success at Wakool

By Kasey McClay

Last year it was difficult to deal with the bombardment of bad news that came from COVID-19. So, hearing about the great year that the McNaul family's paddock-to-plate agribusiness, 'Outback Harvest', has had was a refreshing change.

Fraser McNaul, who manages the branded side of the business, said "It's just a fact that Australian products are a premium price compared to imported goods. So, it's definitely been good for us having the borders closed and making it difficult for imported products to come in and compete with our Australian goods."

Outback Harvest is a family affair with Fraser's younger sister, Paige, working full time with administration and marketing for the online store, Lyn, Fraser's mother, packing and sending out the online orders, and Shane, Fraser's father, running the farming side of things. Fraser said, "It's still a small business, but it keeps me, my sister and my mum quite busy, and keeps Dad on his toes, growing a few different crops for us."

The McNaul family grows winter cereals, corn, rice as well as teff on its farm out at Wakool; the latter being the sole focus of Outback Harvest. Teff is an ancient grain of Ethiopia – which offers a gluten-free, healthy alternative to the plain flours currently out there. Fraser said, "I think it's important to note that our teff is kept completely separate to the rest of the farming. We've got dedicated gluten-free silos and augers to make sure there's no cross contamination." Fraser also mentioned, "In the gluten-free market, people are really vigilant about what they put in their mouths and are already quite conscious of where they are buying their products from."

Last year, everyone saw how outbreaks disrupt supply chains and way of life. So, hopefully as imports ramp back up in the future Outback Harvest, and other Australian farmers, will continue to have their goods represented more fairly in the market.



# WE WANT YOU!

By Ali Bohn

Whether you are looking for a new sport to play, wanting to improve your fitness or keen to expand your social circle then perhaps netball might be for you.

The excuse about the ankle injury from 1997 that ended your career is likely growing a little long in the tooth by now, so with the all-clear from the doctor, maybe it's time to show your kids that Mum still has what it takes to be a netball legend!

Koondrook and Barham Raiders Netball Club is calling on you – past players and new, to join a club that is bringing in the 2021 season with some exciting stuff.

If brand new club rooms and courts, a fresh look uniform and new coach in Rianna Matuch are not enough to entice you, how does regular social events, and an abundance of support with a family orientated club sound?

A dedicated team will help prepare and train both senior and junior players for what hopes to be

a very exciting year in sport, considering last year's season was over before it began.

New coach Rianna has a wealth of experience – not only as a player – but also as a coach, which has seen her previously coach Geelong Grammar and Bannockburn.

She has resided in Barham along with her young family for 18 months and her father Steve is coach for A Reserves. It seems this competitive nature is in the blood, which could be an omen for finals!!

So grab a friend or two or register yourself, and make 2021 the year of the great netball comeback, or maybe it will be the year you decide to take up a new sport. It might just be the change you were looking for, or the new social network you didn't know you needed.

Register Thursday February 18 at 4.45pm at the netball courts, or if you cannot make it, contact Netball Manager Julie Sleep on 0408 133 410.

## LET'S PLAY

**COMPETE, GET FIT AND HAVE FUN.  
PLAY NETBALL AT RIVER RAIDERS IN  
2021**



**Whether you are keen to play, thinking about playing or still undecided come along and have a go.**

**Registration Night for Juniors and Seniors  
18th February 2021 at 4.45pm**

**Contact For more information  
Netball Manager - Julie 0408133410  
Head Coach - Rianna 0409174673**



# Mawson's T20: Barham/Koondrook and Wandella Etch Another win

By Kendall Jennings

In hot conditions, Barham/Koondrook hosted round four of the Mawson's T20 Blast at the Koondrook Recreation Reserve against Nondescripts Thursday, February 11. Barham/Koondrook won the game by seven wickets, Barham/Koondrook (3-106) Vs Nondescripts (102). Supporting a youthful side, Nondescripts scored 102 runs from 20 overs.

Nondescripts' top batsman S. O'Shea 34 runs from 32 balls, was caught by DJ Watts bowled by C.B. Akurugoda. On the field, bowling, L. Homes three overs, 16 runs and one wicket. S. O'Shea four overs, 22 runs and two wickets. A. Moorhouse had one catch.

C.B. Akurugoda was the top batsman for Barham/Koondrook scoring 43 runs from 41 balls, not out. D. Lolicato scored 10 runs from 15 balls and not out. J. Hall three overs, one maiden, 14 runs and one wicket. CB Akurugoda three overs, 18 runs and one wicket. BJ Watts three overs, one ball, 17 runs and five wickets. L. Keane one over, one maiden, one wicket.

Catches J. Wishart, D. Lolicato, W. Lolicato, and B.J. Watts caught one, T. Guerra had one catch, and one run out. L. Keane one run out.

Leitchville/Gunbower (6-110) hosted Wandella (4-111). Wandella won by six wickets.

Leitchville/Gunbower top batsman, K. Brereton 60 runs not out. Leitchville/Gunbower bowling J. Keath four overs, 23 runs and one wicket. S. Tatt four overs, 24 runs and one wicket. J. Wilson-Keir four overs, 18 runs and one wicket. L. Keath four overs, 23 runs and one wicket. Fielding S. Tatt one catch, J. Hawken one catch and H. Wright one stumping.

Wandella top batsman, B. Farley 33 runs, J. Hawken, caught him with a ball bowled by L. Keath. Wandella bowling. R. Barnes four overs, 21 runs, three wickets. P. Moore four overs, 17 runs and two wickets. B. Farley three overs, 18 runs, one wicket. Fielding, G. Dickson one catch, J. McKnight one catch.

Mawson's T20 Ladder after round four, Wandella (16), Barham/Koondrook (8), Nondescripts (4), Leitchville/Gunbower (4) and Cohuna United (0).



Barham/Koondrook discuss the innings before heading into bat.



Barham/Koondrook C.B. Akurugoda scored 43 runs, not out.



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