

Tarrangower Times

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Friday, February 26, 2021

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week

Carmans Tunnel
in limbo.
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Family fun day
at Maldon Pool
Party!
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Real Estate
Check out what's
on the market.
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Fantastic Antique Fair!



☆ Three generations: Burris Keen, Ronda Keen and Naomi Whitten at the First Aid tent.

During these
difficult times...



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24 hours a day, every day



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www.mafunerals.com.au

Maldon Swimming Pool

FAMILY
FUN DAY



DATES: Saturday 27 February 2021 - 1.00pm to 6.00pm
COST: Regular entry fees apply
Activities include:
• Pool Inflatable 1pm - 3pm
• Games / Activities
• BBQ (Sausages for purchase to support your local pool)

Activities happening throughout the afternoon!



Hospital St, Maldon 3463
03 5475 2074
www.mountalexanderpools.com.au



The Maldon Antique Fair proved to be a huge hit last weekend with more than 1300 people pouring through the gates over the two days.

Organiser Mark Blythe said about 850 people attended on Saturday and they meant business.

"The people who turned up on Saturday came to buy - they were dedicated, serious buyers," Mark said.

Mark said there were

about 20 less stallholders this year.

"They were not willing to cross the borders (in case the borders were suddenly closed due to COVID-19)."

But those who did make the pilgrimage to Maldon for the popular annual event loved it.

Eva Cook from Geelong has been coming to the Fair for the past 12 years.

"We sell everything from china through to books and small pieces of

Continued on page 4 & 8

NOTICE OF STREET CLOSURE

Maldon Twilight Dinner

Saturday 27th Feb.- 11am till 1am Sunday
28th Feb.

Main St (Between High St and Templeton St
& including Dolphin St)

Footpaths will remain open to public
(THIS IS A COVID-SAFE EVENT & WILL NEED TO
COMPLY WITH ALL DHHS REGULATIONS)

Map of closed areas is on the
Community Notice Board Main St

2021
2021

Community Diary

If you have a community event that you would like publicised in this Community Diary, please email: karen@tarrangowertimes.com.au or send details to us at PO Box 18 Maldon 3463, or drop a note into the letterbox in the office door to have it listed.

This is a free community service.
It is a good idea to advertise closer to the event.

EVERY DAY

MALDON SWIMMING POOL: *Fun, Play & Recreation:* Weekends, School Holidays, Public Holidays: 1pm – 6pm. School Weekdays: 3pm – 6pm. Ph: 5475 2074.

EVERY DAY EXCEPT MONDAY

LIONS CLUB OP SHOP 10am to 2pm. Enq: Jenny 0407 158 833.

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

CASTLEMAINE FARMERS MARKET, 9am to 1pm at the IGA carpark in Forest Street. Enq: www.castlemainefarmersmarket.org or 0490 366 243.

EVERY SUNDAY FORTNIGHT

MALDON PÉTANQUE CLUB games every second Sunday at St. Brigid's at 1.30 for a 2pm start. Enq: Sandy Noble 0429 006 130. Andrew Leckie 5400 1054.

SOCIAL PÉTANQUE on the Penny School pistes is played on every second Sunday, alternating with MPC, at 1.45 for a 2pm start, unless rain is bucketing down, or it is over 30°. We resume regular fortnightly games on 31 January. Enq: 0459 093 452.

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

MALDON MARKET: Hand Made, Home Grown, 9am – 1.30pm. Next market 13 December, Bill Woodfull Recreation Reserve.

LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

CASTLEMAINE REPAIR CAFE, 10am - 1pm at Castlemaine Community House ,30 Templeton St. Enter from back door. Bring along broken electrical, general sewing repairs and maybe a cuppa and weekend paper in case you have to wait a while. No kitchen because of COVID. Gold coin donation. Learn to repair.

EVERY MONDAY

OCCASIONAL CHILDCARE, Maldon Neighbourhood Centre 9.30am-2.30pm. Enq. 5475 2093 or info@maldonnc.org.au.

ATHENAEUM LIBRARY High Street, Maldon. 2-4pm. Enqs Joy 5475 1326.

MALDON SWIMMING POOL, Lap Swimming: 6pm - 7pm. Ph: 5475 2074.

MALDON WALKING GROUP, starting at 9.30am for a gentle walk. Start at Maldon Neighbourhood Centre. No booking required. Cancelled if heavy rain or a Code Red Day. Enq: 5479 1000.

SOCIAL GOLF – 8.30am – 9 holes, free for members or \$10 green fees. Enq: maldongolf4u@gmail.com or Gay Reid 0413 013 766.

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD MORNINGS from 10am MNC Community garden.

SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

THE MALDON GARDEN, FLORAL ART AND CRAFT CLUB, 2pm. Enqs: Carmel 0417 014 763 or Robyn 0418 544 966.

THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD MORNINGS from 10am MNC Community garden.

THE MALDON GARDEN, FLORAL ART AND CRAFT CLUB, 2pm. Enqs: Carmel 0417 014 763 or Robyn 0418 544 966.

EVERY TUESDAY

COMMUNITY PANTRY Delicious home-delivered meals. Order info@maldonnc.org.au or 5475 2093.

MALDON BOWLING CLUB, at 10am, as long as COVID restrictions allow.

MALDON BRISK WALKING GROUP, 7.30am meet at Maldon Neighbourhood Centre.

MALDON SOCIAL TABLE TENNIS 1.30pm-3.30pm, Maldon Community Centre. Cost \$10 subscription to Maldon Seniors, \$2 donation on the day. Enq. Anne 0425 859 662.

MALDON CROQUET CLUB 9.30am and 7pm. New members welcome. Enq. Ray Austin 0448 338 251.

MALDON SWIMMING POOL, Aqua Aerobics: 6pm. Ph: 5475 2074.

YOGA AND RELAXATION, Maldon Neighbourhood Centre Hall. Mornings 9-10.30am, evenings 6-7.30pm. Come and try, first class free. Enq: Andrea 0427 772 878.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

ATHENAEUM LIBRARY High Street, Maldon. 2-4pm. Enqs Joy 5475 1326.

COMMUNITY LUNCH, 12 noon, Maldon Community Centre. Delicious two-course lunch. Every Wed. during school terms. All welcome. \$5. Enq: 5475 2093.

MALDON MEN'S SHED, 10am to 4pm at rear of Vintage Machinery Museum (accessed from Phoenix Street). All welcome. Contact Barry Murfett 0403 352 753. (Note: Closed on days of Total Fire Ban or over 38°).

HATHA YOGA WITH WENDY 5 – 6.30pm at Maldon Neighbourhood Centre.

MALDON SWIMMING POOL, Active Adults, 3pm. Ph: 5475 2074.

MALDON SWIMMING POOL, Lap Swimming: 6pm - 7pm. Ph: 5475 2074.

YOUNG AT HEART PLAYGROUP, Maldon Neighbourhood Centre 10-11.30am. Enq. 5475 2093 or info@maldonnc.org.au.

EVERY WEDNESDAY FORTNIGHT

ART & CRAFT GROUP 1.30pm – 4pm at Maldon Neighbourhood Centre.

EVERY THURSDAY

GENTLE TAI CHI Resumes 30 January, 2020. 11.30-12.30 at Maldon Neighbourhood Centre. Contact Jenny 0417 475 270 to register.

MALDON BOWLS CLUB, Bowls practice anytime Thursday until dark.

MALDON BRIDGE CLUB 1pm at the Maldon Hotel. New players welcome including solo players.

MALDON CROQUET CLUB 9.30am. New members welcome. Enq. Ray Austin 0448 338 251.

MALDON CHESS CLUB 10.30am. Do you play? Come along. Do you want to learn? Come along. For enquiries contact John 0438 012 076.

MALDON SWIMMING POOL, Aqua Aerobics: 6pm. Ph: 5475 2074.

OASIS KID'S CLUB, 3.20pm-4.45pm Maldon Baptist Hall, Edward Street. All primary aged children welcome. Free. Enq Gavin & Julie 5475 2338 or 0458 084 728.

EVERY FRIDAY

ATHENAEUM LIBRARY High Street, Maldon. 2-4pm. Enqs Joy 5475 1326.

CHAIR YOGA 11am – 12 noon at Maldon Neighbourhood Centre.

COMMUNITY PANTRY Delicious home-delivered meals. Order mtalexcommunitypantry@gmail.com or phone 0472 537 866.

MALDON SOCIAL WALKING GROUP, Gentle walking. 9.30am meet at Maldon Neighbourhood Centre.

HATHA YOGA WITH WENDY 9 – 10.30am at Maldon Neighbourhood Centre.

IMT - ARE WE BEING HEARD? You can listen to us on your phone you know. Listen on the TuneIn Radio App- MAINfm 94.9, or on your computer http://mainfm.net, OR SMS during the program on 0488 863 186. Please SIGN Your SMS.

MALDON SWIMMING POOL, Lap Swimming: 6pm - 7pm. Ph: 5475 2074.

SOCIAL GOLF – 8.30am – 9 holes, free for members or \$10 green fees. Enq: maldongolf4u@gmail.com or Gay Reid 0413 013 766.

LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH

MAREE EDWARDS LISTENING POSTS are postponed until further notice. My office is still available for assistance, please contact us on 5410 2444 or maree.edwards@parliament.vic.gov.au.

EVERY SATURDAY

ATHENAEUM LIBRARY High Street, Maldon. 9.30am - noon. Enqs Joy 5475 1326.

MALDON MEN'S SHED From 9am to 12pm at rear of Vintage Machinery Museum (accessed from Phoenix Street). All welcome. Contact Barry Murfett 0403 352 753. (Note: Closed on days of Total Fire Ban or over 38°).

MALDON CROQUET CLUB 9.30am. New members welcome. Enq. Ray Austin 0448 338 251.

FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY

ISO-BREAKER, *Gardeners and Gatherers* at Maldon Neighbourhood Centre from 2.30pm - 5pm. Cost includes afternoon tea \$10. Bookings: 5475 2093 or info@maldonnc.org.au.

SATURDAY 27 FEBRUARY

MALDON SWIMMING POOL, *Family Fun Day*. 1pm - 6pm, regular entry fees apply. Activities include: Pool inflatable 1pm-3pm, games and activities throughout the afternoon, BBQ sausages for purchase.

SUNDAY 28 FEBRUARY

CASTLEMAINE REPAIR CAFE, 10am - 1pm at Castlemaine Community House ,30 Templeton St. Enter from back door. Bring along broken electrical, general sewing repairs and maybe a cuppa and weekend paper in case you have to wait a while. No kitchen because of COVID. Gold coin donation. Learn to repair.

FRIDAY 5 MARCH

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER in Maldon, 10.30am at Holy Trinity Anglican Church. *Build on a strong foundation* prepared by and featuring women of Vanuatu. Speaker: Revd. Fiona Preston. No shared refreshments, soft drink or water will be available outside afterwards. Enq: Jenny 0417 475 270.

MONDAY 15 MARCH

GOLF LESSON, at Maldon Golf Club – 8.30am Mon 15th March - \$15 - all standards - clubs available. Enq: maldongolf4u@gmail.com or Gay Reid 0413 013 766.

FRIDAY 26 MARCH

ISO-BREAKER, *Movers and Shakers* at 2.30pm - 5pm at the Maldon Neighbourhood Centre. Cost includes afternoon tea \$10. Bookings: 5475 2093 or info@maldonnc.org.au.

SATURDAY 27 MARCH

MALDON TOWN WIDE GARAGE SALE, costs \$10 to register your sale and be included on the map. Maps \$2 will be available outside the old Maldon Collectables from 7.45am. To register or for enquiries call Bonnie on 0400 358 606.

Please let us know if there are any changes to the Community Diary.
Contact Karen on 0404 357 556 or email karen@tarrangowertimes.com.au



The Book Wolf

GOBLINS The Outer Realm (2006)

by Danny Willis

Review by Mike Smythe

Phone 0487 193 223



FROM the imagination of Danny Willis – author of 2017's *The Great Bendigo Mystery: Can You Keep a Secret? [there are trolls living among us]* – comes this sumptuous book for kids of any age, which in fact pre-dates *The Great Bendigo Mystery* by 15 years.

Danny Willis has kept his inner child alive and well; this much is clear when you read his text and admire his lavish illustrations. And it's all his own work. Whether his strong family link to Maldon is a contributing factor remains an open question.

Goblins begins with an urgent warning from Albrek Meendle Gonggg-bonckle, The Great Goblin (plus nine other titles) ‘... and now, Ambassador to All of Humanity.’ He relates the history of his home The World of Grrym, the life of goblins and the role of ‘Magjiik’ in their lives. It reads like an exotic travelogue as The Great Goblin takes us to The Haunted Forest of N-Gorodenka, Quibbitt City and the Mull

Gates. One of those gates has regenerated as a portal to our world, allowing a flow of extra Magjiik through to Earth.

That is no bad thing, but the Deep Guards had also discovered in the Dandeng Ranges a device (the Super Nurb) which warned that Trolls were planning to infiltrate Earth via the newly-opened portal. Goblins and Trolls are sworn enemies of longstanding, so there are many helpful tips on resisting and fighting these invaders. As Danny's later book suggests, it may be too late to stop them – however, it appears that the Trolls have opted for peaceful co-existence. At least for the moment!

This is a beautifully presented publication. Along with Danny's imagination-in-overdrive illustrations there are small fold-out pockets on some pages with extra information, whole fold-out pages elsewhere – and right at the end a complimentary sack of magjiik soil, to be used only in emergencies of course.

Tarrangower Times

Your Paper, Your Stories, Your News!

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4/93 High Street (PO Box 18), Maldon Vic 3463.

Tel: (03) 5475 2256

Email: editor@tarrangowertimes.com.au

www.tarrangowertimes.com.au

www.facebook.com/TarrangowerTimes

www.instagram.com/tarrangower_times

Other contact details:

Jeff Jones (Editor) 0457 843 551 or editor@tarrangowertimes.com.au

Karen Sloan (Design | Accounts) 0404 357 556 or

karen@tarrangowertimes.com.au

Kerry Cain (Advertising) 0419 102 723 or

kerry@tarrangowertimes.com.au

Guaranteed Office Hours:

Monday - Wednesday 10am - 1pm.

ADVERTISEMENT LODGEMENT TIMES:

- Classifieds - 12noon Tuesday.

- Casual Display - 12noon Tuesday.

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES:

- Community and News 12noon Tuesday.

- Late notices such as Births and Deaths by 10.30am Wednesday.

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Carmans Tunnel in limbo



☆ Carmans Tunnel has been closed since February 2020.

THE future of one of Maldon's tourists attractions - Carmans Tunnel goldmine - is still under a cloud.

The mine has been closed, with the gates locked and a barrier erected, since February 2020.

It was closed for general maintenance, and because the mine and the surrounding areas needed to be upgraded.

Carmans Tunnel was run by a small Committee of Management made up of

volunteers but the committee resigned on New Year's Eve because it couldn't get a quorum due to 'a number of resignations'.

This week, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning told the *TT* that Carmans Tunnel will stay closed but didn't say for how long.

DELWP's Program Manager for Land and Built Environment, Gavin Parkes, said, "Carman's Tunnel will remain closed whilst the Department works with technical specialists to determine whether the site can be reopened for public access, what the costs will be to enable that access to occur and whether a new manager can be identified for the

site."

In recent weeks, Bendigo West MP Maree Edwards has been looking into the matter.

"WorkSafe Victoria's structural engineers have advised that the tunnel is not currently safe for people to be going in there on tours," Ms Edwards said.

"We need to continue to work through that process

to determine firstly who is going to manage this facility going forward and then the cost of bringing it up to a safe standard."

Asked if there was any danger of Carmans Tunnel not reopening, Ms Edwards said, "I don't think so."

"It will depend on who is going to manage it and certainly once that decision is made, I'll be advocating

to make sure there are funds allocated to make the site safe so that we can continue to have Carmans Tunnel open as an important part of Maldon's heritage and history and also for tourists.

"People come to Maldon to experience anything to do with the gold rush and Carmans Tunnel is a significant part of the tourist trail around Maldon."

\$71M prison project gets underway



☆ Ms Edwards and the project team at the 'turning of the sod' to officially start the Middleton Prison expansion project in Castlemaine.

Bendigo West MP, Maree Edwards turned the first sod on a \$71 million construction project in Castlemaine to upgrade and expand the capacity of Middleton Prison by 39 beds.

Middleton is a restricted-minimum rated men's prison that opened in July 2014. Prisoners at Middleton live in self-catered, cottage style accommodation where they are responsible for cooking their own meals.

After turning the first sod, Ms Edwards was then taken on a tour of the site to see the locations for new buildings and to hear about security upgrades and building refurbishments.

"There is going to be a new accommodation block, new program interview rooms, new kitchen facilities, a carpark extension, a new basketball court and a security upgrade," Ms Edwards said.

"Middleton is currently a low security prison but it will

be reclassified to medium security."

Ms Edwards said the prefabricated, modular accommodation cells are being designed and manufactured in Victoria.

She said the project is expected to create 165 jobs during construction, including around 50 roles in the Bendigo area, and a range of opportunities for local contractors until construction is completed in mid-2022.

Under its contract with local construction firm Fairbrother Pty Ltd, the project will see targeted investment

in social enterprises and jobs for disadvantaged Victorians.

The Dja Dja Wurrung, traditional owners of the land on which the prison sits, have been involved in planning upgrades to the prison's indigenous garden as well as on prison education and cultural awareness programs.

Interestingly, the shovel that Ms Edwards used last Tuesday was the same the same one used to turn the first sod when work commenced on the neighbouring Loddon Prison back in February 1988.



LAST week the first results from the Tarrangower Tomorrow community survey were published. This week we are providing some of the results in more detail.

During the consultation sessions, the Tarrangower community had suggested a number of activities in the area of 'Environment and Sustainability'. Thirteen of these were included in the survey.

In the survey, people were asked to rate each activity in terms of its importance to the Tarrangower community. On average, activities under 'Our environment and sustainability' were rated as slightly more important than other topics. The individual activities in this topic are shown below in the order in which they were rated - 1 was seen as the most important, 2 as the next most important and so on.

1. Better weed management in public areas, roadsides and empty blocks.
2. Improve communication with Parks Victoria and other government bodies regarding local land management.
3. Explore all options to

minimise household waste and investigate options for local recycling practices.

4. Improve water security: work with catchment and water authorities to minimise water usage and use waste water.
5. Strengthen community support for local Land-care initiatives.
6. Greening Maldon CBD to provide shade and cool areas.
7. Engage the community in adoption of a holistic approach to sustainability.
8. Make Maldon a more 'sustainable' town and promote it as such in tourist brochures.
9. Restore and develop the Long Gully area (just south of the Maldon township) with cycling/walking trails and signage.
10. Establish a 'food waste centre' in Maldon. Initially for cafe and hotel food waste management.
11. Change building regulations to encourage 'green' housing.
12. Set a Tarrangower emission reduction target.
13. Install a drinking

fountain in Maldon CBD.

Where to from here?

Over the next weeks, the other results will be published here. The committee will also start to develop the new Tarrangower Tomorrow Community Plan. This will involve working with local community groups and interested individuals, to see how the activities of most importance to the community, can be achieved. If you are interested in assisting with this task, please contact us at tarrangowertomorrow@gmail.com.

Other media

For further information, including other survey results - see our new website at www.ttormorrow.org.

We also have a Facebook page www.facebook.com/tarrangowertomorrow.

Thanks

This work would not have been possible without the support of Maldon & District Community Bank, Maldon Neighbourhood Centre, Wallis Market and Social Research, Mount Alexander Shire Council and the Victorian Government CASI project.



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Safer drivers:Community Bank learner driver course



☆ Graduates Isabel, Matt and Charlotte, with the Bank's Wendy Merlo and instructor Gary Clarke.

THE Maldon & District Community Bank is delighted to see the return of its popular driver training course over the summer holidays, after the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions.

The latest graduates include Amy Lamport and Nathaniel Codognotto from Newstead, along with Uma Dingemans from Chewton. The trio participated in the five-day course in January, delivered by experienced instructor Gary Clarke.

The learner drivers, as well as their parents and carers, are big fans of the course.

"It was good to learn driving skills from someone other than mum or dad, particularly any new road rules. Gary was great giving us an insight into a licence tester's mind," said 17-year old Nathaniel.

Miriam Codognotto,

Nathaniel's mother, also spoke highly of the course.

"We're grateful for the opportunity for Nathaniel to participate in the course. The instructor shared his many years of experience and skills, particularly with parking and reversing - skills that are difficult to master on the road in day-to-day driving. We've seen an increased confidence in Nathaniel's driving. He now even gives me driving instructions ... when I get the opportunity to drive my car!"

Amy's experience mirrors Nathaniel's, with the course increasing her confidence and skills on the road.

"The course was absolutely fantastic, I enjoyed every moment and learnt many new things from reverse parking to emergency stopping. Our instructor was



☆ Nathaniel, Uma and Amy with instructor Gary Clarke

very knowledgeable and it was good to have two other learners completing the program with me.

"I would recommend this course for all learner drivers who are looking to gain more driving confidence and experience."

Amy's mother, Louise Lamport, noted the difference the course has made to her daughter.

"As a parent, the program has many benefits; it has given Amy more confidence as well as a good driving foundation. She has been able to experience different aspects of driving and has been shown how to drive safely using correct techniques, increasing her awareness and skills."

Participants join the program with a range of experience. Some have only just gained their learner's


permit, whilst others have completed many hours of driving. The courses are held during school holidays, providing exposure to a range of different environments and traffic conditions, and can add up to 15 hours of supervised driving experience per participant.

The Maldon & District Community Bank subsidises the majority of the \$900 per participant program costs. There is a charge to participants of \$150, however graduates receive a reward of a \$50 bank account with the Maldon & District Community Bank at the completion of their course.

Contact the Maldon Branch at 81 High Street (or via maldonmailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au or 5475 1747) or to find out more about the program or to register your interest.



☆ Wally Speechly with his collection of old bottles.




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☆ Maldon footballers Adam Robinson and Bryce Roberts on the gate.



☆ Stallholder Kim Rowlett came from Kyneton to sell her wares.



☆ Eva Cook has been coming to the Fair for the past 12 years.



☆ First-time stallholders in Maldon, Kathryn Hall and Russell Morgan.



☆ Maldon Antique Fair organiser Mark Blythe.



☆ Celebrating 10 years of lemonade at the Fair: Scarlett and Sam. **More on page 8**

A strange and challenging year



KATE Gamble was re-elected President at Maldon Inc.’s Annual General Meeting last Wednesday 17 February.

Due to the five-day COVID-19 lockdown, the meeting was held via Zoom.

There were some changes to the committee with Jan Warracke and Kate Edwards retiring and Kylie Trott joining as an ordinary member. Rebecca Haack has taken on the position of Secretary, the position of Treasurer was not filled.

A motion setting the maximum number of ordinary committee members at three was passed, so together with Treasurer there are vacancies. If anyone is interested in joining the committee, please contact any of the current committee members and have a chat.

The new Maldon Inc. Committee for 2020/21 comprises: President Kate Gamble; Vice President Marjorie Smidt;

Secretary Rebecca Haack; Treasurer (vacant); Ordinary Committee Member Kylie Trott.

In her President’s Report, Ms Gamble said it was a strange and challenging year for everyone.

“We began our term by revisiting our strategic plan, with this changing shape as the year unfolded.

“We are determined to develop member services, in line with our role as a traders’ association.”

Ms Gamble said advocacy for Maldon Inc. members became central, with the formation of the Mount Alexander Shire Council Pandemic Local Working Group (LWG) and associated Business Group.

“The issues identified in the Pandemic LWG were fed back to the State Government and formed the basis of their support and other interventions through 2020.

“Likewise, the Business Group, which brought together the key employers in the region. It’s vital in such times that the experiences of small businesses are heard in a forum with access to those in power.

“As part of this participation, Maldon Inc. initiated

and drafted the survey to businesses that was then developed and distributed by Council, again collecting data fed back to State Government; we also initiated discussions around outdoor dining possibilities.”

In May 2020, the State Government announced the Building Works stimulus funding including \$4.5 million to fund the undergrounding of power lines and the streetscape revitalisation plan that many people in the community have been working on for a very long time.

“I would like to especially acknowledge the work of Jan Warracke and Marjorie Smidt, and of former committee member Graeme Ford, all of whom have participated in the Streetscape Steering Committee since its inception.

“Maldon Inc.’s main role has been emphasising the need for consultation with traders and for regular, clear and open communication regarding the rollout of the project.”

Ms Gamble said Maldon Inc. is also represented on the recently formed MASC Tourism Working Group and is assisting an informal group of residents in their work with Parks Victoria, on maintenance of the Historic Reserve, and the development of the walking trail network around outskirts of the town.”

Other highlights in 2020 were the successful Shop Window competition and the Late Night Shopping event just before Christmas.

“We also were extremely pleased to be the recipients of a grant from the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions, under their Business Chamber and Traders Groups Program, to fund the rejuvenation of our online presence, and enhance the value provided to members.”

Letter to the Editor

Slow down

For some time now there has been a greater volume of traffic in Gray Street, Maldon.

People, presumably from Welshmans Reef or that direction, are using it as a cut through from the Newstead Road to the Castlemaine Road and vice versa.

There would be no problem with that except that the road is narrow and goes around a sharp corner by the pond and really has to be navigated slowly.

This is most certainly not happening in many cases where traffic from both directions comes around the bend at a fast pace.

There is a 40km/h sign on

Family Fun Day at Maldon Pool Party



Photo courtesy Lee Mead

EVERYONE is welcome to come and join in the fun at our sensational local Maldon swimming pool tomorrow, Saturday 27 February.

The managers of the pool (YMCA Victoria) are providing a pool inflatable and lots of other games and activities, specially recommended by some of our local primary school students.

The fun and games start at 1pm and the normal entry fee applies for the day. The swimming pool committee will be fundraising with a sausage sizzle after 2.30pm, cooking up Brad’s delicious, prize-winning snags.

Despite the many cool days this summer, we’ve had many good times at the pool. So, while you’re relaxing poolside this weekend, please fill out the survey to provide some valuable feedback to

Mount Alexander Shire and the YMCA. The pool survey is available online (MASC

website) and hard copies are at the kiosk.

Lee Mead

Slow down and be safe

POLICE in the Goldfields service area are becoming concerned that a simple message of slowing down on our roads is still not getting through to some motorists.

General duties Police caught 18 people speeding in the area in just the two days - Wednesday and Thursday 9 and 10 February.

Castlemaine Police nabbed eight people for breaking the speed limit.

They included a 74-year-old man from Officer for travelling at 125km/hr in a 110km/hr zone; a 30-year-old Quarry Hill man travelling at 105km/hr in an 80km/hr zone; and a 51-year-old Maldon man travelling at 102km/hr in a 80km/hr zone. He was also driving an unregistered vehicle.

Maryborough Police observed three speedsters including a 37-year-old man from Maryborough travelling at 121km/hr in a 100km/hr zone; a 49-year-old man also from Maryborough travelling at 106km/hr in a 80km/hr zone and a 52-year-old Sebastopol man travelling at 81km/hr in a 60km/hr zone. His licence had also expired.

Loddon Police stopped seven people for driving at an excessive speed including a 37-year-old Campbells Creek woman travelling at 125km/hr in a 100km/hr zone and a 31-year-old Lockwood woman travelling at 111km/hr in a 100km/hr zone.

All of the drivers received infringement notices for these offences.

Applications open for Maldon Hospital’s 2021 W L Champion Scholarship



MALDON HOSPITAL
Partnering with the Community

MALDON Hospital is currently accepting applications for its 2021 W L Champion Scholarship.

Pam Millwood, Chair of the Board’s Scholarship Committee, said the annual scholarship has been named in honour of Dr W L Champion.

“The Board was approached with the suggestion we honour the services of Dr Champion, Maldon’s GP for over 40 years,” Ms Millwood said.

Dr Champion provided Maldon Hospital’s medical care and served as the town’s General Practitioner from 1950 to 1991.

He is a well remembered and respected figure in Maldon and the Board’s re-naming of the scholarship in his honour was at the behest of the local community and with the consent of Dr Champion’s family.

“His service embodied the commitment to regional healthcare that the Board now aims to promote

through the W L Champion Scholarship.”

The W L Champion Scholarship is presented annually to a local university or TAFE student studying a health discipline, with a commitment to regional health.

- Applicants must:
- Be an enrolled 2021 university or TAFE student, studying a health discipline
 - Have a strong connection to the Maldon district; and
 - Demonstrate their ongoing commitment to maintaining and improving the health status of rural communities.

Scholarships are to the value of \$2000 per year for a maximum of three years.

Applications close at 5pm on Friday 26 March 2021. Further information and application forms are available from <https://www.maldhosp.vic.gov.au/community-partnerships/w-l-champion-scholarship>.

For inquiries, please contact Pam Millwood, Chair of the Board’s Scholarship Committee, on 0419 373 408.

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Open for Inspection: By appointment only



Maldon28 Franklin Street

\$795,000

CABBAGE TREE COTTAGE – A MID-CENTURY MARVEL
AMONGST A GARDENER’S PARADISE

324

Occupying a large level site of 2,525m² (0.62 Acre) with a beautiful northern exposure, this divine garden was designed to showcase a wide range of Alister Clark roses that are supported by many beautiful Iron Arbours, Obelisks and pillars created by prominent local fabricator, Neil Tait of Castlemaine. Bringing a variety of colours and textures to the garden, and bordered by Portuguese Laurels, internal pathways, fruit trees and a signature ‘Moon Gate’ sculpture, the garden is a real delight and haven for birdlife. A wi-fi controlled watering system with access to town and 45,000 litres of tank water supports the garden.

Open for Inspection: Saturday 1.15pm - 1.45pm



Walmer154 Davies Road

\$725,000

1800s FARMHOUSE CHARM, PICTURESQUE COUNTRY
SETTING WITH 29 ACRES

322

Set in the Walmer farming valley with the tree lined Muckleford Creek running through the property, this charming old farm is just 10km from Maldon, 16km from Castlemaine and an easy commute into Bendigo via the Calder Freeway. With origins dating back to 1860 the charming old Solid Brick farmhouse has a picture perfect front garden with 2 age old Oak trees and an outlook from the front verandah across to a large tree lined dam. The home comprises 3 double bedrooms, main with French doors to the garden and a patio, cosy formal lounge room with fireplace/wood heater, polished Baltic floor and old colonial double doors to the verandah.



Maldon72 Castlemaine Road

CALIFORNIAN BUNGALOW ON A COUNTRY GARDEN –
HALF AN ACRE ON THE VILLAGE EDGE

324

Positioned on a country half acre garden with gum trees and native plantings, this charming timber Californian Bungalow era home offers great spaces inside and out. The home has a formal front verandah-balcony entry and central hallway, 3 double bedrooms with robes and air conditioning, a modern kitchen and dining room with feature box bay picture window, central bathroom with shower and bath, new carpets, plus a delightfully large and light living room with wood fire, air conditioning, exposed beam ceiling and large French doors that open out to a large entertaining deck. There is a second bathroom, rear entry, workshop, garage and carport.



Baringhup2 Burke Street

IMAGINE DAILY WALKS TO THE RIVER AND LAKE
Historic Maldon is just nearby too!

314

Positioned on over half an acre in Baringhup village with tall gum trees, bird-life and a lovely community, this cared for home offers a great lifestyle a short stroll from the Loddon River and the Lake Cairn Curran reserve where parklands and facilities await. The home features 3 bedrooms, long decked front and rear verandahs, a large lounge-dining room with wood fire and air conditioning, separate kitchen/meals and separate bathroom. The grounds are level and feature tall gum trees, a double carport plus a garage-workshop and a separate caravan-port. Positioned on the corner of Burke Street and Albert Street, the property has 87,500 litres of tank water storage.

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Senior Asset Manager

blasi@wallerrealty.com.au

0417 311 733



Kirsty Mulholland

Assistant Property Manager

rentals@wallerrealty.com.au

03 5475 1055

Fantastic Antique Fair!



Continued from page 1

furniture,” Eva said.
 “We always enjoy it here; the atmosphere is so nice, the oval is lush and the people are friendly – it’s just a really good country atmosphere.”
 Kathryn Hall and Russell Morgan travelled from Frankston to sell their wares. “It’s the first year we’ve

been able to come here,” Kathryn said. “Usually we do the Evandale Penny Farthing Market in Tasmania, which is on the same weekend.
 “We will definitely be coming back.”
 Teenagers Scarlett and Sam celebrated a bit of a milestone last weekend – they have been pouring homemade lemonade for

thirsty customers at their stall for the past 10 years.
 But it was their mother, Catherine, who was enjoying the celebration the most.
 “I’m enjoying it because they do all the work and I can go shopping!” she said.
 Wally Speechley made the trip from Wunghnu near Shepparton to sell his antique bottles.
 “Maldon bottles are sought after,” Wally said. “After the gold rush, there was the Bryant Sheils

Brewery and the Marks Brewery in Maldon.
 “I’m always looking to buy old bottles so if you’ve got some in grandpa’s shed on the farm and you want to sell them, give me a call on 5862 2214.”
 Three generations of the Keen family were manning the First Aid tent at the Fair this year.
 Burris Keen of Keen’s Regional Events First Aid said he covers about 40 events a year including the Maldon Campdraft and the Bendigo Wool Show.
 He said a few people called in for First Aid assistance last Saturday mainly for ‘a band-aid, sunburn cream or they weren’t feeling too well’.
 “I’ve lived in Maldon for 32 years and there’s three generations of my family here today. My wife, Henny, and I will celebrate 55 years of marriage next month.”
 And well done to the crew from the Maldon Football Netball Club for manning the gates and kiosk.
 MFNC President Jamie Cox said the Maldon Antique Fair is one of the club’s biggest fundraisers for the year.

Hundreds of entries!



☆ Baringup Hills.

MALDON Captured Photography Competition’s Amateur Section has attracted more than 200 entries and the judges have had a battle to narrow the field down to 21 finalists.
 As no decisions have been made on the winner or highly commended in this section, the judges have asked the *TT* not to publish photographers’ names as this could appear to have an influence over their final decisions.
 This section is sponsored by Warral Maldon and the winner will receive a cash

prize of \$700.
 Photographers who have been selected as winners or Highly Commended will be invited to a presentation ceremony at Edge Gallery on Saturday 27 March.
 A People’s Choice Competition - sponsored by Maldon Inc. - will begin when all of the final photos have been published.
 This week, the *TT* presents seven of the 21 finalists and the remainder will be published over the next two weeks.
More photos on page 9.

Get moving this March



CANCER Council Victoria is encouraging Victorians to get moving this March by taking part in The March Charge and setting themselves a walking, running or moving challenge for the month.
 Participants take part by setting kilometre and fundraising goals.
 Cancer Council

Campaign Manager Helen Van Nooten said, “Nearly 1,900 Australian cancer cases each year are caused by a lack of exercise and we also know that a third of cancer cases are preventable by living a healthy lifestyle.”
 For further details visit www.themarchcharge.com.au.

JobSeeker increase not enough, says Chesters

PRIME Minister Scott Morrison has announced that the JobSeeker payment will be increased by \$50 a fortnight – or \$3.57 a day - from 1 April.
 But the unemployed will also have to adhere to a raft of stringent requirements in order to receive their payments.
 From early April, job seekers will be required to search for a minimum of 15 jobs a month, increasing to 20 jobs per month from 1 July.
 Also an employer reporting line will be established to refer job seekers who are not genuine about their job search or decline the offer of a job.
 Some job seekers will be required to participate in work for the dole after six months or they can choose to participate in an approved intensive short course instead of participating in work for the dole.
 The Prime Minister says the plan for working age payments is fair and sustainable – for both unemployed people and taxpayers who fund the support.
 “Welfare is a safety net, not a wage supplement. We want to get the balance right between providing support for people and incentives to

work,” Mr Morrison said.
 “The actions we have taken this year successfully cushioned us against the impact of the pandemic and mean that we no longer need to rely on the emergency supports which have sustained us over the past 12 months.”
 “Now is the time to set our nation up for the future and build on our successes which will see Australians once again emerge stronger, safer and together.”
‘It’s not enough’
 Bendigo West MP Lisa Chesters has been calling for a rise in the JobSeeker base rate for a long time but she says while the Prime Minister’s announcement is welcome, it’s simply not enough.
 “Scott Morrison’s announcement equates to an extra \$3.57 a day. That doesn’t even cover a cup of coffee,” Ms Chesters said.
 “This increase will not even pay for parking whilst you’re at a job interview or put petrol in the car to get to a job interview.
 Ms Chesters said she is concerned about the new obligations on job seekers to apply for 15 jobs per month.
 “There just aren’t the jobs.

Currently, there are eight job seekers for every advertised job.”
 She said encouraging employers to do b in someone who refused a job offer, regardless of the reason, is a particularly harsh move.
 “Employers shouldn’t be expected to be the Government’s JobSeeker police.
 “I’ve spoken to many locals trying to get by on the payment, they are trying to cover the basics like paying the bills and keeping a roof

over their heads. This small amount just won’t cut it.”
 Ms Chesters said there are almost 10,000 people in the Bendigo electorate relying on JobSeeker and Youth Allowance payments. Almost 1200 of those are in the Castlemaine region.
 “At the end of the day, even with this base rate rise, they’ll still be \$50 a week worse off when the supplement ends next month.
 “Local families should be able to live with dignity.”

New bridge opens - Harcourt



THE new bridge on Eagles Road is now open, providing safer access for pedestrians and motorists as they travel within Harcourt.
 The 20 tonne load limit has also been removed from the bridge.
 The new bridge includes a pedestrian footpath on the eastern side, extended guard rails and crash terminals.
 Rock beaching was added to prevent erosion and the waterway was widened slightly to increase water flow under the bridge and reduce the risk of flooding.

“We are seeing more and more growth in Harcourt, so this bridge will ensure safe access between the centre of Harcourt and the northern parts of the town,” said Council’s Infrastructure and Development Director Jess Howard.
 “The new bridge will more than adequately cater for an increase in traffic as the town’s population grows.”
 “Thank you to residents and motorists for your patience throughout this project.”



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Community engagement

MOUNT Alexander Shire Council has adopted a revised Community Engagement Policy.
 The policy establishes a clear standard for the exchange of information between Council and the community through a range of methods and to guide decision-making.
 Mayor Tony Cordy said

Council recognises that involving the community in making plans and decisions is fundamental to good governance.
 “We can also make better decisions when we hear from a wide range of voices to help us better understand the needs of our community or those impacted by our decisions.”

Maldon Captured: Hundreds of Entries!



☆ *Rock of Ages.*



☆ *Cairn Curran Dead Tree.*



☆ *Big Sky Country.*



☆ *Industrial Spinning.*



☆ *Irrigating Canola.*



☆ *Moolort Morning.*

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Maree Edwards MP

STATE MEMBER FOR BENDIGO WEST

Listening Posts are postponed until further notice.

My office is still available for assistance, please contact us on 5410 2444 or maree.edwards@parliament.vic.gov.au.

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Yackatoot and Boxlands Rose Gardens Day Tour



Sunday 28 March 2021

Cost \$80 Per person

Yackatoot Gardens is

first on our list located in north-eastern Victoria on Thompsons bend on the Goulburn River. The gardens are formal, in an

English style, and comprise of 16 acres planted around a free-form lake. Characterised by immaculately trimmed hedges, vast manicured lawns and vibrant roses, the garden is accented with Renaissance-inspired statuary and centred around a pair of white marble fountains. Originally the site of a small dairy farm, today both the old dairy itself, and a neighbouring homestead, dating from the early 1900s, have been lovingly restored, the original milking shed now home to the Old Dairy Tea Rooms & Cafe.

Boxlands Rose Garden

Boxlands Rose Garden is a masterpiece in the making. The idea was concocted with family members to beautify an old ugly-looking back

paddock used for wood chopping and not much else.

After the plans were drawn, they were put into action. Many years of sculpting and growing has given Burramine its own little oasis.

Browse through over 200 Roses, spreading lawns and on-going landscaped garden beds.

Last year they had Silo Artist Sobrane do a Wall Art (pictured left); this is a wonderful extra in the garden. Carol and Peter Lawless only open the garden a few times a year - we have been lucky to secure a time for our group to enjoy this beautiful garden.

Tour Includes entries, Morning tea, lunch and coach travel.

See ad page 4 for further details.

ADVERTISEMENT



Federal Member for Bendigo

LISA CHESTERS MP



PO Box 338 Bendigo 3552
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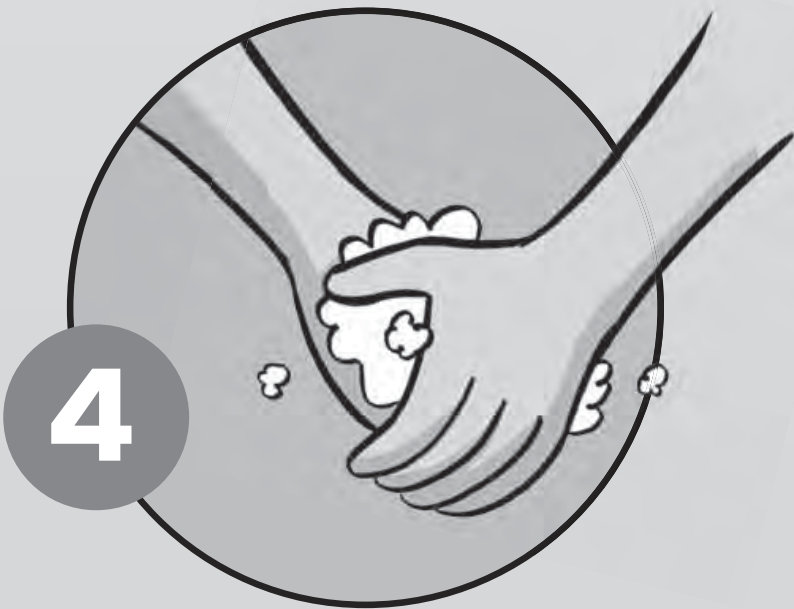
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Stay germ free and healthy

Untold stories turned into an ‘engaging piece of theatre’



☆ Max Primmer is one of the community leaders whose story features in *Thrive: Queer voices, out loud*.

***THRIVE: Queer voices, out loud*, has been created by Castlemaine-based company Black Apple Theatre, who have gathered true stories from the community and woven them into a play.**

The play will be presented to the public for the first time in a series of community-access play readings, including one as part of ChillOut Festival in March. “Working with these stories was an incredible adventure and also really humbling - we spoke with people who were true trail-blazers, ahead of their time, and with young people who

are already doing so much to leave their mark. There’s such a wealth of experience here in Central Victoria,” says director Cheyney Caddy, describing the process of turning oral histories into an engaging piece of theatre.

“We interviewed complete strangers, whose stories are separated by generations, yet there are so many points of connection.”

Kaye Powell, of Hepburn Shire, is one of the proud regional Victorians whose story will feature in *Thrive*.

Explaining the importance of building

Photo courtesy Ally Riches.

an intergenerational LGBTQIA+ community, Kaye said, “We care that young LGBTQIA+ see their own elders, know their own history, their own stories. The time for silence is over; now it’s time to celebrate.”

Ballarat resident Cobie Farmer is one of the young and emerging leaders whose story will feature in *Thrive*.

“Representation is so important for young queer people to know they aren’t alone and there is nothing wrong with the way they are,” Cobie said.

A second play reading will take place as part of Bendigo Pride Festival and *Thrive’s* premiere as a full production will take place in Ballarat later this year as part of Frolic Festival.

Discussion panels with the cast and creative team will be run after each reading.

“This work belongs to our community, so it was important that everyone gets a chance to have their say and help shape it going forward,” explains Cheyney.

“It was also important to us that all the artists and performers working on *Thrive* are part of the LGBTQIA+ community. This is a work that’s being made for community, by community.”

Cobie Farmer is one of the young LGBTQIA+ leaders whose story is part of *Thrive: Queer voices, out loud*.

The play readings will be held on Saturday 6 of March at 7.30pm at Glenlyon Shire Hall, Daylesford-Malmsbury Road, Glenlyon and on Saturday 13 March at 8pm at The Engine Room, 58 View St, Bendigo. Tickets: \$5. Bookings: www.blackappletheatre.com.

Earmarked for an upgrade



FREDERICK Street and Mechanics Lane in Castlemaine are earmarked for an upgrade, and Mount Alexander Shire Council is seeking community feedback on the landscape concept design plans to improve the precinct.

Under the plans, the precinct, which is a natural pedestrian thoroughfare between Mostyn and Lyttleton streets, will become a shared street that allows safer access for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists.

“The plan outlines the range of elements to improve the amenity of the area, including landscaping, street furniture and lighting, all while maintaining historical characteristics,” said Council’s Infrastructure and Development Director Jess Howard.

“The deep gutters and

poor condition of the road pavement and footpath, particularly on the southern end of Frederick Street, along with its central location, are just some of the reasons why this area is identified for improvements,” she said.

This is the first major project planned in the Castlemaine CBD following Council’s adoption of the Castlemaine Town Centre Streetscape Plan and Design Standards in 2020.

Local residents and businesses provided considerable input into the Castlemaine streetscape plan, which included aspirations for the Frederick Street precinct.

Feedback included improving pedestrian and cycling access along with landscaping and plantings, maintaining vehicle access and on street car parking, and increasing seating and

opportunities for public art.

The landscape concept designs have incorporated these elements, with a focus on amenity, pedestrians, vehicles, art, heritage and plantings.

Nine parking spaces will be retained on the western side of the Frederick Street between Mostyn and Lyttleton streets. Street furniture and lighting will be added to fit with the heritage elements of the town.

Feedback is open until 5pm on Monday 22 March.

Council will hold two drop-in sessions on Thursday 4 March at the Ray Bradfield Room in Victory Park, Castlemaine at 4pm and 6pm.

You can view the plans at www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay.

Lovell calls for crowd limit to be lifted at outdoor sporting venues

THE Liberal Member for Northern Victoria, Wendy Lovell, has called on the State Government to support regional sporting clubs by removing the 1000-person crowd restriction at local outdoor sporting venues in 2021.

The capacity limit at sporting events has been imposed by the State Government because of recent COVID outbreaks in the hotel quarantine program.

Speaking in State Parliament recently, Ms Lovell said it was unfair that country sporting clubs are burdened with limits that will restrict revenue and place additional pressure on club volunteers.

Ms Lovell said the number of COVID-positive cases in regional Victoria is extremely low compared to metropolitan Melbourne, with some areas not recording a single positive case throughout the entire pandemic.

In her contribution, Ms Lovell raised the impact of the crowd limit on country football and netball leagues

during the upcoming season, with games played outside with plenty of room to accommodate crowds of more than 1000 people while still maintaining social distancing rules.

“Rural communities that have had little or no cases of COVID-19 should not be lumped in with metro Melbourne and the State Government needs to remove these capacity limits to support grass-roots sporting clubs throughout regional Victoria,” Ms Lovell

said.

Bendigo West MP Maree Edwards said, “Throughout the pandemic, all of the restrictions have been based on expert medical advice from the Chief Health Officer and we will continue to follow that advice.

“Wendy Lovell might think she’s an expert epidemiologist but the reality is that the Government has consistently and will continue to follow the expert medical advice when it comes to the pandemic.”

Upgrade for Chewton footpaths

WORKS will begin this month to upgrade and extend footpaths along the northern and southern sides of Main Street (Pyrenees Highway) in Chewton.

An 880 metre section of footpath will be upgraded between Adelaide and Railway streets on the southern side of the road. A 240 metre section will be upgraded on the northern

side of the road, from the General Store to Angus Street.

The project also includes the construction of a crossing point near the Chewton General Store to provide safer pedestrian access across Main Street.

Work will begin in mid-February and is scheduled to be completed in May, weather permitting.

Public drunkenness - a health issue, not a crime

LAWS to decriminalise public drunkenness passed through State Parliament last Friday 19 February.

The *Summary Offences Amendment (Decriminalisation of Public Drunkenness) Bill 2020* will ensure no one can be locked in a police cell just for being drunk in public.

It effectively paves the way for public drunkenness to be treated as a health issue, not a crime.

These laws have been informed by Aboriginal communities and health experts, who have advocated for this reform for decades.

It will include more outreach services, training for first responders and new sobering up services, making sure people are transported to a safe place where they can receive support if they need it.

The Bill builds on three decades of work and activism, including key

recommendations from the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, and the Coronial Inquest into the tragic death of Tanya Day at Castlemaine Police Station in December 2017.

Over the next two years, the State Government will continue to work closely with Aboriginal communities, health experts and key stakeholders – including Victoria Police – to design, trial and refine the public health model and develop local solutions that are safe and effective.

These reforms were developed following extensive consultation to ensure they strike the right balance between protection of people who are intoxicated and community safety.

The government is currently considering trial site locations in line with advice provided by an Expert Reference Group report.



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Plenty of variety this week

WELL, once again we had the lockdown which ‘messed’ things up a bit for the Library but we’re up and running again. We had intended to have our AGM last Monday but that has now been postponed until the March meeting. It’s starting to feel a bit like Dame Nellie Melba’s farewells! This week we have some really diverse titles for you.

The Cartographer’s Secret is by Tea Cooper and currently we just have the talking book version of this fascinating story, but the paperback has been ordered and will be with us within a couple of weeks. The audio version is told by Cassey Withoos, well-known actress and the narrator of many audio stories. This story moves between 1880 and 1911. Letitia Rawlings arrives at the family property and discovers a beautifully illustrated map which might hold the clue to the disappearance of her Aunt Evie. It was in 1880 when Evie Ludgrove set out to solve the

mystery of explorer Leichardt that she too disappeared without trace. This provides a fascinating and different look at an aspect of Australian history.

The Bluffs by Kyle Perry is another fascinating Australian story. The book version went into the Library last October but now we have the audio version read by Jessica Tovey and Dorje Swallow, both successful Australian actors. This story is set in a small Tasmanian town when a group of teenage girls go missing and the townspeople remember that 30 years previously another group of girls went missing in the same area. As I said last year, this is a tense, atmospheric story which will stay with you for some time.

Both the above audio stories would be great to listen to either at home or while either a passenger in a car, or the driver as long as you stay focused on the road.

The Dressmaker’s Secret by Rosalie Ham continues the story started in The

Dressmaker but now it’s 1953 and the fashion world is awash with the coming coronation of the young queen. With a season of society balls there is a rush to reproduce the fashions of the world’s famous fashion houses such as Dior and Balenciaga. It seems strange that the best dressmaker in Melbourne is hiding her talents in a second rate Collins Street salon, but of course she has a secret to conceal and doesn’t want to be in the lime light. The local police and the residents of Dungatar are looking for Tilly who, two years earlier left the town in flames.

Trace Elements is the new Donna Leon book set, of course, in Venice with Commissario Brunetti and his colleagues working hard to solve a very strange mystery. A dying woman manages to tell them that her husband’s recent road accident resulting in his death was no accident. It’s difficult to unravel all the strange strands but eventually Brunetti’s perseverance pays off and this unusual case is solved very cleverly.

I’m sorry to keep saying this, but if you are a Library member, the 2021 subscription of \$20.00 were due at the beginning of January and it really would be appreciated if you could attend to this if you haven’t already done so. Thank You.

Enjoy your reading,
Joy Leneaux-Gale.

WALKING TOGETHER

towards Reconciliation

The Freedom Rides



BY the early 1930s, Aboriginal people in NSW and Victoria were starting to use mainstream media – film, newspapers, deputations and petitions - to express their objections to harsh policies and brutal treatment.

Political organisations – Aborigines Progressive Association, Australian Aborigines League - were formed, led by charismatic men and women, such as William Cooper, Marge Tucker, Jack Patten, Pearl Gibbs and many others.

The Cummeragunja Walk Off in 1939 was the culmination of years of discriminatory treatment by both Victorian and NSW authorities.

Other strikes were organised in the mid- to late-1940s, one in the Pilbara area of West Australia where most of the Aboriginal stock workers were receiving no cash wages. The strikers were supported by people in other parts of the country including Bill Onus.

A strike in Darwin in 1950, organised by Aboriginal workers, led to the two

leaders being arrested and gaoled, as Native Affairs Department officials claimed it was ‘Communist’ inspired.

In February 1958, representatives of several groups met in Adelaide and formed the first national Aboriginal organisation, the Federal Council for Aboriginal Advancement (FCAA). Three of those at the meeting were Aboriginal people: Bert Groves, Doug Nicholls and Jeff Barnes. The broad aim was to work for ‘equal citizenship rights’.

This was by no means the first time Whites had spoken up on behalf of First Nations. The new national organisation gathered strength and influence with the non-Indigenous population, and lasted about 20 years, by which time other bodies, both government and Aboriginal and Islander grass-roots organisations, had come into existence.

In February 1965, Sydney University student Charles Perkins teamed with the Reverend Fred Noffs of the Wayside Chapel to set up a ‘Freedom Ride’ similar to the awareness-raising freedom rides happening in America. It combined fact-finding with protest against racial segregation.

About 30 White members of Student Action for Aborigines (SAFA), including Pat Healy who was later to become a Chewton resident, and Aboriginal men Charles Perkins and Gerry Mason, went on a two-week bus ride around some of NSW’s most flagrantly racist towns. Amongst them was a cadet reporter whose headlines in the Sydney Morning Herald aroused international attention.

In some towns, when the university students questioned locals on their attitudes to Aboriginal people, answers confirmed that discrimination was pretty extreme in rural areas.

In Walgett, the locals were extremely hostile

to the Freedom Riders protesting outside the RSL against segregation and terrible living conditions. One protest banner read ‘Educate the Whites’. When the protesters were leaving that night, a convoy of cars followed them out of town and a truck forced the bus to go off the road.

Aboriginal children, banned from Moree’s artesian-fed swimming pool, began their own protest and were joined by the Sydney students. Charles Perkins tried to get tickets for 10 youngsters, and was refused by the pool manager.

A hate-filled crowd rapidly gathered. In spite of the barrage of rotten tomatoes, eggs and worse, and in spite of a police request to move on, the group held their ground until the mayor agreed to remove the ban. The children had their swim, for the first time in the history of Moree. The action became the top item on the radio news.

Bowraville was visited near the end of the trip, and struck the group as having the worst segregation they had encountered, as well as run-down, overcrowded housing and extreme lack of employment opportunities. There was almost complete separation in pubs, cafes and picture theatre.

By highlighting endemic racism in Australia, the February 1965 Freedom Ride and subsequent Rides contributed to the passage of the 1967 Referendum. It also encouraged First Nations activists to challenge the status quo of segregation and discrimination.

Nalderun is a service that supports the Aboriginal Community, led by Aboriginal people. Many people and organisations in the Mount Alexander Shire contribute to Nalderun; the name is a Dja Dja Wurrung word meaning ‘all together’.

More information can be found at www.nalderun.net.au.

Solway Nutting

Councillors commit to Code of Conduct



☆ Council adopted the Councillor Code of Conduct at last week’s Council Meeting in Castlemaine.

MOUNT Alexander Shire Councillors adopted a new Councillor Code of Conduct at last week’s Ordinary Council Meeting in Castlemaine.

The Councillor Code

of Conduct guides how Councillors will conduct themselves while elected representatives, and sets out the principles and standards of behaviour expected when carrying out their

roles, responsibilities and obligations.

It includes the prescribed standards of conduct regarding:

- treatment of others;
- performing the role of Councillor;
- compliance with good governance measures;
- Councillor must not discredit or mislead council or public;
- standards that do not limit robust political debate.

The code also outlines the role of the Councillor in relation to the Chief Executive Officer, and Council staff.

Mount Alexander Shire Mayor Tony Cordy said the Councillor Code of Conduct is an important commitment for Councillors.

“The code is an agreed

standard of behaviour for Councillors, with the aim of enabling us to govern more effectively”, Cr Cordy said.

“I know that each of the current Councillors are committed to putting into practise the principles and behaviours outlined in the document, and by adopting the code we’re demonstrating that.”

“The Councillor Code of Conduct is a very important document, along with the Community Engagement Policy adopted at the same meeting.”

Council is required under the Local Government Act 2020 to adopt a new Councillor Code of Conduct within four months of the Council elections, which were held on 24 October 2020.

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Committee 2019/2020

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Vice President	Nick Kinross	0439 114 099
Secretary	Luke Cox	0438 058 665
Treasurer	Kyle Winstanley	0402 618 123

General committee members: Coby Cox, Simon Cox, Eddie Peaslee, Luke Dyer,
Kirsten Cain, Georgia Spokes, Ross Egleton, Steve Webb

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DEATHS

GOLDING
Robert Alvan ‘Bob’
23/12/1936 - 15/02/2021

Son of Alvan Henry & Hilda Frances Golding.
Brother of Bill & Frank.
Proud Father of Suzanne, Shane & Timothy.
Very Proud Grandfather of Timothy & Cassandra.
Father-in-law of Mark & Elleni.
Caring & supportive very dear friend
of Margery Crawford.

The Funeral Service for Bob was held in
Maldon on February 23rd, 2021.



PUBLIC NOTICES



MALDON HOSPITAL'S 2021 W L CHAMPION SCHOLARSHIP

Maldon Hospital's W L Champion Scholarship is presented annually to a local university or TAFE student with a commitment to regional health.

Applicants must:

- Be an enrolled 2021 university or TAFE student, studying a health discipline
- Have a strong connection to the Maldon district; and
- Demonstrate their ongoing commitment to maintaining and improving the health status of rural communities.

Named in honour of Dr W L Champion, scholarships are to the value of \$2,000 per year for a maximum of three years.

Further information and application forms are available from <https://www.maldhosp.vic.gov.au/community-partnerships/w-l-champion-scholarship/>

Applications close at 5pm on Friday 26th March 2021.

For inquiries, please contact Pam Millwood, Chair of the Board's Scholarship Committee, on 0419 373 408.

IN MEMORIAM



WIN HORRIGAN

Mum, it is now 13 years since we lost you. Your happiness and laughter is missed (You've got to laugh – you'd go mad!). You are so missed. Wish you were still here. Your 'Queen Mum' presence at Maldon's events is missed. Your 20 years of leadership of the Senior Citz is missed. Your caring for all and sundry is missed. Your charity jam factory is missed. Lovingly remembered by Ken & Fay, Dennis, Des & Doreen, and all her grandchildren and friends.

THANK YOU

MALDON VET CLINIC
is changing hands as of 1/3/2021.
Kim Molina would like to thank all her clients for their support and friendship over the years. Welcome to new owner Andrea Khong.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CLASSIFIEDS:

(Deadline midday Tuesday)

Up to 15 words \$15.00
Over 15 words \$15.00+
.60c per word thereafter.

An extra \$5.00 to include your own picture or clip art.

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Closed due to planned electricity outages

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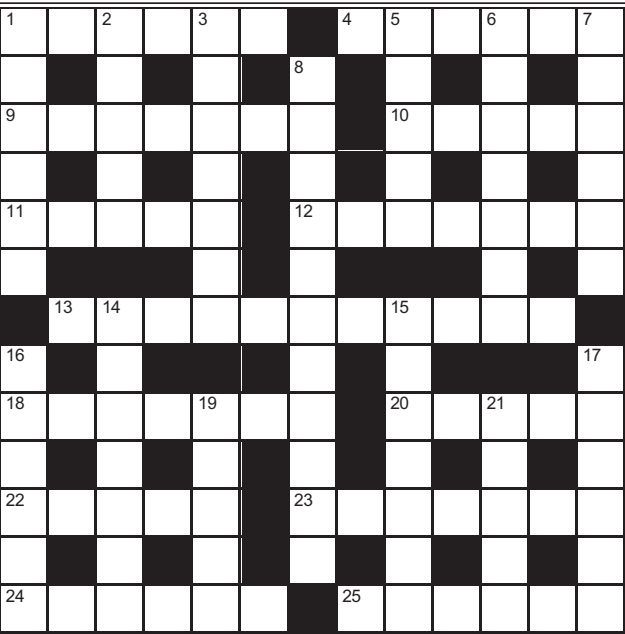


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CROSSWORD Number 789

Across

- 1 Short coat
- 4 Compels
- 9 Small house
- 10 Charges
- 11 Deserves
- 12 Fragrance
- 13 Built
- 18 Remote
- 20 Alcove
- 22 Fairly slow tempo
- 23 Pantries
- 24 Profoundly
- 25 Gets used to



Down

- 1 Racehorse rider
- 2 Provide food and drinks
- 3 Passes by
- 5 Happen
- 6 Fancy dress
- 7 Method

- 8 Frantically
- 14 Witness
- 15 Focused
- 16 Confused
- 17 Population count
- 19 Into conflict
- 21 Inexpensive

Solution to No. 788



Rainfall Baringhup

Week Ending 23.2.21

0.0mm

Monthly Totals So Far:

Month	2021	2020	2019
Jan	92.9	44.6	3.2
Feb	8.9	56.3	12.6
Mar		32.8	4.3
Apr		99.6	4.5
May		49.2	100.8
June		38.3	75.2
July		23.5	35.3
Aug		48.7	45.7
Sept		40.9	19.1
Oct		47.1	4.9
Nov		25.7	38.6
Dec		29.1	3.9
TOTAL	101.8	535.8	348.1

Rainfall Maldon

Week Ending 23.2.21

0.0mm

Monthly Totals So Far:

Month	2021	2020	2019
Jan	83.4	35.2	4.8
Feb	17.0	52.8	21.6
Mar		37.0	7.6
Apr		145.4	5.6
May		66.2	115.5
June		49.2	92.2
July		32.8	53.6
Aug		62.2	57.6
Sept		54.6	29.4
Oct		73.2	8.6
Nov		37.2	43.0
Dec		39.2	9.8
TOTAL	100.4	685.0	449.4

Rainfall Newstead

Week Ending 23.2.21

0.0mm

Monthly Totals So Far:

Month	2021	2020	2019
Jan	101.6	53.6	5.0
Feb	13.6	38.0	18.2
Mar		35.8	6.2
Apr		107.6	5.0
May		56.2	113.6
June		46.6	82.8
July		29.4	43.0
Aug		69.6	51.6
Sept		46.8	31.2
Oct		56.2	9.8
Nov		22.8	42.0
Dec		31.2	8.4
TOTAL	115.2	593.8	416.8

Water Storage Capacity as at 23.2.21

Site	Cairn Curran	Max ML	147,130	Current ML	65,010	% Full	44.19
Site	Malmsbury	Max ML	12,034	Current ML	4,509	% Full	37.5



The Book Wolf

Who is Albrek Meendle Gongggbonckle?
See this week's book review.

0487 193 223
1/26 High Street



In Maldon Today



TODAY be listening to 94.9fm as Kev and Stevo grill Steven Howard, singer and man about town. While Kev opens his musical mind to you, Stevo has the latest plumbing tips to share.

Last week IMT pulled the plug in a wee spot of COVID-avoidance caution, ie. no show.

Next Friday we're already into March. Your co-hosts will be Mike and Stevo, chatting with a committee

member (we hope that's Noel Farrington) about Maldon's own independent living option for esteemed town elders, Tarrangower Village.

Today's photo is our latest and includes the whole team. Ain't we pretty?

To catch up on our previous programs click on <https://www.mixcloud.com/nancymay007/>.

See our ad on page 12.
Mike Smythe

MALDON BOWLING CLUB



A popular night held last Friday, brought old and new members together to meet each other and to bring a plate of goodies to share. Prospective players were invited and were given instruction on how bowls is played which went down

very well.

Tonight at the Bowling Club, bowls will be open to all. Visitors to Maldon for the weekend are welcome and any locals looking to fill in an evening. Starting at 6pm, there will be a sausage sizzle included with your game of bowls. Come along and give it a go. It should be an enjoyable evening and we will finish under our lights.

Ian Grindley

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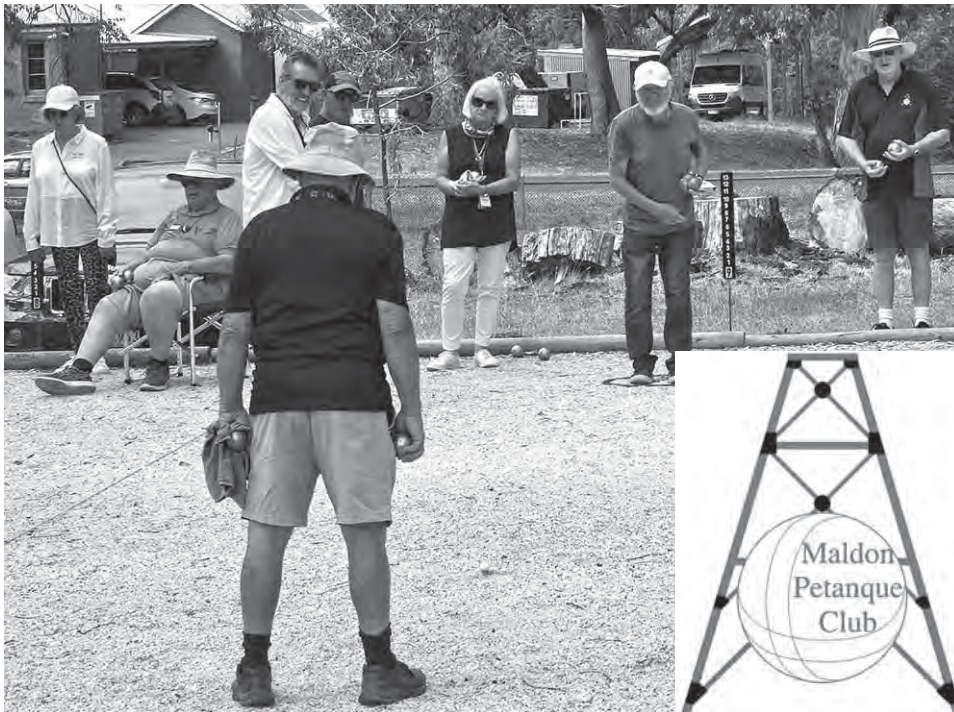
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MALDON PÉTANQUE CLUB



☆ Steve Phillis steps into the ring to start the game.

Photo courtesy of Mike Forsyth

They do like the seaside

They do like the sea

We like the inland

Because there is no sand

Last Sunday we welcomed

a merry band of pétanque-ers from the Mt Martha Petanque Club who had travelled from bayside to join in our fortnightly club

games. It was an 11am start with two games before lunch and then a further two games in the afternoon. It was a typical Maldon summer day,

very pleasant in the morning and heating up during the afternoon. Many of the Mt Martha players were looking for the sea breeze, but of course that did not happen.

We normally play three games, so playing four in the heat was somewhat tiring, but Geoff Turner from Mt Martha saw everyone out by winning four games with 23 points. Flying the local flag in second place was Viv Markham with three wins 17 points, followed by Gerry Marthe representing Maldon and Peter from Mt Martha both with three wins 12 points.

Next Saturday the Benloch Boules of Steel Club will be using our pistes for their club championship, we welcome and wish them well.

Our next fortnightly games will be on Sunday 7 March starting at 2pm on the St Brigid's pistes. All welcome.

Geoff McLennan

BLAST FROM THE PAST

THE EXEMPTION COURT

In 1916 Allied forces were suffering horrendous casualties in France. Labor Prime Minister Billy Hughes was struggling to find the fresh troops he had promised and so planned to introduce conscription. Hughes however faced significant opposition to his plans from within the Labor Party and so scheduled a plebiscite on the issue for 28 October 1916.

Assuming he would win the plebiscite, Hughes also issued a proclamation on 29 September requiring all single men aged 21 to 35 to report for medical examination. Those fit for service would be enlisted and start training once the plebiscite was won. The proclamation also established exemption courts where men could object to their conscription.

Medical examinations of eligible men were held

at the Shire Hall (now the Maldon Museum) from 4 to 7 October. About 130 men attended and of those who were found to be fit to enlist, almost all claimed an exemption.

The Exemption Court met at the Maldon Court House on Thursday, 2 November. Police Magistrate Paul Bartold presided with Lieutenant Gordon Trask acting for the military authorities. There were 104 claims for exemption listed, but 19 men who had already reported to the military camp at Castlemaine withdrew their claims. Apart from a few exceptions, all the remaining cases were heard on the day.

The simplest cases were those involving only sons. Ten men applied on this basis and all were given an absolute exemption except for William Adamson, who was found to have a stepbrother.

Men who had brothers serving and who were their family's main breadwinners were also usually given an absolute exemption.

An exception was Edward McConnell whose case P.M Bartold said was 'a hard one'. Edward was one of eight brothers, three of whom were serving and the others were under age 18. His mother Mary gave evidence that the family depended on him but despite this Edward was refused an exemption.

For Mary this decision must have been made more hurtful by the fact that one of her sons serving in France was 15-year-old John, possibly the youngest Australian to serve on the Western Front. At the time of the hearing, Mary was trying to convince the Army to have John found and returned to Australia.

In most cases men claimed

exemption because they had businesses or family farms that would suffer if they enlisted. In some farming families, two or more sons claimed exemptions. When four Collard brothers each claimed exemptions, P.M. Bartold told them to decide which one of them should be exempt. After they made their choice the other three were told to report to camp by the end of the month.

The conscription plebiscite was narrowly defeated. By calling up men on the assumption that he would win the vote, Hughes gave voters a taste of the impact of conscription on their families and so probably boosted the 'No Vote'. Following the plebiscite's defeat men already called up were released from training camps.

This information was supplied by the Maldon Museum and Archives.



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