



HEYFIELD NEWS

Heyfield's own weekly not-for-profit community newsletter - still only 50c!

ISSUE 146| Thursday 3rd March 2022

BRING A CHAIR
& DANCING SHOES

NO BYO ALCOHOL
FOOD VANS ON SITE

Glenmaggie BLUES & ROOTS FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 5TH MARCH **4:00PM - 11:00PM**

PB'S VOODOO PREACHERS

THE 350s BLUES BAND

BLUE SUNDAY

MIKE ELRINGTON

KALIOPI & THE BLUES MESSENGERS

LOCATION

GLENMAGGIE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE
21 GLENFALLOCH RD. GLENMAGGIE, VIC 3858

TICKETS

\$50.00 EACH (U18 FREE)
AVAILABLE FROM [EVENTBRITE.COM.AU](https://www.eventbrite.com.au)

"Women belong in all places where decisions are being made. . . . It shouldn't be that women are the exception."

(Ruth Bader Ginsberg)

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Heyfield News is produced by the Heyfield Community Resource Centre and welcomes stories from across the Wellington Shire.

The content is the responsibility of the contributors and does not necessarily represent the views of the Heyfield Community Resource Centre.

READ THE HEYFIELD NEWS IN FULL COLOUR ONLINE!

Interested in receiving the Heyfield News on-line? Find out more at heyfieldcommunity.org.au or call the Heyfield Community Resource Centre.

All submissions and ads must be in by:

12PM MONDAY

email: heyfieldnews@heyfield.net



The Heyfield News is proudly supported by the Wellington Shire Council

**Have something coming up?
Let us know**

Every Monday

Every 2nd Monday of the month

March 4th

March 5th

March 5th

March 19th

March 29th

April 16th

April 23-24th

May 2022

**Walking Basketball, 12pm
Gordon Street Reserve**

Heyfield Garden Club - check Facebook and Heyfield News for details

Barefoot Bowls, 5.30pm, Heyfield Bowls Club

COMMUNITY MARKET & CAR BOOT SALE

Glenmaggie Blues & Roots Festival, 4-11pm, Glenmaggie Mechanic's Institute Hall

Waves, Heyfield Memorial Hall, 7.30pm

Arnott's Biscuit Bake-off, HCRC, 10.30am, register by March 18th

Coongulla Paddy's Market, Coongulla Hall, 9am

ANZAC Weekend Airshow, Sale Jazz High Tea, Heyfield

Hall, 2pm

LIONS/ RSL RAFFLE ROSTER

4th March

P.Llewellyn & J.Wheeler

5th March

B.Marsh & D.Chambers



HEYFIELD COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

5 George Street, Heyfield VIC 3858

03 5148 2100

heyfieldnews@heyfield.net

HEYFIELD HAPPENINGS

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

Happy Birthday Brooke



Happy Birthday Alf



Happy Birthday Immy Grace



Happy 21st Birthday Grady



Happy Birthday Ruth



HEYFIELD HAPPENINGS

Congratulations to Anne

Anne Kurec was recently recognised for an important milestone, 20 years service as a School Crossing Attendant.

She took over from Pat Austin and in her time, Anne has seen two generations of children pass through the two primary schools. She also has some funny stories.

One day, Anne was on the school crossing with her stop sign up and a lady drove through the crossing, wound down her window and said "Sorry, but I'm late for an appointment". Well done Anne



Men's Shed to the rescue!

The wheels fell off Murray's cart. It's been working hard transporting his toys and blocks of wood around the garden at home. The Men's Shed were able to reattach the wheels and Murray and his Nan are smiles all round. Great job Heyfield Men's Shed. If you need something repaired, drop into the Shed on a Wednesday or Thursday to see if they can help.



COMPETITION TIME FOR ANY GARDENING EXPERTS:

If any gardener out there that would like to share photos or tips from their garden, vegetable or flowers, would be greatly appreciated.

Prizes

- For best garden photo
- Best garden tip

You can send them to:

heyfieldnews@heyfield.net or send them to our Facebook page **@HeyfieldNews** with your name and phone number.

Kids, email your photos to:
heyfieldnews@heyfield.net or via
Facebook **@HeyfieldNews** by 4pm on
Monday. Prizes to be won!

SHOP LOCAL & WIN!

Congratulations to this week's #HeyfieldShopLocal winners, Shaun and Fiona, pictured here with Kay and Kim, who will be spending their \$100 voucher at the Heyfield Bakery.

More and more businesses are getting on board.

Thank you so much for your support.

There's a voucher to be won each week until 16th April.

To enter, shoppers simply have to:

- * Spend a minimum of \$20 at a participating shop or business. These are members of the Heyfield Traders and Tourism Association and are listed below.

- * Using Facebook Messenger, send a photo of your docket to Visit Heyfield Region or drop it into the Resource Centre by 3pm Wednesday.

- *The winner will be drawn every Thursday.

Any business interested in joining the Heyfield Traders and Tourism Association please go to: <https://www.visitheyfield.com.au/> for more information



WELLINGTON

YOUR WEEKLY COUNCIL UPDATE

Did it

Fun family-friendly events for Parks Week

Unpack your picnic blanket, put your exercise shoes on and celebrate Wellington Shire's beautiful open spaces with Parks Week 2022 from 5 to 13 March.

Events include Sale Music Festival's Picnic on the Green, community markets in Maffra and Rosedale, and Wetlands to the Park participants can venture from Yarram Wetlands to Rutter Park in Port Albert.

Children are sure of a big surprise at Sale Music Festival, with 'Teddy Bear's Picnic' Storytime sessions run by Wellington library staff at 11.30am and 1pm (don't forget your teddy bear!). Younger children can also enjoy Baby's Day Out in Sale and Kids' Day Out in Yarram.

For the energetic there are outdoor gym sessions and parkrun events to get the blood pumping, while silent forest therapy walks through some of our parks will awaken the five senses.

And the great news is that even if you can't join one of the physically active events, our parks are accessible for everyone to enjoy, including people with mobility issues or disabilities.

For more details on dates, times and locations of our Parks Week 2022 events, visit www.wellington.vic.gov.au/parksweek

Parks WEEK 2022

Saturday 5 March
Forest Therapy Walk, Victoria Park Sale
Sale parkrun, Sale Botanic Gardens
Outdoor Gym Session, Lake Guthridge

Sunday 6 March
Forest Therapy Walk, Victoria Park Maffra
Community Market, Maffra Island Reserve

Monday 7 March
Forest Therapy Walk, Apex Park Heyfield

Tuesday 8 March
Baby's Day Out, Sale Botanic Gardens
Forest Therapy Walk, Prince St Reserve Rosedale
Tree Planting and BBQ, Apex Park Stratford

Wednesday 9 March
Kids Day Out, Yarram Memorial Park
Nature Culture Plants Parks, McMillan Park Sale
Sale Botanic Gardens Guided Tour

Friday 11 March
Kids Art Workshop, Port of Sale
Wheels in e-motion, Yarram Skate Park

Saturday 12 March
Sale parkrun, Sale Botanic Gardens
All Aboard skateboarding sessions, Sale and Heyfield Skate Parks
Outdoor Gym Session, Lake Guthridge

Sunday 13 March
Sale Music Festival, Sale Botanic Gardens
Wetlands to the Park, Yarram Wetlands to Rutter Park Port Albert
Rosedale Community Market, Prince St Reserve

IMMUNISATION SESSIONS

Council's next free monthly immunisation sessions for all eligible infants, school children and adults will be held at:

Heyfield - Tuesday 8 March, 9.30am to 10.15am
Heyfield Library, 42 MacFarlane Street, Heyfield

Maffra - Tuesday 8 March, 11.30am to 12.15pm
Geoff Webster Hall, Maffra Anglican Church

Sale - Wednesday 9 March, 9.30am to 10.30am
Wellington Centre, Port of Sale (Carang Carang Room)

Yarram - Wednesday 6 April, 11.00am to 11.30am
Yarram District Hub, 156 Grant Street, Yarram

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next meeting will be held **Tuesday 15 March at 6pm**

Wellington Shire Council meets at 3pm on the first Tuesday of each month and 6pm on the third Tuesday of each month.

Meetings may be watched live (or afterwards) on Wellington Shire Council's YouTube Channel at [youtube.com/wellingtonshire](https://www.youtube.com/wellingtonshire).

Please visit wellington.vic.gov.au/meetings to find out the best way to watch and participate, including how to submit a question or comment regarding an Agenda item.

CAREERS

To find out more, visit www.wellington.vic.gov.au/careers

TENDERS

To find out more, visit www.eprocure.com.au/wellingtonshirecouncil

Sale Service Centre

18 Desbilly Street, Sale. Phone 1300 866 244
Business hours 8.30am to 5.00pm

Yarram Service Centre

156 Grant Street, Yarram. Phone (03) 5292 5100
Business hours 10.00am to 2.00pm (closed Wednesday)

Connect with us

Email enquiries@wellington.vic.gov.au
Web www.wellington.vic.gov.au

Twice Blest Op Shop finds a new home

After nearly 20 years at 41 Temple Street the Twice Blest Op Shop has moved just up the road to the Anglican Church Hall opposite the Primary School.

The Reverend Judith Lake opened the new centre on Monday morning with prayers of dedication. She thanked those with the initial vision set up the shop and all the volunteers who have given freely of their time.

Over 300 hours of work were put in over the last week to get the shop ready to open and Judith thanked the Heyfield Lions for their work on Wednesday morning to shift all the furniture

“With a new AC unit providing a comfortable atmosphere, direct access to toilets and a kitchen, and ample parking the new location will let us continue to cater for the needs of the Heyfield community both as a source of inexpensive clothes and household goods and other support as required” Judith said.

If you would like to join the band of volunteers that run the shop, drop in and chat to the staff any time we are open or catch up with the sorting crew in the big green shed behind the hall on a Wednesday morning.

Trading hours are 10:30am to 2:30pm Monday to Friday and 9:30am to 12 noon on Saturdays. Our thanks to the people of Heyfield for their continued support.



Twice Blest from Temple St



Rev Judith Lake dedicating the new shop



Some of the goods for sale

COVID-19 Testing Sites



Current Operating hours

Latrobe

Tgon Recreation Reserve: Sun-Fri 8.30am-3.30pm (closed Sat)
Dorevitch (LRH): Mon-Fri, 8am-3.30pm & Sat 9am-2pm by appt on 5165 0800
Moe Senior Citizens: Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sun 9-11am
Morwell Respiratory Clinic: Bookings only on 5133 9966

Baw Baw & Cardinia

The Goods Shed: Mon, Tues & Fri 10.30am-6pm & Saturdays 9-3.30 (RATs only)
Warragul Respiratory Clinic: Bookings only on 5642 6666
IYU Recreation Reserve Pakenham: 7 days 8.30am-5pm

East Gippsland

Bairnsdale Lucknow Hall: Sun-Fri 8am-10am (closed Sat)
Bairnsdale Respiratory Clinic: Bookings only on 03 4116 2014
Lakes Entrance (GLCH): Mon-Fri by appt 51558300 (option 1)
Orbost Medical Clinic: Mon-Fri 9-10am, by appt on 5154 6777
Omeo District Health: 7 days 8am-9pm, by appt on 5159 0100
Swifts Creek BNC: Residents only, call prior to 10am on 5159 4210
Ensay BNC: Residents only, call 5157 3215
Gelantippy BNC: Mon & Weds 9-10.30am, by appt 5155 0274
Cann Valley BNC: Tues & Thurs 9-11am, by appt on 5158 6210

Wellington

Sale - Sion Catholic College: Mon-Fri 9-11am
Yarram District Health Service: Mon, Weds, & Fri 8:30-9:30am
Wellington Respiratory Clinic: Bookings only on 5143 7900

Bass Coast

Wonthaggi - Bass Coast Health: 7 days 9am-1pm
Cowes - Bass Coast Health: CLOSED
Wonthaggi Respiratory Clinic: Bookings only on 0492 036 568

South Gippsland

Leongatha Gippsland Southern Health: Mon, Wed & Thurs 8.30-11.30
Foster Respiratory Clinic: Bookings only on 5682 2088

★★★★★
'CAPTIVATING'
The List

★★★★★
'FIFTY GLORIOUS MINUTES'
All Edinburgh Theatre

★★★★★
'A JOY'
The Herald

WAVES

CREATED BY ALICE MARY COOPER

Photo: Miraela Bodirovic
Design: Nait Walker

Saturday 19 March 2022

7.30pm

HEYFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

Tickets available at Heyfield News Agency or at the door



REGIONAL
ARTS
VICTORIA



f @alicemarycooper t @alicemarycooper i @alicemarycooper

WAVES – Play by Alice Mary Cooper

Waves follows the story of Alice, a hospice car worker who meets Elizabeth, the unofficial inventor of the butterfly stroke. Over many cups of tea, Alice learns how Liz, during her youth, taught herself how to swim by watching the aquatic life surrounding her small Victorian island home in the 1930's. With her incredible skill and determination, she makes it to the Berlin Olympics where she introduces the new stroke to the world and wins Gold.

A delightful tale of historical fiction, *Waves* is an intimate theatrical event that combines highly expressive storytelling, delicate movement and splashes of humour to tell the story of a life fully lived.

Waves is about having an idea and the courage, drive and desire to follow it through, to swim against the tide of history and expectations, and to achieve something that is truly incredible. While the character of Elizabeth is fictional, the work is an homage to the and pioneering female swimmers of the early 1900s and women 'of a certain age' that society has largely forgotten

What's on @ the Resource Centre this week

Living @ Home for Longer
Tailored for those 65years & over
How to:
Access government subsidies
navigate the My Aged Care system
Free! Tuesday 22nd March, 10.30am - 11.30am

For Teens & Young Adults
Provide Basic Emergency Life Support
They'll learn:
• CPR & defibrillator
• auto injector for anaphylaxis
• snake bit & bandaging
Monday 21st March, 5.30pm - 6:30pm
\$75 per person includes accreditation

Kids Craft Easter Gifts!
Kids will upcycle containers into bunny flower pots & bunny egg holders.
Monday 4th April, 3.15pm - 4.15pm
\$5 per child

TRAVELLING ANNIES



ARE COMING TO THE HEYFIELD RESOURCE CENTER

**HLTAID010 PROVIDE BASIC EMERGENCY
LIFE SUPPORT FOR TEENAGERS
COST \$75**

Our courses are Nationally recognized, delivered and assessed on behalf of Allens Training Pty Ltd RTO 90909 by Travelling Annies. Online component applies.

Join Margie, Steph and their team of highly skilled local Gippsland trainers with years of emergency experience between them. You will complete an online component then join us in an interactive session. Our aim is to refresh your knowledge, refine your skills and renew your confidence and competence when faced with an emergency.

Date: March 21st 2022

Time: 1730-1830hrs

**Contact Caroline Trevorrow at the Heyfield
Resource Centre for more information**

E: training@travellingannies.com.au
Website: www.travellingannies.com.au

**Provide Basic
Emergency
Life Support
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skills to take
through life
and assist you
with gaining
employment**

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training
feeling
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competent**

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STEPH BEDGGOOD
0408472835**

Digital Matters

Live, learn and work in a digital world



Do you want to improve your digital skills to connect with friends and family, gain employment plus be safe and secure online?

About the course:

This short course will provide learners with technology skills for life, work and study. It's ideal for beginners or those that need to refresh their digital skills.

- An introduction to connecting with others on Zoom.
- Navigating safely online and managing privacy
- Microsoft Word and Excel
- Sending emails, creating contacts and attaching files and images
- Understanding how to use various digital devices from smartphones to computers and more....

When: Runs for 4 evening sessions - Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd March, Monday 28th & Tuesday 29th March. 6pm - 8.30pm.

Where: Heyfield Community Resource Centre, 5 George St, Heyfield.

How much: This is an ACFE funded course for eligible learners with a low fee of \$20

Enrol or find out more:

Heyfield Community Resource Centre
Phone 5148 2100
email coordinator@heyfield.net



Seed Propagation Day

contribute to **Landcare Seed Bank**



John Topp -
Landcare
Member and
Indigenous
Plant
Nurseryman
guides our way.



Seeding Succession- Gippsland Red Gum and Grassy Woodland Seed Propagation Project

Creating a seed bank for direct seed projects which will grow numbers of these bioregion plants in our environment.

Maffra and District Landcare
Network Project

Contact: Rachel 0417823695

Join in on a community landcaring project

When: **Sat March 5th**

Where: **Heyfield Resource Centre**, 5 George St,
Heyfield VIC 3858

Parking: **street parking**

Time: **10 a.m. to 12 midday.**

- learn to propagate native grasses and wildflowers of our area
- meet like minded people
- learn about the scope and dreaming of this project
- plant and raise seed, nurture the plants and collect the seed next Summer and return the seed to the Seed Bank.

Landcare SPAs set to help protect local landscape

Maffra and Districts Landcare Network has secured a Community Volunteer Action Grant to develop a community project to help protect local native grasslands.

The project, funded through the Victorian Government's Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), will produce seed from plant species from the Gippsland Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Associated Native Grassland ecosystem. Once widespread across the plains of central Gippsland, this ecological community is now listed as critically endangered under national environment laws, with less than five per cent of its original extent remaining. It includes a rich array of native grasses and wildflowers and it supports a variety of rare and threatened flora and fauna.

Landcare's revegetation projects rely on collection of seed. Sourcing local seed is becoming increasingly difficult due to erratic seasons and the limited number of both plants to collect from and seed collectors.

The new project will set up Seed Production Areas (SPAs), sites designed to produce large quantities of genetically diverse, quality seed from a variety of local plant species. This seed will be used for future restoration plantings.

While it is a goal to establish a large scale SPAs, the project is following the precedent of the Moorndoop Community Common Project, where community members set up small SPAs in their back yards to provide seed for a local grasslands restoration project. This can be as simple as several boxes, one hundred or so individual plants, of one species to ensure genetic strength in your back yard.

Maffra and Districts Landcare member, Rachel Steinmann, has an area of her front yard dedicated to Gippsland Grasses and Wildflowers. She worked with local nurseryman John Topp to prepare the area, source seed and plants. This summer it contributed grass seed and seed for Vanilla Lily, Bulbine and Walhenburgia to the seedbank.

'I've been getting out along the Gippsland Plains Rail Trail and visiting local wildflower hot spots with John over the last couple of seasons and it's a glorious thing to see what wildflowers are out from week to week. Later in Summer, we wait and watch for when seed is ready.' says Rachel.

There are laws around seed collection and permits are required unless collecting seed on your own property. The grant awarded to Landcare reflects the importance placed on increasing community involvement and skills to help maintain native seed security and local biodiversity.

"What we are inviting people to be part of is growing these species with the goal of seed collection and, long term, supporting restorative plantings in the area", says Rachel.

'We have been really fortunate to have John Topp as our plant nurseryman, but he alone can't save the Gippsland Grassland species. We need to share the load!'

In December we had a workshop on Plant Identification and then another with local seed collector Jenny Wolswinkel of 'Seeds of Gippsland'. Next is a propagation workshop where people can offer to raise plants from home in boxes for the project.

Interested community members are invited to a propagation day to be held at the Heyfield Community Resource Centre from 10 to 12 midday on Saturday, 5th of March.

To register your interest, go to the Maffra and Districts Landcare Network website at www.mdln.com.au or contact Rachel on 0417823695. Please note Heyfield Resource Centre visitors are required to be double vaxxed.



Heyfield Bowls Club

Bare Foot Bowls



Come Along and Enjoy some social Bowls

Either as a team or an individual

Or come along and enjoy just having a drink

\$10 per head BBQ included

5:30pm Start on the 4th of March

Hope to see you there

COVID RESTRICTION APPLY



BOWLS

Over the past week the father & daughter Jason & Kirstie White both played in winning teams for the Men's & Ladies Club Pairs Championships



Leonie Flynn & Kirstie White won over Maureen Kelly & Thelma Burton in a good close match.

Shane Holmes & Jason White won over Rohan Kelly & Shane Kelly in a match that went to the last end.



Well done to both winning teams.

The pennant season is now at the finals stage. Saturday's Div 1 & 2 will be competing in the preliminary against West Sale1 & Sale2 at Sale Bowls Club this Saturday at 1.30pm.

We did have our Midweek Div3 team in the semi-final but unfortunately lost by 1 shot to West Sale 2



Heyfield Tennis Club

Results 26/02/2022 - Round 10

Junior Results

Section 4 - Roo's
Section 6 - Joey's

Section 4 - Kanga's
Section 7 - Skippy's

ALL WASHED OUT

Senior Results

Section 2 -
Sale GCP Vs Vern Graham
Final Scores
66-5 to 59-4

Section 3
Maffra Stobies Vs Railway Hotel
Final Scores
25-1 to 54-6

Section 2 -
Sale GL Vs Bendigo Bank
Final Scores
66-6 to 46-3

Section 3
Maffra GRE Vs Aldersea & Higgins
Final Scores
31-1 to 70-8



Tim BULL

NATIONALS MEMBER FOR GIPPSLAND EAST

143 Main Street, Bairnsdale VIC 3875
03 5152 3491
tim.bull@parliament.vic.gov.au

SEMMENS, HATCH & ANDERSON

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47 TEMPLE STREET, HEYFIELD
TEL: (03) 5148 2292 FAX: (03) 5148 2188
email: sha@wideband.net.au

Robyn's Recipes

CORNISH PASTIES

INGREDIENTS

4 sheets shortcrust pastry
200g uncooked rump steak, cut into small pieces
2 medium potatoes, diced
1 large onion, diced
100mls stock
Salt and pepper
Mustard

Egg or milk to glaze

METHOD

Mix together meat, potatoes and onions
Add seasoning
Cut pastry sheets in half
Put a pile of mixture in centre of sheet and moisten with stock
Brush edges of pastry with water or egg
Fold pastry over mix and press edges together tightly
Place on baking tray and glaze with egg or milk
Cook in hot oven and bake for 25 mins
Lower heat to moderate for another 35 mins to ensure meat is cooked



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Small Business**



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rfcsgippsland.org.au

Crisis to Recovery ...

Improve your financial and personal wellbeing with qualified and experienced finance, agri and business professionals with a range of support services focused on the financial viability and future security of farmers and business owners



OSHC - HEYFIELD

Did you know that Gumnuts ELC is now offering- Heyfield Before and after school Care?

***NOW OPEN from
the Heyfield Primary School.***

***We provide before school care between the
hours of 7:00am - 9am***

Cost \$22 per child, per session, Before CCS.

***We provide after school care between
2:55pm – 6pm***

Cost \$27 per child, per session, Before CCS.

****Please note that the prices displayed are based on the 2021 prices and
may alter.***

For more information or to make a booking
please contact Brendon or Nadine on 51446952
or via email gumnutselc@netspace.net.au

Gumnuts is committed to child safety



***Gumnuts acknowledges the Gunaikurnai people as the traditional
custodians of the land of where Gumnuts now is.***

We pay respect to their Elders past and present and emerging.

AUTUMN TOUR 2022
PORT FAIRY FOLK FESTIVAL TO NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL
WOODFORDIA INC. PRESENTS

Festival of Small Halls

I AM COMING
TO A SMALL
TOWN NEAR
YOU

AUTUMN TOUR 11TH MARCH - 17TH APRIL 2022

HEYFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

THURSDAY 31ST March

7PM START

TICKETS : ONLINE PURCHASE OR
HEYFIELD NEWSAGENT
\$25- CONcession AVAILABLE



CHARM OF FINCHES (AUS)



JACK CARTY (AUS)



CREATIVE VICTORIA



Australian Government
RISK Fund



WWW.FESTIVALOFSMALLHALLS.COM

Arnott's Biscuit Bake-off

Tuesday 29th March, 10:30am



Entries are now open for the Heyfield Arnott's Biscuit Bake-off.

- Best Lattice Slice using an alternative to Lattice Biscuit
- Best Slice using a packet of Arnott's biscuits

The winning recipes will be baked in the Arnott's test kitchen by their Culinary Chef, photographed and published on the Arnott's website plus receive a prize hamper packed full of Arnott's biscuits.

Everyone is welcome to come along to taste and vote.
The community will decide the winner!

Register by Friday 18th March. Tasting and voting will be on
Tuesday 29th March, 10.30am

Gold coin donation to enter or taste and vote.

Funds raised go to Heyfield Kids House.

For more information call 5148 2100 or
email coordinator@heyfield.net



Heyfield Community
Resource Centre
5 George Street, Heyfield



Bushfire town receives legal advice about recovery eligibility

The heavily bushfire impacted community of Sarsfield has received legal advice about its eligibility for the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery grants program.

‘We were gobsmacked when we were knocked back by the National Resilience and Recovery Agency,’ said Simon Hof, the President of the Sarsfield Community Association (SCA). ‘When we asked for feedback, the NRRRA simply said that we weren’t eligible because of the ABN of our hall committee. This same situation has affected the bushfire impacted towns of Ensay and Wairewa. We’ve spoken to lawyers to see if this is correct and have received legal advice that we are in fact eligible and should have had our applications assessed properly.’

‘The guidelines are easy to read,’ explained Simon. ‘Section 5.1 has a list of entities which are eligible to apply, including ‘an incorporated not-for-profit organisation’ which fits the hall committee perfectly. The next section has a list of entities which aren’t eligible, which includes ‘a Commonwealth or state government agency or body (including government business enterprises) with the exception of those entities referred to in Section 5.1.’

‘This indicates to us that there’s no problem with our eligibility. We were assisted by professional grant writers, and Ensay’s application was also prepared by professional grant writers. Even those companies, who are experienced in reading guidelines like these, are clear that we are eligible to apply and have our application assessed for funding.’

Sarsfield’s application was for funding to replace the ageing hall, the only public asset in the community which does not even have a pub, school, or any place other than the hall for the community to gather for recovery events and activities.

Simon explained that the communities of Sarsfield, Wairewa and Ensay are now banding together to confirm the initial legal advice which they’ve received. ‘It’s reassuring to have our lawyers back us up and say that our reading of the guidelines is correct, and that we deserve to at least be assessed.’

On seeking feedback about the reason for the knockback from the administrators of the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery grants, the Sarsfield community was told that their application was never even read by the assessors, as the ABN of the hall committee indicated that it was a ‘state government entity’.

‘That was a real kick in the teeth,’ Simon said. ‘If we’d been assessed properly and found that our application didn’t deserve funding, we’d have taken it on the chin. But to discover that they’d thrown our application in the bin at the very start of the process, without reading past our ABN, is further traumatising a community which is still dealing with the devastation of the bushfires.’

Simon went on to describe how this difficult situation arose. ‘In rural areas, local halls and recreation reserves are either under council management or under the management of the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).

‘Most rural people wouldn’t know if their local football oval or hall was council or DELWP land, they just appreciate how these assets support the community through providing a venue for local sports and community gatherings.’

‘Sarsfield’s recreation reserve is under DELWP management. What this means here on the ground is that it’s managed by a hardworking group of six community volunteers, who hold working bees and barbecues and enable the facility to remain available for the community to use.’

Following the Black Summer bushfires, each impacted community was required to form a Community Recovery Committee (CRC) to guide decisions and apply for funding for bushfire recovery projects.

‘We did everything we were asked to do,’ Simon explained. ‘We formed a CRC (now called the Sarsfield Community Association) which from the outset has worked hand-in-hand with the long-standing hall committee. We consulted with Sarsfield locals, and our application was based on the recovery priorities which the community were crystal clear that they wanted. Both community groups are incorporated, and for the Black Summer bushfire recovery grant we used the ABN of the local hall committee.’

Further compounding the dismay of the Sarsfield, Ensay and Wairewa communities is the fact that they have since become aware of other projects funded under the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery fund which will occur on DELWP-managed land, but where the application was submitted by a different community committee, whose ABN didn't denote them as a 'state government entity'.

Scott Lamshed, a member of the Sarsfield Community Association, described the trauma of not only hearing that Sarsfield's application wasn't even read, but the response from the NRRA since that time has made things worse for him and other community members. 'All they've said to us is that we were responsible for ensuring that we were eligible to apply. We checked everything and even the professionals were clear that we were eligible. It smacks of victim blaming, with no discussion allowed.'

Scott and his partner lost a home during the fires, and he described how difficult it still is two years later. 'Two years on, we're still working on cleaning up our property. It's gut-wrenching to be honest. However, the physical impact of the bushfires is nothing compared to the emotional impacts.'

Scott went on to describe how the NRRA outcome had compounded the emotional impacts following the bushfires. 'This response from the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery fund was incredibly hard to take. How can they throw out our application, fund others on DELWP land, fund projects which were nowhere near the fires, and then tell us that 'we should have known' that we'd be ineligible?'

Sarsfield was one of the most heavily impacted towns during the Black Summer bushfires. Of the 270 homes in Sarsfield prior to the fires, 200 properties were damaged, and 80 homes were completely destroyed by the bushfires. (*Simon Hof Sarsfield Community Association Inc*)

Farming conference in Sale

Wellington Shire Council will host the Gippsland-wide Farming for Success 2022 Agriculture Conference next month, showcasing innovation, emerging markets and growth in the industry.

Guest speakers from the agribusiness sector will share their experiences at the conference in Sale on Tuesday 8 March.

Wellington Shire Council Mayor Ian Bye said the sector was a major employer and economic contributor to the region.

"Farmers here in Wellington have had everything thrown at them in the last five years, from drought to fire, flood to earthquake, and on top of it a worldwide pandemic," Cr Bye said.

"By bringing the industry together like this, people can share their experiences and learn from others, and they will continue innovating in order to remain strong into the future."

Guest speakers at Farming for Success 2022 include Damian Bell from Wagner Corporation, Angus breeder Luke Stuckey, Molly Coleman from Buhler, Jon Lambert from Heartwood Plantations, Jeremy Haw from Hussey & Co, Jen Smith from Gippsland Agricultural Group, and Food and Fibre Gippsland's Elena Nauta.

The conference will be hosted by ABC's national rural reporter Kath Sullivan, who grew up in Sale.

It will be held at Laurels Function Centre at the Sale Turf Club from 9am to 4pm.

Tickets cost \$20 which includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Visit wellingtonvic.eventbrite.com to book online.

Farming for Success 2022 is funded by Regional Development Victoria, Invest Gippsland.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Community Notice

Twice Blest Opportunity Shop has relocated to St James Church Hall Temple Street, opposite the Heyfield Primary School. Twice Blest has provided Outreach and faithful service to the community of Heyfield and district for almost 20 years from the rented premises in Temple Street. Now this valuable and essential service will continue from the new premises. Twice Blest would like to extend a warm invitation to all to come along and have a browse, for customer convenience there is plenty of Off-street parking available.

LIONS/ RSL Raffle Winners 26/02/2022

1. Rosemary
2. Sue Lobby
3. Steve Felmingham
4. Lindsay Moran
5. Macca
6. Kelvin Sundermann
7. Dave Kelly

ADVERTISE IN THE HEYFIELD NEWS

Full Page	\$70
Half Page	\$45
Quarter Page	\$30
Business Card	\$20
10 lines and under	\$10
15 lines	\$15

Rates per week. Local Services \$170 per year.

Call the Resource Centre for details 5148 2100

Community Notice

GENUINE GARAGE SALE

Saturday, 5th March

Unit 1, 5 MacFarlane Street, Heyfield

9 a.m. start. No early birds please.

Lady is relocating

Everything must go.

Household furniture

Kitchen items

Bedding linen

Ornaments, vases, etc.



LOCAL DIRECTORY

SERVICES

AUTO ELECTRICIAN

MezzaTronics
0428 116 325

BUTCHER

Lewyz Quality Meatz
Shop 2, 58 Temple Street, Heyfield
5138 8611

DENTIST

Heyfield Family Dental Care
5148 2273

EARTH WORKS

Back Track Excavation
0477 734 354

ELECTRICIAN

Latrobe Valley Electrical Services
5148 2225

ELECTRICIAN

Stuart's Electrical Contracting
0479162715

GENERAL STORE

Timberline
5148 2356

HANDYMAN

Handyman Dan of Gippsland
0414 319 697

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Pace Plumbing
5148 0212

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Gippsland Real Estate:
Heyfield office - 5148 3007
Bec Rose - 0422 425 668

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5148 3404

HEYFIELD COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

5148 2100

HEYFIELD LIONS CLUB

Contact 0427 023 077

HEYFIELD MENS SHED

5148 2100

HEYFIELD RSL

Contact 0418 200 562

HEYFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS

Contact: Lin 0413 428 874 or
Mary 0458 466 149

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HOSPITAL - HEYFIELD

5139 7979

MEDICAL CENTRE

5148 2201

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13 25 00

WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL

1300 366 244

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Mrs. H. Dennis OAM - 5148 2377
Lee Clarke (Glenmaggie) -
0418 108 691

UNITING CHURCH SERVICE

Sundays at 11am

No service 2nd Sunday each
month. Minister: Mr. Robert
Barnes Church office (Maffra)
5147 1325. Local contact: Rod
0491 140 664

ANGLICAN CHURCH SERVICE

Heyfield: 9.30am. Every Sunday,
apart from 3rd Sunday of the month
Tinamba: 9.30am every 3rd Sunday
of the month.

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