



# TATTLER 2022

Port Albert's FREE Community Newsletter

Have you been to -

## *The General Café & Restaurant?*

Then you already know **it's got something for everyone** – including Theme Dinners - Havana Night, Under the Sea, Burger Night, Melbourne Cup & Mother's Day Lunches, Music & Song with Fiona Carrum & Michael Malik. Let our local friendly staff help you enjoy something

from the amazing Menu.

A choice of creative, flavorsome, delicious and innovative dishes, to tantalize your taste buds.

**Visit Wed to Sun for lunch**      **Saturday for Dinner**

**Bookings:** 0459 628 577

**Web:** [facebook.com/thegeneralportalberr](https://facebook.com/thegeneralportalberr)



## PORT ALBERT MUSEUM

**A fantastic exhibition is coming to the museum, date to be confirmed**

**Hours:**

**Sat, Sun Mon, Frid 10am to 4pm**

**78 Tarraville Rd, Port Albert**

**Ph (03) 5183 2520**

The original crane from the wharf, hand operated and geared with large wheels for ease of use when lifting heavy items.

The "Brucker" (orange) safety craft is used by the oil rigs in case of a disaster to flee to safety. (below)

*Photos & information courtesy of Steve Balhorn*



### **"The entrance to the Port Albert Maritime Museum"**

The museum is one of the best Maritime museums in Australia, having won many awards. It is housed in the 1861 Bank of Victoria building and in the John Irving Archives in the adjacent former CBC bank office.

The Maud Robinson fishing room contains many items connected with the fishing industry in Port Albert. The museum is well worth a visit and has many exhibits for both young & old to enjoy and to familiarize themselves with Port Albert.



## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### **Social Media Marketing Workshops**

PAPA are conducting a series of **2 Social Media Marketing Workshops** through the generosity of Port Albert resident Rob Durrant the owner of rev™ Branding an agency with offices in Melbourne, Auckland and Los Angeles, helping leading consumer brands to connect with their customers using digital brand experiences and high-performance marketing campaigns which are strategic, creative, and inspire action.

[www.revbranding.com.au](http://www.revbranding.com.au)

**Proposed Dates:**      **Workshop 1 -**

June 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday 8.30 am – 10.30 am  
(Working B'fast) General Café & Rest. PA

**Workshop 2 -**

June 30<sup>th</sup> Thursday 5.30 pm – 7.30 pm (Light Refreshments Provided) St John's PA

**These workshops WILL benefit YOUR business and Port Albert.**

**register your interest in attending asap**  
[cheriesmirl@bigpond.com](mailto:cheriesmirl@bigpond.com)



## Meet *Kylie Sergentanis*

Masters in Osteopathy, qualifications in Clinical Pilates, dry needling, women's health including after breast cancer support and Biodynamics.



*Read how Kylie Sergentanis has found a positive from Covid, a change that has seen her give back to her local community*

“What a gift this has been, we feel so fortunate to have been welcomed back into a wonderful community, from a city life where I have lived pretty

much ever since leaving Yarram Sec College all those years ago”. she said.

The East Gippsland Osteopathic clinic is located to the back of the Red Roof Studios in Yarram.

“Red Roof Studios have provided the perfect tranquil space. the soundtrack during treatments is birds singing and the breeze in the trees, the mobility ramp is adorned with a leafy grapevine and the outlook from the room is fruit trees and flowers.

In addition to a Masters in Osteopathy, I have additional qualifications in Clinical Pilates, dry needling and women's health.

Currently I have appointment availability on Tuesdays (including late afternoon) and Wednesdays from the Yarram Clinic.

Alongside Osteopathy treatment, we also sell therapeutic pillows, a range of supplements, topical aids such as fisio cream & magnesium oil and exercise tools including spiky balls, theraband and foam rollers”

Contact Kylie anytime for more information on her work at the local clinic or her local Pilates classes.

Red Roof Studios,  
125 Commercial Road, Yarram.  
Clinic Contact Number: 5144 7750  
[www.eastgippslandosteopathy.com.au](http://www.eastgippslandosteopathy.com.au)  
(online bookings available via website)

## *You Have To Be In It To Win It*



A great thing about a strong community like Port Albert's, is that everyone contributes in a way which works best for them. Denise Symington may not be a current PAPA member, but she ALWAYS supports our raffles and competitions, which is why, we are delighted to say, she is a regular winner! On this occasion, PAPA's Mother's Day Hamper Competition. Congratulations Denise, and thank you, and everyone else who finds a way to support community events .....its a win, win for all of Port Albert.

Congratulations and thanks also to Dianne from Yarram, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize winner, who showed her support when tickets were available for purchase in the Yarram Plaza.

To everyone who contributed to the hampers, sincere thanks and of course to our wonderful Port Albert Service Station and General Store for displaying the hampers for ticket sales.

## *Port Albert Fishing Club—AGM*

The AGM is to be held in the clubroom on July 16th commencing at midday.

All positions are declared vacant.

The Association rules allow for proxy votes. The association does not have a specific form, but will accept a letter that is signed by the member(s) seeking to allow another member to act on his or her behalf. Such letter must be handed to the president BEFORE the AGM commences or as called upon by the president. Attendance at the AGM is not mandatory in order to have your nomination and/or notice of motion included. Sponsors (the principal(s) being classed as members) are welcome to submit nominations and notices of motion. Note: Nominees for an office bearer position must have been an active financial member for at least two complete fishing seasons, immediately prior to the AGM. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NOMINATION/MOTION FORM 'MUST' BE RETURNED TO THE COMMITTEE NO

LATER THAN 30TH JUNE 2022, by

Address: PO Box 30 Port Albert VIC 3971 or email:

[portalfishingclub@gmail.com](mailto:portalfishingclub@gmail.com)

Ian Blackmore 0429 998 799.

For more information & nomination form contact the Fishing Club.

A large advertisement featuring a woman with curly hair, wearing a light blue shirt, shouting with her mouth wide open. The background is a blurred public transport station.

**Public transport workers  
face this every day  
It's never OK**

**VICTORIA**  
State Government  
[ptv.vic.gov.au](http://ptv.vic.gov.au)

**Work Safe**

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA PT>**

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



## *Always With Us, Christopher Robinson*

*For nearly three decades, local man Christopher Robinson devoted himself to conservation causes all around the world. Bruce Atkin is collecting stories about Christopher's life and work with Greenpeace, to be launched in Port Albert late December when he would have turned 70.*

It was inevitable that Christopher Robinson, one of Port Albert's most famous sons, would grow up with a love of the sea and sailing. His parents ran a couple of fishing boats and his grandparents on both sides were also fishers. Kids at Port Albert were able to safely wander the port, spending time at the sea baths and around the wharf watching boats come and go. Young Christopher attended Port Albert Primary School and Yarram High, then Melbourne High.

Chris finished his formal education at the end of Year twelve; he was active in sport, including rifle shooting and sailing dinghies, but sustained a spinal injury at football, that plagued him for the rest of his life. He worked at a variety of jobs, spending leisure time at Lorne, joining the surf lifesaving club, and swimming, paddling and surf ski-ing. He also loved surfing but his back problem limited this. He had a rebellious streak, was fond of a drink and a smoke, was unsettled in his work and often short of cash. On occasions he took to the road, picking up jobs and sometimes living out of his Holden panel van.

In 1977 in a life-changing move, he went overseas. In London he fell in with some young activists from the new Greenpeace organisation, who were busy working on a major refit of former trawler Sir William Hardy. They were planning to sail to Iceland to disrupt and publicise that country's whaling operations. Christopher quickly became an invaluable member of the workforce and spent months chipping rust, painting, and preparing for departure. The renamed Rainbow Warrior departed London in Spring 1978 with Christopher on board. His experience with boats and the sea meant he was a natural choice as a Zodiac operator – the inflatables Greenpeace crew used to disrupt the whalers, positioning themselves between harpoon gun and whale so the gunner couldn't safely fire. Chris once said his anger at what was being done gave him courage.

Over the next couple of decades he took part in many Greenpeace campaigns including:

- ◆ attempts to stop ships dumping nuclear waste in the Atlantic ocean;
- ◆ publicising dangerous transport of nuclear fuel rods by sea;
- ◆ preventing ships leaving Rotterdam to dump toxic waste in the Atlantic;
- ◆ stopping the massacre of Hooded Seals in Canada  
(he was arrested for spraying dye on the pups rendering their skins unusable as fashion garments);
- ◆ undercover work recording illegal whaling operations in Spain.
- ◆ anti-whaling actions off Spain (Spanish authorities impounded the Rainbow Warrior and disabled her. Chris and two colleagues escaped in an inflatable, travelling 800km to Jersey. They had a replacement part smuggled into Spain, enabling the escape of the Warrior after five months.)
- ◆ delaying the entry of nuclear powered and armed ships into Auckland harbour (Later the NZ government banned nuclear powered or armed ships.)
- ◆ multiple trips to Moruroa atoll for protests against French nuclear testing there, on Vega and later on his own yacht Fand. He was arrested by the French on several occasions.
- ◆ expeditions to Antarctica
- ◆ circumnavigation of Australia on Vega with various protests against uranium mining and nuclear weapons operations against the Talisman Sabre US-Australian war games in Queensland waters

During one period back home he attempted to cycle around Australia but his back problem caused him to pull out after a few thousand kilometres. He also joined the Franklin River blockade in the summer of 82/83 and was arrested with Tasmanian activist, and later politician Bob Brown.

Tragedy struck in 1985. Chris was aboard the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland, on the night French agents bombed the ship, sinking her and killing one of his friends. Undaunted the planned Moruroa protest went ahead with increased world attention. In 1995 Christopher and fellow-Greenpeace veterans Henk Haazen and David McTaggart famously eluded capture by French authorities for days, helping focus world attention on Moruroa.

Between campaigns he helped his brother plant native trees on the family farm at Alberton; the results are clearly visible from the South Gippsland Highway. Christopher later also planted natives at his own home in Port Albert. Tragically he died of cancer at the age of just fifty-six.

*PAPA gratefully acknowledges Bruce Atkin for his time in preparing these notes on Christopher's life journey. Should you wish to share your personal reflections for inclusion in Bruce's anthology, please contact him at [bruceatkin1@bigpond.com](mailto:bruceatkin1@bigpond.com) or on 0429 842142*

*"Never far away,  
Summer Fun on the Water with  
Port Albert Yacht Club".....*

**Go sailing!**  
Port Albert Yacht Club

Racing  
Cruising  
Picnic sails  
Learn to sail classes  
Social events  
Kayaks welcome

Want to know more?  
Give us a call:  
Commodore Ian Nicol 0438 825 020  
Secretary Matt Kelly 0490 491 522

[www.facebook.com/PortAlbertYachtClub](http://www.facebook.com/PortAlbertYachtClub)

## SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

Port Albert Waterview Retreat  
Gourmet Gippsland Hamper  
The General Café & Restaurant  
Castim By The Jetty. Boat Hire & Kiosk  
Port Albert Motel

Caz 0400 107 385 &

## CONTACTS

0431 483 886  
0431 483 886  
0459 628 577  
Andrew 0428 172 365  
0448 789 177

## PORT ALBERT AT A GLANCE

### CLUBS & GROUPS

Port Albert Progress Assoc.  
Port Albert Coast Guard  
Port Albert Yacht Club  
Port Albert Historic Boat Club  
Port Albert Museum  
Port Albert Mechanics Hall  
Port Albert Fishing Club Inc.  
  
St John's Church –ph.51825117  
Raglan St Port Albert  
  
Friends of St John's Port Albert

### INFORMATION

Volunteer group for the community  
[jenny.smith@coastguard.com.au](mailto:jenny.smith@coastguard.com.au)  
[portalbertyachtclub@gmail.com](mailto:portalbertyachtclub@gmail.com)  
[hpabcpa@gmail.com](mailto:hpabcpa@gmail.com)  
[portalbertymaritimemuseum@gmail.com](mailto:portalbertymaritimemuseum@gmail.com)  
[portalberthall@gmail.com](mailto:portalberthall@gmail.com)  
[portalbertyfishingclub@gmail.com](mailto:portalbertyfishingclub@gmail.com)  
  
2 services per month 1st & 3rd Sundays  
@ 9.00am. Everyone is welcome and a  
friendly cuppa after the service.  
  
Barb Knibbs

### CONTACT

[portalbertyprogress@gmail.com](mailto:portalbertyprogress@gmail.com)  
Jenny– Secretary  
Matt Kelly - 0490491522  
Peter Jenkins –President  
David Dickson- 51832520  
Di—Secretary  
Ian Blackmore on 0429 998 799  
  
Rev Jenny & Tony Wicking  
Coffee Connect –The General Café  
Thursdays 10-11am ALL welcome  
  
[barb476@bigpond.com](mailto:barb476@bigpond.com)



Plenty of space at the rear of the shed to free-range

employed. The farm supplied eggs to local shops in Yarram, Sale, Melbourne the oil rigs in Bass Strait and to local people. The poultry farm also supplied start-er pullets to people in the area and to others further afield. People living near the train service to Melbourne received their chicken or hens by rail and others by the Mail Person who serviced their area. The chickens would be boxed and taken to the Alberton railway station (located where the pine treatment plant is now), the station Mistress would weigh the boxes and the appropriate sticker attached on the box and placed in the guard's van, the train transported all types of goods including coffins. If the chickens were going by mail the mailman would pick them up. The most popular hens were the September hatch because they started laying in March and laid through the colder months when the days get shorter. Usually this is the period when chickens have a rest from laying. This is not so important now because no matter what the season most foods can be sourced from the Supermarket. Was the quality and freshness not better before?

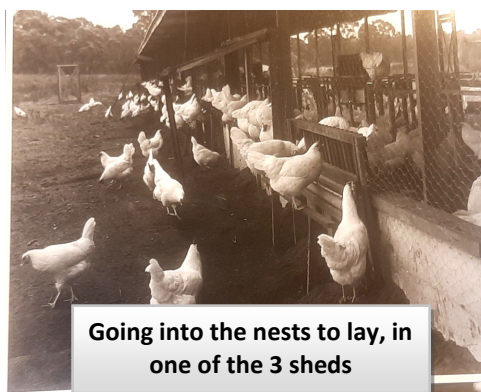
*The story doesn't end here, read more in July issue of TATTLER 2022*

*Story & pictures courtesy of Steve Balhorn*

### ***The Port Albert Poultry Farm***

The Port Albert poultry farm was established in 1958 by Sid and Britta Balhorn, it was located on the Yarram-Port Albert Road between the Old Port Foreshore Road and the Northwest boundary (Langsborough side) of Dave Kirkups earthworks and ran back to the Taxidermist which is located on the Old Port Foreshore road. The area was approximately 100 acres, John Pacey and his wife now live in the main house.

The track on the Langsborough side of Dave Kirkups boundary led to the rifle range which was well attended when the poultry farm started. Initially it was a small concern but as it grew and as it supplied more outlets with eggs and fresh chickens it required extra people. At the start four local Port Albert people were employed and toward the end up to ten were



Going into the nests to lay, in one of the 3 sheds



Printed by Danny O'Brien MP  
as a community service.

*for Regional Victoria*