

Pyramid Press



Next Pyramid Press out on 27 April! Happy Holidays, all.

Energetic Easter Fete



There were hundreds of smiles at the Easter Fete last night at Pyramid Hill College!



Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House

43 Kelly Street | PO Box 86, Pyramid Hill, 3575

Tel: 5455 7129

HOURS Tues - Fri 10am - 4pm

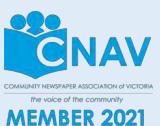
Press Submissions due Tue | 06:00 PM

Email: pyramidhillpress@gmail.com | Digital copies: facebook.com/PyramidHillHouse/



Produced by the community
and Pyramid Hill
Neighbourhood House

Pyramid Press is sponsored
by the Loddon Shire Council



CO-ORDINATOR CATCH UP

Hi my Neighbours!

Happy end of Term to all the students, teachers and families! Here's hoping you get to have a terrific couple of weeks of calm before it starts again.

All our schools came together for the Fete last night! It's so awesome seeing the kids and their families having the absolute BEST time with the games, rides, music, stalls, face painting and more. A great way to end the term. Congratulations to all the Teachers and adult volunteers who got this event together. It really brought a smile to my face.

Speaking about events. I have been talking a little bit to people about the next FIESTA that is in the early stages of planning. Bring your ideas to our *next* monthly planning meeting at 4pm Friday 21st April.

In the Press this week you will see we have advertised the FREE Ag Chem course that will be held in Pyramid Hill on 29th and 30th May. It's one that we have been trying to get off the ground for a year, and I am so excited we are able to offer a fully subsidised and accredited course for those who handle farm chemicals. Usual cost is \$400 for this one, so please take advantage of the subsidy if you can. Give me a call if you would like some flyers to put up around the place etc.

The other thing that has been consuming my days is Nintendo. I am still ashamed to report that I am useless at it, but we are setting up our gaming room for the school holidays! With thanks to Damon for the Nintendo advice, and to Jim for the set up. I think we are going to have a great break for those who want to game with friends. Currently we have Minecraft and Super Mario Bros 8 Deluxe and a HUGE screen to play on.

There will be more activities throughout the holidays to do with gardening and craft. I'm making up a bit of advertising for that.. now.. but..

Just one more thing.. *Mark, Mark, Mark*. What the hell are we all going to do without our bank and without our *Mark*?! I am not ready for any of this business with the banks taking off out of small communities. ESPECIALLY when our community is getting bigger every week! I am outraged. What are we going to do about *Mark*. He's on my list of 'people in town who help people' and right now, our people need a lot of help. We need our bank, and we need *Mark*. Far out. I am devastated.

Devastated. I know he reads this column, I hope he knows how upset I am..

Until I see you again, I hope everyone has a beautiful Easter, with a lot of eggs.

Kim



Mologa & District Landcare Group

Group Incorporation No.: A00119365
to preserve and care for
Email: memories@mologalandcare.com
www.mologalandcare.com



President:
Bill Boyd
03 5436 5275 or willaury3@bigpond.com

Secretary:
Edward Kaye
03 5436 5258 or dorthytedk@gmail.com

2023 ANZAC Day Service at Mologa

The 2023 Mologa ANZAC Day Ceremony
will be held at the WW1 Memorial at
Mologa at 8am
Please arrive at 7:45am

After the service we will have a BBQ breakfast so that
people can have a chat.

BYO Chairs.

The booklet "Faces to Names" will be available showing the
pictures and a short description of our soldiers which are
on the war memorial.

All are welcome

Thank You
Bill Boyd
President of
Mologa and District Landcare Group.

WHAT'S ON

Bendigo Bank Book Burning

Sun | Mount Hope

School Holidays Friday 7 April – Sunday 23 April

School Holiday Event BLING STATION Goldfields Libraries

Tuesday 11 April | 10.15 - 11am

Pyramid Hill Library Agency

Golf Committee Meeting

Tuesday 18 April | 7.30 pm

Pyramid Hill Golf Clubhouse

Pyramid Hill Food Share

Monday 24 April | 4.30 pm

St Patricks Catholic Church

Anzac Day

Tuesday 25 April

Ceremonies being held in Pyramid Hill and Mologa
(see inside the Press for details)

Vaccine Injury Support Group Meeting

Wednesday 26 April | 6pm

Four Posts Hotel Jarklin

Pyramid Hill Playgroup Storytime

Friday 28 April | 10.30 - 11am

67 Kelly Street Pyramid Hill

VLINE TRAIN AND COACH

Monday – Friday

Train dep Melbourne | 07:39 AM and 06:08 PM

Departs Bendigo | 10:00 AM and 08.26 PM

Arrives Pyramid | 11:09 AM and 09:34 PM

Tuesday and Thursday

(Need to book on Thursdays)

Train dep Melbourne | 01:06 PM

Coach dep Bendigo | Tuesday 03:09 PM

Thursday | 3.10 PM

Arrive Pyramid | 04:29 PM

Friday Only

Train dep Melbourne | 07:08 PM

Arrives Bendigo | 09:00 PM

Coach departs Bendigo | 09:10 PM

Arrives Pyramid | 10:25 PM

Saturday & Sunday only

Train dep Melbourne | 07:40 AM and 06:43 PM

Arrives Bendigo | 10:00 AM and 08:57 PM

Arrives Pyramid | 11:09 AM and 10:05 PM

V/LINE TO MELBOURNE

Monday – Friday

Train dep Pyramid | 08:05 AM and 02:46 PM

Arrives Bendigo | 09:18 AM and 03:59 PM

Arrives Melbourne | 11:28 AM and 06:11 PM

Tuesday and Thursday

Coach dep Pyramid | 10:51 AM

Train dep Bendigo | 12:26 PM

Train Arrives Melbourne | 02:25 PM

Friday only

Coach dep Pyramid | 05:30 PM

Train dep Bendigo | 07:01 PM

Train Arrives Melbourne | 09:09 PM

Saturday only

Train dep Pyramid | 08:05 AM and 02:46 PM

Departs Bendigo | 09:20 AM and 04:01 PM

Arrives Melbourne | 11:30 AM and 06:09 PM

Sunday only

Train dep Pyramid | 08:05 AM and 05:47 PM

Departs Bendigo | 09:18 AM and 07:00 PM

Arrives Melbourne | 11:30 AM and 09:12 PM

WHAT'S ON *regular activities*

Cleo Community Car

Call the Neighbourhood House to book transport to your next appointment | 54557129

Price List inside

Bendigo Blood Donation Trips - Community Car

Call the Neighbourhood House to book a groups of donors (max 4 people)

Blood donation trips are free thanks to Pyramid Hill Progress Association

TUESDAYS

Moderate Movers exercise group | 9:30 AM | Seniors Centre

Mackay St | BYO exercise mat or towel

Morning Coffee | 10:15 AM | Neighbourhood House

Goldfields Library visit | 10:15 AM | Neighbourhood House

WEDNESDAYS

Social Bowls | 7:00 PM | 98 Victoria St

Book Club | 4:30 PM | last Wed of each month

Ask an Accountant | 1:00 - 2:00 PM | Neighbourhood House

FRIDAYS

Rhyme Time | 9:30 AM every Friday during term |

Neighbourhood House

Playgroup | 10:00 AM | Preschool, 67 Kelly St

Scrabble Fever | 2:00 PM - stumps | Neighbourhood House

BOOK CLUB

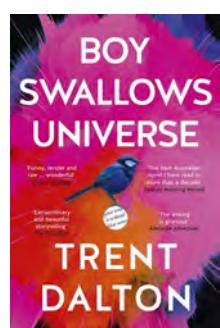
Last Wednesday of the Month

This month's book is:

Boy Swallows Universe by

Trent Dalton.

This popular group has two vacancies only for those wishing to join this year!



PUBLIC NOTICES

CHURCH SERVICES

Anglican

1st and 3rd Sun | 10:00 AM

Tyndale Church

Victoria Street

Pyramid Hill

2nd Sun | 9:00 AM

4th Sun | 11.00 AM

St Thomas' Church

Durham Ox Road

Pyramid Hill

Enquiries:

Rev Sue Allen | 0417 365 386

Bill Boyd | 0448 219 457

Uniting

1st and 3rd Sun

10:00 AM

Tyndale Church,

Victoria St,

Pyramid Hill

Kids Rock

For all school aged children

3:30 - 5:00 PM | Every second Tuesday during term

Uniting Church Pyramid Hill

Enquiries:

Robyn | 0427 561 973

Catholic

Sat Mass | 6:30 PM

St Patrick's Catholic Church

Victoria St

Pyramid Hill

Church of Christ

Sun | 11:00 AM

Church of Christ Kelly St

Pyramid Hill

Enquiries:

June Smith | 0438 062 646

PYRAMID HILL COMBINED CHURCHES

HOLY WEEK SERVICES



MAUNDY THURSDAY
St. Patrick's Catholic Church
6 April 2023 @ 4.00pm
St. Thomas' Anglican Church
6 April 2023 @ 8.00pm

GOOD FRIDAY
Uniting Church
7 April 2023 @ 10.00am
St. Patrick's Catholic Church
7 April 2023 @ 3.00pm

EASTER SUNDAY
St. Patrick's Catholic Church
8 April 2023 @ 8.00pm
St. Thomas' Anglican Church
9 April 2023 @ 9.00am
Church of Christ
9 April 2023 @ 11.00am

Christ has not only spoken to us by his life but has also spoken for us by his death.



Pyramid Hill News & Post Easter 2023 Opening Times

GOOD FRIDAY (07/04/23) CLOSED
(PAPERS AT CAFÉ)

SATURDAY (08/04/23) OPEN
8AM TO 12PM

SUNDAY (09/04/23) CLOSED
(PAPERS AT CAFÉ)

MONDAY (10/04/23) OPEN
8AM TO 11AM

FOR SALE Peggy's Car 2004 Daihatsu Sirion \$2,000

Only driven around the block once in a blue moon by a 100 year old lady in the last dozen years. Goes like a beauty!

This little silver streak has remained in the same family since it was bought new 19 years ago. If you want to know the history of the vehicle, well sit down and we can tell you every trip it's ever been on!

It's got all the features you need, power windows, air conditioning and only 174,000kms on the clock. It has been garaged, serviced annually and well maintained all its life.

If you are looking for a terrific little trouble-free car, call Rob on 0407 509 011



Celebrating Easter at Victoria Hotel



VICTORIA HOTEL
PYRAMID HILL

EASTER WEEKEND HOURS

FRIDAY 07

OPEN 12PM LUNCH &
DINNER

SATURDAY 08

OPEN 12PM LUNCH &
DINNER

SUNDAY 09

OPEN 12.00PM DINNER
ONLY FULL MENU

MONDAY 10

OPEN 3.00PM DINNER
ONLY FULL MENU

MUST HAVE
menus

035455 7391



Easter • GOOD FRIDAY MENU •

ENTRÉE

Garlic Bread	6
Tempura Prawns	14
Oysters Kilpatrick (6)	18
Oysters Kilpatrick (12)	32
Oysters Natural (6)	18
Oysters Natural (12)	32

MAINS

ALL MEALS SALAD AND CHIPS

Tempura Prawns	26
Salt & Pepper Squid	24
Baked Salmon	26

FRESH FISH OF THE DAY

Crispy Battered or Grilled	26
----------------------------	----

Crispy Battered Snapper

Garlic Prawns with Crean White Wine & Timbale of Rice	25
Chicken Schnitzel or Parma	28
	26

VICTORIA HOTEL PYRAMID HILL 5455 7391

MUST HAVE PRAWNS

Consumption of undercooked meat, poultry, eggs, or seafood may increase the risk of food-borne illnesses.

Vaccine Injury Support

Group Meeting

All are Welcome

Do you feel that you or someone close to you may have suffered a side-effect or injury from the COVID vaccines?

Many in our community are in this unfortunate position and have indicated that they would like to get together with others in the same situation to support each other.

We are having a gathering at the Four Posts Hotel Jarklin, 6PM Wednesday 26th April.

This will be a non-political gathering where resources will be shared to help people get medical support and to understand their legal rights. We have at least 1 nurse attending and possibly other medical professionals.

No RSVP required, but please call Heidi at the Pub if you would like to order pizza.
For more info, please contact :

Heidi 0493 099 498, Sharlene 0414 777 942 or Nick 0438 028 656.

BUROKE LODDON

TAC L2P
PROGRAM

Need help getting your P's?

The TAC L2P program helps young learner drivers (16-21) with limited access to supervising driver or vehicle to get on the road with trained mentors available to help them obtain the 120 hours necessary to get their licence.



For more information about this FREE program contact the North Central LLEN on 03 5491 1144 or email l2p@ncllen.org.au



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Trish: 0400 564 119

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NOTICE FROM THE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION ABOUT THE BENDIGO BANK CLOSURE



"Photo courtesy Loddon Herald"

Mark has been given notice that the Bendigo Bank Branch is closing 31st July, 2023. This closure has come without consultation with our community, with Mark and no opportunity to work with Bendigo Bank for a better solution.

This is the bank that started because small towns were losing their banks.

If you use the Pyramid Hill Bendigo Bank agency:

- as an individual
- for your business
- for your community organisation's needs

then please consider writing a letter.

You can write to:

- protest at the closure
- protest the lack of consultation and consideration for the town and for Mark and his staff and business
- seek to change the decision that has been made
- seek support from Council or a politician

Andre Bewicke
Chair
Pyramid Hill Progress Association

Here are some people you can write to:

Bendigo Bank:

Ph: 1300 236 344

Jacqueline Hey

Chair and Independent Director
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Ltd
The Bendigo Centre
PO Box 480
Bendigo VIC 3552

Marnie Baker

Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Ltd
The Bendigo Centre
PO Box 480
Bendigo VIC 3552

Complete an online enquiry form

www.bendigoadelade.com.au/contact-us/contact-us-enquiry/

Loddon Shire Council:

Mayor Councillor Dan Straub
PO Box 21
Wedderburn 3518
Ph: 5494 1200
loddon@loddon.vic.gov.au attn: Mayor

Lincoln Fitzgerald

Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 21
Wedderburn 3518
Ph: 5494 1200
loddon@loddon.vic.gov.au attn: CEO

Politicians:

Peter Walsh
496 High Street
Echuca VIC 3564
Phone (03) 5482 2039
Or 1300 467 906
peter.walsh@parliament.vic.gov.au

Anne Webster

PO Box 1133
Mildura, VIC, 3502
Telephone: (03) 5021 5987
Anne.Webster.MP@aph.gov.au

It's up to you, but please think about taking some action as losing the Bendigo Bank will make a big difference to our town



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& Cohuna TWCM

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to Pyramid Hill

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any time.

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Pyramid Hill News & Post

MONDAY — FRIDAY

6:30am - 5pm

SATURDAY

8am - 12pm

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NORTHERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY HEALTH

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Dietician
Counselling

Enquiries for Pyramid Hill services : phone 5451 0200

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Pyramid Hill & District

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LEGACY

1923 - 2023

Our History Legacy grew out of the ashes of World War One

In 1923, Major General Sir John Gellibrand formed the Remembrance Club in Hobart. Another returning soldier, Lieutenant General Sir Stanley Savage, was inspired to establish a similar club in Melbourne which was named LEGACY, after they realised that 60,000 Australian service personnel were killed and more than 150,000 were wounded, many dying soon after. Realizing the dire circumstances of tens of thousands of veterans, widows and children left behind, those who returned set out to help them.

Originally, it was returned servicemen who took this duty of caring for and supporting widows and children. They later became known as Legatees. To this day, it is the Legatees who volunteer the support that Legacy provides to its beneficiaries.

Legacy is still caring for tens of thousands of widows who have lost their loved ones and been affected by their partner's service in the Korean War, Malayan Emergency, Vietnam War, as well as campaigns in Iraq, Afghanistan and in peacekeeping operations across the globe.

Legacy Clubs started as a small Organisation with local Legatees assisting local families. Today, there are 44 Legacy Clubs, plus 1 in London, providing emotional and financial support.

The Promise

In the trenches of the Western Front during World War 1, a soldier said to his dying mate "I'll look after the missus and kids". This became known as The Promise – and is still kept today.

Journey of Legacy

1918 Origins

Soldiers saw the devastation on the Western Front, France.

1923 Legacy is formed

Returned serviceman Sir John Gellibrand founded the Remembrance Club Hobart, assisting returned veterans to find work. Months later, Captain Stanley Savage started Legacy in Melbourne.

1925 A new focus

Legacy began assisting widows and children of deceased or injured servicemen.

1942 Fundraising begins

With the outbreak of WW2, a War Orphans Appeal started in 1942 to raise funds for the widows and children of soldiers who did not return. Today, this appeal is known as Legacy Week.

1962 Vietnam

The widows and children of Vietnam veterans came into Legacy's care.

1990 Modern conflicts

Members of the Australians Defence Force serve in Afghanistan, Iraq, the Middle East and on peacekeeping operations.

1991 Australians at war

More than 72,000 members of the Australian Defence Force have served overseas since 1991, more than the number who served overseas from 1950 to 1990.

2000s Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

Legacy has always cared for the widows of veterans. Now with the recognition of mental trauma and PDST as a result of war, Legacy cares for and supports families who are suffering from the effects of this condition and other mental health illnesses.

Today

Legacy currently supports 40,000 individuals and families across Australia, supported by over 3,400 volunteer members, Legatees.



St. Patricks School
Pyramid Hill

St Patrick's Primary School

Term 1 Highlights



St. Patrick's Day



Shrove Tuesday



Sprinkler Day



Gymnastics in Cohuna



Swimming Sports

St. Patrick's community wishes you all a happy and holy Easter .

This week's happenings at Pyramid Hill College



Respect Learn Community



Bike Ed

Students in Year 7-10 have been out and about the streets on their bicycles learning the road rules and how to ride safely under the instruction of Bike Educator Mr Luke Roberts.

The first week students took to the streets with Mitchell Park as the destination.

The following week students enjoyed riding out to the hill, encountering some slight hills along the way.

Then it was back to the tennis courts to have a hit before riding back to school.

Hopefully we will now see lots of students enjoying riding their bikes in a safe and legal manner around town.



On Friday the 31st of March, Year 4,5 and 6 students from Pyramid Hill College headed over to Boort to compete in the annual Hot Shots tennis competition. Hot Shots is a modified fast paced version of tennis that uses mini courts and nets. Pyramid Hill students were split into 2 teams and put to practise the skills they had learnt during PE. They displayed a high level of respect towards their opponents and competed in a friendly manner throughout the day. Both teams played exceptionally well with Pyramid Hill Blue finishing 3rd and Pyramid Hill Red Finishing 5th overall out of 12 teams. Thanks to the organisers and teachers for putting on a great day of tennis for students across the region.

VICTORIA - HOTEL - AT PYRAMID HILL



**Come and join us
at the Victoria Hotel
in Pyramid Hill**

We offer classic pub meals,
ice cold drinks, clean
accommodation and
a stocked bottle shop.

Our winter trading hours are as follows

MONDAY • OPEN 3.00PM
DINNER FROM 6.00PM
SOCIAL DARTS NIGHT

TUESDAY • OPEN 2.00PM
DINNER FROM 6.00PM

WEDNESDAY • OPEN MIDDAY
LUNCH FROM 12.00
POT'N'PARMA NIGHT
DINNER FROM 6.00PM

THURSDAY • OPEN 11.00AM
LUNCH FROM 12.00
DINNER FROM 5.30PM
STEAK'N'POT NIGHT

FRIDAY • OPEN MIDDAY
LUNCH FROM 12.00
HAPPY HOUR 5.00-6.30
DINNER FROM 5.30PM
JOKER POKER 5.00-8.00
MEAT TRAY RAFFLE

SATURDAY • OPEN MIDDAY
LUNCH FROM 12.00
DINNER FROM 5.30PM

SUNDAY • OPEN MIDDAY
ALL DAY PIZZA MENU

**TAKE IN THE SIGHTS
OF PYRAMID HILL, RELAX
AND HAVE A GOOD TIME AT
THE VICTORIA HOTEL
AT PYRAMID HILL.**

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- Are you on the **best offer** with your energy provider?
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- ◆ Catering Available

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hot chocolate and tea
and cold drinks fridge

Large range home baked cakes &
slices.

Order - roast chickens and family
pies (any flavour)

Eat in or Takeaway



NATIONALLY RECOGNISED
TRAINING

Chemical Users Course

- AHCCCHM304 Transport and store chemicals
- AHCCCHM307 Prepare and apply chemicals to control pest, weeds and disease

29th & 30th May 2023

Fully Funded!

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This is an essential course for all users of chemicals used in a range of environments including farms, horticultural operations, parks and gardens and related industry, including handling chemical merchandise.

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- identify the standard required to correctly maintain and use personal protective equipment (PPE) according to label
- follow emergency procedures for chemical spillage
- follow legislative requirements for the safe transport of chemicals
- maintain storage area and chemical manifest
- preparing and applying chemicals
- define the standard required to assess the need for chemical use, comply with safety, chemical label and MSDS requirements
- prepare an application/ spray plan
- prepare and apply chemicals
- calibrate application equipment and maintain chemical records

1300 843 236
www.thecentre.vic.edu.au

Full program non funded
cost \$400
Chemical User Refresher course also available
cost \$280

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House



Tuesday 11 April * 10.15am

BLING STATION [Goldfields Library]

Thursday 13 April * 10.30am

SUSTAINABLE GARDEN POTS & SEEDS

[gardening]

Thursday 20 April *10.30am

MINI GARDEN BEASTS [craft]

All Holidays *11am - 3.00pm

NINTENDO available on the MASSIVE screen..

Limit is 4 players at a time,
bookings recommended 54557129

CREATION STATION draw, paint, glue and make
at our free-form art table.



What can I do at Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House?

Tuesday - Friday

10am - 4pm

54557129

Business Services

Printing, simple desktop publishing, and design; use our computers and wifi. Small cost for printing, laminating and printing on plastic signage

Services Australia

Got some Centrelink, Medicare or other related business to do? We are a Services Australia Access Point.

Book a Meeting Room

Our small meeting rooms may be just perfect for you to see clients, or run a meeting. Free for community groups and not-for-profits.

Grants writing services for community groups

Get some assistance to raise money for your community group! We can assist you with finding appropriate grants for your projects, mentoring you to write your own grant applications, auspicing grants, or you can talk to us about writing a grant on your behalf for a fee.

Community Pantry

A free service with a range of items from pantry staples to toiletries. Open 24 hours. Please only take what you need.

Pyramid Press Newspaper

Our local weekly newspaper has all the good news stories. Community submissions to the paper to be received by 6pm Tuesday evening. Distribution on Thursdays. Available online at Facebook

Book Swap

We have a Little Library out the front of Neighbourhood House. Come and choose a book, or donate a book!

Power Saving Bonus

All households are eligible for a one off \$250 government bonus, each financial year. We can help you out. [bookings recommended]

IT Support

Got a tricky question about your mobile, laptop or iPad? We can help you out. [bookings recommended].

Community Garden

Coming March/April

Book Club

Our popular last Wednesday of the month club for book lovers!

Art, Craft and Coffee

10.30am first Thursday of the month. Drop in to learn watercolour techniques or bring a project to work on and get some guidance.

First Aid Training

Held in Pyramid Hill every six weeks. Bookings via Rich River First Aid.

CLEO the Community Car

Cleo-patra the car does regular shopping trips, Blood Bank donation trips and can take you to an important appointment. Door to door service! Bookings essential.

Social Coffee Mornings

10.15 Tuesday mornings we catch up over a cuppa and some morning tea.

Thursday Words

Thursdays at 1.30pm

A social program to get your brains ticking over! Trivia, word games, scrabble and good times. All welcome!

Rhyme Time

Fridays at 9.30am

Musical program for mums and dads, babies and toddlers.

Goldfields Library

Come and browse our collection, join the library, order books from the main collection and enjoy this wonderful service. Storytime once a month. Weekly visits from our Librarian partners.

Moderate Movers

9.30am Tuesdays

Seniors Rooms, McKay St

Bring your own exercise mat, towel and drink bottle. This is an active exercise group!

Scrabble Club

2pm Friday afternoons.

Christmas Market

December.. yes we will do it again!

Still to come in 2023..

PHNH website revamp, Community Lunches, Welcome Pack for New Community Members, Youth Club, Seed Bank, Weaving Workshops, Guest Speakers and more community events!

Give us a call to talk about our program and to book in for courses and events as they come up. Always, check the Press for the most up to date information!



Once again the prize money is a lure factor with sponsorship from Providence Gold and Mineral, cluBarham and Ellis Nuttal and we look forward to sharing the loot and offering verbal support to our generous sponsors. Mr Burrows from Providence Gold and Mineral will be attending to present the sponsored prizes to the winners on the day. As we lead into Easter it will provide a prime opportunity to treat the competitors with Easter treats – maybe??? No doubt Kate's magic in the kitchen will be a winning factor – casseroles followed with sticky date pudding or lemon delight. Yummo!!

That will leave just one more scheduled tournament for us to

host this season. We're gearing up for that one on **Sunday 7th May** with a 12:00 start. That is the very popular Seafood Tournament. Members, please keep doing your great maintenance and catering jobs to ensure the place looks fantastic and we again feed the troops.

Social Night at the Vic Hotel: If you read last week's edition of the Press, you will have noted that our next dinner outing supporting our generous sponsor, Paul, from the local hotel will be on Thursday, 20th April, 6:30pm when it is planned to have a guest speaker from Providence Gold and Mineral in attendance. Well, you can't believe everything you read!! We will be dining at the hotel from 6:30pm, and we will have a guest speaker – but there lies the difference. We will, in fact, hear from Mr. Adam Place from Catalyst Metals. Adam was at our last tournament to award sponsored prizes to the successful teams, and he gave a brief outline of the workings of the Catalyst group. His attendance at the dinner will allow a more in-depth explanation and the opportunity for folk to ask questions.

Club Pennant Break-Up: planned to dine at Moama on 30th April, Sunday afternoon. More details to follow. Put the date in your diary.

Keep Smiling: Did you hear about the cheese factory that exploded in France? There was nothing left but de Brie. Where should you go in the room if you're feeling cold? Find a corner – they're usually 90°.

GOLF NOTES

Thank you to everyone who has completed work on the golf course to get it prepared for the upcoming season. There is plenty of cover on the course and with some rain it will green up rapidly. The first hit will be a stableford event on Sunday April 9th. Assembly will be 12:00-12:15pm with tee off at 12:30pm. Weekly Sunday competitions will occur after the first hit. We welcome all community members keen for a hit, from beginners to advanced. Junior sessions will commence after the school holidays, more details regarding these will be published shortly. Happy golfing!

The next committee meeting is Tuesday 18th April (7:30pm) at the clubhouse.

BOWLS NOTES

It's been a quiet week but things are in full swing for our next tournament which, it appears, is being well supported with copious numbers already entered. Now we just need a pleasant day, and the forecast is looking promising. On **Wednesday 5th April**, we will host representative teams from the Northern District Playing Area, and others further afield, as they engage in the A/C Fours Star Day Tournament.

March Council Meeting - VNI West outcome

VNI West is considered essential for the Australian economy to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. The forecast closure of ageing coal-fired generators in Victoria and New South Wales over the coming decades presents a significant challenge to supply reliability.

While Council is not a decision maker for the project, it has the opportunity to provide a submission in response to the report to Australian Energy Market Operator Victorian Planning (AVP) before the closing date.

The response to the VNI West Consultation Report on behalf of Loddon Shire Council will include, but not be limited to the following items:

1. Council understands the importance of a reliable energy network to the Victorian and Australian community.
2. Consultation has not met the expectations of our community. We expect people to be meaningfully engaged and informed of issues which may impact upon them.
3. Loddon Shire is within the Murray Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) and seeks the highest capacity transmission to enable additional power generation and therefore value sharing to our community.
4. Loddon Shire Council is opposed to transmission lines crossing multiple areas of our municipality with a preference for consolidation on a single alignment with minimal impact.
5. Council requests AVP provide clear information to land owners about the impact transmission lines will have upon their rights, particularly any limitations on farming operations.

To read more of the meeting outcomes visit <https://www.loddon.vic.gov.au/News-and-public-notices/News-articles/Loddon-Shire-Council-Meeting-%E2%80%93-March-2023>

Fire restrictions ended

Days are getting shorter, the mornings and evenings crisper and Autumn is upon us.

The Fire Danger Period for Loddon Shire was lifted as of 1am Monday 3 April 2023.

Remember, in the case of land that is 2000m² (1/2 acre) or less, a fire may only be lit on any Wednesday or Sunday without a written permit from Council.

A camp fire or fire used for cooking does not require a permit on any day.

Also, all fires must be notified to the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) on 1800 668511 before lighting the fire or emailing a burn-off notification form to burnoffs@esta.vic.gov.au at least 2 hours before lighting the fire.

Further information about the Community Local Law can be found at <https://www.loddon.vic.gov.au/Our-Council/Community-Local-Law-2022?fbclid=IwAR1yUzIOgUDIHTz4rF9rHsY7PfinA915pp5QVqERo-giU5xxj1HoxMuVt8>

For more information on the CFA website please visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property/burning-off

Closure of Bendigo Bank agency in Pyramid Hill

I am disappointed to learn of the unexpected decision of the Bendigo Bank to close its Pyramid Hill agency from July.

Local bank agencies play a crucial role in our community by providing financial services to our residents and businesses. Residents will have to travel further to access banking facilities which will have additional financial burdens and inconveniences.

Victorian Fox Bounty program

Victorian fox collections have commenced from Monday 6 March 2023.

Participants are reminded that the Victorian Fox Bounty is now digital. Agriculture Victoria introduced the new system last year to streamline the application process, reduce wait times at collection centres and allow participants to keep track of bounty applications.

To register for the digital system visit the bounty homepage and follow the prompts.

Bendigo collections – fox only

Address: Corner Midland Highway and Taylor Street, Epsom.

Time: 10.30 am – 12.30 pm

Dates:

- Monday, 17 April
- Monday, 15 May
- Tuesday, 13 June
- Monday, 10 July
- Monday, 7 August
- Monday, 4 September
- Monday, 2 October
- Monday, 30 October.

For assistance, please chat to our bounty collection staff on collections days or call the customer service centre on 136 186.

Wishing you a safe and happy Easter break

As we approach the Easter long weekend and the start of school holidays, I wanted to take a moment to wish you all a safe and enjoyable break with friends and family.

LODDON VALE LANDCARE FIELD TRIP 14 MARCH 2023

RECOVERING A FLOOD-AFFECTED PADDOCK WITH A MULTI-SPECIES CROP AND GUANO

On a perfect mid-March day, a small group visited 3 nearly-neighbouring farms to look over their fence and see what's going on. This is what we saw at Nola and Noel Cocking's merino sheep and fat lamb farm, Loddon Vale.

Nola and Noel Cocking were hit hard by the October 2022 floods, greatly exacerbated by the collapse of Goulburn Murray Water's no.12 channel. The paddocks were 1m deep with water for a very long time, leaching out nutrients and changing the soil biology. Nola says "This time the water just kept coming ... Most of the paddocks have been just destroyed from the floods Not just on our place, everybody had the same issues ... It will take 4 to 5 years to recover."

They are now bringing the good organisms back to their paddocks with their first multi-species crop, something they had planned before the flood, the resultant damage confirmed their choice. The multi-species mix contains forage sorghum, forage millet, forage grape, sunflowers, buckwheat, radish, turnip, soybeans, mung beans and cowpeas. Nola describes their decision making saying "The selection of plants aims to improve the soil biology and hopefully, to keep a lot of sheep happy. The animals will dig it in a little, add manure and make a ground cover to prevent weeds." The seed is treated with worm juice reducing susceptibility to insect attack in the emerging plant. There's already beneficial insect life in the paddock with a ladybird spotted on the millet and then, delight, another.

No preparation was done on the paddock, just a pre-water to work around the unreliable water supply that might make some seeds too wet. Once the seeds "poked out of the ground", it was watered twice more. Everything in the mix has grown, there's plenty of variety and faith that the sheep will pick and choose what they need. Nola observes "they know what's good for them and what to eat". At the time of our farm visit the 50-acre (20-hectare) crop is just 4 weeks old, an impressive ½ m high - "it has jumped out of the ground". Once there is a little more growth or, a lack of feed elsewhere, 220 lambs will move in and dry feed will be added to the paddock.

The Cocking's are members of the Victoria No-Till group applying their practices with few chemicals (www.vicnotill.com.au). From them, they learned about guano, a natural fertiliser derived from bird and bat droppings. It is mined all over including in Peru and islands off California and

can be awkward to import but their agent helped them. Nola tells us that the high phosphorus content made it suitable for gunpowder in the American Civil War. Who knew a field trip could lead us there?

Guano is a slow-release fertiliser applied every second or third year. It is suitable for broadacre, pasture and horticulture. It supports good biota in the soil, an essential for a good crop, animal and human health we are told. In 2022 it cost about \$1,000 - \$1,050 per tonne and the Cocking's applied it at 12kg/acre (30kg/hectare) on the crop we saw. On the brochure, we learn that guano's typical profile is 26% calcium, 25% silica 12.6% phosphorus, 11% sulphur, 8.6% organic carbon and 0.4% zinc. After a couple of years on the Cocking's paddocks they are seeing the effects and are ready to apply more with their upcoming sowing, another multi-species crop. "If we can start at this level and get that nutrient in the soil and then just go up the food chain it's got to get better but it's got to be feasible financially. You know if your soil's healthy, if you pick up the soil and see worms and fungi, it's just all trying to create a good environment," says Nola.

Three weeks after the field trip, I popped into the paddock for an update photo. The lambs are in but I could only spot three, the crop is now so high they are calling to find each other and they don't mind me as I'm out of their sight, radish tops have been eaten and frogs are abundant near the dam.

Join the Loddon Vale Landcare Group to be involved in our activities.

Ring Sue Bennett on 0428 551 275



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Guano



The multi-species crop at 4 weeks old



The multi-species crop is now 7 weeks



Lambs are eating the radish tops first



The lambs are in and foraging



Flowers are blooming in just 7 weeks.

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