

PYRAMID PRESS

Subscribe to receive the Press in your Inbox each week, at www.pyramidhillhouse.org.au

Grand Final

Saturday 6 September at Newbridge

All aboard the Bulldog train!

- 10:00am B Grade - Pyramid Hill v Bridgewater
- 1:30pm B Reserve - Pyramid Hill v MGYCW
- 3:15pm A Grade - Pyramid Hill v Mitiamo



Be Part of the Game, the Community and the Success



Pyramid Hill Progress Association's

Spring Business BBQ Brekkie

Friday 5 September, 7am to 9am

Kelly Street Park.

Come support our local business owners and have a chat with mates.

Hot food and drinks will be available.

Everyone is welcome, see you there!

Warren Davies, The Unbreakable Farmer is coming to Pyramid Hill!

Friday 19th September PHFNC Clubrooms

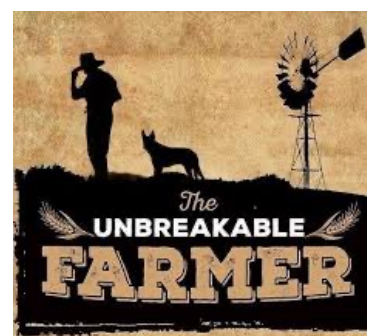
Free BBQ Tea from 6.30pm

Resilience, Persistence and Determination are the words to describe Warren Davies. His keynote topics centre on resilience; persistence; determination; leadership; and wellbeing. Plus, their moral relevance to all ages and communities.

Warren's ability to engage with individuals or organisations is through the journey of him piecing back together his life and the learning of life lessons he learnt along the way.

Warren's authentic, inspiring and sometimes confronting presentations are filled with take home strategies! They stem from his business and life journey. His audience can implement these strategies in their day to day life to overcome challenges or pick themselves up and keep moving forward.

Warren's message is simple and so very important. Particularly, at a time when stress is seen as normal, and depression is commonplace. Warren will change the thinking and behaviour of your most precious resource, your people.



Inside: Sports Round Up, An update from our Police force, Football award winners, Past Press page, TIAC Free Counselling Service for farmers, truckies and tradies, Loddon Shire updates, College News and more..

Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House

43 Kelly Street | Tel: 5455 7129

Hours: Monday to Thursday 10am - 4pm NEW HOURS**

Submissions due Tuesdays | 3:00 PM

Email: pyramidhillpress@gmail.com

Digital copies: facebook.com/PyramidHillHouse/

Subscribe to the Press: pyramidhillhouse.org.au

Produced by the community and Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House.



REMINDER: NO PRESS DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

WHAT'S ON

Netball Training - get in early for the 2026 season!

Sunday | Mount Hope

Finders Keepers Op Shop - furniture and tools

Opening and times Sunday 10am - 12noon, Tuesday 11.30am - 1pm | Shed next to Store. Donations being accepted currently. This is an initiative of Pyramid Hill Progress and money raised will go back into community projects.

Kerang Museum Heritage Weekend

6 & 7 September | 9am - 4pm | Entry \$10 [children free]

Pyramid Hill Golf Trail Park Run

Saturdays | 7.45am for an 8am start at the Hill

Pyramid Hill Progress Association SPRING BBQ

7am - 9am Friday 5 September | Kelly Park | All Welcome | Free Event

NDCH - Nurse Practitioner Visit.

Book in to see Yvonne on these dates: 4 & 25 September | 16 October | 6 & 27 November | 18 December Call NDCH Medical clinic 54521366 to book or ask the community nurses to arrange an appointment

First Aid Course - Pyramid Hill

Monday 29 September | Rich River First Aid | Enrol via website <https://richriverfirstaid.com.au/training-dates/> or 1300 046 381

COMING UP

AFL Grand Final viewing and Family Fun Day

BBQ Games [pickle ball, billiards, table tennis and more!] more info text 0491296613 | Saturday 27 September

Plein Air [outdoor] Painting - Pyramid Hill as part of the Loddon Valley Arts Trail Weekend | Sunday 5 October | contact Neighbourhood House 54557129

Pyramid Hill Seniors Garden Party as part of Seniors Week Thursday 9 October | contact Neighbourhood House 54557129

Boort Show - Saturday 11 October

Kerang Baptist Church Ladies Day cost \$40 includes lunch and guest speakers. RSVP Linda 0427 578 266 | Saturday 18 October | Kerang Baptist Church

Cheesemaking Course Pyramid Hill - Tuesday 4 November | contact Neighbourhood House 54557129

Pyramid Hill Art Show 13-19 February 2026

Entry Forms available from 14 November - 30 January. For more details go to the Pyramid Hill Art Show Facebook page or contact Anne Grogan aegrogan@gmail.com

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

TUESDAYS

Staying Strong Exercises | Kelly Park Exercise Equipment | 9.30am - 10.30am \$5 per class

Coffee and Catch Up | 10:15 AM | All Welcome | Neighbourhood House

Goldfields Library visit | 11:30 AM | Neighbourhood House

WEDNESDAYS

Moderate Movers exercise group | 9 AM | Pyramid Hill Community Centre | BYO exercise mat or towel

Book Club | 4:30 PM | last Wednesday of each month. ONE VACANCY in this group! This month: *Still Life* by Sarah Winman

THURSDAYS

Art Group | 10.30 AM | informal crafty arty gathering | Neighbourhood House

Card Sharks | Games and Afternoon Tea | 2pm - 4pm | Neighbourhood House

FRIDAYS

Pyramid Hill Playgroup | 10:00 AM | Preschool, 67 Kelly St [Storytime and activities once a month with Goldfields Libraries see Pyramid Hill Playgroup on Facebook for more details].

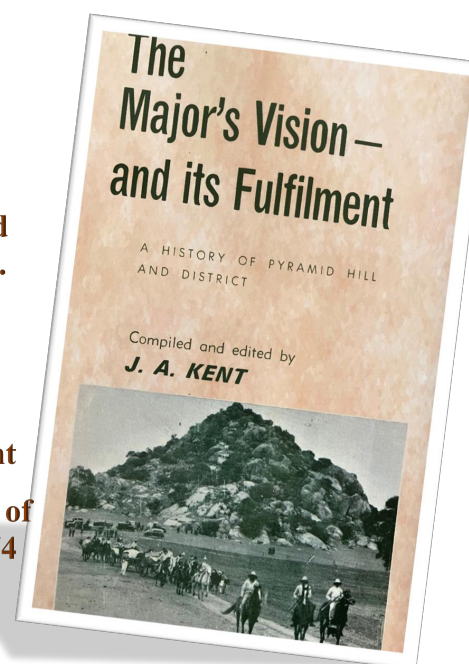
Senior Citizens | 1-3pm each Friday | Community Centre McKay Street | Cuppa, chat and games. *Fourth Friday of the month there is a community meal at midday. Please RSVP Terence on 0429843479 or Lyn on 0428564006 for catering.

PYRAMID HILL & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Invite you to the
launch of the updated
re-printed book.....

with special guest -
former Pyramid Hill
resident, Mr Jim Kent

Compiler and Editor of
original edition in 1974



WHERE: COMMUNITY CENTRE

McKay Street, Pyramid Hill

WHEN: SUNDAY SEPT 14th

At 1.30 PM

All welcome to come along and hear from Jim, and enjoy a chat over afternoon tea.

The book will be for sale on the day for \$40 or mail order for \$40 plus \$15 postage at: pyramidhill.hist.soc@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICES



ANGLICAN CHURCH—Durham Ox Rd Pyramid Hill

1st Sunday of each month join with the UCA at Tyndale Church at 10.00am

2nd Sunday 9.00am HC at St Thomas' Anglican Church

3rd Sunday join with the UCA at Tyndale Church at 10.00am

4th Sunday 11.00am HC at St Thomas' Anglican Church

Enquiries: Rev Sue Allen 0417 365 386
Bill Boyd 0448 219 457

CHURCH OF CHRIST—Kelly St Pyramid Hill

Every Sunday at 11.00am

Enquiries: June Smith 0438 062 646

ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH—Victoria St Pyramid Hill

Saturday Mass 6.30pm each week

Wednesday Mass 6.00pm each week

Enquiries: Contact Kerang Presbytery 5452 1041

TYNDALE UNITING CHURCH—Victoria St Pyramid Hill

1st Sunday of each month 10.00am at Tyndale Church

2nd Sunday 9.00am join with Anglicans at St Thomas' Church

3rd Sunday 10.00am at Tyndale Church

4th Sunday 11.00am join with Anglicans at St Thomas' Church

Enquiries: Rev'd Mark Boyce 0402 906 780

PYRAMID HILL KIDS ROCK—for all school-aged children

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

Uniting Church Enquiries: Robyn 0427 561 973

Word Game answer from last week - *A man a plan a canal - Panama* is a palindrome! It reads the same forward and backwards..

Brain teaser this week.. how many words of 4 letters or more can you make from FREQUENTLY

Vale Margaret Guthrie

The Pyramid Hill Bowling Club salutes the integral part Margaret played over many years as she enjoyed membership with her local Club. As well as being a very skilful bowler, Margaret held senior positions of responsibility including Chairperson or President of the Board of Management and the Ladies' Committee. Margaret's talent for bowling is evidenced, and held on record, amongst many shields, trophies and photographs displayed in the Clubrooms. Notably she was a team player being successful in winning Premierships, and also coming Runner Up, in Pennant Competitions. She is also recognised as being a winner in Pairs, Triples and State Fours events but, perhaps of even greater notoriety is the fact that she won the Ladies' Club Championship on six occasions. Over the years, Margaret invested a great deal of her time and energy to the sport of lawn bowls and one of the shields on display highlights the appreciation of the VBLA Squad for her work beyond the local Club.



At this sad time of her passing, the Pyramid Hill Bowling Club extends sincere sympathy to her family and friends, while at the same time recognising that the Club has lost one of its own family members.

RIP Margaret.

TRAIN/COACH MELBOURNE TO PYRAMID

Monday – Friday

	Dep Melb	Dep Bendigo	Arrive Pyramid
	07:39 AM	10:00 AM	11:09 AM
	06:08 PM	08:26 PM	09:34 PM

Tuesday and Thursday (Need to book on Thursdays)

	01:06 PM	TUE 03:09PM	04:29 PM
		THU 03:10PM	04:29 PM

Friday Only

	07:08 PM	09:10 PM	10:25 PM
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Saturday & Sunday Only

	07:40 AM	10:00 AM	11:09 AM
	06:43 PM	08:57 PM	10:05 PM

TRAIN/COACH PYRAMID TO MELBOURNE

Monday – Friday

	Dep Pyramid	Dep Bendigo	Arrive Melb
	08:05 AM	09:18 AM	11:28 AM
	02:46 PM	03:59 PM	06:11 PM

Tuesday and Thursday

	10:51 AM	12:26 PM	02:25 PM
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Friday Only

	05:30 PM	07:01 PM	09:09 PM
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Saturday Only

	08:05 AM	09:20 AM	11:30 AM
	02:46 PM	04:01 PM	06:09 PM

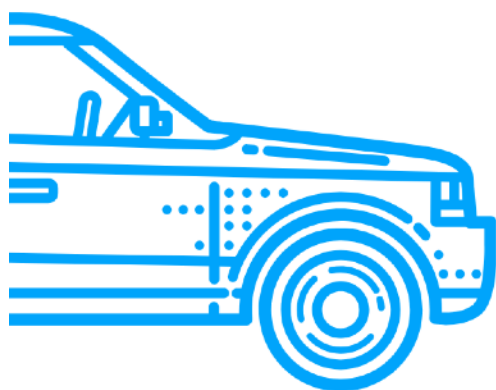
Sunday Only

	08:05 AM	09:18 AM	11:30 AM
	05:47 PM	07:00 PM	09:12 PM

Pyramid Hill Community Transport

Price List as of 1 March 2025

**Return trip leaving from Pyramid
(based on 42c per km)**



BENDIGO \$70

ECHUCA \$65

KERANG \$45

COHUNA \$35

BOORT \$35

SWAN HILL \$95

MELBOURNE \$200*



***price depending on destination**

**If your journey is more than 100km one way, you
could be eligible for a VPTAS refund.**

**Contact Liz or Kim at the
Neighbourhood House to book
our Community Car.**

**pyramidhillcar@gmail.com
5455 7129**



Have you thought you might like to volunteer to help your community? You could become a community driver with this program! Contact us today to talk about the opportunities we have available..



Pyramid Hill College

Respect ● Learn ● Community

● NAPLAN Results



NAPLAN results arrived, and we are very pleased with how well our Year 3, 5, 7, and 9 students have performed, with Reading and Numeracy proving to be our superpowers. How proud are we! This year a special congratulations is extended to Year Nine students: Fletcher, Daemon, Matthew, Sophie, and Jamison, who received certificates from the Victorian Department of Education recognising outstanding achievement in one or two categories:

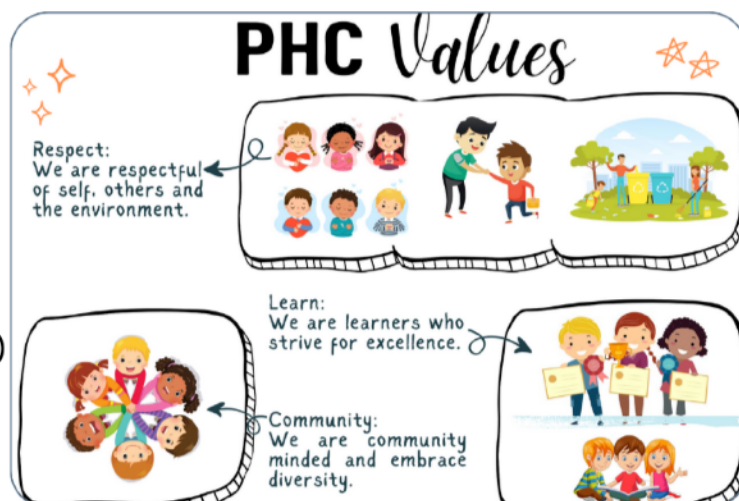
- Category One: Excellence, awarded for achieving a result in the top proficiency level, Exceeding, for Reading, Numeracy, or both.
- Category Two: High Growth, awarded for achieving an increase in proficiency levels between the NAPLAN Year 7 and Year 9 tests for Reading, Numeracy, or both.



● QUICK Updates

SEPT 2025

- 3 - 4** Father's Day Stall
- 5** Father's Day Breakfast
- 10** Footy Clinics
- 11** R U Ok Day
- 15** Sandhurst Athletics
(Y4-6: Qualifying students only)
- 17** Boort Excursion (Years F -6)
- 18** Disco:
F-6 (5-7pm)
7-10 (7-9:30pm)
- 19** Fun Run
Colour Run



(03) 5455 7377



www.pyramidhillc.vic.edu.au
pyramid.hill.co@edumail.vic.gov.au

Military Collection Grows with one more Chair at our Table

Pyramid Hill Historical Society were recently visited by Dr Sharman Stone - former Member for Murray 1996 - 2016.

She presented her grandfather's RSL chair to Historical Society president, Trevor McIntosh, to add to our collection.

(Alfred) Hayward Bawden, father of Harvey, served with the 4th light horse in WW1, earning a Military Medal for his exploits.

The chairs were purchased by individual RSL members after the RSL Hall was built in the 1950's, where they were used by members attending meetings and functions. Around 20 years ago the RSL folded as there were not enough active members left.

The Hall was moved to Kelly Street from Victoria Street to become part of the Museum, and the named chairs were offered to the families of past members. These were kept in the home, or later on relegated to the verandah or woolshed.

One by one over many years, a number of them have been returned by family members, and hold a place of significance in our military collection in the RSL hall.

**Do you have an RSL chair at your home?*



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1 Treasury Place, Melbourne





VICTORIA POLICE

A message from your local officer – with thanks, gratitude and insight.

Today, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude – both personally and professionally – to the people who make this community what it is.

Firstly, I want to thank everyone who has reached out with kind words and tributes following the tragic loss of two colleagues last week. Policing can be a tough and sometimes isolating job, especially in a small town, but your messages of support and compassion have meant a great deal. They have been felt not just by me, but by all Police members across the state.

It's during moments like this where community spirit really shines through, and I thank you for that.

Secondly, as September marks my first anniversary in Pyramid Hill, I want to say thank you for the warm welcome my family and I have received since moving to Pyramid Hill. Settling into a new town can be daunting, but we have felt embraced from the very beginning. It's been amazing meeting so many lovely community members and if we are yet to meet, we look forward to that also. Whether it's a wave in the street, a chat at the shops, or helping us get to know the area, you've made us feel like we belong, so thank you.

Lastly, I'd like to talk about something that is vital in keeping Pyramid Hill a safe place:

Information sharing. In a little town like ours, YOU know what's going on sometime, long before I do! Sharing that knowledge can make all the difference in preventing, detecting and resolving offences.

If you ever have concerns, suspicions or useful information but feel unsure about speaking to me directly, Crimestoppers is a fantastic and fully confidential option and can be reached on 1800 333 000 or via online reporting. If any relevant reports are submitted to Crimestoppers I will be notified, but your identity remains anonymous. That being said, if you do lodge a Crimestoppers report and you're comfortable in doing so, I'd encourage you to let me know. That extra context can help guide further conversation and action – all while still respecting your privacy and decision making.

Together, we can continue to keep Pyramid Hill the safe and welcoming community it is.

Whether through a conversation, a Crimestoppers report or a simple heads-up, every bit of information counts.

Thanks again for your support, your trust, and your partnership.

Stay safe,

Brett VINE

Senior Constable, Pyramid Hill

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 Email: chrisleerson@gmail.com

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- Gravel driveways
- Earthmoving
- Hole Boring
- Turf and seed
- Laser levelling
- Irrigation systems
- Rock, mulch and soil supply
- Lawn mowing and whipper snipping

Battery Round Up Fundraiser

If you have any old car, truck or large batteries laying around and getting in the way drop them off To Trevor McIntosh in McKay Street



Northern District Community Health

Services located in Kerang, Cohuna, Boort, Pyramid Hill, Quambatook and Swan Hill

Services Available:

Medical Clinic | Allied Health | Community Health Nurse | Community Care |
 Community Support | Health Promotion

Community Health Nurse Services Include:

- Take blood/pathology samples
- Wound care
- Chronic disease support
- Palliative care
- and more!

Allied Health Services Include:

- Occupational Therapy
- Chronic Disease Management
- Podiatry & Footcare
- Diabetes Education
- Speech Pathology
- Dietitian

Main Office (Kerang)

📍 24 Fitzroy Street, Kerang
 ☎ 03 5451 0200
 📅 Mon - Friday | 8:30am - 5:00pm

Kerang Medical Clinic

📍 34 Fitzroy Street, Kerang
 ☎ 03 5452 1366
 📅 Mon - Friday | 8:45am - 5:00pm

Pyramid Hill (Community Centre)

📍 6 - 10 McKay Street, Pyramid Hill
 ☎ 03 5455 7065
 📅 Mon - Friday | 9:00am - 10:00am
 (other times by appointment)



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Pyramid Hill
 and surrounding area

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 0429416609

Netball News

Grand Final Day is coming! Encourage each other, stay positive and enjoy every moment. All the best to our A Grade, B Grade and B Reserve girls. We are super proud of you all. GO HILL!

Thank you for a wonderful season, to all our Coaches, Players, and team supports and Umpires- as always, we couldn't do it without you. Thank you to our Netball Ops Leanne Gibson, committee members, board members, kitchen ladies and to all the parents out there, to everyone that has committed their time for the Club to run and function.

Thank you for all your hard work, support and dedication over the season. Thank you to all our sponsors the Victoria Hotel Pyramid Hill, National Hotel Bendigo, The Coffee Bank Pyramid Hill, Pyramid Hill News and Post, Pyramid Hill Store, Pyramid Hill Café, Michell Wool and Graeme Hayes Real Estate, thank you for all your support.

Thank you to the Pyramid Store for supplying the oranges each week for the junior netballers, thoroughly enjoyed by all the girls. Congratulations to all our Award Winners, from Saturday night and thank you to Dee Simms and Kel Stewart and all the helpers in the Kitchen for a lovely meal. Congratulations to Cecily Farrar, Erin Farrar, Harrison Goodes and our A Grade girls Jess Holdstock, Morgan Dingwall and Abbey Dingwall and our Senior footballers Gavin James, Ben Bisset and Kai Daniels on receiving all your Awards at LVFNL Gala Dinner, such outstanding achievements. Celebrations continue at Mitchell Park after the Grand Final, this Saturday all are Welcome! Pizzas from Murray Mallee Pizza's.

To add to the Celebrations the U18's are running with the help of the U17's, a "Nearest to the Pin"- Golf Hit Out. Costs \$1.00 a Go! Out on the Footy Ground if everyone could get around and support the kids that would be amazing, thanks. Let's Celebrate this wonderful 2025 Football Netball Season. GO HILL! # Bulldogs 2025 #Good Luck Girls!

Preliminary Final 30th August 2025 at Calivil.

B Grade- Pyramid Hill and Marong battled it out in a nail-biting Preliminary

Final, that went right down to the last few minutes. The Bulldogs led by one at quarter time before Marong hit back to take a three-goal lead into half time. In the third, Pyramid Hill turned the tide with relentless defensive pressure and composed shooting, swinging momentum to hold a five-goal advantage heading into the final break. Marong fought hard in the last quarter, but the Bulldogs held their nerve. Impressive team defence created crucial turnovers, while the goalers stood tall in windy conditions to seal a three-goal win. A gutsy team effort that sees the Bulldogs through to the Grand Final. Let's Go, Doggies! "Player of the Match": Jordann Broad. Victoria Hotel Pyramid Hill Award: Shannon Taylor. Final Score: Pyramid Hill 46 Marong 43.

B Reserve- It was a thrilling Preliminary Final, with everything on the line as we fought for a place in the Grand Final. Despite having never beaten Bridgewater before, we knew they hadn't faced our full-strength team. The game got off to a rocky start, but the team quickly found its rhythm. Steady play and excellent teamwork allowed us to build momentum. The pressure was on Bridgewater, and they were forced into making changes to their team. With each quarter, we extended our lead, making it increasingly difficult for the opposition to mount a comeback. By the final whistle, we had secured the win and a hard-earned spot in the Grand Final. **Bring on the big game. Go Doggies!**

Hey mate!

Are you a tradie, truckie, rural or blue collar worker? If you haven't been feeling your best and need a chat, we're here to lend an ear.



Call or text us to speak with a counsellor.

Monday to Friday
8am-10pm AEST

0488 846 988



TIACS is a free phone and text counselling service offering mental health support to Australia's blue collar community.



Football Notes

No Bulldog teams on the oval today but court-side at the netball our footballers will be part of the sea of red white and blue, as supporters, members and fans in general cheer on our senior netballers, the A Grade, B Grade and B Res. A special thank you to all the senior coaches who have dedicated their time to have all teams peak at the right time of the season. All the best ladies. On the football front it was great to see the huge turnout for our B&F count on Saturday night. Congratulations to award winners in all 3 grades of football. Under 18's: Bess & Bert Wood Memorial Trophy Best & Fairest, Taj Pritchard,

Runner Up, Tynan Caine, Most Consistent Ewan Ray, Vaughan Herrick Memorial Trophy Most Improved Matthew Caspani, W. "Bill" Moss Memorial Trophy Most Determined Kobi Manton, Dave Atkins Memorial Trophy Exceptional Commitment Sonny Battiscombe, Club Towel, donated by G & J Hickmott, Cohan Lobb.



Club Persons, Amber Dingwall & Lauren Gould [pictured above]. Life Memberships, David James & Gavin James [pictured right].

The packed-out Club Rooms was also a fitting way to farewell both our Senior and Reserves coaches for their dedication, commitment and fantastic leadership over many years. Nathan Fitzy Fitzpatrick and Stephen Stiffa Donat, your contributions have gone above and beyond, and you will both always be entitled to the keys to the door at the Kennel. Everyone associated with our Club wish you both well in your future endeavours. Congratulations to the prize winners in our inaugural AFL Footy Tipping Comp: 1st Fitzy, 2nd Stevey G, 3rd Marie Scott. It will be great to catch up with as many as possible back in our Club Rooms tonight where we can hopefully toast our 3 senior Netball teams.

Reserves: Best & Fairest, Dylan Lovell. Runner Up, Patrick Monaghan, Leading Goal Kicker, Rowan Pollock. W. "Bill" Moss Memorial Trophy Most Determined, Greg Quinn. Most Consistent, Jordan Simpson, Coaches Award, Reece Mitchell, Best in Finals, Jack Douch. Seniors: **Seniors Best & Fairest, Kai Daniels [pictured below]**, Runner Up, Archie Hildebrandt, Leading Goal Kicker, Ben Bisset, W. "Bill" Moss Memorial Trophy Most Determined, Xavier Emmerson, Exceptional Commitment, Mitch Gunther, Best in Finals, Lachlan Sidebottom. Club Milestone Plaques: 150 club games, Brad Driscoll, 100 club games, Jack Douch, 100 senior games, Bailey George, 300 senior games, Gavin James.



PHFNC Trophy and Award Winners

Season 2025

SENIORS AWARD WINNERS



SENIORS
BEST & FAIREST
AWARD:
KAI DANIELS
PICTURED

SENIORS
RUNNER'S UP
AWARD:
ARCHIE
HILDEBRANDT

RESERVES AWARD WINNERS



RESERVES
MOST
CONSISTENT:
JORDAN SIMPSON

SENIORS AWARD WINNERS



SENIORS
W. "BILL" MOSS
MEMORIAL TROPHY
MOST DETERMINED:
XAVIER
EMMERSON
PICTURED

SENIORS
LEADING GOAL
KICKER AWARD:
BEN BISSET

UNDER 18'S AWARD WINNERS



UNDER 18'S
W. "BILL" MOSS
MEMORIAL TROPHY
MOST DETERMINED
: KOBI MANTON

RESERVES AWARD WINNERS

RESERVES
LEADING GOAL KICKER:
ROWAN POLLOCK

RESERVES
BEST IN FINALS:
JACK DOUCH

RESERVES
COACHES AWARD:
REECE MITCHELL

UNDER 18'S AWARD WINNERS



BESS AND BERT WOOD
MEMORIAL TROPHY
UNDER 18'S BEST AND
FAIREST
TAJ PRITCHARD
PICTURED

UNDER 18'S
BEST AND FAIREST
RUNNERS UP
TYNAN CAINE

SENIORS AWARD WINNERS



SENIORS
EXCEPTIONAL
COMMITMENT
AWARD:
MITCH
GUNTHER

SENIORS AWARD WINNERS



SENIORS
BEST IN
FINALS
AWARD:
LACHLAN
SIDEBOTTOM

RESERVES AWARD WINNERS



RESERVES
BEST & FAIREST:
DYLAN LOVELL
PICTURED

RESERVES
BEST & FAIREST
RUNNER'S UP:
PATRICK MONAGHAN

UNDER 18'S AWARD WINNERS



UNDER 18'S
DAVE ATKINS MEMORIAL
TROPHY EXCEPTIONAL
COMMITMENT:
SONNY BATTISCOMBE



UNDER 18'S
TOWEL AWARD
DONATED BY G & J
HICKMOTT:
COHAN LOBB

RESERVES AWARD WINNERS



RESERVES
W. "BILL" MOSS
MEMORIAL TROPHY
RESERVES
MOST DETERMINED:
GREG QUINN

UNDER 18'S AWARD WINNERS



UNDER 18'S
MOST CONSISTENT
AWARD: EWAN RAY



UNDER 18'S
VAUGHAN HERRICK
MEMORIAL TROPHY
MOST IMPROVED:
MATTHEW CASPANI

Libraries More Popular Than Ever

More loans but fewer in-person visits (though that's not all that it seems) – that's the story for Loddon Shire's libraries.

Data from the latest Library Services Quarterly Activity Report shows Loddon Shire residents borrowed 40,414 items from the library service in 2024-25, a whopping 12,217, or 43 per cent, more than the previous year.

Library services in Loddon Shire are run by the North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation (of which council is a member), with agencies in Boort, Dingee, Inglewood, Pyramid Hill, Tarnagulla and Wedderburn. About 15 per cent of residents are library members.

While the number of loans increased – largely attributed to increased usage of the eLibrary, as well as an auto-renewals system set up in November 2024 – the number of in-person visits to Loddon Shire library agencies fell slightly to 15,054 for the year, down 336 on 2023-24.



The popular Pyramid Hill Library Agency is run out of the Neighbourhood House in Kelly Street.

That was also partially attributed to the auto-renewal system, meaning patrons no longer need to visit the library as frequently to renew items.

Other highlights included 63 new Loddon library members and an increase in attendance at library programs. While there were 98 programs and events in 2024-25, 16 fewer than the year before, 1,452 people attended these events, up from 1,236 in 2023-24.

Some of those programs in the final few months of the financial year included the Curious Kids in the Library session at Inglewood Library in April, presented by the Discovery Science and Technology Centre in Bendigo and the National Simultaneous Storytime event in the Boort Library in May.

Wedderburn Library also underwent a refurbishment during the winter months to improve its functionality, accessibility and overall appeal.



Loddon Shire Mayor Dan



Straub said the statistics continued to prove the enduring appeal of library services in Loddon Shire.

"Libraries are among the most-loved services that Council is involved with and it is great to see our residents taking full advantage of everything they have to offer," he said.

"However, we would love to see the State Government step up to the plate again with its funding contribution.

"What used to be funded 50-50 between local and state governments is now well and truly skewed towards local government, which funds about 75 per cent of the cost of the service.

"This increases the financial strain on local government to provide these services and raises concerns about the long-term sustainability of equitable library services in communities such as ours."

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LUNCH SPECIALS



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Local Laws Kept Busy

Local Laws officers are among the most common faces of Council out and about in Loddon Shire communities, and just how busy they have been can be seen in a new report.

The Local Laws and Planning Compliance Quarterly Activity Report shows for example that they were called out to 544 animal management issues during 2024-25, or an average of more than 10 each week.

There were 124 cases of wandering livestock, 78 of trespassing livestock, 24 dog attacks, 55 domestic animals at large, 38 cat traps distributed and 225 other complaints.

During that time 383 animals were impounded – 233 head of livestock, 80 dogs, 32 cats and 38 feral animals.

Of non-feral animals, 126 were returned to their owners and 244 were rehomed – the data for these animals includes those impounded before 2024-25.

Local Laws duties extend beyond animal control though – fire prevention, investigating littering or illegal dumping on Council-managed land, unsightly properties and planning compliance and enforcement are among other duties.

Loddon Shire Mayor Dan Straub said that while officers worked within the legal framework set by the State Government and Council's Local Law, they worked proactively with property and animal owners to achieve a positive outcome.

"Dealing with these matters can be costly, so it benefits everyone when we can work through as quickly and respectfully as we can," he said.

"At the end of the day the work we do benefits the whole community; it keeps our towns looking their best, makes sure development is done the right way, keeps people safe, and supports responsible care of pets and livestock."



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Past Press.. 1 March 1985

BURKE VICTORS

The annual Swimming Sports were held on Wed. 20th Feb. Despite the threat of inclement weather spectators and swimmers enjoyed the many events which occurred.

Burke house, captained by Dean Noelker and Sharon Pickles, was successful in winning the Ampol Trophy. This was presented to the captains by Mrs. M. Shay, President of the Parents Club.

During the sports 14 records were broken. The record breakers were D. Noelker(5), R. Grayson(2), R. Gibson, R. Whitewood(2), R. Ballis(2) M. Carroll and D. Vulic.

The boy's Championship was won by D. Noelker in a record time of 1:20:63, and the girl's Championship was won by Robyn Ballis in 1:24:55.

Our congratulations go to all competitors, they were a credit to themselves and their houses. It was disappointing to note however, that a number of students chose to find rather questionable excuses for not participating. Their non participation in this activity was a low point and I expect that their will be total participation in further school activities.

The feature "event" of the day was the running of the staff-student relay. This event was won by the "Staff Mean Machine" comprising Bob Jenkins, Glenn Casbault, Lyndall McKinnon and Cindy Mann. The "protests" of the parents fell on deaf ears owing to the "mysterious" absence of the referee!

S. McKinley.

RESULTS

1. Burke 607
2. Sturt 532
3. Wills 454
4. Mitchell 364

MORE NOTICES

Past Photos

Would anyone having photos of the Yarrawalla South school please lend them to Lorna Pickles for display at the Back To. Phone 336 325.

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JOLLY JUNIORS

Jolly Juniors recommence next Wednesday 6th of March after school at the Church of Christ Hall. All Welcome.

BACK TO

Our thanks to all those who responded to the list of names needing addresses, also those who have phoned or sent in names and addresses. Replies are coming in steadily. We would like accommodation for Mr. and Mrs. Williams and family (past Bank Manager). Is there anyone willing to lend a caravan for them to stay in? We will need two as there is 9 of them.

Tee shirts are available (at last) at Murray Goulburn and V and C Johnsons. Sorry for the delay.

Mr. Tom Guthrie has been busy making room through his shop to allow us entrance through the east door. We are hopeful of having a display there very soon, and if you have anything of interest we would like to hear from you. This area will also be our information centre during the "back to". If you are willing to help "man" this would you please ring 551275 or see M. SMITH so a roster can be drawn up.

Mr. Jack McDowall has kindly agreed to have his buses available for tours if there is sufficient interest. Not much interest has been shown in the first day stamp coverage.

Our thanks to Mrs. Faye Weinert and Mr. Rex Prior for making their interesting hobbies, namely herb garden and bird aviary available during the "Back-to".

A motion was moved at our last meeting that "Peter's Pyramid Project" be called "Centenary Park". Shire has agreed to this.

Our next meeting is Monday 4th March at 8 pm. Our congratulations to the "Fire Boys" on coming 3rd at Castlemaine last week end. Well done.

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A. Beaumont Hall
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Barham Cohuna
Pyramid Hill Area Depot

Jazz Ballet

Please note that classes will be held in the Memorial Hall and not the R.S.L Hall from next week. New students are still welcome. Fees are \$25.00 per term for one student, \$48.00 for two students etc. Fees should be paid by Tues. 5th. March.

Kitchen Tea

A kitchen tea will be held for Barb Young and Ian Baker on Fri. March 8, in the Memorial Hall at 8.30 p.m. (color scheme - Autumn Colors). All welcome, ladies a plate please.

Old Time Dance

Do you want to improve your TERPSICHORIAN SKILLS? Have teenagers and 10 year olds learn too. Got you tricked - we mean dancing. Come along to Durhan Ox on Friday March 1st. Learn to dance the Pride of Erin, Barn Dance, Palma Waltz, Foxtrot etc. Get back to the basics of dancing in time for the Centenary Celebrations.

Debutantes

Deb practice for St. Thomas' Debutante Ball on Friday Nov. 3rd. commenced with gusto last week. We have a very keen group. However, if any girls are still deciding whether or not to join in the fun at practice and make their debut, come along with their partner on Friday night at the Memorial Hall. Its not too late.

Family Reunion

Farrar, Broad and all relatives. Sunday 10th of March 12.00 - 3.00 pm. This will be held in the Sutton Grange Hall with a photo display and Family tree. Share in a family lunch basket and a have a real family time together.

Churches of Christ

All are invited to share in a family service including a time of Choruses, Items, Worship and Fellowship. The Sudnay School will be sharing in this day - a basket lunch will be held in the hall. Everyone is welcome to come and share in the day.

Ladies Football Committee

The Annual Meeting will be held on the 12th of March not the 5th. The President's, Secretary's and Treasurer's position will be vacant. The club is need of a new committee.
Intertown Tennis

Result of the final round of inter-town tennis played at Kerang last Sunday were; Mens A Grade 6/48 defeated Koondrook 0/18 Mens B1 Cohuna 5/47 def P.Hill 1/38 Mens B2 P.Hill 6/48 def Murrabit 0/25 Ladies B1 P.Hill 4/40 def Cohuna 2/26 Ladies B2 Boort 4/40 def P.Hill 2/31.

Kathy Morest of Boort was the winner of the Tennis Racquet in the competition run during the day.



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