

PYRAMID PRESS

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The poster is divided into two main sections. The top section has a green background with a string of colorful Christmas lights at the top. It features the text 'Pyramid Hill Christmas Street Party!' in large yellow letters, followed by '4PM SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER' in white. A white sign with a red border and the text 'KELLY STREET PARK' is tilted to the right. The bottom section has a red background on the left and a light beige background on the right. On the left, there are three Christmas ornaments (green, red, and pink) and a circular inset showing a cartoon donkey's head. Below the donkey is the text 'Who will KISS the ASS?!'. On the right, a green Christmas tree is the central element, with various activities listed on its branches: 'KIDS FUN', 'FOOD TRUCKS', 'GAMES', 'CLIMBING WALL', 'ELIAS LANYON', 'SPINNING WHEEL', 'JAILHOUSE ROCKERS', and 'CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMP'. A yellow star is at the top of the tree. At the bottom right of the tree, there is a small logo for 'Community Bank Inglewood & Districts' and 'Bendigo Bank'.

Pyramid Hill Christmas Street Party!
4PM SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER

KELLY STREET PARK

FREE ENTRY!

KIDS FUN
FOOD TRUCKS
GAMES
CLIMBING WALL
ELIAS LANYON
SPINNING WHEEL
JAILHOUSE ROCKERS
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMP

Who will KISS the ASS?!

Community Bank Inglewood & Districts
Bendigo Bank

Thankyou to all who attended the fire last Wednesday.

To the local and surrounding fire brigades, police, council and neighbours who all dropped what they were doing to assist, we are very appreciative.



Also thanks to the CFA Air Attack and the Parks staff for their help.

From Ritchie and Scott families



Inside: Bowls Update, What's On, Pool Hours, College News, Art Show SECTIONS Flyer, Seniors Lunch in Barham, Advent PEACE, Christmas Carols, Christmas Treasure Hunt! Loddon Shire Media Releases, Christmas Lights Competition, Christmas Cooking - two international salads for you to enjoy.

Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House

43 Kelly Street | Tel: 5455 7129

Hours: Monday to Thursday 10am - 4pm

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

Recruiting Reindeer

Sunday | Mount Hope

Murrabit Market

6 December | Murrabit

Cohuna Farmers and Makers Market

December 21 | Garden Park Cohuna

Flavours of Loddon - BOORT

24 January 2026 | Food | Music | Wine

Finders Keepers Op Shop - furniture and tools

Shed next to Pyramid Hill Store

Opening times Sunday **10am - 1pm** | All proceeds from sales go back into our community. Accepting donations of quality used goods.

Pyramid Hill Golf Trail Park Run

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

Justice of the Peace at Neighbourhood House

Tuesdays 12.30 - 2pm 9 December

Moonlight Market Hargreaves Mall Bendigo

Saturday 13 December 3pm - 8pm

Nathan Whippy Griggs Live Show

Tuesday 3rd February 6.30pm - 8.30pm | Inglewood Community Hall

2026 Trotters Cup

Sunday 25 January | Wedderburn

2026 Malibu Australian Masters Waterski

Competition Saturday 24 - Monday 26 January
Bridgewater on Loddon

NDCH - Nurse Practitioner Visit.

Book in to see Yvonne on these dates: | 18 December
Call NDCH Medical clinic 54521366

Christmas Pyramid Hill Christmas Carols, Save the Date! Thursday 18 December 7.30pm at Memorial Hall.

Pyramid Hill Art Show 13-19 February 2026

Entry Forms available from 14 November - 30 January.
More details at Pyramid Hill Art Show FB contact Anne Grogan aegrogan@gmail.com

Christmas Craft with Naarah!

16 December | Magnets and Christmas Cards | Goldfields Library activity at Neighbourhood House

Rotary Club of Bendigo

Christmas Carols, Rosalind Park

Sunday 21 December, 6.30pm - 10.30pm

Bit Sketchi Bendigo

Saturday 31 January 10am - 12pm - Sketch / Paint / Draw
Alexandra Fountain in Bendigo
bookings at 2-inspire.com.au

***1080 Course in PYRAMID HILL - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

27 January - PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST IN DOING THIS COURSE AT NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE BY 12 DECEMBER*** 5455 7129

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

Bowls Practise Each Tuesday at 4.30pm Pyramid Hill Bowling Club

WEDNESDAYS

Book Club | 4:30 PM | FIRST Wednesday of each month. Christmas Party on Wed 3 December at 'the Deck' Please bring a gift of a book for Kringle-time!

THURSDAYS

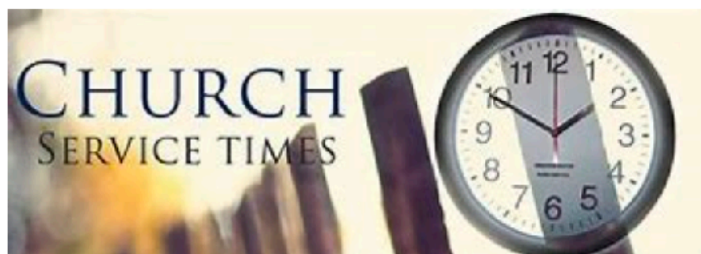
Art Group | 10.30 AM | informal crafty arty gathering | Neighbourhood House

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 FB for more details].

Senior Citizens each Friday | Community Centre McKay Street. Cuppa, chat and games. On the 2nd and 4th Fridays join us for a community meal commencing at 12 noon. Other Fridays commence at 1pm. **For more information please contact Terry on 0429843479 or Lyn on 0428564006.**





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

PUBLIC NOTICES



Join us on
December 18th
2026

At 7.30 pm for
Christmas Carols
at the
Pyramid Hill
Memorial Hall



Pyramid Hill

Swimming Pool Season is here!

Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday | 4.30 - 7.30pm

Weekends / Public Holidays | 2pm - 7pm
[not Christmas Day]

Contact During Opening Hours:

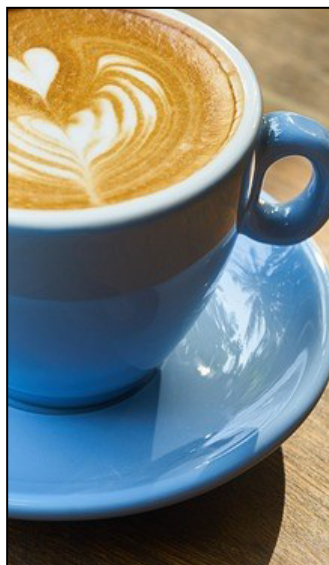
0400 154 992

Entry Type	Casual Entry	Season Tickets
Adult	\$5	\$77
Concession	\$4	\$62
Child	\$2.50	\$51
Family	\$10.50	\$132
Family Concession	\$8.50	\$105

PYRAMID HILL RECYCLE CENTRE & TIP

Ballast Road Pyramid Hill

Opening Hours Tuesday - 1pm-5pm and Sunday - 8am-12pm
For more information on garbage & recycling visit loddon.vic.gov.au



Extensive breakfast menu, hot and cold lunch, homemade pies, pasties and sausage rolls, hot and cold drinks, homemade cakes and slices, large range of local produce, school lunch orders on Fridays, catering available, bulk buy homemade freezer, fresh sourdough bread baked daily.

NEW HOURS

Monday - Friday 5am - 5pm
Saturday - Sunday 6am - 3pm

PHONE: 54557006

PYRAMID HILL COMMUNITY OP SHOP

Opening hours
Tuesday to Friday
11:00 AM - 04:00 PM

5 Kelly St, Pyramid Hill



MOBILE SHEEP DIPPING

Geoff & Colleen Hampson
Mobile: 0429 823 293

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Sat 8am - 12pm

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Rob 0428 366 258
Claire 0429 922 780

Boort District Medical Centre

DR. CHRIS OLISE
ABN : 86 635 807 297
2 COUTTS ST, BOORT VIC 3537
Email: medicalreception@bdh.vic.gov.au
We welcome all existing and new patients
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY DIAL 000

APPOINTMENTS PHONE: 5451 5220

MON TO THUR | 08:30 AM - 05:00 PM
FRI | 8.30 - 2 PM

Pathology
MON to THU 8.30-10.00
(Service provided to Boort District Medical Centre Patients Only)

HOTDOC Available



CONCRETE & QUARRY PRODUCTS

Phone: 5455 7304
Email: pyramidhill@mawsons.com.au

PEACE

This Sunday as we light the second candle on the Advent wreath, our hearts turn toward the concept of peace. The second candle, often called the “Bethlehem Candle” or the “Candle of Peace,” symbolizes the peace radiating from the humble town of Bethlehem. We are invited into the tranquil and peaceful scene of a stable, where the Saviour entered the world. Our world is filled with noise, chaos, and uncertainty, and the story of Bethlehem calls us to

find peace. As we navigate the challenges of our daily lives let The Prince of Peace, born in that stable, become our guiding light. We remember this light in the flicker of this Sunday’s candle.

As we reflect on the theme of peace this week, let us consider practical ways to cultivate it in our lives and share it with others.

Acts of kindness, moments of stillness, and intentional times of prayer and contemplation can become channels through which the peace of Christ flows into our hearts and spills over into the lives of those around us.



PYRAMID HILL CHRISTMAS LIGHT COMPETITION

DUST OFF THOSE CHIRSSY LIGHTS
AND DECORATE YOUR HOME IN
TIME FOR PYRAMID HILLS STREET
PARTY 13TH DECEMBER!

WINNER \$150
RUNNER UP \$50

PLACE YOUR VOTES AT PYRAMID
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ANNOUNCED CHRISTMAS EVE.
VOTING CLOSSES 23RD DECEMBER

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JOIN US FOR



Durham Ox CHRISTMAS TREE

DECEMBER **19** FROM 6PM



SANTA ARRIVING 7:30PM



BBQ PROVIDED, BYO DRINKS, PLEASE
BRING A SALAD OR DESSERT TO SHARE

PLEASE NOTE:
\$20 PRESENT LIMIT

RSVP FOR CATERING TO
SARA 0455 460 027
BY MONDAY 15TH DECEMBER

Bowls Notes

Mid-Week Pennant:



We really should be keeping track of the number of bowls days that offer up foul weather.

Wednesday was definitely no exception. The only saving grace for **Red Team** was that they were playing under cover on the synthetic surface at Barham. But that was just about all the positives that could be mustered. In all fairness however, Jan, Kate, Anthony and Rose got close to having a win. They were defeated by the small margin of three shots, probably resultant of the savoury treat of seven shots on one end midway through the game. If only that hadn't happened – they could well have claimed a victory. Apart from that glitch, they basically held their opponents to single shot entries. It was a crying shame but they can be so proud of how close they came, 15-18, and they earned the Freddo Frog Award for the best performing rink on the day. The only competition for the other rink with Marie N., Carmen, Ian and Glen was to see whether their high losing score by 20 shots, 8-28, was any better than either of the rinks in Blue Team who played in atrocious conditions at Leitchville. Poor **Blue Team** felt the full force of the elements as well as the power of their opponents. It was a toss up to see who could do the best job of losing. Marie's Red Team thought that they might take the honours but, Joe and his crew of Robyn, Allan and Michael managed to outdo them by one shot, 10-31. They really put themselves in the boiling pot when they allowed the Leitchville folk to get off to a twenty-four to zip start. To their credit once they got going, they got going and won eight of the last twelve ends. Crickey!! The Leitchville folk must have almost been in a panic – if the score had been any closer. Bill's rink with Maurie, Lyn and Glen tried hard to match the highest losing score stakes but they only managed to lose by seventeen shots with their picket fence score line of one shot each time. Their final score was 8-25, seventeen short of the win and a few short of being best losers. It's lucky that we go out to enjoy the company, the exercise and the meal afterwards or a day of bowling could be downright disheartening. It's all a matter of perspective really- and good on us for fronting up to be batted around again another day. (It should be kept in mind also that Barham with their near 100 players to select from are always going to have a greater breadth of talent from which to draw than do we at PH have with our meagre 30 names – or maybe that's just clutching at straws to find some constructive news.) Surprisingly, the sun did come up the next day – just, for a few minutes.

Saturday Pennant:

Goodness!! The home ground advantage factor was prominent this week. After some overnight rain and early morning showers a fair bit of pace had been taken out of the greens, and the wind wasn't too terrible – almost enough to keep the flies away although there were sufficient hanging around persistently to be a pest. More flies hanging around than tinsel on the Christmas tree!

Division 3: fresh from their rest due to the Bye Round, were the accolade winners of the day. They didn't actually win on any rinks but they were so very, very close and deserve the round of applause. Of recent times they have copped some real beltings, but not this week. The roaming reporter (not Brian Taylor from the AFL) heard secret whispers that Jasmine and Lyn were the shining bright stars on the day. Keep that up and they might get a job on Christmas Eve. No doubt the Kerang folk went home exhausted as they bypassed the invitation to stay for the bbq. Joe, playing Skip to Maurie, Glen A. and Jasmine were frightfully unfortunate to lose by two shots, especially as they did the unforgivable and gave 6 shots on one end. That was a "kick-the-dust" moment, as they won more than half the number of ends and would have brought home the bacon was it not for that glitch. 21-23 was a fantastic effort! But wait – there's better stuff to come. Greg, along with Mari, Ray and Michael were pipped at the post. They also won more ends than their opponents, and the match was evenly fought out with no-one able to claim any ascendancy. At the nineteenth end they were tied at 19 shots apiece. Kerang got two shots on the twentieth end and PH got one shot on the last end. – total = 20-21. Phew! That was a nail-biter. Jolly bad luck not to inch over the line or at least scramble a draw. Tighten your belts folks, there's still more good news to come! Glen M. playing Skip to Robyn, Allan and Lyn fell short by the very same margin of one shot. Dang it all! They struggled to find early form and were ten shots down before the sandwich fillings came into play. Following afternoon tea, they only allowed their Kerang crew to score single shots on three ends. You must get the recipe for the sandwich stuffing! It was obviously the needed tonic. Similar to Greg's rink, they were all tied up on nineteen shots apiece but this time on the twentieth end. It all came down to the final end to decide the match. Pressure, pressure, pressure! Surely, they deserved to win; but not wanting to laud it over the other rinks they graciously let Kerang get the last shot and relinquish the glory with a 19-20 loss. Well done, Division 3. You certainly took it up to the northerly neighbours. You might not have scored the Freddo Frog Award, but there's always a chance of some goodies in your Christmas stockings. Without doubt, Santa's elves would have been taking notes.

Division 2: fought the demons all day as they tussled against Leitchville. Jan playing with Kate, Anthony and Rose may have been missing her trusty Third, Jean, but Anthony stepped into the team and really applied himself to the task. Following the lunchtime break they really swung into action and came home with a flourish. Maybe the sandwich roster needs tweaking as the refreshments seem to have powered up quite a few of the rinks. They only

stopped short by four shots – another few ends and they would surely have worn their opponents down. Their score 16-20 left the other two rinks doing some quick maths in the final stages of the match to tally the overall board. Lionel, Carmen, David and Bill had every reason to throw in the towel when they just couldn't get out of the starting blocks.

At the mid-afternoon break they were floundering at 3-12 shots down. Coming out refreshed after getting fuelled up, they apparently gassed up on turbo boost juice and piled on fourteen shots in three ends to propel themselves to the lead. Scoring a seven on one end had everyone asking, "Who missed out?" But that's a secret left with the Elf on the Shelf, because it matters not. The last five ends were a tussle and despite only scoring one shot themselves, they held Leitchville to single scores. The providential win by two shots, 21-19, was a bonus to the overall tally. Marie S. (Skip), Marie N., Terry and Ian had another balanced game with everyone contributing when need be. Ian was on fire and set the scene for some good heads.

There's no stopping that man when he gets his eye in. He also has some welcome advice for his players who appreciate his quiet behind the scenes coaching. The competition heated up in the second half of the match but Leitchville were well held until the final end when they scored three shots. Again, it can be attributed to the sandwich fillings! Fifteen shots won to five against is fair evidence that there was something mysteriously good happening, and what else could it be but the sandwiches. I vote that the same people are rostered on again!! All in favour???? With the win, 23-15, they were Freddo Frog winners, too. The overall win saw Division 2 soar to the top of the ladder again thanks to Cohuna Golf beating Wakool. Albeit, we won't get ahead of ourselves as we will confront Cohuna Golf next week. We're hanging in there.

Other Notes:

- **Mid-Week Pennant – Red Team** play host to Cohuna 3 while **Blue Team** host Cohuna 2. That should be a good day of social interaction. PH v Cohuna and PH v Cohuna. Up the Hill!
- **Saturday Pennant – Division 2** travel to Cohuna Golf, while **Division 3** travel to Kerang Golf.
- **Social Event:** The Christmas Party has been booked in to the Sporties Club at Kerang for Thursday 11th December. The Sporties Bistro is all about delicious meals, a family-friendly vibe, and plenty of space to kick back and enjoy – a place where everyone feels welcome and the food always hits the spot. The Kerang Sporties Club has come on board as one of our sponsors so we are repaying their support by making use of their Bistro for our Christmas social night. Don't miss out on this fun-filled night. Please place your names on the sheet at the Club house for booking purposes.
- **Christmas Hamper:** All members have been given tickets to sell and have also been asked to donate at least one item to the raffles which entail a larger hamper, a smaller hamper and a Christmas Treats box. The raffles will be drawn after our last Home Game before Christmas, Saturday 13th December.
- **New Year's Day Tournament:** Entries are being taken for our next tournament, Any Combination Triples on New Year's Day starting at 1:00pm.

A brighter note: What did the wise men say after they offered up their gifts of gold and frankincense? Wait, there's myrrh.



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CHRISTMAS

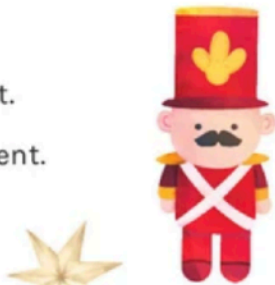


TREASURE HUNT

Can you search your neighbourhood for all the festive items on this list?



- ☐ Santa Claus.
- ☐ North pole sign.
- ☐ Christmas tree.
- ☐ Christmas wreath.
- ☐ Candy cane.
- ☐ Giant present.
- ☐ Giant ornament.
- ☐ Toy soldier.
- ☐ Snowman.
- ☐ Elf.
- ☐ Angel.
- ☐ Rudolph.
- ☐ Reindeer on a rooftop.
- ☐ Polar bear.
- ☐ Gingerbread man.
- ☐ Mistletoe.



- ☐ Stocking.
- ☐ Snow globe.
- ☐ Snowflakes.
- ☐ Poinsettia.
- ☐ A JOY sign.
- ☐ A star.
- ☐ A house with white lights.
- ☐ A house with dancing lights.
- ☐ A house with icicle lights.
- ☐ A Santa stop here sign.
- ☐ A nativity scene.
- ☐ Candles.
- ☐ Something beautiful.
- ☐ Something that makes you smile.
- ☐ Something that makes you laugh.
- ☐ Something that makes a sound.



Seniors in Christmas Spirit

Senior Citizens had a lovely day on Monday travelling to the Barham Club for their annual Christmas lunch. We had a delicious lunch of ham, turkey, roast vegetables and plum pudding. We also caught up with several past residents of Pyramid Hill.

Friday 12th December will be our last day for this year, we will be having our Christmas lunch, cost will be \$12 and \$5 for a Kris Kringle gift. Could you please bring along a plate of salad to share?

Everything else will be provided. Any queries please contact Lyn on 0428564006



Lizzie's Grandma's Lime Jello Salad.

Confuse the kids this Christmas with an American staple. *Lime Jello Salad* only needs 6 ingredients: lime jello (jelly), a tin of crushed pineapple, evaporated milk, mayonnaise, cottage cheese, and walnuts!

Drain the juice from the tinned pineapple into a measuring jug - and top that up to 2 cups of liquid, with water. Then, put the 2 cups of liquid into a saucepan. Add the packet of jello/jelly and heat and stir until the jelly dissolves. Cool slightly while you prepare the next yummy - not at all traumatic - phase!

Put one cup each of mayonnaise, cottage cheese, crushed pineapple and evaporated milk into a bowl, add half a cup of walnuts. Then.. mix in the warm jelly mixture.. Mmmm!! Then pop whatever mess you've made into a square or rectangular dish to chill in the fridge for at least 4 hours or until someone looks into the fridge on Christmas Day and says "What the hell is this? Can we take it out we need some fridge space!!"

Enjoy!





Pyramid Hill College

Respect ● Learn ● Community

● Year 9/10 Driver Education

On December 1, the Year 9 & 10 students visited the Driver Education Centre in Charlton. Students got practical driving experience and information regarding safe vehicles, road rules and safe driving practices. It is a timely reminder of the importance of road safety (for us all) as we head into the Christmas period.

Eligible learner drivers can access a free 1 hour driving lesson on the link below.

<https://mylearnersdrive.com.au/>



Join us!

PHC PRESENTATION Night

15 DECEMBER, 2025 6:30 PM

Pyramid Hill College Stadium

● QUICK Updates

DEC 2025

- 1-5** Dental Visit
- 3** Year 9&10 First Aid Course
- 4** Year 10 Dinner
- 4** Year 5 to 8 Games Day Boort
- 8-12** Work Experience - Year 10
- 9** Moving Up Day
- 15** Presentation Night
- 16** Activities at PHC
- 17** Bendigo Trip
- 18** Pool Day



(03) 5455 7377



www.pyramidhillc.vic.edu.au
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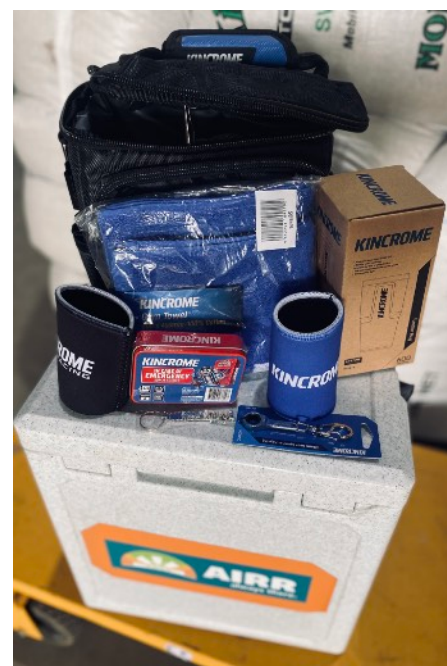
Fill the Sleigh Giveaway!

Every purchase = a golden ticket into Santa's stash of joy-stuffed surprises!

Shop 'til you jingle —
the more you buy, the more chances you snag!
Giveaway runs **Dec 1st to Christmas Eve!**

One lucky legend scores the Grand Prize on Christmas Eve!
Our cheeky Little Elves are also handing out **weekly wins**.
Pop in-store to peek at the goodies — trust us, **Santa went all out!!**

Shop • Win • Celebrate • Stay Merry
Here's a sneaky little peek at what's up for grabs!



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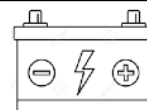
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Emelia | 0428 586 516
 Email: chrisleerson@gmail.com

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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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FOLLOW US



VBA practitioner number 109183

Loddon Shire

Media Releases this week.

Loddon Shire residents have shown a strong commitment to responsible pet ownership and animal welfare and they're now being invited to have their say on Council's draft **Domestic Management Animal Plan 2026-2029 (DAMP)**.

The DAMP has been placed on public display to seek that feedback, having been drafted following extensive community consultation in August 2025.

It is the key document that sets out how Council will meet its legislative responsibilities with regards to the management of domestic animals. While many different animals are kept as pets in our community, the Victorian Domestic Animals Act only covers cats and dogs, and this plan focuses on them too.

Feedback from more than 90 responses during the community consultation demonstrated a strong community commitment to responsible pet ownership and animal welfare.

Most participants reported being aware of their legal obligations regarding pet registration and microchipping, indicating a solid foundation of compliance across the Shire.

Safety and community amenity were recurring themes from our community, with residents expressing concerns about roaming dogs and unowned or feral cats, while recognising Council's role in providing services such as registration, education and trapping programs.

The most consistent themes were:

- high levels of concern about cat-related nuisance (roaming, noise, mess, wildlife impacts); and
- strong support for free or low-cost microchipping and desexing initiatives.

The DAMP recognises Loddon's unique rural context, including its large geographic area, small and dispersed population, and limited local veterinary services.

It reflects the capacity of a small compliance team by focusing on core statutory functions and prioritising practical, achievable actions that can be piloted, evaluated and expanded as resources allow.

Loddon Shire Mayor Dan Straub said he encouraged residents to have their say on the draft DAMP.

"Pets are a major part of our lives and we recognise the positive role they play in our communities," he said. "We also recognise that responsible ownership is essential to protect public amenity, animal welfare and wildlife. "In Loddon, working and assistance animals (including farm dogs and guide dogs) are also part of everyday life and have been considered in how services are delivered."

To have your say on the DAMP please visit the Loddon Shire Council website. Or contact the Shire via phone.

Childcare a Priority

The Victorian Election is less than a year away and Loddon Shire Council will be on the front foot advocating for what is best for our communities.

Council will update its priorities document – last updated in September 2024 – ahead of the 2026 State poll.

One of the changes in the document will be that childcare advocacy will be extended to other parts of the Shire, wherever it is needed – previously Council's position is that the northern part of the shire is the most urgent area of need.

Loddon Shire Mayor Dan Straub said updating the priorities document was standard ahead of an election – the last update occurred before the 2025 Federal Election – and Council wanted to ensure it met advocacy priorities, including childcare, heading into the election.

"Council is neither a provider nor decision maker for childcare and our commitment is to see fair access for everyone in our municipality," he said.

"Council has been a strong advocate for our community in both Spring Street and Canberra and this priorities document will be about ensuring that those in power, or those seeking power, are fully aware of what matters most to our communities."



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Margaret Ritchie

0427180011

Find me on Facebook at
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Neighbourhood House News

Hi Neighbours!

Last week six students participated in an art workshop with Alannah Cheshire that was SO FUN - we learned some techniques that we could use across watercolour and gouache mediums. Since then, I think we all have been creating! I definitely have been trying out the things I learned! It is so fun trying something new. You know you can always join us at Neighbourhood House for art on Thursdays - we all learn along together. Art supplies, supplied! Always good company.

We also have started taking donations for the Christmas Hampers, keep an eye on Mandeep's as we will have a giving tree / basket in there by the end of the week, if you would like to donate there.

Thank you to our lovely donors so far. Your practical food items will form the basis for our hampers which we are planning to hand out just before Christmas.

If you would like to nominate somebody to receive some extra Christmas Cheer this year - in the form of a basket of food and goodies, you can do that by calling or messaging us on Facebook. Your nomination will be anonymous.

We've been approached by a training Organisation to run a 1080 Chemical course here in Pyramid on 27 January! Please let us know if this is something that interests you by 12 December!

A reminder we will be closing in two weeks, and not re-opening until the 19th January.



Volunteers Drivers Needed!

THANKYOU to those who have signed up this week!! We are still seeking a couple more for our roster, though!

Our Community Car program has had the busiest year yet, but we are running short of volunteer drivers!

This is a sincere call out so we can keep this vital service running! Could you spare a half day a fortnight?

Come join us for a very rewarding opportunity to help your community. Call Lizzie on 54557129



Kim's Christmas Salad

To tell you the truth, I am not much of a cook. [I can hear Kate Wood quietly laughing]. But one thing I absolutely love to make in Summer, is this middle eastern inspired salad! It looks very special on the Christmas table, and holds it's own.

It's basically a Fattoush, with diced lettuce, cherry tomatoes, cucumber, sliced radishes, parsley and mint; toast some [in a frypan] Lebanese or pita bread on the side - no need to use oil, just heat it up on both sides on a dry pan. To make it especially delicious you **must add** strawberries and pomegranate seeds.

You can make your own dressing with a blend of fresh lemon juice, *pomegranate molasses and extra virgin olive oil. * A balsamic glaze can be swapped out if you can't find pomegranate molasses.. [I wonder if Mandeep will have a rush on pomegranate molasses next week?]

Layer the salad with the prettiest things on top - mint leaves, strawberries, radishes and pomegranate.. and break your toasted pita bread into rough triangles and serve in a bowl on the side. The toasted pita takes the place of traditional croutons, and can be used to scoop up the lovely salad like a fork!



Pyramid Hill Progress Association
PYRAMID HILL
ART COMPETITION 2026

SECTIONS:

A. Special Section - "Birds and Animals"	\$1500
B. All Roads lead to "the Hill"	\$500
C. Landscapes, Seascapes and Urbanscapes	\$500
D. Still Life and Flowers	\$500
E. People and Portraits	\$500
F. Small Painting - any topic (A5)	\$500
G. Indigenous Art	\$500

OTHER AWARDS:

* BEST IN SHOW (Chosen from all entries)	\$1500
* Regional Artist.	\$500
* Young Artist Award (Under 25)	\$500
* People's Choice (2 prizes)	1 st \$500 / 2 nd \$250
* Highly Commended (4 awarded, chosen from any section)	\$250
* Junior Sections	\$250

ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE	Friday 14 th November
ENTRIES CLOSE	Entry forms together with a fee of \$6.00 per entry to be received no later than Friday 30 th January 2025, PHPA Art Competition, C/O Anne Grogan PO Box 1, Pyramid Hill 3575 or aegrogan16@gmail.com
DELIVERY OF ENTRIES	To the Memorial Hall, Kelly St. Pyramid Hill at the following times: - Sunday 8th February 10am – 3 pm - Monday 9th February 10am – 3 pm (or at a time to be arranged)
OPENING EVENING AND PRESENTATION OF AWARDS	Official Opening & Announcement of Awards & Sales FRIDAY 13 th February: 7pm – 10pm Entry of \$15 includes program, supper and music. (\$40 per family) Alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase.
EXHIBITION AND SALES	Saturday 14 th - Tuesday 17th Feb: 10am – 4pm Wednesday 18 th Feb: 10am – 8pm Thursday 19 th 10am – 3pm Entry including a light morning or afternoon tea: \$10
COLLECTION OF UNSOLD WORK	Unsold works may be collected on: Thursday 19 th February between 3.30pm – 6pm Saturday – 21 st February: 10am – 12pm If these times are not suitable, please contact the organisers to arrange an alternate time.
ENQUIRIES & ENTRY FORMS	Entry Forms and other information are available from Pyramid Hill Art Show Facebook page or by contacting Anne at aegrogan16@gmail.com or 0458524163.

DELIVERY AND COLLECTION:

Please note that a collection point for Bendigo artists has been arranged at:

- Nick Truscott Framing, Rear Factory, 345 High St. Kangaroo Flat. Ph: 0418367588
- If you wish to use this method of collection, please mark this on your entry form.

If artists from other areas have difficulties with delivery or pick up please contact Anne at aegrogan16@gmail.com or **0458524163** and we can discuss alternative arrangements.



**PYRAMID HILL
ART COMPETITION**

PYRAMID HILL PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

PYRAMID HILL ART SHOW



A Major's Vision

13 – 19 February 2026

**\$9,000
Prize Money**

Gala Opening & Awards on
Friday 13th February at
Pyramid Hill Memorial Hall

**Entry Forms available via
Facebook page or email**

Join Pyramid Hill Art Show
Facebook page for information

**Entry Forms
available NOW!**
entries close 31 Jan 2026



Contact: Anne Grogan 0458 524 163
Email: aegrogan@gmail.com

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