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# Numurkah LEADER

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2019

\$1.30

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### Citizen award

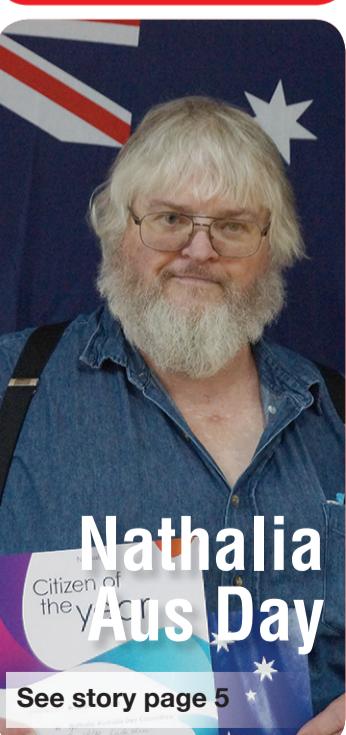


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### Posthumous OAM

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Well known Numurkah funeral director Peter Cox was awarded an OAM in the Australia Day honours list on Saturday. See story page 7.



## Be alert for brazen car thieves

NUMURKAH district locals are being urged to be alert for suspicious activity after a number of recent brazen daylight car thefts from rural properties in the Moira Shire.

In recent weeks a number of vehicles have been stolen from unattended rural properties, and residents of a number of nearby properties have reported unknown persons turning up unannounced and making trivial enquiries, such as asking for directions, when they discover that somebody is home.

Investigators believe the offenders are not concerned about being seen or spoken to.

Detective Senior Constable Paul Campbell of Cobram

Criminal Investigation Unit said that if residents encounter a vehicle, or its occupants, acting suspiciously they should try and take a photo of the vehicle and number plate and immediately report it to police.

The report can be done either by 000, local police or Crime Stoppers.

"A recent example of a vigilant resident who was approached by three men in a car provided a vital clue, and subsequent break, in an ongoing investigation," DSC Campbell said.

"The person felt something was not right and had the presence of mind to make a note of the car and

the persons in it. That information made its way to the Cobram CIU and we certainly appreciate it.

"Sometimes people are reluctant to come forward, because they think their information may not be relevant or be trivial, but as far as we are concerned it is those small pieces of information which help form the bigger picture."

This advice follows the recent thefts of two vehicles from rural properties in the Strathmerton area in as many weeks.

Both vehicles were later dumped and torched, igniting small bushfires.

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# Grants available for local landholders

GRANTS are available for landholders to carry out works to improve and protect grey box grassy woodlands on their properties.

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (GBCMA) is distributing the grants through the Linking Landscapes and Communities project.

GBCMA's Dr Jenny Wilson said the woodlands were an important part of the natural environment.

"They provide habitat for a range of species including nationally threatened swift parrots, regent honeyeaters, turnip copperburr and small purple pea," Dr Wilson said.

"As part of this project we're providing incentives to landholders to carry out actions such as revegetation, pest plant and animal control and fencing to manage stock access."

Dr Wilson said similar activities carried out by landholders involved in previous projects showed that once on-ground works were completed, farmers noticed a range of environmental, social and economic benefits.

"As well as creating a healthy landscape and attracting native birds and wildlife, improving habitat will increase the chances of many species' ability to adapt to changes in climate. These types of activities also increase productivity and the value of farms; what we call 'nature at work'."

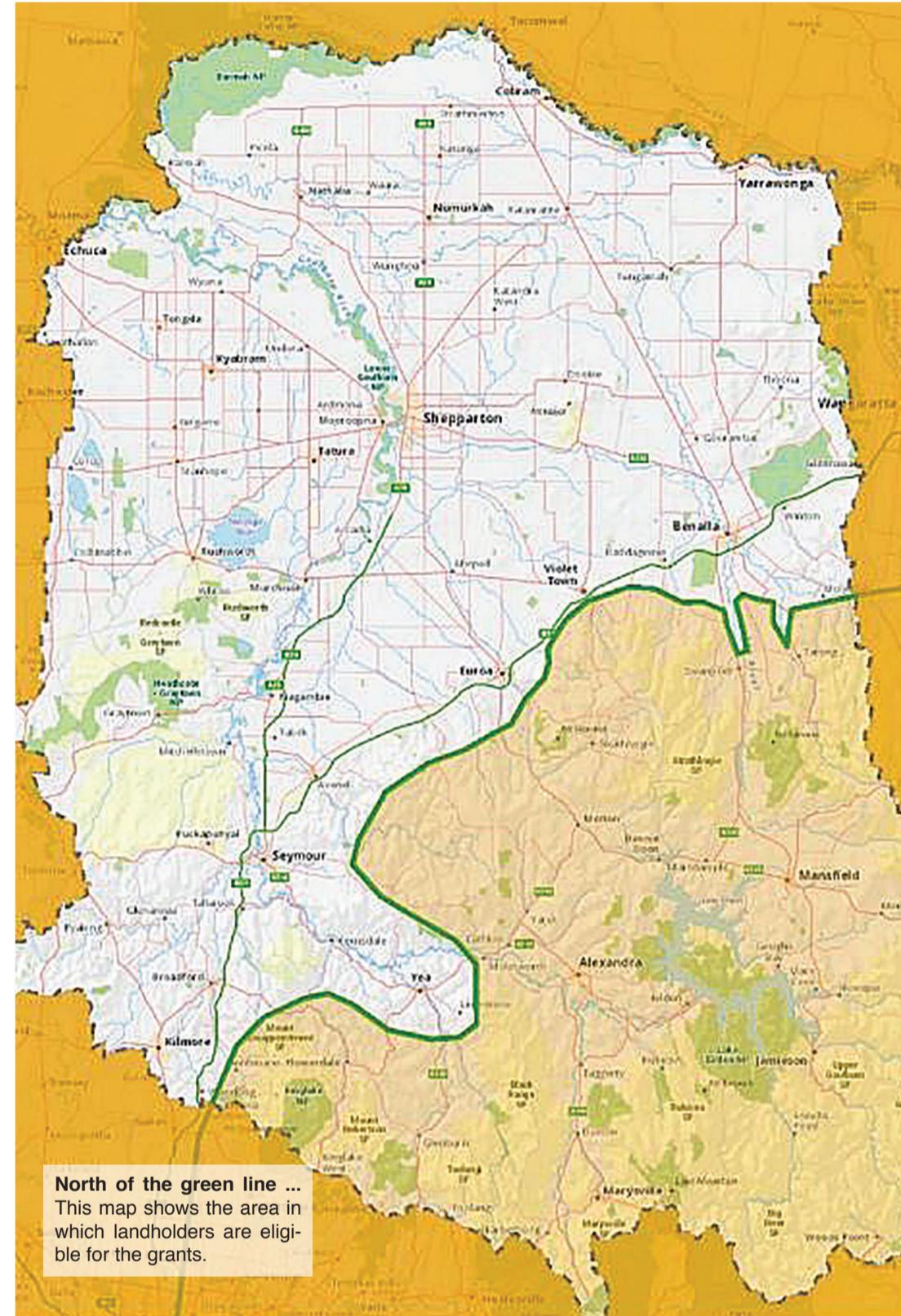
"For example, the resulting increase in shade and shelter is great for protecting stock from extreme heat, cold or wind. More native vegetation attracts insects that provide pollination, and managing weeds improves soil health."

"Then there are the many wellbeing and lifestyle benefits of creating a more sustainable landscape for all of us."

If you are interested in being involved in this project, please find more information, eligibility criteria and the EOI form under the funding tab at [www.gbcma.vic.gov.au](http://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au), or contact Dr Jenny Wilson on 5822 7700 or [jennyw@gbcma.vic.gov.au](mailto:jennyw@gbcma.vic.gov.au).

Applications close March 31.

The Linking Landscapes and Communities project is supported by the Goulburn Broken CMA through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.



**North of the green line ...**

This map shows the area in which landholders are eligible for the grants.

## POLICE BEAT

# Burglars and car thieves remain active

last Friday.

Nothing was stolen in that incident.

A safe containing cash, as well as a quantity of cigarettes, were stolen when thieves gained access to the Caltex Roadhouse on the Goulburn Valley Highway at around 2.55am on Monday.

Police are looking for a white Toyota Hilux, believed to have been stolen from the Kyabram area, in relation to that incident.

Meanwhile in Nathalia, two vehicles have been reported stolen from Harcourt St properties over the weekend.

The first is believed to have occurred between 6am and 9am on Friday, January 25, when a red Ford Falcon sedan was stolen from a driveway.

It is believed that the thieves stole the keys from the home, after forcing access through a rear door. A ladies wallet containing a number of credit cards was also taken.

That vehicle has not yet been recovered.

In the second incident, a Daewoo that was stolen from outside another Harcourt St address at around 9pm, was recovered in nearby Phillips St with minor damage around an hour later.

The following morning, in the early hours of Monday, thieves forced entry through the rear door of a property on Picola/Barmah Rd at Barmah.

A number of power tools were stolen along with the occupant's father's Vietnam war medals



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# Beryl's dedication posthumously recognised

INVERGORDON'S Beryl Bassett, who sadly passed away in February 2018, has been posthumously awarded a membership of the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to youth through Scouts, in the Australia Day honours.

Beryl was a member of Scouts Victoria for 49 years, from 1958 until her death.

Starting as an assistant cub scout leader at the 4th Camberwell Group, she remained there until November 1972, when she took on the role of cub scout leader at the 1st Katandra West scout group.

In 1978, Beryl took on advanced training within the organisation, obtaining her Wood badge of leader of youth, all whilst raising a family of three young children and working on the family dairy farm.

In 1984, Beryl transferred to the role of assistant district commissioner for the adult leaders of youth, and a decade later took on the role of district commissioner of Yullaba (later Murray Valley and, later again, Goulburn Murray).

In September 2016, at her own insistence, Beryl was appointed district commissioner of Alpine Gateway, which was without a district commissioner, and which Beryl was determined to not see go downhill as a result.

In addition to her dedication to the mainstream of scouting, Beryl also took on extra training and became a passionate, and highly valued, member of the organisation's national training team.

It has been estimated that she was responsible for training over 1600 leaders during her time in this role.

During Beryl's 49 years in scouting, she received many scouting awards for exceptional service above and beyond the expected duties of a scouting leader.

These include the medal of merit, the silver emu, the silver acorn, and the highest award in scouting, the silver kangaroo for eminent achievement and meritorious service, which she was awarded in 2014.

Beryl accepted each award she received with humility.

However, Beryl's greatest achievement, and greatest proof of her dedication to young people, is perhaps the fact that so many in north east Victoria know her as Akala.

When a scout group in her area was looking at being disbanded for lack of a leader, Beryl took on the role herself, often for quite some length of time and with significant weekly travel involved, until a new leader could be appointed.

Thanks to Beryl, towns including Rutherglen, Wangaratta and Glenrowan got to keep their scout groups.

Beryl's three children, Craig, David and Jenny, were all involved in scouting or guiding, with two of the three achieving the highest level possible within the movement.

Jenny said that, due to Beryl's passion for it, scouting was just something the family did, and it made for a great childhood.

"It was a childhood full of adventure and fun, but it also instilled in us the importance of service to the community," she said.

"She was a wonderful mum."

All the while, Beryl was heavily involved with various other local community groups where she often filled the role of treasurer, having worked as an accountant in Metropolitan Melbourne in her youth.

A keen Essendon fan in a family full of die-hard Collingwood supporters, another great passion of Beryl's was the Katandra West Bowls Club.

Though it is not thought to have contributed to her being awarded the OAM, it is said that, to this day, nobody can cheer 'Come on Katandra' quite as well as Beryl could.

Jenny and her father Alan, who staunchly supported Beryl in all of her activities, will accept the honour on Beryl's behalf at Government House later this year.

"We're thrilled to see Mum awarded the OAM and I think she would have been really pleased with the honour," Jenny said.

"Very humble, but very pleased."



**Passionate and tireless ...** Whenever someone asked Beryl Bassett when she planned to retire from scouting she replied, "I'm having too much fun to retire".

## Heatwave brings blackouts

MANY residents and business owners across the Numurkah district, and the wider Goulburn Murray region, found themselves without power for extended periods last Friday, as outside temperatures soared above 45°C.

Energy companies had been instructed by the State Government to enact a series of rolling blackouts as Victoria's electricity grid experienced extremely high demand, however many of those subject to the blackouts were caught by surprise.

With extremely hot conditions looking to continue across much of mainland Australia, at least into the immediate future, the Australian Energy Council and Energy Networks Australia have released a fact sheet on potential impacts on the energy system.

The Australian Energy Council's General Manager Policy, Ben Skinner, said electricity demand has historically been highest on hot weekdays and when business and industry is fully operating.

"The biggest risk occurs with very high demand. Usually that is at the end of a run of two or more hot days. Buildings are already hot, there may be low output from wind generation and solar PV output declines late in the afternoon," Mr Skinner said.

"Losing power, even for short periods during

a heatwave, can cause real discomfort. Electricity providers will be doing everything possible to avoid any loss of power and have worked with AEMO to have plant available for the hotter periods."

Energy Networks Australia CEO Andrew Dillon encouraged people to find out which company distributed electricity to their premises so they can follow them on social media and bookmark their website.

"Only one network business supplies electricity to your house or business, so follow them to get timely information specific to your local area in the event of an outage," Mr Dillon said. "This will ensure you're up to date so you can plan ahead."

The Australian Energy Council said that individual power station generation units can and do have unplanned outages from time to time. This is normal, not just for large plant here in Australia, but also overseas. Power systems have back-up capacity, which is designed to manage a limited number of individual outages.

"There can also be localised issues with power supply on hot days, but these do not reflect systemic problems," Mr Skinner said.

The fact sheet is available at <https://www.energycouncil.com.au/media/15064/heatwaves-factsheet-january-2019-final.pdf>.

## FIREWATCH

WHILST local fire brigades had a relatively busy weekend, with four call-outs, all bar one of those turned out to require no fire-fighting action.

It was the first call-out of the long weekend, that came at 12.30am on Thursday, January 24, that related to an actual fire.

Waaia, Strathmerton, Katunga and Nathalia brigades responded to the fire, which is suspected to have been started by fireworks thrown from a passing car, at the corner of Tyacks Rd and Katunga/Picola Rd.

The fire burnt around two and a half hectares of grass along the roadside, and in a paddock.

Waaia fire brigade returned to the scene in daylight hours with Nathalia brigade, which brought its thermal imaging camera, (TIC) to check for hot spots.

Fires were particularly concerned, as Friday had been declared a day of total fire ban, with forecast temperatures in the high 40s and strong winds expected.

Fire investigators and police are investigating.

At 8.05pm on Friday, Numurkah and Wunghnu brigades were called to a smell of gas, that had been reported at a home at Railway Parade, Numurkah.

## One fire and three false alarms

Whilst enroute to the incident, Vicfire informed the brigades that the occupants of the house had called and reported that the gas smell had gone.

Numurkah continued on and Wunghnu remained at its fire station until Numurkah brigade investigated. On arrival at the address, Numurkah members spoke to the occupiers of the house and, as there was no longer a smell of gas, radioed an incident stop call to Vicfire.

At 4.45pm on Monday, Numurkah and Katunga brigades were called to investigate an explosion heard in the vicinity of the Numurkah Caravan Park in Melville Street, Numurkah. Police put a stop on the fire brigade before they reached the scene.

Later that night, at 11.20pm, Numurkah, Katunga and Wunghnu brigades, along with Shepparton aerial pumper, were called out to a smoke alarm sounding at PALS' Nelson Street house.

There was no fire, but a faulty detector. In consultation with the alarm provider, the fire brigade replaced the detector with another, so that the residents could go back to bed. The alarm provider will check out the system.

The Shepparton brigade was stopped enroute.

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## LUMP SUM RATE PAYMENTS DUE – 15 FEBRUARY

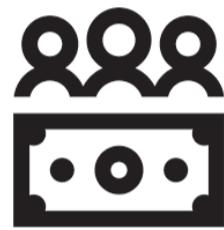


If you are paying your 2018/19 rates in a lump sum, your payment is due on or before Friday 15 February.

You can pay at our service centres in Cobram and Yarrawonga, at any Australia Post Office, BPAY or over the phone.

Also, reminder notices for people paying by instalments will be sent out this week.

## IT'S COMMUNITY GRANT TIME



Applications for our Community Strengthening Minor Grants up to \$5,000 are now open.

If you need funding for an event or to improve facilities or services for your local community then these grants are for you.

Applications close 4pm Wednesday 6 March.

If you require access to a computer, libraries across the shire have computers available for public use.

Every application is important and we want to make sure yours is the best it could possibly be, so if you require assistance in completing your application form please contact us.

## SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL – 30 JANUARY

A Special Meeting of Council will be held on Wednesday 30 January at the Cobram Civic Centre commencing at 5pm.

The purpose of this meeting is to consider the following –

- Contract C013/19 – Cobram Apex Reserve
- Proposal to discontinue and sell a section of Richardson Street, Nathalia.

Members of the community are welcome to attend and observe the meeting.

## FREE NEW PET REGISTRATIONS – UNTIL 24 FEBRUARY



As a new year incentive, we are offering 'no fee' animal registrations up until 24 February.

This means anyone wishing to register a NEW animal (those that have not been registered before with Moira Shire Council) can do so at no fee but will have to pay the renewal from 10 April.

For more information go to our website.

## BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS – TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

The 2019 GrainCorp Moira Business Excellence Awards will be held on Friday 29 March at the Cobram Civic Centre from 5.30pm.

These awards celebrate the achievements of businesses and individuals who have excelled in their field.

Angela Frino from Edge FM is MC for the evening with special guest TEDx speaker Ashley Fell talking all things communication.

This is the business event of the year – tickets are available now at <https://2019busawards.eventbrite.com.au>

## FIND US ON FACEBOOK



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**Citizen of the Year ...** Glenice Holmes was quite overwhelmed to receive the accolade for her contribution to Numurkah and district.

## Numurkah comes together for Australia Day

NEWMAN Square was once again the scene of a community uniting last Saturday, as Numurkah district locals gathered to celebrate Australia Day.

Around 200 locals gathered from 8am, on a blissfully warm - but not hot - morning, to enjoy a barbecued breakfast feast prepared by members of the Numurkah Lions and Rotary clubs, with background music provided by Hans Bruizman and the Numurkah Town Band.

The official ceremony commenced at 9am with the raising of the Australian flag and the singing of the national anthem led by the town band.

Cr Marie Martin delivered the Australia day address before the winners of Community Event of the Year, Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year, which had five nominees between them, were announced and presented.

The announcement of winner of Community Event of the Year was a popular one with those in attendance, with the honour being presented to Richo's Runners for their Big Freeze event held in June 2018.

Richo's Runners was formed in 2017 after local man Scott Richardson was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease (MND).

What began as an idea to enter a team in Run Melbourne and raise money for the charity "Fight MND" grew to a Big Freeze event and raised almost \$30,000.

Before Scott's death in December 2017, he requested just one more Big Freeze event.

The Big Freeze 2 – "Richo's Last Stand" raised a staggering total of \$65,000 - enough to cover a research scientist working towards finding a cure, for 12 months.

Richo's Runners member Mark "Bussy" Davies said that the group was rapt with being awarded the honour.

"It's fantastic, and we are happy to be given the recognition," he said.

"We were just trying to help out those suffering with MND and this all came about."

Mr Davies also thanked everybody on the com-

munity who helped make the event such a success.

"The wider community really stepped up and got involved, and clubs and individuals from right across the district helped make it such a success and we are very grateful for that."

The award for Citizen of the Year was presented to Glenice Holmes, who has been a stalwart of the Numurkah Historical Society for 40 years.

Glenice was lauded for her knowledge of local history and her generosity with her time, and willingness to help community members research and access their families' history.

In addition to her work there, Glenice was recognised for her long commitment to the Numurkah Lions club through her work with the Numurkah Lions Ladies of which she was a foundation member, and in which she is still active.

Glenice said that she felt quite overwhelmed to be named citizen of the year.

"I just love what I do, and I never asked, or expected, to receive an accolade like this," she said.

The final award of the event was made to Young Citizen of the Year Jesse Trower, who was not present at the ceremony to receive his award.

Jesse is a member of the Waaia Football Netball Club, playing in the senior side and coaching the under 14 football team, as well as running fundraisers and promoting the club to potential new members.

Jesse is also heavily involved in the Waaia Cricket Club where he is an integral member of the senior team.

In 2018, Jesse also received the Apprenticeship Factory Education Support Trainee of the Year award, along with the prestigious Trainee of the Year award.

The other nominees in the Event of the Year category and Citizen of the Year category, Numurkah Foodbowl Festival and Louise Bourchier respectively, received certificates of appreciation for their contributions to the Numurkah and district community.



**Community Event of the Year ...** Richo's Runners Nathan Morris, Adrienne Gledhill, Mark "Bussy" Davies, Kate Reghennani and Tamara Martin were thrilled with the honour.



**Decades of dedication ...** Nathalia District Welfare members, front (from left): Marissa Clifton, Joy Hutchins, Leone Hack, Kerry Rice, Marilyn Frost. Back: Maureen Pell, Faye Hutchins and Hazel Lucas were happy the organisation was recognised.

## Fun Australia Day event in Nathalia

THE great spirit of the Nathalia community was once again on display on Saturday evening, as locals gathered at the town's recreation reserve for its annual Australia Day celebrations.

Around 100 people enjoyed a free barbecue before the, sometimes, serious business of the local Australia Day awards began.

Adding gravitas to the occasion was the presence of MP for Shepparton Suzanna Sheed, her husband, well-known paediatrician Peter Eastaugh, and Moira Shire councillors Libro Mustica, Gary Cleveland, Kevin Bourke and Marie Martin.

MC Leanne Pell entertained the audience with, for some, little known facts about Australia, including that a fleet of French ships arrived mere weeks after the First Fleet.

Had they arrived first, Ms Pell reflected, then we would all be speaking a different language and would likely have many more than the 60 wine regions we now boast.

After the singing of the national anthem, led by the Nathalia community choir, were a welcome

from Moira Shire Mayor Libro Mustica and an Australia Day address from Ms Sheed.

Ms Sheed noted that the Nathalia community provided a wonderful example of the camaraderie that allows rural and regional communities to change and grow.

"I have always been struck by the passion and hard work of the people in this community," she said.

"Regional and rural communities rely on commitment, trust and teamwork and it is important that we don't forget the impact we can have on others."

"The spirit of active community service is at the heart of this district, and it is important that we recognise the contribution people make."

Last year's Nathalia Citizen of the Year, Margaret Pattison, then addressed the audience, reminding them of what a privilege it is to live in a town like Nathalia.

Following an Australia Day medley especially prepared and performed by the community choir, it was down to the business of the awards.

First up was the award that Ms Pell said that people had really come to see - the 'bowling at the wicket' award.

The under 10 category of the hotly contested award was shared by Tanner Quinn and Makai Curtis, whilst Tanner's older brother Zander took out the prize of the over 10 category.

The Community Event of the Year award, presented by Ms Sheed was won by Nathalia District Lions' New Years Eve Carnival.

Accepting the award, Nathalia Lions president Denis Dunn said that it was a testament to the Nathalia Lions' members, and others involved with the event, that the carnival, which was started in 1956 as a fundraiser for Nathalia hospital, was entirely self-funded.

Mr Dunn also noted that each year there were over 40 pages of paperwork to be completed in order for permits to be obtained to hold the event.

Community Organisation of the Year was awarded to Nathalia District Welfare.

Presenting the award Ms Sheed said that the

group, which donates up to \$10,000 to the local community each year, plays an important role in the emotional and financial health of the community.

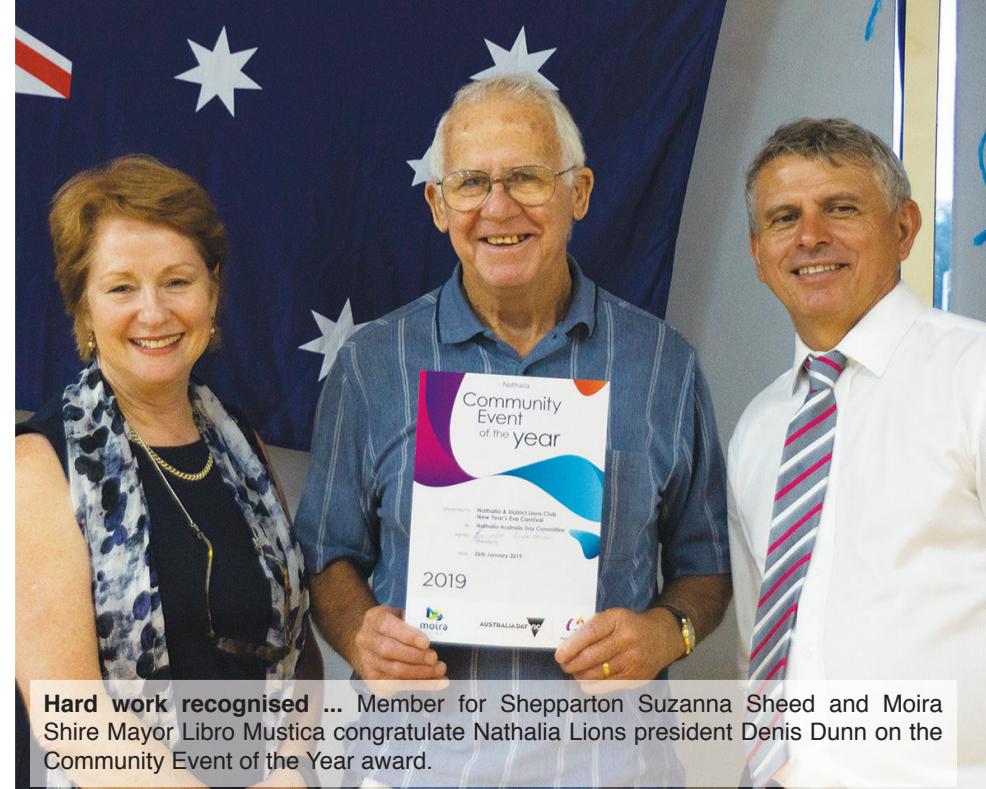
Accepting the award on behalf of the organisation, president Marissa Clifton noted that in its 44 years of service to the community, it was the first time that the organisation had received any kind of public recognition.

Finally, the Citizen of the Year award was presented to Andrew Franklin for his tireless work, both in lobbying for services that help the entire community, and for helping any individual community member that he can.

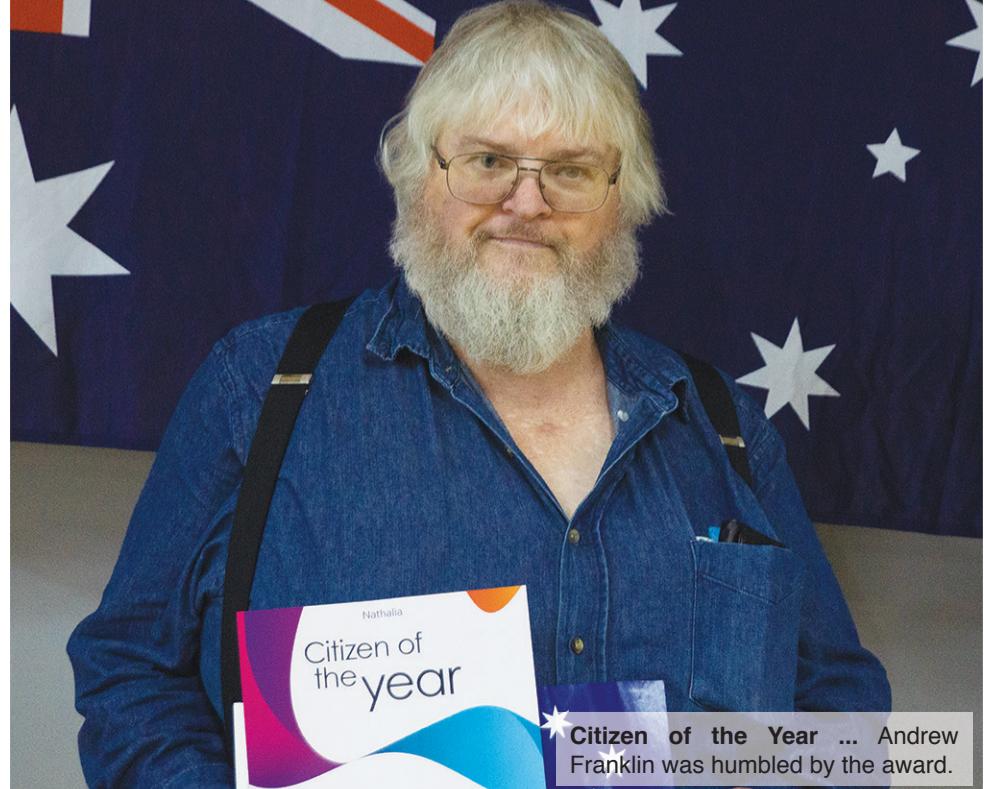
Mr Franklin told the *Leader* that he was humbled by the award, and that he was grateful to the Nathalia community.

"This town has always looked after me and I appreciate that and just want to give back however I can and finish some of the work my father started for the community," Mr Franklin said.

"Nathalia is a great town and a great community and I am very passionate about it."



**Hard work recognised ...** Member for Shepparton Suzanna Sheed and Moira Shire Mayor Libro Mustica congratulate Nathalia Lions president Denis Dunn on the Community Event of the Year award.



**Citizen of the Year ...** Andrew Franklin was humbled by the award.

# The Numurkah Leader.

GOULBURN VALLEY FARMERS' AND FRUIT GROWERS' GAZETTE

# 100 years ago

## This week in 1919 ...

To celebrate the State Library of Victoria's digitising of the war years editions of the Numurkah Leader, each week we will include the news of the week, 100 years ago.

To view these editions online go to [trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/title/S91](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/title/S91).

### GOULBURN VALLEY FIRE BRIGADE DEMONSTRATION VERY SUCCESSFUL DAY. RUNDLE SHIELD WON BY SHEPPARTON.

The annual demonstration of the Goulburn Valley Fire Brigades' Association was held at Numurkah on Monday last under ideal weather conditions and in the presence of a large crowd, the gate takings totalling over £35. Special trains were run from various parts of the Valley, and these were liberally patronised, about £100 worth of tickets being sold. From this the association will receive about £10.

The arrangements for the "dem." were well made by the local brigade under Captain A. McPherson President of the association. The track was in first rate order, the water supply was excellent (thanks to the hearty cooperation of the water trust and Mr Hay Ower), and some excellent times were put up. Indeed, practically every winning run established a record for the association, and in one event, times were put up that, it is believed, have not been beaten at any of the "big dems."

This is the case, we understand, with the One-Man Marshall event, which McAnaulty, of Kyabram, won in 26 4/5 secs., a time that stands as the record for Victoria. For the Six-Man Hose and Reel Numurkah brigade has the distinction of putting up a run (34 2/5) that has not yet been beaten. This was put up at a demonstration on an asphalt track, so that when it is said that the winning time on Monday (on an earth track, and with a little slower water than is got in the cities) was 35 4/5 secs., it will be seen that very last running was done.

**Police Commended.**—At the termination of the Police Court on 18th December, the presiding magistrate (Mr C. J. Rogers P.M.), complimented Senior-Constable O'Donnell for the work done in connection with the proceedings against A. Johnstone for conducting an illegal lottery. The action of the senior was the means of stopping Johnstone from going through the country collecting money on the plea that it was for patriotic purposes. The magistrate asked that the inspector (Mr Bretherton) would note it. Mr Bretherton said he was pleased to hear his Worship's remarks concerning the case; he would bring it under the notice of his office. As a result of Mr Bretherton's report to Mr Carrigan (Superintendent of the district), he has placed a favourable entry on the record sheets of Senior-Constable O'Donnell and Constable De La-Rue in connection with the case.

The death of Mr. Michael Neil, which occurred at his residence, Sandmount, Saturday last, removes another of the district's early pioneers. With Mr Thos. Leavy and the late Jas. Maidment, Mr Neil, who was 59 years of age, was the first to settle at Sandmount (over 40 years ago), and retained his holding to the last. The deceased had been ailing for about six months, but the end came rather unexpectedly. He leaves a widow and family of one son and three daughters to mourn, his demise.

**Tender Accepted.**—The tender of the Church of England authorities has been accepted for the purchase of the Methodist Church building at Katunga.

### Improper Use of Uniforms.

During the Christmas and New Year holidays it was the subject of comment by a large section of the community that boys and youths were to be seen in camping and seaside districts dressed in the Government issue of senior cadet uniforms. It is notified for the information of all concerned, and that of the community at large, that these uniforms are issued to the cadets solely for the purpose of attending parades. The use of them for camping expeditions constitutes an offence, and in future offenders will be severely dealt with. The practice indulged in by some cadets of going to their daily work dressed partly in Defence and partly in other Government Department uniform or civilian clothes is also to be discontinued.



**Event of the Year ...** Big Day Out committee members Rob Peachey, Marjorie Lee, Andrew Moffatt, Graham Lukies, Trish Mortimer, Arthur Jeffrey and Pino Mancini.

## Katamatite celebrates Australia Day

KATAMATITE recreation reserve presented a relaxed scene on Saturday morning, as around 90 locals and visitors gathered under the gum trees for the town's Australia Day breakfast.

Whilst the Katamatite Lions Club members slaved over a hot barbecue cooking up a bacon and egg feast, and members of the Katamatite Australia Day committee made sure there was also plenty of fresh fruit, tea, coffee and juice to go around, local musicians provided a relaxing Australian soundtrack.

Following the singing of the national anthem, Moira Shire mayor Libro Mustica and Cr Gary Cleveland presented the town's Australia Day awards.

Cr Mustica said that the turnout to the event was a testament to the great Australian spirit that was present in Katamatite.

"We are here to celebrate the grassroots achievements of locals who are the unsung heroes among us," he said.

"It is the Aussie way to pitch in and contribute, and the quality of the nominees for today's awards sums up the Aussie spirit and the strong sense of community here in Katamatite."

The winner of the Community Organisation of the Year award was the Katamatite Community Action Group.

Cr Mustica lauded the group's members for their outstanding contribution to the town through organisation of events including the Anzac Day service, the Australia day breakfast and for the creation of the CR Wood park.

Cr Cleveland presented the award for Community Event of the Year to Big Day Out in a Small Town, which was organised by the Katamatite Lions Club with help from other community members.

Cr Cleveland said that through organising the event for the past three years, the Lions club had provided a forum for the community to come together to put Katamatite on the map.

Accepting the award, Katamatite Lions president Graham Lukies said that, through the event attracting more than 1,500 visitors and raising \$6,500, Katamatite had shown that it was doing very well for a town of its size.

The final award of the day, the Citizen of the Year, was presented to June Wood.

Cr Mustica said that there was a long list of ways in which June had been involved in helping the community over the years.

"June is always the first to volunteer when something needs to be done, and she has initiated a number of programs, such as the free library, that are of great benefit to her community," he said.

Accepting the award, June thanked her family, including her 'very patient husband'.

"It is an honour to accept this award, and I want to thank the other members of the Katamatite Community Action Group," she said.

"We are all doing our best to not just keep the town alive, but to make it thrive, and it is nice to be recognised for the work we do."

June's fellow nominee for the honour, Rob Peachey, was presented with a certificate of ap-



**Citizen of the Year ...** Tireless community worker June Wood with Moira Shire mayor Libro Mustica.



preciation by Cr Cleveland who said that, as Rob's former grade four teacher at Yarrawonga Primary School, it was a proud moment for him.

Rob, who is a former president, and current secretary, of the Katamatite Lions Club was chairman of the Big Day Out in a Small Town committee, and said that he was pleased to be able to make a contribution to the community.

The final presentation for the day was for a contest that many of those present had a stake in - the 'guess how many lollies are in the jar' competition.

That prize went to Marjorie Lee who, with a guess of 119, was the closest to the correct answer of 120. Marjorie said she was thrilled with her win.

**ABOVE:** Community organisation of the year ... Katamatite Community Action group members Mark Nordbye, June Wood, Rob Wood, Kim Clark, David Liversidge and Neil Gillespie (right) with Crs Libro Mustica and Gary Cleveland.



Humble ... Peter Cox OAM said he just enjoys helping people.

## Helping people all the way to an OAM

NUMURKAH has a new member of the Order of Australia, with community stalwart Peter Cox having received the honour in the Australia Day honours.

Mr Cox received the award for service to the community of Numurkah.

Mr Cox told the *Leader* that he was humbled to receive the award, which he first became aware of when he received a letter from the Governor General several months ago asking if he would accept it.

"It's a great honour to be recognised," he said.

"Over the years people have said to me 'you should get an OAM', but I've always just enjoyed helping people and have never looked for any recognition."

He was named Numurkah's Citizen of the Year in 2002.

Mr Cox is a Numurkah man through and through, having been born in the local hospital in 1947, and still residing at the same address that he was taken home to as a newborn.

Mr Cox's volunteering resume makes impressive reading, and leaves no doubt that the award is well-deserved and, perhaps, long overdue.

Mr Cox has been a volunteer member of the Numurkah CFA branch since 1979, and has filled the roles of captain, secretary and foreman.

In 2015 he was recognised for 35 years service with the brigade, of which he is still an active member.

Through his example, Mr Cox has inspired both of his sons, Jason and Darren, and two of his grandsons, Dale and Tyler, who are also active members of the brigade.

Mr Cox joined the Numurkah Apex Club at the age of 21, and remained an active member until he reached the compulsory retirement age of 40. He was later bestowed a life membership of the club.

After ageing out of Apex, Mr Cox joined the Lions Club of Numurkah, in which he has held various committee roles, since he joined in 1988.

He has been a member of the Numurkah Wunghnu Cemetery Trust since 2001.

Mr Cox also spent time as a volunteer driver for the Numurkah branch of the Goulburn Val-

ley Ambulance Service from 1966 to 1986, and was a volunteer ambulance officer from 1968 to 1986.

He left the service when he opened his business Peter Cox & Sons Funeral Directors in 1986.

When the service was funded for a second full-time paid officer in 1988, Mr Cox was offered the position, but declined.

"I would have liked to have accepted because I always enjoyed the work, but I didn't want people to feel put-off or frightened when they called for an ambulance and they saw it was being driven by a funeral director," he said.

"That didn't seem right, so I declined the position."

It's an attitude completely in keeping with Mr Cox's character, as for him it is all about people, and how he can be of service to them.

"Being a funeral director, you have an opportunity to assist people going through a very difficult time, and perhaps make it a little bit easier for them, and I enjoy that about my job."

As with everything else he does, Mr Cox has thrown himself into the funeral industry with great energy and enthusiasm since he opened his business in 1986, filling a number of official roles with the Australian Funeral Directors Association (AFDA).

He has held the position of Victorian Divisional Councillor since 1990, was a National Councillor from 2005 to 2007, and Victorian President from 2004 to 2006.

However, Mr Cox originally had a much different career, having completed an electrical apprenticeship in Numurkah as a young man and opening Numurkah Electrical Services in 1969; a business his son Darren has run since 1999.

Of course, for Peter Cox there was much more to being a local electrician than just being on-call 24/7 for breakdowns, and doing work for the shire, water trust and hospital, as well as domestic, commercial and farm work.

"We used to pitch-in and do the lighting and PA systems for public events on a voluntary basis," he said.

"I just like to help out the community when I can."



## MHA Care 'The Right Care for You'

### Planned Activity Groups

MHA Care understands that many frail, aged or people with a disability and their carers may be socially isolated. Our Planned Activity Groups offer an opportunity for participants to come along and experience a social, fun filled day with others. At all of our Planned Activity Groups we engage our clients in meaningful group social activities which draw upon personal strengths, build capacity, encourage independence and involve our clients in their community. The positive and supported environment provides social opportunities for participants to prolong independent community living. Each program is facilitated by our experienced staff and dedicated volunteers who organise our programs to meet specific client needs. Some of the group activities MHA Care offer are, Excursions and shopping trips and Swimming and Hydrotherapy program.



### Volunteer News

Our volunteers are highly valued and form an integral part of our programs. In 2018 we celebrated the service and support provided by our Volunteers by awarding Service Recognition Awards to those volunteers who have served for 5 years or more.

If you would like to join our valued team of volunteers please call Lorraine Northeast, Volunteer Coordinator on 5742 1111 or call into our office in Orr Street, Yarrawonga and ask to speak to Lorraine. We currently have Volunteering opportunities in our Meals on Wheels Program and Yarrawonga Community Opportunity Shop.



Our Numurkah and Natahala Meals on Wheels Volunteers after receiving their Service Recognition Awards.

### Employment Opportunities

Our Community Care Workers provide a range of high quality services and support to frail, aged and disabled clients and their carer's, both within their homes and in the community. Every staff member contributes to the development and growth of MHA Care and endeavours to encourage and actively support individuals to continue to live in their community.

As we are experiencing continued growth in our Home Care services we are seeking Community Care Workers who can demonstrate high professional skills and the ability to enable MHA Care to meet this increased demand for our services. If you would like to be a part of this exciting period of growth please send your resume with a covering letter to; hr@mhacare.org.au or call into our office in Orr Street, Yarrawonga for more information.



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# IMPROVING HEALTH SERVICES

Nathalia Cobram Numurkah [www.ncnhealthservices.org.au](http://www.ncnhealthservices.org.au)



## PROPOSAL TO JOIN SERVICES

The Nathalia, Cobram and Numurkah health services are continuing to work closely through a proposal to join together, to improve access to care for local communities. We invite community input on the proposal to confirm priorities and shape the future of health care in the region. We want to know what is important to staff and the community to inform how the new entity will operate. Consultation is now taking place (16 January - 13 February).

## HAVE YOUR SAY

### Attend a consultation session:

**NATHALIA** - Tuesday 5 February 3.00pm-5.00pm at Nathalia District Hospital, 36-44 McDonell St, Nathalia.

**COBRAM** - Tuesday 5 February 6.30pm-8.30pm at Cobram Uniting Church Hall, 4/10 Hay Ave, Cobram.

**NUMURKAH** - Wednesday 6 February 5.00pm- 7.00pm at Numurkah District Health Service, 2 Katamatite-Nathalia Rd, Numurkah

Refreshments will be provided. Please rsvp by email to: [ncnhealthservices@humehealth.org.au](mailto:ncnhealthservices@humehealth.org.au).

Visit the website - fill in a Form or Survey. [www.ncnhealthservices.org.au](http://www.ncnhealthservices.org.au)

Email: [ncnhealthservices@humehealth.org.au](mailto:ncnhealthservices@humehealth.org.au)

Write to: NCN Proposal PO Box 252 Cobram 3644 VIC

Phone: Nathalia 5866 9444; Cobram 5871 0777; Numurkah 5862 0555



## Moira Shire Council Electoral Representation Review

The electoral structure of Moira Shire Council is being reviewed by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to ensure fair and equitable representation for all voters. This review is called a representation review.

The review will consider:

- whether Moira Shire Council has the appropriate number of councillors
- whether Moira Shire Council should be subdivided into wards or remain unsubdivided and
- if subdivided, the number of wards, ward boundaries, and the number of councillors per ward.

The VEC is seeking your input. Public input is a vital part of the review process, providing valuable local perspectives and knowledge.

Anyone can make a submission. Preliminary submissions open on Wednesday 6 February.

### How to make a submission

Preliminary submissions must be received by the VEC by 5.00 pm on Wednesday 6 March. Submissions can be made:

online at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)

by email: [moira.review@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:moira.review@vec.vic.gov.au)

by post: VEC, Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

### Submission guide

A submission guide containing key dates and details to help you prepare your submission will be available at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or by calling 131 832.

### Public information sessions

- 5.30 pm, Tuesday 5 February Numurkah Presidents Room 99 Melville Street, Numurkah
- 7.30 pm, Tuesday 5 February Cobram Civic Centre Punt Road, Cobram
- 7.00 pm, Wednesday 6 February Yarrawonga Town Hall 100 Belmore Street, Yarrawonga

A preliminary report will be released on Wednesday 3 April outlining options for the electoral structure of Moira Shire Council.



Preliminary submissions close 5.00 pm on Wednesday 6 March



≡ MENU

## Numurkah

My current location, 10km radius

### Warnings

0

### Incidents

0

VERY HIGH fire danger for today (Northern Country)



### Warnings

0

### Fire Bans / Ratings

0

### No statewide warnings

[View the state map](#)

### My watch zones

#### Work

Numurkah, 35 km radius



Alerts off

VERY HIGH fire danger for today

WARNINGS 0 INCIDENTS 0

Settings

+ Add a new watch zone

Valuable ... The Vic Emergency app is helping Victorians stay informed.

## Understand the warnings on popular app

THE Vic Emergency app has become a popular tool for Victorians, helping them stay informed about emergency incidents in their area.

Vic Emergency, the official State Government agency for monitoring emergencies and issuing warnings to the public, aims to provide as much information as it can to help people make good decisions to protect themselves and their family.

But knowing what is near you isn't enough - Vic Emergency, is urging Victorians to take the time to understand the different warning levels, particularly with recent hot weather resulting in extreme fire conditions, and rolling power blackouts.

Warnings are issued to inform people if an emergency may impact them, and each warning level comes with specific advice on what you should do.

The warning level is based on severity, conditions and the likelihood that the emergency could impact on the community, so the first warning issued could be an Emergency Warning - the highest level.

There are three different levels of warning:

- Emergency warning - you are in imminent danger and need to take action immediately. You will be impacted.

- Warning (Watch and Act) - an emergency is developing nearby. You need to take action now to protect yourself and others.

- Advice - an incident is occurring or has oc-

curred in the area. Access information and monitor conditions. This warning level can also be used as a notification that activity in the area has subsided and is no longer a danger to you.

Do not rely on an official warning to leave. Emergencies can start quickly and threaten you within minutes.

Additional messages may be issued, which may include:

- Prepare to evacuate / evacuate now - an evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.

- Community information - a newsletter containing updates for communities affected by an emergency. This may also be used as notification that an incident has occurred but there is no threat to community.

What to do if you hear a warning:

Stay calm. Stop what you are doing and pay attention.

If you don't understand the warning, get someone to explain by asking neighbours or friends.

Follow the advice of warnings immediately. People die or are put in danger because they don't respond right away.

Keep in contact with family members. Make sure they know what is happening and what you plan to do.

Stay informed. Keep listening for more information in case the situation changes.



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# Joint health services proposal enters next stage

NUMURKAH, Cobram and Nathalia health services are continuing to work together on a proposal to join services with the aim to improve access to care for local communities.

Ms Jacque Phillips OAM, Chief Executive Officer of Numurkah District Health Service, Cobram District Health and Nathalia District Hospital said they are encouraging further community participation and input on the proposal to join services, to confirm priorities and shape the future of health care in the region.

"We want to know what is important to staff and the community to inform how the new entity will operate," Ms Phillips said.

"We invite you to come along to one of the consultation sessions, complete a survey, write a letter, visit or contact us by email or phone."

The three organisations are currently operating as separate entities and the boards of man-

agement are governing each health service independently.

The proposal aims to combine the management and governance of the three organisations under one entity, pending Ministerial approval.

"It is important to note that the existing facilities will remain in place, in their current locations," Ms Phillips said.

"Current services will be maintained and enhanced to improve access and deliver the best possible health care locally. There will be no reduction in services, staffing or funding in relation to the collaboration initiative."

The consultation period is four weeks - January 16 to February 13, 2019.

Initial staff and community consultation on the proposal took place from November 2017 to March 2018. Feedback was positive.

A 'due diligence' analysis of financial, clinical, HR and governance matters was also undertaken.

Partnerships between Nathalia, Cobram and Numurkah (NCN) health services have strengthened over the past 12 months, with much work undertaken to enhance services.

Partnership activities to date include:

- The urgent care project, new mental health services, respiratory services, enhanced palliative care services, joined education opportunities, community rehabilitation services and integrated planning to prepare for upcoming quality and safety accreditation.
- memorandum of understanding and service agreements between Nathalia District Hospital, Cobram District Health and Numurkah District Health Service have been developed.
- Since July 2018, a number of appointments

have been made to executive roles that work across the three locations: CEO, Director Corporate Services, Director People and Culture and Director Medical Services. The Directors of Clinical Services remain at Cobram and Numurkah and the Director of Nursing remains at Nathalia. Workforce planning and joined training sessions are under way with staff across each organisation. Staff are valued and there will be further opportunities for development.

Consultation sessions are being held in coming weeks to allow clients of the three health services to have their say.

If you would like to complete a survey, but can't attend a session, visit [www.ncnhealthservices.org.au](http://www.ncnhealthservices.org.au) or [www.surveymonkey.com/r/NCN-health](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NCN-health).

You can also have your say by visiting or phoning any of the three health services.

## Apply now for a Community Strengthening Grant

APPLICATIONS are now open for Moira Shire's latest round of grants in the Community Strengthening Program, with minor grants - up to \$5,000 - on offer.

These grants aim to provide funding for arts and culture projects, community events, equipment, health promotion and environmental sustainability.

If you are a non-profit community group or organisation needing funding for an event or project, then this program is for you.

Mayor Libro Mustica said the Community Strengthening Program was a great way to kick start a community initiative.

"Community grants are a vital function of Moira Shire Council," Cr Mustica said.

"They help facilitate projects which enrich the whole community and can assist in the development of services, management of facilities, coordination of events and promotion of tourism, environmental sustainability and health in the community."

Arts and culture projects or events could include holding skills development workshops, hosting music or art events and exhibitions, or workshops with community public art outcomes.

Health promotion ideas which could be funded include projects supporting active and healthy lifestyles or opportunities to educate the community about mental health, drug and alcohol issues.

Various types of equipment which have been funded in the past include shelters, fencing/bollards, sporting club equipment, sound systems and defibrillators.

"Under the environmental sustainability category you can submit applications for projects that save water, energy or emissions, such as the purchase of water saving fixtures and appliances, rooftop solar systems and energy efficient heating, cooling and lighting," Cr Mustica said.

"You can apply online by visiting our website and if you require assistance in either planning your project, or completing your application form, council officers are here to help."

"If you require access to a computer, libraries across the shire have computers available for public use."

Applications close at 4pm on Wednesday, March 6, 2019.

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Australian Government

# Moira welcomes new citizens

MOIRA shire welcomed its newest Australian citizens at a ceremony in Cobram on Australia Day.

The ceremony was particularly special as Australia is marking 70 years since citizenship was introduced into law, creating for the first time a legal status of being uniquely Australian.

The first Australian citizenship ceremony was held on February 3, 1949, with seven men – representing each Australian state and territory – swearing their allegiance to Australia.

They hailed from Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Greece, Norway, Spain and Yugoslavia.

Today, Australia is one of the most successful multicultural nations in the world; since 1949, we have welcomed more than five million new Australian citizens to our shores.

Moira Shire's newest citizens originated from countries including Italy, El Salvador, the Philippines, Tanzania, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

They took the next steps in

their life in Australia at a ceremony attended by Moira Shire councillors along with Member for Northern Victoria Tim Quilty.

Mayor Libro Mustica said he was proud to induct these new citizens, who now reside in towns throughout the shire, with those communities strengthened by the commitment shown by this group.

"Our new citizens have already become integral members of our local towns and are active members of sporting organisations and community groups," Cr Mustica said.

"Through our Australian citizenship we all share a commitment to values including mutual respect, equality, freedom of speech and religion, the rule of law and democracy.

"Our citizenship means we all belong to the Australian family and we can all enjoy the responsibilities and privileges of living in this country and having a say in its future."

If you are interested in becoming an Australian citizen visit [www.citizenship.gov.au](http://www.citizenship.gov.au).



**Moira's newest Aussies ...** The shire's nine new citizens came from all over the world but are now officially, and proudly, Australian.

## Understanding fire danger ratings and bans

WITH recent extreme weather keeping emergency services on high alert, and more to come before summer is over, residents and visitors to the district are being reminded about the need to be aware of daily fire danger ratings, and strict observance of fire restrictions.

Victoria has nine different fire districts, and Moira Shire is in the Northern Country fire district, along with Greater Shepparton, Campaspe, Loddon, Strathbogie and Greater Bendigo Shires.

### Fire danger period

The fire danger period is when the CFA restricts the use of fire in the community throughout high fire danger months, to help prevent fires from starting.

The CFA declares the fire danger period for each municipality at different times in the lead up to the fire season. It depends on the amount of rain, grassland curing rate and other local conditions.

The fire danger period may be declared as early as October in some municipalities, and typically remains in place until the fire danger lessens, which could be as late as May.

The current fire danger period for Moira Shire commenced on October 22, 2018 and is due to end on May 1, 2019.

Once the fire danger period has

been declared, fire restrictions come into force. This means you cannot light a fire in the open air unless you have a permit or comply with certain requirements.

If you don't obtain a permit, you could be breaking the law and may be prosecuted.

A full list of what you can and can't do during the fire danger period is available at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can).

Your local council or shire may have their own local laws about lighting fires. Contact your local council to find out what municipal local laws may be in place. Local laws may be in place all year.

### Total fire ban

The fire danger period is not the same thing as a total fire ban

A total fire ban is declared by the CFA on days when fires are likely to spread rapidly and could be difficult to control.

No fires are permitted to be lit, or remain alight, in the open on a day of total fire ban.

Total fire bans are normally declared by 5pm on the day before a ban, but can be declared or revoked at any time. You can always check the CFA website for the latest information.

If a district has not been declared a total fire ban, fire restrictions may still apply for each municipality.

### Fire danger ratings

Fire danger ratings are forecast four days ahead, and are updated twice daily, at 5.30am and 4pm. Fire danger ratings are designed to alert the public to the weather conditions with regards to the likelihood, and likely severity of, fires.

Victoria has six fire danger ratings.

### Code Red

Code red, which is often referred to as 'catastrophic', is the highest fire danger rating and was introduced in September 2009, following the Black Saturday bushfires.

Code red is issued for days when the conditions are most likely to result in uncontrollable fires.

According to the CFA:

- these are the worst conditions for a bush or grass fire;
- homes are not designed or constructed to withstand fires in these conditions;
- the safest place to be is away from high risk bushfire areas.

What should I do?

Leaving high risk bushfire areas the night before or early in the day is your safest option - do not wait and see.

Avoid forested areas, thick bush or long, dry grass.

### Extreme

This is the second highest fire danger rating.

When this rating is issued, the CFA

advises:

- expect extremely hot, dry and windy conditions;
- if a fire starts and takes hold, it may be uncontrollable;
- well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety;
- you must be physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions.

What should I do?

Well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety - check your bushfire survival plan.

If you are not prepared, leaving bushfire prone areas early in the day is your safest option.

Be aware of local conditions and seek information by listening to your emergency broadcasters, go to [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au) or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

### Very High/High/Low-Moderate

For the three lowest fire danger ratings the CFA advises:

- if a fire starts, it can most likely be controlled in these conditions and homes can provide safety;
- be aware of how fires can start and minimise the risk;
- controlled burning off may occur in these conditions if it is safe - check to see if permits apply.

What should I do?

Check your bushfire survival plan. Monitor conditions.

Action may be needed.

Leave if necessary.



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- Anonymous

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Mark Henderson  
Chief Executive Officer

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OR EMAIL

[printads@leader.net.au](mailto:printads@leader.net.au)

## ENGAGEMENTS

**BRAYBON — WILKINSON.**  
Glenn, Annette and family would like to congratulate **KATIE & DANIEL** on their Engagement January 9th, 2019.  
Love and best wishes to you both

## IN MEMORIAM

**HICKS — BETTY ANN.**  
11.4.1946 - 29.1.2014  
5 years have passed since we lost you.  
Still think of you every day.  
Love Colin

**HICKS — BETTY ANN.**  
January 29th 2014.  
Loved mum to Andrea and Shaun and mother-in-law to Leigh and Michele.  
Loved Nana to Tyson, Brandon, Shenae, Jesse, Chloe and Ashlee. Great Nanna to Norah.  
Five years have passed and we still miss you every day.  
It's not the same without you.

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PETER KRAKE



## DEATHS

**SHADBOLT (DICK) — FELICITY.**  
There can be no goodbyes for us  
It'd be too painful, dear  
Our connections still live on  
Although you're far from here.  
I miss the times that we once had  
But one day, once again  
I'll hold you close and laugh with you,  
I just wish I knew when.

Each moment till that day arrives  
Until my time is through.  
I'll miss you more than words can say  
And always think of you.

I'll look for you among the stars  
And each dawn's pastel sky  
And whisper words of love to you  
But never say goodbye.  
*Forever running in our hearts*  
Love Mum

**SHADBOLT (DICK) — FELICITY.**  
A silent thought, a secret tear,  
Keeps your memory ever dear.  
God took you home, it was his will,  
But in our hearts, you live still.

*Sadly missed.  
Forever running in our hearts.*

Love Dave Trevethan

## DEATHS

**McKELLAR — MILEY VERONICA**

Our beautiful girl  
Born sleeping on  
January 26, 2019



Long awaited daughter of Bryn and Shane,  
little sister of Curtis and Jaiden.

Miley,  
We may have only held you in our arms for a moment,  
But we will hold you in our hearts forever  
*Fly High Angel*

We love you, Mummy, Daddy, Curtis and Jaiden XXXX



Most people only dream of Angels,  
I held one in my arms,  
Miley, you will be in my heart forever.  
Go Fly with Nana Norma

Love Nanny Sue



There is no foot too small  
That it cannot leave an imprint on the world.  
Love Always

Nanny Sal and Poppy Dean XX

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# Sandy holds early lead

by "The Shankster"

WITH Saturday's forecast much more favourable than the previous few days, there was a good field of 18 women golfers out on the Numurkah course, most still teeing off in the morning.

Sandy Trimble was in one of the early groups, and came in with a terrific score of 39 points, holding the lead right through the day to take the day's voucher.

Bev McIntosh, Pauline Davies and Julie Hannaford fought it out for second place, with Bev winning the countback on 37 points, while Lauris Ashton won a countback from Bev Hutchins to round out the ball winners.

Bev McIntosh won nearest the pin on the fourth hole, Pauline Davies won the seventh, Julie Hannaford had the best shot to the 15th green and Tracey Clouston was closest on the 18th.

A forecast for only 39°C last Wednesday allowed the women to play the usual 18 hole competition, rather than just the nine holes allowed when the temperature is forecast for 40°C or higher.

Eager to play 18 holes, rather than nine, captain Tracey Clouston relished the conditions and came in with a terrific score of 38 stableford points.

There was only a small field out, and most headed out early to try and beat the heat, and while most of the scores were

not very good, the last group in had all of the best scores.

Julie Daniel was runner-up to Tracey with 36 points. The top two finished well clear of the rest of the field, Pauline Davies finishing in third place with just 31 points.

Bev Hutchins, 30, and Lorraine Craig, 28, rounded out the ball winners.

No-one in the first groups managed to get onto the 18th green for a nearest the pin, but Julie Daniel, in the final group, managed to get one close to win the ball.

Thursday's temperature rose a little on the previous day, and all players were again required to tee off early.

Merren Carr had the best score of the day with 38 nett, finishing just ahead of Robyn Hodgkin and Loris Houlihan on 39. No-one got onto the seventh green, so we saved a ball.

With much more favourable weather conditions forecast for this week, things should get back to somewhat normal.

Today's golf will be a stableford round, Saturday will be a Numurkah Leader/R. & K. Smith monthly medal, and next Wednesday will also be a monthly medal round.

All golfers, their family and friends are invited to stay and enjoy dinner in the club bistro after Saturday's monthly medal.



Our early ... Sandy Trimble played a terrific round of golf on Saturday morning to win the day's Numurkah event.

## Little action at Golf bowls

THERE has been little action on the bowling greens at Numurkah Golf due to the recent hot weather and Australia Day pennant general bye, but things return to normal on Saturday.

The club's division one side faces a must win match against bottom side, Katandra, to keep its finals hopes alive, while the Threes will be hoping to score at least some points against third side, Tocumwal.

### Teams for Saturday:

Division one - at home to Katandra: J. Luci (s-duty), D. Staggard, B. Gentle, N. Macklin; G. Sutcliffe (s), G. Downie, I. Hocking, G. Parkinson; B. Stanger (s), J. Dell, F. Houlihan, L. Patching; M. Jones, S. Piggott, B. Browning, S. Patching.

Division three - at home to Tocumwal: A. Newby (s), J. Pickersgill, A. Harrison, T. Morris; D. Miller (s), J. Carr, C. Hicks, M. Fayers; L. Houlihan (s), P. Madill, B. Parkinson, A. Bugeya.

Emergencies: Y. Clark, R. Hodgkin, L. Browning.

On the club event scene, the 21 up semis and final are due to be played this Sunday, but that appears unlikely with a 41°C forecast at time of going to print. The re-imagined mixed pairs championship is to be played on February 10.

Details are on both the men's and ladies' noticeboards.

## Matt's early scorch

by "Archie Bunker"

MATTY Campbell not only looks after the Numurkah golf course but showed on Saturday that he knows how to play it well.

The club's greens superintendent teed off for a stableford event early on Saturday morning and finished with a great score of 42 points. Playing off a four handicap, that's a round some of us can only dream about.

Soup, as he is known, stunned his playing partners with a near flawless game. After hitting his second shot to the par five sixth hole, he just missed out on an eagle three when his putt narrowly missed going in the hole.

It was a day for the low markers, with Andrew Storer finishing just one shot behind, with 41 points, off a handicap of plus one.

It is the third time since Christmas that he has recorded scratch scores in the sixties.

Last week's winner, Ben

Clurey, had another good day, losing a the countback on 41 points, to finish third.

Neville Smith and Garry Hosie both finished with 39 points, Brandan Hosie had 38, and the last of the balls went to Steve Piggott, John Smith, Shane Miller and Paul Fry, all with 37 points.

Soup Campbell won nearest the pin on both the fourth and 15th greens, Bill Green was closest on the seventh, and Leigh Robertson won the ball on the 18th.

Because most players teed off in the morning, there were no Mickey Mouse ears awarded.

There was no pennant on Sunday, due to the long weekend, but play will resume this weekend, when the Numurkah team will travel to Hilltop, hitting off at 7.45am.

Saturday will be a Mawsons Quarries and Concrete monthly medal stroke round, followed by dinner in the club bistro. Everyone is welcome to join in.

## Three way countback

by 'Rufus T. Firefly'

LAST Thursday's mid week round of golf initially finished in a tie, with Mark Hegarty, Ian Hannaford and Peter Cowan all coming in with a stableford score of 41 points.

In such situations, golf officials take into account half of each player's handicap and calculate a winner using the players' scores on the back nine holes. Thus, Mark won the day's competition from Ian who finished second, and Peter third.

Other players whose scores earned them a club ball were: Sid Roughsedge 39 points, Bruce Collins, John Smith and Neil Hutchins, all 38, Alan Dalton, Wayne Ferguson and Roy Peterson 37, Nick Ludington and Ron Smith both 36.

Paul Price won the tin of boiled lollies for returning a miserly score of 20 points.

Neil Hutchins won the Mickey Mouse ears for picking up his playing partner's ball!

After an energy sapping week of hot weather only three players were able to land accurate shots to the green and win nearest the pin awards.

John Smith girded his loins and fired an impressive shot to take closest on the difficult fourth hole and win a ball courtesy of GMCU; Frank Houlihan took the players' sweep money on the seventh hole, and Paul Arnel lobbed a close shot onto the 18th to snaffle a ball courtesy of Pruden's Carpentry.

Why not join us this Thursday? Assemble at the clubhouse at 8.30am for a 9am shotgun start. Visitors and guests most welcome.



Lucky winner ... Mark Hegarty had to survive a three-way countback to win last Thursday's golf comp with a good score of 41 points.

## Summer SPORT scoreboard

### Cricket

#### CRICKET SHEPPARTON

#### U16 BLIZZARD BIG HIT ONE DAY FINAL

#### NUMURKAH IT OLD STUDENTS

Toss won by Old Students, batted first

#### 1ST INNINGS - OLD STUDENTS

CT Walton retired not out.....20

J Carr not out .....20

J Robertson b .....19

CM Hangan c .....9

J Busiello b .....9

D Fichera st .....5

J Gagliardi retired not out .....21

T Honey run out .....4

T Janke not out .....0

M Carter run out .....1

Extras (nb 5, w 14, b 6, lb 2) .....27

Total.....5/135

Overs 20.0

FOW: 77 (J Robertson) 89 (CM Hangan) 97 (D

Fichera) 105 (J Busiello) 126 (T Honey)

#### 1ST INNINGS - NUMURKAH

Extras (nb 1, w 9, b 2, lb 3) .....15

Total.....10/82

Overs 25.0

Bowling: CM Hangan 3.0 0 1 8; CT Walton

2.0 0 0 10; J Carr 3.0 0 0 12; J Busiello 3.0 0 2 7; T Honey 2.0 0 1 11; D Fichera 1.0 0 8; T Janke 2.0 0 1 9; B Kumar 2.0 0 2 7; M Higgins 2.0 0 3 5.

#### MURRAY VALLEY CRICKET

#### Two day game - Day One

#### PREMIER DIVISION

#### KATAMATITE v DENI ROVERS

Toss won by Katamatite, batted first

#### 1ST INNINGS - KATAMATITE

S Gordon c & b A Hogan .....26

J Magowan c & b A Hogan .....4

B Beaton lbw b BP Todd .....1

B Lucas not out .....21

C Watson b A Hogan .....0

S Pool lbw b A Hogan .....0

B Beaton lbw b E Pocock .....4

B Parnell c & b A Hogan .....1

M Hodge b E Pocock .....9

B Lukies b A Hogan .....1

Extras (nb 1, w 1, b 2, lb 1) .....5

Total.....72

Overs 35.0

FOW: 25 (J Magowan) 28 (B Beaton) 38 (S Gordon) 42 (S Pool) 42 (C Watson) 53 (B Beaton) 68 (B Parnell) 69 (M Hodge) 72 (B Lukies)

Bowling: A Hogan 18.0 6 6 36; BP Todd 10.0 5 1 17; E Pocock 7.0 2 2 16.

#### 1ST INNINGS - DENILIQUN RHINOS

B Arthur c S Pool b B Beaton .....10

B Loudon b C Watson .....9

AW Campbell c S Pool .....6

BP Todd c J Magowan b B Parnell .....12

L Pitts c J Magowan b C Watson .....17

A Hogan b C Watson .....0

A Bradley b C Watson .....0

D Edge c S Pool b B Parnell .....4

H Hillier not out .....23

B Irwin c S Gordon b B Lukies .....18

E Pocock b M Hodge .....1

Extras (nb 3, w 2, b 0, lb 3) .....8

Total.....108

Overs 31.1

FOW: 14 (B Loudon) 30 (B Arthur) 33 (AW Campbell) 57 (L Pitts) 57 (A Hogan) 57 (A Bradley) 66 (D Edge) 69 (BP Todd) 98 (B Irwin) 108 (E Pocock)

Bowling: C Watson 12.0 2 4 42; B Beaton 8.0 1 2 23; B Lukies 4.0 1 1 21; B Parnell 6.0 2 2 14; M Hodge 1.1 0 1 5.

2ND INNINGS - KATAMATITE

S Gordon c B Arthur b BP Todd .....0

J Magowan b BP Todd .....0

M Hodge lbw b A Hogan .....0

B Beaton not out.....6

C Watson not out .....9

Extras (nb 1, w 0, b 1, lb 3) .....5

Total.....3/20

Overs 13.0

FOW: 0 (J Magowan) 1 (M Hodge) 1 (S Gordon)

Bowling: A Hogan 7.0 4 1 8; BP Todd 6.0 4 2 8.

B Beaton not out.....6

C Watson not out .....9

Extras (nb 1, w 0, b 1, lb 3) .....5

Total.....3/20

Overs 13.0

FOW: 0 (J Magowan) 1 (M Hodge) 1 (S Gordon)

Bowling: A Hogan 7.0 4 1 8; BP Todd 6.0 4 2 8.

B Beaton not out.....6

C Watson not out .....9

Extras (nb 1, w 0, b 1, lb 3) .....5

Total.....3/20

Overs 13.0

FOW: 0 (J Magowan) 1 (M Hodge) 1 (S Gordon)

Bowling: A Hogan 7.0 4 1 8; BP Todd 6.0 4 2 8.

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C Watson not out .....9

Extras (nb 1, w 0, b 1, lb 3) .....5

Total.....3/20

Overs 13.0

FOW: 0 (J Magowan) 1 (M Hodge) 1 (S Gordon)

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Extras (nb 1, w 0, b 1, lb 3) .....5

Total.....3/20

Overs 13.0

FOW: 0 (J Magowan) 1 (M Hodge) 1 (S Gordon)

Bowling: A Hogan 7.0 4 1 8; BP Todd 6.0 4 2 8.

B Beaton not out.....6

C Watson not out .....9

Extras (nb 1, w 0, b 1, lb 3) .....5

Total.....3/20

Overs 13.0

FOW: 0 (J Magowan) 1 (M Hodge) 1 (S Gordon)

Bowling: A Hogan 7.0 4 1 8; BP Todd 6.0 4 2 8.

B Beaton not out.....6

C Watson not out .....9

Extras (nb 1, w 0, b 1, lb 3) .....5

# Fenaughty in good Nick

by "Lachie Keays"

DESPITE extreme heat causing the postponement of the junior events last Friday, the Numurkah Lawn Tennis Club got through its 88th annual tournament relatively unscathed last weekend, with over 120 entries.

Numurkah's 25 year-old Nick Fenaughty claimed his fifth open title when he defeated Warriors team mate Mark Mills 6-2 in a high quality encounter, which kept the crowd entertained with some excellent rallies and cracking ground strokes.

Mills has now been runner-up in the last two opens, but it would be a brave man to bet against him securing a title down the track.

Club champion Helene Steward played in the men's draw due to lack of numbers in the A grade ladies' division and put in a fantastic effort to win four of her five sets against the blokes.

Her only loss came at the hands of the eventual winner in the semi final.

It was a case of sibling rivalry in the men's B grade singles when Harry Crilly took on younger brother Oscar in the final.

In another good match, Harry proved just a bit too steady for Oscar and has bragging rights in the Crilly household - for now that is.

Frequent visitor to the Numurkah club, Shepparton's Ella Rohde, took out the B grade ladies' title when she defeated Mooroopna's Nicola Brown in the final, winning 6-1, 2-6 and 6-1 in a match where both girls gave it 110%.

The Saturday twilight mixed saw a good field of entries and the players were entertained by LBDJ, who spun tunes for the duration of the matches.

The winners of the A grade section were Helene Steward and Col Mackay, who won all four of their sets. The run-

ners-up were Simone Goudge and Ash Weston from Yea and Euroa, respectively.

The locals cleaned up again in the B grade mixed when Andrew and Carol Storer successfully defended their title from last year. They won five sets from five to edge out Shepparton's Robbie Mifka, and Maddie Lindsay who hails from Picola.

The Yarrawonga father-daughter duo of Jason and Lucy Bassett proved a bit too steady in C grade, taking a narrow victory from local duo Cathy and Angus Brown.

Sunday saw much cooler conditions greet the entrants who were lining up for the men's and ladies' A, B and C grade doubles events.

You could almost feel the relief from the players as they took to the courts after enduring weeks of oppressive conditions.

Local coach and GM1 Warriors captain Mark Mills and Nathalia's Alex Bakogianis repeated their triumph from 2017 when they captured the men's A grade crown from Shepparton's Robbie Mifka and Jack Wilson, who also hails from Nathalia.

The match was an absolute beauty, with Mills and Bakogianis racing to a 6-3 lead before Mifka and Wilson hit back to level at 6-all.

Some of the shot making and athleticism shown by all players was fantastic, and kept the good crowd of onlookers thoroughly enthralled.

With the match heading into tie break territory, Mills and Bakogianis steadied and completed a well earned 8-6 victory, although all players would have been happy with their endeavours.

The men's B grade title was taken out by Numurkah's Andrew Storer and Kyabram's Barry Norton, who defeated Dave Ludington and Craig Brown 8-2 in the final.

Such was their dominance, Andrew and Barry only dropped five games in four sets played.

The C grade doubles saw a glimpse of the future on display as youngsters Hudson Storer and Lachie O'Brien collected the prize with a solid win over Nathan Page and Eamon Storer.

All of the boys are as keen as mustard and, thanks to some good coaching and parenting, approach the game in the right manner.

Helene Steward continue on her merry way with another A grade title, after she and Yea's Simone Goudge defeated Rosie Habel and Kerri Walker 8-6, 8-0 in their best of three final.

Shepp youngsters and regular visitors to the club, Ella Rohde and Emily Turcato, didn't drop a set for the day, on their way to taking out the ladies B grade doubles from NLTC president Catherine Church and Kris Walker.

Locals again featured in the ladies' C grade event, with Carol Storer and Narelle Page providing the right chemistry for a victory from Shepparton's Clara Lukies and Ella Lisington.

The junior events postponed from Friday will be held on a date to be determined but, at this stage, Sunday, March 3 is looking likely.

All players, both local and those visiting, commented on the excellent state of the courts, which is a credit to curator Geoff Sutcliffe's hard work and dedication to the cause.

Next week sees the resumption of home and away matches in the GMLTA. All the local teams will play away, with the GM1 Warriors taking on the Tatura Cockroaches, the GM2 Raiders doing battle with Nathalia, the GM3 Penguins will be squabbling with the Cobram Cobras, while the GM4 Ravens lock horns with the Kyabram Bombers.



Number five ... Nick Fenaughty in action on Saturday, on his way to winning his fifth open title.



Repeat performance ... Carol and Andrew Storer successfully defended their 2018 mixed title.

## Magpies hunting wins

WUNGHNU bowlers cleaned up at the Numurkah Bowls Club's annual J.D. Galt Triples tournament on Australia Day.

The only four game winners for the day were Gary Downie (s), John McKenzie and Doug Larkin, while the runners-up were Andrew Henderson (s), Russell Smith and Lynton Stephens, with three wins and a draw.

In third place were Ivan Newby (s), Daryl O'Connor and Alan Newby.

Saturday was the 38th running of this event in memory of former club stalwart Dave Galt. The event was sponsored by Galt family descendants, and the trophies were presented by Dave's granddaughter, Di Davies.

Ann Dealy continued her good form, after recently winning the women's club championship, to now take the 21 up handicap event.

With the result in the balance, Ann's opponent Lillian Nightingale needed one shot to win and Ann needed two. Ann took the required shots to add another title to her name.

Murray Bowls Division pennant resumes this week, with both the Friday division one and Saturday division two sides desperate for points to drag them away from the relegation zone.



Happy winners ... John McKenzie, Gary Downie and Doug Larkin took out the Galt Memorial Triples event on Saturday.

## Cooling their heels

WHILE things have been quiet on the bowls front, due to both the hot weather and the long weekend, Numurkah Golf lady bowlers got their 100 up event under way.

First round winners of matches played to date are Jan Niven, Helen Pickersgill, Katrina Glover, Yvonne Clark and Marie Ryan.

With a more favourable weather forecast this week, pennant should get on the greens on Friday.

The division one side will host Finley, while the division two side will head to Cobram.

### FRIDAY'S TEAMS

#### Division one

J. Niven (s), J. Luci, Y. Clark, B. Browning; R. Hodgkin (s), D. Staggard, J. Sutcliffe, M. Carr; L. Houlihan (s), F. Houlihan, L. Browning, K. Glover. Duty rink: J. Niven.

#### Division two

H. Eddy (s), L. Milner, L. Morris, G. Smith; J. Harrison (s), M. Shannon, M. Blake, H. Pickersgill; M. Ryan (s), B. Fayers, P. Finlayson, M. Luci. Bus leaves 8.15am.

Emergencies: J. Carr, T. Morris, M. Fayers.

# Questions before the season's end

WHILE three rounds remain in Cricket Shepparton's home and away season, there are still many questions that need answering before finals commence on the weekend of March 9, 2019.

Despite no senior cricket being played over the Australia Day long weekend, we have decided to take a closer look at the season thus far, to see which teams in the area are likely to make an impact come finals times, and which teams have disappointed in the scorching sun.

Starting at the top are two familiar faces. Katandra and Numurkah are both locked on 52 points each on the Cricket Shepparton ladder at the time of print, and it is only percentage that gives the Eagles the top spot.

While Katandra had mixed fortunes in the one-day segment of the season, Numurkah started the year off strongly, taking out wins in the first four one-day games, before a round five bye stifled momentum.

A loss at the hands of Central Park-St Brendans meant that the Blues missed out on a spot in the one-day final by a single point, despite playing one less game overall than the team that finished second, Central Park-St Brendans.

A bitter pill to swallow that may have been, but it hardly compared to the taste left in the mouth at the culmination of the first two-day game of the season; a grand final rematch against Katandra at Katandra Recreation Reserve.

The game seemed to be evenly balanced at the end of the first day's play, following a six wicket haul from Numurkah's Michael Eckard. The Eagles held a decent position overnight at 9/216, but the Blues weren't good enough the following week, and Katandra walked away with an impressive 61-run win.

Since that round, one thing both sides have done well is the bowling and fielding facet of the game.

Numurkah's Michael Eckard has gone from strength to strength since that performance in round seven, collecting 21 wickets at an average of 12.05 for the season, all the while holding an economy rate of 2.19.

Shaun Downie has done his side a great service with ball in hand for the Blues, as well.

Downie has claimed 16 scalps at 20.13, and his economy rate of 2.79 is nothing to sneeze at.

Captain Liam Gledhill has found the way to break through a number of times, claiming several important wickets to get his side back into the contest when the Blues were under the pump.

Gledhill's 13 wickets have been taken at an average of 15.54, and an economy rate of 3.40.

The only other Blue to take more than 10 wickets is a player that claimed the majority of his wickets in extraordinary circumstances that will be remembered for years to come.

Tim Arnel has taken 13 wickets for the season, but the remarkable thing to remember about that statistic is that 11 of them came during his side's round 10 clash against Euroa, with 10 of them being taken in the second innings of the outright victory.

Arnel's 10/25 is a league record, and only the second time 10 wickets have been taken by a single bowler in an innings in the league's history.

Katandra's pick of the bowlers has definitely been Corey Hickford.

Hickford has taken 20 wickets at an average of 12.55, including one five, and one six, wicket haul throughout the season,

Ryleigh Shannon has also found success this season, taking 16 wickets at 12.31, while Jedd



**Growing in stature ...** Numurkah's South African import Michael Eckard has been instrumental in seeing his side equal on points at the top of the Cricket Shepparton ladder.

Wright's 15 at 16.33 also helped Katandra find success this season.

Scott Richardson rounds out the double-digit wicket takers, claiming 13 at 19.15.

While the bowling aspect of the season is similar for both sides, it's the work with the willow that seems to be the big difference between first and second.

Katandra houses seven different players to make over 100 runs for the season, with Luke Nolan leading the charge with 364 runs at an average of 52.

Jedd Wright and Scott Richardson also showed their all-round ability, with a return of 287 and 222 respectively.

Ben Clurey has scored 189 at 21, while Hadleigh Sirett has claimed 161 runs at 32.20 to round out the top five.

Numurkah on the other hand, has relied on the performances of a few less players to get to where it is right now.

Dylan Grandell leads the charge with 255 runs at 28.33, Liam Gledhill has scored 201 at 28.71 and Michael Eckard's two fifties has helped him

get to 200 at 33.33.

Shaun Downie and Josh Smith have scored 173 and 172 respectively, but batting consistency down the line-up is something the Blues will need to focus on heading towards the pointy end of the season.

Numurkah has only scored over 200 once this season, while its all out 94 in round nine was a particular lowlight for the side.

That performance came against Cricket Shepparton new boys Waaia, who have had a debut season to forget.

The Bombers have only claimed a single win this season, coming all the way back in round three against Shepparton United.

One draw and seven losses have seen Waaia flounder in 12th spot, just ahead of bottom placed Euroa on percentage.

The Cleelands, Jordan and Mitch, have tried their best to dig Waaia out of the many holes it has found itself in throughout the course of the season, with the pair leading the run scoring with 182 and 172 respectively, but only one other player, Brayden Carey, has scored over 100

runs for the year, with his 132 coming at an average of 18.86.

A somewhat similar story is found when looking at the bowling statistics.

Jesse Trower leads the line, with a great return of 23 wickets at 14, while Mitch Cleeland is the only other Bomber to reach double digits.

Cleeland's 20 wickets at 13.55 include an 8/33, showing that if the Bombers can get their batting form improved, it could pinch a couple of wins before the close of season.

With three games remaining in the season, Numurkah and Katandra will need to keep on their toes to close out the season strongly.

The Blues take on sixth placed Old Students this round, before turning their attention to two teams looking to scrape into the finals picture, Shepparton United and Tatura.

The Eagles on the other hand, take on a struggling Euroa side, before taking on fourth placed Northerners and finally Waaia in to close out the regular season.

# A tale of two clubs

FOR the local teams in the Murray Valley Cricket Association, it has been very different tales to their seasons as we head into the last few games before finals.

Nathalia has performed well below both expectations and the standards that Nathalia sports clubs usually hold themselves to.

The Purples currently sit fifth in the six-team Premier division, holding a 50/50 record at four wins from eight games.

Nathalia possesses three players

to have scored over 200 runs for the season, but only four that have scored over 100.

At the forefront with the bat are Luke Quinn and Shannon Young. The two have scored 245 at an average of 35, and 229 at 38.17 for the season respectively, while Scott Morris worked hard to get to 205 at an average of 29.29.

Aside from Brodie Ross, 115 at an average of 23, no other Nathalia player has reached triple digits for the year thus far.

Adam Jorgensen sits at 93, while Brayden Summerville is the next best with 64 runs scored.

The bowling statistics, though, paint a much more dire picture.

Only one player, Scott Morris, with 10 at an average of 27.40, has reached double digits in regards to wicket-taking.

Adam Jorgensen and Brayden Summerville have both claimed seven each, with not much else to speak for below that.

While Nathalia has struggled to

make substantial impacts in any of its three senior grades, Katunga has made division one its own, and currently sits third in division two.

At the forefront of Katunga's impetuous form are two players, with different sets of expertise.

Toby Miles leads the division for wickets taken with 26, sitting seven ahead of Berrigan's Damien Taylor.

With the bat, Josh MacFadyen's 226 runs have come at an average of 75.33, the highest average of the

league's top 10 run scorers (with at least five games played).

Katunga has claimed eight wins, and one draw, from 10 games this season, with its only loss coming in the division's most recent round against Tocumwal.

Katunga would have to experience an almighty fall from grace if it were to miss the top four, but if the form it has enjoyed throughout the season continues; it is locked in as favourite for the flag.

# NumurkahLEADER

# Sports



**Close, but ...** Bailey Roberts was faced with a resolute Old Students batting line up in the Blues' loss on Monday.

## BLUES DEALT A LESSON

NUMURKAH was outplayed and outclassed to the tune of 53 runs by a rampant Old Students side in the under 16 A grade one day grand final on Monday at Mooroopna Recreation Reserve.

Batting first, Old Students took the game by the scruff of the neck early and refused to let go for the game's entirety.

Both openers retired not out, while Old Students' number three reached

19 before falling.

One more retirement awaited the Blues, and Old Students finished its allotted overs 5/135.

In reply, trouble found the Blues early.

Bailey Smith was out cheaply to see the score 1/15 from three overs, while Kody Jackson was the second to fall with just 45 runs on the board from nine overs.

Old Students' tight bowling made life difficult for the Blues' batting line up, smothering any momentum built from Bailey Roberts' knock, and the Blues were all out for 82.

## No second chance for Murray Valley

THE Murray Valley Cricket Association has come one game short of claiming the Bendigo country week title, going down to Goulburn Murray Cricket by seven wickets at Queen Elizabeth Oval on Friday.

The MVCA won the toss and elected to bat, but lost the big hitting Wian Van Zyl for a duck, before losing Riley Gow for just three, to slump to an early struggle of 2/4.

Angus Campbell was the next to go, falling for 10 to see the defending champions 3/17

in quick order.

The MVCA has dominated Bendigo Country week in recent times, and Nathalia's Scott Morris wasn't about to let the title go so easily.

He and Deniliquin's Andrew Hogan combined for 62, but Hogan was out LBW for 37.

At 4/79, the MVCA needed a couple of flurries to give it a chance to defend a respectable total, but wickets continued to fall

regularly, threatening the title defence.

Morris eventually fell for 29, but Cobram's Adam Decicco took charge of the innings and pushed ahead strongly.

Decicco's not out 40 was complemented by Amar Ullah's 16 ball 28, seeing the MVCA finish 8/166 from its 35 overs.

In reply, Nathalia's Ash Quinn got his side off to a brilliant start, claiming his only wicket for the innings with just 12 runs on the board. Celebrations, though, would come few and

far between for the MVCA.

Goulburn Murray's Dale Shaw trucked along on his way to 69 not out, pairing well with Daniel Coombs after Vibhor Yadav fell for 22 at the hands of Andrew Hogan.

Shaw and Coombs put on 111 runs before Coombs was caught off Riley Gow's bowling, but the damage inflicted by the partnership was all but terminal for the MVCA.

Goulburn Murray finished 3/172 from 30.1 overs, claiming the title.

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A win for Sandy



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Fenaughty's fifth