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Numurkah LEADER

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2019

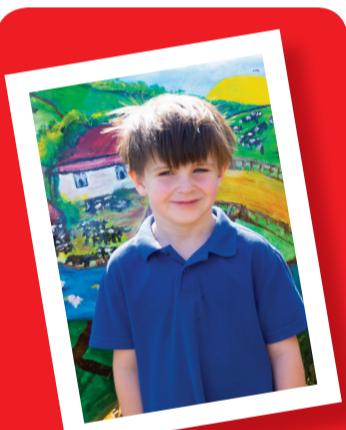
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Hail hits
Katunga

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All clear at Picola plant

Kristy and Bodhi Bourke of Nathalia enjoyed their tour of the Picola water treatment plant last Friday and were happy to drink the water. See story page 9.

Burglary charges laid

TWO men have been charged with burglary, attempted burglary and theft offences arising from break-ins at five Numurkah businesses in December and January.

The two Echuca men, aged 32 and 34, were among six men charged following searches at six Echuca addresses at around 6am last Tuesday morning.

The charges relate to break-ins at Meat on Melville and Doug Small Auto Electrical, and an attempted break-in at the Numurkah Leader, on December 20, 2018, and break-ins at Murray Valley Rural and Plumbing Supplies, and the Telegraph Hotel on January 24 and 25, 2019, respectively.

The two men charged in relation to the Numurkah burglaries are also each facing charges of possessing methamphetamine; the 32 year-old man is also facing charges of using and trafficking the drug.

The 34 year-old man has also been charged with firearms offences as well as offences arising from a break-in at Yarrawonga Marine on January 6, and a break-in at a Wahgunya property.

A total of more than 40 charges have been laid against the six men, including charges relating to theft of vehicles, dealing with the proceeds of crime, and firearms and drug offences.

Three of the remaining offenders are aged 28, whilst the other is aged 26.

A 25 year-old Echuca man was also arrested and released pending further enquiries.

A range of items were seized during the arrests, include jewellery, power tools, marine equipment, guns and gun parts, as well as other items relative to items reported stolen during the spate of burglaries.

The arrests were made after an investigation by members from Cobram Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU), in conjunction with units from Shepparton and Campaspe, as well as the Eastern Region Crime Squad, into residential and commercial burglaries in Echuca, Numurkah, Cobram and Yarrawonga between December 2108 and January 2019.

The Central Victoria Response Unit and the police dog squad also took part in the arrests.

Detective Sergeant Marcus Boyd from Cobram CIU said that the arrests resulted from a long investigation.

"These offenders were part of an organised group who were prepared to travel to commit their crimes and it was through good hard work on the part of my detectives that we were able to pinpoint them and lay these charges," DS Boyd said.

Detective Sergeant Boyd and Detective Senior Constable Paul Campbell, who led the investigation into the Numurkah burglaries, both told the Leader they wished to thank members of the public for their assistance with the investigation.

"I especially want to thank the business owners who assisted us with access to CCTV footage," DSC Campbell said.

"We know it is time consuming and inconvenient for them to go through that footage, but it made a real difference to the investigation and we are grateful for it."

All of the men charged were bailed to appear before Echuca magistrates court on April 2, apart from one 28 year-old Echuca man, whose charges include committing an indictable offence whilst on bail and breaching bail conditions, who appeared before Bendigo magistrates court last Wednesday. He he was remanded in custody to appear before Echuca magistrates court on February 26.

Investigations are ongoing, and further persons of interest are expected to be charged.

Further charges are also expected to be laid against those already arrested and charged.

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Health services amalgamation proposal



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Numurkah
DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICE

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	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3
M 18/2	M. Crowther - Harris	T. Gread P. Petzke	Diverse Builders
T 19/2	V. Bunny	VOLUNTEER REQUIRED	A. De Vries L. Saltmarsh
W 20/2	P. & D. Heard	F. Booth	R. & G. Cheddells
T 21/2	M. Caccianiga	Church of Christ	J. Stanyer
F 22/2	B. Macdonald P. Simpson	L. Grant T. Newman	Lions Club of Numurkah
Coordinator - MHA Care		Phone 5742 1111	

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Proposed health

THE proposed amalgamation of Numurkah, Nathalia and Cobram health services, first floated in 2017, is still very much on the table, with a second round of community consultation sessions held in each of the three towns last week.

With health services playing a vital role in regional communities, a possible merger of the three services has the potential for wide-ranging effects far into the future.

Despite assurances that an amalgamation would have no detrimental impact on clinical services, many in the three communities remain concerned about the outcome.

This week, the Leader posed a range of questions, including three questions from reader Kerry Cursons, to Michael Buha, Board Chair of Numurkah District Health Service. Ms Cursons has over 30 years experience in health services and has been vocal in her concerns about the amalgamation and the consultation process.

Here we print the questions, along with Mr Buha's answers, to allow you to form your own opinion.

1. Obviously there is already a lot of cooperation between the three services, what do you say are the advantages of amalgamation over just continuing to work cooperatively? ie. why is amalgamation seen as 'necessary'?

The proposal to join Nathalia, Cobram and Numurkah health services aims to enhance local access to health care for people in each of our communities.

A joined management entity and governance structure would mean improved consistency of care across services and a stronger health system for each of the local communities. The cooperation and partnerships over the last couple of years have provided significant benefits, however it has relied on the good will of many.

Formalising this partnership ensures it continues and can progress to the next level. It also allows for decreased duplication of compliance and this time can be better invested into providing better care for the communities.

Patients would be able to access a broader range of health services locally by sharing the skills and expertise of medical, nursing, allied health staff and practitioners across the region. As a joined entity there would be greater ability to attract funding for new services and to recruit specialists. There would be career opportunities and increased role flexibility for staff. Working together under one formal entity would ensure the sustainability of rural health services into the future.

Under the proposal, the existing facilities would remain in place, in their current locations. There would be no reduction in services, staffing or funding. Current services would be maintained and enhanced.

2. It was said at last week's community consultation session in Numurkah that nothing has so far been done, in terms of the services joining forces/cooperating, that can't be undone. Is this accurate? Also, is it a case of one or the other – either an amalgamation goes ahead, or all three services go back to working completely separately?

A significant amount of work has occurred in building partnerships over the last few years and the services have benefited from this. The boards have also completed a large amount of work looking at future directions and what is best for their health service and their communities and that is why the proposal to join services has been put forward. The boards value the input of the community and this is why the community consultation is occurring.

The three organisations will continue to work with other health services and organisations to deliver health services for the community independent of the outcome, however the boards believe the best outcomes for each community are achieved through a formalised arrangement.

3. An amalgamation proposal was originally put on the table in November 2017, then tak-

en off the table in June 2018 when it was announced that an amalgamation was no longer being considered but partnerships between the three services would continue. This is now back on. What changed? Why was it not feasible then, but is now? Is it the case that one or more of the health services wanted to back out of the amalgamation proposal? If so, how were they drawn back in?

No. The partnerships continued as the boards continued to look in detail at the proposal to join Nathalia, Cobram and Numurkah health services.

The proposal has had the broad support of the three boards since the first steps in 2017. The three services have supported the proposal and this community consultation is the next step in ensuring the services meet the current and future needs of each community.

The proposal to join services has been in place since the launch of the initial staff and community consultations in November 2017. The boards have wanted a thorough process to ensure this is the right decision. A number of initiatives took place to strengthen partnerships in 2018 with the development of a memorandum of understanding, service agreements, CEO and executive appointments, as well as completion of a thorough and independent due diligence assessment, looking at the financial, human resources, infrastructure, information technology, clinical services and regulatory impacts. The second stage of community consultation is seeking further detail from the community on the proposal for joined health services.

4. It has been said that clinical services won't change if amalgamation goes ahead – what then, given the expense and upheaval, is the point?

All current services will continue, and funding will not be reduced. The proposal to join services aims to enhance services and improve local access to services. There is significant duplication with increasing compliance and this time could be better spent enhancing clinical services.

5. What is the anticipated cost of amalgamation, and who would pay it?

Nathalia, Cobram and Numurkah health services continuously invest in improving access to health care in our local communities and we would continue to seek funding from a range of sources, including the Department of Health and Human Services.

The small costs associated with an amalgamation are outweighed by the possible benefits we can achieve.

The final outcome, if approved by the Minister, will see any efficiencies reinvested into clinical care to benefit the community. We can reassure the community that there will be no reduction in services, funding or staffing. There will be no job losses. There will be no loss of hospitals. Existing services will remain in place in their current locations. Services will be maintained and enhanced.

6. What numbers have attended the recent sessions, and how many others have provided feedback outside of that?

SEE ANSWER 7

7. The average age at last week's Numurkah consultation session would have easily been 65+ - is that true of all of the sessions? What about other forms of feedback? If so, given that age group arguably has much more time and energy to devote to these types of things, how can that be considered representative of the community? Although you can't force people to take part in consultation, given that the 20, 30 and 40 year-olds of today are going to be the true long-term users of the service, what attempts are being made to go to them? A lot of people might say that given the importance of the health service to the community, the consultation process needs to be lengthy and rigorous.

We have saturated the three communities with

information about this proposal. We have used social media as a preferred communication tool for younger generations, including Facebook and website. We doubt there is anyone who has not had an opportunity to see information and we are using a wide range of communication methods. Every household received written communication through Australia Post.

Community and staff consultation has taken place on two occasions.

The first stage of consultation took place between November 2017 and March 2018. This included eight community tents held in each of the communities (at local markets, in main streets, in parks) with people providing their views, asking questions and taking information; 24 separate meetings were held (with community groups, staff, volunteers, community advisory representatives, auxiliaries, the shire and local MPs); letters to stakeholders were sent out inviting feedback and visits; postcards were sent to 15,000 households in Nathalia, Cobram and Numurkah via Australia Post - inviting people to participate; advertising was undertaken in local papers, the NCN website was established - receiving 1258 views and 408 visitors; 12 written submissions/forms were received including a letter of support from the shire; Facebook advertising and promotion; media releases sent out with coverage on WIN TV, radio stations, local newspapers and via newsletters.

Information has continued throughout 2018 in relation to updates on partnership initiatives, and into 2019 - leading to the second stage of consultation.

The second stage of consultation is currently taking place (from January 16 to February 13). This builds upon the first stage with six consultation sessions (involving staff volunteers and community of various ages), surveys - both online and hard copy (also promoted via Facebook), written submissions, letters, emails and meetings.

Information was advertised in the Numurkah Leader twice, Cobram Courier twice, Adviser, Redgum Courier, and publicity in those papers and via radio.

We are still in the consultation period and look forward to further feedback and input from the community and staff. Numbers will be finalised when consultation closes on February 13 and then a consultation report will be prepared.

The age groups have been varied across the two consultation periods and through the different feedback channels. For example, community tents attracted all ages - young people, families, older people, business people, farmers, women, men - providing valuable feedback on their health service experiences and the proposal - both advantages and disadvantages.

The current staff, volunteer and community consultation sessions included people from the 40+ age-groups. The survey is still underway and responses are highest in the 30-59 age group at this time, with some younger and some older Facebook engagement varies.

8. How has feedback differed in the different communities? Are there concerns that are unique to different communities?

There have been some similar themes - examples include: retaining local identity, being able to access health care locally and not having to travel outside the local area, introducing new services such as mental health and chronic disease, more children's services.

There are specific health service needs that have been identified for each location (for example, the need for local dental, dialysis and optical services).

The consultation report will identify key themes following the final consultation date. The themes that have arisen so far are also themes that the boards have thought through and considered as part of the proposal.



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Health services amalgamation proposal

amalgamation - your questions answered

9. If the proposal progresses from here, will there be future consultations where a more concrete view of what an amalgamated service would actually look like will be presented? For example, the later flood plan consultations presented concrete plans for people to vote on. At the moment, there is a very positive view being presented – is it fair to expect people to go only on that, and will there be any independent assessment provided that people will be able to look at?

The proposal to join services has been in place since the launch of the initial staff and community consultations in November 2017.

A number of initiatives took place to strengthen partnerships in 2018 with the development of a memorandum of understanding, service agreements, CEO and executive appointments, as well as completion of a thorough and independent due diligence assessment, looking at the financial, human resources, infrastructure, information technology, clinical services and regulatory impacts.

The second stage of community consultation is seeking further detail from the community on the proposal for joined health services.

Ongoing consultation will be conducted on a range of issues such as future strategic planning.

10. Concerns were expressed last week about whether an apparent financial surplus currently held by NDHS will be safeguarded for the use of Numurkah if the amalgamation goes ahead, what do you say to that?

The Governance Working Group for the project includes representatives of the three health service boards. They would carefully consider the current financial reserves at each organisation and local priorities for each health service. Donations and items would remain with each facility/location.

It would be possible in the future also to make donations for a particular site if that is what someone would like to do.

11. Is it a bit premature to be discussing a new name for the 'proposed' amalgamated service?

The consultation also aimed to identify key values, and vision and identity – to capture the unique characteristics, differences and similarities in each community.

12. A concern was raised last week about the composition of the board if the services were to amalgamate, in so far as the potential for there to be a number of board members from outside the region as is the case at GV Health. How would decisions regarding the composition of the board be made (particularly in terms of representation for each of the three existing services), and would this be a binding part of any charter for an amalgamated service? Also, can you confirm that there is already an NDHS board member who is not from the region?

There is a state government policy around the appointment of boards, and all board appointments are approved by the Minister. In any future combined board, there would continue to

be representatives from each community to ensure each community has a voice, it would also be planned to have community advisory groups from each community to ensure local needs are always understood.

There is no-one on the three boards that is not from the Goulburn Valley Region.

13. How will the decision on whether or not to recommend an amalgamation to the Minister be made, and what weight will user feedback have in that decision?

The three boards will continue to look closely at the benefits and risks of the proposal to join services – community feedback forms part of the decision-making.

14. It has been suggested that there could be increased employment in corporate services with an amalgamation ie: that roles that Nathalia and Cobram now outsource to GV Health, namely HR, Finance and Payroll, would be undertaken by Numurkah which still does its own – is the opposite (those roles would be outsourced for the whole amalgamated service) a possibility? Is there a possibility/liability of other job losses, as is often the case with amalgamations?

We can reassure the community that there will be no reduction in services, funding or staffing. There will be no job losses. There will be no loss of hospitals. Existing services will remain in place in their current locations. Services will be maintained and enhanced. The final outcome if approved by the Minister will see any efficiencies reinvested in clinical care to benefit the community.

15. How would an amalgamation affect staff? Would they just work for one service? Would they have the opportunity to work elsewhere if they want?

Staff are valued members of the health organisations and local communities. There will be opportunities for staff as a result of the proposal to join services. Staffing arrangements at each location will remain in place. Employee entitlements will remain. Under the proposal, staff would work for one entity and options for staff to work at different locations may become available for those who wish to do so.

Reader questions (with accompanying background provided by Kerry Cursons):

Hospital partnering and networking arrangements across rural and regional health services is a focus of Priority Area 4: Strengthening regional and rural health services (Statewide design, service and infrastructure plan for Victoria's health system 2017–2037).

The "Partnering" model of health service management is current government policy and has the promise of and potential to achieve improved access to services, funding and improved clinical outcomes for us all. It can stand in isolation and retains local boards and governance.

Consultation to date has not provided our community with this information to consider as a model to progress our health service into the future. "Amalgamation" has been the only management



Spokesperson ...
NDHS board chairperson Michael Buha.

model put forward by our board to our community. Our health services can partner without needing to amalgamate but with amalgamation, they will be required to partner as well as amalgamate.

1. Why has the NDHS Board chosen to ignore well researched, consumer driven, evidence based government policy to pursue amalgamation over the partnering policy?

The Deloitte (DHHS Oct 2016) Design, service and infrastructure plan for Victoria's rural and regional health system consultation findings, much of which was adopted in the statewide design, service and infrastructure plan for Victoria's health system 2017–2037, reported feedback from their consultation which was clear that for local health services, the governance framework needed to remain flexible in order to allow for local boards to continue serving their local communities. "Local boards and management is a key way for consumers and communities to be represented and have their say in how health services are delivered locally....local needs are often vastly different for each community."

2. Why, in light of this feedback, is our local board continuing to progress health service amalgamation resulting in a single board across three health services resulting in less local input and representation for our individual communities?

The amalgamation of the three health services has been a process decided prior to the commencement of the consultation periods. The recent consultation with the community has not been about if the health services should amalgamate. It has been a consultation about how our health service will look when amalgamated. There has been no choice for the community and no factual evidence or comparative analysis presented to our community to support that amalgamation will result in better health outcomes for our community over other less disruptive and less expensive models of management.

3. Does the NDHS board believe it has acted transparently and in the best interests of our community in its pursuit of amalgamation, by not providing sufficient information to enable our community to develop an informed opinion on changes which have the potential to impact on our health care provision into the future?

Response to all three reader questions:
The boards see benefit in the proposal to join services and believe this is the best structure for the future of local health care, which is why we continue to explore and consult with local communities, staff and stakeholders.

Next stage of flood mitigation plan gets started

THE next stage in the implementation of the Numurkah Floodplain Management Plan has commenced, with surveying teams hitting the ground in Numurkah this week.

In coming weeks, the field officers will be joined by drones, as they work to capture the most up-to-date measurements and statistics before the key milestone of a functional design and master plan can be developed.

The drones will be used to survey and photograph the whole alignment of the location of the planned levy, capturing topographical information essential to its design.

The information recorded by the drone will be on the land profile only and all data collected will comply with Moira Shire's data collection policy.

Moira Shire General Manager Infrastructure Andrew Close said

that the drones would be used to gather data in areas where access for surveyors would be more challenging.

"Drone technology allows surveyors to pick up land profiles along private properties in areas such as along the back of the hospital where access is more difficult," he said.

"They will record information we need to consider when planning and designing the levy, such as fence lines and the location of structures."

"The information gathered during this survey period will govern what type of levy we build in certain areas, because it is likely that the final design will include different types of levy in different locations."

Once a design is finalised, council will begin the process of reserving land for the entire levy, which will involve negotiations

with landholders for either acquisition or easement of land for the levy, which must be completed before the design can be put to tender.

"There are still a number of steps that need to occur before construction of a levy can start, so the finished product is still at least a few years off yet," Mr Close said.

"That is why we pushed so hard to have the rain and stream gauges in place as quickly as possible, so that the township of Numurkah had a reliable assessment and warning system in place for rain events in the interim."

On-ground surveying is expected to take up to four weeks, whilst the drone survey is expected to be completed in around one week.

Residents in the affected area have been notified of the actions by letter.

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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.

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

If you want to manage your own payment arrangements, talk with your bank or financial institution about setting up your own payment program – just make sure the full instalment or lump sum amounts are paid by the due dates on your rates notice.

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

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.

ONLINE PAYMENTS NOW AVAILABLE ON MOIRA WEBSITE



Online payments are a new convenient function available on our website.

There are currently five items you can pay for securely online – rates, animal renewals, infringements, debtor accounts and special charge schemes.

Visit our website or give us a call for more information.

COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY UNDERWAY



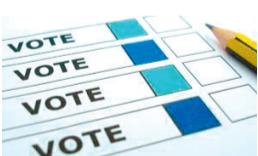
The annual Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey has now commenced.

The phone survey, commissioned by the Victorian Government, will capture the views of 500 Moira Shire residents and ratepayers.

Your household may receive a call from an independent market research agency – these calls may come on the weekend or after hours in order to capture the views of our diverse community.

We appreciate your anticipated participation to assist us with your valuable feedback.

HAVE YOUR SAY – MOIRA REPRESENTATION REVIEW



The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) is reviewing the electoral structure of Moira Shire Council and is seeking your input.

The review will help to ensure fair and equitable representation for all voters in Moira Shire. Make sure you have your say – feedback closes Wednesday 6 March.

Find out more at www.vec.vic.gov.au or call 131 832.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 27 FEBRUARY



Our next meeting will commence at 6pm on Wednesday 27 February at the Cobram Civic Centre.

All meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to attend.

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Ready to lead ... New Katunga PS principal Natalie Hopcroft is thrilled to be taking the school forward.

Ready to lead the learning at Katunga

KATUNGA Primary School has started the 2019 school year with a new face in the big office, and the smile on that face couldn't be more enthusiastic.

New principal Natalie Hopcroft said that the welcome she had received had been incredibly warm.

"The year has started extremely well. The kids are all here learning and the staff are passionate about their work, so it's just wonderful," she said.

Mrs Hopcroft, previously of Mildura, has over 25 years experience teaching in small schools, brings a wealth of knowledge and an enthusiastic, can-do attitude, and said that she sees exciting times ahead.

Katunga has an enrolment of 81 students for 2019, which, Ms Hopcroft observed, is fairly impressive for a population of just 300.

"It's a beautiful school, so why wouldn't you want to send your kids here?"



Residents urged to prioritise security

FOLLOWING the arrests of a number of offenders in relation to a spate of regional burglaries, it has been a quieter week in the local area, with just one report of a theft at a Katunga property.

Two farm gates latched together with a chain were stolen from a farm at Katunga North Rd sometime in the last three weeks.

The gates were next to an irrigation channel at the property.

However, in response to a number of recent thefts from unsecured vehicles, trailers, sheds and homes, police are urging residents to ensure that all vehicles, trailers and build-

ings are secure.

Cobram station commander and Moira LGA police manager Sen Sgt Darren McGrillen said that it only takes an opportune thief a short time to access and steal items in these circumstances.

"Do not leave your keys in your vehicle, or the vehicle running when unattended, no matter how short the time is," Sen Sgt McGrillen said.

"If you are at a service station, parked outside shops, ATMs, etc. ensure you lock your vehicles. Leaving vehicles unlocked with keys and trailers unsecured is like presenting offenders with a gift."

Victoria Police has recently launched a campaign highlighting this, called 'The thankful thief'. Campaign videos, along with other valuable crime prevention tips and information, can be found on the Wangaratta Eyewatch facebook page, which Moira police encourage everybody to join.

The page can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/eyewatchwanganatta>.

Anyone with information in relation to any offence can contact their local police or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000, or submit a confidential crime report at www.crimestoppersvic.com.au.

FIRE WATCH

IN an extremely rare occurrence, Numurkah CFA was not called on to respond to any incidents in the past week.

However, Strathmerton and Yarroweyah brigades were turned out to assist Cobram CFA crews at 7.30am on Monday, when a blaze was reported at the Cobram Hotel.



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Hail hammers Katunga and Naring



Caught by surprise ... These workmen at Naring didn't expect the sudden deluge of ice from the sky.



Damage done ... The powerful hail stones made a mess of this Spence's Rd home's vinyl cladding.



Large enough to do damage ... The largest of these hail stones photographed at Katunga were the size of golf balls.

KATUNGA and Naring suffered a brief but vicious hail storm last Friday afternoon, whilst other parts of the district remained blissfully unaware.

The storm commenced at around mid-day, producing golf ball sized hail stones and strong winds.

Though it only lasted around 10 minutes, that was long enough to do significant damage to vehicles, buildings and vegetation.

The storm, which travelled in an easterly direction, appears to have started just west of Katunga South Primary School and covered an area from Hays Rd to Hendersons Rd, hitting the township of Katunga hard.

Katunga South primary school suffered damage to its fence along Hays Rd, when a tree came down and blocked the road.

The school also suffered damage to outside air conditioning units and fly screens, but was fortunate to escape further damage. Principal Liz Oudeman's car also suffered extensive damage.

Mrs Oudeman said that the storm appeared suddenly, and was extremely loud.

"You couldn't hear yourself think while it was happening," she said.

"It was frightening. You could see foliage flying past the windows and a couple of the students were quite upset by it, but fortunately it was over quickly."

Further east on Hays Rd, on the eastern side of Numurkah Rd, another property was not so fortunate, as wind toppled a tree onto the home's roof and the SES were required to remove it.

Still the situation could have been much worse as the damage was relatively minor, with just a small number of roof shingles damaged.

A number of horticultural properties on the eastern side of the highway also suffered damage to plants as a result of the strong winds.

Further north, on Spence's Rd, a property owned by Louise and Terrence Beverley didn't get off quite so lightly.

Large hail stones battered one side of the house taking chunks out of the vinyl cladding and shattering a large bedroom window.

Guttering on the home was also lifted, a sturdy cubby house was thrown across the yard, as was a trampoline, which damaged a clothesline.

Fortunately, the home's occupants, the Beverleys' son's young family were away from the home when the incident occurred.

The damage was not restricted to Katunga however.

The storm travelled east for some distance, also impacting Naring and southern parts of Yarroweyah.

Numurkah SES was called on Saturday to remove a tree that had fallen at the intersection of Labuan and Roosevelt Rd, Yarroweyah, and was lying in the roadway.

Naring cattle farmer Peter Stevenson said that he was inside having lunch when he heard the first indications of what was to come.

"We heard noise on the roof that I thought was sticks hitting it because the wind had picked up a bit, but I realised later that was the first of the hail stones hitting," he said.

The noise then got louder and Mr Stevenson said it soon became obvious that the situation was much more serious.

"It was quite a strange feeling to see it come in like that," he said.

By the time it was all over, the yard of Mr

Stevenson's Labuan Rd home was a sea of hail stones, some as big as golf balls, a window of his home was smashed and his car was covered in dents.

"For how quickly it was over it was pretty destructive. I was actually really worried about the cattle because I knew that if I'd been standing out in that for 10 minutes I'd have been badly bruised at least, and you think the worst," he said.

"I was actually half expecting to find some of them dead."

However, Mr Stevenson's fears proved unfounded.

"When we got out to the paddock to check on them they were grazing away happily and seemed completely fine."

When he headed towards Numurkah a short time later, Mr Stevenson began to appreciate just how localised the storm had been.

"A kilometre up the road we were kicking up dust again, and a bloke I spoke to in town said

Numurkah hadn't even had any rain, so I guess it was just a narrow band and we happened to be in the middle of it."

Senior forecaster from the Bureau of Meteorology, Richard Carlyon told the *Leader* that although such localised events do sometimes occur, there is no way to forecast them.

"It does happen from time to time that a storm will move across a small localised area; sometimes you'll even see it affect one end of a street but not the other," he said.

"We had forecast possible thunder storm activity in the north east for Friday, but you couldn't forecast something this specific."

"I can see there was a strong thunderstorm signal on the radar that shows a very active area there for a while after 11am, with a storm developing rapidly and moving rapidly eastward. It passed between two of our observation sites which are too far apart to measure the complexity of it."




Surveying for Numurkah Flood Levee System

On-ground and aerial surveying is underway in the Numurkah area to help plan the possible alignment and functional design of a series of levees to protect homes, businesses and community facilities north and south of Broken Creek.

The survey work is part of developing the Numurkah Floodplain Masterplan.

This Masterplan will be the basis for applying for Victorian and Federal Government funding assistance to construct the levees.

The work will be completed by independent, professional surveyors. If you would like to know more about the survey work please contact our Customer Service team or visit to our website.

www.moira.vic.gov.au

Phone (03) 5871 9222 Email info@moira.vic.gov.au Mail PO Box 578, Cobram VIC 3643

QUEENSLAND FRUIT FLY COMMUNITY UPDATE



Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) numbers in the Goulburn Murray Valley (GMV) during January were down on December, with proactive control measures undertaken by growers and the community combined with climatic events responsible for this trend.

Queensland Fruit Fly Area-Wide Management

The term Area-Wide Management (AWM) refers to a set of activities implemented over an area that keeps QFF populations down to acceptably low levels. This means that although QFF may exist in the GMV area, they will not pose an economic threat to fruit and vegetable production either commercially or in our backyards.

Examples of AWM activities include: PUBLIC AWARENESS

The more people know about QFF and how to manage them the quicker the problem can be brought under control.

FRUIT FLY HOST PLANT REMOVAL

GMV Councils offer a free tree-removal service, with application forms available at customer service centres. Fewer unmanaged fruit trees mean less breeding areas for QFF.

FRUIT REMOVAL

If you cannot remove unwanted or unmanaged trees—remove the fruit before the fruit is attractive to QFF.

BAITING

Baiting is one of the best control strategies. There are several types and brands with official approval for usage. See your Fruit Fly Co-ordinator or your local nursery or home garden retailer for further information.

MONITORING WITH TRAPS

By having monitoring traps on your property you are able to identify new QFF in or near to your garden or orchard.

CONTROL WITH TRAPS AND PADS

There has been some success with using large numbers of traps (fruit fly lures and toxicants are enclosed inside a container with entry holes and hung in trees) and pads (lures and toxicants without the container) as a form of QFF control.

PESTICIDE APPLICATION

If in doubt, contact the Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority or your local nursery or home garden retailer to ensure you have the correct product to meet your needs.

EXCLUSION NETTING

One of the best methods for QFF control in home gardens is exclusion netting.

CORRECT DISPOSAL OF UNWANTED FRUIT

Unwanted fruit can still be a QFF threat even when it has fallen to the ground or is still on the tree and left hanging after the rest of the crop has been harvested.

ORCHARD/GARDEN HYGIENE

Ensuring you do not have residual fruit left over after harvest significantly reduces the number of QFF moving on to the next crop.

For more information on QFF control, collect an information pack from your Council's Customer Service Centre.

Funded by the Victorian Government's Managing Fruit Fly Regional Grants Program

NO FLIES ON US!
Let's stop Queensland Fruit Fly



www.gmv-qldfruitfly.com.au

2019 Foundation Students



St. Joseph's Primary School

Back (from left): Teacher Joanie Arnel, Indi Rodda, Mia Muller, Lily-Rose Sklifas, Sophia McPherson, Phoebe Keane and Jasmine Farrant.
Front: Logan Williams, Macie Ponting, Axel Ramadge, Mia Power, Isla Culton and Darcy Oswald.



St. Joseph's Primary School

Back (from left): Peyton Lee, Everly Smyth, Zoe Bartle, Eva Russo and Tess McCracken.
Front: Teacher Tanya Neyland, Jessica Green, Blaze Schulz, Hazel Alston, Kael Dobbyn and Nathanael Hubbard.



Strathmerton Primary School

Back (from left): Declan Hughes, Jax Price, Kaiden Hanley, Anna Mendoza, Natalia Hibberson, Jessica Anderson, teacher Glenice Sefton.
Middle: Max Bayne, Indianna Sellman, Kimberley Manicdao, Sammie Wren, Bailey Sanderson, Jayden Lawn, Phoenix Tonizzo.
Front: Kael Carmody, Jack Kelly, Axel Henderson, Blaize Gooderman, Annalise Wood.



Katunga Primary School

Lucas Milne, Isabella Byron, Alyssa Grinter, Logan Beverley, Billy Dowling



Nathalia Primary School

Back (from left): Oscar Carey, Harry Baxter, Amelia Patone, Tully Hojnacki.
Front: Azrael Pyers, Hailey James, Will Bloodworth, Chase Higgins.



Nathalia Primary School

Back (from left): Isabella Berry, Brynn Hansen, Kadan Lynch, Amira Young. Front: Jack Londey, Pia Coghlan, Declan Adamson, Miller Butler, Aurora Pennell, Daisy Broughan.

2019 Foundation Students



Katamatite Primary School

Standing: Mitchell Carr and Ike VanDenBerg.
Seated: Evelyn Hamson and Anika Vandermeer.



Numurkah Primary School

Back (from left): Mackenzie Arundel, Maddison Burston, Annie Dudley, Asher Forman, Jake Elsegood, Jett Tyack-Jensen, India Phillips-Morrison, Jack Opie.
Front: Leddi D'Agostino, Brayth Diwell, Harmony Dowell, Ayla Barter, Tiana McLean, Millie King, Ella Hamilton, Casey Lawson, Emelia Lewis and Mia Piacentini.



Waaia Yalca South Primary School

Logan Higgins



Numurkah Primary School

Back (from left): Jacob Mison, Isabella Donnelly, Brooke Pearson, Scarlett Trease, Blake Sunderland and Harper Tetley.
Front: Elijah Archer, Addison Barker, Robert Freeman, Eloise Delai, Jason Jackson, Sophia Cavallaro and Makkayla James.



St. Francis Primary School

Back (from left): Jaxon Bell, James Harrison, Peyton Quinn, Monica Pavlic-Briggs, James Ryan, Hunter Moon, Beth Leslie.
Front: Alec Horvath, Isla Caldwell, Rhyla McDowell, Caitlan Murray, Blair Johns, Porter Meyland, Ryder Walsh.

All Leader photos are available for purchase -
digital or hard copy

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today



NumurkahLEADER



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE

In partnership with the Government of Victoria

Investing in Victorian Rail as part of the \$75 billion 10 year infrastructure plan



The Australian Government is upgrading passenger and freight rail lines across Victoria, building the Melbourne to Brisbane Inland Rail and investing in the Melbourne Airport Rail Link. These projects will support local jobs and improve connectivity. It's all part of the Australian Government's \$75 billion 10 year infrastructure plan to support our nation. Visit the website to learn about projects close to you.

[building our future](#)



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/591.

Mechanics' Pictures.—Some doubt seems to exist as to whether the picture shows can continue under the Regulations of the Board of Health. Numurkah, not being an infected area, can continue the holding of these shows in the open air. The roomy, healthy site is quite safe for this purpose. In the event of unfavourable weather conditions the show will be abandoned.

Important Meeting — Those who have taken debentures in the re-constructed Numurkah Agricultural Society are finally reminded of the meeting to take place in the Mechanics' Hall, on Friday afternoon next, at 3.30. It is important that the society be placed on a proper foundation right at the inception, and one matter that has to be given serious consideration is the constitution under which its operations will be conducted in the years to come. The sub-committee has gone carefully into this matter, and on Friday will submit a draft for the approval of debenture holders, who, it is hoped, will discuss it from every standpoint.

Another important need is an enthusiastic and capable body of officials, and these will be appointed at the meeting. Probably no other meeting of the society will be as important in many respects as this one, and the attendance of every debenture holder is asked for.

NUMURKAH WATER TRUST TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

As many people are now drawing supplies from the creek at Nathalia, action should be taken to prohibit swimming in the creek, and the storage basin cleared of ducks and geese.— Inspector of nuisances to be asked to take action to prevent the practices complained of.— Similar action agreed with respect to all trust districts.— Com. Campbell said Senior-Constable O'Donnell had found some young men swimming in the channel leading to the Numurkah weir.— Com. Thornton moved that the officer be asked to prosecute the offenders.

N.S.W. Duck Season.— The N.S.W. Police Gazette of 15th Jan. last, states that for the police districts of Albury, Balranald, Deniliquin, Moama, and Wentworth, the open season for shooting of wild ducks of every species, including teal, is between February 15th and June 30th. both dates inclusive. Previously it was opened on 1st February, so it now fits in with Victorian Game Act.

Rain.—A little—very little— rain fell on Sunday night, accompanied by a great deal of thunder. Beyond freshening the gardens a little, and adding a gallon or two to drinking supplies, the fall will be of no service.

Returned Soldiers' Association.—The following officebearers were last week elected for the ensuing 12 months: President Mr. E. Lee (re-elected) vice-president, Messrs T. Callander and T. McGrane; secretary and treasurer, Mr C. J. Cook; committee, Messrs F. Matthews, H. Harbison, A. Broad, R. Draper.

Drumanure.—Whilst on a visit to Benalla recently Mr R.H. Cook read on a tombstone in the cemetery there the following:—"Thomas Nixon, born Drumanure, Ireland," etc. The late Mr Thomas Nixon was in charge of the party that surveyed the Goulburn Valley, and it is more than probable that he gave the Drumanure parish the name of the county of his birth in Ireland. Similarly it is stated that "Nathalia" was named after the fiancee (Nathalie) of one of the surveyors under Mr Nixon.

CARELESSNESS.

There is a section of the public that is always careless and they not only endanger themselves but the whole community as well. They are seen everywhere in the streets, casually moving about, often crossing in front of fast traffic, both motor and tram, without so much as a glance. At the present moment in Sydney and elsewhere the Government requires everyone to wear a mask, but one can see many people going about who are not only endangering themselves but the public, because they can't be bothered.



New and improved ... GVW Picola staff members Sandy McGregor, Mike McShane, Dale Hogan and Patricia Marsden are proud of the upgraded control system.

Picola water treatment plant on display

GOULBURN Valley Water (GVW) opened the doors of the Picola water treatment plant last Friday so that local residents could see for themselves how the plant works, and the efforts that have been made to upgrade the facility.

Though only a small number of locals took them up on the offer, those that did found it informative.

Kristy Bourke from Nathalia, who, having previously worked in the water industry, knew what to look for, said that she found the plant clean and well organised.

"They have it well set up, and the water is lovely and clear and cold," she said.

Water that comes through the Picola plant has its origins in the Murray River, and reaches the plant via the channel system.

The water is then stored in open ponds at the plant before being run through the treatment system.

GVW's northern district manager

Mike McShane, who is responsible for Cobram, Numurkah, Nathalia, Barmah and Picola, said that, in the past year, GVW had spent around \$330,000 on modernising the Picola plant in order to improve the treatment process.

Around 50% of that money has gone towards a modern electrical control system, including cabling computers, switchboard and pumps.

This new system provides real-time data, enabling plant staff to see exactly what is happening with the water at any time.

Two new buffer tanks have also been installed to allow the plant to run for longer to improve and stabilise water quality, as well as improved reaction times for disinfection.

Another important addition to the plant has been a small carbon-dosing system, which allows the ponds to be directly hit with

powder activated carbon (PAC), as an immediate response to any algal events.

GVW was forced to tanker water into the township for many months in 2017, following a blue-green algae outbreak in the Picola pondage. The new PAC facility should prevent a repeat of that situation.

As for the issue with the colour of the water coming out of the town's taps, GVW has always maintained that the water, though sometimes discoloured, is of potable quality and therefore safe to drink.

On that front though, GVW said that the problem was one with a much more low-tech solution.

The organisation said that the problem lies with part of the town's mains piping, with sediment building up in certain sections.

GVW Manager Operations Steven Nash said that the issue has been improved by flushing out sections of the system to remove

build-up.

GVW is also pre-treating the pondage with chlorine, in addition to doing so as part of the plant treatment process, to remove sediment by creating a reaction forming a solid that can be removed to avoid build-up in the mains.

Local resident Sean Riseley told the *Leader* yesterday that he had not consistent improvement in the colour since the flushing operation.

"The first time I turned on my tap after the flushing, the water came out dark brown as it had obviously pushed the sediment down to the end of the pipe network," he said.

"After I let it run for a while it did improve, but the colour's still pretty hit and miss on a daily basis."

GVW encourages any resident who is concerned about their water supply to contact the 24-hour Customer Service Centre on 1800 454 500.

Moira community satisfaction survey to begin this month

THE annual local government community satisfaction survey has now commenced, with Moira Shire residents invited to share their views on council's performance.

The survey is commissioned by the Victorian Government on behalf of Victorian councils including Moira Shire.

Mayor Libro Mustica urged community members to participate in the telephone survey program that will capture the views of 500 Moira Shire residents and ratepayers.

"Over a three week period, your household may receive a call from an independent market research agency, National Field Services, which has been commissioned to undertake the survey," Cr Mustica said.

"It is important to note these phone calls may come on the weekend or after hours in order to capture the views of our diverse community.

"Also, if you would like to participate but you were called at time when you were unavailable, you can request to be phoned back at a time that suits you.

"The survey provides a snapshot of views on our performance across a range of measures.

"It helps us identify ways to improve our service delivery and plan for the future.

"We appreciate your anticipated participation to assist us with your valuable feedback."

The survey is delivered by an independent research agency to ensure individual responses remain confidential and only the overall results are shared with council.

"The survey results will be published on our website and reported through the Know Your Council website," Cr Mustica said.

For more information visit council's website www.moira.vic.gov.au.

Find the book of your dreams at the library

VALENTINES day is for lovers - of books.

To celebrate the lasting joy that a relationship with the right book can bring, Numurkah Friends of the Library is holding a special valentines day event for book lovers.

Library manager Louise Bourchier said that library lovers day is a great opportunity to embrace, or rediscover, a love of reading.

"The library is definitely the right place to find yourself on valentines day, and staff will be on hand to help everybody find a book they will love," Mrs Bourchier said.

Library lovers day will be held throughout the day tomorrow, February 14, with special morning and afternoon teas held at 10.30am and 2pm.

So head on down to the library, to enjoy the true romance that only words can bring.

Letter to the Editor

Call to review charity status

THE benefits of being a charity should be reserved for supporting the work of legitimate charities.

It has no place being used to promote or fund alleged illegal activities.

The Federal Coalition Government's move

to review the charitable status of animal rights group Aussie Farms is a responsible response to the deeply concerning mass publication of thousands of farmers' personal details online.

Farmers have legitimate concerns that publishing their address online – and encouraging people to add photos and video footage taken on the property – will make them a target of extreme animal rights activists.

Our farmers work hard to run responsible and sustainable businesses.

They deserve to be able to do this without

fear for their own safety, or that of their family and livestock.

Anyone found to be illegally entering Victorian farms and stealing livestock, and anyone promoting or financially supporting this type of common theft, should face the full force of the law.

Peter Walsh
Leader of The Nationals
Shadow Minister for Agriculture
Member for Murray Plains

Cobram to host world renowned chamber orchestra



World renowned ... The Chamber Philharmonia Cologne features a rotating cast of exceptional classical musicians.



We're building a better tax system for small businesses.

The Government is tackling tax avoidance to ensure foreign and big businesses pay their fair share with an extra \$5.6 billion collected in the last two years.



Better for business

For small to medium businesses, there is immediate tax relief as well as a reduction in the company tax rate to 25% in just three years.

Find out how you benefit at
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Australian Government

LOCAL lovers of chamber music are in for a real treat right on their doorstep next week, as St. Margaret's Anglican Church Cobram, hosts a performance of the Chamber Philharmonia Cologne.

After several successful European tours in 2017 and 2018, the Chamber Philharmonia Cologne has returned to Australia in summer 2019 with a powerful new programme.

The orchestra's visit to Cobram is a living example of how seriously it takes its motto - classical music the world over.

Their objective is simple; they want to inspire as many people as possible across all generations to enjoy classical music.

It is irrelevant to the musicians whether they are playing in a little village church, in the open air, in Cologne Cathedral or the Sydney Opera House, their enthusiasm to play music is the same every time.

The popularity of this ensemble is reflected in the fact that the Chamber Philharmonia Cologne gives around 300 concerts a year around the globe, making it feel at home all over the world. Its tours regularly take it to New Zealand, Australia, Spain, UK, Ireland and many other countries - and of course to Germany.

The Chamber Philharmonia Cologne was founded in the German city whose name it bears, a city that is famous throughout the world for its University of Music and its musical and instrumental teaching.

Generations of musicians, who in terms of their musicality are unparalleled around the world, have been trained in Cologne. The Chamber Philharmonia Cologne takes advantage of this pool of talent, with a stock of outstanding musicians making up its changing cast for performances across the world.

In this context, the selection of works and soloists takes on a special significance. The multifaceted composition of the ensemble provides every member of the Chamber Philharmonia Cologne with the opportunity to perform as a soloist.

The permanently expanding repertoire of the Chamber Philharmonia Cologne consists primarily of hand-picked pieces.

The real appeal of the programme lies in the meeting of popular and unknown works from a wide variety of musical epochs. This sees familiar greats like Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Antonio Vivaldi in dialogue with works from people such as Sergei Prokofiev, through to the 'king of tango', Astor Piazzolla.

This mix promises great diversity whilst providing entertainment of the highest order as well as inspiring people across the world to enjoy classical music.

The Chamber Philharmonia Cologne will perform at St. Margaret's Anglican Church Cobram at 8pm next Friday, February 22.

Tickets, which include nibbles during the interval and supper after the performance, cost \$50 for adults, \$45 for concession card holders and \$30 for students. Drinks will be available at bar prices.

Bookings can be made at www.trybooking.com/ZOPN, or by visiting St. Aidan's op shop, Strathmerton, or calling Alex on 0418 471 944, or Maryann on 0439 066 553.

Tickets can also be purchased from St. Margaret's Anglican Church one hour prior to the performance.

Digital subscriptions now available
www.numurkahleader.net.au

St Joe's gets wet and wild in annual swim-off



Great day out ... Milla Dobson, Shaylee Deitrich and Tayla Ramadge enjoyed the chance to have some fun on a school day.

AFTER two weeks of hard work in the pool in preparation, St Joseph's Primary School year three to six students gave their all in last Friday's annual swimming carnival.

Stormy conditions greeted the competitors, but certainly didn't dampen enthusiasm, as

Team O'Connor went back to back in claiming the Fr Kilmartin Shield.

All boys and girls competed in the four events of freestyle, backstroke, breast stroke and butterfly, with a choice of 50 metres, 25 metres or shallow pool events.



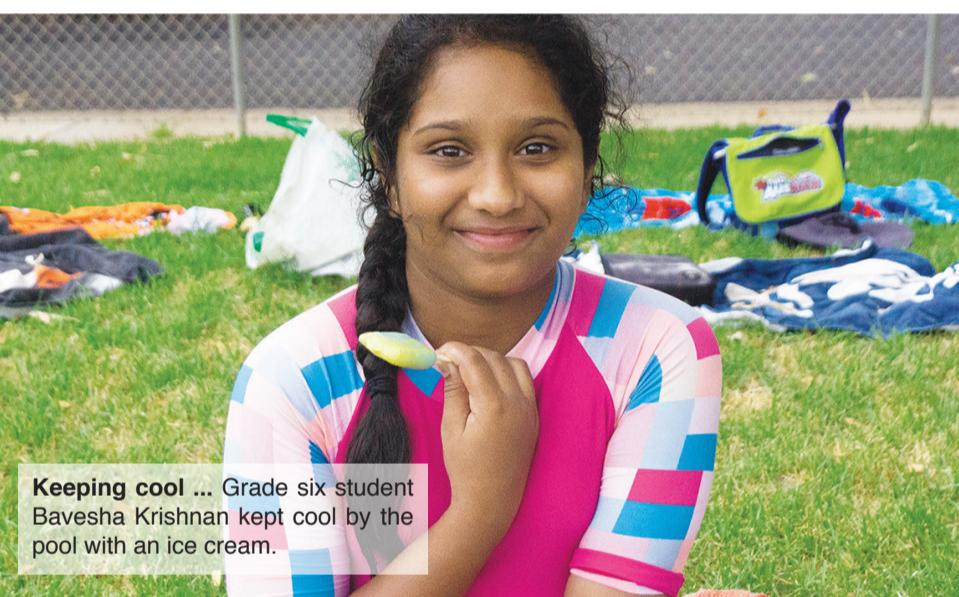
Friendly rivalry ... Tom Masters and Harry Moon competed against each other but didn't let it affect their friendship.

From the results of the 50 metre events, a school team has been chosen to represent St Joseph's at district level.

Principal Paul Arnel said that it was a great day for providing students with the opportunity to have a go and do their best, whatever

level that may be.

"The children complete lessons then do two weeks of swimming in preparation for this day. In the gloomy weather they certainly shone," he said.



Keeping cool ... Grade six student Bavesha Krishnan kept cool by the pool with an ice cream.



Spectators ... Archie Jones and James Altoft watched the events poolside.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Numurkah Lions Club Inc. MARKET

South Bank of Broken Creek, Numurkah
**THIS SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 16TH**

Time: 8.00am - 12 noon

- Cottage Craft
- Produce
- New & Second Hand Goods
- Something for everyone

Enquiries Doug 0459 322 496
Another Lions Club Project

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ANNUAL RYE GRASSES

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Graze and Bale (Late maturity Diploid & Tetraploid rye with shaftal mix)

NOTE - Good price for early sales of some rye grass lines

NOTE - Apologies to my customers, you may find the shed closed some mornings when I am seed grading. Please ring (Call will divert to my mobile phone)

G.V. Highway, Numurkah Ph. 03 5862 2144

PUBLIC NOTICES

Numurkah Friends of the Library

Invite you to
celebrate

LIBRARY LOVERS DAY

Thursday February
14th

Come in and find
the book of your
dreams!

Join us for a
"Library Lover's"
morning and
afternoon tea at the
library at 10:30am
and 2pm

goulburn
valley
libraries

NumurkahLEADER
Birth Notices
03 5862 1034

PUBLIC NOTICES

PINK STUMPS DAY

FEBURARY 23RD 2019, 3PM ONWARDS

\$25 includes beer, wine and soft drink for 2 hours.

Bring a friend, children welcome

Meal available for purchase after 6pm

**ALL PROCEEDS TO THE MCGRATH
FOUNDATION - RSVP 20/2/19**

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CAROL SIERMANS - 0418 327 625

NUMURKAH CRICKET CLUB ROOMS
Numurkah Showgrounds

PUBLIC NOTICES

NUMURKAH BLUES

Numurkah Football
Netball Club Inc.

FOURTHS FOOTBALL TRAINING

will commence
at the Numurkah
Showgrounds
Wednesday, 20th
February from 5pm

New players
welcome.

For any enquiries
please contact
Brad Dobson on
0413 942 479.

IN MEMORIAM

THOMAS —
Marlene.
25.2.1946 – 16.2.2018
12 Months have gone
so quickly and you
are loved and missed.
every day.

From your loving
husband Barry and
family, Steven and
Juila, Pauline, Robert
and Shell and Andrew.
Grandchildren Courtney
and Jessica and great
grandchildren Sonic.

DEATHS

MOSS (nee
Lilburne) —
Dorothy (Dot) Clare.
19.6.1931 - 6.2.2019
Beloved wife of John
(Jack) (dec.).
Loved mother and
mother in law to
David (dec.) and Sue,
Peter and Rose.
Ever loving Grandma
to their families.
Your strength, grace,
beauty and love will
always be with us.
Rest Peacefully.

FUNERAL NOTICES

MOSS (nee
Lilburne) —
A graveside
funeral service to
celebrate the life of Mrs
Dorothy (Dot) Moss
will be held in the
Numurkah General
Cemetery, Corke
Street, Numurkah
commencing at
1:00pm on Thursday,
February 14, 2019.

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Public Notice



Notice of Road Closure – Corner of Centre Road and Waaia-Bearii Road, Waaia, Vic. 3637

Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) will commence work on the construction of a new RC pipe crossing on **Centre Road, Waaia Vic. 3637** on Monday 25th February 2019. This work forms part of GMW Capital Works Program.

It will be necessary to close Centre Road, between Waaia-Bearii Road and Tyacks Road to through traffic for 7 working days. This period commences at **7.00am Monday, 25 February 2019 and concludes at 5.00pm Tuesday, 5 March 2019.**

Goulburn-Murray Water apologises for any inconvenience caused as a result of the works.

For further information, please contact Farham Shahrivar, on (03) 5826 3837 during business hours.

Settlement Boundary Road

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N

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Farham Shahrivar,
Project Manager

www.g-mwater.com.au

NumurkahLEADER Classifieds



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Goulburn Valley Libraries is looking for an enthusiastic, well-organised and friendly person to assist with resheling materials at the Numurkah Library.

The applicant must be available during library open hours, and be a minimum of 15 years of age.

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Further information and the position description can be found at
gvlibraries.com.au

Applications close by end of day on
23 February 2019.

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For further information and a copy of the position description please contact Jayne Kam Service Coordinator - phone: 03 5862 1569 or email numurkah.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

SITUATIONS VACANT

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Summer SPORT scoreboard

Cricket

CRICKET SHEPPARTON

Two day game - Day two

A GRADE

NUMURKAH def OLD STUDENTS

Toss won by Old Students, batted first

1ST INNINGS - OLD STUDENTS 73

1ST INNINGS - NUMURKAH

D Grandell b T McKenzie	10
J Smith c & b N Breslin	22
W Arnel c G Saracino b B Crouch	26
SE Downie run out	41
M Eckard c & b T Looby	31
L Gledhill lbw b N Breslin	41
K Jackson run out	10
T Arnel not out	25
T Braybon c ? b N Breslin	5
M Grandell not out	3
Extras (nb 0, w 0, b 1, lb 0)	1
Total	8/215 (dec)

Overs 54.0

FOW: 16 (D Grandell) 51 (W Arnel) 79 (J Smith) 120 (SE Downie) 132 (M Eckard) 177 (K Jackson) 184 (L Gledhill) 194 (T Arnel)

Bowling: T McKenzie 10.0 0 1 44; T Looby 10.0 3 1 45; G Sabri 9.0 0 0 30; L McPhillyam 2.0 0 0 9; N Breslin 17.0 4 3 52; B Crouch 6.0 1 1 34.

2ND INNINGS - OLD STUDENTS

N Breslin lbw b T Arnel

F Odell c J Smith b M Cline

JA Bunce c W Arnel b T Arnel

G Saracino lbw b L Gledhill

H Singh c J Smith b T Arnel

L McPhillyam not out

T McKenzie run out (M Eckard)

T Looby lbw b M Eckard

J Robertson not out

Extras (nb 2, w 0, b 1, lb 0)

Total

7/129

Overs 65.0

FOW: 4 (JA Bunce) 4 (N Breslin) 6 (F Odell) 64 (H Singh) 91 (G Saracino) 95 (T McKenzie) 113 (T Looby)

Bowling: T Arnel 19.0 4 3 56; M Cline 10.0 2 1 18; SE Downie 7.0 5 0 6; T Braybon 3.0 0 0 9; M Eckard 10.0 5 1 18; M Grandell 8.0 2 0 10; L Gledhill 8.0 4 1 11.

KATANDRA def EUROA

Toss won by Euroa, batted first

1ST INNINGS - EUROA 116

1ST INNINGS - KATANDRA

B Clurey lbw b S Hemeter

B Black c L Paul b J Smith

A Riordan retired not out

JM Wright c L Paul b C Dyer

LD Nolan c D Redfern b L Paul

S Richardson c Al Crosbie b J Smith

NJ Hickey b L Paul

RJ Ireland b J Smith

H Sirett run out

C Hickford b J Smith

RW Shannon not out

Extras (nb 2, w 1, b 0, lb 2)

Total

204

Overs 46.5

FOW: 44 (B Clurey) 91 (B Black) 128 (JM Wright)

167 (S Richardson) 181 (LD Nolan) 192 (RJ Ireland)

196 (NJ Hickey) 201 (C Hickford) 204 (H Sirett)

Bowling: C Dyer 12.0 1 1 51; Al Crosbie 10.0 2 0 45; J Smith 10.5 0 4 49; S Hemeter 5.0 0 1 17; L Paul 9.0 0 2 40.

2ND INNINGS - EUROA

A Smithers c LD Nolan b H Sirett

R Jones c & b C Hickford

B Harrison b S Richardson

D Redfern c LD Nolan b S Richardson

S Hemeter b S Richardson

C Dyer c LD Nolan b A Riordan

L Paul b A Riordan

L Hill b JM Wright

KJ Robertson c H Sirett b JM Wright

J Smith b A Riordan

Al Crosbie not out

Extras (nb 0, w 0, b 0, lb 0)

Total

58

Overs 39.4

FOW: 3 (R Jones) 3 (A Smithers) 17 (B Harrison) 20

(D Redfern) 23 (S Hemeter) 57 (C Dyer) 58 (L Paul)

58 (J Smith) 58 (KJ Robertson) 58 (L Hill)

Bowling: C Hickford 11.0 2 1 22; H Sirett 4.0 2 1 2; JM Wright 9.4 3 2 19; S Richardson 8.0 4 3 10; RW Shannon 4.0 2 0 4; A Riordan 3.0 2 3 1.

WAAIA It NORTHERNERS

Toss won by Northerners, bowled first

1ST INNINGS - WAAIA BOMBERS 85

1ST INNINGS - NORTHERNERS 5/191 dec

2ND INNINGS - WAAIA BOMBERS

J Cleeland lbw b T Sidebottom

SC Carey c J Brett b J Sidebottom

G Meyland lbw b J Brett

MJ Cleeland c T Sidebottom b T Sidebottom

BG Carey c M Brett b T Sidebottom

C Brown c T Sidebottom b T Sidebottom

L Henderson c M Brett b T Sidebottom

R Knight lbw b Z Newbound

R Bradbury c J Brett b Z Newbound

S Trower not out

C Walpole b T Sidebottom

Extras (nb 1, w 1, b 4, lb 5)

Total

124

Overs 66.0

FOW: 4 (SC Carey) 24 (G Meyland) 40 (MJ Cleeland) 48 (BG Carey) 66 (C Brown) 81 (J Cleeland)

96 (R Bradbury) 101 (R Knight) 118 (L Henderson)

124 (C Walpole)

Bowling:

J Sidebottom 10.0 5 1 13; Z Newbound 10.0 4 2

15; G Hutchins 19.0 7 0 38; J Brett 11.0 3 1 13; T Sidebottom 12.0 3 6 30; M Brett 4.0 1 0 6.

2ND INNINGS - NORTHERNERS

T Herbert not out

A Boyington not out

Extras (nb 0, w 0, b 0, lb 0)

Total

Overs 2.1

Bowling: C Walpole 1.1 0 0 13; C Brown 1.0 0 0 9.

LADDER P W2W1 D L1 L2 PTS %

Katandra 10 2 6 0 2 0 62 1.81

Numurkah 10 1 7 0 2 0 58 1.49

CP/St Bs 10 1 6 0 3 0 52 1.31

Northerners 11 1 6 1 3 0 49 1.44

Nagambie 10 0 6 1 3 0 45 1.25

Kyabram 10 0 5 1 4 0 39 0.95

Old Students 10 0 5 0 5 0 36 0.92

Tatura 10 0 5 0 5 0 36 0.87

Shepp United 10 0 4 0 6 0 30 0.96

Mooroopna 11 0 4 1 6 0 27 1.03

Karamomus 10 0 2 0 6 2 18 0.61

Waiaia 10 0 1 1 7 1 15 0.63

Euroa 10 0 1 1 6 2 15 0.53

A GRADE T20

Semi final

KATANDRA def OLD STUDENTS

Toss won by Katandra, bowled first

1ST INNINGS - OLD STUDENTS

N Breslin c JM Wright b H Sirett

F Odell c LD Nolan b C Hickford

M Singh c LD Nolan b RW Shannon

H Singh c LD Nolan b RW Shannon

G Saracino run out (LD Nolan)

CM Hangan c NJ Hickey b C Hickford

JA Bunce c H Sirett b JM Wright

B Crouch c C Hickford b S Richardson

CT Walton run out (RW Shannon)

J Carr not out

KD Hippisley b S Richardson

Extras (nb 1, w 2, b 0, lb 4)

Total

Overs 20.0

FOW: 13 (N Breslin) 29 (M Singh) 42 (H Singh)

63 (F Odell) 67 (CM Hangan) 86 (JA Bunce) 97 (B Crouch) 99 (CT Walton) 101 (G Saracino) 103 (KD Hippisley)

Bowling: C Hickford 4.0 0 2 16; H Sirett 2.0 0 1

14; S Richardson 4.0 0 2 12; RW Shannon 3.0 0 2

12; NJ Hickey 1.0 0 0 20; JM Wright 4.0 0 1 14; AE Nicholls 2.0 0 0 11.

1ST INNINGS - KATANDRA

B Clurey not out

LD Nolan lbw b C Brough

JM Wright run out (CM Hangan, N Breslin)

S Richardson not out

Extras (nb 1, w 8, b 0, lb 1)

Total

Overs 10.5

FOW: 63 (LD Nolan) 67 (JM Wright)

Bowling: CM Hangan 3.0 0 0 20; KD Hippisley 4.0

0 0 31; N Breslin 4.0 0 0 16; JA Bunce 1.0 0 0 12; B Crouch 2.3 0 1 11; F Odell 2.2 0 0 14.

B GRADE

NUMURKAH def OLD STUDENTS

Toss won by Old Students, batted first

1ST INNINGS - OLD STUDENTS 121

1ST INNINGS - NUMURKAH

T Woods c J Busiello b N Gill

M Price c BM Hangan</

Strathmerton finals bound

IT was a successful day for Strathmerton Bowling Club last Saturday with both its division one and four teams securing a spot in the upcoming Murray Bowls Division finals series.

Playing away, Strathmerton One overcame Numurkah Golf to record a strong victory, whilst Strathmerton Two split the points with division four top team Tocumwal in a cliffhanger.

Following on from the previous day's very unsettled stormy weather, light showers and gusty, fluctuating winds were prevalent early, however conditions improved markedly as the matches progressed and the weather played no real part in the day.

While the Numurkah Golf greens were understandably a little slow early, conditions improved throughout the day and allowed both teams to play with confidence.

Kevin Dunn, Wayne McGregor, Warren Ryan and Richard Buck found themselves in a real arm wrestle all match against Brian Stanger and his quartet. After trailing for a good portion of the game, Dunn and his team hit the front with a few ends remaining, however they were unable to sustain the advantage, eventually going down by the slender margin of one shot, 24-25.

Trevor Loe, with Peter Young, Gary Murnane, and Wayne Lowson, led from start to finish and, in similar fashion to last week, set the tone for the visitors. Loe's foursome started exceptionally well and never let up, going on to record a comprehensive



Hairy game ... Wayne McGregor joined his team mates in a great fightback, but went down by a shot on their rink.

20 shot win over Joe Luci, 34-14.

Gordon Ryan, Len Vann, Greg Sutton and Ross Kirkham were also down early but bowled their way back into the contest. While they were never able to really break clear of Gary Downie's foursome, they maintained an advantage, recording an important 30-23, seven shot victory for the away team.

Mick Ryan, Steve Koopman, Richard Palczak and Matt Graham were pitted against a very strong rink led by Mark Jones and, in a solid display of quality team bowls, led from go to woe, recording an impressive 30-15, 15 shot victory.

The top of the table clash in division four between Strathmerton and Tocumwal lived up to the billing, with the sides tied on 44 points

apiece at game's end. With these two teams destined to finish the season in first and second positions on the ladder, they will look to renew hostilities in a fortnight's time.

In a tight contest, Michael Day, Peter Philippe, Shawn Padman and Lyn Brook recorded an important five shot, 25-20 victory over an experienced rink led by Alan Whitesides.

Peter Mahoney, Peter Truman, Billie Madgwick and Liz Tuson were involved in a very similar contest but went down by five shots, 19-24 to Robert Adams and his team.

With Strathmerton playing fifth placed Katandra at home this Saturday, there is a lot to play for. A win may well secure Strathmerton the minor premiership.

Dog day afternoon

NUMURKAH Golf's division one pennant team will start its final series a week early, following a big loss to Strathmerton on Saturday.

The 2/77 to 16/118 loss means, although Golf still lies fourth on the table, the last round match against fifth placed Cobram this week becomes an elimination final, with only three points separating the two.

The Bulldogs completely outbowled the Golfers on three out of four rinks, with Golf's only success being enjoyed by Brian "Chops" Stanger, Geoff Sutcliffe, Sid Roughsedge and Lidija Patching over Kevin Dunn's rink, and that by the barest of margins, 25-24.

Gary Downie, Jack Dell, Ian Hocking and Dave Hester trailed Gordon Ryan's rink all day, going down 23-30. Mark Jones, Steve Piggott, Frank Houlihan and Butch Browning were soundly defeated 15-30 by Mick "Pub" Ryan's rink, while Golf's previously best performed rink Joe Luci, Des Staggard, Brian "Groover" Gentle and Neil "Nipper" Macklin had a real dog

day afternoon against Trevor Loe's rink, 14-34.

The Threes travelled to Barooga and came away with one rink win and a nine shot loss, 2/56 to 14/65.

David "Wiggy" Miller, Gavin Parkinson, Col Hicks and Mike Fayers had an excellent 29-17 win over Jill Toohey's rink. Allan Newby, John Pickersgill, Yvonne Clark and Tony Morris lowered their colours, 13-22 to Michael Whelan's rink, while Robyn Hodgkin, Pete Madill, Bayden Parkinson and Adam Bugeya suffered a 12 shot loss, 14-26.

The Threes host Wunghnu this Saturday, with the result unable to affect ladder positions.

Teams for Saturday:

Division one - at Cobram, bus departs 12.15pm.

G. Downie (s), D. Staggard, J. Dell, N. Macklin; B. Stanger (s), G. Sutcliffe, S. Roughsedge, L. Patching; S. Piggott (s), D. Hester, I. Hocking, B. Gentle; M. Jones (s), J. Luci, F. Houlihan, S. Patching

Division three - at home to Wunghnu.

A. Newby (s), J. Pickersgill, A.

Harrison, T. Morris; G. Parkinson (s), P. Madill, C. Hicks, M. Fayers; D. Miller (s), J. Carr, A. Bugeya, B. Parkinson.

The mixed pairs was played on Sunday and a great day was had by all in a revamped competition. Twelve teams played four games of eight ends, two-four-two style.

After three rounds, there were three pairs who had won all three, Geoff Sutcliffe/Marie Luci, Gavin Parkinson/Yvonne Clark and Gary Downie/Shirley Moon.

Only Gary and Shirley went on to win the fourth game, and then only just, with Gary's last bowl sealing the victory. As a relatively new bowler, Shirley was over the moon (pun intended) with the victory, while Gary has tasted many successes in championships at a number of clubs.

Gary said he knew whenever Shirley released her bowl with an exclamation of "Oh no!", there would be a favourable result.

Butch Browning and Jan Niven recorded three wins and a draw to secure the runners-up trophy.

Wunghnu bowlers back on track

AFTER two disappointing losses in a row, Wunghnu's division one pennant side got a confidence boosting win over Finley RSC in round 13 of the Murray Bowls 2018/19 pennant season.

Wunghnu found itself in a nip and tuck battle against Finley RSC for much of the day, with the lead changing on a number of occasions. However, the Magpies were able to get the upper hand in the closing ends to win by 10 shots overall.

Barry Cosgrove (s), Nick Davies, Todd Davies and Jim Brown had a slow start against Archie West's rink

but, once they found their range, took control of the game.

The boys skipped away to a 10 shot lead in the middle stages before West's crew reduced the deficit to just four shots heading into the tea break. When play resumed, "Cossie" and his men pulled away again and eventually won 27-16.

Trevor Hosie (s), John McKenzie, Graeme King, and Darryl O'Connor put in a solid team effort, leading from start to finish in a 28-19 win over Ian Smethurst's rink.

Drew Henderson (s), Russell Smith, Wendy Coles and Lynton Stephens

had a terrific battle against Warren Blanch's rink and, after the allotted 25 ends, the scorecard read 25-25.

Peter Revell (s), Doug Larkin, Alan Jones and Leo Shannon struggled early and looked like losing heavily to Rod Brown's rink. The boys rallied after the tea break, reducing the deficit before eventually going down 18-28.

Whilst the rink loss was disappointing, the recovery in the second half of the game was crucial to the Magpies' overall win and indicative of the fighting spirit within the team.

Despite the win, Wunghnu slipped to second place on the ladder, just one point

Golfers wins local derby

WITH only one side playing pennant on Friday, there were no losers at Numurkah Golf, when the division one side enjoyed a comfortable win over local rival, Numurkah Town.

Loris Houlihan, Frank Houlihan, Lyn Browning and Katrina Glover cruised to a comfortable 35-10 win over Lorraine Kennedy's rink.

Jan Niven's rink started very slowly, not scoring until the fifth end, but then came home with a 27-17 win over Pam Smiths rink, and in doing so, probably cemented Jan's position as the top division one Friday pennant skipper for Murray Bowls this season.

Robyn Hodgkin's rink found Anne Dealy's team a bit too strong and went down 20-31, but the overall result saw a 26 shot win to Golf.

The golf division two side had the bye last week.

This Friday will be the last round of the season before the commencement of finals. The division one side is sitting comfortably in second place and is as-

sured of making finals. The division two side has no chance of making finals.

Social bowls winners last Tuesday were Merren Carr, Gayle Smith, Shirley Moon and Jenny Connolly.

The next round of the 100 up event were also played on Tuesday.

Robyn Hodgkin had a win over Barb Fayers, Jan Niven defeated Helen Eddy and Katrina Glover defeated Marie Ryan.

Numurkah Golf's Robyn Hodgkin, Katrina Glover and Gayle Smith were the runners-up team at Numurkah tournament last Wednesday.

Teams for this Friday's pennant:

Division one - at Finley RS

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.

Division two - at Berrigan

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.

Emergencies: K. Nordbye, T. Morris.

Finals come early for Numurkah Golf

by "Davo"

NUMURKAH Golf and Cobram will be fighting for a place in the finals of the Murray Bowls division one pennant competition when they face off in the last round of the home and away season this Saturday.

With Wunghnu and Barooga Sports guaranteed to fill the top two positions on the ladder and Strathmerton securing third place with its win on Saturday, the round 14 match between Golf and Cobram shapes up as an early elimination final.

The penultimate round saw Strathmerton defeat Numurkah Golf by 41 shots, Wunghnu overcome Finley RSC by 10 shots, Barooga Sports defeat Numurkah by 28 shots and Katandra West come from the clouds to secure a draw with Cobram.

With wins over Cobram, Wunghnu and Numurkah Golf in the past three rounds, Strathmerton has not only cemented third place on the ladder, but also sent a message to other finals aspirants that it is a real premiership contender.

The Bulldogs will be looking to close out the home and away season with a win over Katandra West this Saturday.

Wunghnu got itself back on the winners' list and secured the double chance with a victory over Finley RSC. Whilst the win was welcome after two straight losses, it was far from convincing.

The Magpies made a few positional changes ahead of Saturday's match and may tinker with the side again this week, as it looks to find the right team balance ahead of its finals campaign.

Numurkah Golf was no match for Strathmerton on Saturday but held on to fourth place on the ladder heading into the last round. With Cobram just

three points behind in fifth place, it's a must win game for both sides and should be cracking match.

Numurkah's slim finals hopes were ended after a 28 shot loss to Barooga Sports on Saturday. Whilst its pennant season will end this weekend, Town will take heart from the fact that it has been very competitive in the second half of the season. The club will be looking to finish the season on a high if it can score an upset win over Wunghnu.

Katandra West had something to smile about when it had a draw against Cobram. The highlight of the match occurred when Kevin Minogue's Katandra rink, which was five shots down heading into the last end, scored an eight to defeat Greg Dunn's Cobram rink 27-24. Whilst the Kats are set for relegation to division two next season, they'll be looking to go out on a high with an upset win over Strathmerton this Saturday.

Reigning premier Barooga moved to the top of the table with its win over Numurkah and should win the minor premiership if it scores a solid win over Finley RSC in the final round. Win or lose, the Sports will line up against Wunghnu in the second semi-final on February 23.

Wunghnu's Barry Cosgrove remains at the top of the skippers table with 10 wins, closely followed by Barooga's Ray Emerson with 10 wins also. Other notables in the top 10 are Strathmerton's Trevor Loe (fourth), Wunghnu's Trevor Hosie (seventh), Wunghnu's Andrew Henderson (ninth) and Numurkah Golf's Joe Luci (10th).

Davo's tips for round 14: Numurkah Golf, Wunghnu, Barooga Sports, Strathmerton.

er but unfortunately couldn't go on with it after the tea break, eventually going down 21-23 to Kevin Tyrrell's foursome.

The win secured the Magpies a finals berth for the first time in a number of years and is a good indication of the player depth within the club this season.

Whilst finals action is guaranteed, the pecking order of the final four is still undecided. The Magpies are still in the running for the double chance if they defeat Numurkah Golf on Saturday and Tocumwal Golf loses to Barooga Sports.

Bev takes medal after computer fail

by "The Shankster"

A TERRIFIC one over par around the back nine saw Nola Dalton declared the winner of last Wednesday's Numurkah women's golf competition, but the voucher only lasted a few minutes in Nola's possession, before she handed it over to Bev McIntosh.

Just how much we rely on our computers was hammered home when the golf competition computer failed due, incredibly, to a fault in the power board.

Both Bev and Nola Dalton finished with handicap equalling scores of 73 nett, one under their handicaps, so a countback was required.

It has been quite some time since our golfers have needed to do a manual countback, and this one was equal on the back nine, so required one step further.

Just a slight error in working out one third of their handicaps saw Nola announced as the winner, but when the computer was plugged into a new power board, Bev was revealed as the real winner of the February monthly medal.

Jeanette Adams won a count-

back from Bev Hutchins and Julie Daniel with 75 nett to round out the ball winners.

Nola had the best scratch score of 83 shots, Tracey Clouston won nearest the pin on the seventh, despite only finishing nine holes due to an equipment malfunction, and Julie Daniel won the ball on the 18th with a great shot to the green.

The good field of players out on Saturday were met with all seasons on the one day, having to contend with wind, rain, cool and then warm conditions.

The wind was gusty all day and, on one occasion, saw one of our ladies trying to emulate Mary Poppins. She came off a little the worse for wear with some nasty bruising, but thankfully no broken bones.

Bev Hutchins handed in her bridesmaid dress, finally getting a win on the board, with a nice score, considering the conditions, of 37 points.

A good par, par finished saved Bev from yet another runner-up placing, with Lauris Ashton taking second place with 36.

Helen Schmedje finished in



Thanks technology ... Bev McIntosh was lucky to win a countback to take victory in last Wednesday's monthly medal round.

third place with 34, followed by Sue Plattfuss, Jenny Ludington and Kath Hepworth on 32. Julie Hannaford was the unlucky one on 32 to miss out on a ball, but she made up for it with two nearest the pins, on the fourth and seventh. Lauris Ashton won the ball on the 18th.

Bev's win was actually her second in a few days, after she took out last Thursday's nine hole chick run with a terrific 34 nett, finishing well clear of anyone else on the course.

Julie Hannaford was runner-up in division one with 39.5, while Margot McGrath won division two with 40 nett, finishing in front of Merren Carr.

Jeanette Adams won nearest the pin on the seventh hole.

Today's golf will be a stableford round, next Wednesday will be stroke, and Saturday's round will be a two person ambrose.

Doggie has his day out

by "Archie Bunker"

GRAEME "Doggie" Sprint has the knack of surprising Numurkah golfers with his golf game. Sometimes it can be incredibly bad, and other times he can have a great score, which was the case on Saturday.

Doggie said everything went so well and he wishes he could play like that every time he goes out for a game.

With a great score of 41 stableford points, Sprint took out A grade, just one shot ahead of Garry Hosie, who was the clubhouse leader until Doggie spoilt his party.

Garry played a great game in the blustery conditions, including a shot that would have made the highlights reel had he been a pro golfer on TV.

He didn't have the best tee shot on the 14th hole, finishing near the dam, and he didn't have a great view of the green, with a lot of trees between his ball and the green. So Garry manufactured himself a low three wood shot under all the trees, that landed pin high on the green about six feet from the hole. Unfortunately, he missed his birdie putt, but still made par.

Lee Robertson put together a serviceable score to take out B grade, with 38 points, two shots ahead of Glen Edis on 36.

Down the line balls went to Troy Prosser on 38, Paul Arnel and Kevin Morland with 37 points, Chris O'Dwyer and Bill Padgett on 36, and Dave Gilmour took the last of the balls with 35 points.

Jack Hepworth won the ball for being nearest the pin on the fourth hole, Matt Ebborn was closest on the seventh, Ray Falla won the prize on the 15th, and Chris O'Dwyer had the best shot to the 18th green.

Brandan Hosie got his day off to a great start, scoring an eagle two on the first hole. Admittedly with a howling gale behind him, Brandan hit a massive tee shot that landed on the green, about five feet from the hole, and made his putt.

There were a few nominations for the Mickey Mouse ears, including Pierre Klaassen not making the ladies' tee on the 13th, but the ears went to Barry Pruden for a little mishap on Thursday.

The summer pennant season ended for the local team on Sunday, when it went down to Shepparton 1-4 at Mooroopna.

Garry Hosie and Martin Harper were the only winners, finishing two up.

Pierre Klaassen and Charlie Walsh went down 6/4, John Smith and Mark Hegarty lost 3/1, Bob I'Anson and Ian Hannaford had a big loss, as did Peter Stonehouse and Jack Thomas.

This Saturday's golf will be a two person ambrose.

We know our course well

NUMURKAH members scooped the pool in A grade when the Goulburn Valley Veteran Golfers held their monthly competition at the Numurkah course on Monday.

A terrific field of 128 players enjoyed the excellent weather and well presented course.

A countback was required to separate Numurkah golfers Stephen Piggott and Bill Green for the A grade prize, with Piggott taking the honours.

B grade winner was Anthony

Tonta of Deniliquin, carding 41 points, from Lockington's Jeff Carnie with 40 points.

Kevin Taylor from Shepparton took out C grade, on a countback from Deniliquin's Ian Campbell, on 41 points.

The A grade nearest the pin on the 120 metre 17th hole was Graham Peat, Rich River. The B grade ball went to Deniliquin's John Irwin, and C grade was won by Kialla golfer Tom Martin.

The ball run down included Wayne Ferguson, John Boruch,

Vin Edwards, John Fuller, Peter Beckton, John Fanning, Alan Dalton, Mark Hegarty, Tom McConchie, Alan Williams, John Keller, Ray Coleman, Bruce Collins, Ian Hannaford, Lindsay Simms, Allan Newby, Graeme North, Darryl Sheridan, Freddie McMahon, Barry Graham, Ken Harris, David Fullager, John Irwin, Cory Liefting, Lloyd Freer, Doug Barber, Ian Scurrall, John Neale, Neil Hutchins, Max Dawber, Robert Coleman, Phillip Blair, Phil Cooper, Lindsay Tatterson, Geoff Squires, Gary Hopcraft, Ross Kelly.

The association still has half a dozen vacancies in its team for the annual central challenge, to be played at Heathcote on February 25. GV secretary Rolf Weber will take late entries to try and fill its quota.

The next regular event will be at Kialla on Monday, March 4, 9.30am assembly.

The VVGA 4BBB event will be held at Neangar Park on March 18-19. Entry forms are available on the Parmaker website until March 1.

Tough day in Town office

IT was a tough day at the office for all Numurkah Bowls Club sides in the penultimate round of Murray Bowls Division pennant for the season.

There were some good rink wins and others got close, but no team could secure an overall win.

The Saturday division one side played at Barooga in windy conditions against the premier contender and went down by 28 shots.

The rink of Alan Rogers (s), newly promoted Hans Brutzman, Noel Newham and Jim Cline continued their good form from the previous week, with a 24-18 win, while Paul Rees (s), Steve Wyatt, Wayne Barnes and Don Woolley held their own, going down by four shots to the strong Peter Russell rink.

The 2 other rinks had a day they would rather forget.

Playing at home, also against a top four side, the division two side, had a much closer encounter with Barooga, only losing by eight shots after having their chances.

Alan Clark (s), Bert Visser, Ken Hodgson and Russell Morris had a good win, 23-17; Ross Henderson (s), Hugh Henderson, Bill Werner and Les Parker lost by two shots, while Roger Newman (s), Rod Seen, Gary Edis and Col Jensen went down narrowly, 16-19.

The last round of the home and away games will see Numurkah and Nathalia going head to head in division two, with the victor staying in that division and the loser relegated to division three.

The division three side, playing at home against Cobram, was defeated by 29 shots.

Arthur Crawford (s), Howard Lowe, Joe Howman and Wayne Mulquiny gained two points with a one shot win on their rink. This side has borne the brunt of the unavailability of men players through the course of the season, but thanks to several very new men players and to the credit of the women who have made themselves available, this side has lined up each week to play.

The last game will be a tough assignment as they travel to take on the ladder leader, Jerilderie.

In Friday pennant, division one played across town friendly rival Numurkah Golf, which is finals bound. The Golfers showed they will be a force to be reckoned with, having a 26-shot victory.

For Town, Ann Dealy (s), Peter Dealy, Geoff Shaw and Pam Carey won 31-20 in a good team effort, but could not cover the other two rink losses.

The last round game against Finley is a must win for this side, with Numurkah and Nathalia battling to avoid relegation.

Division two travelled to the synthetic at Barooga, which, for several, was a new experience, and it showed, the team being defeated by 35 shots.

The bright spot for Numurkah was Liz Rees (s), John Wright, Hugh Henderson and Lyn Cline winning 26-23 to give them the Telegraph Hotel best winning rink award for the round.

All Numurkah players are reminded that there will be a barbecue on Saturday night at the club house, where no doubt, thoughts will turn to how the club can have more success next season.



Mixed couple ... Barry Cosgrove and Joe Luci after their win in the Central Goulburn Murray state pairs title on Sunday.

Cosgrove and Luci win regional title

WUNGHNU'S Barry Cosgrove and Numurkah Golf's Joe Luci combined to win the Central Goulburn Murray Region state pairs title at Alexandra Bowling Club on Sunday.

Barry and Joe won their way into the

final with a nail biting 18-17 victory over Shepparton Golf's Brad Orr (s) and David Daws.

It was one-way traffic in the final, with Barry and Joe defeating Seymour's Graeme Flint (s) and Milton Howell 31-4.

The win secured Cosgrove and Luci a place in the Bowls Victoria State Championship week, to be held at East Bendigo in April. There they'll compete against winners of the other 15 bowls regions for the state title.

Numurkah Warriors rout Rebels



Athletic maestro ... Mark Mills and his Warriors side moved into the top four with a convincing victory on Saturday.

by "Mae Day"

THE GM1 Numurkah Warriors sent a message to the rest of the competition last Saturday when they completely outplayed the visiting Rich River Rebels on their way to a 7/62 to 1/30 triumph.

All four Numurkah teams were at home on Saturday and, unlike recent weeks, the weather was cool and blustery, which made playing conditions quite difficult.

Skipper Mark Mills and Nick Fenaughty got the home team off to a good start with an 8-4 doubles victory, and then Nick went out and recorded an 8-2 result in his singles

match.

Mills was not quite so lucky, going down 6-8 in his match against Rich River gun Andrew Crossman.

That was the only blemish in an otherwise perfect afternoon for the Warriors. Helene Steward again showed her class, as she whitewashed her singles opponent 8-0 and then joined forces with Dhurringile's Lisa Niglia, who was filling in for the day, for an 8-2 doubles win.

Lisa had to work a bit harder for her singles win, which she won 8-5 but, by this stage, the Warriors were home and hosed.

They went on with

the job in the mixed, as Mark Mills and Helene Steward won 8-5, while Nick Fenaughty and Lisa Niglia won 8-4 to see the Warriors up by 32 games at day's end.

This win now leaves them inside the four and, if they can stay there through the final two games, they will cause a bit of mayhem once finals start.

This Saturday will see them tackle the Shepp Hornets at Shepparton, in another crunch game for the Numurkah outfit.

A reminder to all players that the club championships will be held this Sunday, February 17, commencing at 9am.

Numurkah Raiders maul Shepp Lions

by "Mae Day"

THE GM2 Raiders bounced back from last week's loss to Nathalia with a comprehensive 9/74 to 2/49 victory over the visiting Shepp Lions tennis side.

Missing skipper Col Mackay, who is unfortunately out for the season with a hand injury, the Raiders called on regular player Imogen Cameron's dad Chris to fill the void, and he performed very well.

Chris won his singles 6-2 and then narrowly lost his doubles with partner Andrew Storer 7-8.

Storer then partnered Jai Harrington to an 8-4 win and then Jai picked off his singles opponent 6-2 to leave the home side with a handy lead after the men's sets had been completed.

The Raiderettes were also going along nicely, as Imogen Cameron and Caitlyn Price won their singles matches 6-2 and 6-5, respectively.

Caitlyn then joined forces with club president Catherine Church for an 8-4 win, but the Lions hit back, winning the other ladies' doubles 8-3.

The Raiders were just about past the post with only the mixed to play, and they drove home the victory by winning all three remaining sets.

Jai Harrington and Caitlyn Price won 8-2, Andrew Storer and Imogen Cameron saluted 8-7, and Chris Cameron and Catherine Church got up eight game to five, to see the Raiders home by 25 games.

Caitlyn Price continued her good recent form with another three sets winning performance, as did Jai Harrington, who is also in great touch. The rest of the team all collected two sets apiece.

The Raiders still hold top spot on the ladder and look assured of a top two finish at the very

least.

The loss of their captain Col Mackay will leave them stretched, as far as personnel are concerned, but hopefully they will be able to cover that over the coming weeks.

This Saturday they are away to the Shepp Giants.

PENGUINS SWAT MOZZIES

Penguins like cool weather, and Mozzies don't, so the cooler conditions on Saturday suited the GM3 Penguins just fine and they comfortably accounted for the Tatura Mosquitoes, winning 10/85 to 3/58.

The win was primarily set up by the Penguinettes, who won all four of their sets in a top effort by the girls.

Carol Storer and Kris Walker got the ball rolling by winning 8-2 in a canter, and Narelle Page and Emma Schmedje were not far behind, getting up 8-3 in their encounter.

Carol and Narelle then had to fight tooth and nail to get the chocolates 8-7, while Emma and Kris had a far easier time of it, winning 8-2.

The Penguin lads also got off to a flyer when skipper Dave Ludington and the irrepressible Craig Brown gave their opponents a good old fashioned seeing-to, saluting 8-1.

The Mozzies hit back though, winning the next two doubles fixtures 8-2 and 8-3 to get them back into the contest.

Elliott Small and Dave Ludington soon put paid to the visitors' mini comeback, winning their singles matches 6-1 and 6-3 respectively.

As the players retired to the pavilion for afternoon tea, the only problem confronting Ludington was why no-one was eating his chocolate

mudcake any more.

It has been a tradition of sorts that David supplies a mudcake for home games, for which he slaves over a hot cash register, but maybe the muddy has run its race and Ludington may have to broaden his culinary horizons in the future.

Anyhoo, back to the tennis, the Penguins were 22 games up and only their final winning margin was of interest.

Elliott Small and Kris Walker won an entertaining match 8-5, as did Dave Ludington and Carol Storer and, to continue the symmetry, Col Stone and Narelle Page followed suit.

Tatura won the fourth mixed doubles, but the Waddlers cruised to a 27 games victory to maintain top spot on the ladder.

Kris Walker, Narelle Page, Carol Storer and Dave Ludington all won three sets for the victors, but they are proving to be a tightly knitted unit and the whole team put in.

This Saturday they are off to Kyabram to see if they can continue their recent winning streak, which is out to four games.

RAVENS BITTEN BY REDBACKS

THE GM3 Open Ravens put up a brave fight on Saturday but just went down to the Kyabram Redbacks, 3/51 to 6/62.

The Ravens lads put up a good effort, the Kam brothers Michael and James winning their set 8-6, while James and skipper Graham Henderson lowered their colours by the same score as Graham and Michael.

The Ravenettes were having a tough time of it, not winning a set, but they were giving it their all and were competitive all day.

James Kam and young Lachie O'Brien got

home 8-4 in their last set for the afternoon, and Michael Kam won a good contest 8-5 but, when the dust had settled, the Numurkah team was left 12 games shy.

While not posting a lot of wins, the young juniors in the side are gaining valuable experience, and their time in the sun will definitely come.

The Ravens have the bye this Saturday, before hosting the Tatura Locusts on February 23.



Flying high ... Caitlyn Price was instrumental in her team's win on Saturday, winning all three of her sets.

Geoff tops the field

by "Rufus T. Firefly"

GEOFF Muir had his first big win in the Thursday midweek golf competition at Numurkah Golf Club last week.

Scoring 41 stableford points, Geoff held off Martin Daniel, who finished second with a score of 39.

Players who won a club ball for their scores were: Dan Prosser 39, Bill Green 38, Mark Hegarty, Gary Blackburn and Ron Smith, all 37, Bill Padgett, Ian Hannaford and Steve Wilson 35, John McHale, Alf Patman and Kerry Collins 34, Steve Piggott and Matt Ebborn 33.

Les Summerville won a tin of boiled lollies for coming last in the field of 35 players with the low score of 20 points.

Steve Piggott won the GMCU sponsored ball for nearest the pin on the fourth hole, Ian Gray won the players' sweep on the seventh, Ron Smith struck two good shots together to win Roy's sponsored ball on the 14th hole, and Bill Padgett swung his four iron accurately to take "Doggy" Sprunt's offering on the 15th. Mark Hegarty lobbed his pitching wedge closest to the pin on the 18th hole, sponsored by Pruden's Carpentry.

Numurkah goes down at home

NUMURKAH Small Bore Club hosted last week's round of the Crawford Shield competition, but couldn't quite get a win, going down to Kyabram in the 20 metre prone event.

Kyabram scored 1153.34 to Numurkah's 1126.33.

There was also the usual competition at the club on Thursday night. The results were:

20 metre prone: A. Gibbon 93.3 97.3 190.6, H. O'Brien 82.1 77.0 159.1, J. Matys 77.0 72.0 149.0.

50m prone: B. Sneddon 94.0 98.4 192.4, G. Braybon 95.3 96.0 191.3, L. Braybon 95.1 95.2 190.3, A. Hill 94.1 95.3 189.4, A. Lee 94.3 94.5 188.8,

R. Hill 94.1 92.3 186.4, T. Braybon 94.3 91.2 185.5,

D. Cook 90.2 92.2 182.4, S. Rosemeier 91.2 90.1 181.3, A. Gibbon 89.0 87.1 176.1, J. Cook 90.2 85.0 175.2, G. Miles 88.1 86.0 174.1, J. Smith 70.0 71.0 141.0.

50m benchrest: L. Cook 240.4.

There will be shooting as usual on Thursday night at Numurkah.

Nathalia in strong position over struggling Tocumwal

NATHALIA completely out-bowled Tocumwal on Saturday, bowling the home side out for just 94 as the Purples charge towards an important premier division win. Nathalia sits at 2/40 overnight, just 55 runs away from victory, but the die

seemed to be cast when Nathalia won the toss and sent Tocumwal in to bat. All bowlers used by Nathalia picked up at least one wicket, with Brodie Ross the key benefactor with 3/14 from 10.3 overs. Luke Quinn and Clancy Congues

both picked up 1/17 from 10 overs, while Brayden Summerville's 2/19 from nine overs really helped Nathalia gain the ascendancy early in the piece.

The pressure was too much for Tocumwal and the home side was

all out for 94 from 59.3 overs.

In reply, Nathalia's start didn't get off to the flyer it would have been hoping for when Harrison Hawks was caught out for a duck with just six runs on the board, and while Brodie Ross also fell, for 11, Scott

Morris and Clay Stevens held firm to finish the day's play not out on 18 and 10 respectively. After 20 overs Nathalia sits at 2/40 and will hope to build a big lead when play resumes this Saturday at 12.30pm.

Just another Blue day

HAVING bowled Old Students out for 121 last week, Numurkah continued from a commanding position 0/83, eventually escaping with the win in a tight and nerve-wracking B grade game at the Numurkah Showgrounds on Saturday.

Resuming play with Tyson Woods and Matt Price in the middle, it wasn't long before the Blues started to veer off course. Price was gone with just 10 runs added to the tally for 24 and it saw a period of play that could have completely taken the tie away from Numurkah.

Woods was the next to go, having made a game-winning 68, and Jahlan Lau came and went for six.

At 3/101, Andrew Cline fell for just two, and all of the sudden, the Blues were four down with 18 runs still needed.

Thankfully for the home side, James Pruden and Blues captain Sean Dawson guided their side home to pick up the points.

Dawson was eventually out for five, and from there, the Blues lost 4/9 before declaring at the end of the 44th over, 9/135. Batting again, Old Students got off to a more than rocky start, losing two wickets with just 11 runs on the board.

Reydan Lacuin and Hamish Lambert each picked up a wicket, but by the time Myles Martin grabbed two of his own to make it 4/51, the day's play was drawing to a close. Connor Hangan and Dante Fichera finished not out on 31 and one respectively, with Old Students sitting at 4/62 from 36 overs.

The win sees the Blues remain on top of the ladder, two points ahead of second placed Shepparton United.

A top of the table clash awaits the two sides, this Saturday and Sunday at Princess Park.

D GRADE

The SJ Perry Shield Blues have come away as big 133 runs victors over Murchison on Saturday.

Heading into the second week of Numurkah's D grade clash, the Blues were well on top, 244 runs ahead of the home side after declaring on 4/261 and having Murchison 1/17 overnight.

Murchison came out to play, though, and was heading in the right direction before captain Jim Collins was out for eight.

The Blues' bowling attack was tight and restrictive, eventually breaking the Murchison top order down to have it 5/56 before long. Sam Lewis, 2/29 from nine overs, Jason Verhoeven, 2/21 from nine, and Brett O'Dwyer, 2/36 from 11 all made life exceedingly difficult for their opponent.

Upon reaching 5/80, Murchison saw another lean period in which it lost its final five wickets for just 48 runs, all out for 128. The big win sees Numurkah sit third with 54 points on the SJ Perry Shield ladder, extending the gap between it and fourth placed Invergordon.

An outright win to Karramomus over Tatura means that the Blues are one point behind the second placed side as the two sides head into their one-day clash this Saturday at the Numurkah Showgrounds.

Numurkah showing form at the right time

DESPITE falling short of its second outright win in as many rounds, Numurkah finalised its win over Old Students on Saturday at the Numurkah Showgrounds.

Although the Blues were impressive throughout their round 11 clash, the inability to pick up 10 points from the outright win means that Numurkah falls four points behind league-leader Katandra on the Haisman Shield ladder.

Despite this fact, the form shown by the Blues will give the club and supporters of the team a huge boost heading into the final two games of the season.

After bowling Old Students out for just 73 last week, Numurkah set about building a total that would guide the Blues to the maximum points on offer.

Numurkah resumed play on 5/149, with captain Liam Gledhill and Kody Jackson not out.

The partnership pushed the Blues to 5/177 before Jackson was run out for 10.

Gledhill was joined in the middle by Tim Arnel.

Arnel's sensational form with the ball began to translate over to the bat, powering towards an impressive 25 not out.

Gledhill, though, succumbed with 184 runs scored.

The Numurkah captain had scored 41, his best two-day return for the season, and his best score since round one's one-day clash against Mooroopna.

Numurkah eventually declared at 8/215 and was ready to give the outright a red-hot crack.



Trying everything ... Tim Arnel attempted the unconventional as his side padded its lead on Saturday.

Everything seemed to be going brilliantly in that regard for Numurkah, as Tim Arnel struck twice, with Matt Cline picking one up, to see Old Students 3/6 early in the second innings.

Old Students managed to rally under immense pressure, reaching 3/64.

That was where Tim Arnel popped once again.

The A grade leading wicket taker took his final wicket of the game with that dismissal, finishing on 3/56 from 19 overs in the innings, and taking 8/81 for the match.

Old Students managed to hold on, though, eventually finishing on 7/129.

Though Numurkah was unable to pick up the final three wickets needed for the outright win, Blues captain Liam Gledhill was more

than happy with how his side performed on the second day of play.

"I thought we batted really well," said Gledhill, "I thought everything went to plan and we got the runs I was hoping for."

"I didn't really want us batting at the back end of the day because we would have lost three overs with the changeover, so everything went according to plan except we just weren't able to pick up those last three wickets."

Knowing that his side had to be the more proactive side of the two during Old Students' second innings, Gledhill felt the opposition played well to avoid the outright loss.

"Obviously, they didn't have to play any shots, so it was a lot easier for them with not needing to take the game on."

"We had to be the side playing the

attacking style of cricket, but they were able to consolidate a lot better than they did the week before."

Sitting second on the ladder, the Blues will need to be at their best in the final two rounds of the home and away season if they are any chance of snatching the minor premiership away from Katandra, and that process finds Shepparton United in the Blues' sights.

"We have the Saturday-Sunday game against Shepparton United this week. It's a side that started the season off really well, and may have fallen away a little bit, but have match-winners in their side with Kershaw, Bari and Vidler, so we'll have to be on the top of our game." The Blues will host Shepparton United this Saturday at 1pm and then Sunday starting at 10.30am.

Mixed bag for young Blues

NUMURKAH'S under 16s side gave it their all before going down to Karramomus on Saturday, with late innings batting heroics enough to see the visitors snatch victory at the Numurkah Showgrounds.

With Karramomus 4/23 overnight, the game was balancing on a knife edge, and Numurkah landed what was a potentially telling blow very early upon the resumption of play on Saturday.

Bailey Roberts was the man to break through, but Karramomus seemed to just be a step-ahead, despite going on to lose a number of wickets in quick succession not long after.

With that being the case, Numurkah persevered, and a wicket each to Dusty Ebborn, Hunter Verhoeven and another to Bailey Rob-

erts forced Karramomus onto the ropes at 8/53.

Karramomus' Connor Michel refused to give in and his fighting 27 not out was powered by runs late in proceedings.

Michel was supported well as their side reached 78 before losing the final two wickets to be all out, but the game had been won and Karramomus left Numurkah with six points.

UNDER 14s

Numurkah-Waaia has suffered a big 64-run loss at the hands of Katandra. The Blue Bombers were unable to chase down the big total posted by the Eagles last week, despite a 45-run contribution from Reeve Verhoeven on Saturday at Katandra Recreation Reserve.

Opening the batting alongside Nick Hughes, Verhoeven set about his

big score by taking the run-scoring onus upon himself.

The pair got Numurkah-Waaia on the right track, but when Hughes was caught out for nine, the wheels fell off for the young side.

From 1/56, the Blues would eventually be all out for just 97, with only one player, other than Verhoeven, able to reach double figures. The Blue Bombers will hope their performance quality can improve this week in the final home and away game against Euroa at the Numurkah Showgrounds.

UNDER 12s

The youngest Blues celebrated on Friday, having triumphed over Kyabram by eight wickets.

Having won the toss and electing to bat, Kyabram was set upon a Numurkah side that refused to alleviate

any of the pressure it stacked on during the game.

Numurkah's Adam Kennedy was at the fore in this facet, conjuring two run outs, while Seth McCracken and Nash Siermans garnered one each of their own.

Baz McDonald was strong with the ball, his 1/3 from two overs typified the control he possessed while charging in, while Riley Dobson and McCracken also picked up a wicket.

Eventually, Kyabram finished 6/66 in the first innings, and it was all to play for with the young Blues taking guard.

Numurkah rallied through testing times to eventually run the score down, with Baz McDonald standing out with an unbeaten 20 run contribution to give the Blues the win.

Nathalia Purples power through

NATHALIA has overcome and closed the gap on third placed Cobram-Yarraweiyah United after coming away with a tight three wicket win at the Nathalia Showgrounds on Saturday. Despite winning the toss, Nathalia sent CYU into bat to open proceedings and the decision paid off greatly for the home side.

Nathalia's bowling attack was all over the opposition, with six of seven bowlers used grabbing at least one wicket. Archie Congues was the main man with the ball for Nathalia, picking up 3/15 from just four overs to devastate the CYU battling lineup.

David James and Dean Limbrick put forth strong performances, with each snatching 1/16 and 1/19 from eight overs respectively.

Gerard Warren put economy at the forefront of his mind, bowling eight

overs for a return of 1/7.

These performances led to CYU only managing 9/104 from 40 overs, giving Nathalia a big leg up heading in to bat. Upon taking guard and preparing for the chase, Nathalia lost Adam Zammit with a run yet to be scored, but Gerard Warren and Jamie Hardy got things heading in the right direction.

There was bit of worry around the ground when Hardy went for 13, simply because it triggered a run of frequent wicket losses that plagued Nathalia until the end.

Warren scored 34 before he was out with the score at 3/52, and only new batsmen Tom Nihill seemed to be able to deal with CYU's bowling attack.

Nihill's not out 24 stood tall amongst the single digit scores that saw Nathalia drift from 4/69 to 6/76 in a

short amount of time.

Captain Byron Smith and Nihill steered their side to the 100-mark, but Smith was ousted from the crease with 99 runs on the board.

Thankfully for Nathalia, there were no lower order disasters, and the Purples finished the 37th over 7/105.

Though Nathalia got out of jail slightly, the Purples will hope to produce a more substantial performance against bottom placed Tocumwal this week at the Nathalia Showgrounds.

DIVISION TWO

Four wickets to Eugene Atkins and a Lloyd Buchanan half-century helped Nathalia nab its fifth division two win of the season when it overcame league leading Finley by six wickets at Finley Recreation Reserve on Saturday. After winning the toss and electing to bat, Finley faced early trouble with

Atkins claiming two wickets to see the home side slump to 2/18.

Michael Brooks joined in to make it three down, eventually finishing with figures of 1/30 from six overs, but the regularity of the wickets falling was something that would have had Finley feeling nervous as the innings progressed.

At 3/37, Atkins continued to chip away, claiming a further two wickets to see Finley struggling at 5/62.

Finley pushed ahead despite the worrying loss of wicket rate and reached 96 runs before it all came undone for the home side.

Nathalia's bowling attack pressured the opposition and Finley lost 5/16 to be all out for 112 from just 27.5 overs. Atkins was the pick of the bowlers with a return of 4/22 from seven overs, his line and length impressive

through his spell.

In reply, the Purples lost Sam Boyd for just one, early in the piece, but Lloyd Buchanan's concentration and composure refused to waver.

Buchanan and Atkins combined to get Nathalia to 1/37 before the latter was out for 14.

Buchanan continued to dig in, fast heading towards a chase-defining half-century.

Nathalia lost two more wickets, but with only nine runs needed after the fourth wicket fell, the door was wide open for Nathalia to claim the win, 33 overs used.

The win is a big boost for a Purples side that sits fourth on the division two ladder, seeing their record go to 5-5 with two draws.

Nathalia will next host top placed Barooga on Saturday.

Mixed fortunes for Katunga

JARROD Rankin's brilliant 55 and Shaun McAllister's five-wicket haul has helped Katunga register its ninth win of the division one season, with an 18-run victory over Berrigan at Katunga Recreation Reserve on Saturday.

Rankin was sensational from the get-go as his side won the toss and elected to bat. He and fellow opener Trent Baker saw Katunga reach 39 before Baker was bowled for 18.

That wicket triggered a bit of a lean patch for Katunga, which sits second on the division one ladder, with the home side losing two quick wickets to see it sit at 3/59 heading past the early stages of the innings. Rankin though, was ever present, and his knock helped propel Katunga towards the 100 mark.

Brad Tweed anchored an end while Rankin took further control of the game, but when Tweed was lost for eight, it once again set off another lull period which included the loss of two wickets in rapid succession.

With Katunga sitting at 5/97, Rankin found another partner that was able to reach double digits, but Adam Cook was out LBW after reaching 15.

At 6/120, the innings was drawing to a close, and in the pursuit of late runs, Rankin finally succumbed to the persistent Berrigan bowling attack to fall for a hard earned 55.

Katunga's 7/122 from 40 overs was always going to be a tricky score to not only chase, but to defend, and both sides were in with a chance of snatching the win.

Berrigan didn't get off to an ideal start, losing its first wicket with just 11 runs on the board, but the top order managed to keep it together to reach 1/34.

A wicket each to Ben Whitford and Dylan Baker saw the score sit at 3/63, but the visitors managed to push that out to 3/90, and



it was all of the sudden looking ominous for Katunga.

It was at this point that Shaun McAllister blew the game wide open.

McAllister picked up three quick wickets, and while Toby Miles claimed a well-deserved scalp, it was justly left to McAllister to pick up two more before the 40th over ended, signaling a great cause for celebrations from the hard-fighting Swans.

The brilliant spell saw fifth placed Berrigan lose 6/14 at a time where most would have betted that it would have been leaving Katunga with the points.

Katunga, though, ensured that it kept level with league leader Finley on 57 points but will hope to have a more comfortable finish this week away against Cobram.

DIVISION TWO

Katunga's division two side faced the full wrath of Barooga on Saturday, with the Swans going down to the Hawks by a big 135 runs margin at Barooga Recreation Reserve.

Having lost the toss and being forced to head into the field, Katunga wasn't able to get a foothold in the game as Barooga bats-

man Peter O'Kane charged towards a big individual score.

Only Aaron MacFadyen was able to pick up multiple wickets for Katunga, 2/36 from six overs, as O'Kane registered a big 102 not out to see his side rocket to 5/246 by the end of the allotted 35 overs.

In response, Katunga seemed to be on the right track, with David Miles and Angus MacFadyen seeing the Swans his 0/43 before it began to unravel.

The two openers were gone for 22 each, but Tony Harris and captain Aaron MacFadyen picked up where the pair left off.

The pair scored 27 and 24 respectively, seeing their side reach 2/97, but a batting calamity was on the horizon.

Harris and MacFadyen were out without adding to their scores, and from there, Katunga lost 5/14 to lose the game with just 25 overs gone.

Following the top four, no batsman was able to reach double figures, and none scored more than four.

The loss sees Katunga sit sixth on 27 points and will face stiff competition this week against third-placed Deniliquin Rhinos.

Eagles stretch lead at the top

KATANDRA has opened up a four-point gap at the top of the Haisman Shield ladder after a brilliant bowling performance led the league leader to a huge outright win over Euroa at Katandra Recreation Reserve on Saturday. Having bowled Euroa out last week for 116, the Eagles were in the driver's seat at 2/102 overnight, and from there it the question wasn't whether Katandra would take the points with a win, but how many points it would pick up.

Euroa though, gave it their all in an attempt to limit the damage that it could have suffered throughout the day. Jedd Wright reached 16 before the captain was caught out, following Andrew Riordan's retirement from the crease.

This meant that at 3/128, Luke Nolan and Scott Richardson occupied the middle, and the two combined for a steady partnership that saw Nolan take control of the game, guiding the Eagles to 3/167 before Richardson was undone for seven.

Nolan rocketed towards his half-century, but it wasn't long after he raised the bat did he find himself caught for 53.

That wicket saw a mini lower order collapse which saw Katandra lose its final four wickets for just 12 runs. The Eagles were all out for 204 but the game, and pain for Euroa, was far from being over.

Needing to bat well in order to safe itself from an outright loss, Euroa got off to a horrific start.

Hadleigh Sirett and Corey Hickford both picked up early wickets and snatched the ascendency early in the second innings.

Things went from bad to worse from that point for Euroa.

The Magpies went from 2/3 to 5/23 as Scott Richardson made his presence known as his side pushed hard for all 10 points.

Richardson claimed 3/10 from eight overs, with those wickets damning Euroa to 5/23.

The visitors managed to build its biggest partnership of the innings, 34 runs, but once Euroa got to 5/57, it well and truly fell apart.

Katandra captain Jedd Wright, as well as Andrew Riordan, decimated the Euroa middle to lower order, dismissing the final five batsmen for just one run.

Wright picked up 2/19, including the final wicket, from 9.4 overs, while Richardson's 3/1 from two overs blew the Magpies away.

Euroa's final score of 58 saw it fall short of Katandra by an innings and 30 runs, ensuring that Katandra enjoyed a well-deserved outright win.

Win the big victory, Katandra remain at the top of the A grade ladder but are four points clear of second placed Numurkah.

This week the Eagles will face stiff competition from fourth placed Northerners away at Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve.

B GRADE

Though Katandra had already claimed first innings points in its Clyde Young Shield clash against Euroa last week, the Eagles weren't able to produce the same magic this week, with Euroa batting well to avoid an outright defeat at Euroa Memorial Reserve on Saturday.

The Magpies were all out for just 78 on the first week of the round 11 clash, and with Katandra finishing the day's play 4/91, the Eagles were in with a big chance of grabbing maximum points this week.

To its credit, Euroa bowled and batted considerably better, ensuring that it was able to walk away from the loss with its pride in check.

The Eagles pursuit of a substantial lead took several early hits, kicking off with the loss of Clay Simpson and Ross Hopkins were the first pair to depart without the score being added to in a very noticeable way, and at 6/92, it got worse for Katandra from there.

The Eagles lost three wickets for just 11 runs and with those wickets falling, so were the visitor's chances of the outright win they would have been hoping for.

Nick Minogue and Bailey Simpson provided some resistance with their last-wicket partnership, with the pair scoring 16 and seven respectively, but Minogue fell in the 41st over to see his side all out for 128.

Needing to defend strongly from the off, Euroa lost an early wicket after Clay Simpson broke through for his first of three wickets to see the Magpies sit at 1/12.

The home side continued to struggle, losing wickets fairly regularly thanks to Simpson as well as Andrew Nicholls.

Simpson picked up the first three scalps to finish with great figures of 3/13 from eight overs, while Nicholls pushed the Magpies to the brink with his 2/30 from 11. At 5/54 the magpies were in big trouble, but despite losing a sixth wicket, were able to close out the remaining overs, finishing 6/110 by the end of the 48th over.

The win sees the Eagles move to 10th spot on 24 points equal with Euroa and Old Students, but 10 points behind Tatura in eighth spot.

The next challenge for Katandra comes this Saturday at home against bottom placed Northerners.

Bombers blown away

HAVING finished last week's play 5/191, Northerners declared overnight before completely outplaying A grade rival Waaia on its way to a big outright Haisman Shield win at Waaia Recreation Reserve.

Last week, the Bombers had been bowled out for just 85, giving Northerners the opportunity to blow the game apart and lead the struggling home side by 106 runs heading into Saturday's play.

There was no stirring revival for Waaia, though.

Following Northerners' declaration, Waaia scored just four runs before losing its first wicket.

Sean Carey scored those runs before being caught out. His replacement, Greg Meyland, didn't fair much better.

Meyland reached nine before he was out LBW, leaving the not out batsman Jordan Cleeland with a lot of work to do.

Meyland's wicket brought about the union of two Cleelands, with Jordan being joined by Mitch in the middle, but their partnership wasn't able to produce much.

Waaia reached 2/40, but when Mitch was caught out for five, the ominous feeling around the ground rose.

Waaia simply wasn't able to build substantial partnerships,

only three of the 11 Bomber batsmen who padded up were able to hit double-figures, with the extras being Waaia's fourth best run contributor.

To his credit, Jordan Cleeland played well, despite having to partner with a vast array of batsmen as he neared a half-century. Unfortunately, going along with how proceedings had transpired for the Bombers up until this point, Cleeland was out before he reached the milestone, LBW for 40.

At 6/81, the aim was simply to bat out the overs and try to curtail any chance of an outright loss.

Northerners had other ideas,

though, with bowler Trent Sidebottom's 6/30 from 12 overs steamrolling Waaia's batting lineup.

The Bombers limped to 124 before losing their final wicket, just 18 runs ahead of Northerners' first innings total.

It took just 2.1 overs for Northerners to grab those runs, and the maximum points on offer. Sitting on just 15 points for the season Waaia are 12th on the A grade ladder, while Northerners sneaked into the top four thanks to the extra points.

Waaia will take on third placed Central Park-St Brendans at Waaia Recreation Reserve this Saturday.

Lower grade Bombers get it done

WAAIA'S B grade side followed on from its impressive form last week to take out its clash against Northerners by a six-wicket margin at Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve on Saturday.

Chasing 131, the Bombers were 3/94 overnight and only lost Ryan Sprunt for 27 on Saturday. Tom Williams finished on 46 not out, while Mark Meyland remained unbeaten on two.

The win over the bottom placed side sees Waaia move to 21 points, three behind Euroa, Katandra and Old Students on the Clyde Young Shield table.

With two games remaining, Waaia is no chance of making the finals, but will hope to put its best foot forward against second placed Shepparton United at Princess Park this Saturday.

E GRADE

While Danny Glover and Char-

lie Burrows both bowled brilliantly for Waaia, it was wicketkeeper Mark Bryant who produced the goods during the Bombers' E grade game against Whitelock Shield rival Shepparton United at Princess park on Saturday.

Glover and Burrows picked up three wickets apiece during the first innings of the round 15 clash after Shepparton United won the toss and elected to take guard.

Despite a couple of early wickets and one period of play which saw the loss of four wickets for just 12 runs, Shepparton United managed to push hard and tally 135 before being all out after 34.5 overs.

Partnership building was something the home side just couldn't muster with great frequency, with just three batsmen scoring over 10 runs.

The one Shepp United batsman that was able to control the strike and not get flustered was Steve Nash, whose not out 44 was instrumental in giving his side a score of some respectability.

In reply, Waaia struggled early, losing openers Chris Revell and Brendan Harris cheaply with just 14 runs on the board.

The Bombers seemed to be on the right track with Ben and Matt Daniel occupying the middle, but when Ben was out for 18, it signaled a mini collapse that threatened to see the Bombers completely undone.

Matt Daniel was out for four and Danny Glover scored 10 before being bowled to see Waaia 5/49.

With Aden McCredie taking charge of the chase following Daniel's fall, he teamed up with

Dylan Cornick, but that tandem didn't last all that long. Cornick was caught for eight, and when captain Ryan Trimby was gone for a duck, alarm bells began to ring at 7/70.

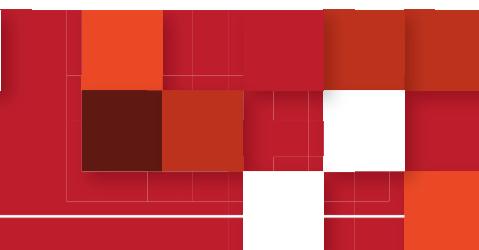
Enter Mark Bryant. Despite losing McCredie for 16, Bryant charged ahead to completely take the game away from the home side, and his battering half-century ensured the points for Waaia.

The Bombers didn't lose another wicket for the remainder of the chase, finishing 28.5 overs at 8/141.

The win sees Waaia in possession of fourth spot on the E grade ladder on 57 points, three points behind third placed Central Park-St Brendans, which is the team Waaia will next line up against this Saturday at Victory Park.

NumurkahLEADER

Sports



Flipper to register landmark double-century

NUMURKAH cricket captain Liam Gledhill will take part in his 200th A grade match this weekend against Shepparton United at the Numurkah Showgrounds on Saturday. With the match, Gledhill will become just the second Blue to play in 200 A grade games, while captaining 86 of those, alongside club legend Andrew "Moppy" Cline.

The Gledhill journey to 200 started back in 1996, when at just 13 years old Gledhill made his debut against Karamomus.

The young upstart may not have batted, but managed to snag 2/51 with the ball, kick-starting a long and storied career with the Numurkah Youth Club Cricket Club.

Gledhill played for the Blues until the 2000/01 season in which he fronted up for the Melbourne Cricket Club but returned to his childhood club in 2002/03.

Five seasons later he took up a coaching role at Katamatite for three seasons before spending two seasons with Waia when it was still a Murray Valley Cricket Association side.

Gledhill returned to Numurkah in 2013, where the dream of premiership success with his boyhood club continues to fuel his passion.

The Blues' captain has been a near constant top performer for his side, so much so that Gledhill's 322 wickets sees him top the wicket-taking charts as the only Blues player to reach the 300-mark.

In addition to this, 5,753 runs detail Gledhill's all-round cricketing ability and makes him the second highest run scorer, behind only Mark Brown on 5,889.

Gledhill's 178 not out against Old Students in round six of the 2014/15 season remains the club's highest ever individual score.

With 107 catches, Gledhill is just the second Blue, excluding wicketkeepers, to take over 100 catches and is just four behind David Henderson, who is currently attributed with the most for Numurkah.

In the midst of all the runs, wickets and catches have been the personal accolades.

Gledhill's consistent and almost unwavering form has seen him win multiple bowling, batting, best and fairest and cricketer of the year awards, not only at club level, but has also seen him top the charts association wide on a number of occasions.

Last year, Gledhill claimed the Lightfoot Medal to claim Cricket Shepparton's highest individual honour after being runner-up on several occasions.

Gledhill has been twice chosen in the Northern Rivers team of the year, but aside from all the honours, the joy of playing for his beloved Blues remains paramount in his mind.

"Throughout my entire life, the club has meant a great deal to me," Gledhill said, "I've been playing cricket there for a long time and it's been a big part of my life."

"Growing up there and being able to watch certain A graders play and being able to play with them while leading from the front has been amazing, I love the club very dearly."

At the forefront of Gledhill's mind currently is being able to guide his side to a long awaited Numurkah A grade premiership, but Gledhill knows to just take it one step at a time.

"[A flag] would mean a huge amount. Obviously it's been a long drought since our last premiership, it would be a really nice achievement to get that, but there's still a long way to go before we think about that."



History maker ... Liam Gledhill will become just the second player in NYCCC history to play 200 A grade games when he takes to the field on Saturday.

Eagles cruise into T20 final after comfortable win

A STRONG bowling performance and an opener's not out 63 has ensured Katandra of a spot in Cricket Shepparton's Love The Game T20 tournament with a comfortable eight wicket triumph over Old Students at Katandra Recreation Reserve on Thursday evening.

Winning the toss and electing to bowl, Katandra got off to a strong start via Hadleigh Sirett, who had Old Students' opener caught out

with just 13 runs on the board. Old Students never really got going, losing wickets with worrying frequency, unable to tear away from Katandra's grasp. The bowling attack from Katandra was suffocating, tight lines and solid fielding ensured that Old Students were made to work for every run it managed to score.

Ryleigh Shannon found two edges that were caught behind to see the visitors 3/42.

Shannon's 2/12 from three overs was a huge boost for Katandra, as the rest of the bowling attacks ensured that there was no time to breathe for the Students. Corey Hickford mirrored Shannon's influence as he too picked up two quick scalps to set the score at 5/67. Old Students regrouped, managing to get to 5/86 before Katandra came out on top at the most crucial of periods. Captain Jedd Wright forced a critical breakthrough, triggering a nosedive

in run production thereafter. At 6/86, Old Students lost its final four wickets for just 17 runs to finish its allotted 20 overs on 103. Needing just over five an over to grab victory, Katandra got off to a brilliant start as openers Ben Clurey and Luke Nolan got their side to 63 before Nolan was out LBW for 17. Clurey though, kept charging ahead, even with Nolan's replacement Jedd Wright being run out for just four.

At 2/67, the momentum was most definitely in Katandra's possession, especially with Clurey charging ahead to his half-century.

Clurey and Scott Richardson ensured that Katandra would close the game out, reaching 2/105 with only 16.5 overs bowled.

The Eagles will face the winner of the other semi final, which saw Kyabram face off against Northerners last night.

NumurkahLEADER

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Warriors racing home



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Weekend cricket coverage