

established 1895

Numurkah LEADER

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2019

\$1.30

INSIDE

Bad for business

STRATHY
GENERAL STORE

See story page 7



George not lost

See story page 6



Netball courts on the way

See story page 8

Vandal shatters the peace

POLICE have arrested a man who smashed a number of windows at six different locations in the early hours of Saturday morning.

See story page 2.



Amalgamated health service now a reality

THE much-debated amalgamation of Numurkah, Nathalia and Cobram health services is now a reality, with the new NCN Health having come into effect on Monday, July 1.

Minister for Health Jenny Mikakos announced the formation of the new health service last Thursday.

Making the announcement, the Minister said that hospitals in Nathalia, Cobram and Numurkah are coming together as one to share resources and deliver the best healthcare for locals in the Moira Shire.

"This ensures people living in these towns have greater access to the services they need, now and into the future," she said.

The State Government has provided \$175,000 in transition support funding to facilitate the merger.

A statement from the Department of Health and

Human Services reiterated previous assertions that there will be no change to services or staff, who will also continue to work in their current roles. Volunteers at the hospitals will also remain with each campus.

All three hospital campuses will stay and keep their names, and community advisory groups will be created at each campus to ensure community input on local health needs.

Jacque Phillips, who has been CEO of each of the three individual services for around 18 months, will remain in the position of CEO of the amalgamated service.

Ms Phillips told the *Leader* that the boards of the three services were delighted with the announcement.

"The amalgamation of the three services will allow

us to provide sustainable, high quality health care across the three communities into the future," she said.

"Opportunities for growth will be explored and we will be listening very closely to the community advisory groups regarding emerging health needs and working to meet those needs as NCN Health."

Ms Phillips insisted that for now, it is business as usual.

"There will no change to services or service delivery," she said.

"The three services have been closely working together in partnership for some time to deliver safe, high quality care to our communities and that will continue."

Continued page 3

Pioneers Lodge redevelopment planning begins

PLANNING for the redevelopment of Numurkah Pioneers Memorial Lodge is under way, with the master plan and feasibility study tender recently awarded to Bamford Architects.

A user group, which includes community members and staff, has also been established.

Numurkah District Health Service (NDHS) CEO, Jacque Phillips described it as an exciting project for the community.

"We are delighted that the Lodge redevelopment project has commenced," she said.

"The entire project including master planning, feasibility study and redevelopment stages will include extensive consultation over the coming months with residents, families, staff, volunteers and involvement of the broader community."

"The master plan and feasibility study process is expected to take six months and will focus on the needs and preferences of consumers, now and in the future; the site options and opportunities, latest design, structure, development guidelines, the character of the local area and other considerations."

The architect has visited the site to look at the existing facility and start exploring site options. Site investigation will consider the existing site and other land within the Numurkah District Health Service grounds.

Once this is completed the feasibility study will take place. The master plan and feasibility study will provide valuable information for the future of aged care services locally, and construction of new facilities.

Numurkah District Health Service will use reserves to fund the capital project.

"We are proud that this project is self-funded," Ms Phillips said.

The user group has been established to provide input and guidance on the project from various levels of expertise and viewpoints and to explore other high standard regional facilities that will inform design opportunities, best practice and models of care.

"The group is already providing valuable input into the project," Ms Phillips said.

Information on the project will be available on the NDHS website www.ndhs.org.au, and facebook page, via newsletters, local media, letters and meetings with residents/families.

A community information and consultation session will be held on Friday, July 26, at 11am at Numurkah District Health Service.



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Continuity ... CEO Jacque Phillips and NCN Health board members Dale Brooks and Susan Logie.

Amalgamated health service now a reality

Continued from front page

"The three services have been closely working together in partnership for some time to deliver safe, high quality care to our communities and that will continue.

"By working together as an amalgamated service we can attract new funding and new services locally and every opportunity will be taken to maximise services."

Ms Phillips said the new board of directors will spend the next six to 12 months creating a strategic plan to take the new service forward.

The NCN Health board of directors, which will be made up of 12 members, was approved by the Governor in Council last Tuesday.

The board features representatives for each of the three health services, with four members each from Numurkah and Cobram, and three members from Nathalia.

Susan Logie, former chair of the Nathalia Health board, and former Cobram Health chair Dale Brooks both return as board members, however former NDHS board chair Michael

Buha did not apply for membership of the NCN Health board.

The inaugural directors for NCN Health are Dale Brooks, Patricia West, Kade Beasley, Jennifer Gould, Mewan Dissan, Susan Logie, Christopher McCallum, Nathan Morris, Andrew Lelliott, Melissa Nicoll, Kate Hodge and Suni Campbell.

A spokesperson for the Department of Health and Human Services told the *Leader* there were 17 applications, from across the local area and broader region, for membership of the NCN Health board.

"The new NCN Health board has representation from each community, and its membership ensures a balanced mix of professional skills, experience and qualifications and provides continuity to support the transition to NCN Health," they said.

Suni Campbell is the only member of the NCN Health board that has not previously served on the board of one of the three health services.

"NCN Health will also establish a community advisory committee for each of Numurkah, Nathalia and Cobram communities to ensure strong local representation for each of the communities.

"The community advisory committees will be advertised later this month and we encourage all locals to apply."

The department's statement said that extensive consultation and communication with all communities will continue.

Despite heavy criticism having been levelled at the quality and quantity of community consultation prior to the amalgamation, CEO Jacque Phillips concurred with the department's statement.

"Consulting with service users and stakeholders is fundamental to what we do, and NCN Health will not be moving away from that philosophy."

The full list of health service directors will be available on the Public Board Appointments Victoria website in the coming days (<http://www.publicboards.vic.gov.au/>).

Governor of Victoria's term extended

GOVERNOR of Victoria, Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, will remain in her role for a further three years, until June 30, 2023.

A statement from the office of State Premier Daniel Andrews said that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has accepted the advice of the Premier to extend Ms Dessau's term for a further three years.

The statement said this will enable Her Excellency, supported by her husband Mr Anthony Howard AM QC, to continue her important and much valued work serving the people of Victoria, locally

and internationally.

"I thank the Governor and Mr Howard for agreeing to continue serving the people of Victoria until 2023," Mr Andrews said.

"Through their tireless work they have wonderfully represented and celebrated our diverse community and its achievements at home and internationally, while making Government House a more open, accessible and inclusive place."

The Governor and Mr Howard are patrons to more than 160 community organisations, helping support and promote groups involved in voluntary service, industry, education, the arts, sport, and caring

for those in need.

This includes through the Peace and Prosperity Kitchen Garden program at Government House, where the Governor and Mr Howard have fostered friendship and understanding among women of migrant and refugee backgrounds who are newly arrived in Victoria.

Ms Dessau said it is an honour and privilege to represent and promote our great state, and help to celebrate and support Victoria's diverse and vibrant community.

"My husband Tony and I are delighted to be asked to continue our service to the people of Victoria,"

she said.

The Governor and Mr Howard also play significant roles in celebrating the diversity and achievements of the Victorian community through hosting events at Government House, lending their support to major events across the state, and by touring regional communities.

The Governor has also provided outstanding leadership and compassion during some of Victoria's most challenging times, including in the aftermath of the Bourke Street attack in January 2017, and as the Patron for the 10 Year Anniversary of the 2009 Bushfires.

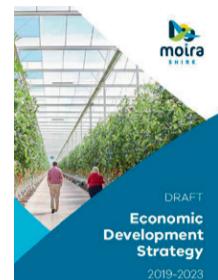
**TAKE UP GOLF
OR BOWLS**

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DRAFT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY – HAVE YOUR SAY



Council is seeking feedback on its draft Economic Development Strategy 2019-23.

This draft strategy will guide Council's strategic direction, decision making and service delivery into the future.

The draft strategy builds on the existing strengths of the local economy while seeking to embrace new opportunities that create diversity and resilience and we want to know have we got the balance right.

Go to our website to read the draft strategy and have your say.

VISITING FRIENDS AND RELATIVES DISCOVERY WEEKEND – 27 & 28 JULY

Residents are invited to take part in the Discovery Weekend held on 27 & 28 July right across the shire.

From Bundalong to Barmah tourism operators will welcome locals with multiple attractions and activities for just \$1.

Look out in the mail for your special ticket and brochure detailing all the events on offer.

Go to our website for more information.

E-WASTE BAN BEGINS



From 1 July 2019, e-waste will no longer be accepted in any bin state-wide. E-waste is any item with a plug, battery or cord that is no longer working or wanted.

From your phone to your fridge, laptop or electric lawnmower, it covers a whole range of items from work, home and even the garden shed.

Visit our website to find your nearest e-waste drop off point.

INDUSTRIAL LAND EOI – CLOSES 11 JULY

Do you have any land available or are looking to purchase land in an industrial estate to develop your business?

We are asking for feedback on what land you may have available and what areas of land you would like to see developed in Moira Shire.

The feedback period closes 5pm Thursday 11 July.

FEEDBACK ON FUTURE OF VOLUNTEER SECTION 86 COMMITTEES – CLOSES 12 JULY



Feedback on the future directions for Section 86 committees is closing soon so now is the time to have your say.

A discussion paper, which includes 13 key principles to guide the future operation, funding and support for volunteer committees is available from our website.

We encourage everyone to read the discussion paper and to consider what the future could look like for these committees and for the wider community.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 24 JULY

Our next meeting will commence at 5pm on Wednesday 24 July at the Cobram Civic Centre.

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

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



Our Facebook page provides updates and information about Council and the many services and activities we provide across the Moira Shire. **Join us today.**



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Time to go ... Wild wind and rain forces players from the field in the cold and dark with five minutes til the final siren.

Wild weather keeps SES busy and stops footy

SATURDAY'S storm kept the local SES unit busy, with trees down throughout Numurkah township and across the region.

Numurkah SES unit deployed three units across the district, responding to fallen trees and tree limbs, many of which were blocking roads, in an area encompassing Yalca, Mywee, Strathmerton, Yarroweyah, Muckatah, Katamatite and Invergordon.

One of the units alone covered a distance of 220km throughout the afternoon and evening, clearing trees and limbs from roads before finally returning to base at around 10.30pm.

Of the 16 incidents the three Numurkah crews responded to, none involved residential or business addresses.

The worst of the rain and wind hit during the final quarter of the seniors football match be-

tween Numurkah and Cobram, leading to the lights being turned on and eventually the game being called off, something that hasn't happened in living memory.

SES crews from Cobram, Tocumwal, Echuca and Shepparton were kept equally busy, with a spokesperson from SES North East region office telling the *Leader* that the Hume region got 'really slammed'.

"The other end of the region definitely coped the worst of it," she said.

"Tatura had 58 incidents, one of which caused a family to evacuate their home, and with multiple power lines down, the town was without power until around 5pm on Sunday.

"Kyabram had 38 incidents and also lost power for around eight hours, so it was an extremely busy weekend for local units."

Website helps Vic parents find schools

IT is now easier for parents to find out what school zone they live in, with the recent launch of a new interactive website.

The Find My School website means, for the first time, Victorian parents will be able to enter their home address online and see their local school zone.

The website allows parents to search for their closest school as well as find other nearby government schools. Schools can be found by typing in a residential address or suburb or searching by school name or categories such as primary, secondary, or specialist school.

A number of anomalies in school zoning have also been addressed.

Previously, some homes were excluded from a school zone, and in some cases school

boundaries overlapped.

The website also includes zones for the new schools opening in 2020.

The new website will provide parents with clarity and consistency on what their government school options are.

Every child has the right to enrol at their closest government school. School choice is also very important.

Schools have always had the choice to accommodate children living outside a school's zone if there is enough space – this will not change.

No student currently enrolled in a school will be required to change schools.

Parents can look up school zones online at: findmyschool.vic.gov.au.

Tailgating voted the worst

A SURVEY of Australian drivers has revealed that the greatest peeve on Australian roads, with a vote of 78%, is tailgating.

Changing lanes without indicating came a very close second at 77%, whilst leaving high-beams on cruised into third with 64%.

As far as rating our own driving, 97% of respondents consider themselves safe drivers, even though 78% admitted to committing some of the above annoying acts on the road.

The vast majority of drivers - a whopping 89% - said that other drivers have got them hot under the collar with bad driving manners or behaviour, with 20% going as far to say that they have had a road accident related to feeling annoyed or stressed out on the road.

Drivers from Victoria and NSW are the most confident in their driving prowess, with 73% of respondents from each state rating themselves a better driver than most people.

Despite this glowing self-assessment, Victorians confess they've at times committed annoying driving behaviours, with 37% admitting to not letting other drivers in, 29% admitting to forgetting to indicate, and 28% admitting to being overly polite and letting everyone in when they've had right of way.

Inside the car, 34% of Victorians are most stressed by passengers giving directions and arguments with a loved one when driving, and 30% of Victorians - the highest rate across the nation - are more likely to say no to driving because they don't want to face traffic.

NCN HEALTH SERVICES UPDATE

Nathalia Cobram Numurkah www.ncnhealthservices.org.au



MINISTER APPROVES VOLUNTARY AMALGAMATION

The Minister for Health has approved a proposal for the voluntary amalgamation of Nathalia District Hospital, Cobram District Health and Numurkah District Health Service, to enhance access to local health care for communities.

The new organisation 'NCN Health' will operate under a combined management and governance structure from 1 July 2019.

The Andrews Labor Government has provided \$175,000 in funding to support the transition.

The existing hospitals and facilities at Nathalia, Cobram and Numurkah will remain in place, in their current locations, and services will be maintained and enhanced. Urgent Care Centres, clinical services, aged care, primary health, allied health and all other health services will remain in place. The local identity of each facility will be preserved.

There will be no loss of services, staffing or funding. Staff are valued and all staff will transfer across to the new organisation in their current roles and locations. Volunteers are also an integral part of the organisations and will remain with each campus.

The merger will be business as usual. The CEO, Jacque Phillips, is continuing in the leadership role and has been managing the three entities over the past 12 months. A combined management structure is well advanced with a range of senior management positions in place across the campuses.

The new entity will enable significant opportunities for the growth of health services and the provision of new services that meet the needs of the three communities.

The Board will have local representation from each community and three Community Advisory Groups will be established to ensure local health needs are heard. These are in addition to existing Consumer Liaison Committees.

There will be one Budget for the organisation from 1 July 2019 and local funding will remain local. Reserves at each organisation will be kept for local priorities. Donations and items will remain with each facility/location.

The proposal for voluntary amalgamation was approved by the Minister for Health and the Department of Health and Human Services. It was also unanimously supported by the three Boards following extensive community and staff consultation, due diligence assessment, and careful consideration of the benefits and issues - with focus on improving access to care for local communities. The independent Due Diligence Report found no major issues of concern on the proposal to join services - this included a comprehensive assessment of clinical, financial, governance, regulatory and human resource matters.

**More information is available at:
www.ncnhealthservices.org.au**

ONGOING COMMUNICATION AND FEEDBACK

Communication is ongoing through meetings, newsletters, media and the NCN website www.ncnhealthservices.org.au

We are continuing to meet with service groups, community members and staff to hear feedback and answer questions in relation to NCN Health. Community members can make an appointment to come and talk to the CEO or Board Chair; Email: ncnhealthservices@humehealth.org.au; or Write to: NCN Proposal PO Box 252 Cobram 3644 VIC.





Much loved pet ... (From left): Joel Howman, Carol Storer, Hudson Storer, Ken Moffatt and Don Staggard make a fuss of George the bowls club cat.

Say hello to George, the not-lost cat

IF you're in the vicinity of the bowls club sports precinct in Numurkah any time soon, you may see a pet poster of a different type than usual - a 'not-lost' cat poster.

The posters feature George the cat, and alert the public to the fact that if they see George wandering the area to let him go about his business, because he's not lost, he's actually home.

George has been resident at the precinct for around 12 months, ever since he turned up out of the blue looking skinny and scrawny and in need of some love.

Now George, who has been vet-checked and de-sexed, happily lives at the bowls club, sleep-

ing in his bed, or under the clubrooms, when he's not following grounds keeper Don Staggard around.

Observing bowls club members with George, it is clear that he is as loved as any pet that resides in a normal family home, a fact Don Staggard confirms.

"Everybody loves him because he's so friendly," Don said.

Although George is very much Don's shadow at this time of year, following him around the greens as he goes about ensuring they are in top condition, in summer he is very much Geoff Sutcliffe's shadow.

"Geoff is the tennis club curator and he arrives first in the summer months so George greets him when he gets here in the morning and sticks with him."

Though at least three of the members of the bowls club admit to feeding George every day, he shows no signs of being overweight, as he gets plenty of exercise.

"He chases the bowls when you send them down the green, and in summer he chases the tennis balls around when the kids are training, so you could say he's an active member of both clubs," Don said.

The recent signage alerting the public to

George's identity was prompted by the actions of a well-meaning local who thought that George, who doesn't wear a collar, was a stray and took him home.

Carol Storer, who created the posters, said that George wasn't gone long.

"He came back, because he already had a home," she said.

"We just want to avoid that happening again and let people know that he lives here and he's quite happy about it."

"He's a stray who won't leave, and that's fine by us," Don said.

"He'd be very sadly missed if he ever left."



Kerbside organic waste service expands shire-wide

Due to the success of the initial kerbside organic service in 2014 to residential areas in our four main towns, Council has given the green light to expand the service shire-wide. This expansion will take place in two key stages:

First stage – The un-serviced areas of Cobram, Numurkah and Yarrawonga plus the township of Tungamah will receive the service in September.

Second stage – The townships of Barmah, Bundalong, Katamatite, Katunga, Picola, St James, Strathmerton, Waaia, Wilby, Wunghnu and Yarroweyah will receive the service in October.

What is the kerbside organic waste service?

Residents will receive a 240 litre wheelie bin, a small kitchen caddie and a roll of compostable bags.

Our kerbside collection service will empty your organics wheelie bin each fortnight and we will provide a new supply of bags each year.

The kitchen caddie and bags allow you to conveniently and cleanly collect kitchen food scraps and dispose of them in the wheelie bin. Other waste such as garden waste and animal droppings can be disposed of directly into the wheelie bin.

Is organic waste the same as green waste?

Our organics waste service allows you to dispose of a wide range of waste including:

- Food scraps including meat, bones and other animal products
- Leaves, bark, weeds and grass clippings
- Small prunings and branches
- Saw dust from untreated timber
- Animal droppings and manure

Look out for our kerbside organic waste service updates in coming weeks.

Our waste by numbers

54%

Of our kerbside waste is organic.

11,500

Tonnes of organic material that has been converted to compost since 2014.

5,500

Tonnes of waste that has been diverted away from our landfill site.

<1%

We have set a new industry benchmark in low contamination rates.

240 litre

Size of the organic waste bin that will be provided to households.

\$1.98

Approximate weekly cost per household for the kerbside organic waste service.



Strathy pedestrian crossing bad for business

STRATHMERTON business owners say they have taken a hit in the hip-pocket, since a pedestrian crossing was built in the middle of the Murray Valley Highway in the town.

Plans for the crossing were announced in mid 2018, when Strathmerton locals were fighting to have the speed limit through the town reduced from 80kph to 60kph.

The speed limit was eventually reduced in early April 2019, and the crossing, which was constructed by Moira Shire with a \$50,000 community safety grant from VicRoads, was constructed in May.

Strathmerton Bakery owner Glenda Kelly, whose business is located in the service road on the northern side of the highway, said she noticed an immediate drop in business.

"As soon as it went up we lost around 60 customers a day, and it has stayed that way," she said.

The crossing provides a barrier so people can't see the turn into the service road, and they don't realise that is where they need to turn to get to us."

Many drivers who miss the turn into the service road then execute a right hand turn into Maguire St and then turn right into the Caltex service station, using it for access to the service road.

An employee of the Caltex service station told the *Leader* that they are seeing slightly less vehicles coming straight through their forecourt since broken lines were added in front of the service road turn, but not many.

"The broken lines are useless without a 'right hand turn permitted into service road' sign leading



Barrier ... The crossing obstructs the view of the service lane entrance for vehicles travelling west.

up to the crossing," he said.

"People either can't see the turn or think they're not allowed to take it. It's ridiculous."

Mrs Kelly agrees wholeheartedly.

"When VicRoads came to look at the situation through town last year they were intent on putting a crossing there and I told them that if they must put it in they needed to put it much further east."

"With it located here, anyone travelling west is more or less prevented from using the businesses in the service road."

"I've said for years that if there's only one chance to turn in to access

these businesses, then they need a sign letting people know well in advance, and that applies now more than ever."

The original proposed location of the crossing was in fact slightly further west, but was amended slightly, being moved a few metres further east, following community concerns.

For Mrs Kelly, it was nowhere near far enough.

"It creates a real physical barrier for traffic to access the service road, especially if they're towing something," she said.

Mrs Kelly said the drop in busi-

ness the bakery has experienced since the crossing went in far eclipses that caused by any other event in its 23 year history.

"Even when there was flooding that cut off river access, or when there was blue-green algae, it wasn't this bad, and those things were just temporary too."

"Even on the June long weekend just gone, when we would usually be flat out, we were quiet. This could very well send us out of business, and then there won't be any need for a crossing, because there will be nothing to cross the road to."

Beware of scammers impersonating the tax office

THE Australian Tax Office (ATO) is warning everyone about the continuation of pre-recorded phone calls from last year which impersonated the legitimate tax office phone numbers.

"Scammers are sending pre-recorded messages in record numbers and are manipulating caller identification so that your phone displays a legitimate ATO phone number, despite coming from an overseas scammer." Assistant Commissioner Gavin Siebert said.

"If the scammers do make contact, they will request payment of a tax debt – usually through unusual methods like bitcoin, gift cards and vouchers. Legitimate ways to pay your tax debt are listed on our website."

"The scammers will threaten you with immediate arrest, attempt to keep you on the line until payment is made and may become rude or aggressive," he said.

The ATO has received 40,225 reports of impersonation scams so far in 2019, with just over \$1 million in losses.

The technique of displaying misleading phone numbers is known as "spoofing" and is commonly used by scammers in an attempt to make their interactions with taxpayers appear legitimate.

"Taxpayers should be wary of any unexpected phone call, text message or email claiming to be from the tax office."

"While we may contact you in these ways, if it doesn't seem right, independently find our phone number and check if the contact was legitimate."

"If you receive a pre-recorded message claiming to be from us, either hang up or simply delete the voicemail." Mr Siebert said.

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Have your say on how driving, riding and walking can be made safer in your community, everyone's welcome.

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GOULBURN VALLEY FARMERS' AND FRUIT GROWERS' GAZETTE

100 years ago

This week in 1919 ...

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

To view these editions online go to trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/title/591.

NUMURKAH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY EXECUTIVE MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the executive of the Agricultural Society was held on Tuesday, last, when there were present Messrs J. S. Christie (President), F. McKenna, J. Findlay vice - Presidents), Harper (treasurer), Hooper, Hodgson, Moss, Allen (2). McLean, Mitchell, Kilpatrick, Leavay (2), Corrin, Thornton, Christie, jun., Fowler (2) Sutcliffe, Grant, Trengrove, Adams, Mills, Gordon, and Fairless (secretary).

The Peace Treaty.

It having been reported that day that the peace treaty had been signed by Germany, the meeting rose and sang the National Anthem, and cheers were given for Britain and her Allies. The President was cordially congratulated upon occupying the position in such an eventful year, and in reply said that all were overjoyed at the good news. It was indeed cheering to know that no further loss of life need be feared. It had been a long, cruel war, and there was scarcely one in the room who had not suffered in some way in the death or wounding of relatives. It was a matter of congratulation that the sacrifices made had not been in vain, and it was to be hoped that there would be no war either in our or our children's time.

Cost of Re-Construction.

The secretary reported that the total cost of re-constructing the society was £15/3/1.

Mr Kilpatrick said the statement came as a very agreeable surprise, and reflected the very highest credit upon those responsible. They had raised over £1100, and to do that and issue debentures, as well as to carry out the manifold details connected with the work at a cost of only £15 showed how enthusiastic the promoters were in the work. He moved that the best thanks of the society be tendered those responsible. Seconded by T. Allen and carried.

CAPTURED.

By Val. C. Sparkes, Foster

It was in the vicinity of Fleubaix, France, that we fell into the hands of the enemy. I will not dwell on the why, or wherefore, that the misfortune befel us. There are others, who are in a better position than I am, to judge on that. We had gone over the top on the 19th July, 1916, and took two lines of trenches. We held the German second line all night, suffering very heavy casualties. About an hour after dawn we, a small party, could discern through the mist the enemy in large numbers in front and rear. Then we realised that our only hope was that reinforcements would be sent to our assistance. We were about 500 yards distant from our original front line, and our numbers were too few to charge back. In the grey morning light their grey uniforms and spike helmets gave them the appearance of a lot of devils bobbing about. Our rifle fire was not sufficient to keep them at bay, and in a very short time they were on us. Those fortunate, or unfortunate, enough to be left standing were taken prisoner. About ten of us were escorted out by several Fritzes, not caring much what became of us. Our own shell fire was playing havoc in their lines, and we did not expect to get through alive. They were mad with rage, and we were threatened from all quarters. One of our guards was killed by a shell, and one of our number got some shrapnel in the face. A German sergeant, who was frantic with rage and frothing at the mouth levelled his revolver at us, and shouted in English, "You — sons of —". On arrival at their headquarters we were searched, and they were very careful to take all knives and sharp instruments from us. We were feeling pretty knocked up, and were taken over by the Uhlans. Our numbers kept increasing by the addition of small batches of other unfortunates.

Keep reading this story at trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/title/591.

Serious Accident.—A serious mishap befel Master Horace Stewart, son-of Mr and Mrs D. Stewart, on Sunday. Horace, who is on the staff of the Cobram post office, was watching a companion swing a golf club when he was struck in the left eye, causing injury that it is feared will result in the loss of the member. Mr Stewart took the boy to Melbourne on Monday morning for attention at the Eye and Ear Hospital.



Watch this space ... Past and present NFNC presidents Paul Arnel and John Beitzel celebrate Moira Shire's grant of \$200,000 for new netball courts with Cr Marie Martin, on the proposed new location.

New netball courts a step closer

NETBALL courts capable of hosting an A-grade grand final are now within Numurkah's grasp.

Numurkah Football Netball Club (NFNC) received \$200,000 for the project in Moira Shire's 2019/2020 budget, which represents the lion's share of the project's cost, which is estimated to be around \$270,000.

The club already has some funds allocated towards its share, and is also looking to secure in-kind contributions towards the project.

The costs will cover two flexi-pave netball courts, lighting, spectator and coaching facilities and, it's hoped, an electronic score-

board.

Former club president Paul Arnel, who has been a driving force behind the project, couldn't be happier.

"This is something we have needed and wanted in Numurkah for a long time and it will be a good thing for everyone," he said.

Current club president John Beitzel told the Leader that there is currently nowhere in the shire capable of hosting an A-grade grand final.

"We are looking forward to having an A-grade facility that the town and the shire can be proud of," he said.

Current plans are for the

new facilities to be constructed in the empty area immediately to the north of the clubrooms, in between the Agricultural and Pastoral Society's poultry shed and the cricket nets.

Mr Arnel said that rebuilding on the location of the current courts is out of the question, due to it being right next to the car park.

"One of the main aims of the project is safety for everyone at the club," he said.

"At the moment we have people constantly moving across the car park to get to and from the courts, and we really want to put an end to that."

The next step is for the

club to have plans drawn up, which will be presented to the showgrounds committee of management and the Agricultural and Pastoral (A&P) Society committee for approval.

As far as that goes, one major potential stumbling block is the fact that plans for building the courts at that location are likely to require the relocation of the A&P Society's poultry shed.

A&P Society president Bev Patrick said that, although the society supports NFNC and doesn't wish to stand in the way of progress, it has serious concerns about any proposal to

relocate the poultry shed.

"With the flood overlay in that area, and it being adjacent to crown land, we are not convinced of an ability to move it to an appropriate location; and relocating it, with concrete floors and electrics, would be an expensive exercise regardless," Mrs Patrick said.

"We would want written guarantees from the football netball club, the shire and DELWP that the shed would definitely be relocated to an appropriate position approved by us, before we would consider approving any plans to build the netball courts in that position."

Nominations open for Murray Dairy board

MURRAY Dairy is calling for nominations for a farmer and a service provider position on its board of directors coming into the 2019/20 year.

The positions will provide an opportunity to contribute to the direction of industry research, development and extension.

The positions have become available due to the expiration of membership terms of current farmer representative and co-deputy chair, Tony McCarthy, and service-provider representative, Chris Thomas. Both current directors are eligible for renomination for a second term.

The board represents the dairy industry across the Murray region of northern Victoria and southern NSW. They are responsible for the oversight and governance of Murray Dairy, the regional arm of Dairy Australia, providing localised programs for the development of dairy farmers and the service sector.

Current chair and dairy farmer, Karen Moroney, strongly encouraged those interested to put themselves forward.

"I believe that board composition is key to successfully guiding and transforming any business," she said.

"More than ever, we need to shape our boards with people who are going to hold us accountable, who will question and really engage in what counts for now and in the future."

"Board diversity is important in that aspect, especially in terms of age and gender,

when we talk about shaping the future."

"The board must be representative of the entire region, with farmers and service providers from varied backgrounds, who run different types of businesses, offering expertise across a spectrum of areas."

The board plays a critical role in guiding the organisation's investment in regional programs such as the seasonal events, research updates, technical courses and discussion groups provided each year.

They work closely with industry partners including education and training providers, processors, the United Dairyfarmers of Victoria (UDV) and all levels of government and associated organisations.

Ms Moroney said the board is committed to addressing the six key areas identified in the strategy: profit, water, planning, systems, people and promotion.

In addition to their existing programs, Murray Dairy will be running new projects in the 2019/20 year to address some of the industry's regional challenges and opportunities including water portfolio management, risk management, alternative farming systems and farm business transition.

Nominations close today, July 3, and positions will be formalised at the Murray Dairy AGM in October.

Application forms are available from Murray Dairy: <https://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/murray-dairy>.

Uber Air to launch in Melbourne

MELBOURNE has been chosen as the only city outside the USA to trial Uber's new aerial ride sharing service Uber Air.

Melbourne will join Dallas and Los Angeles as one of the launch cities to trial the service.

Uber Elevate, the division of Uber developing the ambitious ride sharing mode, plans to begin demonstrator flights in late 2020, ahead of launching commercial flights in 2023.

Melbourne is one of only three cities in the world selected to be part of the trial and launch, and was chosen ahead of cities in Brazil, France, India and Japan.

Melbourne was selected following an 18-month process and was chosen for its status as being Australia's leading tech city, its diverse and talented labour pool and ranking as one of the world's most liveable cities.

Uber Air will operate using the Uber app, allowing passengers to travel in electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft, known as eVTOLs, across a network of landing pads called skyports.

The Victorian Government, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority and other key bodies will be working in partnership with Uber Elevate in the lead up to the demonstrator flights.

Aerial ride sharing has the potential to offer direct rides between Victorian attractions and major events, benefiting Victoria's tourism and events industry.

Treasurer and Minister for Economic Development Tim Pallas said the Victorian Government is thrilled that Melbourne has been chosen to partner with Uber Elevate.

"The future of transport is coming to Melbourne, giving us a flying start to capitalise on new opportunities that emerge as this industry takes off," he said.

Give and take at PALS



Donation ... Jess Gray, Kelly Waites and Matthew Langford were delighted to receive the donation from Jodie Brown.

GOOD karma was on full display at PALS last week, as the organisation - itself a good cause - was presented with a generous donation, whilst it was in the process of raising funds for another good cause.

Numurkah Commonwealth Bank branch manager Jodie Brown visited PALS Numurkah's Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser for cancer research to present the organisation with a cheque for \$500.

Ms Brown said the donation was part of a national program where each branch is allocated \$500 to donate to a local organisation of the branch staff's choice.

"We chose PALS, because we felt it was under-recognised," Ms Brown said.

"It does so much good in the community and we know it will utilise the money well."

We are very happy and proud to donate to PALS."

PALS representative Linda Boyd said the money will go towards supplies for a mural to be painted by PALS clients.

"They are looking forward to painting a mural of activities they participate in at PALS which will brighten up an outside wall," she said.

"We will also put some of the money towards fixing up a garden bed that's looking a bit sad, and buy some lovely colourful roses to plant in it."

Whilst PALS workers and clients were thrilled with the donation, attention quickly turned back to morning tea.

A range of delicious treats were on offer, and clients and visitors alike were happy to donate for the privilege of partaking, with the event raising \$158.10 for the Cancer Council.

Making a difference made easier

THEY say it's the little things that can make the biggest difference in people's lives in times of need, and the Rotary Club of Numurkah, in conjunction with Numurkah Home Timber and Hardware, has made a simple move to help us all be part of that approach.

Rotary has links to a number of organisations that put everyday items to good use - such as plastic bottle caps that are re-purposed into fibre that is used to 3D print artificial limbs for kids in third world countries.

Whilst the club has been collecting items at the Melville St kiosk on the first Saturday of each month, there is now a permanent collection tub at Numurkah Home Timber and Hardware.

Other items being collected include used stamps, which are trimmed, packaged and sold to raise funds; eyeglasses, which are sent to less developed countries to restore eyesight; toiletries (especially those 'pinched' from hotels), which are put in hygiene packs for those in crisis situations, and wool, blan-

kets, sheets and towels which are used for the care and comfort of rescued native wildlife.

Rotary president Lorraine Greenwood said donated items would make a real difference to the groups and programs they were collected on behalf of.

"These are projects that have identified a meaningful use for these items that can really help people," she said.

"If local people have these things at home and don't need them it's just a matter of them dropping them off, and we can pass them on," she said.

Geoff Buzz, owner of Numurkah Home Timber and Hardware, said the business was happy to be part of the supply chain for items that could bring hope to people and animals near and far.

"These projects can make a huge difference to people's lives, and if we can help local people be a part of that by doing something so simple, then we are very pleased to be able to do so."



From little things big things grow ... Lorraine Greenwood and Geoff Buzz are happy to be part of the supply chain for hope.

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Warming hearts with generosity

THERE is no denying that St Joseph's Primary School students have caught on to this maths business.

On Friday, the school celebrated mass for the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the theme for which, this year, was generosity, and in the lead up to the day students were encouraged to reflect on those in our community that may be going through a difficult time.

The school's student leaders quickly put two and two together and organised a 'Winter Appeal' for the benefit of those in our community in need of a bit of seasonal help.

The appeal asked for donations of bedding to help those a little less fortunate stay warm, and donations soon flowed in.

St Joe's deputy principal Kelly Newman told the *Leader* she was proud of the children's awareness of the needs of others in their local community.

"Our families and students at St Joseph's embody the church's social justice teachings," she said.

"As usual our caring families supported this appeal generously by donating blankets and other bedding."

At the end of Friday's mass the blankets were handed over to Margaret Lucas as a representative for Numurkah St Vincent de Paul.

Mrs Lucas said the donation was very welcome.

"There were several dozen blankets donated, and there are certainly people in our community who can use them," she said.



Early mental illness intervention saves lives

VICTORIANS who have mental health issues – including schizophrenia – are being urged to reach out and get help as shocking figures show a million Australians are being impacted by schizophrenia, and less than 50% of them are actually getting clinical or recovery assistance.

The Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia (MIFA) says that, at just 54 years-old, the life expectancy of people affected by schizophrenia is going backwards, and people with schizophrenia are 12 times more likely to die from suicide than the general population.

MIFA CEO Tony Stevenson says it is alarming to know how many people are not getting help.

"There is massive stigma in Australia in relation to those who have schizophrenia. There are so many ridiculous myths about schizophrenia. We want to dispel those myths," he said.

"It is an absolute myth to believe people with schizophrenia are in some way violent. They are no more likely to be violent than anybody else.

Mr Stevenson said people who have schizophrenia can and do recover, if they have the right recovery support services.

"Obviously you cannot just will schizophrenia away, but make no mistake, there is significant support out there to help people. There are specialists available to assist people with schizophrenia."

Some studies report as many as one in three people fully recover a healthy life in their community, with less severe and less frequent psychotic episodes.

"You have to have evidence based treatment by qualified mental health professionals, and recovery support from experienced community organisations," Mr Stevenson said.

MIFA says a massive 230,000 people across the nation have schizophrenia – approximately 60,000 of them in Victoria.

"The mere fact that the life expectancy of Australians with schizophrenia is 19 years less than

someone else is appalling," Mr Stevenson said.

"We are basically talking about people with schizophrenia having the same life expectancy that people had in the 1930s."

Schizophrenia typically starts during adolescence or early adulthood.

"In the past 15 years we have seen increasing evidence proving early treatment is critical," Mr Stevenson said.

The Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia says there are a number of early warning signs that may indicate somebody may have schizophrenia (or another mental illness).

These include:

- Changes in mood or rapid mood changes.
- Unusual behaviour.
- Excessive sleep and loss of energy or sleep disturbances.
- A person withdrawing and isolating themselves from friends and family.
- A clear decline in work or school perfor-

mance.

• Difficulties with memory and concentration and increased suspiciousness.

Recent research has revealed people living with psychosis in Australia experience higher rates of heart disease, asthma, diabetes, hepatitis, epilepsy, kidney disease and stroke. They also smoke at three times the rate of the general population.

MIFA says the annual costs of psychosis are staggering. Research shows psychosis costs Australian society \$4.91 billion annually. Psychosis costs the Australian Government almost \$3.52 billion annually.

Anybody wanting help regarding schizophrenia, or any mental health issue, is urged to ring Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia's free number - 1800 985 944 - which will put them in touch with somebody close to their local community. Anybody wanting information regarding mental illness can also visit www.minentworks.org.au.

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MARTIN — Myles and Tamara are delighted to announce the arrival of

MAGGIE GRACE
Born 26th June, 2019 at Goulburn Valley Health. Little sister for Audrey and Leo to love.

CUFF (nee Mitchell) — Alyson. 18.5.61 - 24.6.19 Dearly loved daughter of Len (dec.) and Doris (dec.). Adored sister of Andree, Sally, Tim (dec.), Lauren and Penny (dec.). *Fly high our angel*

NEIL — Lorraine. June 20, 2019. We were deeply saddened by the passing of our wonderful friend and neighbour. You will always be in our hearts and thoughts. Our sympathy goes to the family for their loss.

*Forever missed
Adam, Kim and Joshua*

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SENIORS

Nathalia 4.2, 9.3, 14.5, 17.5 (107)

Rumbalaria 2.1, 4.1, 4.3, 5.4 (34)

GOALS, Nathalia: A. Hicks 5, J. Limbrick 4, A. Jorgensen 4, B. Ross 2, M. Barnes 1, B. Bell 1. Rumbalaria: J. Wanganeen 1, J. Sorgel 1, L. Power 1, J. Stewart 1, J. Terlich 1.

BEST, Nathalia: J. Limbrick, A. Hicks, N. Nihill, A. Jorgensen, B. Bell, T. Nihill. Rumbalaria: J. Papouliis, T. Lloyd, A. Miller, J. Terlich, N. Terlich, C. Egan.

Katandra 4.3, 6.3, 8.3, 10.3 (63)

Deniliquin Rams 1.0, 5.5, 6.7, 6.7 (43)

GOALS, Katandra: R. Yze 4, R. Shannon 1, S. Barrett 1, L. Minogue 1, J. Harcoan 1, B. Black 1, T. Jeffery 1. Deniliquin Rams: B. Sartore 2, N. Howe 1, R. Gittens 1, J. Pitts 1, K. Elphick 1.

BEST, Katandra: P. Frappell, M. McGrath, L. Minogue, C. Hickford, A. Muntz, T. Herbert. Deniliquin Rams: R. Gittens, N. Howe, C. Howe, J. Cavallaro, A. Bull, B. Sartore.

Echuca United 3.8, 3.9, 6.15, 12.16 (88)

Barooga 0.0, 2.4, 2.4, 4.4 (28)

GOALS, Echuca United: J. Mellington 5, C. Zanella 1, P. Quanchi 1, J. Florance 1, B. Barnes 1, B. Fulford 1, N. Denahy 1, R. Priest 1. Barooga: R. Thomson 1, C. Leighton-Daly 1, T. McNeill 1, D. Wilson 1.

BEST, Echuca United: F. Priest, N. Denahy, J. Florance, J. Curnow, P. Quanchi, C. Zanella. Barooga: R. Thomson, L. Morey, C. Keys, D. Wilson, B. Oats, C. Patten.

Numurkah 0.6, 4.10, 7.12, 9.13 (67)

Cobram 1.1, 3.2, 3.5, 7.6 (48)

GOALS, Numurkah: N. Hicks 2, S. Miller 1, B. McKeown 1, J. Holmes 1, M. Herlihy 1, M. Smyth 1, J. Hoffmann 1, B. Gunning 1. Cobram: J. Lucas 3, D. McCormack 2, C. Williams 1, A. De Cicco 1.

BEST, Numurkah: B. Gunning, J. Hoffmann, J. Fulton, T. Arnel, M. Price, B. Crowther. Cobram: A. De Cicco, C. Williams, S. Beasley, S. Stallion, L. Allen, J. Lucas.

Moama 0.1, 6.6, 6.6, 6.6 (42)

Tungamah 4.7, 5.8, 5.8, 5.8 (38)

GOALS, Moama: F. Buchanan 1, L. Dunham 1, L. Eldridge 1, C. McGregor 1, L. Thorp 1, C. Farrell 1. Tungamah: D. Haebich 3, T. Hayes 1, A. Saunders 1.

BEST, Moama: L. Thorp, J. Russell, J. Harland, J. Whitehead, K. Baker, L. Dunham. Tungamah: D. Haebich, T. Jones, C. Powell, B. Butts, K. Rowe, A. Saunders.

Congupna 3.2, 6.4, 10.6, 12.7 (79)

Finley 1.3, 4.7, 4.10, 8.12 (60)

GOALS, Congupna: D. Campbell 6, D. Schaper 3, M. Beck 1, L. Baldwin 1, P. Jacobson 1. Finley: K. Murphy 2, L. Moore 2, M. Wilson 2, Z. Cappens 1, L. Hawkins 1.

BEST, Congupna: T. Mifka, D. Campbell, D. Hammer, B. Squire, J. Gee, S. Ferguson. Finley: K. Murphy, D. Clarke, J. Brain, L. Hawkins, L. Bramley.

Tongala 3.5, 4.6, 11.9, 12.11 (83)

Mulwala 1.2, 7.4, 7.4, 8.6 (54)

GOALS, Tongala: M. Ryan 4, C. McCarthy 3, K. Fitzgerald 1, D. Watt 1, L. Woolan 1, J. Souter 1, J. Robilliard 1. Mulwala: W. Barden 2, B. Clarke 2, A. Rouel 2, D. McNamara 1, L. Russell 1.

BEST, Tongala: K. Fitzgerald, M. Ryan, C. McCarthy, A. Lovison, A. Dennis, J. Souter. Mulwala: W. Barden, R. Geary, C. Carling, T. Dow, D. Flanagan, D. Cook.

RESERVES

Rumbalaria 0.1, 1.1, 1.1, 2.8 (20)

Nathalia 1.2, 1.5, 2.5, 2.5 (17)

GOALS, Rumbalaria: J. Armstrong 1, G. Weston 1. Nathalia: M. Davies 1, K. Hicks 1.

BEST, Rumbalaria: T. Ronnan, L. Elgey, J. Atkinson, J. Armstrong, T. Miller, J. Henderson. Nathalia: T. Byrnes, J. Gemmill, J. Bell, S. Zammitt, C. Nave, J. Walpole.

Deniliquin Rams 5.4, 7.5, 7.8, 10.8 (68)

Katandra 0.1, 0.3, 0.3, 1.9 (15)

GOALS, Deniliquin Rams: B. Nisbet 3, H. Ross 2, R. Barnes 2, A. Buckley 1, J. McManus 1, S. Werner 1. Katandra: L. Dunham 1.

BEST, Deniliquin Rams: H. Ross, L. Ives, B. Nisbet, L. White, J. McManus, M. Panton. Katandra: L. Dunham, F. Russell, R. Sanders, T. Chear, A. Jeffery, F. Opie.

Echuca United 4.0, 8.3, 10.4, 12.9 (81)

Barooga 1.3, 1.3, 1.3, 1.3 (9)

GOALS, Echuca United: B. Barnstable 4, O. Poole 4, J. Gronow 2, K. Blackford 2, S. Fisher 1, R. Godfrey 1, W. Stobaus, F. Belmont-Wickliffe, T. O'Brien. Barooga: R. Stobaus, J. Woodhead, C. Bowden, K. Withers, A. Andrew, J. Nolan.

Cobram 5.3, 10.8, 14.14, 20.20 (140)

Numurkah 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0 (0)

GOALS, Cobram: K. Griffin 6, L. Tejones 4, C. Hulley 3, O. Quinane 2, N. Motton 1, M. Vescio 1, T. Corso 1, M. Artavilla-Bennett 1, W. Mele 1.

BEST, Cobram: N. Higgins, K. Griffin, C. Hulley, L. Tejones, M. Mustica, P. Degei. Numurkah: R. Verhoeven, J. Mckellar, O. Masters, L. Roberts, R. Dobson, A. Siemers.

Moama 2.7, 5.10, 12.14, 16.14 (110)

Tungamah 0.0, 0.1, 0.1, 1.4 (10)

GOALS, Moama: Z. McKenzie 3, J. Shanahan 2, N. Langborne 2, C. Hunter 2, J. Jarrett 1, N. Tomlinson 1, A. Teasdale 1, N. Walker 1, M. Fleming 1, D. Jenkins 1, K. Huddle 1. Tungamah: H. Thomson 1.

BEST, Moama: Z. McKenzie, C. Hunter, H. Connelly, N. Langborne, B. Paterson. Tungamah: D. Hicks, B. Doyle, H. Irvine, T. True, P. Haebich.

Congupna 0.0, 2.1, 3.2, 4.4 (28)

Finley 1.1, 3.2, 4.4, 4.4 (28)

GOALS, Congupna: C. Lambert 2, C. Quaife 1, J. Costa 1. Finley: J. McDonald 3, J. Patterson 1.

BEST, Congupna: B. McCormin, G. Flahive, L. Thorne, J. Costa, C. Quaife, J. Winnell. Finley: N. Lyons, D. Conrick, S. Price, J. McDonald, J. Ma- Conachie, J. Robertson.

Tongala 4.4, 5.4, 8.10, 12.11 (83)

Mulwala 1.1, 6.2, 6.2, 7.2 (44)

GOALS, Tongala: J. Moran 6, J. Regan 3, J. Tyler 1, S. Phillips 1, S. Tyler 1. Mulwala: L. Rouel 2, B. Nixon 2, A. Miller 1, C. O'Neill 1, J. Bazzola 1.

BEST, Tongala: D. Cox, J. Tyler, J. Regan, B. Denham, T. Strapp, J. Moran. Mulwala: A. Miller, J. Bland, L. Rouel, C. O'Neill, N. Beasley, L. Wood.

UNDER 17

Rumbalaria 4.4, 7.4, 13.6, 16.11 (107)

Nathalia 0.4, 3.4, 3.6, 3.6 (24)

GOALS, Rumbalaria: D. Miller 8, A. Miller 2, A. Briggs 2, J. Armstrong 1, B. Melourey 1, T. Hoogaard 1, G. Handy 1. Nathalia: K. Kopsidas 2, A. Zammitt 1.

BEST, Rumbalaria: D. Miller, J. Armstrong, J. Sorgel, M. Atkinson, A. Miller, M. Wise. Nathalia: J. Brown, K. Kopsidas, A. Zammitt, R. Bell, T. Myers, S. Young.

Deniliquin Rams 2.0, 2.3, 2.3, 4.7 (31)

Katandra 1.3, 1.3, 2.4, 2.4 (16)

GOALS, Deniliquin Rams: C. Willoughby 2, R. Milward 1, D. McManus 1. Katandra: B. Simpson 1, P. Cormican 1.

BEST, Deniliquin Rams: R. Milward, T. Nevinson, H.

Hillier, C. Willoughby, C. Fitzpatrick, T. McCallum, K. Kandala, S. Kittley, C. Simpson, P. Cormican, A. Harrington, F. Lesire, L. Turcato.

Jayden Hollands Numurkah 4 22

Darcy McManus Deniliquin

UNDER 14 1 21

This Wk Ttl

Harley Reid Tongala 13 93

Charlie Hillier Deniliquin

4 49

Brandon Ortho Nathalia

2 40

Bryce Barnstable Echuca United

4 36

Kevin Griffin Cobram

6 36

Darcy Conroy Nathalia

4 28

Lachlan Hogan Moama

0 27

Oliver Poole Echuca United

4 26

Tyler Hoogaard Rumbalaria

0 25

Noah Schmedje Echuca United

0 22

LADDERS

SENIORS P W L D FF F A % PTS

Echuca United 12 11 1 0 1281 688 186.19 44

Nathalia 12 11 1 0 1294 741 174.63 44

Numurkah 12 9 3 0 0 975 706 138.1 36

Tongala 12 8 4 0 0 1016 909 111.77 32

Cobram 12 8 4 0 0 977 954 102.41 32

Mulwala 12 7 4 1 0 1023 827 123.7 30

Congupna 12 6 6 0 0 1039 981 105.91 24

Deni Rams 12 6 6 0 0 765 815 93.87 24

Finley 12 4 7 1 0 922 1073 85.93 24

Barooga 12 4 8 0 0 968 982 98.57 16

Tungamah 12 4 8 0 0 919 1276 72.02 16

Rumbalaria 12 2 10 0 0 794 1111 71.47 8

Katandra 12 2 10 0 0 716 1188 60.27 8

Moama 12 1 11 0 0 642 1080 59.44 4

RESERVES P W L D FF F A % PTS

Echuca United 12 12 0 0 1319 226 583.63 48

Tongala 12 11 1 0 1051 417 252.04 44

Nathalia 12 9 3 0 0 1018 314 324.2 36

Rumbalaria 12 9 3 0 0 995 412 241.5 36

Moama 12 8 4 0 0 794 535 148.41 32

Deni Rams 12 6 6 0 0 642 728 88.43 24

Finley 12 5 6 1 0 570 628 90.76 22

Tungamah 12 5 7 0 0 563 758 74.27 20

Katandra 12 5 7 0 0 541 730 74.11 20

Cobram 12 5 7 0 0 495 953 51.94 20

Close encounters

WAAIA suffered its first loss of the Numurkah indoor bowls season last Thursday, going down to Strathmerton in the closest of games, by a solitary shot.

Second placed Strathmerton won on John Jasper's mat by two shots, and lost the other by one, giving it bragging rights over the ladder leader.

In an incredibly close round over all four games, Nathalia won by three shots over Wunghnu, Shamrock had a four shot victory over Katamatite, and Barooga was the only side to take 10 points, defeating Senior Citizens by six shots.

RESULTS

Strathmerton 8/45 d Waaia 2/44. T.

Haynes 21 lt S. Cleeland 22; J. Jasper 24 d L. Clarke 22.

Wunghnu 2/53 lt Nathalia 8/56. D. O'Connor 33 d B. Hutchins 24; N. Barnes 20 lt F. Hutchins 32.

Shamrock 8/44 d Katamatite 2/40. T. Bullock 26 d M. Nordbye 15; K. Moffatt 18 lt C. Owen 25.

Barooga 10/49 d Senior Citizens 0/43. E. Gordon 23 d B. Seymour 21; I. Swain 26 d L. Addison 22.

LADDER

Waaia 77 +180; Strathmerton 70 +72; Nathalia 51 +60; Barooga 47 +3; Katamatite 46 -13; Senior Citizens 35 -1; Shamrock 32 -31; Wunghnu 2 -270.

Col scores 100

COLIN SAXTON scored one card of 100 to finish with the top score of 193.6 in the 20 metre benchrest competition at Numurkah Small Bore Club last Thursday.

Lindsay Braybon top scored in the 20 metre prone event with 196.12, Lou Cook scored 154.2 out of 200 in 50 metre benchrest and Lindsay Braybon finished with 189.6 in 50 metre prone.

SCORES

20 metre benchrest: C. Saxton 100.3 96.3 196.6, B. Braybon 97.0 96.2 193.2; G. Miles 96.1 97.0 193.1, L. Cook 98.3 94.0 192.3; S. Clark 92.2 93.0 185.2.

20 metre prone: L. Braybon 98.6 98.6 196.12, B. Sneddon 98.5 97.3 195.8; A. Hill 98.5 96.5 194.10, A. Gibbon 97.3

96.1 193.4; T. Braybon 95.3 96.4 191.7, R. Hill 96.4 94.1 190.5; G. Braybon 97.2 92.3 189.5, S. Rosemeier 94.3 95.2 189.5; D. Cook 95.4 90.4 185.8, A. Lee 94.2 89.0 183.2; J. Cook 92.3 90.0 182.3, M. Brown 92.2 90.0 182.2; G. Miles 90.1 90.2 180.3, A. Lee 84.1 92.1 176.2; J. Matys 87.0 87.1 174.1, J. Matys 86.0 86.1 172.1.

50 metre benchrest: L. Cook 154.2.

50 metre prone: T. Braybon 93.1 96.5 189.6, A. Gibbon 95.2 91.1 186.3; D. Cook 89.3 90.2 179.5, W. Willsher 82.0 93.1 175.1; J. Cook 89.2 84.0 173.2, H. O'Brien 80.2 78.0 158.2.

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

NETBALL SCOREBOARD 2019

MNL

A GRADE

Barooga 23 def Echuca United 72
Congupna 45 def Finley 36
Deniliquin 50 def Katandra 25
Moama 90 def Tungamah 22
Nathalia 21 def Rumbalara 52
Numurkah 29 def Cobram 61
Tongala 31 def Mulwala 20

LADDER	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts	%
Rumbalara	12	11	1	0	749	368	44	203.53
Echuca United	12	10	1	1	720	392	42	183.67
Moama	12	10	1	1	708	387	42	182.95
Deniliquin	12	9	3	0	648	397	36	163.22
Cobram	12	8	4	0	552	543	32	101.66
Finley	12	7	5	0	505	554	28	91.16
Mulwala	12	6	6	0	429	470	24	91.28
Nathalia	12	5	6	1	434	455	22	95.38
Congupna	12	5	6	1	481	508	22	94.69
Tongala	12	5	7	0	402	515	20	78.06
Barooga	12	3	9	0	403	598	12	67.39
Tungamah	12	2	10	0	359	621	8	57.81
Numurkah	12	1	11	0	334	683	4	48.9
Katandra	12	0	12	0	371	604	0	61.42

B GRADE

Barooga 9 def Echuca United 42
Congupna 34 def Finley 35
Deniliquin 48 def Katandra 30
Moama 68 def Tungamah 11
Nathalia 35 def Rumbalara 31
Numurkah 29 def Cobram 44
Tongala 16 def by Mulwala 26

LADDER	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts	%
Mulwala	12	11	0	1	535	315	46	169.84
Echuca United	12	10	1	1	648	344	42	188.37
Deniliquin	12	10	2	0	589	350	40	168.29
Moama	12	9	3	0	594	412	36	144.17
Tongala	12	7	5	0	460	405	28	113.58
Congupna	12	7	5	0	439	428	28	102.57
Cobram	12	7	5	0	484	479	28	101.04
Finley	12	5	7	0	382	463	20	82.51
Nathalia	12	4	8	0	414	425	16	97.41
Numurkah	12	4	8	0	428	533	16	80.3
Barooga	12	4	8	0	355	470	16	75.53
Rumbalara	12	3	9	0	395	554	12	71.3
Katandra	12	1	11	0	405	623	4	65.01
Tungamah	12	1	11	0	295	622	4	47.43

C GRADE

Barooga 18 def Echuca United 82
Congupna 57 def Finley 19
Deniliquin 61 def Katandra 33
Moama 52 def Tungamah 13
Nathalia 50 def Rumbalara 29
Numurkah 23 def Cobram 51
Tongala 26 def by Mulwala 32

LADDER	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts	%
Echuca United	12	12	0	0	680	273	48	249.08
Deniliquin	12	11	1	0	722	398	44	181.41
Mulwala	12	10	2	0	581	339	40	171.39
Cobram	12	9	3	0	558	328	36	170.12
Nathalia	12	8	4	0	560	418	32	133.97
Tongala	12	7	5	0	480	407	28	117.94
Moama	12	7	5	0	509	488	28	104.3
Congupna	12	6	6	0	450	474	24	94.94
Katandra	12	4	8	0	463	542	16	88.42
Numurkah	12	4	8	0	414	425	16	71.34
Barooga	12	4	8	0	414	547	16	75.69
Finley	12	3	9	0	298	592	12	50.34
Numurkah	12	2	10	0	318	515	8	61.75
Tungamah	12	1	11	0	243	627	4	38.76
Barooga	12	0	12	0	335	663	0	50.53

C RESERVE

Barooga 17 def Echuca United 49
Deniliquin 46 def Katandra 27
Moama 46 def Tungamah 9
Nathalia 38 def Rumbalara 25
Numurkah 36 def Cobram 34
Tongala 5 def by Mulwala 44

LADDER	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts	%
Echuca United	12	12	0	0	645	275	48	234.55
Deniliquin	11	10	1	0	574	289	40	198.62

11 & UNDER

Barooga 13 def Echuca United 9

C RESERVE

Berrigan 17 def Rennie 34

Brightly 16 def Yarroweyah 10

Jerilderie 22 def Waia 25

Katamatite 15 It Strathmerton 33

Katunga 33 def Tocumwal 4

NEXT WEEK

Round 13, July 6: Picola v Katamatite; Yarroweyah v Berrigan; Mathoura v Strathmerton; Brightly v Tocumwal; Jerilderie v Deni Rovers; Waia, Katunga, Rennie, bye.

Do come Monday

by "The Shankster"

IT was lucky for the fanatical Numurkah women golfers that there was a game of golf scheduled on their home course for Monday, after Saturday's round was cancelled due to the rain.

A small group of hardy souls were prepared to head out, but waiting for the big band they saw on the radar to pass by, but when the men who had hit off earlier in the afternoon came in, saying the greens had become unplayable, there was, of course, no point.

The girls then got their fix in on Monday in a Goulburn Murray event played at Numurkah.

This was a terrific day for all those who entered, but only one local featured amongst the winners.

Tracey Clouston partnered with Tocumwal's Bobette Wilkinson to finish in third place, behind Steffi Vogel/Marg Wallace, and Sandy Millett/Louise Cross.

Robyn Hodgkin took honours in last Wednesday's monthly medal round, coming in with a very nice score of 72 nett, to win division one and the medal, with three shots to spare from Nola Dalton.

Lorraine Craig took out division two with 73 nett, just missing out on the medal. Mavis Birrell came in with 75 to finish next behind Lorraine.

Balls went to Pauline Davies and Tracey Clouston on 76, and Helen Schmedje and Bev McIntosh on 77s.

Tracey won the A grade scratch with 83 shots, while Mavis had the best scratch score in B grade, with 103.

Bev McIntosh won the A grade ball on the 18th hole, Lorraine Milner won the B grade ball on the two shot 15th, but no-one managed to get onto the seventh green, so the cake hole voucher will go begging for a week.

Three of the four Saturday singles knockout first round matches were played last week, with some interesting results.

Robyn Hodgkin continued her fine form on Thursday to beat Bev Hutchins on the 17th hole. Robyn was always in control of this game and led by four shots after just 11 holes, until Bev knuckled down and kept the match going as long as she could.

Sue Plattfuss was in a similar situation, up by four shots over Bev McIntosh, with five holes to play, just needing one win to secure the match. But Bev hung in and took the match right to the end.

The third match was over in much less time than the other two, Helen Schmedje defeating Rosemary Rutledge 5/4.

Robyn will meet Sue in the semi final round, while Smedge will play the winner of the match between Karen Harper and Lauris Ashton, which is set to be played tomorrow.

With Saturday's Numurkah Leader/R. & K. Smith monthly medal round cancelled due to unplayable conditions, it has been rescheduled until Saturday, July 20.

Today's golf will be the Meat on Melville foursomes, also doubling as the Doris Chambers foursomes qualifying round. Next Wednesday will be stroke, the qualifying round for the Thelma McBride singles knockout and this Saturday will be a two person ambrose event.

Rain, rain, go away

by "She Wolf"

ONLY about half a dozen golfers managed to finish their rounds on Saturday, after rain made the Numurkah golf greens unplayable early on Saturday afternoon.

Those who did manage to get finished, had all hit off during the morning, and even then, there were a couple who played up to 16 holes before having to abandon their rounds.

In the end, the day's event was cancelled, and a few rather wet bodies congregated in the clubhouse, just a bit early for the usual after golf convivialities.

The day was scheduled to be a Pierre Klaassen monthly medal round, which has now been rescheduled to July 20, in conjunction with the anti cancer charity day.

Luckily, the rain cleared overnight, and pennant went ahead as scheduled, which proved fortunate for the Numurkah division three side, which scored a 3-2 victory over Cobram-Barooga.

Chris Hicks finished one up, Bob I'Anson won 2/1, and Steve Piggott barely got warmed up, defeating his opponent 5/4.

Pierre Klaassen took his opponent all the way to the 17th hole before going down 2/1, and Martin Harper made it the whole way, but lost on the 18th.

The division one and two competitions both only started this week, and Numurkah managed a division one win, but a division two loss.

The division one side took a 3-2 win over the host side, Mooroopna.

Dylan Grandell had a great 5/4 win, while Mitch Grandell and David Ludington, were the other winners.

Andrew Storer had to go an extra hole before conceding on the 19th, and Matt Sellars lost in the number one position.

The division two side met Shepparton, and only managed one win from five, against Shepparton.

Col McMinn was the winner, taking victory 3/2 over former Numurkah young gun Hayden Young.

Glen Thompson Brandan Hosie and David Ludington all had big losses, while Andrew Nicholls made it all the way to the end, finishing one down.

Saturday's golf will be a two person ambrose event, so grab your partner do si do.



Double take ... Aimee Sidebottom made a welcome return to the Swans' A grade netball team with a strong performance in goals, after also taking to the court for C reserve.

Disappointing loss for Swans

DESPITE having plenty of the ball for their game against Tocumwal, Katunga's A grade netballers missed too many opportunities and suffered a disappointing one goal loss, 28-29.

Sophie McCracken warmed up well in defence, taking the place of Sarah Weidermann, and Aimee Sidebottom was welcomed back into the team with a strong performance in goals.

Prior to Saturday's game, Katunga sat in top spot on the ladder, equal on points with Strathmerton, Tocumwal and Katamatite, but so close is the competition the Swans' one goal loss saw them slip to third place, now level with Deni and Strathmerton.

The Swans' next game will be against Waaia, after both clubs enjoy a bye this weekend.

Awards: AgBioEn: Mel Malloy; ND Services: Sophie McCracken; Clydesdale: Aimee Sidebottom.

B GRADE

The Katunga B graders continued their unbeaten run, with a convincing 55-32 win over Tocumwal.

Awards: KSG Fuel: Kate Morris, Numurkah Pharmacy: Tracey Salter.

C GRADE

Saturday's terrible weather conditions meant the C grade game was a little messy, but the Swans managed to come away with the win, 33-29.

Awards: Telegraph -Gabby Cunningham, Fitness 3636: Chloe Smith.

C RESERVE

Katunga's C reserve side played a hard fought game for all four quarters on Saturday, to take a great win, 33-4.

Awards: Telegraph Hotel: Kylea Sidebottom, Fitness 3636: Ash Lee.

17 UNDER

The under 17s faced up to one of the top teams, for what was going to be a difficult game, even in the best of conditions.

Tocumwal proved too good, taking victory 41-14.

Awards: Cobram Farm Equipment: Vanessa Mangles; Reapers Hair & Beauty: Keeli Tweed.

15 UNDER

The cold morning meant a slow start for

the under 15 Swans. The girls worked hard and were able to apply a lot of defensive pressure, but Tocumwal took victory 40-10.

Incentives: Canteen: Sophie Kelly; Arbonne: Grace Eddy; Cold rock: Eloise Kelly.

13 UNDER

It was a tough day to come up against the top team, but the young Swans tried their hardest and came up with some great turnovers.

Although the 3-30 scoreline doesn't show it, the Swans contested the ball well.

Awards: Cold Rock: Ivy Doyle; Laino's: Ruby Sprunt.

11 UNDER

The windy and cold conditions made it hard for the smallest Swans to find their rhythm on court. They showed great defensive pressure, forcing many turnovers, but rushed passes that were not to their advantage made it difficult to score.

Awards: Laino's: Ivy Henderson; Nutrimetics : Bridie Kelly; Canteen: Ada Kennedy.

A winning performance

A TERRIFIC performance all over the netball court, gave Waaia a great win over Jerilderie on Saturday.

Wet conditions saw the Bombers slow down their game and, once they got their timing right, there was no stopping the visitors.

The Waaia girls built their lead through the game and finished solidly with a big last quarter, to take victory 47-29.

Waaia's patience in attack and pressure in defence proved to be a winning performance.

The Bombers' next game will be against Katunga, after both teams have a bye this coming weekend.

Awards: WFNC Cash: Chloe Thorne, Telegraph: Chelsey Thorne.

B GRADE

Waaia's B graders played a ripper of a game in Saturday's wild windy and wet conditions, to take a 16 goal victory over Jerilderie.

The ball was heavy and slippery, but the Bombers composed themselves to land the 54-38 victory.

Andrea Bergamin played a great defensive game, taking many intercepts, while Kendall Guilmartin was a welcome addition back into the team with a great performance.

After the bye this weekend, the Bombers will meet top side Katunga, in what is sure to be a hotly contested clash between the top two sides.

Awards: WFNC Cash: Andrea Bergamin, Terminus Hotel: Kendall Guilmartin.

C GRADE

The rain stopped just as the B grade game began at Jerilderie, but the court was wet and the Bombers played carefully to take a 10 goal win.

Waaia got off to a good start, but not playing its usual game due to the conditions.

Vanessa Scadden played a determined game, in a well fought victory against a quality team, taking victory 45-35.

Awards: WFNC Cash: Holly Scott, Telegraph Hotel: Olivia Hillas, Casual Step: Vanessa Scadden.

C RESERVE

The conditions tested Waaia's game on Saturday, but the Bombers stood strong and were relieved to sneak home with a three goal win.

Strong winds and heavy rain made it hard to hang onto the ball, and the Bombers struggled to keep their short sharp play down the court.

The first three quarters were a real struggle for Waaia, but the girls never gave up and fought the game out right to the end, eventually rewarded with a win, 25-22.

The attackers made some great plays, while the defenders kept applying plenty of pressure.

Awards: WFNC Cash: Zena Walpole, Terminus Hotel: Makenzie Sprunt, Laino's Pizza & Pasta: Bowshae Stuart.

15 UNDER

The under 15 girls struggled in the conditions, needing to slow down their game and being unable to get a run on the Jerilderie girls, who proved the better team on the day.

Eloise Walker was a standout, working amazingly, both in attack and defence, while Hollie Dietrich was strong in defence, gaining some great intercepts and working hard against a very tall goalie.

It was a close game, but the home side took the win, 38-33.

Awards: D. & M. Plattfuss: Eloise Walker, WFNC Canteen: Hollie Dietrich.

13 UNDER

The under 13s had another great win, up against a strong Jerilderie side, taking victory 24-10.

The windy, wet weather created a few bad passes and dropped balls, but the Bombers managed their footwork well, which was their goal this week.

Awards: WFNC scrunchie: Mary Calow, WFNC Canteen: Jemima Moore, Terminus Hotel: Sasha Daniel.

11 UNDER

The under 11s continue to impress, putting in 100%, encouraging each other, and showing enthusiasm and sportsmanship.

Trying out new positions, the Bombers worked well on their space and movement on the court.

Awards: WFNC scrunchie: Jamison Shelton, Northstar: Lucy Daniel.

Blues play better in the wet

WHILE most netballers were lamenting Saturday's wet and windy conditions, Numurkah's young A grade side actually played a better style of netball, implementing the things they had worked on at training, but still couldn't manage a win, going down 29-61.

With a couple of players pulling out late in the week, the Blues again looked upon B graders to fill in.

They got off to a good start, but found it hard to create more stoppages and convert all their opportunities, which allowed Cobram to take a good early lead.

But it wasn't until the third quarter that the Tigers started to run away with the game.

Fiona Elliott was back in after an injury and provided great direction and talk on the court.

Ella Sprunt came up from C grade and gave great drive and passing options into the ring, working well with Jordyn Commadeur in the mid court to feed into the goalers.

Again, it was a game where the scores didn't reflect how well the Blues played.

Their game was more open and leads strong and direct.

When you consider that one of this team's older, more experienced players is only 19, these girls are doing an outstanding job this year.

Hopefully the Blues can get another win on the board this weekend, when they take on bottom placed Katandra, on the Kats' home courts.

Awards: Numurkah Hotel: Sophie Morris; Brereton's Bakery: Ella Sprunt.

B GRADE

Unlike their A grade counterparts, the B graders didn't handle the weather conditions the best, and went down to Cobram by 15 goals, 29-44.

The Blues found it difficult to play their fast style of game, and didn't adjust. Cobram quickly converted from Numurkah's errors and took a comfortable win.

Award: Shamrock Hotel: Serren Verhey.

C GRADE

Numurkah's C graders had a tough game in the wet against a strong and experienced Cobram side that took a 29 goal win, 52-23.

Ella Brattle stepped up from under 15s and played a dominant game in defence. Her timing and reading of the play saw her take numerous intercepts, taps and rebounds.

Award: Telegraph Hotel: Ella Brattle.

C RESERVE

The C reserve team faced a must win game, needing to keep its eighth position on the ladder to stay in the finals hunt.

Up against ninth placed Cobram, it proved to be a terrific game, Numurkah doing what it needed to bring home a two goal win, 36-34.

The team also celebrated Mary Morrison's 200th club game, and the girls were determined to get a win to honour this special occasion.

The game was a very close battle right through, with only one or two goals the difference the whole game.

Renata Morris and Shelby Gallus both played great

games, but it was really a performance the whole team should be proud of.

Mary Morrison is an established goaller, well known for her cunning ring work and sinking an impossible long shot. She is a current player, coach, umpire, umpire co-ordinator and mentor, netball committee member and league delegate.

Mary is a tireless volunteer for the club and a wonderful mentor - both on and off the court.

Awards: Brereton's Bakery: Renata Morris; Hair Society: Shelby Gallus.

17 UNDER

Great defensive pressure from the Blues' under 17 girls all over the court saw them take many turnovers and intercepts down the court, but it wasn't enough to get them over the line against Cobram, going down 15-40.

As top age players in the team, Chloe Taylor and Daisy Lester did a fantastic job to assist the younger girls.

Numurkah gained the services of Strathmerton player Alyssa Crestani for a game, which opened up the Blues' mid court and defence end.

Awards: Telegraph Hotel: Chloe Taylor; SportFirst Numurkah: Daisy Lester.

15 UNDER

Hard work and good defensive pressure right from the start saw the under 15 Blues take a great win over Cobram, 25-21.

The girls hit the court with the determination needed for a win.

Mid court players Georgia Carkeek, Kate Kelly and Savannah Shanahan made it very easy for the defenders Michelle Rore and Ella Brattle to create turnovers due to the forced errors.

This allowed the attackers Molly Arho, Charlotte Brown and Teea Brattle to get the ball safely and convert goals.

Holly Osborne came on in the second quarter and had a huge impact on the game, taking her opponent out of the game completely.

Georgia Carkeek played the entire game in the centre, showing great leadership on the court, helping to direct the play and force errors.

Michelle Rore played a huge game in defence, creating turnovers, and making beautiful, strong leads through the mid court.

Awards: Reapers Hair & Beauty: Holly Osborne; Club: Georgia Carkeek, Michelle Rore.

13 UNDER

With two under 11 girls filling in, the under 13s almost pulled off a terrific win over the fourth placed Cobram, only going down by four goals.

The girls all worked hard and never gave up.

Awards: Jemma Carkeek, Neive O'Dwyer, Lily Patrick-Oudeman.

11 UNDER

The under 11s had a fantastic win, defeating Cobram 23-8.

Demi McKellar got some great tips and intercepts through the game.

Awards: Rush Food: Bridget Brown; Club: Demi McKellar.



200 games ... Mary Morrison runs through a guard of honour before taking the court on Saturday.



Plenty of puff ... Georgia Carkeek played out the whole under 15s game in the centre court position and received an award for her efforts.

Tigers claw back

THE cold, wet and windy conditions on the netball court on Saturday saw Strathmerton lose focus having to change its game plan, and the Bulldogs went down to Katamatite by five goals.

The game needed to be slowed down to short, sharp, patient netball, which paid off for Strathmerton in the first half.

The attackers stayed patient, working the ball around the goal circle until they found an opening, which gave the Bulldogs a slight lead at every interval.

Leading by one goal going back onto the court for the final quarter, they were unable to play out the game, making unforced errors and dropping their intensity to lose another game by the smallest of margins.

Strathmerton will be on the road again this weekend, heading to Mathoura, and hoping to get back on the winners' list.

Awards: Brittany Brunskill, Vanessa Ward, Hope Lindhe.

B GRADE

Strathmerton got off to a great start in the B grade game, but dropped off their game in the second half to allow Katamatite to take its first win of the season.

The Bulldogs began patiently, working the ball down the court and waiting for opportunities to feed the ball into the goal circle.

Being wet and windy, they knew they had to stick to the basics, with short, sharp passes needed to keep possession.

A few loose balls in the second half saw Katamatite get the lead, and the Tigers remained determined to get their win on the board, taking victory, 39-27.

C GRADE

The wet weather made it not an ideal day for Strathmerton's C grade team to try to get its first win on the board, up against the second bottom side.

The Bulldogs slowed down their game and went back to basics, but Katamatite took the win, 29-14.

The Bulldogs' defensive pressure was awesome, the defenders repeatedly sending the ball into attack.

The movement in the ring was a little harder this week, against the Tigers' tall defenders, but the girls kept putting in for the whole game.

Awards: Keep Active Osteo: Imelda Padman; Strathy Pub: Shea Bloom; KAFS: Geor-

gia McKay; Strathy Cafe: Chloe Wells.

C RESERVE

It was so wet for the C reserve game, that the Strathy girls were sorry they had forgotten to bring their bikinis.

But their lack of correct costumes didn't affect their game, and they took a nice victory over Katamatite, 33-15.

The Bulldogs steadied their play to suit the conditions, which became quite difficult at times, as the weather belted the players, but experienced voices helped the young ones to calm down and kept minds focused.

The first half was quite slow, Strathmerton just managing to keep ahead of its opposition, but the final quarter was when the Bulldogs really made a difference, and finished the game with a good win.

Awards: Strathy Pub BOC: Amy Duhring; Subway: Steph Berndt; Strathy Cafe: Kerry Edgar.

15 UNDER

The under 15s thought they had got lucky when the rain cleared for the start of their game, but they used up all their luck on the weather, not having much in the goal circle.

Admittedly, the gusty wind made shooting

difficult, but Strathy couldn't manage to put together a four quarter effort and fell short, going down 23-27.

Awards: Subway: Sarah Brooks; \$5: Bridie Chester; Strathy Cafe: Tahlia Woodland.

13 UNDER

Although it took them a little while to adjust to the windy conditions and physicality of the game, the under 13 Bulldogs soon settled and came away with a 10 goal victory, 17-7.

The girls were rocked when Akina chased a ball but ended up clashing heads and splitting her eye, but they were soon back on track, and there was no stopping them.

Nothing loose got past Tahlia in defence, and Caitlin rewarded her team with sharp shooting.

Awards: Tahlia and Paige.

MINIS

The minis played their game of the season. Finally, their hard work paid off and everything clicked.

They were accurate, fast, and having a ball, until Giselle fell and broke her arm in the third quarter.

The game was abandoned while they waited anxiously for the ambulance to arrive.

Billiards pocketing much interest

FINALS are looming in the Seiters Shield billiards competition, with just one round remaining in the regular rounds.

McPhersons sit atop the ladder by a narrow 16 points, ahead of Seniors, who are 28 points

clear of Southside and Numurkah Bowls. The Golfers would need a good final round to continue their season, with the Bowlers having the bye.

Seniors won by 18 shots over Southside in last week's round, while the Golfers and the

Bowlers played out an epic tussle with the Golfers prevailing by 58 points. They were led by Bill Green, who scored high in both games, helping to shape a challenge to make finals.

The Golfers were due to play Seniors last

night, Tuesday, while McPhersons will meet Southside tonight.

These games will have a big bearing on the make up of the final four, and Numurkah Bowls will be keeping a close eye on the results.

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ROUND SIXTEEN

Hawthorn vs. Collingwood (MCG) (N)
Essendon vs. Sydney Swans (MCG)
Gold Coast SUNS vs. Richmond (MS)
Adelaide Crows vs. Port Adelaide (AO) (T)

Western Bulldogs vs. Geelong Cats (MRVL) (N)
Fremantle vs. West Coast Eagles (OS) (N)
Carlton vs. Melbourne (MCG)
North Melbourne vs. St Kilda (BA)
GWS GIANTS vs. Brisbane Lions (SSGS) (T)

BEV'S FAVOURITES

- 1 Hawthorn
- 2 Essendon
- 3 Richmond
- 4 Adelaide
- 5 Geelong
- 6 West Coast
- 7 Carlton
- 8 North Melb
- 9 Brisbane

Beware: Place your tips or you'll get Bev's!

Last week 2 Total 52



Lee Agnew
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 5 Total 76



Kylie Jackson
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 3 Total 74



Chris O'Dwyer
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Port Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Bulldogs

Last week 5 Total 72



Roger Seiter
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 5 Total 81



Tom Buzzo
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Carlton
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Port Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 2 Total 61



Peter Newby
1 Collingwood 6 Fremantle
2 Sydney 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 4 Total 70



John Beitzel
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Sydney 7 Carlton
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Bulldogs

Last week 4 Total 67



Brad Kerry
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 3 Total 65



Katunga Fresh
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Sydney 7 Carlton
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 Brisbane
5 Geelong

Last week 4 Total 63



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Dave Jenkins
1 Hawthorn 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 4 Total 74



Danni Woolley
1 Collingwood 6 Fremantle
2 Sydney 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 St Kilda
4 Port Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 3 Total 57



Kevin Morland
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 St Kilda
4 Port Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 5 Total 72



John Schaaf
1 Hawthorn 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 3 Total 65



David Ludington
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Carlton
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 4 Total 72



Nathan Morris
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Carlton
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 3 Total 76



Troy Knox
1 Hawthorn 6 West Coast
2 Sydney Swans 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 5 Total 54



Denis Brooks
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 5 Total 74



Liam Gledhill
1 Collingwood 6 West Coast
2 Essendon 7 Melbourne
3 Richmond 8 North Melb
4 Adelaide 9 GWS
5 Geelong

Last week 5 Total 73





Too good ... Anna Tinker sends the ball down the court.

Top side too strong

NATHALIA put up a great contest against the Murray netball league ladder leader, but went down by 31 goals.

The Purples put in a great first quarter, especially considering the very wet conditions, but with a few players missing, bowed to the top side, 21-52.

Awards: Coprice BOC: Lisa Kellow, Brereton's Bakery: Blaise Mortimer, Casual Step: Steph Limbrick.

B GRADE

A great team game from the Purple B graders saw them get home by four goals, 35-31, in the very wet conditions.

Awards: Barmah Hotel BOC: Jessie Hicks, Hinchliffe & Greed: Alycia Oakes, Nathalia Post Office/Newsagency: Olivia Hanlon.

C GRADE

Nathalia's C grade side came out firing, and went on to take a commanding 21 goal win over Rumbalara on Saturday.

Chloe Armstrong was strong all game through the mid court, and Kristy Hudson provided great back up to the attack end from her position on wing defence.

The Purples all played well and increased their lead in every quarter to take victory 50-29.

Awards: Barmah Hotel BOC: Chloe Armstrong, Three Belles Creations: Kristy Hudson, Sportfirst Numurkah: Christie Schram.

C RESERVE

A 13 goal win was just reward for Nathalia's C reserves, who played a good, consistent game of netball and adjusted well to the wet conditions.

Nicola Oliver took many intercepts throughout the game to help her team to the 38-25 victory.

Awards: Limo's Home Hardware BOC: Nicola Oliver, Nathalia Post Office/Newsagency: Brooke Parker, Three Belles Creations: Jodie Coutts.

17 UNDER

Just two goals separated Nathalia and

Rumbalara at the end of the under 17s' game, with Nathalia on the losing end of the score.

Rumbalara handled the conditions better to take victory 34-32.

Awards: Bendigo Bank Nathalia: Anna Dietrich, Marketplace Subway: Indiya Parker, Bell's Water Cartage: Bella Sheehan.

15 UNDER

The Purples' under 15 girls had trouble adjusting to the conditions, and left their run of good play too late, going down by five goals, 34-39.

It wasn't until after half time that the Nathalia girls found their form, but the margin proved too much to peg back.

Ebony James was on fire all day, providing strong leads and great passes at wing attack.

Awards: Kylie Richards BOC: Ebony James, Bendigo Bank Nathalia: Mia Bee, Marketplace Subway: Kaiya Cornell, TJ's IGA: Hannah Summerville.

13 UNDER

Rumbalara showed the Nathalia under 13s why it sits much higher on the ladder than the Purples, with a 31 goal win over the home side.

While the weather conditions weren't ideal, the Purples lost focus and forgot what they have been doing at training.

Awards: Bendigo Bank Nathalia: Ally Bloodworth, Nathalia Dairy: Sophie Creer-Pope, TJ's IGA: Jasmine Johns.

11 UNDER

The under 11s played a great game, but went down to a strong Rumbalara side, 7-24.

The Purples put together some great passages of play, showing a big improvement in their fluency down the court.

The girls kept their heads up all game and battled through the strong winds.

Awards: Past Players: Esther Amery, Bendigo Bank Nathalia: Charlotte Whyte, TJ's IGA: Matilda Waser.

number of players.

Goals: Abby Favaro 2, Tegan Sutton 2, Sharnah Stevens 1, Vanessa Ward 1, Ellie Pinnuck 1, Marni Hicks 1, Millie Casey 1.

Awards: BOG Mug: Kym Johns, Brereton Bakery: Tegan Sutton, Cheeky Cidery: Vanessa Ward, Bridge Hotel: Sharnah Stevens, NWR Communications: Storm Guthrie.

YOUTH GIRLS

The Northern Angels faced a tough challenge up against the top team, Shepparton United on Sunday.

The girls put in a strong, four quarter effort, but went down 58 points.

Goals: A. Oliver, N. Oliver

Awards: Brereton's Bakery: Charli Dorrity, Nathalia Fuel & Gas: Georgia Hansford, Bendigo Bank Nathalia: Andriana Oliver, Marketplace Subway: Charlees Sudholz, Nathalia Fertilizer & Grain: Shae Dorrity, Shepparton Pizza: Amy Modlic.



On the boot ... Dylan Sidebottom sends the ball forward in a rare win for the Swans this season.

Swans enjoy windy win

Telegraph Hotel: Scott Sutton.

RESERVES

Katunga's reserves side faced an inform Tocumwal, but put an end to The Bloods three-winning streak in a low scoring affair.

Both sides sat on the ladder with four wins each, but the Swans kicked what turned out to be the only major scored for the whole of the first half.

Steve Few was well in control of the backline, while coach Tim Few returned to the ground, providing guidance and leadership on the field.

The game could have gone either way in the last quarter, until Ash Howden booted two goals in five minutes to seal the win, 27-8.

Awards: John King Grain: Steve Few, Dan Hendy Landforming: Lachlan Corboy, Telegraph: Matt John, Clydesdale: Tony Harris, KFNC: Josh MacFadyen.

UNDER 17s

The under 17s' game between the third and fourth placed sides was a great game to watch for Katunga supporters, with the Swans proving far too good for Tocumwal, winning by 69 points.

Sam Arho kicked five goals, and

Yehan Sooriarachchi booted his first for the club.

Awards: Thorp's Rural Fencing: Luke Bosse, Northern Domestic Water: Sam Arho, Harro's Lures: Kyle Said, SportFirst: Cody Gow, Canteen: Lachlan Daniels.

UNDER 14s

The fourths took a terrific victory over Tocumwal, scoring 36 points to 11.

The Swans all held strong, especially in the strong wind, keeping Tocumwal scoreless for the first half.

Nathan Simpson was strong in the backline, Zac Bosse shut down Tocumwal's mid fielder, and the Harris boys, Viv, Lochie and Harry, ran the ball and sealed the deal.

Awards: Avalon: Jackson Harris, Dan Harris Mechanical Repairs: Viv Russo, Supporters: Nathan Simpson, Red Cherry: Ethan Davies, Canteen: Aidan Harris, Morris Award: Zavier Morris.

FIFTHS

The youngest Katunga lads played in very fresh, windy conditions. There was plenty of good team play and hard contested footy.

Awards: Canteen: Aiden Woolley, Brian Hansen, Riley Banner.

Bulldogs keep rolling on

STRATHMERTON continued its winning streak with a 38 point victory over Katamatite on Saturday.

Even in the day's true winter conditions, a big crowd greeted the Bulldogs at Katamatite, where an even spread of contributions keep their winning ways intact.

Katamatite got off to a good start with the wind, booting three goals to Strathmerton's solitary goal in the first term, and led by 12 points at the first change.

But Strathmerton soon settled, with five majors in the second term, and went on to take victory, 87 points to 45.

The midfield brigade of Tyron Hill, Lance Oswald and Matty O'Kane again put in solid contributions.

Theo Thomas, Mick Laidlaw, Trav Down and Mark Lucci worked hard on a tough day for the forwards, while Connor Hargreaves looked like he was handling a dry footy.

Matty Shannon and Shannon Emmett again led a backline that didn't give an inch all day.

Strathmerton will meet Mathoura in another away game this weekend, before taking a break on July 13.

at Katamatite, but Strathmerton emerged victorious, with a hard fought 40 point win.

Josh Beer finished with three of Strathmerton's eight goals, and was well supported by Keegan Moore, who provided plenty of leads and forward pressure.

Trent Collyer had another great game, even though he copped some friendly fire, and possibly a slight concussion, from teammate Luke Collyer.

Zac Griffiths and John Russo worked hard all day, in a great four quarter effort from the whole team.

UNDER 17s

Katamatite proved no match for the under 17s' ladder leader, who defied the conditions to record an incredible 18 goals.

The Strathy boys dominated the game, both with the wind and against it.

Darren Patmore provided some razzle dazzle, and Dylan Craven didn't stop all day, while the strength of Desi and Riley O'Kane proved valuable.

Hayden Wyatt booted six goals with help from the rest of the team to record a solid 128 point win.

Awards: Tyler Stephens, Dylan Craven, Darren Patmore, Riley

Franklin, Haydn Wyatt.

UNDER 14s

Missing a few of their older boys, Strathmerton won the toss and kicked with the wind in the first quarter, paving the way for a hard fought, 17 point win for Strathmerton.

Josh Payne went into the ruck, and gave his teammates first use of the ball, for the visiting side to score two goals early on.

Changes were made to the team structure for the second term, to suit the conditions. Harry Spicer was playing well, deep in defence, sending the ball back to his forwards. The Bulldogs managed to score a goal against the wind, with a great passage of play and led by four points at half time.

Wayward kicking and good pressure from Katamatite saw Strathmerton add just one goal with the wind in the third term, but it was the final quarter that saw the Bulldogs put up a good fight against the breeze.

Awards: Strathy Pizza: Josh Payne; Subway: Ben Lee Madgwick; Terminus Hotel: Harry Spicer; Ladies committee: Jackson Bury; Maccas: Jake Henderson; Coach: Sid McNeil.

Strong win for Purple women

THE Nathalia senior women's football team farewelled one of its original team members, Victoria Wetherall, in fine fashion this week, with a 42-point win over Rumbalara at home.

The game started as a close contest, with Nathalia edging slightly in front by the first quarter siren.

The second and third quarters saw the Purple girls push ahead strongly on the scoreboard, responding when coach Simon Quarrell asked them to put their heads over the footy, and linking up well to move the ball cleanly.

The final quarter saw Rumbalara come out with a more fierce attack, keeping the ball at its end for most of the term, although only able to convert once, with fantastic defensive pressure from Nathalia.

A number of players were moved to new positions and took these opportunities with positive attitudes, and the goals were shared amongst a

number of players.

Goals: Abby Favaro 2, Tegan Sutton 2, Sharnah Stevens 1, Vanessa Ward 1, Ellie Pinnuck 1, Marni Hicks 1, Millie Casey 1.

Awards: BOG Mug: Kym Johns, Brereton Bakery: Tegan Sutton, Cheeky Cidery: Vanessa Ward, Bridge Hotel: Sharnah Stevens, NWR Communications: Storm Guthrie.

YOUTH GIRLS

The Northern Angels faced a tough challenge up against the top team, Shepparton United on Sunday.

The girls put in a strong, four quarter effort, but went down 58 points.

Goals: A. Oliver, N. Oliver

Awards: Brereton's Bakery: Charli Dorrity, Nathalia Fuel & Gas: Georgia Hansford, Bendigo Bank Nathalia: Andriana Oliver, Marketplace Subway: Charlees Sudholz, Nathalia Fertilizer & Grain: Shae Dorrity, Shepparton Pizza: Amy Modlic.

Wind weather conditions made for a scrappy game of reserves footy

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Blues survive lightning, hail and Tigers

INACCURACY in front of goal early in the game could have proved costly for Numurkah, when the game was called off due to severe weather conditions during the last quarter.

But the Blues were in front by 19 points when the umpires decided enough was enough and put an end to proceedings, awarding the four points to Numurkah.

Numurkah's senior footballers were prepared for a challenging match against another finals contender, Cobram.

Kicking with the strong breeze, Numurkah started well, but inaccuracy in front of goals wasted the advantage. Six behinds for the quarter to Cobram's one goal one behind was a missed opportunity to really open up the contest.

The Blues lifted in the second quarter. Mitch Price was again the dominant ruckman, giving first use to the midfield, with Tim Arnel continually clearing the football away from the stoppage.

Numurkah utilised its midfield advantage to work the ball forward cleverly and kick four goals into the wind to Cobram's two, the Blues holding a 14 point lead at the half.

The Blues came out after the break not wanting to waste the breeze in the third quarter.

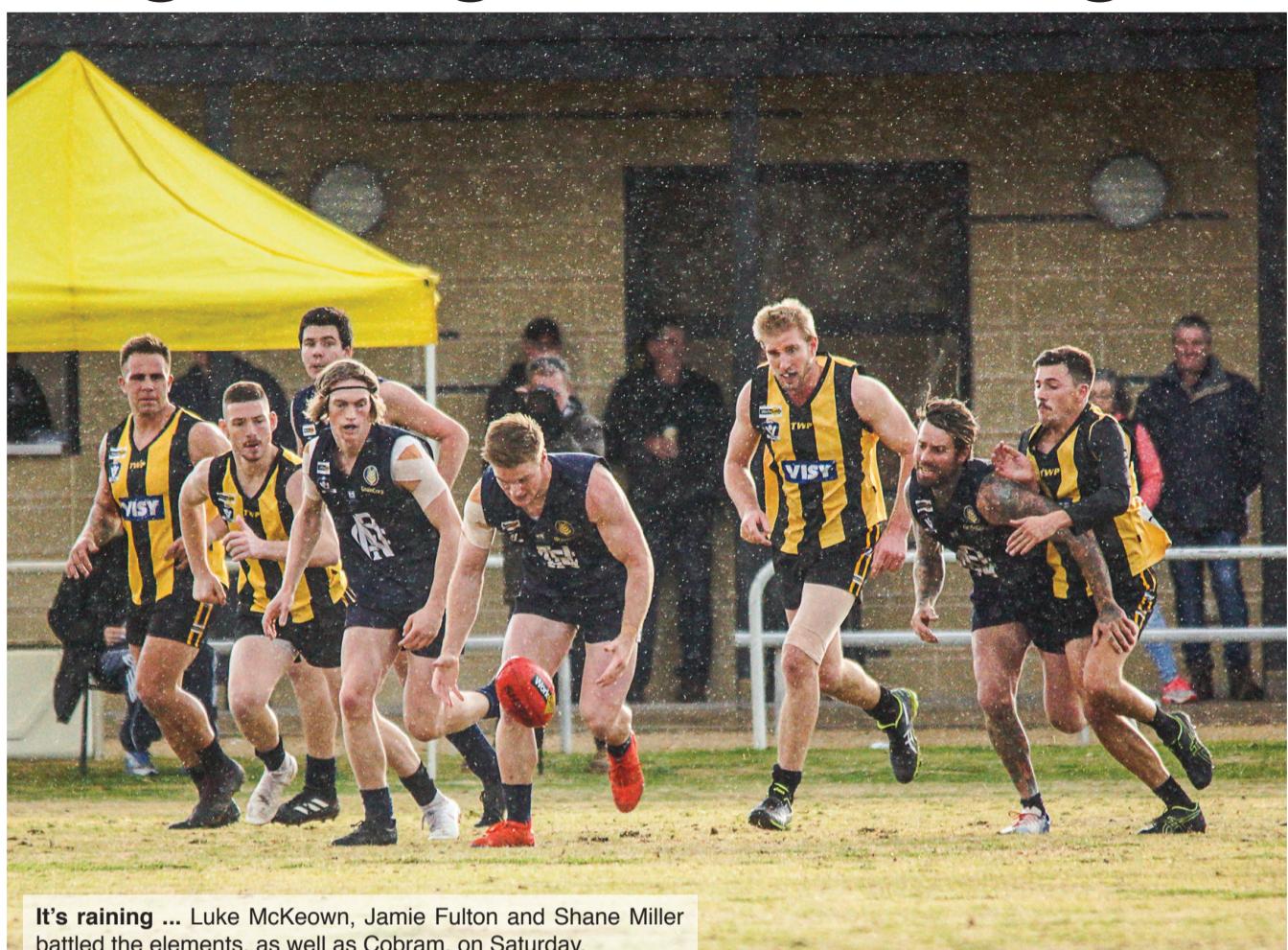
Jamie Fulton used his long kicking to full advantage to get the ball deep into the forward line. The backline repelled Cobram forward entries at every opportunity.

Brad Crowther, Dyl Taylor, Clancy Lester and Zach McKeown played vital roles deep in defence to keep Cobram to just three behinds for the quarter, while the Blues kicked three goals to maintain a 31 point lead going into the last quarter.

The weather and visibility deteriorated in the last quarter, making conditions difficult for the players.

The classy skills and huge work rate of Ben Gunning and Josh Hoffmann, through the wings and across half forward, were outstanding over four quarters, but also very important late in the game, to help the Blues kick two goals into the wind and stem the run of Tiger goals in the last quarter.

When the lightning rolled in and the game was called early by the umpires late in the last quarter, the Blues finished 19 point winners, 67-48.



It's raining ... Luke McKeown, Jamie Fulton and Shane Miller battled the elements, as well as Cobram, on Saturday.

Behinds order of the day

AFTER a slow start, Waaia was able to break away from Jerilderie to win a low scoring game of football by 19 points.

Waaia only managed to score a solitary behind in the first quarter, to Jerilderie's three goals, four behinds, but it was in the third quarter that the home side probably cost itself the game, adding seven behinds, but no majors.

Conditions were obviously very difficult, and Waaia continued the trend in the final term, adding eight points, but two majors that got it over the line.

The wet weather called for some questionable plays, but the Bombers came back after half time to play a strong game.

Mitchell Cleeland was a highlight for his side all day, his strong plays featuring all around the ground.

Todd Davies and Jesse Trower gained many possessions to help transition the ball into the forward line, while both Aaron Shelton and Lachlan Henderson played impressive games.

The Bombers are one of three teams with a bye this weekend. Their next game will be a local derby clash against Katunga on July 13.

Awards: Onley Consulting: Mitchell Cleeland; Gagliardi Scott Real Estate/Telegraph Hotel: Jesse Trower; Ahoy Water/Terminus Hotel: Aaron Shelton; Mick Hogan Excavations: Todd Davies; SportFirst Numurkah: Lachlan Henderson.

RESERVES

The Waaia reserves had a strong win over Jerilderie on the back of a terrific first quarter, in which they kicked four goals two, while keeping the home side scoreless.

Seb Moore and Jack Holt delivered the ball forward with great accuracy to lead their side to a 45 point win, 55-10.

Mark and Ryan Bergamin were solid in the backline all game, re-

peatedly repelling the ball from Jerilderie's forward line, while Steve Hixon continued his good form.

Awards: Onley Consulting & Telegraph Hotel: Jack Holt; Onley Consulting & Terminus Hotel: Mark Bergamin; Mick Hogan Excavations: Ryan Bergamin; Murray Valley Rural and Plumbing: Seb Moore; Ahoy Water Cartage: Steve Hixon.

UNDER 17s

With one more win for the season than their opponents on Saturday, Waaia's thirds were unable to come out on top of a strong home side, going down by 20 points, 31-51.

Aaron Harding played an impressive game to earn BOG honours for his side. Jack Bergamin played one of his best games of footy for the season, while Ryan Cook was a force to be reckoned with. Jackson Collins read the ball perfectly, while Josh Plattfuss put in another terrific game.

Awards: Sprunt Livestock & Terminus Hotel: Aaron Harding; Pendlebury Sand & Gravel: Jack Bergamin; Doug Larkin Refrigeration: Ryan Cook; D. & M. Plattfuss: Jackson Collins; Waaia canteen: Josh Plattfuss.

UNDER 14s

The Waaia fourths were dealt a crushing defeat at the hands of Jerilderie, going down by 63 points, although fighting hard to the end.

AJ Brooks played one of his best games of the season to earn BOG honours, Oscar Binks played his heart out, and Tom Daniel was tough all day. Lachie Williams read the ball well, as did Will Trower, who was consistent right to the end.

Awards: C. & C. Wilson & Terminus Hotel: AJ Brooks; Numurkah Electrical & Pump Services: Will Trower; Rex James Stock Feed: Oscar Binks; D. & M. Plattfuss: Lachie Williams; Waaia Canteen: Tom Daniel.

Purples survive wind and hail

NATHALIA hosted Rumbalara's senior football team on a cold, wet and windy day and played solidly for most of the game to win by 73 points.

On a big occasion, with Jason Limbrick playing his 250th senior game for the club, the Purples started the game well.

Although rain had fallen throughout the day prior to the start of the game, the surface was still relatively dry, allowing for some good passages of play.

Alex Hicks provided a strong target up forward, and Adam Jorgensen was lively on the deck.

Rumba still proved a dangerous opponent, however, and kicked two goals in the quarter to see the purples up by 13 points.

The visitors came out strongly in the second quarter and outplayed the Purples for a period, however Nathalia, through milestone man Jason Limbrick and on-ballers Tom Nihill and Bailey Bell, corrected the team's play to pile on five goals in the second quarter and lead by 32 points at half time.

Led by Limbrick, who put in a typical big game performance, the third quarter saw the home side continue to control the game, even as conditions became more difficult.

Matt Carroll was defending well and using the ball with composure to lead a defensive unit that was quality all day.

Hicks and Jorgensen kept proving to be headaches for the Rumba defenders, helping themselves to majors, booting five and four, respectively for the game.

Nathalia led by 62 points at the final change, but then the weather unleashed some ridiculously appalling conditions for the entire last quarter, with players having to battle roaring winds and hail whipping in sideways.

This reduced the game to a slog of sorts, the Purples still proving to be cleaner, stronger, and smarter, to kick three goals for the quarter.

Limbrick put the icing on the cake with the dead pocket proving no match for his trademark textbook set shot, and the Purples ran out 73 point victors.

Coach Jason Limbrick said he was really pleased with Saturday's result.

"We played really well, and were very pleased with what our boys did.

"We were happy with all the areas of the game we have been working, and feel we have taken another step forward.

"It was very tough conditions across the board for everybody, especially in the last quarter, with the hail, wind and rain.

"We got a really good, even contribution from a lot of the guys."

The Purples will meet Barooga up at Barooga this Saturday, which Limbrick says will be another big test for them.

"They're going okay, and have some good players, so we will have to be on our game, and we are really keen to get through to the bye with another strong performance.

"It is a big focus for us this week to head into the bye playing some good footy."

Game stolen in final bid

NATHALIA managed to just stay in front for three quarters of its reserves game against Rumbalara on Saturday, but Rumbalara worked a little harder in the final term to take a three point victory.

Trying conditions made for a very low scoring affair, and the Purples found it difficult to string together clean possessions.

It was a game of inches, but Nathalia held a 10 point lead going into the last quarter, before the visitors added one goal, seven behinds to their score to sneak over the line with 20 points to 17.

Outside of experiencing the wet conditions, there were many positives for the Purples.

Tommy Byrnes was back in the team, and he not only got through the game, but applied himself manfully in every contest he took on, to be Nathalia's best performer on the day.

Josh Gemmill, Jack Bell and Sean Zammit were amongst a number of players who all played consistent roles.

In such a low scoring contest, every

effort counted and it was a solid contest that the Purples applied themselves the best they could with the personnel available.

Awards: Limbrick Accounting BOG: Tom Byrnes, Mick Hogan Excavations: Josh Gemmill, Nathalia Fuel & Gas: Jack Bell, Blake St Butchery: Sean Zammit, Numurkah Nu-Genes: Connor Nave, Brereton's Bakery: Jackson Walpole.

UNDER 17s

The under 17s started their game full of energy, but failed to make the most of their opportunities, going down to Rumbalara by 83 points.

A disappointing four points in the first quarter had the Purples on the back foot, but they lifted in the second term to kick three goals, two to Kaleb Kopsidas, and one to Adam Zammit.

The boys gave it their all for the last half of footy, but with little reward.

Awards: Marc Quarrell Excavations: Jake Brown, A V Hughes: Adam Zammit, Rex James Stockfeed: Sam Boyd, Bendigo Bank Nathalia: Shannon Young, Marketplace Subway: Tristan

Myers

UNDER 14s

The fourths got their game in before the rain settled in, and took an easy win over Rumbalara, by 82 points.

The boys had a real contest on their hands early on, then settled well and finished with some great passages of team play to take a strong win.

Jack Hutchins rucked beautifully all game and provided plenty of opportunities to Charlie Dietrich, Evan Congues, Charlie Sheehan and Kai Lundberg.

Oliver Sheehan, Ned Bramwell, Brady Walpole and Kian Brereton combined well in the back half, giving plenty of drive from defence.

Mason Cobbley relished his opportunity up forward, with Elgin Farrall-Stone, Billy Liddell and Ben Nave making the most of their chances in another solid team effort.

Awards: Past Players: Darcy Conroy, Bendigo Bank Nathalia: Brodie Armstrong, Al's Café: Ned Bramwell, Frostick Contracting: Charlie Sheehan, Nathalia Printers: Mason Cobbley.

Numurkah Blues fall short

THE Numurkah reserves got off to a good start against Cobram on Saturday, but couldn't get a win on the board, going down by 22 points.

Kicking with the wind and moving the ball well, the Blues booted four goals in the first quarter, two each to Hamish Lambert and Jacob Morris.

Lapses in defence, and some loose checking saw Cobram also kick four goals, nullifying the Blues' wind advantage.

Cobram made full use of the wind in the second quarter to kick three goals and keep Numurkah scoreless for the quarter.

The rain then set in, turning the game into a hard slog, and the Blues found it tough going to get back on the scoreboard and close the gap.

The Blues put in an improved, competitive, four quarter effort in difficult conditions, with everyone showing a willingness to get involved in the contest.

Kyle Morrison was best afield for the Blues playing on the wing.

James Pruden, Brad Millen and Flynn Beitzel were hard at the contest and found plenty of footy in the wet second half.

Greg Gallus imposed himself on the contest, playing both in the ruck and at full back, and young Kane Newby made a solid contribution to the team at both ends of the ground.

Awards: Al Millen Concreting; Kyle Morrison, Shamrock Hotel; Brad Millen, Middle Hotel; Greg Gallus, Telegraph Hotel; James Pruden, Brereton's Bakery; Flynn Beitzel, Mierlo; Kane Newby, Social Mug; Ben Shanahan.

UNDER 17s

The Numurkah 3rds were searching for their sixth win on the trot with only the second placed Cobram side standing.

But Cobram proved to be no barrier for the Blues, who kicked away to a 16 point win, 79-63.

On a wet and windy day, the Blues kicked with the wind first up and kicked four goals to nil to take a handy lead into quarter time.

Against the breeze in the second term, Cobram hit back with five goals, but Numurkah managed two of their own to still lead at the long break, albeit by only one goal.

The third quarter proved pivotal, as Jayden Hollands ripped the game apart, kicking goals at will and setting up more. He finished with four for the game and a BOG effort as Numurkah held on for the win.

Ben Millen once again dominated the game, kicking three goals, Hunter Verhoeven was superb in the backline all day, as Jayden Holmes run and carry, and Matt Mansfield's hard running a feature.

Daniel Dobson provided the highlight for the day, laying a tackle and was rewarded with a goal, resulting in a mobbing from the whole team.

UNDER 14s

Coach Brad Dobson and his U14 squad welcomed finals bound Cobram to the showgrounds, and received a football lesson from the visitors.

Amidst sullen grey skies and the hint of the deluge to follow in the gusting wind, the Cobram boys wasted little time notching up their first two majors in five minutes, combining speed, size and agility.

Blues' stalwarts Jaxon McKellar, Lucas Roberts and Reeve Verhoeven worked hard to apply the tourniquet, the Blues forward line yet to touch the pill as the first siren sounded, the Tigers up by 33.

The rest of the game was played out much the same. Numurkah battled on under siege, but unable to make a breakthrough, and Cobram recorded a percentage win with a final score of 140 points to nil.

This Saturday the Blues are off to Katandra, hopefully a more competitive proposal.

Best players: Reeve Verhoeven, Jaxon McKellar, Oliver Masters, Lucas Roberts, Riley Dobson and Ayden Siermans.



No marking this ... Hunter Verhoeven goes for the punch over James Kam and a Cobram opponent during their under 17s clash on Saturday.

A gentleman and a footballer

A LOT of footballers don't get to taste premiership success even once, but Jason Limbrick has played in an incredible nine premierships, eight with the club he started playing his football with.

But, of course, he's been a part of a hugely successful era at Nathalia.

Nathalia. Legendary in the last 15 years, with eight flags since 2006. And Limbrick has been a part of them all.

Currently standing in as interim coach after the resignation of Phil Carroll just a few weeks ago, Limbrick played his 250th game with the Purples against Rumbalara on Saturday, typically, with a best on ground performance.

While 250 games is an amazing record, he also had stints with the Shepp Bears and Golden Square.

His year at the Bears was in the under 18s side, an option not available in Murray league football.

"I wasn't ready to play senior footy. I'd just finished up under 17s, was doing year 12 in Shepp, and I probably wasn't ready for senior footy, so to play under 18s was hugely beneficial, and when I did come back, I was much more ready to step right in and play senior footy," Limbrick said.

"It was a really good thing to do, and it definitely helped, studying year 12, to play closer to home."

"I was playing thirds and boundary umpiring at the same time."

He then came back to Nathalia, and enjoyed success in his first year of senior football, which was just a small taste of what was to come.

One year particularly stands out for him, though.

"There has been lots of good stuff, but coaching the premiership in 2015 was extremely rewarding and the highlight, not so much personally, but definitely being able to coach and see those boys win a premiership, their

first of what's now four in a row, was extremely pleasing."

In his previous premiership, in 2012, Limbrick was named the best player in the grand final, and was the league leading goal kicker for the season.

Adding to his impressive CV is an under 17 league medal in 2004, and the under 18 medal in the GVFL in his one year in that league.

He also has a few extra coaching credits, too, having coached the MFL under 18 representative side in 2016, and co-coached the senior interleague side in 2017 and '18, and was an incredibly popular coach at Nathalia from 2013 to 2015 before handing over the reins to Craig Kellow.

"It's a totally different challenge, when you start coaching. You go from really only being concerned about your preparation and game, and all of a sudden you're worrying about what 20 other guys are doing. It's a huge demand on your time, and it's a totally different way of looking at your footy ball, especially when you're younger."

"As the years have gone on, it's a fairly easy balance for me, but when I first started I found it very difficult, and it took a couple of years for me to get used to it."

"Non-playing presents its own challenges. You don't feel as close to it, you feel like you don't really understand what the players are going through, so both have their pluses and minuses."

"The only time I've coached from the sidelines is when I coached the representative team, and that was a very different challenge, for sure."

"As a playing coach, I've been very fortunate to have great people around. Nathalia has been very lucky, there are some fantastic people there."

The 31-year-old says he is lucky to have been at the club at the right time, to enjoy so much success.

"If you go back to the early 2000s,

we weren't so successful. That was Numurkah's time."

"Numurkah was an extremely strong team then and tended to have the wood over Nathalia. It's only been a recent change that we've been stronger."

"These cycles happen. It will change again over time, as people change, and quality of lists change, but the last five years have always been extremely competitive between Nathalia and Numurkah."

"Numurkah is very competitive and we have great respect for what they are doing over there, and the quality of young kids they've had, and have."

"I don't think there's as much in the rivalry thing as there used to be."

When asked about Nathalia's success, he says it's hard to pin point why.

"Really, it's built on the back of good people throughout the whole footy club: players, committee, supporters. Good people doing their bit. No-one doing anything outstanding or special, everyone just plays their role, and I think that's been the key to it."

"The club always has, and continues to, work very hard at our culture, and the environment that it is."

"The club is very organised, very disciplined. Everyone knows what it takes to be good, right through the footy club."

"We like to think that we have extremely high standards about how you should behave, and the respect that they have for the community and supporters. There's a lot of hard work that goes into that, but that's probably the main thing."

"The last thing that tends to happen is that you're successful on field, so we've been working hard at that for a long time, and while we've recently seen success on field, it really starts with all the stuff off the field, and how you behave and what you do."

"Different coaches over the years have sold the same message and kept the plan the same, and continued the hard work that's already been done, so it's always very much business as usual."

"People might move into different roles, but they know what's expected of them, and what's needed, so that helps to continue the good work."

He describes the psychology involved in sport as a big part of a successful team.

"I think the psychology is the biggest influence, belief and faith in what it is your footy club's doing, believing that you can be successful is the biggest thing to being a strong club, that's where it starts."

"We've always been big on that with our players, about having confidence in their ability, and playing to their strengths. That's the biggest influence really."

Limbrick says he was lucky to play with some fantastic footballers early in his career, but is equally as proud to be playing with some of the younger guys currently in his team.

"Early on, I got to play with Ash and Nathan Gemmill, Brendon Parker and Danny Bourke and the likes, and they taught me what good footy looked like."

"And John Nihill was also a huge influence, both as a coaching mentor, and as a young footballer. He has had a big impact on me, both as a person and a footballer."

"They played footy at a very high standard, so I learnt from them. They were some of the best players getting around in country footy, so I was very fortunate to play with them in the early days."

"And now, some of the young guys we have, like Tom Nihill, Alex Hicks, Bowen Smith, they are extremely talented players."

"So I've played at both ends, some really good older guys when I started, and now I've played with some fantastic young talent as well. I've been very fortunate."

Nathalia has become renowned for keeping its players. If they do move away, it's for a short stint somewhere else, and then they head back to the purple and gold.

"I think the footy is second, they want to come back to be around their friends and good people."

"It's a place they can feel comfortable, it's a place they can be themselves, it's a place where they don't get judged. It's a place where everyone is appreciated for what they bring."

"I think that's what brings most people back, rather than whether we're at the top of the ladder or bottom of the ladder."

"Kids feel safe, and people feel valued, I think that's the most important thing."

Described by his club as able to play forward or back, a great reader of the game and decision maker, a strong mark and accurate kick, Limbrick says he has no real preference for position, he will play wherever is best for the team.

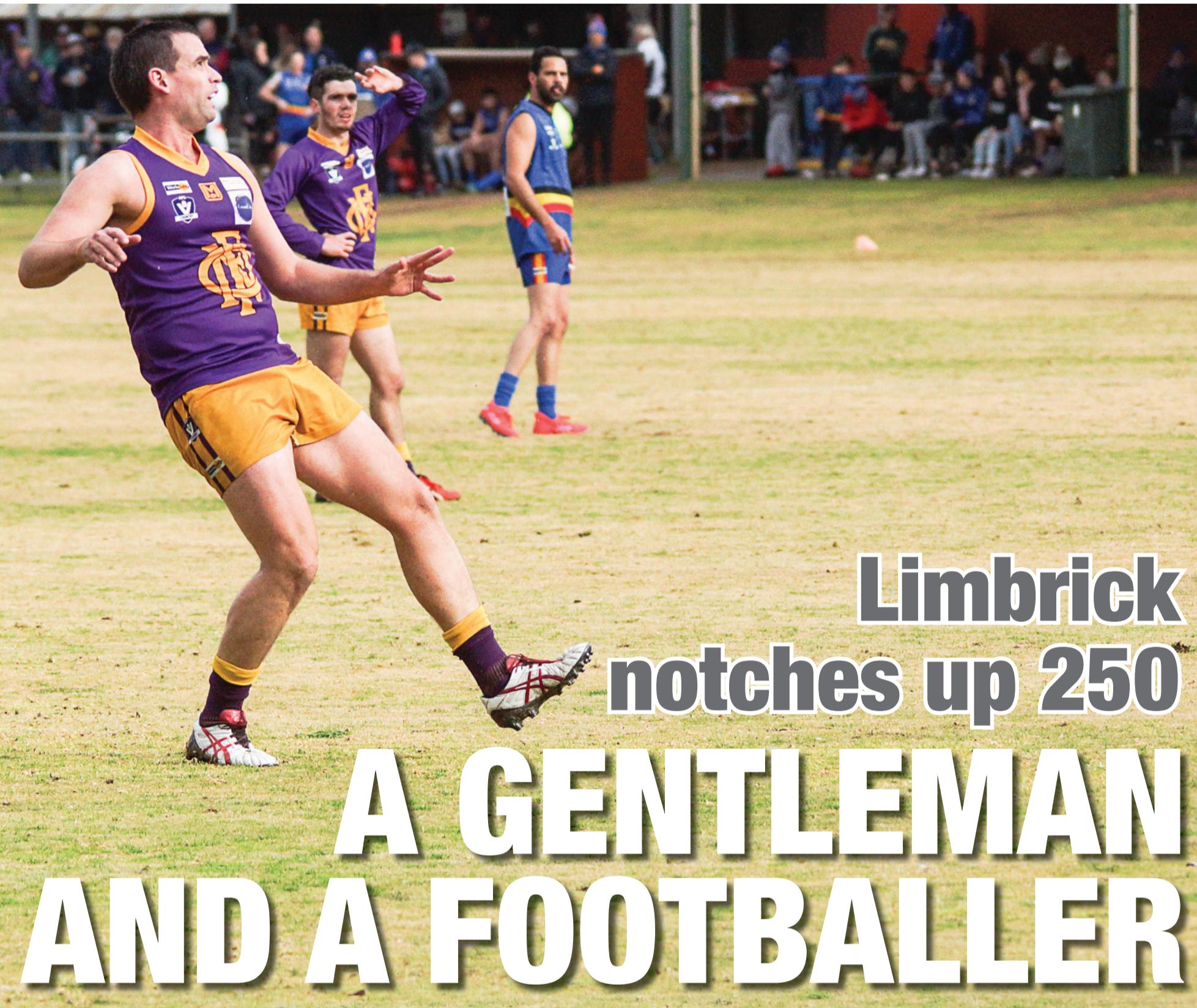
"I've probably played half my career both forward and back, it really depends on what the team's doing and what other players we have available."

And he's not ready to give up footy yet.

"Oh, who knows? Hopefully there's a little bit more footy left in me, but it gets a lot harder when you get to this age, with other commitments, but I'm still enjoying my footy. As long as I'm playing well enough, I'll keep playing."

The *Leader* will keep in touch with Jason. There is bound to be another story to write in another two to three years, when he notches up his 300th.

NumurkahLEADER Sports



A LOT of footballers don't get to taste premiership success even once, but Jason Limbrick has played in an incredible nine premierships, eight with the club he started playing his football with... *Story page 19*

Locals race off in prestigious series

NUMURKAH harness racing owners, Shaun Kelly and Peter Lawlor, are well represented in the Group One Series Sires Produce Vicbred Racing Series to be staged at Melton Raceway this weekend.

Vena May, named after Shaun's

mother, won her semi-final last Saturday, running the slickest time for her age group. Awkwardly drawn number 12 for the \$130,000 final, she is hoping for a modicum of luck to take out Victoria's number one three-year-old fillies' title.

Meanwhile, two-year-old colt, The Tiger Army, qualified for his juvenile category and, drawing the number one barrier, he has every chance to enhance his already impressive career.

The Vicbred Series exhibits the

very best of age group horses in the state and is one of the most prestigious series on the harness racing calendar.

The Kelly/Lawlor association has been a lucrative association with three Group race wins in recent

months and, with a strong contingency of yearlings this year, things look promising for their racing future.

The event final for both horses will be run this Saturday, July 6 at Melton Harness Racing Club.

NumurkahLEADER

INSIDE SPORT

Purples
send
ominous
warning



See story page 18



See story page 13

Thursday
golf

Weekend
netball



See story page 14