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Numurkah LEADER

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019

\$1.30

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Stumps for fish

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Letters to the Editor



Readers protest at amalgamation proposal

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WaaiaYalca South students learn good safety messages from Ditto the friendly lion cub from Bravehearts last week. See story page 4.

Brave hearts

Violence on Melville St

DINERS at a local cafe were left in shock on Saturday night, when a violent assault occurred in full view of the public on Melville Street.

The incident occurred at around 8pm when a group of males allegedly forcibly removed another male from a parked vehicle and kicked and punched him whilst he lay on the ground.

A witness, who did not wish to be named, said that they were dining in Cafe Mierlo when they witnessed the incident.

"There was a small white sedan parked outside the shops slightly north of the cafe, with two women in the front and two men in the back," the witness said.

"A blue Holden Commodore wagon pulled in behind them and a group of four or five men got out and approached the white car and were speaking to one of the men through the window.

"It was obvious as soon as the Commodore pulled up that something was going to happen."

The witness said that one of the men from the

Commodore then punched the man the group was speaking to through the window, before the man was pulled him out of the car and thrown to the ground.

"Then they all started kicking and punching him. It was just terrible."

It is alleged that a woman then approached on foot from the north, and joined in the assault.

Cafe staff dialled 000 and reported the incident, providing both vehicles' registrations to police.

However, by the time Numurkah police members attended, there was nothing to see.

"It was all over in a matter of minutes," the witness said.

"They all got back in their cars and took off like nothing had happened."

Police later located and questioned individuals associated with both vehicles, but whilst they acknowledged being known to each other any more involvement in the incident was denied and no com-

plaints of assault, or any other offence, were made.

A disturbing incident in the early hours of Sunday morning, is also believed to be related to the assault. In an apparent case of mistaken identity, a wood splitter was thrown through the driver's window of a vehicle being driven through town,

The terrified victim in that incident drove away with the splitter still lodged in the car window. She was treated at the Numurkah hospital for minor injuries.

Police are appealing for CCTV footage and information from witnesses who saw a female carrying a wood splitter and hammer in the Melville/Quinn Street area between midnight and 1.30am on Sunday.

The female, aged approximately 40, was with a teenage male approximately 15 years old and injured the female motorist when she smashed the car window with the wood splitter.

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Letters to the Editor

Needing more information

Congratulations to the *Numurkah Leader* for the two page spread about the hospital amalgamation, which was very easy to read and understand.

The questions were ones which many people in the community are asking, but unfortunately, I felt the answers were lacking in information.

All three hospitals need their own governance. As I understand it, with amalgamation, there will be one CEO/one board, which restricts all hospitals to one third representation for their hospital. This is not good enough.

I think the consultation needs to be more transparent. There are concerns from all three towns/hospitals, and maybe the powers that be should remember the hospitals are there to serve the towns to which they belong.

I was disturbed to hear of a remark made by a board member at the most recent community consultation session in Numurkah, that a reason behind the need to amalgamate is because they can't attract board members, and there is no-one in the community with the necessary skills.

I find this remark extremely offensive, as we have many talented people in our community. In Numurkah, the past boards of our hospital have served us well, with dignity and humility.

Val Bunny
Numurkah

Still questions to be answered

Thank you to the *Leader* for doing your best to provide our community with information regarding the planned amalgamation of our local Health Services.

Alas, after carefully reading and re-reading the responses from the Numurkah Hospital Board representative to questions posed by the *Leader* I am none the wiser. In fact I am left with a feeling of no confidence in the board or the process.

I am a senior, tertiary-educated, long term Numurkah resident and believe the community needs to know:

How our health services will actually be 'enhanced' - please give us an example.

What is the 'next level' of care? How does it look?

Who put the proposal forward in the first place?

Are some current services being under-utilised? If so will we lose them under amalgamation?

We have been assured there will be no job losses. We had a full time CEO, but now we have one third of a CEO position. What happened to the other two CEO positions?

How many people actually attended the community information sessions - the response in the *Leader* was nine paragraphs long and still did not answer the question. How many people attended the meetings?

I and my neighbours did not receive any information via the mail. No card, nothing. I am a registered patient of Numurkah District Health Service.

I saw one advertisement in the *Leader* for a tent meeting - I was confused as to why hospital issues were to be discussed in a tent.

Question four talks about current 'significant duplication of services' and compliance taking up time - this sounds likely that under amalgamation these services will be reduced?

Question five: "What will be the cost of amalgamation?"

Answer: "The small costs of amalgamation will be outweighed by the POSSIBLE benefits we can achieve." Not very convincing.

Last, but certainly not least, are the reader questions which outline very clearly why the Numurkah health service should not be amalgamated with Cobram and Nathalia? I certainly had no idea.

We have been told often enough that we have a wonderful new hospital and healthcare service and that we work well with our neighbours to ensure all of us receive the best health care close to home. Why can't this continue?

We all know the cost to our community of the council amalgamations. Don't let it happen again.

Sandy Rodwell
Wunghnu

Where is the consultation?

THANK you to the *Numurkah Leader* for facilitating the very important conversation about the proposal to amalgamate the Numurkah, Nathalia and Cobram health services.

You have achieved far more in informing our community, in a very short time, than the three boards of management have over the last 12 months.

Do they really want to know how this community feels about the proposal to amalgamate our hospitals?

The responses to the community questions in last week's *Numurkah Leader*, by the NDHS Board Chair did not disappoint, as they were as generalised and non-committal as we have come to "accept" throughout the entire "consultation" period.

Until now, many people in our communities have not known about the proposal, most have never received the post cards, letters, etc. in our mail boxes.

The Board Chair of NDHS did not adequately answer my questions posed to him in last week's *Numurkah Leader*, but the next

day he did request that I meet with him privately and he would answer my questions.

I have declined to meet with the board chair privately as I believe my questions can be answered in the public domain like any other member of our community.

I urge members of our community to write to the Minister for Health jenny.mikakos@parliament.vic.gov.au as I have and express your concerns regarding the lack of properly informed consultation and the future of our local hospital.

Kerry Cursons
Numurkah

Did you know?

HOW many residents in the Numurkah district were made aware of the second round of submissions to amalgamate the Numurkah and District Health Service with Cobram and Nathalia? I certainly had no idea.

I do not know of anyone who received a flyer that was supposedly delivered, notifying the community of the second round of submissions.

The Board Chair of Numurkah District Health Service, Michael Buha, claimed in last week's *Numurkah Leader* "every household has received written communication through Australia Post".

I would like to ask Mr Buha which Facebook pages he used: "We have saturated the communities with information about this proposal", and "We have used social media as a preferred communication tool for the younger generations, including Facebook and website".

Were we supposed to surf the net specifically each week to check (and which website)? Then, to top it off, he states, "We doubt there is anyone who has not had an opportunity to see information as we are using a wide range of communication methods".

In 2018 I sent a written submission, an objection to the amalgamation, and discussed it with CEO Jacque Phillips. You would expect somewhere along the line I would have been made aware that a second round of submissions was back on the agenda.

I fear the decision had already been made and the "consultation process" just gives us a chance to vent our views.

The services provided by nurses, doctors and staff at the Numurkah district hospital are excellent. We have a brand new hospital with new facilities and equipment.

I feel patient care and waiting times will be compromised by sharing our fabulous hospital and services with two other communities.

Dianne Hill
Numurkah

Refugees and asylum seekers

CAN anyone imagine anything more thrilling than Dr. Phelps, Julia Banks, Cathy McGowan, Bill Shorten and those caring doctors lined up to meet and greet the 300 refugees and asylum seekers from Nauru and Manus Island as conquering heroes when they fly in?

I do hope we are not disappointed. And, of course, arrangements will already have been made with the authorities for housing in keeping with their status, not forgetting spending money.

How could we generous Australians expect anything less?

Also, they will have to be signed up with Medicare for appropriate medical treatment and remunerating doctors.

I feel sure those on public housing waiting lists, the homeless and those Australians awaiting medical treatment won't mind waiting a little longer and allowing them preferential treatment. Or will they?

Dick Ashby
Numurkah

First class facility

THE recent upgrade of gym equipment and flooring at the Numurkah Aquatic Centre is nothing short of first class.

The well set out gym, together with the friendly staff, makes for a great fitness environment.

Kevin Morrison
Numurkah

Independents do the job

LAST Tuesday saw the government lose a legislative vote on the floor of Federal Parliament for the first time in approximately 80 years.

The bill in question, proposed by independent MP Kerryn Phelps, aims to make it easier to bring unwell asylum seekers from Manus Island and Nauru, to Australia for treatment. They would then be sent back once they're healthy enough.

Whether you agree with this particular policy proposal or not, it makes things very clear - independent MPs can have a real impact on decisions made in Canberra. Even after just three months in the job.

Andrew Bock
Independent Candidate for Nicholls



Beverley Hutchins
Editor



James Sutton
Graphic Designer



Dominique Cosgriff
Journalist



Heather Kelly
Sales



Michael Burton
Sports Journalist



Melinda Scott
Admin



Svenja Proescher
Sports Photographer

POLICE BEAT



Two charged with car theft

TWO men were arrested on McCaskill St last Thursday, following reports of fighting on the footpath at the northern end of Melville St, and suspicious and aggressive behaviour at a number of local businesses.

Members from Numurkah police located the two 34 year-old males, from Shepparton and Melbourne, in the vicinity of a Toyota Hiace van, which had earlier been reported stolen in Shepparton, at around 11am.

Both males, who were believed to have been under the influence of drugs, have been charged with theft of the vehicle.

One of the men was conveyed to Goulburn Valley Health for psychiatric assessment, whilst the other was remanded in custody to appear at Shepparton Magistrates court on Friday.

Meanwhile in Nathalia, police are investigating two incidences of criminal damage to vehicles.

In the first incident, a stolen white Subaru utility was burnt out at the Barmah boat ramp in Evans Street in the early hours of Saturday, February 9.

Barmah CFA extinguished the suspicious fire, which is believed to have been started using an accelerant.

The following night, a Honda quad bike's four tyres, with a replacement value of around \$500, were slashed at a farm in Orrs Road, Yielima.

FIRE WATCH

Another quiet week for local brigades

NUMURKAH CFA brigade received just two call outs in the past week, neither of which required them to fight fires.

The first was a call, at 8.30pm on Friday, February 15, to support the Nathalia brigade at a structure fire in Robertson Street, Nathalia.

The fire was confined to a fuse box, and the Numurkah pumper was stopped en-route.

The second incident was a call to a home in Dolphin Street Numurkah on Sunday at 1.20 pm, where an elderly resident had fallen and left a cook top on.

On arrival, the brigade assisted the woman and secured the scene.

LARGE FORMAT PRINTING

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Contributors and beneficiaries ... Moira shire councillor John Beitzel, Bendigo Bank's Julia Arho, Numurkah Rotary club's Stephen Mills, Numurkah Singers' Kelsey Dealy, Numurkah Town Hall Committee president Lou Hamon and Movies at Numurkah's Barb Sinclair are all thrilled with the new sound system.

Town hall wired for surround sound

THE days of user groups needing to bring their own sound equipment to the Numurkah town hall are over, with a brand new sound system installed and in use.

The new system replaces one that was almost 40 years old, and had become not only obsolete, but unusable.

Fittingly, given the number of groups which use the hall and will benefit from the new sound system, getting the new system in place was very much a group effort.

The new system, which cost \$14,127.30, was made possible through two \$5,000 grants, from Moira Shire and Bendigo Bank respectively, and a donation of \$2,000 from the Numurkah Rotary Club.

The system consists of four front of house speakers, two rear speak-

ers and a subwoofer for the base. Two microphones, a Yamaha AV Receiver and a Yamaha 12 channel mixing console complete the system.

Barb Sinclair from Movies at Numurkah, which will also be making a donation towards the cost of the system, said her group was delighted, as it will allow them to screen movies in surround sound.

"It is such a wonderful addition and something we really wanted, to complement the new screen and other improvements we have made in the past year, but if we had to do it ourselves we would still be very much in fundraising mode for it, so this has taken a huge burden off us," she said.

Numurkah Rotary Club president Stephen Mills said that, as one of the groups that used the hall, for

events including its annual art and craft show, Rotary was happy to contribute to the cost.

"It is very important to have good areas for people to come together and hold events, not just for Rotary but for the whole community," he said.

Cr John Beitzel, representing Moira Shire Council, seconded Mr Mills' comments.

"Town halls are a very important part of all towns, and council's contribution is an acknowledgement of the importance of preserving and looking after them as vital meeting places for the community."

Bendigo Bank's Julia Arho meanwhile, said it was exactly the kind of project that the community bank liked to contribute to.

"Something like this, that is at the heart of town life and is used by so

many people, is a perfect place for us to put the community bank's profits, and we are very pleased to be able to do so," she said.

Town Hall Committee president Lou Hamon said that getting a new sound system that could meet the needs of all user groups had been a priority for the committee for some time, and they were grateful for the contributions that helped make it happen.

"So many groups use the hall for so many different purposes, so it's important that it can meet the community's needs," he said.

"It has been a challenge to put together a system that will meet the various needs of so many groups, but I think we have gotten it right and it is a very valuable addition to the hall to take it into the future."

Small business confidence up

A RECENT report has revealed that Australian small and medium business (SMB) confidence is at a nine year high.

The December quarter 2018 Sensis Business Index, which measures SMB activity, expectations and confidence over a three-month period, found confidence levels increased eight points to +55, the highest level recorded since December 2009.

Victoria claimed the top spot, due to a post-election surge to +55, 14 points higher than the September quarter report.

However, the confidence wasn't shared equally across the state, with metropolitan SMBs once again much more confident than their regional counterparts, recording balances of +58 and +38 respectively.

Overall, prospects for the year ahead were also strong, particularly in sales, with over 40% of SMBs expecting growth in this area to indicate a rewarding 2019 ahead.

Sensis Chief Executive Officer, John Allan, said that over 64% of small and medium business owners reported feeling confident in their business prospects.

"The report also shows that expectations for 2019 were positive across the majority of business indicators, which is extremely encouraging given the disruption of the coming federal election," Mr Allan said.

The survey was comprised of 1,000 telephone interviews with 900 small and 100 medium business proprietors or managers from

metropolitan and non-metropolitan regions throughout Australia, with quotas set for location and industry.

At an industry level, hospitality was found to be the most confident sector, recording a massive increase of 36 points to a record high index of +71.

While retail remained the least confident (+26), it recorded an increase of 14 points which indicates the sector maintained positivity ahead of its busiest period.

When looking at views of the Federal Government, SMBs made it clear they don't feel their business is affected by decisions made in Parliament, with 62% reporting federal policies had no impact on their business – increasing from 57% in the previous quarter.

"The perception that Federal Government policies do not affect small and medium businesses has grown in popularity over the years among SMBs, which could suggest they are becoming increasingly resilient toward government changes."

Despite a growth in sales predictions, perceptions of the economy continued to fall for the third quarter in succession, with 61% feeling they will see no change in the economy in 12 months time.

"It is interesting to highlight that SMBs are more confident in their own sales over the next 12-months than they are in the Australian economy and we hope to see businesses maintain this confidence throughout 2019," Mr Allan said.

The survey was comprised of 1,000 telephone interviews with 900 small and 100 medium business proprietors or managers from

On for young and old at invasive species workshop

AGRICULTURE Victoria is hoping to inspire young people to become involved in managing invasive species, with a free workshop at Melbourne Museum on May 6.

The workshop is a new initiative from Agriculture Victoria's Weeds and Rabbits Project.

This workshop is aimed at anyone, volunteer or professional, with responsibilities in land or invasive species management. This includes interested members of local communities or farming groups, Landcare, universities or TAFEs, government agencies or other non-government or not-for-profit organisations.

Established Invasive Species Program Manager, Michael Reid said that everyone has a role to play in invasive species management, regardless of where they live in Victoria.

"We know young people are interested in invasive species management, but they are under-represented in our discussions," Mr Reid said.

"Landscape management is an intergenerational issue, and we want to make sure young people are active participants in discussions about how to address the

problem."

The workshop on May 6 will be interactive and focused on building the capacity and confidence of participants to develop youth-focused practices into their programs.

Landcare Victoria Deputy Chair and Corangamite farmer, Kaye Rodden, said boosting youth involvement was an opportunity to strengthen community-led approaches to invasive species management.

"Young people have so much to offer. They are energetic innovators and we need to inspire and empower them to be part of community-led initiatives such as this one focused on managing invasive species," Ms Rodden said.

"A healthy, pest free landscape needs a strong resilient community, and this relies on people of all ages being engaged and involved."

The workshop at Melbourne Museum is open to people of any age, whether volunteer or professional, from across Victoria.

Community volunteers can be reimbursed for their out-of-pocket travel expenses to attend.

To find out more go to weedsandrabbis.com/youth.



It's okay to say no ... Leanne Solan and Ditto remind Waaia Yalca South Primary School students that it's okay to say no.

Hearts are brave at Waaia Yalca South

STUDENTS and staff at Waaia Yalca South Primary School had a special visitor last Thursday, when Ditto the friendly lion cub and his good friend Leanne came to teach them about keeping safe.

The school's 11 students took part in Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure Show, an interactive show which provides primary school aged children evidence-based, age-appropriate personal safety education.

Themes covered in the show, which has been aligned to the Australian national curriculum health and physical education objectives, include 'yes and no feelings', 'warning signs', 'scared and yucky feelings', 'private parts and privacy', 'it's okay to say no if you don't feel safe' and 'what to do if you feel unsafe or unsure'.

Waaia Yalca South principal Susan Olley said that the school hosts an incursion from Ditto

each year as part of its health and PE curriculum, to reinforce the importance of keeping safe.

"You can see throughout the year that the students feel confident in trusting their feelings and standing up for themselves, and they always look forward to Ditto's visits because it's a fun and interactive show."

Ditto is a representative of Bravehearts, Australia's leading child protection organisation.

Founded in 1997, Bravehearts' vision is to make Australia the safest place in the world to raise a child.

Ditto's friend Leanne Solan said that Bravehearts had recently reached its one millionth child in Australia.

Until very recently, the Goulburn Valley Bravehearts team, which is sponsored by Goulburn Valley Centre Against Sexual Assault, was

the only one in Australia that had a sponsor.

"That means that we don't have to fundraise, and the schools don't have to pay for us to visit," Leanne said.

"What that really means is that we can visit any school that would like us to, no matter how small it is, without having to worry about whether it is cost effective for us, because the cost of the visit is already covered."

"The students were really engaged here today and really interacted with us, which was so wonderful."

Bravehearts employs over 65 people across Australia, providing world-class child protection training and education initiatives; specialist child sexual assault counselling and support services; as well as research and reform campaigns to work holistically to prevent child sexual assault in Australian society.

Concussion in sport tool-kit launched

AUSTRALIA'S leading sports medicine experts are urging athletes, coaches and parents across all levels of sport to heed the message "if in doubt, sit them out".

The message is part of a position statement released by Concussion in Sport Australia, which brings together the most contemporary evidence-based information on concussion for athletes, parents, teachers, coaches and medical practitioners.

The organisation also launched a website this week, concussioninsport.gov.au.

Concussion in Sport Australia is an initiative of the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), the Australian Medical Association (AMA), the Australasian College of Sport and Exercise Physicians (ACSEP) and Sports Medicine Australia (SMA).

More than 40 sport and medical organisations have endorsed and supported the position statement, including Rugby Australia, Football Federation Australia, Cycling Australia, Basketball Australia and the Australian Olympic Committee.

AIS Chief Medical Officer Dr David Hughes said there is growing concern in Australia and internationally about the incidence of sport-related concussion, and the potential health ramifications for athletes at all levels of sport.

"The website provides a valuable and trusted resource for the management of sports-related concussion for all Australians, regardless of the sport, location or level of participation," Dr Hughes said.

ACT Brumbies and Australian Rugby Sevens player Tom Cusack, who has suffered multiple concussions during his career, is urging athletes, coaches, parents and support staff at all levels to ensure participants' health is the number one priority.

"As a professional athlete, I know the importance of a player's health – it should be the focus of all sporting organisations", Mr Cusack said.

"Concussion is an issue in sport that must be taken seriously. Everyone, from kids at the grassroots through to professional athletes should feel comfortable to put their hand up and say 'I am not okay'. There's nothing tough about playing on with concussion."

Concussion in Sport Australia is also urging the public to recognise that concussion is not confined to elite sport, and is a broader public health issue. AMA President Dr Tony Bartone said everyone needed to play a part in reducing the impact of concussion.

"The first step is to understand how to identify the symptoms and when to seek medical support," Dr Bartone said.

"If managed properly, most symptoms and signs of concussion resolve spontaneously. However, complications can occur, including increased susceptibility to further injury. That's why the 'sit it out' message is so crucial, and anyone returning to sport following concussion should get medical clearance to do so."

The full position statement can be found on the website, along with videos, fact sheets, online training and other practical resources.

Tough new penalties for out of control parties

BADLY behaved guests and short-stay apartment owners in Victoria can now be hit with fines of up to \$1,100 for breaches of conduct standards, thanks to new laws that came into effect last Friday.

The new laws are aimed at stopping out-of-control parties in apartment buildings used for short-stay accommodation.

Under the reforms to the Owners Corporations Act 2006 – which passed Parliament last year – owners corporations and residents will be able to take action against short-stay apartment owners and their guests.

Short-stay apartment owners and their guests will be jointly and individually liable for any compensation, fines and awards for damage to common property.

Consumer Affairs Victoria's conciliation powers have also been extended to include all parties who may be involved in a short-stay accommodation dispute, including providers and building residents.

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL Women's Day

Communities across the shire are celebrating International Women's Day with various fun, insightful and inclusive activities.

Make sure you get involved and honour the women in your life.

For all enquiries, please contact the event organiser or give us a call on 5871 9222.



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YARRAWONGA

March 2 @ 8.30am | CWA Rooms, Hovell St
Breakfast & entertainment | \$12 | RSVP 0417 501 027

COBRAM

March 7 @ 3pm | Cobram Community House, Punt Rd
Afternoon tea | Free | RSVP 5872 2224

NATHALIA

March 7 @ 1.30pm | G.R.A.I.N Store, Blake St
Photo exhibition | Free | RSVP 0410 952 647

NUMURKAH

March 8 @ 10am | Newman Square, Melville St
Morning tea | Free | RSVP 0428 725 589

COBRAM

March 22 @ 7pm | Irvin Hall, Hay Av
Health & Wellbeing Evening | \$20 | RSVP 0409 230 586

Meeting for much more than arts and crafts

CENTRAL Murray Group Country Women's Association held its annual general meeting in Numurkah on Monday, clearly demonstrating the diversity of membership and interests in the organisation.

The Central Murray group is comprised of five branches; Baulkamaugh, Youanmite, Nathalia, Tallygaroopna and Cobram.

Around 30 attendees assembled for what was a very busy day, including the election of office bearers for the next 12 months and a range of competitions and awards.

Lorraine Zimmerman from CWA state headquarters attended as guest speaker, and the conference was officially opened Emma Knapp.

Emma, who works to address the needs of women and men in the local farming community through Numurkah Community Health, was invited by the group as someone whose aims align perfectly with the CWA's.

Central Murray CWA Group President Marie Martin said that the organisation had changed along with society since it was formed 90 years ago, but its basic aims have remained the same.

"It's a real grass roots organisation aimed at promoting the welfare of women and children, enriching lives, and providing inspiration and friendship through empowerment," she said.

Each group provided a verbal report of its activities for the year, clearly demonstrating that they cater for member interests that go well beyond arts and crafts.

Among the activities reported, were the entry of two teams in the Murray Marathon, who raised over \$7,000 between them, guest speakers, site visits, and belly dancing classes.

Delegates also voted to put two motions to CWA State Council. If these motions are accepted, the group's state representatives get busy lobbying and advocating to various bodies.

Competition winners at the AGM included



Kerrie-Anne Rappell, who took out the prestigious Henderson Cup for public speaking, and the Baulkamaugh branch which collectively took out the Wellington Cup for handicrafts.

June Field from Youanmite is now in the running to be appointed state winner of branch secretary of the year at the CWA state conference in May, having been presented with the Book of Honour for best branch secretary's report.

Ms Martin said that the annual reports presented on Monday reflected that the CWA offers something for all women.

"No matter what your interest, you can pursue it within the CWA," she said.

"We are not a political organisation, but if you feel strongly about something and want to advocate for it, you can do that through the state social welfare committee.

"We also have a performing arts committee, an overseas aid committee, and an agricultural committee, among others."

"Or you can just come for the friendship. That's always there."



Never too young ... Current Central Murray Group members Sarah Rovers and Tamsin Bourchier with some future CWA members.

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Eucalypts remember heatwaves

AN Aussie eucalypt can 'remember' past exposure to extreme heat, which makes the tree and its offspring better able to cope with future heatwaves, according to new research from Macquarie University.

Dr Rachael Gallagher, senior author of the research paper on the topic which was published in the journal Functional Ecology, said this finding could have important implications for restoring ecosystems and climate-proofing forestry, as the number of hot days and heatwaves increase due to climate change.

"Unlike animals, which can bury deeper into the soil or flee to cooler locations, plants are stuck in one spot and so must be able to withstand extreme conditions in situ," Dr Gallagher said.

Dr Gallagher and her team looked at how different populations of Eucalyptus grandis seedlings, commonly known as flooded gum or rose gum, responded when they were exposed to a simulated four day 42°C heatwave in the lab.

The flooded gum is a widespread tree species along 2,000 kilometres of Australia's east coast, from Newcastle in New South Wales to Cairns in far north Queensland. It is also an important forestry species, grown in timber plantations across the globe including in Australia, South Africa and Brazil.

The researchers found that seedlings whose parents had experienced more days of extreme heat in the wild were better able to cope with the simulated heatwave conditions, because they made more protective proteins to protect their cells from heat stress.

These protective proteins act as molecular chaperones - they transport other proteins to their correct locations within the cell, and help the cell to keep functioning normally despite the stress it is under.

"This is a significant new finding," Dr Gallagher said.

"We have shown that trees have a 'molecular memory' for extreme heat."

Compared to other plants like herbs and grasses, trees typically take a long time to mature and make new seeds. This may limit their ability to adapt to our rapidly changing climate.

"By using this approach we can work out which populations might provide the best seed for restoring ecosystems and climate-proofing forestry as temperatures become more extreme."

The study was conducted by Macquarie University's Department of Biological Sciences, Department of Molecular Sciences and the Australian Proteome Analysis Facility.

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Community Strengthening
Grant applications – now open

Do you need funding for an event or to improve facilities or services for your local community?

Then the Community Strengthening Minor Grant (up to \$5,000) may be for you.

If you require assistance completing your application give us a call.

Information on Community Grants is available on our website.

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

Applications close 4pm Wednesday 6 March.

Apply
Now

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133 677

info@moira.vic.gov.au

www.moira.vic.gov.au

Time to play like a pro at pre-school

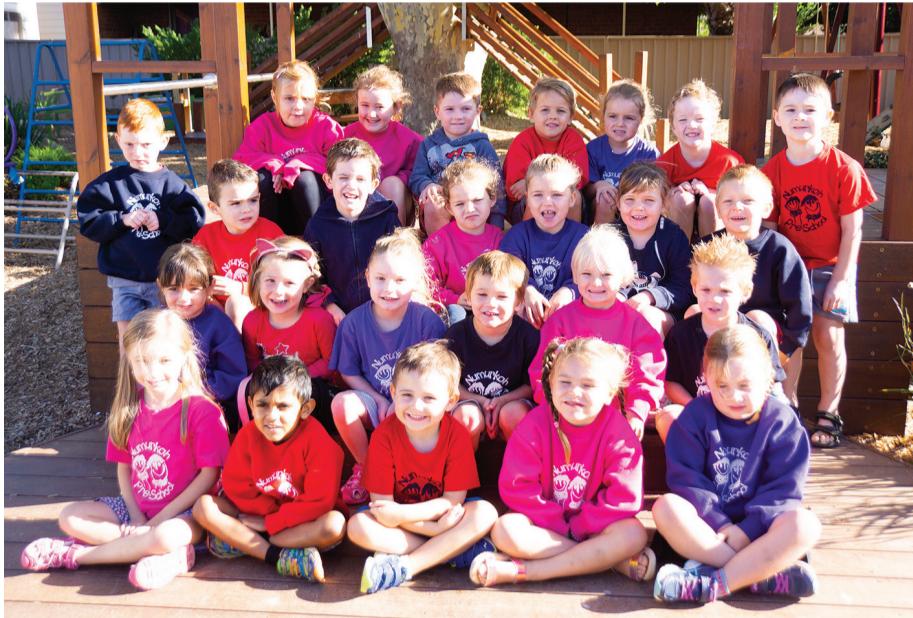
WHILE five and six year-olds across the district are learning the ropes in foundation classes, a fresh crop of four year-olds have taken their places at pre-school. This week the *Leader* travelled to the Numurkah district's kindergartens to meet the four year-olds playing hard at our pre-schools in 2019.



Numurkah pre-school Parrots

Back (from left): Chloe Thomson, Jackson Higgins, Zoey Egan, Jackson Hall, Addison McKenzie, Alby Dolling, Louie O'Callaghan, Elsie Browning, Aleeyah McIntosh, Taylor Marcroft, Brody Jeanes, Raleigh Beverley.

On ground, back (from left): Campbell Brennan, Jobe Morris, Johnathon Moon, Avari Peterson, Paige Koeleman, Eliza Razga. Front: Max Opie, Zara Morris, Matilda Ireland, Dylan Batey-Black.



Numurkah pre-school Cockatoos

Back (from left): Myah Shelton, Mikayla Penny, Samuel Mison, Jack Robertson, Aimee Rankin, Max Boase, Alexander McLeod. Second row: Max Moore (standing), Ethan Brown, Alex Sanders, Audrey Martin, Madilyn Gundrill, Paige Thomson, Owen Chmiel. Third row: Lexie Moon, Laura Sue, Bella Curtis, Harlen Few, Isabella Hendy, Kyran Sutton. Front: Maya Curtis, Vian Mahajra, Edward Trimble, Thea Maskell, Lexi Rees.



Strathmerton pre-school

From left: Mason Hanley, Zarliah Collins, Kiesha Maney, Sienna Newell, Joss Stammers, Eliza Bourchier, Flynn Cleary.



Numurkah pre-school Pelicans

Back (from left): Jessie Scrimizzi, Caylee Rawson, Jacob Davis, Liam Carlisle, Lola Feldtmann, Carter Booth.

On ground, back (from left): Sienna Mulcahy, Levi Dunn, Kade Brennan, Harley Henderson. Front: Liam McKean, Montell Kirkpatrick, Jak Byron, Makenzee Crow, Harmony Phillips-Morrison.



WHEN: Sunday 03 March, 2019

WHERE: Cobram Civic Centre,
Punt Road, Cobram

TIME: 10am - 2.30 pm

CHANCES TO WIN

- 2 Major Prizes drawn at 2.00 pm
- \$500 Qantas Holidays Travel Voucher
- \$2,000 BACK ROADS Travel Voucher

Register your details at the door on entrance to go into the draw to win a \$300 Helloworld Travel Voucher

Drawn throughout the day
2 x \$50 Cash Passports
2 x Helloworld Cabin Cases

Gold Coin Donation - All proceeds to Cobram Community Cinema Inc.

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Nathalia and district pre-school

Back (from left): Will McNair, Ryan Daniel, Riley Daniel, Chelsea Dealy, Millie Bourke, Maddie Wold, Taylah Moon.

Front: Ella Schram, Chontelle Morgan, Dane Higgins, Harper Coutts, Alby Thorpe.



This week in 1919 ...

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

To view these editions online go to trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/title/S91.

THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
FINE INITIAL MEETING
DEBENTURES OVER-SUBSCRIBED.
Mr J. S. CHRISTIE, President.
Messrs F. MCKENNA and J. FIN-
LAY Vice-Presidents.

The very large attendance at the first meeting of debenture-holders in the re-constructed Numurkah Agricultural Society on Friday afternoon last (there were well over 100 gentlemen present) augurs well for the society's future, and was a distinct "feather in the cap" of those who, believing in the solidity of the district, and recognising that to allow the society to die a natural (or unnatural) death would strike a heavy blow at the prestige of the district, took in hand the task of re-constructing the society upon a basis that would give some promise of permanency. The task, viewed in the early stages of the proposal, seemed a stiff one, but when the actual work was started, it was found that there was such widespread desire to see the society reach and maintain the position such an important organisation should occupy in a district such as this, that the disposal of debentures was a very easy matter. Indeed, although a by no means complete canvass was made of the whole district, the incoming committee will find itself at the outset faced with the duty of returning some £50 or £60 to debenture-holders.

The Miller Homes.—Rev. F. C. Vian has kindly allowed us to view a plan prepared by Messrs. Laird and Buchan for the proposed Miller homes. The cottages, three of which are to be erected almost immediately, are of ornate design, and will be a decided acquisition to the architecture of the town. They will be of brick, on concrete foundations, with tiled roofs. The convenience of the future inmates has been carefully studied. The trustees have purchased the area known as the police paddock, and the whole area has been plotted to carry 10 cottages eventually.

Shocking!—At the Tocumwal court Reuben Millstead was fined 2/6 on a charge of using insulting words as follows:—"You ought to go and learn sense. I've hear a lot about your sort,"—to George Dickie, manager of Barooga estate, at Barooga, on December 15. Efforts were made to settle the case by defendant expressing regret for having used the words (which he admitted), but Dickie preferred that the case should be heard. Mr Whilby, in addressing the Bench, said it was the most frivolous case he had ever heard of brought into court. The P.M. concurred that it was trivial. And yet a P.M. imposes a fine in what he admits to be a "trivial" case. If such words are deemed to be insulting, and proceedings were taken every time similar expressions were used, then the whole police force would have to work overtime to cope with the list of cases.

Heavy Rain.—After more than a fortnight of close, muggy weather, during which period the maximum shade temperature ranged between 95 and 109 degrees, heavy rain set in on Monday night and continued practically without cessation till 8 a.m. yesterday. The fall totalled 280 points locally. Though it will not, perhaps, benefit agriculturists and graziers greatly, unless followed by further rain at short intervals, the townsfolk are delighted that their drinking water supplies have been replenished and the gardens greatly refreshed.

EXTENSIVE LAND TRANSACTIONS.

Messrs J. McNamara & Co, Numurkah, report having had a very busy time in farm and property transactions during last week, probably establishing a record for the period. They sold 6 separate farms (making 9 since 1st Feb.) in addition to sale of hotel lease, and township property, and leased 7 farms during the same period. The buyers were principally from local districts, but included representatives from Euroa, Lancefield and Braybrook. The area sold and leased was 5450 acres, full particulars of which will appear in a future issue.

NEW SCHOOLIES

"Better than a thousand days of diligent study

EACH year as the Numurkah district's students drag themselves away from the long, free days of the summer holidays and into school uniforms, they are greeted by schools and classrooms that have been thoughtfully prepared for their arrival

by people dedicated to their learning.

One of a school leadership team's most important responsibilities is building a staff, both inside and outside the classroom, whose disposition and dedication will give their students the

best chance of success.

This week, the *Leader* visited the region's primary schools to meet the new staff who have joined our schools in 2019 to help shape the leaders of tomorrow.

Numurkah Primary School



Trainees ... Sarah Titchmarsh and Shae Montgomery are relishing the opportunity to learn the many roles of an education support officer.

NUMURKAH PS has three new staff members this year - education support trainees Sarah Titchmarsh and Shae Montgomery, and student wellbeing coordinator and science teacher Rohan Lelliott.

Sarah and Shae support other staff by working in classrooms, offering one on one learning support to students, helping out in the office and pitching in with any one of the many, many odd jobs that keeps a modern primary school run-

ning.

Rohan said he is enjoying working in the primary school world for the first time, having previously spent many years as wellbeing officer at Shepparton High School



St Joseph's Primary School



Home now ... Deanne Fernandez, Rachael Morrison, Liam Booth and Donna Murphett are all enjoying being part of the St Joe's team.

ST JOSEPH'S Primary School may have four new staff members this year, but for three of them, the place is extremely familiar. Whilst office administrator Donna Murphett is the mother of former students, grade three and four teacher Deanne Fernandez, formerly of Melbourne, who is teaching grades one and two,

and six teacher Liam Booth are both former St Joe's students themselves.

The trio returning to home ground are joined by St Joseph's newbie Rachael Morrison, and grade five

St Francis Primary School



Different roles, same enthusiasm ... Jesse Trower, Braden Lambert and Matt Smith.

THE new school year has brought a host of new faces to St Francis Primary School in Nathalia, and though their roles may be many and varied, they are all enjoying themselves equally.

The teaching team has gained five new members, with Jesse Trower taking up an education support role, Braden Lambert stepping up to teach grades five and six, De-

bra Jardine embracing the role of grades one and two teacher and science specialist, and Melanie Sczun teaching grade four.

In addition to the new classroom whizzes, the school's technology and grounds have gained new masters in digital technology specialist Jerrod Davison and grounds maintenance manager Matt Smith.

Waaia Yalca South Primary School



Dream come true ... Sherelle Koeleman is loving her new career.

WAAIA Yalca South Primary School's new education support worker Sherelle Koeleman says that joining the school in 2019,

in her first position since finishing her studies at NCLC last year, is a dream come true.

Nathalia Primary School



Loving it ... Julie Jenner, Makayla O'Callaghan, Kate Willcock and Margot Craig all love their jobs.

IT takes a special kind of energy and enthusiasm to take on the education of our youngest students, and Nathalia Primary School's new junior teaching team has that in spades.

New foundation and grade one teacher Kate Willcock made her debut at Nathalia PS at the start of this year, completing the jun-

ior teaching team alongside fellow foundation/one teacher Makayla O'Callaghan and grades two and three teacher Margot Craig who both joined the school in 2018.

The three junior teachers are ably assisted by education support worker Julie Jenner who also joined the Nathalia PS team this year.

NEW SCHOOLIES

“is one day with a great teacher” — *Japanese proverb*



Keen as mustard ... Mona Alan, Stefanie Knight and Chelsea Sidebottom are all enjoying their new roles at Strathmerton primary School.

Strathmerton Primary School

STRATHMERTON Primary School grade two students have been lucky enough to gain not just one, but two new teachers this year.

Stefanie Knight has joined the school as grade one and two teacher, working closely with Mona Alan,

also new to the school in 2019, who is teaching grades two and three.

The new grades one to three crew are ably assisted by new education support worker Chelsea Sidebottom.



Enjoying the challenge ... Maree Schneider is happy to be part of the Wunghnu PS team.

Wunghnu Primary School

WUNGHNU primary school has doubled its teaching staff this year, with Maree Schneider taking over classroom duties on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Ms Schneider, for whom teaching all

grades in one class is a new experience, said that although it is challenging, and very different to what she is used to, she is finding it interesting and extremely enjoyable.



The reasons are black and white

emergency.vic.gov.au

Download the VicEmergency app

Fire Danger Ratings predict how a fire would behave. The higher the rating, the more uncontrollable a fire would be if one started. During summer, you should check Fire Danger Ratings daily via the VicEmergency website or app.

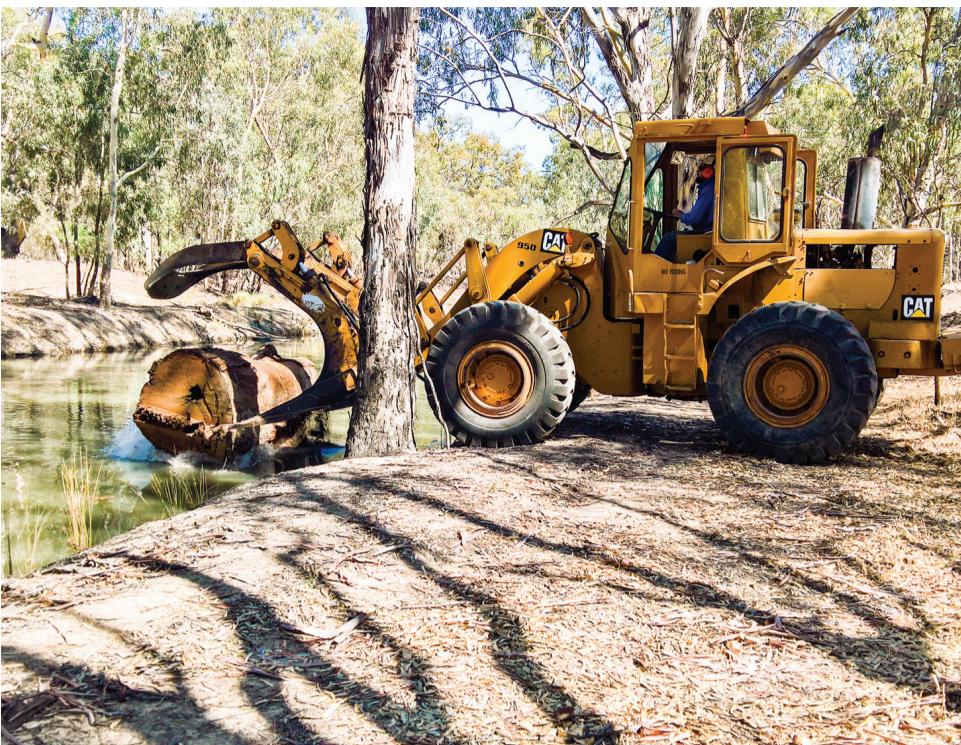
Decide what rating is your trigger to take action.



Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



Sunny outlook for native fish habitat



Helping hand ... Downer workers placed a total of 25 stumps in the creek to provide habitat for fish.

LARGE grey-box stumps removed during the construction of Neoen's Wunghnu Solar Farm are now providing habitat for native fish in the Nine Mile Creek west of Numurkah.

Goulburn Broken CMA project officer Corey Wilson said 25 of the stumps were recently placed as snags in the creek at the end of Sharps Rd, upstream of the Broken Creek junction.

"The solar farm approached us about re-using the stumps for a river health project, which we really appreciated," Mr Wilson said.

"This stretch of the creek has very little habitat, so placing these large snags will provide shelter for native fish such as golden perch and Murray cod."

Neoen Australia Managing Director Franck Woitiez said all Neoen projects aimed to protect, retain and restore natural resources and the environment.

"We worked closely with Downer and our ecology partners to assess a site and make decisions that minimised our development's impact on flora and fauna," Mr Woitiez said.

"We are glad to be able to find a sustainable use for the tree stumps, and look forward to delivering more reliable and competitive energy to the people of Victoria once the Wunghnu solar farm begins commercial operations in May."

Snags are sometimes referred to as inland equivalent of coastal reefs, and provide habitat

for native fish and other animals such as turtles and native water rats (rakali). Native fish use them to shelter from fast currents and sunlight, as well as for refuge from predators. Native fish also use snags as feeding and spawning sites, and as nursery areas for juvenile fish.

Close to a 1,000 snags have now been placed in the lower Broken and Nine Mile creeks between Numurkah and Nathalia since 2011.

"The snags, as well as the base flows along the system, improve in-stream habitat and water quality, leading to a more robust native fish community," Mr Wilson said.

"Monitoring shows that there has been an increase in both species around re-snagged areas and a large increase in shrimp, an important food source for large bodied native fish, which is all good news for recreational fishers in our region."

Executive Director of Downer's Utilities business Trevor Cohen said the snag program was a great example of a close partnership between Downer, Neoen, and the community to deliver environmental benefits locally.

"The team should be congratulated on how they have kept their local community top of mind during the construction process."

Wunghnu Solar Farm is a 128 megawatt renewable energy project. When finished it will generate over 255 gigawatt hours of emission-free, clean, competitive renewable energy a year.

Arrowhead spraying for Waaia area

GOULBURN Broken CMA's annual waterway arrowhead spraying program will once again focus on the Broken-Boosey creeks between Katamatite and Barmah.

This year's spraying program will mainly focus on the creeks between Walshs Bridge Rd and Kempsters Bridge Rd south of Waaia.

Arrowhead, a native plant of North America, is a highly invasive weed that favours static to slow-flowing water. It spreads quickly and clogs waterways.

River Health Project Officer Corey Wilson said this year, for the first time, aerial surveying had been used to identify "hot spots" along the creeks.

"The flight along the Boosey, lower Broken and Nine Mile creeks was far more efficient; instead of hours and hours of driving, in just two hours we were able to pin point the areas to target this year," Mr Wilson said.

"It was also good to see that arrowhead growth in most of the areas in these creeks that we have treated in the past was significantly reduced."

Controlling arrowhead in the creeks complements Goulburn Murray Water's weed management in and along the irrigation channel network.

Goulburn Broken CMA will work with Goulburn Murray Water to carry out the spraying during late summer and early autumn.



On their way out ... Arrowheads before spraying in the Broken Creek.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

GRAHAM BYRON SEED SUPPLIES

ANNUAL RYE GRASSES

Ore-Tet (Oregon USA Annual Tetraploid Rye)

- Just that bit better
- Well priced

TetraStar Annual Rye Grass

- NEW - well priced for early orders

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

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

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

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

PINK STUMPS DAY

FEBRUARY 23RD 2019, 3PM ONWARDS

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

Bring a friend, children welcome

Meal available for purchase after 6pm

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

for catering purposes please notify of any dietary requirements

RSVP TO

RACHEL O'DWYER - 0409 866 903

CAROL SIERMANS - 0418 327 625

NUMURKAH CRICKET CLUB ROOMS

Numurkah Showgrounds

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A LICENCE TO CONSTRUCT WORKS (BORE) / TAKE AND USE LICENCE FOR A LICENSABLE PURPOSE

GMW Reference BGW0010-19

We, Mark & Kaylene Walpole Pty Ltd of 48 Muntz Road, Yielima Vic 3638 Refer to Vic Roads Map 22 D9 (ed. 8) intend to make application to Goulburn-Murray Water for a Licence to Construct Works (Bore), and if successful:

This is our notice for an application of a new Licence to Take and Use Groundwater and We intend to apply to transfer 1000ML of licensed entitlement from an existing licensee/s on a temporary or permanent basis. The application is for one bore to be constructed to a proposed depth of 150 metres.

The water will be used for the purpose of Irrigation.

To be constructed and used on lands described as: Volume 7022 Folio 281 Crown Allotment 57 Parish Yielima; Volume 9934 Folio 141 Lot 1 Plan No. 218378Y Plan Type LP; Volume 9934 Folio 142 Lot 2 Plan No. 218378Y Plan Type LP; Volume 7022 Folio 281 Crown Allotment 60 Parish Yielima; Volume 7022 Folio 281 Crown Allotment 60A Parish Yielima; Volume 7022 Folio 281 Crown Allotment 60B Parish Yielima; Volume 9252 Folio 030 Lot 1 Plan No. 124394 Plan Type LP; Volume 11970 Folio 896 Crown Allotment 40A Parish Yielima; Volume 11970 Folio 894 Lot 1 Plan No. 747496A Plan Type PS.

Any person able to demonstrate that their interests will be affected by the issuing of this Licence including any intended groundwater use, is invited to make a written submission (via post, email or fax) setting out the nature of the impact within 14 days of receipt of this written notification. Late submissions will not be considered.

To make a submission, please read the information available to download from www.g-mwater.com.au/customer-services/forms/groundwaterforms refer to No. 4 (or contact GMW to arrange for a copy to be posted to you). Submissions must be lodged in writing using the template available by either mail or email to Customer Support Coordinator, Licensing Administration, PO Box 165, TATURA VIC 3616 or email licensingadmin@gmwater.com.au.

PUBLIC NOTICES

goulburn valley libraries

COMING @ THE NUMURKAH LIBRARY:

February 21 @ 10.30am

- Rhyme & storytime

February 23 @ 10.00am

- Backdoor booksale

February 27 @ 1.30pm – Craft & coffee

Knitters group

meets every Tuesday @ 10.30am.

For more details contact the library on 1300 374 765

PUBLIC NOTICES

NUMURKAH BLUES

Numurkah Football Netball Club Inc.

FOURTHS FOOTBALL TRAINING

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

New players welcome.

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

MEETINGS

WAAIA INDOOR BOWLS CLUB INC

are holding their

A.G.M.

Thursday 28th February at

7.30pm

at the Waaia Recreation Reserve, Waaia. All Welcome.

NumurkahLEADER
03 5862 1034

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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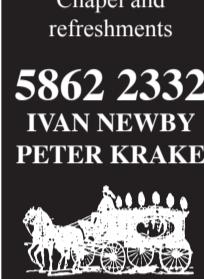
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PETER KRAKE



PUBLIC NOTICES

B R A B A N D E R (Zeijl)

— Maria Geertruda (Riet).

29.11.1933-13.2.2019

Late of Numurkah, formerly of Wakool, NSW. Passed away peacefully on February 13, 2019 at Numurkah Health.

Dearly loved wife of Evert (dec.). Our loving Mum and Grandma, dearly loved by her children and their partners Paul and Debbie; Diana (Arnold); Adrian and Gabrielle; and her grandchildren Lani and Will; Laura, Kate and Megan; and Dumie.

FUNERAL NOTICES

B R A B A N D E R (Zeijl)

— Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the Late Mrs. Maria Geertruda (Riet).

An Interment Service will be held in the afternoon at the Barham Lawn Cemetery, Moulamein Road, Barham, NSW commencing at 9.30am.

*Peter Cox & Sons
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Member of the Australian Funeral Directors Association*

CARTER — A service to celebrate the life of Mr Noel James Carter will be held in St Joseph's Church, 7 Macfarland Street, Barooga, commencing at 12 noon on Friday, February 22, 2019. Followed by a private cremation.

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QUALITY PHOTOS

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St. Joseph's Primary School Numurkah



Term 2 2019

Classroom Teacher position

Maternity Leave

We seek an enthusiastic educator who would like to join our committed school team. Our position begins at the start of Term 2 and is for the remainder of the year with the possibility of continuation.

The successful applicant will need to demonstrate:

- A passion for Catholic Education
- A willingness to be an effective team teacher in an open plan environment
- A commitment to quality teaching and learning practice

The successful applicant will have at least these basic requirements

- A Victorian Institute of Teaching Registration
- Accreditation to teach Religious Education in a Catholic School or willingness to gain this:

Interested persons can contact the Principal to discuss the position in greater detail or send a written application including experience and the names of at least two referees to

Mr. Paul Arnel - Principal
St. Joseph's Primary School
16 Tocumwal Rd.
Numurkah 3636
Phone: (03) 5862 1804
parnel@sjnumurkah.catholic.edu.au

Closing Date for Applications - Friday, March 8, 2019

This person must be committed to the safety, wellbeing and protection of all children in our care

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SITUATIONS VACANT

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If you are a Psychologist, Mental Health Nurse, Social Worker or Occupational Therapist suitably qualified in mental health then please visit our website for further details -

www.ndhs.org.au



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To apply

Email applications & cover letter to:

recruitment@mawsons.com.au

(Please state job reference: NC004 on your application)

Applications close: Friday 1st March, 2019

SITUATIONS VACANT

SITUATIONS VACANT

Numurkah DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICE

Numurkah District Health Service has the following vacancy:

Quality and Projects Administration Officer

To apply visit our website
www.ndhs.org.au
for details



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Economic Development Support Officer

Location: Cobram, Victoria

Salary: \$63,764.67 per annum + 9.5%
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For further information about the above positions, please visit the employment section of Council's website www.moira.vic.gov.au. Please note applicants who do not meet the key selection criteria will not be considered

Moira Shire Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer offering flexible work arrangements for employees in a family-friendly work place.

Moira promotes a workplace that actively seeks to include, welcome and value the contributions of all people and encourages people with a disability, Aboriginal Australians, young people and people from culturally diverse backgrounds to apply.

TROPHIES & ENGRAVING NUMURKAH LEADER

Summer SPORT scoreboard

Continued from page 13

1ST INNINGS - NATHALIA

A Zammit not out.....24

J Hardy b AT Bouchier1

P Carroll not out.....15

Extras (nb 2, w 6, b 3, lb 1).....12

Total.....1/52

Overs 16.4

FOW: 13 (J Hardy)

Bowling: D Chandler 6.0 2 0 20; AT Bouchier 5.0

0 1 6; C Roberts 5.0 1 0 18; R Meloury 1.0 0 0 4.

COBRAM 1st KATUNGA

Toss won by Katunga, batted first

1ST INNINGS - KATUNGA

J Rankin c D Anastasio b D Edwards Jr.....9

JT Baker c J Atkin b W Sullivan13

J MacFadyen c PR Silva b D Edwards Jr.....16

D Henderson c D Edwards Jr b W Sullivan.....12

A Cook c J Atkin b B Eddy60

M Doyle c D Anastasio b B Seccull8

W Newman c D Edwards Jr b B Eddy0

T Miles c M Bourke b B Seccull9

T Harris b B Eddy.....9

S McAllister not out2

DC Baker not out.....1

Extras (nb 4, w 11, b 7, lb 5).....27

Total.....9/166 (cc)

Overs 40.0

FOW: 25 (J Rankin) 50 (J Macfayden) 51 (TJ Baker)

104 (D Henderson) 124 (M Doyle) 133 (W New-

man) 142 (A Cook) 158 (T Miles) 164 (T Harris)

Bowling: PR Silva 8.0 1 0 17; D Edwards Jr 6.0 0 2

30; W Sullivan 8.0 0 2 38; M Bourke 6.0 0 0 29; B Seccull 6.0 1 2 20; B Eddy 6.0 0 3 20.

F1ST INNINGS - COBRAM

B Eddy b T Miles.....6

BJ Gallagher b W Newman15

D Harris c T Miles b TJ Baker6

B Seccull c T Miles b S McAllister22

W Sullivan b T Miles13

M Bourke c J Macfayden b A Cook1

J Atkin c J Macfayden b S McAllister12

PR Silva c W Newman b S McAllister1

D Edwards Jr c J Rankin b T Harris13

D Anastasio c W Newman b DC Baker6

JW Peace not out15

Extras (nb 4, w 11, b 9, lb 0)24

Total133

Overs 37.2

FOW: 6 (B Eddy) 28 (BJ Gallagher) 48 (D Harris)

72 (W Sullivan) 75 (M Bourke) 79 (B Seccull) 82

(PR Silva) 109 (J Atkin) 109 (D Edwards Jr) 133 (D

Anastasio)

Bowling: T Miles 7.0 1 2 22; DC Baker 5.0 0 1 20;

TJ Baker 4.0 0 1 16; W Newman 3.0 0 1 12; T Har-

ris 4.0 0 1 25; A Cook 8.0 0 1 19; S McAllister 8.0

2 3 10.

LADDER P W L D PTS %

Katunga 13 10 2 1 63 1.57

Finley 13 10 2 1 63 1.55

Nathalia 13 6 5 2 42 0.96

Cob-Ywh 12 4 7 1 39 0.64

Deni Rhinos 13 4 7 2 30 1.06

Berrigan 13 4 8 1 27 0.69

Cobram 13 3 8 2 24 0.82

Tocumwal 13 2 9 2 18 0.56

Murray Bowls

FRIDAY PENNANT

Division one

Numurkah 14/71 d Finley 2/65; Tocumwal Golf 16/75

d Barooga Sports 0/56; Finley RSC 0/49 It Numurkah

Golf 16/74; Nathalia 0/45 It Cobram 16/110.

Ladder - Cobram 178 +333; Numurkah Golf 161

+149; Tocumwal Golf 141 +21; Barooga Sports 114

+79; Finley 85 -44; Numurkah 77 -180; Finley RSC

76 -135; Nathalia 64 -223.

Division two

Cobram 14/83 d Barooga Sports 2/68; Numurkah

14/68 d Tocumwal Golf 2/61; Berrigan 0/56 It Nu-

murkah Golf 16/74.

Ladder - Picola 144 +153; Cobram 136 +104; Baro-

oga Sports 120 +95; Tocumwal Golf 116 +31; Numur-

kah Golf 113 +3; Berrigan 77 -58; Numurkah 76 -117.

SATURDAY PENNANT

Division one

Cobram 16/100 d Numurkah Golf 2/99; Strath-

merton 18/114 d Katandra West 0/86; Finley RSC

2/68 It Barooga Sports 16/122; Numurkah 1/74 It

Wunghnu 17/112.

Ladder - Wunghnu 185 +242; Barooga Sports

184 +75; Strathmerton 158 +54; Cobram 129 -3;

Numurkah Golf 118 -28; Numurkah 94 -153; Finley

RSC 91 -209; Katandra West 49 -234.

Division two

Barooga Sports 14/92 d Tocumwal Golf 4/91;

Nathalia 16/94 d Numurkah 2/90; Berrigan 2/78 It

Finley 16/106; Picola 2/80 It Cobram 16/90.

Ladder - Tocumwal Golf 188; Cobram 167; Baro-

oga Sports 144; Finley 136; Picola 124; Berrigan 95

Nathalia 85; Numurkah 69.

Division three

Cobram 16/95 d Fin



Summer SPORT scoreboard

Cricket

CRICKET SHEPPARTON

Two day game - Days one and two

A GRADE

NUMURKAH def SHEPP UNITED

Toss won by Numurkah, batted first

1ST INNINGS - NUMURKAH

D Grandell lbw b D Vidler.....	12
J Smith b R Bari.....	11
W Arnel run out.....	39
SE Downie c D Vidler b M Jarrett.....	24
M Eckard c M Barclay b R Bari.....	1
L Gledhill run out.....	36
K Jackson lbw b R Bari.....	1
T Arnel c H Conway b R Bari.....	6
T Braybon c S Kershaw b M Jarrett.....	0
M Grandell c & b M Jarrett.....	5
M Cline not out.....	0
Extras (nb 0, w 0, b 6, lb 0).....	6
Total.....	141

Overs 76.1

FOW: 16 (D Grandell) 28 (J Smith) 79 (SE Downie) 80 (M Eckard) 107 (W Arnel) 141 (L Gledhill)

Bowling: S Nash 9.0 4 10; HC Tonks 7.0 2 0 26; R Bari 32.0 12 4 40; D Vidler 8.0 5 1 6; M Jarrett 19.1 3 49; S Kershaw 1.0 0 0 4.

1ST INNINGS - SHEPPARTON UNITED

R Bari c M Cline b SE Downie.....	18
D Vidler b T Arnel.....	5
S Kershaw b L Gledhill.....	17
M Jarrett lbw b L Gledhill.....	14
T Gillin c T Braybon b L Gledhill.....	0
M Barclay lbw b SE Downie.....	0
H Conway b L Gledhill.....	6
C Rendina b D Grandell.....	19
HC Tonks lbw b L Gledhill.....	0
R Menhenett b SE Downie.....	0
S Nash not out.....	3
Extras (nb 0, w 0, b 0, lb 2).....	4
Total.....	86

Overs 39.4

FOW: 21 (D Vidler) 32 (R Bari) 53 (T Gillin) 53 (S Kershaw) 57 (M Jarrett) 59 (M Barclay) 63 (H Conway) 64 (R Menhenett) 71 (HC Tonks) 86 (C Rendina)

Bowling: T Arnel 6.0 2 1 19; M Cline 6.0 2 0 12; SE Downie 14.0 8 3 8; M Eckard 4.0 2 0 14; L Gledhill 9.4 2 6 31.

2ND INNINGS - NUMURKAH

D Grandell lbw b S Kershaw.....	13
J Smith c S Nash.....	7
M Eckard b HC Tonks.....	20
T Braybon c R Menhenett b M Jarrett.....	6
K Jackson c C Rendina b HC Tonks.....	3
M Cline not out.....	1
Extras (nb 0, w 0, b 0, lb 0).....	0
Total.....	5/50

Overs 16.1

Bowling: HC Tonks 4.1 1 2 7; R Bari 1.0 0 0 4; S Kershaw 4.0 0 2 25; M Barclay 4.0 1 0 10; M Jarrett 3.0 1 14.

NORTHERNERS It KATANDRA

Toss won by Katandra, batted first

1ST INNINGS - KATANDRA

B Clurey run out (Z Newbound).....	41
LD Nolan c T Sidebottom b T Sidebottom.....	13
S Richardson c Z Newbound b J Brett.....	52
A Riordan c J Sidebottom b G Hutchins.....	30
JM Wright c G Davidson b J Sidebottom.....	24
NJ Hickey c B Austin b G Hutchins.....	12
RJ Ireland b J Brett.....	14
M Black run out (G Davidson).....	4
H Sirett not out.....	31
C Hickford st T Sidebottom b G Hutchins.....	6
RW Shannon c J Sidebottom b G Hutchins.....	6
Extras (nb 1, w 0, b 0, lb 10).....	11
Total.....	244

Overs 79.4

FOW: 54 (LD Nolan) 54 (B Clurey) 103 (A Riordan) 133 (JM Wright) 173 (S Richardson) 177 (NJ Hickey) 187 (M Black) 204 (RJ Ireland) 211 (C Hickford) 244 (RW Shannon)

Bowling: J Sidebottom 11.0 2 1 35; Z Newbound 8.0 1 0 28; T Sidebottom 12.0 6 1 17; J Brett 19.0 2 2 57; G Hutchins 23.4 4 4 75; M Brett 6.0 0 0 22.

1ST INNINGS - NORTHERNERS

B Pedretti c H Sirett b RW Shannon.....	8
A Boyington c RJ Ireland b S Richardson.....	21
J Brett c RW Shannon b C Hickford.....	15
M Brett not out.....	106
T Sidebottom b A Riordan.....	0
T Herbert b JM Wright.....	0
G Davidson lbw b A Riordan.....	34
B Austin run out (M Black).....	13
Z Newbound run out (A Riordan).....	0
G Hutchins not out.....	11
Extras (nb 1, w 0, b 4, lb 10).....	15
Total.....	8/223 (cc)

Overs 80.0

FOW: 29 (B Pedretti) 30 (A Boyington) 58 (J Brett) 59 (T Sidebottom) 64 (T Herbert) 134 (G Davidson) 175 (Z Newbound) 175 (B Austin)

Bowling: C Hickford 19.0 9 1 31; H Sirett 8.0 2 0 17; RW Shannon 12.0 3 1 36; S Richardson 17.0 2 1 58; A Riordan 14.0 5 2 36; JM Wright 10.0 3 1 31.

WAAIA It CENTRAL PARK/ST BRENDANS

Toss won by Central Park/St Brendans, bowled first

1ST INNINGS - WAAIA BOMBERS

J Cleeland c J McCarten b E Baxter.....	8
SC Carey c BA Scott b E Baxter.....	5
M Meyland lbw b E Baxter.....	7
G Meyland c J McCarten b E Baxter.....	15
MJ Cleeland c J McCarten b AM Lloyd.....	46
BG Carey lbw b RR Yze.....	7
C Brown b AM Lloyd.....	0
J Trower c A Cowen b RR Yze.....	0
R Knight c AM Lloyd b BA Scott.....	7
S Trower lbw b E Baxter.....	7
C Walpole not out.....	0

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

Total.....

Overs 54.4

FOW: 13 (SC Carey) 15 (J Cleeland) 30 (M Meyland) 44 (G Meyland) 85 (BG Carey) 88 (C Brown)

93 (J Trower) 93 (MJ Cleeland) 110 (S Trower) 111 (R Knight)

Bowling: AM Lloyd 9.0 4 2 6; RR Yze 15.0 6 2 20; E

Baxter 16.0 6 5 31; AD Lloyd 4.0 0 0 16; BA Scott

7.4 3 1 18; R Lau 3.0 1 0 16.

1ST INNINGS - CENTRAL PARK/ST BRENDANS

A Cowen b J Cleeland.....

53

BA Scott c SC Carey b J Trower.....

12

X Chalkley c & b J Cleeland.....

34

R Lau c M Meyland b J Cleeland.....

4

J McCarten run out.....

8

C Holland c MJ Cleeland b J Cleeland.....

17

RR Yze c & b J Cleeland.....

24

C Hayes st SC Carey b J Cleeland.....

5

E Baxter not out.....

8

AD Lloyd st SC Carey b J Cleeland.....

11

AM Lloyd not out.....

5

Extras (nb 2, w 0, b 9, lb 1).....

12

Total.....

9/193 (dec)

Overs 49.0

FOW: 16 (BA Scott) 107 (A Cowen) 111 (R Lau) 119

(J McCarten) 120 (X Chalkley) 154 (RR Yze) 169 (C Hayes) 169 (C Holland) 187 (AD Lloyd)

Bowling: MJ Cleeland 6.0 2 0 9; J Trower 6.0 3 1

11; C Walpole 4.0 1 0 18; C Brown 4.0 0 0 27; J

Cleeland 1.0 1 0 0; G Meyland 1.0 0 0 3.

2ND INNINGS - WAAIA BOMBERS

J Cleeland c BA Scott b RR Yze.....

5

SC Carey run out (BA Scott).....

0

G Meyland c X Chalkley b E Baxter.....

13

BG Carey c X Chalkley b E Baxter.....

18

MJ Cleeland c AD Lloyd b RR Yze.....

21

C Brown c AD Lloyd b BA Scott.....

7

J Trower c RR Yze b C Hayes.....

12

R Knight lbw b C Hayes.....

0

M Meyland c X Chalkley b C Hayes.....

6

C Walpole not out.....

0

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

6

Total.....

93

Overs 37.2

Bowling: E Baxter 10.0 2 2 27; RR Yze 12.0 2 2 31;

AM Lloyd 7.0 2 1 14; BA Scott 6.0 2 1 9; C Holland



Swooping Magpies ... Gary Roulston sends down his bowl under the watchful eyes of his Wunghnu opponents, Jim Brown, Todd Davies and Nick Davies.

Towners avoid Friday relegation

NUMURKAH Bowls Club's Friday division one side avoided relegation with a six shot win over Finley on Saturday.

The Towners needed a win to avoid relegation, and the players responded, with two rinks winning, for an overall 14/71 to 2/65 victory.

Pam Smith (s), Don Staggard, Steve Wyatt and Lillian Nightingale won comfortably, 31-17, and Ann Dealy (s), Peter Dealy, Geoff Shaw and Evelyn Reid finished six shots up.

Not to be outdone by their fellow members, the division two players also had a great win, defeating fourth-placed Tocumwal Golf by seven shots, 14/68 to 2/61.

Sue Shaw (s), Hugh Henderson, Kerry Wellman and Joan Watts had a very good win, 25-12, and Sharni Davie (s), Noel Sutton, Judy Henderson and Di Welsh claimed a two-shot victory to give them the Telegraph Hotel best winning rink award for the round.

New skipper Robyn Gilmour, Bill Seymour, Liz Rees and Lyn Cline were far from disgraced in their nine shot loss, after being just three shots down with two ends to go.

The Saturday pennant story was a complete opposite of the day before's, with none of the three sides able to finish on the positive side of the score sheet.

At Numurkah, division one faced top placed

Wunghnu, which won comfortably by 38 shots.

Don Staggard (s), Phil Perkins, division one debutante Sharni Davie and Gary Roulston were the best for Numurkah, gaining a 22-all draw against the strong Barry Cosgrove rink.

The division two side needed to win at Nathalia, but fell short by four shots.

Sieg Seiter (s), Bill Seymour, Neil Stuart and Noel Boschetti did their part with a 28-21 win, but could not cover the other three rinks, which lost by three, four and four shots, respectively.

Division three went North to Jerilderie and, although not winning on any rinks, would be reasonably happy with their performance against the ladder leader, going down by 21 shots.

Neil Walker (s), Howard Lowe, first gamer Kimba Verkade and John Fleming lost 18-21, and Pam Smith (s), Ian Furness, Ken Moffatt and Noel Sutton went down by six shots.

It has been a tough year for the club on the greens, with the unavailability of players causing headaches for the selectors, particularly in Saturday pennant, but the great spirit that exists within the club stayed strong.

To wrap up the season, a function was held at the clubrooms on Saturday evening. The Telegraph Hotel weekly award was shared by 47 players across the club's five teams this season.



Snappy Dogs ... Warren Ryan sends down a bowl during Strathmerton's battle with Katandra on Saturday.

Bulldogs end season on high

BOTH Strathmerton's division one and four teams played at home against Katandra on Saturday in the final round of the 2018-19 home and away season of Murray Bowls, and it proved a successful day for the club, with both teams tasting victory.

The joint scheduling by Murray Bowls Division was appreciated by bowlers from both these small clubs, and with the greens running truly, conditions were ideal for bowls.

Having secured a final spot the previous weekend, Strathmerton One went into its contest wanting to maintain the momentum and come away with another win, while Katandra was keen to secure its first win of the season after splitting the points with Cobram the previous weekend. Hence the division one match was an important game for both teams.

Despite Katandra jumping out to an early lead, Strathmerton was able to bowl its way back into the match and held a 10-shot advantage at the break. While the margin ebbed and flowed through the latter part of the day, the Bulldogs were able to pull away late and record a 28-shot victory with all rinks up.

Trevor Lowe, Peter Young, Gary Murnane and Wayne Lowson flew out of the blocks and held a solid early lead over Kevin Minogue's rink and, while leading from start to finish, the margin at game's end had been reduced slightly to 10 shots, recording a 27-17 victory.

Gordon Ryan, Len Vann, Greg Sutton and Ross Kirkham were down early but worked their way back into the game to lead by five at smoko. Not to be outdone, Rick Anderson and his team skipped out to a nine shot lead after

the break, however the Strathmerton boys were able to draw level on the 24th end and go onto record a two shot win, 29-27.

Kevin "Junior" Dunn, Warren Ryan, Richard Buck and Ken Moore had a real battle all day with Merv Hannaford's quartet. It wasn't until the eighth end that Dunn was able to draw level and, after a tight even tussle for much of the game, the Bulldogs were able to run away at the finish to record a solid 14 shot win 33-19.

Mick "Pub" Ryan, Steve Koopman, Richard Palczak and Matt Graham were under pressure early, slumping to a 13-shot deficit against Damian Williams, but were able to slowly inch their way back into the game and come away with a great two shot victory when the dust had settled. This come from behind 25-23 victory secured Strathmerton all 18 points on offer.

Strathmerton's division four team also won the day over a determined Katandra outfit, which had to win to give itself any chance of finals action next weekend.

While the rinks were split, the home side found itself five shots up after the 42nd end.

Michael Day, Peter Philippe, Shaun Padman and Lyn Brook battled all day against Fiona Rourke's rink, with the 15-20 score line seeing them down by five shots at game's end.

John Jasper, Wayne McGregor, Peter Truman and Liz Tuson were too strong in their match, securing an important 10 shot victory over Rob Valentine's rink, 22-12.

With finals under way this coming weekend, and both Strathmerton teams involved, there will be a real sense of anticipation for all at the club this week.

Narrow loss ends Golf's pennant season

by "Davo"

A ONE shot loss to Cobram in round 14 of the Murray Bowls division one pennant competition saw Numurkah Golf slip from fourth to fifth on the ladder, thus ending its season earlier than expected.

Barooga Sports, Wunghnu, Strathmerton and Cobram will contest the 2018-19 finals series, with the semi-finals being played at Finley RSC this Saturday.

Barooga finished second on the ladder with a 54 shot victory over Finley RSC on Saturday. It was Barooga's ninth win on the trot and the reigning premier looks primed to go back to back.

Wunghnu secured the top spot with a solid 38 shot win over Numurkah. Targeting their third premiership in four years, the Magpies will need to bring their A game against Barooga Sports in the second semi-final this weekend.

Wunghnu scored a 10 shot victory over Barooga in round four of the home and away season, but Barooga returned the favour with an 11 shot win in round 11.

Strathmerton secured third place with a 28 shot win over Katandra West. Last season's division two pre-

mier has performed extremely well after being promoted to division one. The Bulldogs enjoyed wins over fellow finalists Barooga, Wunghnu and Cobram during the regular season, proving that they are a genuine chance to win the pennant this year.

Cobram may have only scraped into the final four with its win over Numurkah Golf but, having been the yardstick of the competition for a number of years without winning a premiership, cannot be underestimated. If the Tigers have their full complement of players on the green, they'll be hard to beat.

After losing a number of players in the off season, a lack of depth looks to have hindered Numurkah Golf's campaign for a finals berth. The club will be looking to strengthen its side prior to the 2019-20 season. The signing of proven skip Gary Downie should pay dividends, and Golf will be proactive in trying to attract a few others.

Numurkah Town, whilst competitive this season, will also be looking to strengthen its player list over the coming months. With a number of promising bowlers coming through the ranks, Numurkah will be targeting more wins in 2019-20, and

hopefully a finals appearance.

Finley RSC was competitive early in the season but fell away after the Christmas break to finish seventh on the ladder. Like Numurkah Golf, Finley RSC lost a good number of players in the off-season and will be happy to have avoided relegation.

Katandra West will be relegated to division two after finishing on the bottom of the ladder. The Kats will be aiming to win another division two premiership next season and have another crack at division one come 2020-21.

Barooga's Ray Emerson finished the season on top of the skippers' table with 11 wins from 13 starts, closely followed by Wunghnu's Barry Cosgrove with 10 wins and a draw. Strathmerton's Trevor Loe finished third with 10 wins, whilst other notables in the top 10 were Wunghnu's Trevor Hosie (seventh) and Andrew Henderson (eighth).

Finley RSC will host the division one semi finals, Numurkah will host division two, whilst Berrigan will play host for divisions three and four.

Davo's tips: Second semi-final: Wunghnu. First semi-final: Strathmerton.

Wunghnu primed for finals

WUNGHNU'S division one and division three teams will both undertake finals campaigns after recording comfortable wins in the final round of the home and away season. The division one side defeated Numurkah by 38 shots, whilst the division three side crushed Numurkah Golf by 41 shots.

The top side travelled to Numurkah on Saturday to play on the fast and true train green, and came away with three rink wins and one draw.

Russell Smith (s), Doug Larkin, Darryl O'Connor and Leo Shannon made up the best performed rink, scoring a resounding 34-18 win over Paul Rees' rink, whilst Trevor Hosie (s), John McKenzie, Graeme King and Alan Jones scored a comfortable 27-15 victory over Alan Rogers' quartet.

Andrew Henderson (s), Peter Revell, Wendy Coles and Lynton Stephens also performed well, defeating Terry Brennan's foursome 29-19, while Barry Cosgrove (s), Nick Davies, Todd Davies and Jim Brown fought back from an eight shot deficit to draw with Don Staggard's rink 22-22.

The win sees Wunghnu finish in first place on the ladder, setting up a second semi-final clash with Barooga Sports this

Saturday. With a grand final berth up for grabs, the Magpies will need to be on their game against the reigning premier.

The division three side travelled to Numurkah Golf looking to score a solid win heading into its first finals campaign in recent memory. The team did not disappoint, winning on all rinks to set up a first semi-final clash with Barooga Sports.

Ivan Newby (s), Ian Gray, Mark Shelton and Rob "Robbo" Robison had a day to remember, scoring a 43-11 victory over David Miller's quartet.

Rob Rodda (s), Peter Graham, David Dixon and Paul Richardson scored a 23-19 win over Gavin Parkinson's rink, whilst Russell Burkitt (s), Jack Rigan, Damian Hommes and Elisa Rigan were too good for Alan Newby's quartet, winning 23-18.

With a number of players, including Rob Robison, Ian "Boots" Gray, Rob Rodda and Ivan Newby in good form, the selectors will have plenty to think about when deciding the make-up of the two sides on Thursday night.

Both sides are on the road this Saturday, with Finley RSC hosting the division one semi-finals, whilst Berrigan will host the division three semi-finals.

Julie dominates golf week

by "The Shankster"

AFTER joining with her sister to win a two person ambrose event at Tocumwal a couple of weekends ago, Julie Daniel kept up the good form she has shown so far this year to win last Wednesday's stableford event at Numurkah Golf Club, with a nice, even round of 36 points, and then followed up with a win in a two person ambrose event on Saturday.

Numurkah players dominated the two-day event at Tocumwal, winning both the handicap and scratch events. Julie and Sharon Cruickshank won the handicap trophy, while Tracey Clouston and Pauline Davies took out the scratch event.

Pauline proved on Wednesday that Tracey didn't carry her around the Tocumwal course, coming in with 35 points on her own, to finish second. Despite a slow start, Pauline came home with a wet sail to score 21 points around the back nine, relegating Sue Plattfuss to third place, courtesy of the countback system.

Sandy Trimble was next with 34 points, followed by Lorraine Craig on 33 and Liz Dell with 32.

Pauline and Tracey shared the nearest the pin balls, Pauline with the best shot to the seventh, and Tracey to the 18th.

On Saturday, Julie and Margot McGrath put together a terrific score of 63.5 nett to easily take out the day's ambrose event.

The (not so serious) slogging in their group must have spurred on

all four players, as Julie Hannaford and Jeanette Adams also fired up, to finish second with 68 nett. Or did Julie and Margot just sledge the better?

Tracey Clouston and Pauline Davies finished in third place with 69.3, well clear of the last two ball getters, Helen Schmedje and Lorraine Craig on 73.3, and Nola Dalton and Bev Hutchins with 73.8.

Only one of four nearest the pins went off on Saturday, the best shot on the seventh going to the woman of the moment, Julie Daniel.

Bev Hutchins couldn't manage to put together a full round on Wednesday, but finished well, and then continued her good form to again win division one in last Thursday's nine hole event with a nett score of 36.5. Nola Dalton was runner-up, with 38.5, and also won nearest the pin on the 18th hole.

Before the two afternoon groups hit off, there was not one score below 40 nett from the morning players, who seem to get the worst of the conditions after overnight watering.

Jan Stevens made a welcome return to golf, and went home grinning like a Cheshire cat, winning division two with 40 nett, finishing just ahead of perennial winner, Helen Pickersgill.

Helen still leads the season points trophy, but Bev is slowly closing the gap, now trailing by just two points. Nola Dalton is a further three points behind, giving any of these three a chance of taking the major prize with seven more rounds still to be played.

Lauris Ashton is the next closest, some 13 points behind the leader.



Winner, winner ... Julie Daniel (right) has been in terrific form this year, and won Saturday's ambrose event with Margot McGrath as her partner.

Lauris Ashton is the next closest, some 13 points behind the leader.

Today, golf will be a stroke

round, just for something a bit different, while Saturday and next Wednesday will be stableford.

So near and yet so far

NUMURKAH Golf's division one bowls team fell out of the finals four at the last possible moment on Saturday.

Needing a win over Cobram to secure fourth place, the Golfers were holding game with one bowl left to play in the match. That bowl, delivered by Cobram skipper Steve Tatnall, cannoned into a short bowl, which rolled forward, tilted agonisingly and then fell in for shot, ensuring the Tigers replaced the Golfers in the final four.

Brian "Chops" Stanger, Geoff Sutcliffe, Sid Roughsedge and Lidija Patching did all they could to drag Golf home, winning 42-20 over Ron Dougherty's rink.

Steve Piggott, Dave Hester, Ian Hocking and Brian Gentle had a very tight battle against Ray Parks' rink, leading by as many as nine shots early in the game, being level with two ends to go, but losing the last two ends for an 18-20 loss.

Gary Downie, Des Staggard, Jack Dell and Neil "Nipper" Macklin started poorly and trailed Steve Tatnall's rink by 15 shots after 16 ends. They fought back to draw within three shots with one end to play, but were denied by Tatnall's final bowl to go down 24-28.

Mark Jones, Joe Luci, Frank Houlihan and Steve Patching had their work cut against Greg Dunn's rink. A four end spell just before the break saw the Golfers lose 14 shots, from which they never recovered, going down 15-32.

The overall points score of 16-2 flattered Cobram, with the one shot difference a fairer summation of the match.

While Golf will be disappointed in the manner of the end of their season, it has been much better than was predicted, having lost six players to other clubs after the 2017-18 season. Many thought the club would be fighting relegation, rather than being a finals' contender.

Division three ended its season with a comprehensive 41 shot loss to premiership contender, Wungnunu.

Most of the damage was done on one rink, with David "Wiggy" Miller, John Carr, Adam Bugeya and Bayden Parkinson having a tough day against Ivan Newby's rink, losing 11-43.

Gavin Parkinson, Pete Madill, Col Hicks and Yvonne Clark went closest to victory, going down 19-23 to Rob Rodda's rink, while Allan Newby, John Pickersgill, Alf Harrison and Tony Morris lost 18-23 to Russell Burkitt's rink.

The 0/48 to 16/89 loss didn't affect the Golfers' ladder position and they will contest division three again next season, with a lot more experience under their belts.

The 100 up club event commenced on Sunday with some excellent bowls and tight games.

The club's youngest player, by 30 plus years, Bayden Parkinson, had his first win in a club event, downing Tony Morris in the first round. Unfortunately for Bayden, he ran into a red-hot Steve Piggott in round two, but acquitted himself well, despite a defeat.

Lidija Patching overcame her husband Steven earlier in the year in a nail-baiter decided on the last end when both players passed the 100 mark, but Lidija finished with the higher total.

She played Gavin Parkinson in the second round, after Gavin had beaten Jack Dell on the last end, when both could have passed 100.

In yet another match which went down to the wire, Lidija again prevailed.

Ian Hocking and Dave Hester also had a very tight game, with Ian taking the win, while Des Staggard had the better of John Pickersgill.

Lidija will meet Ian in one semi-final, with Steve to play the winner of the second round match to be played between Des and Frank Houlihan.

The 21 up final will be played between Jack Dell and Steve Piggott today (Wednesday) at 3.30pm.

Brothers-in-law gel like family

by "She Wolf"

GARRY Hosie's brother-in-law came to visit on the weekend, and joined his host in a two person ambrose event at Numurkah Golf Club on Saturday.

The pair went on to record a terrific nett score of 59.5 to win the day by nearly three shots.

Garry said Michael (Shannon) putted so well, that he himself

only needed to have six putts for the day.

A golf package from Garfield in the cabins for the weekend, padded out the field a bit, and filled several of the placings, including Glenn Wells and Angus McKillop, who took second place with 62.3 nett.

Bill Padgett and Matt Ebborn finished third with 63.5, followed

by visitors Paul Kaye and Ken Petford, 63, Ray Falla and Kevin Sutcliffe, 64.5, Carl Bilgert and Dan Kelly, 64.5, John Smith and Mark Hegarty with 64, and the last of the balls went to Bob I'Anson and Brandan Hosie, who was not to be completely outdone by his father and uncle.

Ian Hopper won nearest the pin on the fourth hole, Michael Shan-

non took out the seventh, and Gary Blackburn won the ball on the 18th.

The men were all little angels this week, not wanting to tell stories on the playing partners, so the Mickey Mouse ears were left sitting on the table.

Golf this Saturday will be a stableford round.

Matt returns to form

by "Rufus T. Firefly"

MATT Ebborn had a welcome return to form in last Thursday's midweek stableford competition at Numurkah Golf Club.

Scoring 38 points off a handicap of 13, Matt returned to the level that he exhibited for much of last year. For his endeavours Matt was rewarded with a dozen Titleist Pro V1 golf balls in his favourite colour of high visibility yellow.

Rob Sutton also had a return of

sorts, scoring 37 points Rob.

In the 36 strong field, scores overall were solid, without being outstanding. Players whose totals earned them a club ball were: Steve Piggott 37, Ron Smith and John Smith 36, Barry Pruden, Col Stone and Sam Robertson all 35, Hugh Gunn, Allan Newby, Dennis Prosser and Kerry Collins 34, Alf Patman and Jack Hepworth 33, Les Summerville 32.

Mike Duffett 'won' the tin of

boiled lollies for coming last with a bare 19 points. Sick of coming in near the tail of the field every second week, at the conclusion of his round Mike booked two lessons with club pro Anthony Sanders. We will watch with interest.

Bruce Collins won the GMCU award for nearest the pin on the difficult fourth hole, Ron Smith took the players' sweep money on the seventh, and Neil Hutchins strung two clear shots together to win the 14th.

Nobody was able to hit the 15th, thus saving Graeme Sprunt a ball, and John Trimble picked up an agate from Pruden's Carpentry for his accuracy on the 18th.

The new watering system has been a boon for grass growth on the course. Fairways are expanding and the greens are lush and running true. Why not join us this Thursday? Assemble at 8.30am for a 9am hit off. Visitors and guests are most welcome.

Golfers heading to final

NUMURKAH Golf finished the home and away season with two good wins in Murray Bowls Division Friday pennant.

The division one side had a win on all three rinks on the very fast Finley RS greens, taking victory 14/71 to 2/65, which sees it finish in second place on the ladder.

Robyn Hodgkin's rink got away to a flyer and never looked back, winning 29-11.

Loris Houlihan and Jan Niven's

rinks had to battle hard all day but eventually won 21-19 and 24-19, respectively.

The division two side finished the season on a happy note and defeated Berrigan at Berrigan 74-56, but just missed out on the four by one point.

Marie Ryan had yet another win, 22-21, Joan Harrison won 28-17 and Helen Eddy won 24-18.

Jan Niven was the leading division one skipper in Murray Bowls

and Marie Ryan was runner-up on the division two skippers' ladder, however both bowlers insist it was a team effort.

The club's 100up semi final winners were Robyn Hodgkin and Jan Niven and these two were due to play off yesterday.

Last Tuesday's social bowls was won by Jeanette Adams, Maree Luci and Lorna Morris.

The division one semi finals will be played at Finley RS on Friday.

The Golfers will play Cobram. The team will be:

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

The bus will be leaving at 7.45am, and there are spare seats for anyone who wishes to go along and spur on the team. Please contact Jan Niven to save a seat.

Squash season on the go again

THE Numurkah Squash Club summer competition is up and running with new teams, new names and new faces.

Six teams of four players will play each other twice over 10 rounds before the finals in May.

The Cheetahs had a powerful win over the Lions, taking the points in all four matches, and have started the season on top.

Cheetahs' line one player Damien Hipwell started slowly, but fought out five games to take the honours over Lions' Dave Poort, 1-9, 9-1, 3-9, 9-6, 9-6.

Sarah Brooks also had a tough time against her sister Caitlyn, but proved stronger at the end to get another win on the board for the Cheetahs, 5-9, 9-1, 9-6, 4-9, 9-7.

In the other matches Eamon Storer beat Neroli Eddy 9-6, 9-1, 9-1 and Nick Pettigrove won on forfeit.

The Tigers won three of the four matches against the Panthers.

Geoff Eddy got the Tigers off to a strong start with a convincing three game win over Andrew Phillips, 9-0, 9-2, 9-3. The cobwebs and dust covering farmer Andrew's squash kit was an indicator of his Christmas training regime.

Bailey Brooks scored his first win against Breanna Inglis in a terrific five game match, 9-1, 4-9, 7-9, 9-4, 9-6.

A lot of the points were won on serve, with each

player having trouble digging the ball out of the back corner, but there were several great rallies and both players have improved since last season.

Jake McPherson won the third match for the Tigers, winning in four games against Dave Kelly, and the Leopards scored one win for a forfeited match.

On court three, the Panthers had a narrow one game win over the Jaguars.

Jaguar Gavin Banco went down to Sam McPherson in the line one match, 1-9, 5-9, 10-9, 8-10 but the one game he won pushed his team higher on the ladder.

Gav missed the last competition due to travel, and the lack of play showed a bit with the accuracy of some of his shots. He will be better for the run.

In the other matches Trent Lowrie won for the Panthers against Will Watkins, 9-4, 9-0, 9-7; Jaguars' Sam Gerveld and Leesa Inglis beat their opponents Kobi Hipwell and Michelle Beecher in three games.

Michelle is new to the club and, having played social squash previously, showed ability with a nice left hand action and will improve each week. She dug several balls out of the back corners and can get good power on her shots.

Ladder: Cheetahs 12 overall games won, Tigers 9, Jaguars 7, Panthers 6, Leopards 6, Lions 4.

So close, but 99

LINDSAY Braybon and Angus Hill both finished with scores of 99 points, only dropping one point each in the 50 metre prone event at Numurkah small bore competition last Thursday night.

Scores for the 50 metre prone match were: A. Hill 98.4 99.6 197.10, L. Braybon 99.6 95.4 194.10; B. Sneddon 97.4 95.5 192.9, T. Braybon 95.3 95.2 190.5; R. Hill 94.2 94.4 188.6, A. Lee 95.2 93.2 188.4; G. Braybon 94.3 93.2 187.5, G. Miles 90.2 91.3 181.5; A. Gibbon 89.0 91.3 190.3, S. Rosemeier 91.1

88.0 197.1; D. Cook 87.0 90.0 177.0, J. Cook 91.1 83.0 174.1; E. Lee 83.0 88.2 171.2, T. Lee 83.1 80.0 163.1; W. Willsher 62.0 55.0 117.0.

Scores for 20 metre prone: H. O'Brien 87.0 87.0 174.0, E. Ryan 47.0 58.0 105.0.

20 metre benchrest scores were: L. Cook 194.4, C. Saxton 193.4, D. Bradshaw 190.5.

50 metre benchrest scores were: J. Matys 194.3, J. Matys 187.5.

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

Croquet players enjoy cooler conditions

AFTER the extreme heat experienced locally in recent times, Numurkah croquet players appreciated last Tuesday's warm, sunny day and turned out in force for the local club's weekly social day.

David Geddes and Laurus Hinchcliffe won the day with three wins and 24 hoops, ahead of equal runners-up Kevin Hansen, Rhonda Geddes and Gordon Brown.

Boyd continues to make waves

TWO-TIME premiership Purple Tom Boyd has joined the Werribee Football Club in the VFL for the upcoming season.

Boyd adds his addition to the Werribee list to an already impressive footballing resume, which includes two flags with Nathalia, appearances for GWS in the NEAFL and 32 appearances for the Murray Bushrangers in three games.

Michelle is new to the club and, having played social

squash previously, showed ability with a nice left hand action and will improve each week. She dug several balls out of the back corners and can get good power on her shots.

Ladder: Cheetahs 12 overall games won, Tigers 9, Jaguars 7, Panthers 6, Leopards 6, Lions 4.

ers in the TAC Cup. The tall and agile footballer will hope to get his foot in the door with strong showings at the club's training sessions, and hopefully eventually cement a permanent spot in the Tigers' lineup in the VFL, but will head north of Melbourne to play for the Shepparton Bears when not picked for Werribee.

Eagles claim T20 honours

ANDREW Riordan's five-wicket haul has led Katandra to A grade T20 glory as the Eagles soared past Northerners in the "Love The Game" final held at Mooroopna Recreation Reserve on Thursday night.

Katandra earned its final spot with a comfortable win over Old Students, while Northerners overcame Kyabram in its semi final.

Katandra won the toss and elected to bat but got off to a poor start with opener Ben Clurey out leg-before for just six.

Jedd Wright was the next to fall for the Eagles, the number three managed just five before he was caught out, having only faced four deliveries.

With captain Luke Nolan still occupying the crease, the Eagles need just one partnership to set them on their way, that opportunity came as Hadleigh Sirett joined his captain in the middle.

The two pushed Katandra towards 60 be-

fore Sirett was out, and though the partnership wasn't worth a great deal of runs, the consolidation it offered was invaluable heading forward, even with Nolan going out for 32 to set the score at 4/68.

Over the next few overs, Andrew Riordan and Scott Richardson took over for Katandra, pushing their side to the 100-mark.

Despite losing Richardson for 14, Katandra pushed ahead to finish strong.

Riordan's 37 was invaluable in the context of the situation and the Eagles eventually finished their 20 overs 7/138.

Knowing that its score was legitimately obtainable, Katandra needed to strike early to set the pace during the chase, and that's exactly what Corey Hickford provided.

Hickford claimed his sole wicket for the innings with just six runs on the board and the momentum built from that scalp carried through for the rest of the game.

Northerners seemed to have gotten over the early hiccup, but when Scott Richardson found the second breakthrough, it all unraveled in Katandra's favour.

At 2/43, Jedd Wright made it three and opened the door for Andrew Riordan to dismantle what remained of Northerners' batting line up.

Over four overs, Riordan claimed 5/14 and, along with Wright's 2/8 from three, there was no way Katandra could lose.

Northerners lost 7/20 before Andrew Nicholls hammered the final nail in the Northerners' coffin with just his second delivery of his first over, officially signaling Katandra's victory.

Katandra's win avenges its T20 grand final loss last season and the Eagles will hope this winning mentality continues as the longer form of the game continues towards its culmination in the next few weeks.

Purples enjoy brilliant weekend of cricket

NATHALIA damned Tocumwal to a miserable nine wicket loss on Saturday, after it bowed the Bloods out for just 51 to register its sixth win of the season, moving into third on the division one ladder in the process. Dale James was the main man with the ball for the Purples, his remarkable return of 5/4 from eight overs detailed a spell that tormented Tocumwal through the 29.3 overs it faced on the day.

James claimed five of the first six wickets that fell, with Dean Limbrick's first of three wickets sandwiched amongst the chaos.

Tocumwal lost its first wicket with just one run on the board and eventually lost its sixth with just 13 posted. Though Tocumwal was able to link a couple of partnerships worth around 20 runs, it was far from enough to dig itself out of the cavern it found itself in.

Limbrick eventually put Tocumwal out of its misery with his second and third wickets to finish 3/15 from 6.3.

Nathalia lost just one wicket, Jamie Hardy for one, during its brief 16.4 overs long chase, with Adam Zammit and captain Phil Carroll surpassing the lowly total not out on 24 and 15 respectively.

The win sees Nathalia jump up into third spot on the division one ladder, three points ahead of fourth placed Cobram-Yarroweyah United, but sitting way back, 21 points behind the pack leaders, Katunga and Finley.

Nathalia will finish the regular season this week against Berrigan at the Berrigan Sportsground.

DIVISION TWO

Four wickets to Eugene Atkins and a fantastic all-around performance from Luke Buchanan has seen Nathalia account for Finley by six wickets in its division two clash at Finley Recreation Reserve on Saturday.

Nathalia grabbed the momentum early and refused to let go for the remainder of the innings, leading with Eugene Atkins claiming his first wicket with just six runs on the board.

Atkins followed that up with a second not long after, meaning Finley was beginning to labour on the ropes at 2/18.

Finley continued to lose wickets regularly, unable to dig its heels in and grind out a meaningful partnership in the face of a solid bowling attack that refused to relent, namely Atkins, who finished the innings with a 4/22 return from seven overs.

Finley's best moment with the bat came when, at 5/62, it managed to muster a 34-run partnership which helped it push toward triple-digits.

Matthew Lundberg put an end to the partnership and resume normalcy to the innings once more.

At 6/109, Luke Buchanan initiated his mission of cleaning up the tail and took his first of three wickets. The fall of wicket triggered one final 4/3 loss of wickets that culminated with Buchanan finishing on 3/14 from 6.5 overs.

Finley was all out for 112, having used just 27.5 overs in a dismaying display.

Though Nathalia lost early wickets in reply, opener Luke Buchanan set about ensuring his side would not finish the day with red-faces.

Buchanan's unbeaten half-century stood up amongst a number of sub-twenty run contributions from his teammates.

Eventually, the Purples surpassed the target and finished 4/115 from 33 overs.

Nathalia's final game of the regular season comes this Saturday at home against Katunga.

Though Nathalia has no chance of making the finals, it has an opportunity of potentially knocking Katunga out of contention depending on other results.

Rough start for CS and MVCA at country week

CRICKET Shepparton has suffered a concerning six-wicket loss at the hands of the Ballarat Cricket Association, while the Murray Valley Cricket Association fell by 166 runs in the first round of the 2019 Melbourne Country Week on Monday.

Ballarat won the toss and sent Shepparton in, and the decision to do so paid huge dividends, as opening bowler Matthew Ringin's opening spell devastated Shepparton's top order.

Ringin claimed four victims, including Numurkah's Dylan Grandell for a duck and Michael Eckard for 18, to see the batting side slump to 4/23 in the early stages of the contest.

Faced with an imposing task, Sam Kershaw and Michael Archer dug in and worked hard in an attempt to get their side back into the contest.

Kershaw was eventually out for 21 but Archer kept working hard towards a well-earned half century.

At 4/102, Cricket Shepparton experienced another lean patch that damaged its chances of posing an intimidating score to defend, and another four wickets in relatively quick succession saw the side reeling at 9/130.

Katandra's Corey Hickford gave the side a boost with late-innings run scoring and his 23 from 28 deliveries pushed the side's score to 166 before he was caught out with 45.5 overs bowled.

Having to defend a fairly modest score, Cricket Shepparton got off to the start it needed when Roman Walker snagged a wicket with just five runs on the board. Unfortunately for his side, though, there was not much

else to celebrate.

BCA opener Leigh Lorenzen and team captain Ryan Knowles combined for 75 runs before Knowles was caught for 36 off Brendan Scott's bowling.

At 2/80, the BCA was in control and Cricket Shepparton, though able to claim another scalp to make it 3/98, could only sit watch as Lorenzen and Harry Ganley took the game away. Michael Eckard managed to have Lorenzen trapped in front for 54, but with only seven runs needed for victory, it was simply a consolation wicket.

The BCA claimed victory at 4/167 with just 26.5 overs used and look strong ahead of the remainder of the week, while Cricket Shepparton will need to improve if it's to make an impact throughout the rest of the week.

While Cricket Shepparton's loss wasn't the best start to the week, the Murray Valley Cricket Association's was much worse.

The MVCA took on Wangaratta and District Cricket Association, with the former posting a huge 6/273 from 50 overs in the first innings.

Only Nathalia's Scott Morris was able to pick up multiple wickets, 3/38 from 10, during the close to 5.5 runs per over onslaught that fell upon the side.

Ash Quinn also featured, but was unable to get a wicket in his 10 overs worth 42 runs, but the disappointment wasn't over for his side.

The reply from the MVCA was an insufficient one.

Scott Morris was out for seven, and the fall of more wickets led to the

MVCA being in deep trouble at 4/39. When Ash Quinn was run out for eight, the side was 5/51 and the wickets continued to fall.

Only Wian Van Zyl and Adam De Cicco managed to creep into double-digits, scoring 28 and 27 respectively, as their side was crushed, all out for 107 from 38 overs.

Cricket Shepparton's following game took place on Tuesday against Latrobe Valley, while the MVCA needed to bounce back strongly against Goulburn Murray Cricket.

Today CS takes on Leongatha and District at E.E. Gunn Reserve, while the MVCA will take on Bendigo District Cricket Association at Windy Hill, in the final round of games before finals.

Waaia Bombers got bust

WAAIA'S horror debut season in Cricket Shepparton has soured even further, with a second outright loss in as many rounds, this time at the hands of a merciless Central Park-St Brendans, despite Jordan Cleeland picking up seven first innings wickets.

The Bombers' torrid weekend started after being sent in to bat by the visiting side.

Waaia lost Sean Carey for just five, while fellow opener Jordan Cleeland managed only eight before he was caught out.

At 2/15, things got progressively worse for the under-siege Bombers, losing the Meylands, Mark and Greg, cheaply to see their side slump to 4/44.

Mitch Cleeland was the only Bomber able to dig in and mount any form of attack, with his fighting 46 standing tall among a myriad of lowly scores and contributions.

Cleeland, though, was unable to find a partner able to stick with him, and Waaia finished all out for 111 from 54.4 overs.

Central Park-St Brendans' chase got off to a seemingly shaky start when Jesse Trower found a breakthrough with 16 runs on the board, but at least for a while, there wasn't much else for Waaia to celebrate.

Central Park-St Brendans finished the day's play 1/75, and as Sunday's play began, Waaia had nothing really to phone home about. That was, until Jordan Cleeland turned it on with the score at 1/107.

Cleeland claimed his first two victims in quick fashion, before a run out and another Cleeland scalp saw Central Park-St Brendans slump to 5/120.

Though the visitors were still well on top, Cleeland kept plugging away, eventually cashing in on further four wickets to see Central Park-St Brendans sit at 9/193 before a declaration after the 49th over end its in-



Struggle town ... Greg Meyland blocks the ball away during his side's big loss over the weekend.

nings.

Trailing by 82 runs, Waaia had an opportunity to cut its losses, consolidate and live to fight another day.

Central Park-St Brendans, though, wanted a big win.

Waaia got off to a calamitous start, losing Jordan Cleeland for five before Sean Carey was run out for a duck.

Greg Meyland was the third to fall before Waaia could reach 25, and at 3/21, the Bombers were staring down the barrel.

Braydon Carey and Mitch Cleeland managed to provide a semblance of stability to take their side past 50, but when Carey was caught for 18, it continued to unravel.

At 4/53, only Sam Trower was able to reach double-digits of the remaining batsmen, and despite being able to find the lead before the final wicket fell, it was cold comfort on a dark day for the Bombers.

Needing just 12 runs to achieve the outright victory, Central Park-St Brendans needed less than three overs to finish the day, and the game, 0/18.

With Waaia not having picked up any points since round seven, when its match against Nagambie was abandoned, the Bombers face the huge task of finishing their season away against reigning premier and first placed Katandra, starting this Saturday.

Bombers suffer second outright loss of the weekend

A LESS than desirable weekend of cricket for Waaia's two-day sides was compounded when, just like the A grade side, Waaia's B graders suffered a humbling outright defeat at the hands of Central Park-St Brendans.

The game, played over Saturday and Sunday, saw the Bombers win the toss and elect to bat, though that decision soon proved to fast track Waaia's demise.

Only a single Bomber managed to reach double figures as the batting lineup was blown out of the water.

Opener Aaron Hatch scored 19 and was seemingly the only batsman able to even come close to being able to deal with the rampant home side's bowling attack.

To put the innings in clearer perspective, Central Park-St Brendans did well to only concede five extras for the innings, but that five was equal to or greater than six scores from 11 batsmen used in the innings.

Waaia's final score was 60 all out, with just 33.4 overs used.

Though Central Park-St Brendans powered to an almost inevitable lead in reply, Waaia showed a decent amount of fight in the overs that remained on the first day.

Aaron Hatch did good work with the ball to snag 3/27 from 11 overs, while Danny Glover picked up 2/29 from 10.

The day's play concluded with the home side 5/177 from 43 overs, eventually declaring overnight.

Waaia had a chance to redeem itself in the second innings, as well as the chance to avoid a morale damaging outright loss.

Though the second innings turned out better for Waaia than the first, the positive differential was just three runs. Central Park-St Brendans bowler Charles Boyer ran amok on the second day, claiming 5/26 from just seven overs as Waaia found itself all out for just 63.

Waaia captain David Booth top scored with 26, while Hayden Hixon came second-best with 13, but other than that there were no other scores that stood out.

The Bombers lasted just 18.4 overs in the second innings, and without enough runs to warrant Central Park-St Brendans pad up once more.

Waaia will play its final B grade game of the season starting this Saturday against Katandra at Waaia Recreation Reserve.

E GRADE

Waaia's sole highlight of the weekend came from its one-day side, with the E grade Bombers helping the club avoid a clean sweep of defeats by Central Park-St Brendans on Saturday.

Waaia batted first and amassed a huge score on its way to a 107-run rout at Victory Park.

The Bombers won the toss and elected to bat, and though they lost the wicket of Sebastian Moore for zero, his opening partner Chris Revell and replacement Alan Schmedje did brilliantly to push Waaia ahead to a very healthy total.

The duo posted a partnership of 79-runs before Schmedje was ousted from the crease for 34.

At 2/92, Ben Daniel replaced the opener and made nine before he was run out, but Waaia didn't let the cheap loss cause too much of a strain, especially with Revell heading past his half-century and towards a memorable triple-digit bat raise with the score at 3/108.

Revell and Matt Daniel helped get their side to 3/155. Unfortunately, the final six runs were a bridge too far for Revell, and he was stumped for a fantastic 94.

Daniel was joined in the middle by Charlie Burrows and the pair continued the good work done throughout the innings up until that point, ensuring the Bombers went over the 200-run barrier.

Burrows made 39 before he was bowled, but at 5/212, Waaia was well in control.

Matt and David Daniel's partnership last just 10 runs before Matt was out for 22.

David and Dylan Cornick guided Waaia to 7/250 from 40 overs, Waaia was a strong favourite.

Central Park-St Brendans' chase started well, despite losing a wicket with just 20 runs on the board, and managed to push through to 1/72 before it began to really fall apart.

David Daniel took two quick wickets, relegating the home side to 3/87.

From there, wickets fell with alarming frequency, leading to Central Park-St Brendans all of a sudden being 7/117.

With more than 100 runs still needed to come close to victory, the result was always going to be tough to track down, and Central Park-St Brendans was eventually all out for 143.

The win sees the Bombers jump into third on the E grade ladder, leapfrogging Central Park-St Brendans in the process.

Waaia's second last game of the season comes against the pack-leading Northerners at Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve this Saturday.

Strenuous weekend for Eagles ends with double victory

KATANDRA withstood a spirited Northerners' captain's knock to extend its win streak to seven straight games and keep a four-point gap at the top of the A grade ladder, with a 21-run win over the weekend at Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve.

Northerners' captain Mitchell Brett scored 102 not out in reply to Katandra's big first innings total, but it wasn't enough as the Eagles ground out a win.

Winning the toss and electing to bat, Katandra got off to a dream start with openers Ben Clurey and Luke Nolan reaching 0/54 before the pair was out in quick succession for 41 and 13 respectively.

With the lightning bolt of shock waning off, Katandra's Scott Richardson and Andrew Riordan persevered to force Katandra through to 2/103.

Riordan eventually fell for a well-made 30, meaning that Richardson was joined in the middle by Katandra captain Jedd Wright. The pair contributed 30-runs before Wright was caught for a run-a-ball 24 as the score ticked over to 4/133.

Nathan Hickey was the next to join Richardson in the middle and was at the other end of the pitch when the hard-working number three brought about a gritty half-century. Richardson soon fell for 52, but with the score at 5/173, he left the ground with his side in a strong position.

Hickey wasn't able to last much longer, and neither was his replacement, Mitchell Black, as a run out sent Black packing for four. The run out led to Hadleigh Sirett coming out and giving the Eagles a late flurry of runs to slam an exclamation on a strong performance with the willow.

Sirett's not out 31 from 26 deliveries helped Katandra reach 244 all out with just two deliveries remaining in the day's play.

On Sunday, Northerners set about chasing the intimidating total set in front of it.

Though Northerners were resolute for the first 20 overs, Katandra's Ryleigh Shannon and Scott Richardson both struck to damn Northerners to 2/30.

The two wickets brought the Bretts, Joel and Northerners captain Mitchell, to the crease. Joel, though, wasn't long for the innnings and was caught for 15 off Corey Hickford's bowling.

Mitchell Brett proceeded to partner with several Northerners batsmen as he pushed

toward a half-century.

Katandra though, managed to keep picking off wicket after wicket, but when it came to bring about Brett's downfall, the Eagles couldn't break through.

Northerners sat 5/64, before Brett finally got a partner willing to fight it out alongside him. Brett and Glen Davidson combined for a 70-run partnership that seemed to balance the game out a fair bit.

Davidson reached 34 before Andrew Riordan shot Katandra back into control with a crucial wicket to see 6/134 posted on the scoreboard.

Brett found another gear upon the fall of that wicket and smashed his way towards a well-earned century before Katandra found another two wickets to see the score sit at 8/175.

The Eagles could taste victory, but Brett and Grant Hutchins both flurried to account for some quick runs as the end of the day's play approached.

In the end, Katandra bowled and fielded well enough to restrict Northerners to 8/223 from 80 overs, grabbing a hard-earned win in the process.

Katandra heads into this Saturday's final round clash against Waaia at home as strong favourites but know that a slip up could cost the defending premier top-spot on the Haisman Shield ladder.

B GRADE

Katandra's B grade side enjoyed a home win over Northerners, though the game took a more unusual path than typical over the weekend.

Having lost the toss, the Eagles found themselves taking guard as Andrew Nicholls and Jack Nelson opened for Katandra.

The pair seemed to have things under control at 0/25, but when Nicholls was caught for six, an almighty fall from grace saw the Eagles in damage control.

Northerners' bowler Tim Brett was the man that inflicted the most damage, as he took 6/11 from nine overs, in a spell that, in one period of play, saw Katandra lose 5/6 before Ross Hopkins and Nathan O'Donnell managed to build a partnership greater than 10. That was cold comfort for a side that was eventually all out for just 51 from less than 35 overs.

Only opener Jack Nelson was able to bat his way to a double-digit score, 16, and it seemed

that Northerners wouldn't have a better chance of batting a side out of the competition.

Little did the visitors know that the batting woes would infect their side, as well.

Elliott Richardson struck early as Northerners tried to chase down the modest score set in front of it, and it managed to get to 1/19 before all hell broke loose.

Richardson, alongside Andrew Nicholls, destroyed Northerners' batting lineup thereafter, each taking five wickets to see Northerners all out for 28 from just 14 overs.

Nicholls took 5/6 from seven overs, while Richardson's 5/17 saw Northerners lose 9/9 in remarkable fashion.

Twenty wickets down, with only 48.2 overs bowled on the first day meant that there was still a considerable amount of cricket to be played, so Katandra regrouped and Jack Nelson and Nathan O'Donnell took guard. Katandra would have felt déjà vu when O'Donnell was bowled cheaply, only for Nelson and his replacement, Clay Simpson, to be gone as well to see the score tick over to 3/15.

Talon Wilson and Elliott Richardson managed to get things back on track for Katandra, with the latter pushing hard for man of the match plaudits, eventually adding a half-century to his five-wicket haul as the Eagles approached the hundred-mark.

The pair were eventually out in fairly quick succession, leaving their side at 5/94, but Katandra was able to find one more jolt on the second day to push its score past 150.

Captain Andrew Nicholls hit 28 as his side was eventually all out for 162, 185 runs in front of Northerners.

With just 23 overs remaining in the day's play, Katandra gave its all in search of an outright win, but despite Andrew Nicholls claiming one, Jack Nelson claiming two and Talon Wilson picking up three wickets, the Eagles just weren't able to find the extra push to take Northerners' last four wickets and the visiting side finished the game 6/105.

With a strenuous weekend of cricket behind it, Katandra now focuses its attention to the last game of the B grade season against Waaia at Waaia Recreation Reserve.

The Eagles can't make the finals but will hope to finish the season off on a high note with a win over a side that sits 12th on the Clyde Young Shield ladder.

Two from three for junior Blues

NUMURKAH has finalised its top spot finish on the under 16s' ladder after the Blues pipped Notre Dame-St Brendans by eight runs in the final 2018/19 regular season game.

With the Blues winning the toss and choosing to bat first, Dusty Ebborn made an uncharacteristic duck in the early stages of the innings, but Nick Thorp and captain Kody Jackson got their side back on the right track with a 61-run partnership.

When Thorp was out for 11, it signaled further rough waters for the Blues, and a loss of six wickets for just 29 runs gave the visiting side a lot to worry about.

The key cog in the machine remained, though, and Jackson's 37-run knock was invaluable in pushing his side towards a reasonable total.

Unfortunately, he wasn't able to find much assistance down the order, and the Blues were eventually all out for 120 from 23 overs.

Not unlike the Blues, Notre Dame-St Brendans got off to a less than desirable start, as a run out left the home side 1/4.

Dusty Ebborn made amends for his lull with the bat not long after, taking a key wicket with 25 runs on the board.

Notre Dame-St Brendans managed to persevere through the pressure and got itself into a strong position as it headed towards the 100-mark.

It was here that Numurkah's Hunter Verhoeven made a crucial contribution to his side's hopes of a win.

Verhoeven's four overs claimed 3/6, which helped take Notre Dame-St Brendans from 3/104 to 8/110.

As the innings drew to a close, Bailey Smith took one final wicket to see Notre Dame-St Brendans finish its 25 overs 9/112.

The win sees Numurkah finish the home and away season with 30 points, nine ahead of second placed Karramomus.

The Blues will now host Old Students this Sunday at the Numurkah Showgrounds for a spot in the grand final.

UNDER 14s
The Blue Bombers of Numurkah-Waaia ground out a gritty 39-run win over the visiting Euroa at the Numurkah Showgrounds on Saturday.

Batting first, Numurkah-Waaia struggled to deal with the solid bowling Euroa put forth.

AJ Brooks managed to push ahead through the onslaught, scoring 16, while Mitch O'Dwyer starred for his side with an impressive not out 26, to see his side finish the 25 overs 9/87.

Needing a solid bowling performance if it was to take the victory, Numurkah-Waaia's Harry McDonald led the line with 3/2 from just 2.1 overs, while Reeve Verhoeven, Lucas Roberts, James Moore, Nick Hughes and AJ Brooks all took wickets each, to have Euroa all out for 48.

Though the side missed out on finals by just six points, the win was a great way to finish the season for the Blue Bombers and will look forward to next season.

UNDER 12s

Numurkah's youngest Blues were put to the sword by Notre Dame-St Brendans, coming away from the game 47-run worse off than the strong home side.

Numurkah was only able to pick up one wicket during Notre Dame-St Brendans' innings to open the game, a run out attributed to Baz McDonald, with 65 runs on the board.

Notre Dame-St Brendans held firm control of the tie, and finished 1/151 from 25 overs.

In reply, the Blues struggled from the get-go. With Baz McDonald falling cheaply, it was never really able to recover to the point it was going to threaten Notre Dame-St Brendans' big total.

Riley Dobson retired on 14 to finish the joint top scorer alongside, Alex Robertson, with the former finishing the innings not out with Nash Siemans on 13.

In the end, the Blues could only manage 3/84 from 25 overs, and will hope to regroup ahead of their semi final clash against Old Students at Kialla Park Reserve this Sunday at 9am.

Gledhill owns 200th with six'fer

NUMURKAH cricket captain Liam Gledhill capped off his 200th game with six-wickets in his side's 55-run win over Shepparton United at the Numurkah Showgrounds over the weekend.

Gledhill won the toss and elected that his side were to open proceedings with the bat on Saturday, but shaky form at the top of the order gave Shepparton United a sniff in the early stages of play.

Dylan Grandell and Josh Smith were out for 12 and 11 respectively, to see the Blues sit at 2/28 with Will Arnel and Shaun Downie in the middle.

The pair got Numurkah back on track, with a 51-run partnership, giving the Blues a bit of ascendancy.

Unfortunately, the Blues suffered a double-hit when Downie was caught for 24, only for Michael Eckard to make a slip and be caught for one.

At 4/80, the game was evenly poised with Arnel and captain Liam Gledhill in the middle, but disaster struck as Arnel was run out for 39, his highest score for the season thus far.

From that point, Gledhill was the only Blue able to make a substantial impact, with only two batsmen, Tim Arnel and Mitchell Grandell, able to score five or more runs.

Gledhill reached 36, but when he was run out with 76.1 overs bowled, it signalled the end of Numurkah's innings, all out for 141.

With the overnight break behind it, Numurkah set about trying to mount immense pressure on Shepparton United from the get-go on Sunday morning, and it paid off, as Tim Arnel struck with just 21 runs on the board.

Shaun Downie followed that up with a wicket of his own, but it wasn't until Gledhill made his first impact with the ball, that Numurkah really got on top of the contest.

Gledhill's first strike made Shepparton United 3/53, and it initiated a collapse that saw the visitors lose 7/33 to be all out for 86.

Gledhill's 6/31 was taken from less than 10 overs, while Shaun Downie's 3/8 gave hardly anything to the opposition from his 14 overs.

With first innings points won, there was still a bit of cricket to be played, and Numurkah took guard once more in hopes it would close out the play relatively unscathed.

The Blues, though, once more struggled with the willow, Michael Eckard's 20 being heralded as the side's top score in the second innings.

Only Dylan Grandell was able to venture into double-digit territory with 13, as the Blues finished the remaining overs 5/50 from 16.1 overs.

The win keeps Numurkah in touching distance of league-leader Katandra, four points behind the Eagles on 64 points, but will need a slip up from the reigning premier if it's to take out the minor premiership.



More to come ... Liam Gledhill after the game on Sunday, with a plaque honouring his 200th game for the Blues.

Gledhill notches 200

LIAM Gledhill notched up his 200th club game with Numurkah Youth Club Cricket Club on the weekend, and did so in fine form, with a six-wicket performance on Sunday.

After the game, club president Brad Naughton presented the reigning Lightfoot medallist with a plaque recognising his incredible commitment to the club.

Gledhill said the milestone had snuck on him a little bit.

"It means a lot, I love the club and I just want everyone to have success," Gledhill said.

"You don't play for personal achievements, you really want to play well as a team."

"Hopefully this year we have got something special across the whole board. That's

what means more to me.

"However, I will cherish this, ... and hopefully we can finish the season off well."

He went on to thank his parents, Ross and Sharon, for their help and support through his junior years, and his wife Adrienne for her support.

With such a decorated career already behind him, there could still be more milestones ahead for the 38-year-old.

"He has taken 107 catches, the most excluding wicket keepers, but with just five more catches he will become the highest catcher outright," Naughton said.

And after Saturday's 36 runs, he now trails Mark Brown's run-scoring record by exactly 100 runs.

Just another Blue day

NUMURKAH rallied late and managed to snatch a top of the table victory by just one wicket against B grade rival Shepparton United at Princess Park over the weekend.

Things seemed to be going well for the Blues on the first day of the game played over Saturday and Sunday, despite having lost the toss and being forced to bowl.

Numurkah claimed an early wicket thanks to Myles Martin, who was on his way to a four-wicket contribution, with just eight runs on the board.

The early wicket signaled a very lean patch of run-scoring for the home side, which went on to lose wicket after wicket.

After Bailey Smith picked up another victim to make it 2/20, Shepparton United proceeded to be absolutely tormented by Myles Martin and Andrew Cline.

The pair combined for eight wickets in total, with Martin picking up 4/34 from 18 overs and Cline snagging 4/22 from 11.1.

From 3/33, Shepparton United languished at 8/88 before a 41-run partnership pushed its total to something potentially defendable. Cline was the man to break the resistance to see the score sit at 9/129. Martin grabbed the last wicket and Shepparton United was all out for 140.

Despite losing Matt Price cheaply in reply, Numurkah finished Saturday's play in a strong position at 1/27 with Tyson Woods and Dusty Ebborn not out on 13 and seven respectively.

As play resumed on Sunday, Woods and Ebborn continued where they left off and continued to rally towards a win.

When Ebborn was caught for 19, Woods and new batsman Jahlan Lau seemed to be guiding Numurkah to a comfortable win.

As Numurkah neared the hundred-mark, the Blues were calm, the waters still and there was no indication that a big struggle was coming. Lau was out for 21, but with the scores at 3/93, Numurkah was still well and truly in the driver's seat.

That was until a collapse threatened to ruin Numurkah's weekend. Numurkah proceeded to lose 4/26, and with it, the momentum.

At 7/119, there was more misery to come as Bailey Roberts was run out for two.

It gave Shepparton yet another boost, and Numurkah needed to do something if it was to turn things around.

Captain Sean Dawson was joined in the middle by Myles Martin with the score at 8/126, and even though the partnership only garnered 12 runs before Dawson even-

tually fell for 17, it was enough for the Blues to calm things down and get the game, even slightly, back on their terms.

Reydan Lacuin replaced Dawson at 9/138, and he and Martin were able to steer the Blues home to pip United at the finish line.

The tight win opens the gap between the two teams up to eight points, meaning that the Blues are assured of the minor premiership with just one home and away game remaining.

Numurkah will play that last regular season tie at home against Tatura, starting Saturday at 1pm.

D GRADE

Numurkah's D grade side put aside their somewhat below par performance with the bat to come away from their clash against Karramomus as 50-run winners on Saturday at the Numurkah Showgrounds.

The Blues won the toss and elected to bat, but lost Daemon Potts for just four early on in the innings.

The other Blue opener, Jacob Morris, was one of just two batsmen to score over 20. Morris reached 24 before he was caught out to see the score sit at 2/40.

Blues captain Daniel Hughes was the other batsman to reach a score past 20, and despite losing Sam Lewis for just four, continued to work hard to get his team out of the

hole it found itself in.

At 3/48, Numurkah was just unable to build a meaningful partnership, losing Brett O'Dwyer and Hunter Verhoeven cheaply to push the score out to 5/91.

David Roberts was the next to fall for Numurkah, managing just two before making way for Brad Naughton.

Hughes and Naughton got Numurkah into triple-figure territory, with Hughes falling for a team high score of 27 with the last ball of the innings, seeing his side finish 7/115 with Naughton not out on 13. Karramomus, was simply never in the contest.

The reply from the visitors was stifled by a strong bowling attack that worked well in partnerships and a fielding performance that took the most of the opportunities on offer. Three wickets each to Hunter Verhoeven and Sam Lewis, a wicket each to Brett O'Dwyer, Callum Morris, and two to David Roberts saw Karramomus all out for 65 from just 32.4 overs.

The win pushes the Blues past Karramomus on the ladder into second position with 60 points, three behind top placed Euroa.

The Blues line up against Tatura next, starting this Saturday at the Numurkah Showgrounds.

Nick takes two and Helene gets a hattrick

by "Isa Green"

NICK Fenaughty captured his second club championship title, and Helene Steward completed a hattrick when she claimed her third championship title in as many seasons at Numurkah Lawn Tennis Club on Sunday. A good field of both senior and junior players contested the championships in warm, but excellent conditions, with some great tennis on display, which entertained a good crowd of onlookers.

Fenaughty took his title when he completely outplayed Warriors' team mate and the defending champion Mark Mills 8-1 in the final.

Both players traded great shots and there were some long rallies, but Fenaughty was not to be denied and his class shone through as he barely put a foot wrong for the entire match.

His performance shows how vital he is to the Warriors' finals hopes this year and, if he keeps up this type of form, it will take a very good player to beat him.

Mills as usual gave it 110% but it wasn't to be his day.

Carrying on from her wonderful tennis from the day before, Helene Steward did not lose a game for the day on her way to a comfortable victory, with Caitlyn Price putting in a gallant effort to take the runner-up prize.

James Kam claimed his first title in the boys junior championships, with an excellent display, winning all four of his sets and losing only a total of seven games in the process.

James has worked tirelessly on his game in recent months, so it was a just reward for his efforts and he is sure to feature prominently in the years ahead.

Runner-up was Lachie O'Brien, who just edged out young Hudson Storer.

Lachie's only defeat came at the hands of the eventual winner, and he too has put in a lot of practice over the course of the season.

The sub junior boys' title was won by Kye Warren, who also went through the day undefeated in a great display of consistent, steady tennis.

Runner-up to Kye was Ethan Davies who, like his football team the Carlton Blues, is on the up and up and I am sure we will see him in the winners circle in the not too distant future.

Hannah O'Brien also won her third title on the trot and, like Steward, didn't drop a game in her three sets, which illustrates the form she is currently displaying.

Hannah has been playing both junior and Saturday afternoon senior tennis this season, and this has obviously improved her game immensely.

Runner-up was Cassie Brooks, who won two out of her three sets in a very handy effort. Cassie is yet another of the juniors to have benefitted from the club's junior program capably run by Andrew Storer.



Plus one makes two ...
Nick Fenaughty defeated Mark Mills in the final to take his second championship title.



Room to grow ... Ethan Davies finished runner-up to Kye Warren in the sub junior boys' event. **Pocket rocket ...** Hannah O'Brien, who won her third junior girls' title, with runner-up Cassie Brooks. **Just reward ...** James Kam and Lachie O'Brien finished first and second in the junior boys' title.

Warriors sting Hornets

by "Cole Berner"

THE GM1 Numurkah Warriors have really hit their straps at the right time, recording their second big win in as many weeks on Saturday, downing the Shepp Hornets 7/59 to 1/28.

Playing at Shepparton, the Warriors never gave their rivals a look in, especially as far as the ladies' matches were concerned.

Helene Steward lost one game for the entire day, putting in another sublime, three set winning performance.

Fill in Kaye Price was not far behind Helene, only dropping two games for the afternoon, on her way to collecting three sets as well.

Skipper Mark Mills and Nick Fenaughty were having a lot tougher time of things. Millsy lowered his colours 8-3 in his singles match, while Nick just prevailed 8-7 against Shepp star James Curtis-McDonald in their encounter.

Mills and Fenaughty then won their doubles 8-4, before joining with Price and Steward respectively to each win their doubles sets 8-0 and complete a rout of the opposition.

This latest victory sees the Warriors in second place and, all of a sudden, they are looming as a big threat to all finals bound teams come the pointy end of the season.

They have the bye this Saturday, to rest up before they tackle the Shepp Bulls in a crucial contest on March 2.

Raiders give Saints a devil of a time

by "Cole Berner"

NUMURKAH Lawn Tennis Club's GM2 Raiders produced yet another gritty performance on Saturday, as they wore down the Shepp Saints to record a 6/65 to 5/61 victory at Shepparton.

The contest was tight all day, with the Saints winning both men's singles, 6-5 and 6-3, before the Raiders ladies, Caitlyn Price and Imogen Cameron, righted the ship, winning their matches 6-2 apiece.

Shepparton won the first men's doubles set 8-5, but Andrew Storer and Chris Cameron snuck home 8-7 on a day where every game was absolutely precious.

The Saints came back again, winning the second ladies' doubles encounter 8-4, but Catherine Church and Caitlyn Price produced a vital 8-3 result, which left the visitors just three games up with the three mixed sets yet to be decided.

Jai Harrington and Caitlyn Price provided some breathing space for the Raiders, stretching the lead to six games, courtesy of their 8-5 victory, and Andrew Storer and Imogen Cameron drove home the final nail in the Saints' coffin, getting up 8-6 to put the contest to bed.

Shepparton prevailed in the last mixed set 8-4, but the Raiders had hung on to record a

very good win away from home, with Caitlyn Price starring again with another three set winning afternoon.

For the third time in as many weeks, the Raiders will tackle a Shepparton team, as they take on the Shepp Giants at Shepparton this Saturday in what should be a good match.

PENGUINS SHOOT DOWN BOMBERS

The GM3 East Penguins just keep waddling along, and recorded their fifth straight victory on Saturday, accounting for the Kyabram Bombers at Kyabram by 22 games, 9/92 to 4/70.

There were some really close contests during the afternoon, which was illustrated by the four ladies' sets that all went to tiebreakers, in a very rare occurrence, indeed.

Emma Schmedje and Ravens fill-in Cathy Brown saluted 8-7 in a gritty display, while Kris Walker and Carol Storer just went down by the same margin.

Emma and Kris then combined to win their match 8-7, while Cathy and Carol went down in the tiebreaker 7-8. Thus, after all the ladies' sets were completed, both sides were locked together.

The Penguins' menfolk started well when skipper Dave Ludington and Craig Brown

breezed through their set 8-2, but Kyabram hit back, winning the next two men's sets 8-4 and 8-6.

The break the Numurkah outfit was hoping for came when Elliott Small, who has been in stellar form, trounced his opponent 6-1 in their singles match, while Ludington took care of business, winning his encounter 6-2.

This put the Penguins nine games up going into the mixed, with players from both sides struggling with the heat and the humidity.

As has been the case so often this season, the Penguins proved they are a tightly knit bunch and they went right on with the job, winning all four mixed sets on offer.

Elliott Small and Kris Walker won an entertaining clash 8-5 in the number one position, while Dave Ludington and Carol Storer ground out an 8-4 win. Craig Brown showed all his athleticism and partnered Emma Schmedje to an 8-6 triumph, while Col Stone and Cathy Brown had a comfortable 8-4 win.

Emma Schmedje and Dave Ludington each won three sets for the day, but the whole team again put in 110% and this latest win keeps them on top of the ladder.

This week they will be hoping to make like Road Runners as they take on the Shepp Coyotes at the Numurkah courts.

NumurkahLEADER

Sports

HAT TRICK



Hattrick ... Helene Steward won her third consecutive Numurkah Lawn Tennis Club championship on Sunday.

Helene Steward completed a hattrick when she claimed her third championship title in as many seasons at Numurkah Lawn Tennis Club on Sunday. *Championship story page 19*

Katunga Swans reclaim top spot

SIXTY runs to Adam Cook helped Katunga reclaim top spot on the MVCA division one ladder, with an important away 33-run win against Cobram on Saturday, ensuring the Swans leapfrogged Finley, if only by percentage.

Winning the toss and electing to bat saw Katunga take the reins in the middle, but it wasn't long before the match began to teeter in terms of momentum.

Katunga's Jarrod Rankin and Trent Baker opened proceedings for the visitors and seemed to be going well, with a couple of boundaries that gave the pair a bit of confidence heading past the opening stages of the game, but the good feelings were short-lived.

Rankin was soon caught out for nine to see the score sit at 1/25 as Josh

MacFadyen entered the game. Averaging 50 in division one ties this season, MacFadyen threatened to take the game away from Cobram, as a big six from the number three was indicative of how the Swan was going to go about his innings, but there were no major rewards on this occasion.

MacFadyen fell for a brisk 16 and his fall was exacerbated when Baker was gone just one run later. At 3/51, Cobram felt good about the situation, and while the game was balanced precariously, Katunga was just one partnership away from hijacking all the momentum. New batsmen Daniel Henderson and Adam Cook propelled Katunga into the driver's seat and their 53-run partnership ensured that the Swans headed into the later stages of the

game with a great opportunity of posting a solid score.

Though Katunga was batting well, Cobram did itself no favors with inaccurate bowling.

The Tigers eventually finished, gifting Katunga 27 extras, 11 of which were wides, along with seven byes. Despite this, Katunga almost shot itself in the foot after Henderson was out for 12.

Katunga lost wickets with unnerving frequency, including the fall of Cook for a brilliant 60, which saw the score move to 7/142.

The Swans managed to finish the allotted 40 overs with a score of 9/166. As Cobram aimed to chase Katunga down, the Swans got off to a brilliant start.

Toby Miles ran through Cobram's opener to unsettle his stumps, as well

as make it 1/6 early in the innings. Katunga's bowling performance was one of cohesiveness and reliability, as all seven bowlers used managed to pick up at least one wicket.

Will Newman was the next to strike for Katunga and it wasn't long before Trent Baker registered his only scalp for the innings to make it 3/48.

Cobram was seemingly setting itself on the right track, but when Miles claimed his second victim, it triggered a very lean patch for the Tigers. At 4/72, Cobram lost 3/10 as Katunga's bowling attack claimed the upper hand.

Shaun McAllister was posing the biggest threat to Cobram's lineup, with his eight overs bowled accounting for three wickets while only conceding 10 runs.

McAllister's third wicket saw Co-

bram languish at 8/109 and was quickly followed up by Tony Harris who made it nine down without a run being added.

Cobram managed a mini-fightback in the form of a final wicket stand worth 24 runs but it was all for naught when Dylan Baker snagged a wicket to see the home side all out for 133 from 37.2 overs.

Heading into the final round of the regular season, Katunga takes on Cobram-Yarroweyah United at Katunga Recreation Reserve and will hope to cap a tremendous home and away season with style as it looks to claim the minor-premiership.

DIVISION TWO
Katunga's division two game was forfeited by Deniliquin Rhinos on Saturday.

NumurkahLEADER

INSIDE SPORT

Strathy finals bound

See story page 14

Golf news

Gledhill takes 6 in 200th

See story page 15

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