GREAT VICTORIAN BIKE RIDE IS COMING TO DUNKELD
SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2016

2016 RACV GREAT VIC BIKE RIDE
‘GRAMPIANS TO GREAT OCEAN ROAD’

For the 33rd year, riders of all ages and skill levels will be able to experience a week in another world where they’ll explore the rolling hills of the Grampians and breathtaking coastline of the Great Ocean Road.

In what is expected to be one of the most popular routes to date, riders will begin their holiday of wheels in Halls Gap and finish nine days later in Geelong, passing through Dunkeld, Mortlake, the 12 Apostles, the Surf Coast and Queenscliff.

Approximately 4,500 cyclists will be riding into Dunkeld from Halls Gap on Sunday 27 November. The cyclists will be camping at the Dunkeld Racecourse and will be spending time in our community.

There are a variety of activities which will be available to the cyclists while they are in Dunkeld including:
- Food Market at the school.
- Yoga class at the school from 3.00pm-4.00pm, finishing with the back bending challenge. Cost per person $10.00.
- Dunkeld Museum open from 9.00am to 5.00pm.
- Off the Rails Gallery open from 10.00am to 5.00pm featuring the exhibition of town “diorabaas” (gold coin donation).
- Dunkeld Swimming Pool will open at 12 noon if the temperature is 21 degrees or more.
- Historical Walking Tour of the Dunkeld Cemetery on Racecourse Road commencing at 7.30pm. Cost $10.00 per person.
- Movies at the Dunkeld Community Centre - screenings at 6.15 pm and 8.00pm - tickets $8.00 and $5.00.

A shuttle bus service will be running around town, with stops at the museum, the bowls club and the community centre [later in the day] as well as at the businesses in town. Please make the cyclists welcome and show them what a wonderful community Dunkeld is.
**WHAT’S ON NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2016**

**DUNKELD CHURCH TIMES**

*Saint Patrick’s Catholic Church*
Parish Priest - Father Pat Mugavin - 5571 1161

- **E-mail:** hamilton@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**4th Week**
- **Sunday**
  - November 27
  - **9.00am**
  - Assembly of Word and Communion

**1st Week**
- **Sunday**
  - December 4
  - **8.30am**
  - Mass

**2nd Week**
- **Sunday**
  - December 11
  - **No mass or service (mass in Glenthompson)**

**3rd Week**
- **Sunday**
  - December 18
  - **8.30am**
  - Mass

**4th Week**
- **Sunday**
  - December 25
  - **9.00am**
  - Assembly of Word and Communion

**Anglican- Uniting Churches Combined Worship**

Services at Saint Mary’s, Dunkeld

Shared worship at **9.00am each Sunday** - except when there is a 5th Sunday in the month when there are district services in Hamilton.

**November 27**
- Janet Shalders

**December 4**
- Anglican service

**December 11**
- Janet Shalders

**December 18**
- Anglican service

**December 25**
- Anglican service (to be confirmed)

Inquiries: Judy Trompf 5577 2414 or Heather Macgugan 5577 2277. **All very welcome.**

**Panyyabur Uniting Church**

Next service to be advised.

**Mirranatwa Uniting Church**

Next service to be advised.

Contacts: Kristy Beveridge 5574 0274; Margo Dark 5574 0222 or Iris Field 5574 0202.

**DONATIONS**

- Kay Russell $50
- Fay Templeton $20
- Joy Clarke $20

We rely on donations to the Community Newsletter to offset all expenses relating to producing it. Please send in your donation to the Dunkeld Consolidated School office where it will be receipted and an acknowledgement made via the Newsletter. A receipt will be provided. Please make cheques payable to the “Dunkeld Consolidated School.”

**MON** | **TUES** | **WED** | **THURS** | **FRI** | **SAT** | **SUN**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Dunkeld Red Cross Christmas Break up | 25 | 26 | 27 The Great Victorian Bike Ride stop-over in Dunkeld Museum open from 9am to 5pm
28 Dunkeld Arboretum Development Group Inc | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 Landcare Walk | 3 | 4
5 Dunkeld Progress Association AGM Dunkeld Museum Committee Meeting - Newsletter Cut Off Issue 19 | 6 | 7 LAST NEWSLETTER FOR 2016 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11
12 | 13 | 14 Visitor Information Centre Meeting | 15 | 16 Last day to lodge for Christmas Competition | 17 | 18 Community Christmas carols
19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Dunkeld Christmas Eve - Town Santa Run | 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS
2016 RACV GREAT VIC BIKE RIDE
LOCATION: ‘GRAMPIANS TO GREAT OCEAN ROAD’

The ride begins on Saturday 26 November in Halls Gap. Sunday will be the first riding day beginning with a 72km ride to Dunkeld. Route opening times are 6.30am – 9.00am. This section of the ride includes stunning views of the Grampians National Park. The first riders are expected to make their way into Dunkeld at around 9.00am.

Communities are an integral part of the RACV Great Victorian Bike Ride and communities are encouraged to become involved in the ride. It is a wonderful opportunity to fundraise at the same time as promoting return visitation.

Every year, RACV Great Vic Riders vote ‘community spirit’ as the one thing that most shaped their experience on the event - they love the warm welcomes, local hospitality and the opportunity to really discover the best that Victoria has to offer!

In keeping with this theme, $2000 is being awarded to the “Most Welcoming Town”. Thus the crafty group from Off The Rails saw this as an opportunity to get together and create some wonderful welcome banners, 16 adults and children enjoyed painting the banners and the fish and chips on the platform for tea afterwards.

The colourful and imaginative signs have been placed outside the school and at the entry into town.

Day 3 of the ride will see riders depart Dunkeld between 6.30am and 9.00am for the 89 kilometre journey to Mortlake.

DUNKELD PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE

Caravan Park  The Park was full on the races weekend. The ground dried out and allowed safe parking. Thank you to Barry Lowe for helping supervise on Saturday morning.

Long-time visitors for the races, the James family were rapt that their horse won the cup. They come up from Portland each year.

Peaks Trail  Prustie and I had a meeting with Anne Wilson who is the Planning Project Coordinator for the Peaks Trail. Work had started at this end, but is being held up by title claims. Anne explained that the trail will start below the Dunkeld Visitor Information Centre. However, they do not want to renovate the board walks along the creek. We may be able to repair them early next year.

Salt Creek  We are getting closer to organising a work group to help us clean Salt Creek and other areas. A meeting this week will be important. Plenty of maintenance is needed along the creek and we need to get it done.

Playground  We have had another breakage with the frog. The springs the frog and horse are mounted on do not like extreme bending. The small children love them, so please remind bigger people that they are for the small children.

DUNKELD’S FUTURE

The Progress Association is having their Annual General meeting soon. We are losing some members. It is vital that we have a good committee. The Shire deals directly with small town Progress Associations, so this is your voice for our town and district.

It is easy for us to sit at home and say we are too busy. However, if we want things done and progress to be made to our town and district, it is vital we have a working committee. We are at an interesting stage, with tourism and the Peaks Trail. Do we want the benefits? If we have more businesses benefiting we all benefit. Please consider being a part of the future of our town and district.

John Smith

DUNKELD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2016

The AGM of the Dunkeld Progress Association will be held on Monday 5 December 2016 at 8.00pm in the Green Room, Dunkeld Community Centre.

Why would you think about being involved in the Progress Association?

In the last 12 months, the Progress Association has been involved in a broad range of activities including:

- Co-ordination of the program for the visit of the Great Victorian Bike Ride to Dunkeld;
- Support of Off the Rails Group in the renovation and leasing of the Dunkeld Railway Station;
- Support of the Santa competition;
- Australia Day celebrations, in conjunction with the Dunkeld Lions Club;
- Presenting Dunkeld's views in regard to the Grampians Peak Trail;
- Lobbying for the construction of the Dunkeld-Mount Sturgeon loop trail;
- Putting in a submission for funding for portable shade structures.

Through the Progress Association, there is an opportunity to meet a great variety of people in Dunkeld and more importantly, to make a difference to your community.

The Progress Association meets about eight times a year, usually on the 4th Monday of the month. The office bearer positions are President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Please think about being involved. If you are interested and have any questions, please ring me on 0412 528 176.

Mary-Ann Brown, President

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John Smith
MOVIES AT THE DUNKELD COMMUNITY CENTRE
SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER

As part of the activities to welcome the cyclists with the Great Victorian Bike Ride to Dunkeld, we are showing two movies at the Dunkeld Community Centre on Sunday 27 November.

6.15 pm Daddy’s Home
Rated PG     1 hour 36 min
Starring Will Ferrell and Mark Wahlberg, Brad Taggart (Will Ferrell) is a kind hearted radio executive who wants to be the best possible stepfather to his wife’s (Linda Cardellini) two children. When her freewheeling ex-husband Dusty (Mark Wahlberg) breezes back into town, Brad’s feeling of insecurity quickly develops into an inferiority complex. As Dusty demonstrates his flair for athletics, home repair and bad-boy charisma, Taggart finds himself in a no-holds-barred battle to one-up his rival and win the approval of his family.

8.00pm The Intern
Rated PG     2 hours
Starring Robert De Niro and Anne Hathaway, starting a new job can be a difficult challenge, especially if you’re already retired. Looking to get back into the game, 70-year-old widower Ben Whittaker (Robert De Niro) seizes the opportunity to become a senior intern at an online fashion site. Ben soon becomes popular with his younger co-workers, including Jules Ostin (Anne Hathaway), the boss and founder of the company. Whittaker’s charm, wisdom and sense of humour help him develop a special bond and growing friendship with Jules.

Popcorn, lollies, drinks and other snacks will be available to purchase.

Tickets: Adults - $8
          U/18 - $5

The Community Centre will be open from 5.30pm.

RACE GOERS BRAVE COLD WEATHER
It was a cold and wet day for the Annual William Thompson Dunkeld Cup. This did not stop the eager race goers from frocking up in their finest attire and venturing to the picturesque racecourse to enjoy a day at the races. Dunkeld and District Community Bank ® Branch were pleased to be able to help with the cost of the running of the kids activities.

TRADING HOURS FOR CHRISTMAS
It’s scary to realise that Christmas is just around the corner! This year has just flown by but it has been a great year and we would like to thank all our customers for their continued support.

Reason for this announcement of course is to remind you that like everyone else we too will close our doors on the public holidays.

Our trading hours are as follows:
- Saturday 24th – Closed
- Sunday 25th – Closed
- Monday 26th – Closed
- Tuesday 27th – Closed
- Wednesday 28th – Open
- Thursday 29th – Open
- Friday 30th – Open
- Monday 2nd – Closed
- Tuesday 3rd – Open

Resume normal trading hours.

If you are not going away this Christmas season then it is time to pop into the branch on Parker Street, say hi to staff, and if you haven’t already swap your banking to Bendigo.

Call us on 5577 2488 for more information on anything to do with your banking.
DUNKELD CHRISTMAS EVE TOWN SANTA RUN

Santa will visit the streets of Dunkeld on Christmas Eve Saturday 24 December commencing at 7:00pm.

*Out of town children are welcome to wait at the Post Office end of the Memorial Park.*

*Grandparents are welcome to ring Heather and she will make sure that Santa knows that grandchildren are visiting.*

Many thanks to the Dunkeld & District Lions Club; Melissa and Adrian Field from the Dunkeld General Store; Dunkeld Rural Fire Brigade; Victoria State Emergency Service – Dunkeld Unit; Kerri and Alan Jones, who all make this community event possible.

Enquires – Heather Hampton 5577 2240

DUNKELD ARBORETUM DEVELOPMENT GROUP INC
The next ordinary meeting for the Dunkeld Arboretum Development Group INC. Will be held on Monday 28 November 2016 at the Dunkeld Community Centre – Green Room – at 8.00pm.

MONSTER COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

Saturday 3 December 2016
8.00am start
Corner of Glass and Macarthur Streets, Dunkeld
Numerous Vendors

DUNKELD INFORMATION CENTRE
The next ordinary meeting for the Dunkeld Visitor Information Centre will be held on Wednesday 14 December, 5.00pm at the Dunkeld Visitor Information Centre meeting room.

DUNKELD & DISTRICT CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Junior Singers required for Christmas Carols at the Dunkeld Community Centre.

Thanks to the children who came to Carols practice at the Community Centre today. A great effort.

Next practice is the bike ride day, Sunday 27 November at 4.30pm in the old hall section of the community centre.

We would love to see any age children, primary or secondary students who would like to have a sing and perform as a group at the Carols, in the Community Centre on Sunday 18 December at 7.30pm.

If you are interested please send me a message -0400 952 716.

Many thanks, Heather Macgugan

GRAMPIANS QUILTING GROUP

PIECEMAKERS

10 December Christmas Luncheon.
12.00pm at Dunkeld Delights, Williams St, Dunkeld.
THINK CHRISTMAS NOW.
SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL

#dining tables #chairs #coffee tables
#hall tables #occasional tables
#nests of tables #desks #outdoor tables #work tables #sideboards
#tall boys #chests of drawers #beds #bedside tables #crystal cabinets #entertainment units
#kitchen cabinets #mirrors #hat/coat stands #bathroom cabinets #bookcases
#library installations #benchtops #timber doors #antique restorations
#wardrobes #serving platters #rolling pins #pastry pins #red gum boxes #cigar boxes #vases
#serving bowls #letter racks #serving trays #fire pokers #inlaid cutting boards
#butcher’s block #cutting boards #table centre pieces #knife block
#salt bowls #sculptural wall decoration
#sculptural entrance decoration #shop fittings #bed heads
#board room tables #extension tables #shelving #red gum slab dressing/sanding

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**FROM THE LIONS DEN**
Since the last newsletter the Lions were privileged to be able to assist with the parking at the Dunkeld Races. Another great meeting conducted by the Racing Club Committee, and the various volunteers that helped make the day what it is, a success. Well done.

**Christmas cakes**
Most of the people in the world have one thing in common, they are just trying to make a dollar. What has this to do with Christmas cakes? For many years charitable organisations had a monopoly on the sale of Christmas cakes, but now various supermarkets have cakes for sale. So, if you don’t make your own cakes, then you have the choice of buying supermarkets Christmas cakes, where the profits go to the shareholders and thereby creating employment. Or you can purchase a Lions cake whereby the percentage of profit kept by Lions International goes to humanitarian projects including Eye Health that has restored sight to millions of people. The percentage kept by the club selling the cakes goes to them for their various local projects. The Lions’ cakes cost $16.00 and are a nice tasting cake and worth the money. Buy a Christmas cake and enjoy because either way someone is better off.

**The Dunkeld Catholic Church**
Last newsletter I mentioned the work that is being carried out at the church. This newsletter I have a story with a slightly different angle.

I will not mention the names of the people involved but after Mass last Sunday two local mothers took their two young sons to see Father Paddy. These boys were turning into wild troublesome boys, but they hadn’t reached the stage of committing crime etc. The mothers had had the fathers, friends and teachers all give a talk to the boys, but before bothering Bruce McNaughton they decided to approach Father Paddy. So Father had one mother and boy wait in the meeting room and the other go into the room at the side of the altar. All three were seated and Father thought he would approach the subject in a different way to the others.

He said to the boy, “Where’s God?”
The boy did not answer.
Father Paddy tried again, “Where’s God?”
Still no answer from the boy.
Father Paddy tried again, “I know that you know where God is.”
Before he could finish the sentence the boy shot out of the chair like a startled emu, bolted out of the room, then around the back of the altar and into the meeting room.
And yelled to his friend, “Quick, get out of here, God has gone missing and we’re getting the blame.”
Love the Catholics.

*Peter Hinchey*

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**RED CROSS**
At The School Assembly last Tuesday, Amelia Jackson presented Red Cross secretary Iris Field with a cheque for $500, proceeds from the sale of hundreds of sausage rolls made on the Big (Cake) Bake day, which is held each year for the Red Cross in schools around the state.

Once a part of school ‘extra activities,’ Junior Red Cross groups have ceased to exist. However, events like this give students an idea of what Red Cross does around the world and how they can be of help, even in a small way, with such huge problems forever arising.

The students are now collecting used stamps as well. These will be collected from the office from time to time and with others, taken to Melbourne HQ by Trina Dakin of Red Cross. Thank you to Clare Kennedy, the students and the SAKG helpers for their cheerful and productive involvement and to the school in general for supporting this worthwhile event.

Current and ongoing appeals are: Syrian Crisis; Refugees and Asylum Seeker Crisis; Disaster Relief and Recovery; where it is needed in Australia and overseas.

Members will gather for their End of Year lunch at Izzy’s Cafe on Thursday 24 November at 12.00noon. There is still time to book in and remember to bring a small gift worth $10.00.

*Iris Field, Secretary*

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**Santa Claus is coming to town! Let’s get jolly.**

Christmas means many things to many people. But for many Dunkeld residents, it’s a chance to take on the Millards – reigning premiers – in this year’s Christmas Spirit stakes?

We invite ALL Dunkeld residents to enter the Santa Claus and Christmas Spirit categories in this year’s street decorating competition, sponsored by Dunkeld Progress Association and Discover Dunkeld.

To be in with a chance to win $100 cash prize, use your best creativity and humour to showcase Santa Claus in your front yard doing something remarkable, or you can light up the night with your very own Christmas extravaganza – or you can do both!

To ensure the judges don’t miss your contribution, lodge your entry form with the Dunkeld General Store. We encourage everyone to share their festive creations on social media via Facebook, Instagram or Twitter using the hashtag #discoverdunkeld #letsgetjolly

Good luck! Competition opens on 1 December and entries must have been lodged by no later than Friday 16 December to make sure you’re in the running for a prize.

---

**Santa Claus is coming to town! Let’s get jolly.**

**Name:..........................................................................................................................**

**Address:..........................................................................................................................**

☐ **Santa Claus category (most original idea)**

☐ **Christmas Spirit (best decorated house & garden)**

**Please tick category that you are entering**

**Return form to Dunkeld General Store**

**Entries must be lodged by 16/12/2016**
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# Broad Leaf Spraying # Irrigation

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* Agricultural Machinery,
* 4 x 4’s,
* Passenger vehicles
* Utes.
Working on both petrol and diesel engines.
Vehicle pick up and drop off can be arranged to customers in the Dunkeld Township.
Automotive air conditioning is also available.
We offer 7 day a week emergency breakdown service on Agricultural Machinery. Our fully equipped service vehicle enables us to fix your machinery on site.

We also offer hay and silage contracting; cut, rake and bale available at competitive rates.

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30am - 5.00pm.

Contact Details: Simon Gordon on 0418 319 545

MECHANICAL SERVICES ARE BACK IN TOWN
Grampians Agricultural
Simon and Ally Gordon  DUNKELD
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* Agricultural Machinery,
* 4 x 4’s,
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WORKS UNDERWAY TO SAVE OAK TREE IN BOTANIC GARDENS

Remedial works have taken place this week in an attempt to save the heritage Oak Tree in Hamilton’s Botanic Gardens.

The oak tree (Quercus Robur), the largest of its kind in Victoria, suffered a large split in the fork near the base of the main trunk towards the base of the tree. The split has affected two large boughs, both of which contain considerable weight of leaves and timber.

A number of options were considered last week, including the immediate removal of the tree, and a decision was reached this week to undertake remedial works in the first instance. Cabling of the boughs and significant weight reduction was completed on Wednesday and Thursday.

Further to these works, a Picus test will be conducted on the tree in December. The test is similar to an ultrasound, and will determine the strength and condition of the inside of the trunk.

In the interests of public safety, the security fencing remains in place and the toilets remain closed until further notice. Council thanks visitors to the gardens for their continued cooperation in abiding by the safety measures currently in place in this area.

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS CEO WELCOMES ROADS FUNDING

Council CEO Michael Tudball has welcomed yesterday’s announcement of a combined package from the State and Federal Government of $90 million in roads funding, but reinforced that further investment was needed to bring our roads up to standard.

The funds form part of a $690 million rural and regional roads package, with the state and federal governments contributing half each. The arrangement includes $40 million to upgrade the Henty Highway between Hamilton and Portland and $40 million for the Princes Highway between Colac and the South Australian border.

“Of course I’m very pleased by yesterday’s announcement” Mr Tudball said.

“The three major highways to be funded are all critical for regional tourism and our agriculture/export industries and this is the most significant investment in the regions’ road network that we have seen for some time” Mr Tudball continued.

“I look forward to seeing the full details of the package, particularly of the works on the Henty Highway”.

However Mr Tudball reinforced the need for continued commitment to South West roads from the State Government.

“We really hope this funding is just the beginning. We know our roads are in a very poor condition, particularly after recent flooding events, and are among the worst in the State”.

“We have been and will continue to advocate for more funding for these major arterials. These roads, and our road users, need a much bigger commitment from the State Government”, Mr Tudball concluded.

STAND UP AND SPEAK OUT THIS WHITE RIBBON DAY

Southern Grampians Shire Council and Western District Health Service have joined forces this year to raise awareness of White Ribbon Day and the prevention of violence against women.

Organisation Chief Executive Officer’s Michael Tudball and Rohan Fitzgerald are urging the community to get behind this issue and attend a luncheon being held in Hamilton on 24 November in recognition of White Ribbon Day.

“Violence against women is an issue in our region. It’s not just something that happens in the big cities, it’s happening here and now,” Council CEO Mr Tudball said.

“The latest statistics show the incidents of family violence being reported to police in our region are on the rise. These women are wives, sisters, mothers, daughters and friends. Good men cannot sit on the sidelines while those they love are at risk of harm”.

“The white ribbon campaign is a means for men to speak out against violence against women. It’s also about challenging the attitudes and behaviours of a minority of men who objectify, sexually vilify or use and condone violence against women. It’s about not turning a blind eye to these behaviours and attitudes towards women and speaking up instead. We know that domestic violence is strongly linked to an imbalance of power and respect between men and women - and that we all have a role to play in driving change in this area. It’s up to us” Mr Tudball said.

WDHS Chief Executive, Rohan Fitzgerald said the health service was pleased to be working together with Council to increase awareness around the prevention of violence against women.

“One woman is killed in Australia each week as a result of family violence. It’s time for us all to stand together and put a stop to this” Mr Fitzgerald said.

“Hopefully our participation in events like White Ribbon Day sends a clear message about our commitment to lasting change around the issue of violence against women in the Southern Grampians Shire”

“We’re encouraging everyone in the Southern Grampians Shire, especially men, to pledge their commitment to stand up, speak out and act to prevent men’s violence against women by taking the White Ribbon Oath. Encourage all your mates to take the Oath too. We want to see boys and men in our region acknowledge and commit to personal leadership on the issue of ending violence against women.

“Head to the whiteribbon website to take the oath and then tell us about it by sharing on social media and using the hashtag #standwithhamilton. Help us reach 500 pledges by White Ribbon Day” Mr Fitzgerald said.

The 2016 White Ribbon luncheon, will be held on Thursday 24 November at Alexandra House, and features an address from CEO of the Tara Costigan foundation Michael Costigan. Michael’s niece Tara Costigan was killed in February last year by her former partner. Inspector Nick Finnegan will also attend the luncheon and features an address from Michael Costigan.

Tickets for the lunch are $30 and can be purchased online at www.wdhs.net.au or by calling 5551 8540.
COMMUNITY SUPPORT NEEDED TO RETURN PASSENGER AIR TO HAMILTON

Southern Grampians Shire Council is one-step closer to re-instating a regular passenger air service from Hamilton Airport but needs commitment from the community to make it a reality.

A recent survey of local businesses and industry conducted by Council’s Economic Development and Tourism Unit demonstrated strong support for the return of a regular air service, along with a growing database of prospective passengers. This survey feedback was presented to several airlines, and Airlines of Tasmania (also known as Par Avion) indicated that it is willing to conduct a six-month conditional trial.

Managing Director of Par Avion, Shannon Wells, has been very open regarding the barriers to establishing a regular air service between Hamilton and Essendon Airport, so the trial would be conditional on the community helping to underpin the costs of establishing a viable route by pre-purchasing tickets.

Par Avion is proposing to operate an eight-passenger aircraft, between Hamilton and Melbourne for three return services a week. For a six-month trial, this means around $300,000 in flights would need to be pre-paid to underwrite the service. Par Avion would establish a third party trust allowing the payments to be drawn down as flights over the six month trial.

Council CEO Michael Tudball Southern Grampians Shire is excited by the opportunity this trial presents for the region but reinforced that people will need to “vote with their seat” for any potential return of passenger air services.

“There has been significant investment in the Hamilton Airport over the last 18 months from Council, and State and Federal Government. We now have an excellent facility and we have worked hard over the last 12 months to attract new business. The Par Avion trial presents a fantastic opportunity for our region” Mr Tudball said.

“Hamilton plays an important role as regional centre in the South West offering the necessary social and physical infrastructure to support growth and offers a variety of lifestyle possibilities. We believe a regular passenger service is necessary to further support the many possibilities the Greater Hamilton region has to offer.”

“Information provided through the survey demonstrated strong support for a return of a regular air service. Now we are calling on a financial investment from the community and regular usage to make the return of passenger air in Hamilton a reality” Mr Tudball said.

Melbourne Stock Broker Tim Stewart, who owns a property near Yulecart and regularly commutes between Melbourne and Hamilton, has been working with Council and Par Avion to make this trial a reality. He says the convenience of a regular passenger service cannot be underestimated.

“Hamilton needs a new plane service to help re-invigorate business and bring tourists to the town and surrounding district. We are lucky to have such a good airport facility, but it needs to be used.

“The recent survey indicated overwhelming demand for this service and the time has come to support the project by buying pre-purchased tickets” Mr Stewart continued.

“No more talk. We need financial commitment. We will not get another chance to make this happen so please, I urge everyone to make this a priority. Tell as many people as possible, act now and buy tickets.

“Without raising the $300,000, the trial will not go ahead. I will be committing financially and I implore everyone else to do so as well” Mr Stewart said.

Gary Nield, President of the Hamilton Regional Business Association (HRBA) says the region’s businesses are 100% behind the trial.

“The business community fully support the trial passenger service for Hamilton and will be doing everything we can to ensure its success.

“A regular air service will help the region continue to grow and prosper. The opportunities for business and tourism cannot be underestimated and so I encourage everyone to get behind it” Mr Nield said.

Ticket prices per-sector would be $149 one-way or $298 return. Any pre-paid tickets would be unrestricted. Normal ticketing is expected to be $149 one-way restricted and $199 one-way unrestricted.

It is expected that the trial would be conducted on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday however these days will be confirmed with potential customers prior to the commencement of the service.

Essendon Airport currently operates a mini-bus between Essendon Airport and Tullamarine Airport to connect passengers to domestic and international flights and negotiations are currently underway to extend that service to the Melbourne CBD.

If you would like a copy of the prospectus visit www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au or to pledge your support, please supply details to Hugh Koch, Manager Economic Development and Tourism on hkoch@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au, 5573 0238 or 0409 797 446.
SCHOOL NEWS

CARING FOR OUR WATERSHEDS PROJECT
On Friday 11 November, Brooke Hill, Josh Gordon and Ben Potter participated in the Caring for Our Watersheds Project Final. It was scary at first but when we started talking it didn’t feel scary at all. We came 10th but we still had a fun, enjoyable day. We each received $100.00 in prize money. We were the youngest contestants there; everyone else was in Secondary School. The other proposals were interesting and we liked them. Thank you to Mr Stephens and Ms Kim Volk for your help with the Watersheds!! By Brooke Hill Year 5, Josh Gordon Year 6 and Ben Potter Year 5

MILO CRICKET T20 BLAST
On Friday 11 November some of the Year 4/5/6 students went to Pedrina Park to participate in not just any cricket; the T20 Blast. The girls’ first game was against Gray Street Primary. They were a great side. Gray Street won by 30 but Dunkeld still tried their best. In the second game the Dunkeld girls were drawn to play North Hamilton Primary School. After our loss to Gray Street we put all our effort into this game and Dunkeld came back strong with a win! Dunkeld was 92 with North Hamilton on 75. Next we played Mortlake. We had a comfortable win with similar scores as our game against North Hamilton.

Now we go onto the boys. The boys’ first game was drawn to play Good Shepherd. They won their game with a great victory. Their second game was drawn to play North Hamilton. They had another amazing win and were confident about their next game! Their last game they played George Street Primary School. They had another amazing victory! The boys got into the finals but sadly the girls didn’t make it. In the final, the boys played Hawkesdale and had a very convincing win by 90!! Following on the success of the girls’ team in 2015, the boys’ team made it to the Regional finals on Tuesday 15 November and made it to the final against Saint Joseph’s Primary School Warrnambool but were unsuccessful. Well done to all who participated. We also would like to thank Mr Jeffreys and Mr Stephens for umpiring our games.

A special mention to Mr Darren Gordon for coaching the boys’ team on both Friday and Tuesday.

By Anna Schurmann and Julia Kelly, Year 6
BIG BLOKES BREAKFAST PROUDLY SUPPORTING
MOVEMBER
Some very excited children and their visitors began arriving from before 7.30am to enjoy a nutritious breakfast, which was provided free of charge by the P & F Association, in the morning sunshine on Tuesday 8 November. On offer was a variety of cereals, yoghurt, fruit muffins, quiches, juice and hot drinks.

The kitchen and outdoor dining area was kept busy with over 170 in attendance. The school was bustling with so many adults and all the school students enjoying a delicious breakfast together. After breakfast the children spent time showing their special ‘bloke’ around their favourite parts of school including their classroom and the school’s Kitchen Garden and grounds. P & F Association member, Ms Fiona King advised, “The best part was that many of the guests didn’t leave until it was almost time for lessons to begin.” Thank you to those who donated yummy baked goods for the breakfast and those people who assisted with the setting up and packing up. In particular, a HUGE thank you to Fiona King for organising the whole event.

This year was the first time the breakfast has been held in conjunction with Movember. Students and their families were encouraged to make a donation to this worthy cause that addresses men’s health – a total of $112.00 was raised.

RED CROSS PRESENTATION
At last Tuesday’s weekly School Assembly, on behalf of the school’s SAKG Program, Year 3 student, Amelia Jackson presented a cheque for $500.00 to Mrs Iris Field, Secretary, Dunkeld Red Cross. This money was raised by the Sausage Roll Drive held in October.

REGIONAL GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS
On Monday 14 November, Year 6 students, Josh Gordon and Zach Burgess competed in the Logical Staffing Victorian Primary Schools Golf Championship at Warrnambool Golf Club. Josh came 4th on a count back and has qualified to play at the Victorian Primary Schools State Final at Kooringal Golf Club, Melbourne on Wednesday 30 November. Zach also had a good day on the course, coming 10th, missing out on Melbourne by just four shots. Tremendous effort boys!

SHEEP DRIVE FUNDRAISER
The Dunkeld Consolidated School Council will be conducting a Sheep Drive fundraiser during this term for the School Camps and ICT programs.

If you have any sheep that you would like to donate could you please contact Luke Balkin on 0429 626 748 or Trent Adams on 0428 886 221.

THE GREAT VICTORIAN BIKE RIDE – SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER

As part of the festivities, the School is hosting a fantastic fundraiser event - Stretch and Relax Yoga!!

Join the riders and internationally known Frank Jesse, Senior Iyengar Yoga Teacher from Griffins Hill Retreat Dunkeld for a one hour yoga session on Sunday 27 November from 3.00pm to 4.00pm at the school among the shady trees south of the playground. Frank will help you stretch out and relax and get ready for the week to come. $10 each - all proceeds will go to the Dunkeld Consolidated School.

Following the yoga class Frank will launch the “Back Bend challenge” for 2017 International Day of Yoga and as a “warm up” will do 54 back bends on stage, and students are welcome to join him and show off their flexibility!!

Griffins Hill are proud supporters of the School’s SAKG program.

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program (SAKG)
From the Kitchen...

SAKG 2017 CALENDAR
Orders are still being taken for our 2017 Calendar. Photos from our kitchen and garden program make this a beautiful Calendar and a great Christmas gift idea. Calendars are $20.00 with funds raised going towards our Kitchen Garden program at the Dunkeld Consolidated School. A big thank you to Annette Hul, a friend of the Kitchen Garden program, for her help with this project. Calendars will soon be available to purchase at our wonderful local businesses: Only Ewe, Dunkeld Post Office and Dunkeld General Store. We thank these businesses for supporting us.

THANK YOU LUNCH
Thursday 24 November we welcome all of our Friends of the Kitchen Garden program to our Thank you Lunch at 1.30pm. Without you we would not be able to provide our children with this wonderful program as part of the Dunkeld Consolidated School’s curriculum. You are pivotal to the program’s success and we wish to thank you and share lunch together. Year 4 students with Mrs Anne Gilbert, Friends of the SAKG and Lisa and myself will enjoy preparing lunch for you.

FINAL 2016 FUNDRAISER
We have been given the opportunity to cater for the Glenthompson Community Christmas Event, Saturday 10 December. Those able to assist will be required Friday 9 December from 1.00pm and/or Saturday 10 December from 10.00am. We will also require donations of a variety of sweet slices.

If you could donate a slice and/or any time to assist in preparing (we are delivering only, so no night time work!) it would be very much appreciated. Please phone or message me on 0427 823308 or email kennedy.clare.m@edumail.vic.gov.au if you would like to help.

Clare Kennedy, SAKG Kitchen
Christmas is just around the corner. Organise a hamper for that hard to buy for person. The gift of food. My fave!!!

Please note – the Thursday Spectator will no longer be delivered on a Wednesday night.

- It will be available for pick up on Thursday....thanks!

- Monday to Friday 6:30am – 5:30pm
- Saturdays 7:00am – 4:30pm
- Sundays 7:30am – 3:00pm

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- Rural, Pet & Produce Supplies
  - Gas—Domestic & BBQ
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101 Parker St, Dunkeld. Ph 03 5577 2255
GRAMPIANS CRICKET CLUB NEWS

So much happening on the cricket front it is hard to keep tabs. All club results and details can be found on the Grampians Face-book page for those after a bit more depth.

It is worth a look on a Thursday night at training when we have so many amazing volunteers running around managing over 70 children from 4-5.30.

Juniors: All teams competing very well and demonstrating great skill, sportsmanship and continual improvement. Highlights of the last fortnight included the Dunkeld Consolidated team making the Western Waves T20 final from 120 schools across the region. Although Saint Josephs Warnambool were winners, the community can be extremely proud of this effort, with the opposition having 6 Grade 6 classes and 600 children to choose from.

Milo in2 Cricket – What a crew of great helpers we have had with this group. Final date is 1 December for BBQ and icy poles for all kids and parents.

U12’s are rounding up their season and will finish with a bang on 8 December when we play an intra game on the turf, followed by a BBQ for all parents and players. U14’s continue to improve and with so many of the players having at least one more year in this age group – watch out next year and beyond.

U16’s have produced the goods so far and sit on the top of the ladder.

U15 Girls are absolutely flying and have two games to complete their first season.

We currently have several juniors who are trying out for inter association teams and the Western Waves.

Josh Gordon and Charlie Field discussing their team’s fortunes after they had bowled in C Grade last week

Seniors: Some fantastic moments in all grades, with several players achieving great heights. Again full scorecards can be found on club face-book site and in the Hamilton Spec each week.

Main highlights this week.

A Grade lost to St Andrews despite a 4 wicket haul on debut from Brandon Weatherson.

B Grade managed a big victory on the back of a magnificent century from the hugely talented Alec McIntyre against Branxholme.

C Grade had their first win in two seasons against Wando Vale, with Brett Matthews dominating with bat and ball making 50 and taking 4 wickets.

The women’s team fell short in a narrow loss to Pink Flamingos but not before some good batting performances from Pania Potatua-Wright 29 not out and Ali Wedding 20.

DUNKELD BOWLING CLUB

LADIES PENNANT

The Dunkeld Ladies ventured to Penshurst on 4 November to take on a strong Penshurst group. In difficult, windy conditions they were no match for the home team. On the 18 November we hosted another very competitive group in Macarthur and in two thrilling games our girls went down by one shot, a very commendable effort.

Next week the ladies are off to Coleraine.

LADIES TOURNAMENT

On 14 December, the Dunkeld ladies will host a TRIPLES event sponsored by TAYLOR MOTORS of Hamilton. There are four vacancies left, entries are welcomed.

DUNKELD LADIES SINGLES

This major ladies club event has seen Dorothy defeat a relatively new bowler, Christine, in a great game 25 – 23. Heather defeated Liz and Beryl defeated Anne. In the second round, Heather defeated Elaine and Dorothy defeated Beryl. Next week the final will be played between Dot and Heath.

PENSHURST TRIPLES

On 17 November Heather, Dorothy and Christine contested the triples at Penshurst, a game of 4 x 8 ends. The girls won two games and lost the other by the barest of margins – one shot – a very good effort, doing Dunkeld proud.

LAKE BOLAC TRIPLES (Oaks Day)

A Dunkeld team of Frank, Brian and Gary representing our club played this event of 5 games x 8 ends on a great rink which played true and fast. At day’s end, our boys came away with the spoils being the only 5 game winners bringing home the winnings.

GRANGE BURN FOURS

Another club supported by our ladies, this time hanks, Gary, Iven and with relatively new bowler, John McIntyre, who enjoyed the experience of tournament play, contested this 3 game x 12 ends game in a very well conducted event. Two narrow losses followed by a narrow win was the rewards for the day, no winnings but a very enjoyable day of bowls.

MEN’S PENNANT

On Cup Day, as usual, we hosted Portland RSL in the early start which enables the bowlers to attend the Cup post bowls. RSL, a strong and well balanced team, were very competitive and outplayed us despite some spirited opposition. We thank RSL for making the effort each year, a very early start, leaving Portland at about 7am to play at 9.00.

A special mention at this time to Heather, who also made it to the club very early preparing toast and hot drinks on the arrival of the players. The catering of the finger food throughout the game was much appreciated.

On Saturday 19 November we hosted Portland in a vital “must win” match, in perfect conditions for bowls, no wind and on a great rink, Portland proved too strong on the day. The team, led by Syd, had a terrific tussle all day with very little luck and finally went down by 3 shots. Shanks’ team were beaten by a very good and balanced team and to add insult to injury, Barry Huppatz won the Resting Touche collecting $22.00. Gus’s team won their rink with Frank leading superbly; this enabled his team members to secure a win 26 – 16.

Winner of the raffle, sponsored by the DUNKELD GENERAL STORE managed by Adrian and Melissa Field, was no other than the “Special K”, Steve Kennedy. Second...
prize for a “six pack” was the famous leading player on the backhand – G. Templeton alias Grub.

SOCIAL FUNCTION
Players, families and others attended a BBQ tea after the Pennant and social bowls on Saturday 19 November. The evening proved to be a great success with a wonderful meal organised by Peter and Evelyn McLean with the assistance of our band of dedicated ladies. This will occur after each Pennant game at Dunkeld. All are welcome to enjoy the hospitality of the club, so come along and enjoy the fine BBQ, nibbles and drinks.

SOCIAL BOWLS
The winner of the $40.00 voucher for social bowls was no other than Mr John Fraser, who in a great match defeated George McCullam by one shot, (it is good to see George comes out from Hamilton each Saturday to play social bowls). Mr and Mrs Fraser will no doubt enjoy the winnings at the sponsors, CAFE 109 BAR & BISTRO.

COMING EVENTS
Members are advised to watch the Events Noticeboard in the Club.
22/02/2017 Dunkeld Pairs
4/03/2017 The M.A. Templeton Memorial 21UP
11 or 25/03/2017 B Grade Championships
18/03/2017 The Stuart Darroch day
29/04/2017 Dunkeld Fours
10/06/2017 Dunkeld Triples

Gary Wall, Publicity Officer

DUNKELD RSL SUB-BRANCH
RSL Membership: We invite ex-service men and women to be members and renew their membership to ensure the future of the RSL locally. If you are a relative of ex-service men or women you can also join the RSL. By becoming a member of the RSL you will be helping the welfare of disabled war veterans and supporting your local RSL Sub-Branch. Application forms are available from the Secretary/Treasurer, Terrie Nicholson on 5573 3353.

Remembrance Day: The Dunkeld RSL Sub-Branch’s Remembrance Day service was well attended on Friday 11 November with many visitors to our town swelling the numbers. President, Mr Terry Noble, led the commemorative service at the Cenotaph where several organisations and individuals respectfully laid colourful wreaths and bouquets. Thank you to the Dunkeld Red Cross members for generously providing a delicious morning tea in the Henry Leech Room following the service.

A sincere thank you to everyone for supporting this year’s Poppy Appeal. Thank you also to Adrian and Melissa Field, Dunkeld General Store and Malcolm Russell, Cafe 109 for allowing us to sell poppies through their businesses. Your support was greatly appreciated! A total of $1032.40 was raised for this year’s Poppy Appeal. The money raised is used to assist both current and former serving members of the Australian and Allied defence forces and their dependents when in need. For more information please visit: http://www. anzacappeal.com.au/

Lunch with Annabelle Brayley: Annabelle Brayley is the highly regarded author and editor of four collections of moving and inspirational stories: Bush Nurses, Nurses of the Outback, Outback Vets and Our Vietnam Nurses. With a passion for telling the dramatic real life stories of ordinary Australians working in remote and dangerous locations, Annabelle has forged a reputation for accuracy, honesty and sensitivity that enables people to tell their stories without fear of prejudice or sensationalism.

Date: Thursday 1 December
Venue: National Vietnam Veterans Museum, 25 Veterans Drive, Newhaven, Phillip Island
Time: 12.00 noon includes a light lunch and guided tour of the Museum. Wine and beer available at bar prices.
Tickets: $35.00 some concessions apply. Tickets can only be purchased online at www.vietnamvetsmuseum.org

Darwin Defenders Commemorative Ceremony: 75th Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin: Darwin Defenders 1942-1945 Commemoration Ceremony will be held at the Shrine of Remembrance on Thursday 16 February 2017. The ceremony will honour those who served and died during the attacks on Darwin on 19 February 1942. It is an opportunity for veterans, their families, school students from across Melbourne to commemorate the contribution made by those serving and living in Darwin during this period.

On Sunday 19 February, during the 10.30am Church Service at Saint Paul’s Cathedral – special prayers will be offered to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin. Please send your contact details to Bernadette Lightfoot at bern@ryebuck.com.au or call 9500 2399 if you would like to be included on the invitation list.

DUNKELD MUSEUM UPDATE
Committee Meeting: A Planning Meeting for the Dunkeld Museum Committee will be held on Monday 5 December commencing at 8.00pm at the Dunkeld Museum. There will be no committee meeting held during the month of January.

Great Victorian Bike Ride: The Dunkeld Museum will be holding a stall as part of the ‘community stalls’ being held at
Mobile Library will be visiting **Dunkeld** every Thursday fortnight - 11.30am – 1.30pm
Sterling Street (Community Hall)  
**Dates for December:** 1st and 15th
**Mirranatwa:** 8th and 22nd

The Mobile will not operate on Extreme and Code Red Fire Declared days  
Phone: 5573 0470 www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/library

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Dunkeld & District Newsletter

**CONTRIBUTION CUT-OFF AND DISTRIBUTION**

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Please note that this will be the LAST ISSUE FOR 2016. Please plan any CHRISTMAS ADVERTISING OR ARTICLES well in advance.

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**NB:** If you wish to change the content/size of your advertisement please email the new version by the relevant closing date.

- The Dunkeld Consolidated School will forward invoices and receipt any monies pertaining to advertising in the Dunkeld & District Community Newsletter.
- Please send all content to vkearney63@gmail.com or for inquiries phone Vicki on 0421 232 518.
- Please send flyers and photos in a J-PEG or WORD FORMAT and compress photos prior to emailing.
- Please be aware that hardcopy (paper) cannot be printed in colour but any colour advertising will be seen in original format on the website.
A SIMPLE WALK by Marion Colton

One of the recommendations of Lama Surya Das to help us to simplify life was take a simple walk. I think I have failed, for my simple walks seem to always turn out be full of wonderful complexity.

One November evening I walked along Salt Creek, up the firebreak, past the Myers’ property, returning via a portion of the Arboretum.

The creek was now a narrow trickle and the new growth of the Common Reed, *Phragmites australis*, was rapidly filling it. Off the made path, I picked my way through dense weeds and crossed the creek via its exposed stones. The height and abundance of exotic weeds is phenomenal. Fortunately they haven’t choked out the wonderful stand of *Senecio Quadridentatus*, Cotton Fireweed, that I passed earlier. Its stems are so straight and tall; soft, silvery grey. They present their umbels of buds soon to burst into flower. They look magnificent.

As I ascended the hill a little Blue Wren hopped sprightly through the branches of an Acacia species, still flowering. As I reached the top, the evening sun was highlighting the melange of greens, silvers and burgundies of the new flower heads of the Five-awned Spear Grass, *Pentapogon quadrifidus*. A few heads had already turned to their pinkish-platinum summer colours. They looked so delightful, their colourful heads bowing in one direction in the slight breeze. I wandered across the expanse of land between the Myers’ property and the Royal Mail Hotel’s garden, hoping to discover some wildflowers. I was not disappointed.

Tall stems bearing the soft mauve flowers of the Chocolate Lily, *Arthropodium strictum*, grew in abundance, their common name derived not from their taste but from their smell. I have always loved these delicate lilies, which also grow in abundance in the forests around Creswick. How pleased I was to see them here in this meadow setting.

My glance alighted on some colonies of tallish, yellow flowers, and I went to explore. Some were on single stems, some on forked stems, maybe twenty or more centimetres high. At first I thought they were a species of Goodenia, but on consulting my Grassland species pamphlet, the forms and soft drooping character of the yellow petals, with three curving gently forwards, resembled the Spur Velleia, *Velleia*

I was both delighted and amazed to see large areas covered by the lovely creamy clusters of *Pimelea humilis*, the Common Rice Flower. Each cluster of flowers consists of small tubes bearing four tiny, rounded petals that curve away from the centre. I was amazed at how widely they extend and also that they were surviving, seemingly healthily, amongst so many exotic weeds.

The delicate stems, bearing small buds of the Branching Bluebells, *Wahlenberga multicaulis*, swayed gently among the grasses. Their blooms seem to capture the pristine blueness of the sky. The deep green, prickly, skeleton-like leaves of the Blue Devils, *Eryngium ovinum*, were forcing their way up through clumps of herbs. In time, they’ll display their stunning blue heads and stalks. An occasional Milkmaid, *Burchardia umbellata*, displayed its white, rounded petals, offset by maroon anthers in the middle of each one and a maroon pistil in the centre. Such a balance of natural artistry.

Over much of this meadow area, amongst weeds and herbs, a tiny Wallaby grass species has valiantly and successfully propagated itself. The evening sun gently caressed its masses of small, rounded, soft heads.

Nearby, in an ancient River Red Gum, a family of Sulphur-crested Cockatoos were loudly making their presence known, sometimes flying down to the grasses, then back up to roost on the branches. As I approached, I gazed up into the tree watching their activities and noticed that some birds’ breasts seemed to have a brownish tinge. Also some were located around a hollow and I wondered whether this was perhaps the plumage of juvenile birds.

As I left the area, I drank in once again the wonderful vista of the three peaks; Wurgarri, Bainggug and Mud-Dadjug curving gracefully against the skyline. What a wonderful gift to us.

On my way past the lagoons of the Arboretum, a clutch of tiny ducklings was being led by their mother to the far side, followed at a distance by their alert father.