

# Dunkeld & District Newsletter



Sponsored by Lions Club

Distributed fortnightly on Wednesday (except during School Holidays)  
Printed at the Dunkeld Consolidated School

Issue No: 20/2017      Date: Wednesday 13 December 2017



# SANTA CLAUS



# IS COMING TO TOWN

## DUNKELD CHRISTMAS EVE TOWN SANTA RUN

Santa will visit the streets of Dunkeld on Christmas Eve Sunday 24 December commencing at 7:00pm. He will be riding on the back of the Fire Engine with all sirens sounding so keep an ear out and don't forget to come out and say hello.

Children from out of town are welcome to wait at the Post Office end of the Memorial Park. Grandparents are welcome to ring Santa's little helper, Heather Hampton on 5577 2240 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; Gaylene  
and Frank  
Raymond, who  
all make this  
community  
event possible.



## LET'S GET JOLLY!!

ALL Dunkeld residents are invited to enter in to the Christmas Spirit in this year's street decorating competition, sponsored by Dunkeld Progress Association.

To be in with a chance to win \$200.00 cash prize, use your best creativity and humour to showcase Santa Claus in your front yard doing something remarkable.

To ensure the judges don't miss your contribution, **lodge your entry form with the Dunkeld General Store.** Good luck!

Competition entries must have been lodged by no later than Friday 15 December to make sure you're in the running for a prize.

## DUNKELD CAROLS

The Dunkeld Community Carols will be held at the Community Centre on Sunday 17 December at 7.30pm.



There will be a collection on the night for the Christmas Bowl Appeal helping an overseas project. Please bring a small plate of supper to share. Tea and coffee will be provided. Everyone is invited to share in the Christmas spirit as a community and enjoy singing some familiar carols.

## DONATIONS

Simon and Goldie Armytage \$150  
Dorothy Williams \$ 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."**

## CHURCH TIMES

### Saint Patrick's Catholic Church

Parish Priest - Father Pat Mugavin - 5571 1161

E-mail: [hamilton@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:hamilton@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

3 <sup>rd</sup> Week	Sunday	December 17	8.30am	Mass
4 <sup>th</sup> Week	Sunday	December 24	6.00pm	Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

### Anglican - Uniting Churches Combined Worship

#### Services at Saint Mary's, Dunkeld.

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

December 17	Anglican	9.00am
December 17	Community Carols	7.30pm
Christmas Services - January 7		6.30 pm Christmas Eve - confirm in Spectator
January 7	Anglican	9.00am
January 14	No service	
January 21	Anglican	9.00am
January 28	No service	
February 4	Anglican	9.00am
February 11	Uniting	9.00am Rev Gallacher
February 18	Anglican	9.00am
February 25	Uniting	9.00am Roger Thompson

Everyone is very welcome.

### Pannyabyr Uniting Church


To be advised.

### Mirranatwa Uniting Church

The following members can be contacted at any time:

Secretary Iris Field 5574 0202; Treasurer Margo Dark 5574 0222; Kristy Beveridge 5574 0274.

## WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
11	12	13 FINAL Newsletter for 2017 Dunkeld Tourism Assoc meeting	14 Mobile Library Dunkeld	15 Santa Competition ends	16	17 Dunkeld Carols
18	19	20	21	22 Mobile Library Mirranatwa	23	24 Christmas Eve Santa Run
25 	26	27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

On behalf of myself, Ally and Terrie, I would like to thank you all very much for your continuing support of the Dunkeld & District Newsletter.  
Merry Christmas and Happy 2018! Cheers, Vicki

## FROM THE LION'S DEN

### What are the Lions?

We serve where we live.

We are global.

We are friends, neighbours and leaders.

We help our communities to grow and thrive.

We give 100 percent of our fundraising and donations to our causes.

We do everything ourselves, we roll up our sleeves to help our local communities and our global network.

We are rich in heritage and pride.

We are proud our organisation is close to a century old and has a distinguished history of doing good works for the world.

We are open and dedicated to many causes.

Lions believe a community is what we make it.

Being part of something larger matters.

To do this we need your help. Joining is by invitation only but interested men and women over 18 years are encouraged to submit an expression of interest at the Lions Australia website at: <http://lionsclubs.org.au/join-lions/> or contact Todd Burger or one of our members.

### Irish Priest

In the 11 November newsletter I mentioned a Catholic Priest and an ABC reporter. Well I was down in Koroit recently and was told another story about him. He had been in Koroit about a week and was pulled up for speeding by one of the local policemen, who approaches the car, sees the Priest's garb, an empty wine bottle on the seat, and smells alcohol on the Priest's breath.

He says, "Father, have you been drinking?"

"Just water," replied the Priest.

The policeman asks, "Then why do I smell wine?"

The Priest looks at the bottle and says, "Good Lord! He's done it again".

Merry Christmas from the Lions and see you at the Australia Day celebrations.

*Peter Hinchey*

## RED CROSS NEWS

Members of the Dunkeld Sub branch of the Red Cross thank the Dunkeld RSL Sub-Branch for the use of their meeting room, Vicki for including our articles each issue and the community for supporting the activities of the Branch during the year. We extend our wishes to all for a safe and pleasant Christmas and summer break.

### Program for 2018:

Meetings will be held on the following dates, mostly at the Henry Leech RSL Room:

- February 22 at 2.00pm
- March 22 at 2.00pm
- April 26 at 1.00pm then possibly afternoon tea at the Peshurst Hospital
- May 24 at 2.00pm
- June 28 at 2.00pm
- July AGM at Woodhouse TBA
- August 23 at 2.00pm
- September 27 at 2.00pm
- October 25 at 2.00pm
- November 11 Remembrance Day
- November 22 Christmas Lunch venue TBA

## DUNKELD PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE

**Caravan Park:** It's all happening. Thank you to Frank, Gary, Brian David H and Herman for clearing the limb that damaged the bridge. Preparations are being made to bring in the final part of the office/residence. Thank you to Simon, Frank, Gary and Ian for helping to clean out the holes for the

footings. They will be poured this week. We are so close to Christmas that the building probably will not arrive until the New Year.

The Park looks great. We are so thankful that we have Gary as caretaker. He does a great job and takes great pride in the Park. Thank you, Gary.

A big thank you to Vicki K and her crew. Your display at the Information Centre was excellent.

**Salt Creek:** Percy O'Brien from the GHCA has been removing woody weeds from the creek. Not a great job at this time of year. Thank you for your bravery.

**Breakup:** This year we are having a combined breakup of members of the Sawmill, Arboretum, Museum and DPLC. This will be this Friday 15 December. It will start at 6.00pm. Please bring a chair, drink plate and cutlery, a salad or sweet. We will cook the meat. It is usually a very good night that says thank you to all who give so much for our community.

**Thanks:** It has been a very busy year. We all owe Prustie and his crew and huge thank you for what has been achieved for Dunkeld and District this year. Well done everyone.

May I take this opportunity of thanking everyone for their kind wishes. I have had 25 trips to Warrnambool and 14 to go (not counting). Fingers crossed it is not all in vain. I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Travel safely. Thank you also to Vicki and crew for a great newsletter.

*John Smith, President*

## DUNKELD CFA

Fire restrictions are likely to come in on 18 December, so any burning needs to be completed by then. Remember if you are burning near a public road please register your burn with Vicfire 1800 668 511. There have been some false alarms already due to fires not being reported.

With the season producing plenty of growth, a high fire risk is likely this summer. Please tidy up around your homes and keep vacant blocks mown.

Dunkeld CFA will be conducting roadside burns as well as some targeting burns close to town in the near future and I will use this forum to keep everyone notified.

Be fire prepared this summer.

*Charles Blackwell, Captain Dunkeld CFA*



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## **DUNKELD GENERAL STORE**

93 Parker St, Dunkeld, 3294  
[info@dunkeldgeneralstore.com.au](mailto:info@dunkeldgeneralstore.com.au)  
**PHONE: 03 5577 2418**



**Christmas is just around the corner.**  
**Organise a hamper for that hard to buy for person. The gift of food.**  
**My fave!!!**

- **MONDAY TO FRIDAY - 6.30am – 5.30pm**
  - **SATURDAY - 7.00am – 4.30pm**
  - **SUNDAY- 7.30am – 3.00pm**
- **(Times may vary on Public Holidays)**



## DUNKELD MUSEUM NEWS

### DATES TO PUT IN YOUR 2018 DIARY

- 12 February, 7.30pm: 1<sup>st</sup> Guest Speaker evening.
- 18 March, 1.30pm: The official unveiling of the Dunkeld Heritage Trail.
- 31 March (Easter Saturday), 1.30pm: 'New' Cemetery Walk.

We have lots more planned for next year. Watch this space!

The Museum is open on Sundays and Thursdays, 1.00pm - 5.00pm. Admission is \$7.50. No admission is charged to current members.

Contact the Museum: email: [dunkeldmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:dunkeldmuseum@gmail.com)

Like us on Facebook 📱

Museum duty:

Dec 17: Jenny Crawford, Bill Crawford

Dec 24: Closed

Dec 31: Heather Funk, Joyce Gordon

Jan 7: Kay Leyshon, Terrie Nicholson

Thank you to everyone who has supported the new Museum Committee this year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



### DUNKELD WALKERS

**Enquiries:** Marcia Macgugan,  
[mmacgugan@gmail.com](mailto:mmacgugan@gmail.com) or 0400 621 806.

**Contact List** I am keen to finalise and distribute the walkers' contact list this week. So if you are interested in being on the list (and receiving one) and have not yet let me know, please email or ring me with the following information:

Name (of course!), phone, email, availability, type of walks you would like to do (i.e. length, where).

Wishing the Dunkeld Community a very Merry Christmas, and a safe, Happy New Year and holiday (if you are heading away). Look forward to walking with some of you next year!

**Cheers Marcia**



### STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM

#### THANK YOU

**Thank you** to all who offered assistance, time and produce for our last fundraiser for 2017, catering for the Glenthompson Community Annual Dinner. To you who helped Friday and Saturday preparing salads and platters, you are a wonderful group of people. To those that baked delicious slices and dropped off donated produce I thank you for your generosity. Special mention to The Dunkeld Old Bakery for your kind donation of delicious sourdough dinner rolls.

**Thank you** to you who have purchased SAKG 2018 Calendars, we still have a very limited number left if you require a last minute gift for someone or yourself. Thank you to the Dunkeld General Store and the Dunkeld Old Bakery for helping us sell them.

**Thank you** to Mr Jeffreys, the staff, school councillors and families of Dunkeld Consolidated School for your support of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. Thank you to our 'Friends of the SAKG' who come in each week to help us deliver good food education to our students, we could not deliver this program without you and we are very appreciative of you giving your time to us.

**Thank you** to our community folk and businesses that donate goods on a regular basis, you are so very kind to think of us when you have an abundance of produce or goods you wish to donate.

**Thank you** to all who are involved in sending our newsletter out each edition, it is a valuable tool in helping us get our message out to the masses.

**Thank you** to our students, for your willingness to taste and experience new foods learn new skills and gain knowledge in planting, harvesting, preparing and sharing good food together. Authentic learning at its very best.

We look forward to 2018 with enthusiasm. Enjoy your time preparing and sharing food together in the holidays

**Warm regards, Clare Kennedy, SAKG Kitchen**

I would like to thank everyone that supported our school garden this year, in any way. It has all been noted, recognised and very much appreciated. You know that it would not work if we did not have the community support. I wish you all a very Happy Christmas, and a peaceful, relaxed summer ahead!

**Lisa McIntyre, SAKG Garden**

### CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas and the arrival of 2018 I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in the Lowan electorate a very merry Christmas, and a happy, safe and prosperous New Year.

The Christmas holiday season is an opportunity to spend time with family and friends and to reflect on the important things in life.

Holidays can bring great moments of joy and hopefully long stretches of relaxation. I hope everyone enjoys this time, but also remains vigilant and safe on the roads, in our waterways, pools, out in nature and even in the backyard.

As the festive season brings with it an array of shopping needs I encourage everyone to shop locally to support our local traders and economy.

It has been a privilege to represent and work for the people of Lowan in 2017. For me it has been a busy and fulfilling year and I have greatly enjoyed the diversity of individuals, groups and organisations I have worked with to help make western Victoria a better place.

The strength and generosity of our rural communities is one of our greatest assets. Please take the time to look out for others in our community, to extend the hand of friendship and offer the spirit of Christmas to those around you.

Again, I wish everyone across the Lowan electorate a merry Christmas, and a happy, safe and prosperous New Year.

**Emma Kealy, Member for Lowan**



## MACGUGAN EARTHWORKS

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*Nick Millard*

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### OPENING HOURS

**Tuesday – Saturday**

**10am – 4pm**

- |                         |                                           |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| ▪ Prescriptions         | ▪ Webster Packing                         |
| ▪ Make-up, cosmetics    | ▪ "Metagenics"- specialised vitamin range |
| ▪ "Pukka" - Organic Tea | ▪ Baby care products                      |
| ▪ Local Delivery        | ▪ Friendly Service                        |

Mark Rafla | Dunkeld Pharmacy

## Maw's Mowing



### COMPLETE GARDENING SERVICE

- # Pruning    # Chainsaw work    # Landscaping
- # Broad Leaf Spraying    \*# Irrigation

### SLASHING

- # Fire breaks    # Large grassed areas
- SIX FOOT DECK – (Largest in Town)

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## LIBRARY FINDS NEW HOME DURING REFURBISHMENT

The Greater Hamilton Library will be relocated to the Hamilton Performing Arts Centre (PAC) for the month of January to enable important refurbishment works to take place.

The refurbishment, made possible thanks to \$121,000 in funding from the Victorian Government's Living Libraries Infrastructure program and a \$40,000 contribution from Council, aims to create a new and vibrant space which enhances browsing and collection accessibility for library users and improves design and layout.

Works will include new flooring, mobile shelving, painting, new customer service desk, new glass wall partition, and a revised layout which includes creation of a dedicated space for creative play.

The Living Libraries Infrastructure program is designed to assist Victorian Councils and regional libraries in the provision of high-quality and accessible public library facilities that support the role of public libraries in strengthening communities.

Library Services Coordinator Kelly Pitt-Lancaster said staff are very excited about the works taking place and reassures library patrons that the disruption to service will be minimal. "While we understand this closure will have some impact on our community, we have planned for it to occur during our quietest period of the year to reduce service interruption for our customers and the community.

"All library services will be available from the temporary site at the PAC, although there will be some limitations with reduced computer access and reduction of books available on the floor. The after-hours chute will also unfortunately be unavailable during this time.

"We are really excited to see work finally commencing on the refurbishment. We will certainly be able to achieve a lot for our customers during this time and we are confident that the changes made will significantly improve our ability to deliver quality library services to our community," Ms Pitt-Lancaster said.

Library members will have access to their accounts via the website as usual and all of our online resources will still be available [www.centralhighlandlibraries.org.au](http://www.centralhighlandlibraries.org.au)

The library will close for the Christmas break on 23 December and reopen at the Hamilton PAC from 2 January 2018. The works are expected to take approximately one month.



### MOBILE LIBRARY

Will be visiting **DUNKELD**

**every Thursday fortnight 12.00 – 1.30pm**

**Sterling Street (Community Hall)**

**Dates for DECEMBER are: 14**

**Mirranatwa: 22**

**Phone: 5573 0470**

**[www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/library](http://www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/library)**

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK: GREATER HAMILTON LIBRARY**

## THANK YOU

We all need to say a huge "THANK YOU" to the tireless Shire workers for the general maintenance and mowing in Dunkeld. It is amazing!

We are most grateful to have such sincere workers.

## DUNKELD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

The Dunkeld Progress Association wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and safe and happy New Year. Thanks for all the support in 2017. Looking forward to a great 2018!!

*Lucinda Peterson, President*



## DUNKELD POOL PARTY

### Celebrate the start of Summer Holidays

**22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017**

**4pm – 8pm**

**Free Entry**

**Inflatable Toys**  **Novelty Races** 

**Sausage sizzle**  **Music**

**Bring your banana lounge**

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*Merry Christmas*





## Greater Hamilton Library School Holiday Program



Saturday 16 December 10.00am to 12.30pm@  
front of the Library.

Join us during the 12 Days of Christmas Festival  
and create a beautiful Candle Jar Gift to give to  
someone special this Christmas.



**Wednesday 20 December @ 10.30am**

*Santa is coming to see all our little readers  
just before Christmas. There will be stories,  
singing and Christmas craft as we celebrate  
the festive season.*



**Suitable for children up to 5 years**

**Movie/Craft**  
**Wednesday 10 January**  
**@ 1.30 pm**  
**Cinema Foyer**



Make one of Miguel's  
family characters  
from the stunning  
and colourful land of  
the afterlife.



PLUS

**SPECIAL SHOWING OF**  
**"Coco" @ 2.15 pm**



**Aspiring musician Miguel, confronted with his  
family's ancestral ban on music, enters the Land  
of the Dead to work out the mystery.**

**Rated PG – 1hr 49mins**

**Cost: \$8.50 per person**  
**Limited tickets available.**  
**Purchase at the Library before**  
**Tuesday 9 January 2018**

### **Emily designs Christmas card for MP**

The Nationals Member for Lowan, Emma Kealy MP will use a design by Emily Preston, a Year 5 student at Haven Primary School as the cover for her 2017 Christmas card.

Ms Kealy wrote to all primary schools in the electorate inviting students to design the cover of her Christmas card, asking them to depict what they loved best about their local area, with a touch of Christmas. They were also given the opportunity to explain their work in 25 words.

Emily described her drawing as "a few of my favourite things about Lowan including the Grampians, Green Lake and the great farm".

A number of other students who produced highly commended artwork will receive a prize in appreciation of their outstanding efforts.

"The artistic talent of our youth is very impressive and it was striking how many included references to their favourite places and our recharged lakes and rivers," Ms Kealy said.

"I wanted something meaningful that represented our great part of the State and they have certainly given me that.

"I am so proud of their great work and I will be displaying some of the entries in my office window.

"This is the third year I have run this competition and it will definitely be something I will do again next year," Ms Kealy said.





## Dunkeld Refugee & Asylum Seeker Support Group (DRASS)

**Vision:** 'Opening Hearts and Doors to Refugees'.

**Mission –** Using community initiatives to fundraise, educate and effect policy change to grow compassion for refugees

Join the DRASS Festive Food Drive!

Your generous donations this Christmas will go toward the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Foodbank in Melbourne. The Foodbank is a free grocery store that provides healthy food and wellbeing to over 600 people seeking asylum each week.

Help fill the basket at the Dunkeld Bendigo Bank with

The 12 foods of Christmas.....

On 1st day - Gift grocery cards for mums and dads (max. value \$20)

On the 2nd day - Shampoo

On the 3rd day - Dishwashing liquid

On the 4th day - Tomato paste

On the 5th day - Honey and Tahini

On the 6th day - Shaving cream

On the 7th day - Disposable razors

On the 8th day - Deodorant

On the 9th day - Tins of fish in oil

On the 10th day - Cornflakes and Rice Bubbles

On the 11th day - Biscuits sweet and savoury

On the 12th day - Basmati rice

For more information, contact Sally Jackson on 0459 774 281.



### 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. Membership renewal for 2017-2108 is due by 31 January 2018. Renew your membership before 22 December 2017 to enter the draw to win a new release Hyundai i30! 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 for new members are available from the Secretary/Treasurer, Terrie Nicholson on 5573 3353.

### Reserve Force Day Parade and Commemoration Service

**2018:** The Reserve Forces Day Council (Vic) Inc represents present day and former Reservists in Victoria of all three services, Navy, Army and Air Force. Australia Reservists have a long and proud history of service in military campaign from the Boer War through to the First and Second World Wars and subsequent conflicts including Korea, Malaya, Vietnam, Iraq, East Timor and Afghanistan.

Reserve Forces Day is on 1 July and each Reserve Forces Day is recognised across Australia on the first Sunday in July. Reserve Forces Day will be commemorated in Melbourne on Sunday 1 July with a Commemorative Service and Parade at the Shrine of Remembrance commencing at 10.00am with marchers forming up in Government Hosue Drive before being led by the Army Band Melbourne, past a static display of historic and new military vehicles and other historic service items of interest, and marching up to the Shrine Forecourt. Light horse men, in period costume and on

horseback, will lead the parade onto the Shrine Forecourt where the Ceremonial proceedings will take place. A flyover of vintage RAAF aircraft is also a spectacular part of the parade

As well as paying tribute to all reservists the parade will also commemorate the centenary of the end of First World War 1914-1918 and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Reserve Forces Day Parade. We would like to extend an invitation to all RSL members to join us on this day. Reservists may march in the Parade or, if unable to march, seating on the Shrine Forecourt will be available. Spectators are most welcome. Light refreshments provided by the Salvation Army, will be available for all at the conclusion of the parade.

**Veterans' Employment Awards open for nominations:** A new national awards program has been established as part of the Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Program to recognise employers of veterans. The Veterans Employment Awards will celebrate Australian businesses that are employing former Defence personnel as well as veterans who are making a significant contribution to their workplace.

The Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Program aims to raise awareness among employers about the diverse skills and experiences veterans bring to the workplace. As part of the Program, an Industry Advisory Committee on veterans' employment strategies into recruitment practices of Australian businesses. Each year, around 5,200 people will leave the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the Government's aim is to ensure former defence personnel can transition to the workplace effectively and smoothly and enjoy meaningful employment.

Nominations for the Veterans' Employment Awards are open until 22 December 2017 and can be submitted at [www.veteransemployment.gov.au](http://www.veteransemployment.gov.au)



*The Dunkeld RSL Sub-Branch would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members, supporters and the Dunkeld and district community a peaceful and joyous Christmas and a happy and safe New Year!*

## GRAMPIAN WOOLS

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## **Scholarships available for rural vocational students**

The Nationals Member for Lowan, Emma Kealy MP is encouraging young people from regional Victoria looking to undertake vocational education or training to apply for a new scholarship.

The Rural Chances scholarship, launched last week, is an initiative of the Macpherson Smith Rural Foundation (MSRF) and is available to students across Victoria.

The 2018 scholarship is offering 10 scholarships valued at \$5,000 and a further 10 smaller scholarships of up to \$2,000 to assist rural students in gaining a qualification.

Scholarship recipients also receive extra care and guidance by way of mentoring, networking opportunities and leadership development.

Ms Kealy said Rural Chances was run in western Victoria earlier in the year but had now been extended across the rest of the state.

“MSRF is leading the way in support for students from rural and regional areas in Victoria,” Ms Kealy said.

“I encourage all young people from the Lowan electorate who are considering undertaking vocational training to consider applying”, she said.

Applicants must be between 16-24 years of age, hold a current Centrelink health care card and be planning to train in an area where there are skills shortages in rural or regional Victoria.

Applications close Wednesday, 20 December 2017.

For more information visit <http://www.msrf.org.au/ruralchances>

## **LANDCARE NEWS**

Grampians Ark & Grampians to Grasslands – the baiting pulse has now finished. Please dispose of your unused baits as necessary, and send your bait take details to me.

Red Gums – many people have noticed the significant damage to the red gum trees we have living around us. Thanks to the help and advice from our visiting and local entomologists, ornithologists and ecologists, we now understand what is happening. A small insect likes to suck the sap from the leaves, and then produces a sticky sweet residue, which it uses to cover itself like a protective shield. These are known as lerps. As with all pests, they build up numbers before their predators can build up numbers to control them.

Birds are a great predator of the lerps – pardalotes love eating the insects – they remove the sticky coat, let it drop, and then eat the insect. So they are great to have around. Noisy myna's, on the other hand, love the sticky, sweet cover, so they will eat that, and leave the insect alive to make another sticky, sweet cover. They are in effect, farming the lerps. So we want to encourage more of the pardalotes in our landscape.

By including small bushy shrubby plants that create good habitat and a great source of food, in your plantations and gardens, these small birds will be able to survive and thrive. Watch the red gums now, hopefully they will be showing signs of new red/green growth.

Thank you to all our presenters and those that helped us this year. It's been busy, I've learnt a lot, hope others have too! Happy Christmas!

**Lisa McIntyre**





## OFF THE RAILS

Off the Rails would like to thank the Dunkeld and district community for supporting us over the last twelve months as we set about reactivating the old Dunkeld Railway Station.

It's been a productive year for our committee which has hosted all kinds of exciting events including: workshops (knitting/ paper making/ flower head-dress), a visit from Orchestra Victoria, a Poetry and Image installation, contributions from resident artists Eliza Gilchrist and Oliver Ashworth-Martin, an evening with Matthew Fagan: Lord of the Strings, a visit from the delightful WARM exhibition and 'the Mysterious Resident' (who hasn't left!), the inaugural OTR Photo Show during the Three Peaks Festival, and of course the OTR Bizarre Bazaar last weekend.

Highlights included a fundraising concert in April featuring acclaimed singer-songwriter Neil Murray, and the wildly successful Dunkeld Art Group (DAG) Market over the Dunkeld Races weekend.

Both highlights are set to return in 2018 with many more exciting events already in the pipeline.

We are currently gearing up to start promoting our very popular resident Artist program and there are already bookings from local artists to run workshops in the New Year.

A big thank you to the OTR committee and other volunteers for spending countless hours helping to keep things organised, ship shape and on track. Special thanks to Lucinda Peterson for her work as Secretary for well over 12 months. Lu has done a fantastic job and will remain on the committee, handing on the job to OTR newcomer Eleni Rivers who is already helping us to plan for 2018.

Thanks also to Corrine Smith for recently mowing our lush lawn and all the other weeders, cleaners and helpers who have kept the grass, sparrows, ants and dust under control.

The Dunkeld Railway Station is one of the town's most historic buildings, and we are thrilled to be able to utilise the place as an inclusive and creative hub which seems to continually inspire enriching projects, exhibitions and events.

VicTrack, through its "Community Use of Vacant Rail Buildings" program, has been instrumental in assisting us to transform the building into a fully functional studio and exhibition space, while simultaneously supporting us in our goal to be a sustainable and independent collective.

I am sure 2018 will be loads of fun and will provide us all with plenty of opportunities to express our creativity and organisational skills and build on what has been a really solid year of events and activities. We look forward to seeing all our wonderful supporters and helpers in the New Year and welcoming some new faces as well ... all the best for the silly season!

## VicSwim Summer Kidz Program

We are very excited to let families in the local area know that VicSwim, in conjunction with the State Government will be conducting the VicSwim Summer Kidz program at the Dunkeld swimming pool.

This is a fantastic opportunity for local families to access swimming lessons at the subsidised rate of \$30.00 for the week.

**12 DAYS  
OF CHRISTMAS**

**CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL**

**Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th  
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**10am - 3pm**

**Hamilton PAC, Brown Street.**

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## Regional public transport an endurance test

The Nationals Member for Lowan, Emma Kealy MP wasn't surprised to learn a Horsham resident endured a 10-hour bus trip to get to Warrnambool using Victoria's inadequate regional public transport system.

The Horsham man was travelling to Warrnambool for a meeting and was required to travel via Ballarat due to current timetabling.

"This situation is not unique and while totally unacceptable, is not surprising given the lack of regional public transport options currently available", Ms Kealy said.

"A perfect example is the lack of public transport between Horsham and Hamilton, the two major regional centres in Western Victoria.

"It is astounding to think that you can fly from Melbourne to Tokyo in less time than it takes to get from Horsham to Warrnambool using our inadequate public transport system.

"The simple fact is that for Western Victoria to get moving again we need better access to public transport.

"I'm asking local people to keep sharing their stories to help get our voice heard in Parliament about how better public transport services would improve the lives of the 110,000 people who live in our great part of the State", she said.

To tell your story and have your say visit [haveyoursayvictoria.org/westernpublictransportservices](http://haveyoursayvictoria.org/westernpublictransportservices) or phone Emma Kealy's electorate office on 5382 0097 or 5571 9800.

## VicHealth grants boost female participation

The Nationals Member for Lowan, Emma Kealy MP has congratulated six regional sporting clubs who have receiving funding under Round 1 of the VicHealth Active Club Grants Program 2017-18.

"This latest round of funding is aimed at getting more women and girls to take part in sport, something I actively support and encourage", Ms Kealy said.

The following grants will be used to boost female participation rates by entry into new competitions and conducting new programs and clinics:

- Hamilton District Cricket Association will introduce an U16 and U13 girl's competition to enable more girls to participate in the sport (\$2,370)
- Hamilton Golf Club will run beginner's programs to introduce women to golf (\$2,976)
- Nhill Golf Club Inc will promote and expand its junior golf program including junior golf clinics and school golf competitions (\$2,996)
- Pimpinio Football and Netball Club will increase girls' participation through an Auskick program aimed at people who haven't played before (\$1,299)
- Horsham Saints will create an open age female football team including opportunities for indigenous girls and girls from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (\$2,604); and
- Tarrington Cricket Club will enter a team in the local women's cricket association for the first time (\$1,969).

Research shows that female participation in sport is still lower than male involvement and women and girls can find it hard to reach the recommended 2.5 hours of moderate physical activity each week.

"This is for a number of reasons including a lack of suitable opportunities and difficulty prioritising physical activity over other commitments like family, education and work", Ms Kealy said.



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"It is important we continue to open up avenues for more people, particularly females, to get involved in sport," she said.

## DUNKELD BOWLING CLUB

### MAJOR CLUB EVENTS PROPOSED DATES

Club Championships	6 and 13 January 2018
The MA Templeton Memorial 21 Up	20 February 2018
The 100 Up	3 March 2018
B Grade Championships	10 March 2018

### LOCAL TOURNAMENTS

Heather McIntyre, Gary Wall and Helen C (from Grangeburn) went to Coleraine on 6 December to play the mixed doubles. An enjoyable day with a draw, one win, a one shot loss and a larger loss to the eventual winners was the day's result. It was very disappointing to see such a poor representation from district clubs.

### PENNANT

#### Men's Pennant

Off to Penshurst on 2 December with strong hopes of a win, however it was not to be as Syd was our only winning rink, Gary down by three shots and Cloud by a large margin. This was a game we needed to win to stay alive and play finals, however it is still possible.

On 9 December we hosted Heywood, with Gus back as skip his group enjoyed a great win, it was pleasing to see Cloud back in form, Syd and his team all bowling well, especially Uncle Brian in superb form and Bob, having a great day as third went on to a very comfortable win. Gary and company battled bravely but went down by five shots. Overall a great win which should put us back in fourth position.

Next week away to Hamilton; a tough game and then the Christmas break.

#### Ladies (Friday) Pennant

Unfortunately our last round of home and away matches, against Grangeburn, was abandoned due to the weather. But we had already secured a place in the finals finishing fourth. Last Friday we played Casterton in a semi-final at the Grangeburn Club. Against the top team in our Division this was going to be a challenge, and the result was a 12 shot loss. It was a great team effort to make the finals and all players enjoyed the competition.

Ladies Association Pairs: Heather McIntyre and Anne Wilson (Balmoral) won through their section and due to a bye went into the Final conducted at Hamilton on 4 December. After a tight game Heather and Anne went down by two shots.

Ladies Singles Championship: Two matches were played on Tuesday. Beryl Lowe def Elizabeth Duckmanton and Heather McIntyre defeated Christine Scott. This week Anne Colmo plays Beryl and the winner will play Heather in the final. The Club Champion will represent the Club at Association Champion of Champions in January.

Social Bowls: These are held on Tuesday mornings now due to the warmer days. There will be a break for Christmas and New Year from 19 December returning on 9 January. All newcomers are most welcome. Bowls and assistance available.

Ladies Triples Tournament: This is scheduled for this Wednesday 13 December, weather permitting.



*Heather McIntyre, Beryl Lowe, Anne Colmo, Elizabeth Duckmanton, Matt Cole and Christine Scott*

### TWILIGHT BOWLS will be starting on 19 January (Friday night).

There are flyers all over town re the event. Clubs and businesses are encouraged to enter teams. Single entries will be accepted. So get a team together and enjoy four great fun nights of bowls, a game of bowls, a sausage sizzle and plenty of prizes all for \$5.00 each per night.

Sponsored by Kelly's Hardware, Café 109, Dunkeld General Stores and Dunkeld Delights.

Entries contact Monty on 0427 772 424 or Peter McLean on 0404 172 739.

#### John Overall, Dunkeld Life Member

John, sadly is currently in hospital in Melbourne battling lung cancer, we wish him well during this difficult time and offer our thoughts and support to Alison.

As this is the last newsletter pre-Christmas we, at the Dunkeld Bowls Club, wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring you good health and happiness.

**Gary Wall, Publicity Officer**

## GRAMPIANS CRICKET CLUB

The Grampians Cricket Club is extremely proud to acknowledge that six of our juniors have made the Western Waves squads and three the Victorian teams which is more than any other community club in Victoria. What an incredible achievement.

Congratulations on your achievements and recognition of the hard work you have put in to: Josh Gordon, Zach Burgess, and Vincent Huf who have been chosen in the U14 Western Waves squad. Vincent was also chosen for the Victorian squad in the U14 State Competition; Lachie Field has been chosen for the Western Waves and also Victorian squads in the U18 's; Miranda McIntyre has made the Western Waves U14 squad while Jessica Field has made both the Western Waves and Victorian squads for U16.

## GRAMPIANS GOLF CLUB

Final official Chicken Run for 2017

Come and have a go

9 Holes, hit off anytime between 3.00pm – 5.00pm

Music, beer can chicken and nibbles on the deck afterwards

All welcome.

## AUSTRALIA SWIMS COMING TO GREATER HAMILTON

AUSTRALIA

SWIMS



Southern Grampians Shire Council

together with Swimming Australia, are pleased to bring the Optus Junior Dolphins Carnival and Clinics to the Hamilton Olympic Swimming Pool this summer.

Optus Junior Dolphins is a fun, play-based learning program for swimmers to build their confidence and skills while having fun. On 20 and 21 January, swimmers of all ages and abilities are invited to take part in the free swim clinics with skilled instructors. Participants will be able to meet an Australian Dolphins Swim Team member and pick up some great tips to improve swimming skills or learn the basics. For the more experienced swimmers, there will also be some competitive racing across the two-day program.

Australia Swims, a campaign created by Swimming Australia, aims to encourage all Australians to celebrate their love for water this January.

Swimming Australia President John Bertrand AO said, "We want to inspire Australians to swim, reconnect with their love of swimming and have fun during the 9 days we're running the Australia Swims campaign."

"Swimming is a life skill and favourite pastime that can be enjoyed by all ages, all abilities and all cultural backgrounds. It's part of the Australian way of life. It's in our DNA. It's what we do. We swim."

"The swimming industry is uniting to engage the Australian public in this swimming movement and we're really excited by it," Bertrand said.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Mary-Ann Brown said Council is looking forward to hosting the Swimming Event.

"Pools and swimming mean so much to our community, as they do to all Australians. We have invested \$300,000 to date this financial year in revamping all the outdoor pools in our shire and they are looking the best they have in a very long time. This event will be a fantastic activation of the Hamilton Olympic Swimming Pool and we look forward to seeing it full of patrons, learning new skills and enjoying the water," Cr Brown said.

Whether you're learning to swim, swimming for fitness, swimming for rehab, or swimming for fun you'll find a swimming experience that's right for you at [australiaswims.com.au](http://australiaswims.com.au).

Visit the website to register to attend the Southern Grampians Shire Council event at the Hamilton Olympic Swimming Pool on Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 January 2018.



**Dan Tehan MP**  
Member for Wannon

As your representative in the Federal Parliament, listening to your views about our local area is my priority.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance.

190 Gray Street, Hamilton VIC 3300

Local call 1300 131 692

[dan.tehan.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:dan.tehan.mp@aph.gov.au)

[www.dantehan.com.au](http://www.dantehan.com.au)

DanTehanWannon DanTehanWannon



Authorised by Dan Tehan, 190 Gray Street Hamilton VIC 3300.



## CAFÉ AND TEA GARDEN

35 Williams Street Dunkeld

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Dunkeld Delights will be out  
and about supporting local  
Christmas Markets this festive  
season

❖ Friday 15 December Penshurst  
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5.00pm

❖ Saturday 16 & Sunday 17  
December at the HRBA  
Christmas Festival at the PAC,  
10.00am – 3.00pm

Of course, we will also be open at  
our Dunkeld Cafe and Tea Garden to  
serve you delicious homemade fare.



**CLOSED:-**

*Christmas Eve, Christmas Day,  
Boxing Day & New Years Day*

*RE-OPENING:- 27 December  
all through the school holidays*





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***CLOSED Christmas Day***  
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our customers a Merry  
Christmas and a safe and  
Happy New Year.  
Thank you all for your  
support during 2017.

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## Inclusion Support Additional Assistant Dunkeld Kindergarten

This role involves working under the direction of the Kindergarten teacher, helping to support the inclusion of a child with a disability and some high support needs. This role does not require someone to have qualifications but experience working in the disability or early childhood sectors is advantageous. Involves working as a member of a team with all the children in the group, there is not an expectation that you only work with a certain child, and you would be guided by the teacher in the work they do each session.

The role is currently for 12.5 hours a week, over three days (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.00am to 1.00pm or 1.15pm). The position commences at the beginning of Term 1 2018 and will run during term times for the school year, as long as the funded child remains at the services.

For further information please contact Michele McCrohan, Kindergarten Inclusion Support (KIS) Convenor/Co-ordinator, Gateways Support Services, Barwon South West Region on 5221 2984 (extension 435) or email: [michele.mccrohan@gateways.com.au](mailto:michele.mccrohan@gateways.com.au)

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Prep and Year 1 Sleepover



At the school sleepover we got our beds ready and then Charlie and I went outside and played tag with some other kids. Then we went on the walkway and

had dinner. The activities were chalk and a big bouncing ball outside and inside were little activities and musical chairs. Then we went on a night walk outside. We watched the movie Sing and went to bed. In the morning we ate breakfast and watched the rest of the movie. Finally we went outside and played markers up and then I went home. *By Darcy Potter, Year 1*

Thank you to Mr Brad Kyle for giving up his time on both Friday night and Saturday morning to assist at the sleep over. Brad was a great help with taking photos, picking up the evening meal and helping out with the activities. We hope you managed some well-earned rest on Sunday, Brad. Tea was ordered through Izzy's Café, who provided the children with little boxes of yummy food.



### Kinder to Prep Transition Program



On Tuesday 21 November, we welcomed our 2018 Prep students to our school for their first transition day from 9:00am – 1:00pm. Working alongside the current Preps for the morning, the students created jellyfish, toured our school grounds, enjoyed playtime and snack time with the older students and had their first (and hopefully their last) visit to the Principal's office where they received a small reward from Mr Jeffreys for their brightly coloured sea creatures.



On Thursday 30 November Year 5 students met the Kindergarten children that may come to our school next year. We did activities, read books, and played puzzles. *By Nicholas Huzony, Year 5*

On the Thursday 30 November the Year 5 students and Mrs

Howard went down to the Kinder for a visit. At the Kinder we worked with our buddies and I had Lucy and Digby. First we played a Maths game called Crazy Faces, where you roll a dice and if you roll a blue you get the blue face. If you roll a white then you get an eye and put it on the face or if you roll a pink you get a mouth. We read a book called Mr Huff and then we played some games. *By Rachel Hassett, Year 5*

### Somers Camp

Somers Camp was an amazing experience. It changes the way you look at some things and it grows the feeling that you can do it even though it seems impossible. You do some new things too like orienteering and environmental studies. We could borrow some posters from the library to make our hut (which is like a house) look more homely. The reason we wanted it to look homely is so that we get more points for 'hut marks' because they wanted our hut to look like our real home. *By Genevieve Trotter, Year 5*

Somers Camp is fun for everyone. It is a good experience and there were so many fun activities to do such as walks,



swimming and marine life. *By Charlie Adams, Year 5*

Left: Year 5 student Emily McNaughton enjoys the rope obstacle course and the giant swing which stood at 18.5m high (pictured on the right).



### Bike Raffle Winner

Congratulations to Edie Jackson who was the lucky winner of the Bike Raffle. Thank you to Daktari Sports for the generous donation of this prize as part of the Walk to School Program.

### Year 6 Graduation – Thursday 14 December

The Year 6 Graduation meal for students, parents, staff and official guests, will be held on Thursday 14 December commencing at 6.30pm at the school. Family and friends are invited to attend the ceremony and presentations, which will commence at 7.30pm in the school hall.



### STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM

#### Day in the Kitchen by Clare Kennedy ...

##### Year 1 – In the Kitchen

Yay! It was our turn in the kitchen. We put our aprons on and hats on. I was with Darcy and Ella. My mum was the helper. We made veggie pancakes. We put vegetables in the pancakes. I had a turn of flipping them and putting them on a plate. I had fun flipping. Ella and Darcy had fun too. I had a very exciting time in the kitchen with my Mum, Ella and Darcy. *By Phoebe Lazzari, Year 1*



Yay! It's our turn to go in the kitchen. My group made mini pizza with capsicum, cheese, ham, tomato paste and mushroom. When everyone was done, we sat on a beautiful table. Other groups made little orange cakes, pancakes and salad. Indi and Archer were my partners. It was delicious. I felt happy because it was fun. *By Heidi Burger, Year 1*



##### Year 2 – Kitchen Experience

Smack, Bang! went the door. We were in the kitchen. I could smell everything on the table. Everybody got different coloured aprons. My group was blue. We were going to make



pizzas. Everything was laid out on the table. I was ready to cook. First, I got the dough and put some sauce on it, and then I put on some ham, spinach, mushrooms, capsicums and cheese. The pizza was made! We just had to put them in the oven. We had to make twenty six Pizzas! When we finished we cleaned the dishes. After that Mitch and I set the table and picked flowers for the table. We ate lunch and it was scrumptious. *By Maxi Graham, Year 2*

**BOOM!** went the door as we went in. Stomp, stomp, stomp went our feet. We were all excited to cook. I made the salad dressing. It was a bit sour and I didn't like it that much. The best thing was the savory pancakes then pizza, cup cakes and salad. In my group there was Cadence, Claudia, Mia and Jack. I worked with Claudia. The dressing had honey, mustard, orange and lemon in it. I had lots of fun! *By Hugh Prentice, Year 2*





## Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program 2018 Calendar

We have created a 2018 calendar with a selection of photographs from our Kitchen and Garden program.

**\$20.00 each**

Calendars are available from the Dunkeld Old Bakery,  
General Store and Dunkeld Consolidated School.

*Thank you for supporting the Dunkeld Consolidated School's  
Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program.*



### GARDEN NOTES – DECEMBER

Main vegetable plantings during December and January are lettuce, carrot, parsnip, beetroot, beans, cabbage, cauliflower,

broccoli and brussell sprouts. Flowering annuals for summer planting include petunia, marigold, impatiens, salvia and begonia.

Don't forget to continue with your fruit tree spray program and make sure to continue watering your trees well even after harvest as this is when next year's fruit buds are being formed.

Now that your roses have nearly finished their main spring flush of flowering, you should spend some time "dead heading" them i.e. remove the spent flowers by cutting down to a healthy leaf junction. This will ensure plenty of new growth for your good summer and autumn flowers.

There are many people even experienced gardeners, who do not fully understand correct watering methods. Firstly people on farms should not use dam or bore water with a salt content greater than 500 parts per million (ppm) especially on vegetables and tender plants. Some healthier, well-

established trees can tolerate up to 1500 ppm salt but do not splash this water onto foliage.

If possible, do not water during the heat of the day, as high evaporation rates means that less water reaches the roots of your plants. However young seedlings may require a light watering several times a day during hot weather, also avoid the use of fine sprinklers during windy weather as much water will be wasted. Don't forget that if your hose has been lying in the sun to "run off" any hot water in it before applying it to your plants.

A deep soaking say once or twice a week is much better than a daily quick surface sprinkle as this will encourage roots to move deeper into the soil chasing water thereby making the plant more drought tolerant as well as producing a larger and more productive root system.

Remember it is never too early to order fruit trees, ornamentals or roses from your nursery for next winter's planting. Also check out your nursery for a range of Christmas gifts. Season's greetings, thank you for your support and happy gardening! *Stephen Hughan, Ararat Nursery*



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Dunkeld & District  
**Community Bank®** Branch

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## CHRISTMAS TRADING HOURS

As 2017 draws to a close, Anna, Susan and Louise wish to thank you for your continued support during the year and look forward to assisting you further in 2018.

## Christmas trading hours.

From all of us at Dunkeld & District **Community Bank®** Branch, best wishes for the festive season and thank you for your loyalty and support.

We look forward to seeing you.

**Monday 25 December – Closed**

**Tuesday 26 December – Closed**

Wednesday 27 December – 10am to 4pm

Thursday 28 December – 10am to 4pm

Friday 29 December – 10am to 5pm

Saturday 30 December – Closed

Sunday 31 December – Closed

**Monday 1 January – Closed**

Tuesday 2 January – 10am to 4pm



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Dunkeld & District **Community Bank®** Branch

## GRAMPIANS CRICKET BBQ



One of our fun activities is to attend some of the clubs and organisations we sponsor during the year. Although the weather was less than favourable, it was our pleasure to attend the Grampians Cricket Club recently, serving a BBQ tea to some very eager, hungry junior players and parents.

The rain did nothing to deter the action, with a great undercover area proving to be a good alternative. Plenty of future talent was on display, with under 12 team member, Tom Calvert, one such player. It was great to attend the night and we look forward to future involvement with the Club in the coming seasons.

## Merry Christmas.

From all of us at Dunkeld & District **Community Bank®** Branch, best wishes for the holiday season and thank you for your loyalty and support.

**Drop into your local branch at 92 Parker Street, Dunkeld or phone 5577 2488.**



Dunkeld & District **Community Bank®** Branch

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