

Dunkeld & District Newsletter



Sponsored by Lions Club

Distributed fortnightly on Wednesday (except during School Holidays)
Printed at the Dunkeld Consolidated School – E&OE

Issue No: 13/2025 Date: Wednesday 3 September 2025

DONATIONS

Bill and Fay Gordon \$50

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."**

Direct deposit to BSB: 633 000 Account: 1430 91510 – please include your name as a reference so we may acknowledge your donation.

Celebrate 170 Years of Education – Buy a Brick, Build the Future!

Dear community members,

Dunkeld Consolidated School is proud to mark an extraordinary milestone in 2025 - **170 years since the opening of Dunkeld National School on 23 October 1855**. This remarkable legacy of learning, community, and resilience is worth celebrating in a meaningful and lasting way.

As part of this celebration, we are launching a **special fundraising campaign** that also looks ahead to another historic date: **70 years at our current site as Dunkeld Consolidated School**, officially opened on **23 April 1956**. These two anniversaries are not only markers of time - but they also represent generations of students, families, and educators who have shaped our proud school community.

To honour this heritage and support the future, we invite you to become a lasting part of our school's story by purchasing a **"Name Brick" for just \$55.00 (including GST)**.

Each brick will be engraved with your name, your family's name, or in memory of a loved one, and will be laid as part of a commemorative installation on Dunkeld Consolidated School grounds. This tribute will stand for decades to come — a visible reminder of the people who make Dunkeld the strong, connected community it is today.

Funds raised will support our ongoing improvements in the yard and play space, enhancing the school's aesthetics through the landscaping of our enhanced kitchen garden, scheduled for 2026. These improvements will complement the installation of our new sports courts and, together, we hope they will culminate in a major community celebration - an extravaganza to showcase the fantastic assets of our school, and to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed so generously to our improvement campaigns.

Let's celebrate our legacy and invest in the future. **Buy your commemorative brick today and be part of Dunkeld's story!**

To order **PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED ORDER FORM** on page 12 and return to the school office (via hard copy or email: dunkeld.cs@education.vic.gov.au) with payment **BY MONDAY 6 OCTOBER 2025** by Direct Deposit BSB: 633 000 Account: 1430 91510, cash or cheque to Dunkeld Consolidated School.

If you wish to contribute to our ongoing fundraising efforts beyond our name bricks, you may make tax deductible donations through the Australian Sports Foundation (ASF) website or use the QR code below:

<https://asf.org.au/campaigns/dunkeld-consolidated-school/dunkeld-consolidated-school-sporting-court-project>

Brad Smallman
Principal
Dunkeld Consolidated School



The purpose of the Dunkeld & District Community Newsletter is to share information about activities, events, projects and services in our local district and surrounds, including historical information. It is not a platform for political or public argument. The newsletter is supported by local business advertising. The Dunkeld & District Community Newsletter reserves the right to accept or reject any submissions at its discretion without notification.

CHURCH SERVICES

Saint Patrick's Catholic Church

Parish Priest - Father Pat Mugavin - 5571 1161

Website: www.westernborder.church

1 st Week	Sunday	September 7	8.30am	Mass
2 nd Week	Sunday	September 14		No Mass or Service (Mass in Glenthompson)
3 rd Week	Sunday	September 21	8.30am	Mass
4 th Week	Sunday	September 28	9.00am	Assembly of Word and Communion

ANGLICAN/UNITING CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 7 September	ANGLICAN at SAINT MARY'S 5.00pm	Father David Oulton
Sunday 14 September	UNITING CHURCH at STERLING PLACE 5.00pm	
Sunday 21 September	ANGLICAN at SAINT MARY'S 5.00pm	Father David Oulton
Sunday 28 September	UNITING CHURCH at STERLING PLACE 5.00pm	Jim Hewett

Enquiries to Heather Macgugan – phone: 0400 952 716.
ALL WELCOME.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Warrayure

8189 Glenelg Highway

CHURCH TIMES

Sunday 7 September	10.30am
Sunday 14 September	9.00am
Sunday 21 September	9.00am

WHAT'S ON SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER – PLEASE CHECK THROUGH THE NEWSLETTER AND USE BELOW TO FILL THE DATES THAT ARE RELEVANT TO YOU						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
31	1 Sept	2	3 Issue 13 publication	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Issue 14 cut-off	13
14	15	16	17 Issue 14 publication	18	19 LAST DAY OF TERM 3	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1 OCT	2	3 Issue 15 cut-off	4
5	6	7	8 Issue 15 publication	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Issue 16 cut-off	18



DUNKELD MUSEUM NEWS

OPEN FOR BUSINESS:

Sunday 1.00pm - 5.00pm and
Thursday 1.00pm - 4.00pm
(Other times by appointment)

WEBSITE: Visit our website! dunkeldmuseum.org.au

MUSEUM DUTY ROSTER

Sunday 7 Sept Rex Beveridge and Makayla McCabe
Sunday 14 Sept Patsy Waller and Heather Funk

DON'T forget to mark your calendar for Sunday 21 September. Guest Speaker after our AGM (1.30pm) will be Roger McClure (2.00pm). Roger will speak about his recent caravanning journey and volunteering around our country.

Our small Committee are presently scouting out for more volunteers to come and be involved with the management of the museum, even putting their hand up to become an Office Bearer or Committee member at our AGM.

We thank all our volunteers for helping at the museum.



VALE Peg Walter:

Peg Walter nee Calvert
born 11th January 1939
passed away in Ballarat on
24th July 2025 after a recent
illness. She was in her 86th
year. Peg grew up on a farm
near Maroona. She arrived
in Glenthompson in 1959 to
teach at the Primary School
and boarded with Frank and
Daph Turner.
She met her husband Geoff
at a dance and they married

in 1961.

She taught at Dunkeld Consolidated for 20 odd years - often in the library. She also taught at Lake Bolac, Glenthompson, Gray Street Hamilton, Penshurst and other outlying schools.

Peg used to assist in the mail run around Glen/Woodhouse/Nareeb. During summer school holidays she would assist Geoff with the grain handling, often operating the weigh bridge. She would forage and send field mushrooms off to Vic Market in banana boxes on the train, and be found helping shovel the super phosphate out of the train "trucks" to then be scooped up and put into a super spreader to fertilise local farms. She also assisted Geoff with aerial spraying, and feeding the pilots who stayed with the Walters during the season.

She was an invisible mender of clothes and a great seamstress and knitter.

An avid gardener Peg kept a prized garden, veggies, fruit and more. They had chooks and a menagerie of other livestock in earlier days including pigeons, pheasants, quail, emus, milking cow, sheep and would sell eggs to those who passed by.

Stoic and stubborn until the end. She fought the good fight.

300 Words

Of Knitting

At this time of year you may well have noticed that I wear lovely, knitted jumpers. These are warm and personal and it is a great joy to wear them both practically and emotionally. A lot of hours goes into the creation of one of these garments. It doesn't just happen overnight. In fact it happens over many nights and it's a wonder to watch them slowly emerge into the fashionable garment they become. Each stitch draws ever closer to the finished product. So what's all this got to do with parish life and the sorting out the Church of God?

Most days are a single stitch, maybe 2 on a really good day. A little something happens, a conversation, a prayer, a reading, a surprise encounter, a cheeky text. It's all just part of the potpourri of parish life. It's hard to step back and see the progress that is being made. What has changed over time? Anything... something? The completed outfit in all its wonder lies hidden from us. We have to be content with just seeing part of what is happening. Sometimes it doesn't look like much and there are some days when it certainly does not *feel* like much. But then, that's OK. Maybe the threads of continuity and consistency are the strongest and most colourful and heartwarming of all. The simple knowledge that each and every day prayer is offered and we give The Almighty a chance to whisper back to us. You have to listen for a long time and like the knitting experience, not a lot seems to happen but everything is happening.

It's helpful to look back over the years and reflect. Where have I / we come from? How has the garment changed, developed? Where were the blunders and just look at the progress?

It had been a week

I had the privilege of having some chatters with a couple of colleagues and I had been emerging from the rubble of a common cold.

And part of the problem when you have a cold is that you can give into the very persuasive temptation of 'pushing through'. It's only a cold after all. Nothing, a few tissues, a hot toddy and some paracetamol wouldn't sort out.

But what if my colleagues had phoned, sounding heavily nasal and like microwaved death. What advice would I give? Turn on your electric blanket, switch on the answering machine and leave the mobile under a pillow in the spare room at the bottom of the cupboard. Do not emerge until you have a clean bill of health signed off by three independent medical experts.

I took the middle course and did the bare minimum, but also decided that an old man's nap was just what the doctor ordered. I did take over the counter medicine and gave a wide berth to the red ned while I was ingesting prescribed medicine.

Odd isn't it. That I know exactly the right and wise advice for my colleagues and if it applies to them... then it certainly applies to me. But why am I so hesitant to act determinedly on own advice?

A sense of pride of my own importance? That the Church of God would unravel if I caught a few zzz's.

The Church of God might actually be in better shape, if I was in better shape. I am certainly more astute, more caring, more articulate if I am not trying to operate from behind the haze of bleary eyes and feeling wretched.

I must listen more attentively to that still small voice. Him who knows me better than I know myself. The Master physician.

Father David Oulton
Phone: 0435 867 040
Email: droulton72@gmail.com



Meeting dates for 2025

Monday 6 October 2025
Monday 1 December 2025 (includes the Annual General Meeting)

OFF THE RAILS DUNKELD



Doll and Teddy Bear Mending
Saturday 20 September 2025
Sunday 21 September 2025
12.00pm – 4.00pm on both days

Bring your doll or teddy that needs mending and Sue from Little Poppets will nurse your favourites back to life! Please book in advance as Sue (through Sally) needs photos of your precious items to plan her triage!



Do you have a Doll or Teddy that has seen better days?

Little Poppets - Doll Repairs
will be holding a 2 day workshop at
Off the Rails Gallery



20th-21st September
12pm to 4pm both days.
\$50 per item



Send a photograph of your project to
sallyreynolds.johnson@gmail.com. These will be
passed on to Sue (the doll and teddy wizard)
for her to assess what she needs
to bring for each project.

If a doll or item needs more attention than the
workshop can do, you can negotiate with Sue
as to any extra work cost.
Little Poppets is located in Geelong.

Call Sally to book
your place for this
fun workshop:
0414 463 013



ABOUT US

Off The Rails Dunkeld is a voluntary, community-run Not-For-Profit Organisation, dedicated to facilitating arts,

educational, creative, and cultural opportunities for locals and the wider community in the beautiful heritage Dunkeld Railway Station.

Community spaces play a crucial role in providing residents with a sense of belonging and identity. They offer a place for people to connect, socialise and engage in activities, fostering a sense of community spirit and shared purpose. This space is for everyone, so if you want to get involved let us know or just come along!

HIRE THE SPACE

Got an idea you'd like to run with to use this lovely space? Want to run a workshop, a class, share some skills, host a community event, or just hang with your club in a cool space?

The rental market is still completely affordable at OTR! Birthday parties are awesome here too! Feel free to contact us on otrdunkeld@gmail.com or call 0405 385 359.

MEMBERSHIP

Off the Rail Dunkeld Memberships!

Membership is super important to us! It not only helps us keep the lights going and water running, but small community spaces like Off the Rails Dunkeld play a crucial role in fostering a sense of belonging, connection, and mutual support among established and new residents and families in small towns.

To renew your membership, or join Off the Rails Dunkeld, please consider making a \$10 donation by direct deposit or drop into the Dunkeld Bendigo Bank branch:

Off the Rails Dunkeld

BSB: 633 000

Account Number: 155 271 299

Thank you.
Off The Rails, Dunkeld Committee

A Glimpse at Our World

By Marion Colton

I look out of my window. Beyond the pink and green *Correa reflexa* bells the sky is clear blue and the sun is shining, whilst a gentle breeze sways the branches ... a perfect day for a walk.

The pink-flowering Ironbarks outside the museum look spectacular this year and are often full of feasting birds. Likewise, elsewhere, the Cootamundra Wattles demand attention with their rambling branches laden with bright yellow blossoms, usually heralding other Acacia species which are now covered in dense, pale green buds.

Three emus are grazing on the school's cricket oval as I pass. We are so fortunate that we can see these elegant birds and countless kangaroos and wallabies roaming freely in our environment, in a world where species are fast disappearing and can only be seen in cages, enclosures or zoos.

Everywhere is green now, refreshing our senses, and I wander over the green ridges and down to the river's edge. Still no water in the river; a dry, bare riverbed stretches in both directions, exposing meandering or tangled roots of majestic River Red Gums growing along its banks. It saddens me.

A flock of pure white Sulphur-crested Cockatoos rise, screeching, from the canopy of a large tree, announcing my approach to three grazing kangaroos, which instantly take

off, bounding across the dry riverbed. On the river flats are many recent plantings and I peep into a few guards, wondering how some of the plants will survive in the present climatic conditions.

I cross the old bridge, looking down, on both sides, into the empty river. Soon I turn into the Mountain Trail. A little past the landslide gully, I'm delighted to see large, white, five-petalled blooms hugging the open patches of earth or appearing in soft, verdant green mosses. This year there is an abundance.

In previous years usually only a few choose to bloom. They are the flowers of the Scented Sundew, *Drosera whittakeri*, and inside each white petal is a tiny stamen with a yellow anther. I can't resist stooping down to smell one, so sweetly fragrant. A single flower rises from each little leafy rosette, which is often a yellowish-green and sometimes a dusky rose. These basal leaves are hairy and sticky, glistening in the sunshine to attract insects, which they devour after closing upon them, gaining the nutriment they need.

A little further on, I notice a small colony of Greenhood orchids. Their flowering stems rise from basal rosettes and are only three or four centimetres tall. They bear a single green and white hood with anthers emerging each side. They are aptly named Dwarf Greenhoods, *Pterostylis nana*. They like being surrounded by mosses, which probably keep them moist. Sometimes they grow in an open spot, but more frequently they peep out from underneath sheltering Flame Heath, *Astroloma conostephioides*, or other similar shrubs, preferring their protection. There are several colonies along this track, but they camouflage so well that they are often difficult to see. A few Trim Greenhoods, *Pterostylis concinna*, which are taller with stripes of a deeper green, yet very similar, grow amongst some Dwarf Greenhoods, as do the much larger, and easily recognisable, Nodding Greenhood, *Pterostylis nutans*. The latter are not visible today; maybe it's a little too early for them.

Tiny, new Austral Bracken fronds, *Pteridium esculentum*, are appearing, often sheltered by the old dead leaves of mature plants above them. Their curled, russet heads resemble the old-fashioned shepherds' crooks, used for rescuing sheep from gullies. One new frond was very original: it had decided to emerge in the middle of a perfectly round ant "tower"!



Garden Notes – September

One question which often arises at this time of the year is when to lift daffodil bulbs after flowering. The recommended time is to wait at least four weeks so that the bulbs can build themselves up for next seasons flowering. They can be carefully lifted, old foliage removed, then stored in a cool dry position ready for replanting next autumn.

Main vegetable plantings for September are late peas, late onions, carrots, parsnips, beetroot, silverbeet, spinach, celery, lettuce, radish, late potatoes, also early plantings of beans, tomato, capsicum, chilli, cucumber, pumpkin, sweet corn as well as summer varieties of cabbage and broccoli. Also, an ideal time to plant gladioli, lilliums and early plantings of dahlias.

There are also many spring and summer flowering annuals which can be planted in September including petunia, marigold, snapdragon, impatiens, salvia and begonia. Black spot and mildew are two problems which can trouble roses during the spring-summer period. Prevention not cure is the key to controlling these fungus diseases. Firstly, your

roses should not be over watered or overhead watered. Also to ensure good air movement around and through your plants, the centre of the plant should be kept open and not overcrowded with other plants. If you use animal manure around your roses, it should not touch the base of the plant and it should be covered with soil or mulch. Also remove and dispose of any affected leaves whenever you notice them. Regular sprays with Mancozeb or Zineb will also help.

Don't be tempted to cut back any frost damaged plants too soon as leaving damaged parts on your plants will protect new growth. Damaged parts can be removed when risk of frost is over.

September is a good time to feed your plants. There are many types of fertilisers available both organic (natural) and chemical in many forms powder, granules, pellets and liquid. Whatever you decide to use, check that it is suitable for the particular plants you wish to feed, for example do not use a fertiliser with a high phosphorus on Australian or South African native plants.

September is a good time to lightly prune spring flowering trees after flowering, this will help to keep a manageable size and shape without loss of blossom as would occur with winter pruning.

When rose shoots appear, keep watch for aphids (small green or brown insects clustered on new growth) as these can very quickly ruin new flowers. These can be sprayed with pyrethrum or one of the soap-based insecticides or simply brushed or hosed off before they do any damage. You will notice that they tend to favour the lighter coloured flowers.

Finally, the usual reminder about regular weed control and the value of mulching to reduce evaporation therefore reducing water use.

Happy Gardening!

Stephen Hughan, Ararat Nursery – phone: 5352 1123

From the Lions Den

L Liberty
I Intelligence
O Our
N Nations
S Safety



If we worry too much about ourselves, we won't have time for others. Mother Teresa

A nice Lions Story:

The new world President of Lions International is from India, J.P. Singh, and the third Vice-President is an Australian, Tony Benbow.

Coming events involving the Lions:

We will be holding our annual barbecue for the Dunkeld Consolidated School in September, something our members look forward to.

In the warmer months we will have a celebration to mark 50 years of Lions in Dunkeld and District. We will be in touch with past members to help us celebrate.

One of those things you really had to know:

Friedrich Wilhelm Albrecht (1894 – 1984), served in the German Medical Corps in World War 1, was awarded the Highest Order of the Iron Cross, and migrated to Australia in 1926 at the Hermannsburg Mission.

Anything for a beer:

Two Australian officers, one being Allan Fleming (and the other Arch Molloy), were far out in the desert ahead of our advanced troops. Suddenly, tanks appeared from nowhere, and the two were captured by soldiers of the Afrika Korps of the outstanding German commander Rommel. The great field marshal, curious about these Australians who had crossed the world to battle him in Africa, had the pair paraded before him. To ease conversations, the field marshal produced a drink for them – an Australian beer.

Imprisonment was not rigorous; the captives had some liberty to roam within the German camp. This concession they used to steal a German truck and then the petrol to fuel it. They cautiously drove away and regained the Allied lines. There the British commander, Lord Alexander, summoned them for interview and offered them – another glass of Australian beer. In the history of modern warfare, how often have a pair of junior officers, within a space of a few days, had a beer with two field marshals, one from each side.

The world according to Hinchey:

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

If you want to know more about the Lions, please call me on 5577 2460.

Peter Hinchey



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 for 2025 is \$40.00 per person. If you are a relative of ex-service men or women, you can also join the RSL. Affiliate

memberships are also available to members of emergency services (police, fire brigade, CFA, ambulance and/or SES). By becoming a member of the RSL, you will enjoy the privilege of having joined one of Australia's oldest and most revered organisations and supporting your local RSL Sub-Branch. An organisation committed to selfless service on behalf of the nation, which is dedicated to honouring those who have served our nation through military service, and that focuses on the care of veterans and their dependants. Application forms are available from the Secretary/Treasurer, Terrie Nicholson on 0487 416 971.

Significant dates that are listed on the Department of Veterans' Affairs' Anzac portal include:

- 3 September - Merchant Navy Day
- 3 September - Battle for Australia Day
- 14 September - National Peacekeepers' Day

Australia's calendar of remembrance includes officially gazetted days proclaimed by the Governor-General. These dates, including Anzac Day, are formally recognised by the Australian Government.

Battle for Australia Day (3 September): On the first Wednesday of September, we commemorate the battle for Australia. This day reminds us of the sacrifices of those who served on Australia's home front and in crucial battles to the north during World War II. It is an important reflection on a troubling period for Australians from 1942 to 1945. We honour the courage of all people who served at sea, on the mainland and islands, and in the skies to protect our nation and its territories.

Merchant Navy Day - Significance of 3 September:

We commemorate Merchant Navy Day each year on 3 September. This is the anniversary of the first attack on an

Allied merchant ship in World War II. The attack happened only hours after the United Kingdom declared war on Germany in 1939.

Without warning, the German submarine U-30 torpedoed the British liner SS Athenia, and the ship sank the next day. Of more than 1,400 people on board the Athenia, over 110 crew and passengers died in the torpedo attack or during later rescue efforts.



A merchant navy gun crew at sea on the deck of the Australian troopship HMT Zealandia in about 1940. Left to right, back row: Angus McLeod, Douglas Evans, Chief Officer E.J. 'Paddy' Cloke, Tom Rees and unidentified. Left to right, front row: Tommy Drinkwater, Jimmy Archbold and unidentified. This first Australian merchant navy gun crew trained at Rushcutters Bay, NSW. Zealandia was later sunk on 19 February 1942 during the Japanese air raid on Darwin. (Donor T. Rees). AWM P02112.001¹

¹<https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/commemoration/days>

MEDIA RELEASE

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL



TIM ROSS EXPLORES THE AUSTRALIAN DREAM AT HAMILTON LIBRARY



Hamilton Library are delighted to welcome beloved Aussie voice Tim Ross to perform a one-of-a-kind live performance of his acclaimed live show, *The Australian Dream?*

The event will take place from 7:00pm to 8:15pm on Thursday 9

October 2025, at the Hamilton Cinema. This event is for over 18's only.

Please note that this event is free, but that bookings are required. Book your place [here](#). For more information on this and other library events, please visit the [library website](#)

PRIME MINISTER INVITED TO VISIT DROUGHT IMPACTED SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS

Southern Grampians Shire Council has extended an invitation to the Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to visit the region to see first-hand ongoing drought conditions and the impact it is having on the local farming community.

Writing to the Prime Minister on Tuesday 18 August, Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin said the ongoing drought is having a significant impact upon the people of the region.

"Southern Grampians is in the heart of Australia's largest agricultural production area and significantly contributes to our national economy," said Cr Heslin.

"The current drought is without precedent and has impacted our area severely and is now being deeply felt across all sectors in our economy."

"A visit from the Prime Minister will lift community spirits significantly but also allow the Prime Minister to speak

directly with farmers and see first-hand the impact of the drought.”

The drought has devastated our farming community economically and had a significant impact on mental health. Southern Grampians farmers have been hand feeding stock since early 2024 at a significant cost, and to maintain stock levels have incurred debt levels that will cause financial hardship for some years.

Compounding the challenges is the regions rain fall to date in 2025 is not only substantially below an average year, but lower than levels recorded in 2024, indicating 2025 may be an even drier year.

“Council has continued to collaborate with regional farmers over the past few months hosting a 17 June Farmers Forum to develop a number of key priorities and actions for better support for those living on the land,” said Cr Heslin.

“These actions have included advocating against the introduction of the State Government’s new Emergency Services Volunteer Fund, to push for freight subsidies for hay and feed, to advocate for Government investment in developing water resilience, work regionally and through the Municipal Association of Victoria for greater impact, and advocate for land use policies that protect agricultural viability, and much more.”

Since the June meeting, Council has continued to advocate for better targeted drought support through:

- Working with other Victorian Councils through the SouthWest Victorian Alliance.
- Meeting with the Deputy Secretary and Chief Executive Agriculture Victoria to discuss current rain fall levels, forward outlook on farm priorities, kangaroos, the current economic environment post farm gate and ongoing support.
- Meeting with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in June in Canberra to advocate for the items raised at the Farmer Forum with a particular focus on flexibility in RIC loans.
- Meeting with Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry at Sheepvention to connect them with farmers and stakeholders who provided feedback.
- Continued push for the State Government to scrap the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund (ESVF).
- Circulated drought support materials at Council services for residents to access.
- Lodged two motions for the MAV State Council meeting in October to call for a Parliamentary Inquiry into the equity, financial impact and proposed distribution of funds raised from the ESVF; and request that the State Government formally acknowledge the financial distress caused by the current drought with further support required.

Council will continue to advocate for better drought outcomes and support for Southern Grampians farmers and looks forward to hearing from Prime Minister Albanese.

MENOPAUSE IS NOT A USE BY DATE – INSPIRING AUTHOR CONVERSATIONS AT HAMILTON CINEMA

Southern Grampians residents are invited to join writers Trish Bolton and Rachel Matthews for a morning of lively discussions and writing explorations in *Menopause is Not a Use-By Date*.

A joint initiative of Hamilton Library and Public Libraries Victoria, this thought-provoking and empowering event on Monday 8 September at the Hamilton Cinema will push back against dated stereotypes and celebrate mature women.

This free event will showcase these acclaimed writers alongside celebrated local author Louise Le Nay for a lively panel exploring how women’s lives, voices and creativity flourish beyond midlife.

Senior Library Coordinator Kelly Pitt-Lancaster shared her enthusiasm for the event, saying:
“Menopause has been a bad word for far too long, but we’re starting to see it take centre stage all across modern media. This is such a welcome shift in our shared attitudes and tells us that women are rewriting the narrative around menopause and the vibrant life beyond.”

Trish Bolton is the author of *Whenever You’re Ready*, former media adviser and a women’s health advocate. Dr Rachel Matthews is a renowned author and lecturer, whose novels *Vinyl Inside* and *Never Look Desperate* have been recognised among the best Australian fiction in recent years and Louise Le Nay is a NIDA-trained actor, television scriptwriter and author of the novel *Edenhope* - much of which was written at the Hamilton Library.

This engaging discussion will highlight the way contemporary literature embraces themes of love, sexuality and adventure in later life. These writers and thinkers will challenge tired stereotypes and show that ageing is not about slowing down, it’s about finding yourself and thriving.

The event begins at 10:30am on Monday 8 September at the Hamilton cinema. Please note that bookings are essential and can be made through the [Hamilton Performing Arts Centre](#).

For more information, please visit the [library Facebook](#) page.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE FUTURE OF PET MANAGEMENT IN THE SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS

Southern Grampians Shire Council is calling on the community to help shape the way cats and dogs are managed across the Shire for the next four years.

Every four years, Council updates its Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP), a key document that guides how we balance responsible pet ownership with the wellbeing and safety of our community.

The 2025–2029 Plan is now in development, and Council has launched a community survey to capture feedback from residents, pet owners, domestic animal businesses, and regular users of public spaces such as Lake Hamilton, the Hamilton Dog Park and the Grange Burn walking track.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin urged anyone with pets, animal businesses or an interest in pet ownership to complete the survey, saying:

“This plan is a key document that sets the tone for how our Local Laws team approaches their work. It recognises that education and community engagement are just as vital as the enforcement work they do in the region. Our Rangers do a fantastic job balancing both, and community feedback is vital in ensuring the plan reflects local needs.”

The updated Plan will set out strategies to support responsible cat and dog ownership, reduce the risk of dog attacks, minimise nuisance behaviours, and address issues such as over-population. It will also encourage pet registration and identification while ensuring Council’s authorised officers have the training and tools they need to continue delivering effective animal management services.

The Domestic Animal Management Plan also ensures that Council is performing its duty under the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

Council is inviting all residents, businesses and stakeholders to share their views and help create a plan that reflects how people in the Shire live with and care for pets. To have your say, please complete the [survey](#) and for more information, check out the SGSC website.

MARKET PLACE CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICE TRANSITION

Southern Grampians Shire Council wishes to advise from Wednesday 3 September 2025 the Market Place Customer Service Office has officially closed as a Customer Service Centre.

From this date, staff at the Market Place office will be available by appointment only, with all general customer service now provided at the Brown Street Customer Service Office.

Southern Grampians Shire Council CEO Tony Doye said with the vast majority of customer service enquiries and transactions already being undertaken through our Brown Street customer service team, this change is part of Council's ongoing efforts to streamline services and ensure we can continue to meet the needs of the community in the most efficient way possible.

What this means for you:

All customers are asked to contact our Brown Street Office for their building, planning and environmental health enquiries. If you need to meet with a staff member at Market Place, as always, they remain available via appointment, and this can be arranged in advance by calling 5573 0444.

"We understand this is a change for our community and we thank you for your patience and cooperation as we transition to this new arrangement.

"Our team is here to help make the shift as smooth as possible and to ensure you can continue to access the services you need," Mr Doyle concluded.

If you have any questions, need assistance with an appointment, or would like more information, please contact our Customer Service team on 5573 0444, or drop into 111 Brown Street Hamilton to speak with our friendly staff.

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Please send items for inclusion in the Community Newsletter to Mrs Gaylene Raymond - gfraymond@bigpond.com

Issue Number	Cut-off Date	Publication Date
14	Fri 12 September	Wed 17 September
SEPTEMBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS		
15	Fri 3 October	Wed 8 October
16	Fri 17 October	Wed 22 October
17	Fri 31 October	Wed 5 November
18	Fri 14 November	
	LAST ISSUE FOR 2025	



VICTORIA POLICE

Leading Senior Constable Roger McClure
Officer in Charge, Dunkeld Police Station
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Dunkeld
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Email: DUNKELD.UNI@police.vic.gov.au

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- ✓ National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)
- ✓ Pensions and My Aged Care
- ✓ Medicare
- ✓ Australian Taxation Office (ATO)
- ✓ Veterans' Affairs
- ✓ Immigration, citizenship and passports
- ✓ Australia Post
- ✓ Telecommunications (broadband and mobile coverage)



Please fill out my 30 second survey



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VOLUNTEERS VERY WELCOME - 3 hours monthly. Contact Maree on 0448 387 998.

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Funds raised will support our ongoing improvements in the yard and play space, enhancing the school's aesthetics through the landscaping of our enhanced Kitchen Garden, scheduled for 2026. These improvements will complement the installation of our new sports courts and, together, we hope they will culminate in a major community celebration - an extravaganza to showcase the fantastic assets of our school, and to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed so generously to our improvement campaigns.



BRICK: \$55.00

Your donation of \$55 entitles you to have your name engraved into a brick as a lasting record of your valued support. The brick will be permanently installed at Dunkeld Consolidated School proudly showing your donation.

Size: 230 x 76 x 110mm

ENGRAVING DETAILS

Please print clearly in block letters. Each box represents a character (letter, number, punctuation mark or space). Max 16 characters per line, three lines per brick. (No hand drawings.)

NAME BRICK

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LINE 2															
LINE 3															

Simply fill out this form and return along with full payment by Direct Deposit BSB: 633 000
Account: 1430 91510, cash, cheque or money order to Dunkeld Consolidated School.

Please call Terrie Nicholson in the School Admin Office on 5577 2384 if you have any queries.

**Dunkeld Consolidated School,
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