

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: 15/2025 Date: Wednesday 8 October 2025

DONATIONS

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.

PLEASE NOTE: The last issue for 2025 will be number 19. Items due by Friday 28 November with publication first week in December.

Permanent water saving rules



These common-sense rules help us use water efficiently and they're always in place across the entire state.



Only clean hard surfaces with a broom.



Fit your hose with a trigger nozzle for watering at any time.



If using a sprinkler, only water before 10am or after 6pm.



Use a bucket or hose with a trigger nozzle to wash your car, caravan or boat.

Let's work together to make every drop count. Find out more about these rules at wannonwater.com.au/pwsr



CHURCH SERVICES

Saint Patrick's Catholic Church

Parish Priest - Father Pat Mugavin - 5571 1161

Website: www.westernborder.church

1 st Week;	Sunday	October 5	8.30am	Mass
2 nd Week	Sunday	October 12		No Mass or service (Mass in Glenthompson)
3 rd Week	Sunday	October 19	8.30am	Mass
4 th Week	Sunday	October 26	9.00am	Assembly of Word and Communion

ANGLICAN/UNITING CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 5 October	ANGLICAN at ST MARY'S at 5.00pm - Father David Oulton
Sunday 12 October	UNITING CHURCH at STERLING PLACE at 5.00pm
Sunday 19 October	ANGLICAN at ST MARY'S at 5.00pm - Father David Oulton
Sunday 26 October	UNITING CHURCH at STERLING PLACE at 5.00pm HC - Janet Shalders

Enquiries to Heather Macgugan – phone: 0400 952 716
All Welcome.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Warrayure

8189 Glenelg Highway

CHURCH TIMES

Sunday 12 October	10.30am Tarrington Parish Service
Sunday 19 October	9.00am
Sunday 26 October	10.30am

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



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

Sun 12 October Rex Beveridge and Pauline Crawford
Sun 19 October Di Duckmanton and Heather Funk

OUR 42ND AGM: Held on Sunday 21 September saw all Office Bearers re-elected with Simon Armytage elected President, David Gordon Vice President, Joyce Gordon Secretary/Treasurer, Peter Nelson, Patsy Waller and Dion Ross as Committee members. Thank you to guest speaker Roger McClure for speaking about his recent caravanning and volunteering journey around Australia. The Committee thank everyone for supporting the Museum.

SENIORS FESTIVAL MONTH- OCTOBER: The Museum will be open to Seniors free of charge each Sunday in October, with afternoon tea included. We had a very busy start to the festival last Sunday with numerous visitors from Bendigo, Ballarat, South Australia and Mornington as well as some locals.

ACQUISITIONS:

- Booklet Mr Patty - a story about Mr Patterson who lived in a bluestone hut on Nareeb Nareeb station - donor Glenise Scholfield.
- Two beautiful enclosed mini showcases - donor Alex Paton.

DON'T FORGET THE SAWMILL OPEN DAY ON

SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER: The Museum will be providing a sausage sizzle, morning and afternoon tea for this event.

The Dunkeld Museum, in conjunction with Liz Marcus are conducting interviews to learn more about the local Communities experiences during the 2024/25 Grampians Bushfires.

Please share your photographs and stories for inclusion in our upcoming book.

Contact

Liz Marcus – phone: 0402 051 548

Email: lizmcarthurmarcus@gmail.com

Joyce Gordon – phone: 0428 749 236

Email: bullawynpastoral@bigpond.com

Deadline 31 October 2025

RED CROSS NEWS

VALE Glenda Schwarz:

Glenda first joined Red Cross 60 years ago, in July 1965. She remained a staunch supporter and regular attendee at meetings, even after relocating from the farm to Dunkeld and then to Hamilton. She finally moved into care at Penshurst. Glenda served as Treasurer for 17 years and was a delegate to Zone Meetings with Helena Flinn. Glenda's floral arrangements were presented to Long Service recipients and were highly appreciated. Her last attendance was in



March 2019, although she continued to send apologies and messages of interest. Glenda was a great member and a loyal friend.

Nareeb Nareeb Ram Sale: Friday 24 October is rapidly approaching. Those who are willing to assist with Red Cross catering at this sale are asked to arrive at Nareeb Nareeb property by 10.30am on 24th and could you please bring a slice. Thank you!

Iris Field

DUNKELD CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE Day of Reflection

THEME: " Faith and Justice"

Sr Patricia Fox - Our Lady of Sion
will share her experiences on
this theme
whilst living in the Philippines.

Saint Patrick's Church

Meeting Room

Dunkeld

Monday 20 October

at 10.00am

Donation \$20 includes lunch

Contact:

Heather: 5577 2464 or 0409 749 242

Helen: 5577 2375 or 0427 701 361

RSVP by Monday 13 October please.

300 Words

Parents - The final frontier

It's an odd but unfightable phenomenon, but I am finding that more and more childhood memories surface into my conscious memory. They just sort of pop up unbidden and flaunt themselves.

These memories teach me a bit about myself and a bit about my parents. They always leave me with the unquestionable fact that I was loved and my folks did genuinely try to do the right thing. For example, I vividly recall the time I got caught playing with matches and the appropriate punishment was meted out swiftly and with understandable vigour.

But no matter how many memories come up to the surface to say 'Howdy', I can only go so far in my understanding. I could never and probably will never understand my Mum and Dad as an equal adult. The years and circumstances did not allow that. So, I can never completely understand what drove them, their joys and giggles, their hurts and tears. I can never completely grasp what made them tick.

So, while I am continuously learning about all sorts of other people and enjoy the experience, this luxury of getting to know my parents is not afforded to me, which is odd because these are the people who helped to form me.

They will always be vital and fundamental, yet frustratingly ethereal and a marvellous mystery. I shall look forward to more little memories appearing as each one will take me further and further into the infinite space of my past and in a sense my parents past.

This final frontier I am learning is not something to be feared or approached with trepidation, but a whole new world that in my dotage, is just beginning to open up for me. Something else my parents are still generously giving to me.

Let's make a splash

Today's reflection was handed to me on a silver platter by a year 10 student long ago and far away. She said something like, 'You know Fr. Oulton, I really like the way that we can splash about with crazy ideas in your class. We learn just as much from the discussion as we do from some crummy old textbook.'

Splashing about in the waters of ideas is a splendid pastime. Often, we try really hard to come up with a well reasoned, logical answer that is always right. It works well in the maths world. But (un)fortunately it's not just a maths world. It's also a messy, murky, shifting, always evolving world. The answer is not easily found and is often illusory and inadequate for your problem.

So, what if in all our angst, frustration and solution driven mentality, we simply stopped shouting, lowered our blood pressure and just splashed around in some alluring concepts for a while.

Those who go the hard road, yelling into the air and pumping their fist in the hunt for common sense and decent answers might try slipping into a trendy pair of flamboyant bathers and just splashing about in the water. Do some sprinkling and tossing with others. True, we'll get a little damp, but the answers we are looking for are not to be discovered in numerals and theorems, placards and shouting. Our answers are in the action and playfulness and chortling and yippees and surprises.

Often, I thought I was just messing about in the ideas and proposals, getting drenched with others and getting saturated myself, only to learn that actually there was one other in the water with us. He is the most vigorous in his frolicking, loudest in laughter, the most sopping in water content and I couldn't wait to make a splash.

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



COMING UP

MORE DETAILS NEXT NEWSLETTER – ISSUE 16

WHISPERS

November

- Bingo with Holly

December

- A Local Legends art exhibition
- Christmas Market

First Quarter 2026

- International Musician
- More local Art Exhibitions
- Repair Café
- Workshops
- Spoon Carving
- Tech Savvy Sessions
- More.....

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

Become a Friend of Off the Rails Dunkeld 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 \$10.00 donation by direct deposit or drop into the Dunkeld Bendigo Bank branch:

Off the Rails Dunkeld
BSB: 633 000
Account Number: 155 271 299



Garden Notes – October

October is a peak time in the vegetable garden. The freshness, flavour and satisfaction of home-grown vegetables is unsurpassed. The main plantings are dwarf and climbing beans, beetroot, carrot, capsicum, chilli, sweet corn, cucumber, lettuce, melons, pumpkin, late potatoes, summer cabbage and broccoli, parsnip, radish, squash, tomato, zucchini and most herbs.

Now is an ideal time to divide and replant your dahlia tubers also to plant lilliums and other summer flowering bulbs and perennials.

Flowering annuals are useful both in the garden and in pots or hanging baskets to give bright splashes of colour during the late spring and summer through to autumn. Annuals in

pots are useful as they can be moved around to different areas of your garden or even taken indoors for a few days for a special display.

Make sure that you use clean free draining pots and a premium potting mix (one which meets Australian Standard 3743).

For open ground planting, soil preparation is important, weeds removed, and soil well loosened up with the addition of well matured compost or well decayed animal manure or a well-balanced complete fertilizer. Annuals grow quite rapidly, therefore, a plentiful supply of plant nutrients should be available. If your soil is not deep, raising the area by 15 centimetres or so will give your plant roots more room to develop as well as improving drainage. Water the seedlings carefully before removing from punnets, then be sure to plant at the same depth as in the punnet then water in well. Correct plant spacing are shown on the punnet label. Regular watering is necessary until your plants are well established.

Slugs and snails can cause problems with some young plants. Keep weed and grass growth under control and use a snail bait or snail trap if necessary.

Main spring plantings of annuals include aster, begonia, impatiens, marigold, carnation, lobelia, petunia, portulaca, salvia and many others.

Don't forget the spray programs for your fruit trees, each spray is important, and timing is critical.

Also, a reminder to take great care when using weed killers in your garden as damage to wanted plants can easily occur. Now that the weather is starting to warm up, it is a good time to sew a new lawn or to feed and rejuvenate an established lawn area.

Happy Gardening!
Stephen Hughs, 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 Lions had the honour of cooking the 'sausage sizzle' lunch at the Dunkeld Consolidated School recently. Children our future, and if the majority of children in our country are like those at the Dunkeld Consolidated School, then our future is good.

One of those things you really had to know:

First of many. Jenney, William Le Baron (1832 – 1907). American architect, who in 1884 designed the Home Insurance Company building in Chicago. Although only ten floors tall, it had a steel-frame construction, which made it the forerunner of the modern skyscraper.

The world according to Hinchey:

I love to see the skyscrapers in Melbourne, in the rear vision mirror.

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

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE OF CAVENDISH AND COLERAINE

Southern Grampians Shire Council endorsed draft Structure Plans for Cavendish and Coleraine at last night's Council meeting, paving the way for a new chapter in the future of these towns.

The plans provide a clear, 20-year framework to guide land use, housing, infrastructure, environmental resilience, and community development. They are a result of Council's Small Towns Strategy and have been created in close partnership with residents, with each community's values and aspirations at the core of the plans.

More than 100 community members attended workshops across the two townships and took part in place-based activities earlier in the year, helping to shape the Place Visions and Action Plans that underpin the draft Structure Plans.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin expressed his support for this collaborative approach. "The priorities that emerged from our consultation show residents of these close-knit communities want to stay in their towns. They want their towns to realise their full potential and make them safe and enjoyable places to live in every chapter of life," said Cr Heslin.

"These residents want to be able to raise their children here, safe and happy and when they get older, they want a town with an infrastructure that means they can stay right where they are."

Some of the priorities emphasised by the communities included clear township boundaries to protect local character and landscapes, support for modest and well-located residential growth, supporting ageing residents that wished to stay in town, diverse housing options, revitalised town centres, main street improvements, strengthening walking and cycling links and the protection of local environmental assets.

There will be two more community drop-in sessions for people to view and discuss the plans, and it is recommended that residents make a special effort to have their say at these gatherings.

For Coleraine, there will be a session on Wednesday 1 October from 4.00-6.00pm at the Karingal Senior Citizens Centre and for Cavendish, there will be a session on Monday 6 October from 4.00-6.00pm in Cavendish Hall.

Embedded in the draft Structure Plans are locally driven visions for each town.

For Cavendish, this message is "A town with a big heart". This vision is focused on community connection, celebration of Cavendish's pastoral setting, and exploring opportunities such as a long-term Red Gum Centre to share local stories and landscape.

For Coleraine, the message is "Where time slows and life grows." This vision is centred on revitalising Whyte Street, the main thoroughfare, celebrating heritage and First Nations stories, and creating a connected "garland of gum leaves" of walkable natural and cultural places.

"The plans are designed not only to guide Council's planning decisions," said Cr Heslin, "but to serve as a roadmap for residents, community groups, businesses, and investors working together to strengthen the future of both townships."

The draft Structure Plans will be available for public exhibition during September and October, providing community the chance to review the drafted visions and share feedback before final plans are considered later in 2025.

To view the plans and have your say, please head to our [website](#) or drop into the Brown Street customer service desk.

CELEBRATE LIFE AT THE 2025 VICTORIAN SENIORS FESTIVAL

Southern Grampians Shire is rolling out the red carpet for our vibrant senior community this October, with a month-long festival that promises connection, creativity, and celebration.

Under the theme of *Connect, Create and Celebrate*, the 2025 Victorian Seniors Festival invites residents aged 60 and above to step out and try something new. This annual festival is an important celebration of our seniors, recognising their invaluable contributions to our community.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin said Council is proud to be a part of the statewide initiative which is supported by the Victorian Government. "Council has partnered with our community to develop a wonderful program that will take seniors all across the Shire and let them experience a huge range of events and activities," said Cr Heslin. "This month-long program is packed with so many fantastic events designed spark curiosity, create laughter, and forge new friendships. This year's calendar features something for everyone. Dance enthusiasts can sway to the classics at the old-time dance club, nature lovers can discover hidden gems in a guided botanic garden tour, and anyone with a competitive streak can shine at games and trivia nights. With bigger events like *"Keith Potger: Celebrating the Seekers"* at the Hamilton Performing Arts Centre, the program promises tons of fun and engaging events for all interests.

"The festival is our chance to honour the incredible seniors who make our community extraordinary. We can't wait to see familiar faces and welcome new ones throughout October's celebrations," concluded Cr Heslin. Most events are free or low-cost, with some bookings required.

The full October calendar can be found on Council's [website](#), while printed brochures are ready for collection at the Brown Street Customer Service Office, Hamilton Library or any other Council service desk.

COUNCIL SEEKS COMMUNITY FEEDBACK ON DRAFT ASSET PLAN

Southern Grampians Shire Council is inviting community to have their say on the Draft Asset Plan (AMP).

The AMP is a key document that helps shape how our roads, buildings, parks, playgrounds, pathways and other community assets are cared for, improved and sustained into the future.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin said our assets are the backbone of everyday life in the

Southern Grampians. They keep us support our wellbeing and help make our towns liveable, vibrant places to call home.

"From the footpaths we walk on, to the community halls where we gather, Council manages an extensive network of infrastructure designed to serve our community both now and, in the years ahead," Cr Heslin said.

"The Draft Asset Plan outlines how Council will manage these assets over their entire lifecycle, from construction and maintenance through to renewal and replacement. "The goal is simple; to make sure our infrastructure continues to deliver real value to the community, while balancing affordability and sustainability."

The Plan has been prepared using plain language and clear information so everyone can understand what's included. It also draws on independent specialist assessments and valuations, giving a reliable picture of the current state of Council assets.

"Importantly, the Plan doesn't sit on its own. It forms part of Council's broader strategic framework, working alongside Community Vision 2041, the Council Plan, the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, and the Long-Term Financial Plan," said Cr Heslin.

"Together, these documents provide a roadmap for delivering services and facilities that match the expectations and aspirations of our residents. Does the Draft Asset Plan reflect what you value most about our infrastructure? Are there things you would like to see prioritised in the years ahead?

"We know our community has a strong interest in how Council looks after local facilities and infrastructure. Your feedback is crucial to ensure this plan reflects the priorities of the people who live, work and visit here," Cr Heslin concluded.

The Draft Asset Plan is available now at [Engage Southern Grampians](#). Community members are encouraged to review the document and provide feedback by Tuesday 7 October 2025. Please contact Council on 5573 0444 if you have any queries.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCES RETURN OF SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE FOR SCHOOLS

Southern Grampians Shire Council is pleased to announce the return of Sustainability Schools Competition, an initiative that challenges local students to come up with innovative, real-world solutions to environmental issues.

The competition, open to Years 7-9 students across the Shire, gives young people the chance to design projects that address challenges such as waste, energy, water use, or protection of the natural environment. The winning team will see their idea brought to life, with Council committing up to \$10,000 to fund and implement the project.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin said the initiative puts the future directly in the hands of the next generation.

"Young people of the Southern Grampians Shire play a vital role in shaping a more sustainable future," said Cr Heslin.

"This program is about real projects that can create real change in our community. Council's Sustainability Team

will be working closely with schools to help shape ideas, connect students with industry contacts, and support them every step of the way."

The program also gives students valuable skills in project planning, leadership, and industry engagement. Over the coming months, Council's Sustainability Team will be visiting schools to workshop ideas and guide students in building strong proposals.

Key Details:

- **Who can enter:** Open to students in years 7-9 from any participating school within the Southern Grampians Shire.
- **Submission Limit:** Each school may submit up to three projects.
- **Competition Dates:** Wednesday 1 October 2025 - Friday 1 May 2026.
- **Entry:** Submissions can be made via a form on the Council website.
- **Prizes:** The winning team's project will be funded up to \$10,000 and implemented by Council. All participants will receive movie vouchers and special recognition, with additional prizes for the winning team.

Cr Heslin said Council is looking forward to seeing the creative ideas that students put forward.

"Last year we had some really inspired thinking, from irrigation to playgrounds to reusable items. It's amazing to see how students imagine a better future. This program is about turning that imagination into real world results."

Last year, following a very impressive series of entries, two projects were awarded the top spot, splitting the prize down the middle.

'Snap'N Seal 'N Off You Go' from The Hamilton and Alexandra College put forward a proposal to circulate reusable silicon coffee cup lids throughout the Shire with the aim of reducing the amount of plastic going to landfill. This enterprise is now reaching its final stages with lids ordered from the manufacturer with plans to distribute them to participating cafes.

The other winners were the team behind the Sustainable School Garden and Tank Smart Project, from Baimbridge College. This team submitted plans to purchase and install a water tank in the school gardens to capture rainwater to irrigate a vegetable garden. Funding was also allocated to upgrading the vegetable garden and the purchase of tools, plants and materials. This project will be brought to life in the coming weeks with the assistance of Council's Parks and Gardens team. Submissions will be evaluated on key criteria including innovation, feasibility, implementation, as well as alignment with Council plans and visions.

Southern Grampians Shire Council also extends an invitation to local businesses and agencies interested in sponsoring, mentoring, or partnering with a project idea. For more information, please contact the Sustainability Team at sustainability@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au

Please note that all entries must go through participating schools and individuals may not enter themselves. For further details on how schools can get involved, including competition guidelines, terms and conditions, and entry link please visit our website or contact Council at 5573 0444.

Let's work together to build a greener, more sustainable future!

SUPPORTING WOMEN AND GIRLS WITH FREE PERIOD PRODUCTS

Period products are a basic need, but many people can't always afford them. When that happens, it can mean missing school or work, feeling unwell, and even pulling away from friends and daily life.

The Hamilton Library will provide free period products to those who need them most, supported by the Victorian Government's \$23million free pads and tampons in public spaces initiative.

A period product dispenser/vending machine will be installed in the amenities at the back of the Library to support women and girls access free sanitary products when they are most needed.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Senior Library Coordinator Kelly Pitt-Lancaster said the Library was looking forward to the machine's installation. "The dispenser is being installed and made available for community in the first week of October," said Ms Pitt-Lancaster.

"The machine will be located at the back of the Library in the toilet facilities for convenience, privacy and ease of use. The period products will be free to ensure that those who need them most have access to vital menstruation products.

"Pads and tampons are a necessity, not a luxury. Menstruating women and girls should be able to access them whenever and wherever they need them," concluded Ms Pitt-Lancaster.

According to a 2024 Share the Dignity survey, 64% of Australians who menstruate find it difficult to afford period products.

As part of the statewide program, free tampon and pad dispensers are being installed in up to 700 public places around Victoria including public libraries, sporting facilities, TAFEs, public hospitals, major cultural institutions and more.

These machines provide easy, discreet access to essential products—helping break down barriers to participation and promoting health, equity, and dignity for all.

Find out more and see the full list of participating locations at freepadsandtampons.vic.gov.au.

COMMUNITY BUSHFIRE RECOVERY SESSIONS OFFER LOCAL SUPPORT

This October, Southern Grampians Shire Council is inviting the community to come together for a series of Bushfire Recovery Sessions in Dunkeld, Cavendish and Mirranatwa.

These are events designed to support anyone who was affected by the recent bushfires while also helping families and individuals mentally prepare for the season ahead.

These sessions recognise that the effects of bushfires go well beyond the initial physical damage, and that many in our community continue to live with the emotional and practical challenges that follow such events.

The sessions will feature guest speakers Michael Gordon and Alexandra Howard, both bringing significant expertise in disaster recovery and mental health. Michael, a farmer and consultant, has supported rural communities across Victoria through times of crisis, including councils most affected by the 2009 Black Saturday Bushfires.

Alexandra is a clinical psychologist with 15 years' experience and has worked nationally on disaster preparedness, response and recovery, focusing on mental health and wellbeing.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin called these sessions invaluable, saying: "These sessions will provide a safe and supportive space for people to connect with the community, share experiences, and learn useful strategies for recovery and resilience.

"Conversations will cover what to expect after a bushfire, how to support yourself and your family, as well as practical steps to be ready for future emergencies. "These gatherings are open to everyone," he continued, "whether directly impacted by the fires or simply looking to strengthen their preparedness. They are also a chance to enjoy a meal together and reconnect as a community. No one has to face recovery alone."

The Community Bushfire Recovery Sessions will be held as follows:

- Sterling Place Dunkeld Community Centre - Saturday 11 October, 10:00am.
- Cavendish Soldiers Memorial Hall - Saturday 11 October, 4:00pm.
- Mirranatwa Public Hall - Sunday 12 October, 11:30am.

Seats are limited and Council encourages community members to RSVP early.

To RSVP, please visit [RSVP - Community Recovery Session](#) and for more details, please see our [website](#).

CALL FOR PERFORMERS TO BRING HAMILTON TO LIFE THIS CHRISTMAS

With Christmas approaching once again, preparations for the holiday season are already well under way.

This year, Council is backing live street performances throughout the holiday period to make sure the town is buzzing with joy right up until Christmas Day. Busking slots are available to anyone in the region with the skills and the spirit.

From November 25 all the way through to the big day, Hamilton will be buzzing with increased activity, and we are inviting local performers to express their interest in doing live, paid performances throughout the Hamilton shopping district.

If you're an established act trying to connect with your audience or a new performer looking for some valuable experience, this is for anyone with a passion for performance to share their talents with the community. Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin is pleased to see the return of the festive buskers.

"We had such a positive response to last year's performers that we had to try and expand the program. This year instead of a competition with prizes, we will be paying the performers with the intention of attracting a

large number of acts and keeping the Christmas spirit alive throughout the season.

"We'll have a flat rate of \$80 per slot for a single performer, or \$160 for an act. Each slot is two hours long and you're free to snap up as many slots as you can handle. We would love to see talented people of all kinds on our streets, entertaining our residents and spreading the good cheer," said Mr Heslin. "And anything you make from throwing your cap down is all yours."

There are plenty of slots available, including the evening of the St Marys Parade when the streets will be bustling with late night shoppers.

If you'd like to pass on some festive joy to the community, fill out an [expression of interest form](#) today. For more information, check our [website](#) or get in contact at 5573 0444.

So, dust off your favourite holiday tunes, gather your costumes, props, and instruments, and get ready to spread festive cheer to locals and visitors.



CHRISTMAS WINDOW DISPLAY COMPETITION RETURNS

Southern Grampians Shire Council invites local businesses to help share Christmas spirit by taking part in the annual Christmas Window Display Competition.

From 11 November, shopfronts across the Shire are encouraged to decorate with all things Christmas as traders compete for the title of best Christmas window. The competition celebrates creativity, festive spirit and community pride, with prizes on offer for the winning displays.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin said the competition is a fun way to bring colour and character to our streets, while also encouraging residents and visitors to support local traders. "The competition helps sets the tone for the festive period," Cr Heslin said. "With beautifully decorated shopfronts, Christmas trees and events happening Shire-wide, it's a wonderful way to showcase our businesses. Last year we saw some really fantastic entries, and I can't wait to see the participation number grow."

In 2024, Bellcourt Books and Brown Bird Haus in Hamilton took out the top prizes for their creative windows, with honourable mentions going to Tosca Browns Café and Patience Petal Florist in Peshurst.

This year, judging will again be split between a panel of judges and a community vote. The judge's choice and people's choice winners will each receive a \$250 shop local voucher, with an additional \$250 voucher also up for grabs for one lucky punter who casts a vote.

Businesses can register their window display online through Council's website. Entries open on Monday 10 November, and close on 15 December. Businesses are able to enter right up until 15 December but are encouraged to enter earlier in order to make the most of the public voting. People will be able to vote for their favourite windows online or by following the QR code on promotional posters.

For more information, please contact Southern Grampians Shire Council Economic Development Support Officer Daniel Shaw at dshaw@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au To stay up to date with all things Council, check out the SGSC website or consider signing up to our monthly newsletter.



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.

2026 ANZAC Day Schools' Awards: The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) is proud to host the Anzac Day Schools' Awards. This national competition recognises the work of students and teachers in schools and other educational settings. The purpose of the competition is for students to:

- engage actively with veterans or current-serving Australian Defence Force (ADF) members
- research content related to a theme in Australia's wartime history.

The theme for 2026 is 'Women in Service'. Entries close 5.00pm on Thursday 28 May 2026.

Entries to consist of four parts:

- engagement with veterans or current ADF members and your school group
- a project
- a bibliography
- a student group reflection.

Australian Women's Army Service (AWAS) and Women's Royal Australian Army Corps (WRAAC):

The formation of the Australian Women's Army Service (AWAS) was authorised by the government on 13 August 1941 to "release men from certain military duties for employment in fighting units." The AWAS was the only non-medical women's service to send personnel overseas during the war; in 1944 and 1945 AWAS served in both Dutch and Australian New Guinea. By 30 June 1947 all members of the AWAS had been demobilised.

Facing a severe manpower shortage due to the demands of the Korean War and national service in a time of full

employment, enlistment for the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps (WRAAC) began in April 1951. In the late 1970s female soldiers began to be integrated into the Army at large and in early 1984, the WRAAC was disbanded.



A WAS who arrived in Lae from Australia wait for the trucks to transport them to the AWAS barracks at Butibum Road, New Guinea, 1945 091457

The Australian Army Medical Women's Service (AAMWS) grew out of the volunteer Red Cross and St John Ambulance Voluntary Aid Detachments (known as the VADs). From December 1942 nearly 8,500 AAMWS served as nurses, nursing aides, and technicians tending sick and wounded soldiers in the Middle East, New Guinea, and Australia. The AAMWS served alongside army nursing sisters in hospitals.¹

¹<https://www.awm.gov.au/learn/understanding-military-structure/army/womens-services>



SCHOOL NEWS

It was a busy end to Term 3, with students involved in many exciting activities:

- Hoop Time basketball competitions at HILAC (Year 3/4 and 5/6 students).
- Kinder to Prep Transition Program.
- Sessions by Mindfull Aus team - promoting healthier hearts and lighter minds - building emotional resilience and empowering young minds.
- R U OK Day? Any Day.
- SAKG Kitchen classes.
- Year 6 BioCATS Excursion to Geelong.
- Footy/Sports Colours Day – a huge thank you to the Dunkeld & District Lions Club members for providing the delicious 'sausage sizzle' lunch for all the students and staff!



The first week of Term 4 sees the Year 5/6 students attending a three-day camp at Cave Hill Creek, Beaufort and a team of students (Grace Macgugan, Audrey Black, Sybil Patterson, Xavier Macgugan, Ruby Mibus, Athena Manolas, Tom Roache) competing at the Greater Western Region Track and Field Championships in Ballarat.

DUNKELD ARBORETUM NATIVE GRASSLAND COMMUNITY GATHERING

Guest speakers:

Nature Glenelg Trust
Incorporating iNaturalist and Photopoint to develop a Citizen Science Project
Ayesha Burdett, Senior Wetland Ecologist

Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority
Valuing native grasslands
Learn how to conduct a grassland survey
Aggie Stevenson & Ben Zeeman, Senior Biodiversity Officers

Country Fire Authority
Fuel reduction burns in native grasslands
Philip O'Keefe, Vegetation Management Officer

Visit the Sawmill & check out the photographic history of the Dunkeld Arboretum

Lunch is provided by Dunkeld Refugee & Asylum Seeker Support Group

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Dress for the weather conditions
RSVP before 16th October

Contact Us
0412 855359
dunkeldarboretum@gmail.com



DUNKELD ARBORETUM




Book tickets via the QR code or go to:
<https://www.trybooking.com/DGDSC>




MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER

DUNKELD ARBORETUM
10 AM - 1 PM



Girls

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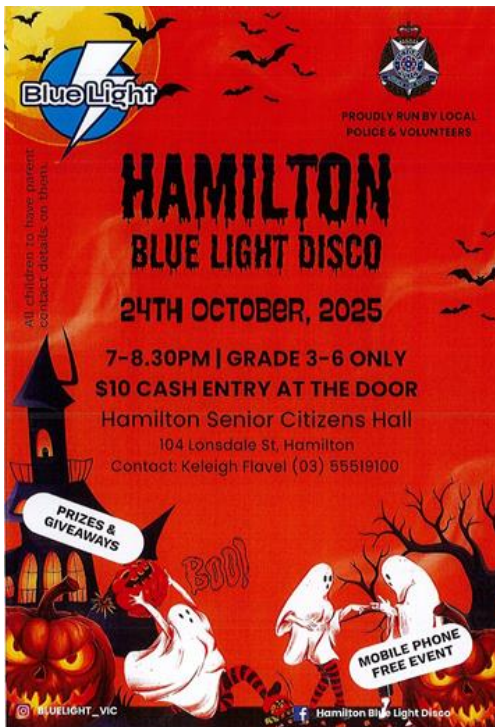
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 Matt Barber (Senior Agronomist) 0488 298 170
 Megan Clothier (Animal Health) 0498 226 730
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104 Lonsdale St, Hamilton
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PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS
MOBILE PHONE FREE EVENT

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
16	Fri 17 October	Wed 22 October
17	Fri 31 October	Wed 5 November
18	Fri 14 November	Wed 19 November
19	Fri 28 November LAST ISSUE FOR 2025	Wed 3 December



VICTORIA POLICE

Leading Senior Constable Roger McClure
 Officer in Charge, Dunkeld Police Station
 67 Parker Street
 Dunkeld
 Ph: 03 5577 2260 / 0409078825
 Email: DUNKELD.UNI@police.vic.gov.au
 Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000



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FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **WANNON**



My office can assist you with information about Federal Government services including:

- ✓ Centrelink
- ✓ 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



Dan Listens, Dan Cares, Dan Delivers!

Hamilton: 190 Gray Street, Hamilton VIC 3300
 Warrnambool: 158 Korot Street, Warrnambool VIC 3280
 ☎ 1300 131 692 ✉ dan.tehan.mp@aph.gov.au
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 Authorised by Dan Tehan MP, Liberal, 190 Gray St, Hamilton VIC 3300.

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 Asylum Seekers - Melbourne (via ASRC)
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PA System available for Hire

The Dunkeld & District Lions Club recently purchased a PA System, which is available for hire:

\$40.00 per night or \$50.00 for a weekend

Has two UHF microphones and a stand for speaker. Compatible with blue tooth, MP3 player, DVD and CD player.

****Free hire to non-profit organisations.****

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Bowen Therapy Service is now available in Dunkeld and Surrounds

My partner Jen and I have recently moved from Geelong to now live in Dunkeld. I am a practising Paediatric Registered Nurse currently on Long Service Leave with the view of working in our local Health Care setting in the foreseeable future. I am also a Bowen Therapist where in Geelong offered home based treatments. I now wish to offer the same Bowen Therapy services in our community.

What is Bowen Therapy:

Bowen Therapy is a form of bodywork that is very gentle and relaxing.

Bowen Therapy involves small gentle moves on body acupoints, that creates a healing response.

Acupoints are certain specific areas on your body much like what an acupuncturist uses for the positioning of their needles. We as Bowen Therapists use our fingers instead of needles to create the same healing response.

Bowen Therapy is safe and appropriate for people of all ages, from babies to the elderly, and all degrees of health.

What does Bowen Therapy treat?

The Bowen Technique

Migraines		Headaches
Hormonal Issues		Stress
Respiratory Issues		Tinnitus
Back Pain		Frozen Shoulder
Sciatica		Digestive Issues / IBS
Plantar Fasciitis		Allergies
Ankle Issues		Knee Issues
Menstrual Problems		Joint Pain
Sleep Problems		Depression, Anxiety

Bowen is a Holistic Treatment treating the body on many levels

This is an example of some conditions that Bowen Therapy can help address, but there are also many others.

Please feel free to contact me for further information and advice.

My website should answer a lot of your questions.

Hope to hear from you soon.

My contact details:

Mauro Morganti (Moz) RN, RM

(Non Pract), BT Diploma.

Phone: 0425 852 081

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