

# 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: 19/2020 Date: Wednesday 2 December 2020

## DUNKELD CHRISTMAS EVE TOWN SANTA RUN

Santa will visit the streets of Dunkeld

On Christmas Eve

**Thursday 24 December 2020**

**Commencing at 7.00pm**



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

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

Many thanks to the Dunkeld & District

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

Enquiries - Heather Hampton 5577 2240 / 0437 947 951.

Disclaimer: 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.

## DONATIONS

Dunkeld & District Lions Club	\$100
Jock and Jill Whiting	\$100
Roz Greenwood Old and Rare Books	\$ 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."**

## CHURCH TIMES

### Saint Patrick's Catholic Church

Co-Pastor: Father Pat Mugavin - 5571 1161

Co-Pastor: Father George Kuruvila – 5571 1161

Email: patrick.mugavin@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Email: george.kuruvila@ballarat.catholic.org.au

1 <sup>st</sup> Week	Sunday	December 6	8.30am	Mass
2 <sup>nd</sup> Week	Sunday	December 13		No service – Mass at Glenthompson
3 <sup>rd</sup> Week	Sunday	December 20	8.30am	Mass
4 <sup>th</sup> Week	Sunday	December 27	9.00am	Assembly of Word and Communion
1 <sup>st</sup> Week	Sunday	January 3	8.30am	Mass
2 <sup>nd</sup> Week	Sunday	January 10		No service – Mass at Glenthompson
3 <sup>rd</sup> Week	Sunday	January 17	8.30am	Mass
4 <sup>th</sup> Week	Sunday	January 24	9.00am	Assembly of Word and Communion
5 <sup>th</sup> Week	Sunday	January 31	9.00am	Assembly of Word and Communion

Covid-19 procedures apply. Please click on the following link for our Online Mass: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-blQdgo2Zk0xN9ki93aFjw> or follow our Facebook page to receive notification of online masses:

<https://www.facebook.com/westernbordercatholicparish/> Please also check the Hamilton Spectator for Mass dates and times.

If you would like to receive regular email links to invite you to watch our Masses, please email our Parish Office on [admin@westernborder.church](mailto:admin@westernborder.church)

### Dunkeld Anglican - Uniting Churches

The Christmas Eucharist will be offered at Saint Mary's Dunkeld on Thursday 24 December at 6:30pm. At the time of going to print you need to book with Father David Oulton phone 5571 1317 and BYO mask.

### Pannyabyr Uniting Church

Our Christmas Service, conducted by Rev Angie Griffin will be held on Sunday 20 December at 4.00pm. At the conclusion of the Service, we will have a Shared Meal which will be soup and savouries. We hope you will be able to join us.

### Mirranatwa Uniting Church

**Services** in the Parish are now available on You Tube and Face Book. Also on Google, click in **Hamilton Uniting Church Livestreaming**. Available at **11.00am Sundays** or can be viewed at a later time.

### WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
	1	2 Newsletter issue 19 distributed	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Art and Craft Market	13 Art and Craft Market Sawmill break- up
14	15	16	17	18 Last day of Term 4 for Dunkeld Consolidated School	19	20
21	22	23	24 Town Santa Run <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	25 <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	26	27

### Season's Greetings

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all the sick and lonely people in our community.*



## DUNKELD PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE

We have had a very busy year with projects completed or near to completion.

Projects at the Caravan Park include the BBQ area at the Camp Kitchen and a new Ablution Block at the unpowered site area.

Geoff and Erin have done an amazing job improving sites and updating booking programs. The Covid-19 lockdown has had a big impact on patronage over the past months, but it has turned around in the last two weeks.

The Working Bee on Salt Creek was a great success and again thank you to all the people who helped. Looking after this area is an ongoing process.

Memorial Park could see some changes next year with Shire Plans for improvement for a walking track. We are also planning some maintenance issues in the playground and seeking Government grants, which also include a shade sail.

The reservoir looks great, hopefully in the New Year we can start to get the jetty built. We are seeking donations from keen fishing people to stock the reservoir with native fish fingerlings; Perch, Bass, Trout and maybe some Murray Cod in a couple of years. Donations can be made to Jason Linskens at Kelly's or to Dunkeld Public Lands Committee. Costs are \$200.00 for 100 fish and we are looking to raise \$1,000.00 for 500 fish.

Bank Details: Bendigo Bank  
BSB: 633 000  
Account Number: 137 424 792

Happy Christmas to everyone, next year will be a better one!

Frank Raymond

DPLC

This Year the Dunkeld Public Lands Committee has decided to run the Christmas Competition:

### IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

#### DECORATE YOUR HOUSE/GARDEN/WINDOW/SANTA

Keith and Karen Arnold have kindly allowed us to have the registration form at the Post Office.

Please enter your name and address on the form so, the judges know to look for you.

Judging will take place between 21 and 23 December 2020.

Winners will be notified and results will be posted on the Dunkeld Community Facebook page.

First Prize: \$100.00  
Second Prize: \$ 50.00



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- \* ELGAS BOTTLE SALES
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## Mobile Library

Will be visiting **DUNKELD** every  
Thursday fortnight

12.00pm – 1.30pm

Glenelg Highway alongside pool

**Dunkeld:** 10 December 2020 and  
14 and 28 January 2021

**Mirranatwa:** 3 and 17 December 2020

and 21 January 2021

3.30pm - 4.30pm



Phone: 5573 0470

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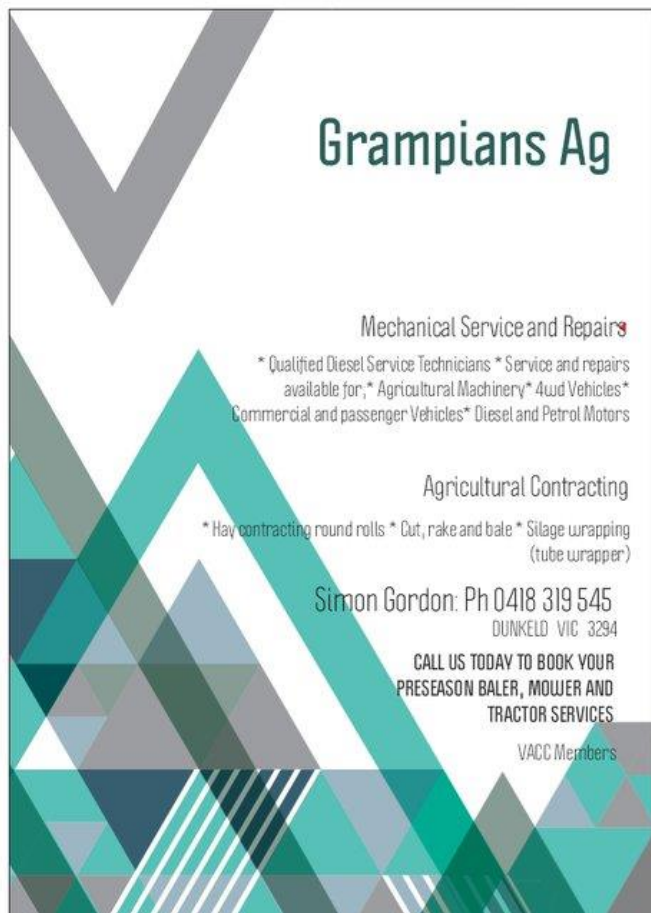
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Now we must give ourselves permission to do the opposite. We have to expect less of ourselves and we have to replenish more. We are asking ourselves, 'Where do I get my energy? What kind of down time do I need?' Now the phrase that really smacked me across my left cheek was the bit about expecting less of ourselves. We are a driven sort of a world and we are more frantic, more competitive and more antsy than we have been for some time. What if instead of allowing our blood pressure to froth, we just poured ourselves a fragrant bubbly bath with a refreshing beverage, some chocolate and soothing music? What if that was all we expected of ourselves and that was everything on our to do list?

Wouldn't we be more likely to treat ourselves better and each other more kindly? The Master put it this way. "Come to me all you that labour and are heaven laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly of heart and you will find rest for your souls, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light".



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HRBA Greater Hamilton Eastern Group

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### 250 WORDS FROM FATHER DAVID

I was reading something rather insightful the other day. It was about trying to adjust to the 'new norm' when we are not quite sure what the 'new norm' actually is. The new norm is rather slippery and changes even before we have begun to get our head around it. No wonder there is a sense of weariness. It's just a lot of hard work. Perceptive Tara Haelle who is a photojournalist, educator, author, and science writer penned these words. "Most of us have heard for most of our lives to expect more from ourselves in some way or another.



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2020 has been a difficult year for everyone. But there is always a good story. I have noticed that the parking bay overlooking Mount Sturgeon has been clean, tidy and well mown for some time.

One of our young Dunkeld residents, Edwin Collins, has been looking after the parking bay for over two years. He does it in his own time, using his own equipment and wears the cost. How good is this?

When I asked Edwin why, he replied, 'I love where I live and I'm putting something back into the community.' I am sure everyone thanks Edwin for his great effort. Well done, Edwin.

John Smith

## Sawmill Christmas Breakup

On Sunday 13 December our members will have their first get together since early in the year. Small groups have got the mill running, but Covid has held us back. We will have a small wood cut at 4.30pm to show where we are up to.

After this we will have the annual Christmas Breakup at 6.00pm. As usual we invite partners and members of the Arboretum, Public Lands and Museum to join us. I will provide the meat for all. Bring a salad or sweet to share. Regulations allow this, as long as one person does the serving. Please bring a chair, cutlery, plates and drink. It has been a long time since we have been allowed to have a gathering. Let us hope we don't have a problem between now and then.

John Smith



12 and 13 December 2020

9.00am - 3.00pm Sat

9.00am - 12.00pm Sun

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Tim Wilson (Manager) 0429 168 020

Kelly Barnes (Animal Health Specialist) 0437 772 861

### Western AG Willaura

T: 03 5354 1585

Glen Gray - 0439 541 036

## Art & Craft Market

Please come by and support local fundraising.

We are calling all artists and crafters; we are looking for stall holders. Did you make lots of things this year whilst being locked away?

If you are interested in a stall please call Josie 0437 459 679 or Dot 0434 348 757.



**97 Martin Street, Dunkeld**

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Saturday	8:30am–3:00pm
Sunday	8:30am–3:00pm
Monday	8:30am–3:00pm
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	Closed



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Dunkeld Vic  
Ph: 5577 2288

**Café 109 is open for sit-in dining**

Café 109 are open for sit-in and outdoor dining, while bookings are not essential it is recommended, walk-ins will be allowed if we have space available and the bar will be open for those dining in, our takeaway and delivery service remain the same.

**Our operating hours are as follows:**

**Monday: Closed**  
**Tuesday: Chicken Parma Night 4pm – 8pm**  
**Wednesday: 4pm – 8pm**  
**Thursday: Burger Night 4pm – 8pm**  
**Friday: 4pm – 8pm**  
**Saturday and Sunday: Lunch 12pm - 2pm**  
**Dinner 4pm – 8pm**

**Takeaway Meals**

- Flake • Whiting • Calamari
- Scallops • Crumbed Prawns
- Dim Sims • Spring Rolls • Chips & Gravy
- Pizza Varieties • Pasta
- Risotto • Chicken Schnitzel/ Parma
- Tennessee Ribs • Garlic Prawns
- Salt 'n' Pepper Squid • Chips
- Fish & chips Hamburgers/ Vegie Burger

**Takeaway Family Meal Packs**

- Pizza Bundle – 2 x Pizza's, garlic bread & 1.25L Soft Drink \$40
- Fish & Chip Bundle – 4 x pcs Fish, chips & salad \$30
- Chicken Parma's – 4 x Parma's, chips & salad \$70
- Chicken Schnitzel – 4 x Schnitzels, chips & salad \$60

**\*\*\*Gluten Free, Vegan and Vegetarian options available\*\*\***

**\*\*\*\*Beer, Wine, Coffee, Soft drink Varieties, Mixed Spirits available\*\*\*\***

**\*\*\*\*\*Delivery available in Dunkeld town boundary with minimum spend of \$20\*\*\*\***



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## DUNKELD MUSEUM NEWS

### General Meeting

We will be hosting the first Museum general meeting for quite a while on Thursday 10 December 2020 at 7.30pm. The agenda will be emailed to members prior to the event.

### Racing Cabinet Appeal

Our efforts to raise funds for a new cabinet for the display of our Dunkeld Racing Club collection have stalled somewhat this year.

We plan to hold a public appeal in early 2021 to raise the money needed to complete the cabinet.

### Display Revamp

We've almost completed our refreshing of some of the displays. The War cabinet, the Aboriginal and Major Mitchell collections are finished and we are currently working on the bakery display. When we reopen, come and have a look at the improvements!

### World War II Research

We would love to hear from anyone who has information and/or photos of anyone from the district who served in WWII, including prisoners of war.

Please call Joyce 5574 9236, or email the Museum: [admin@dunkeldmuseum.org.au](mailto:admin@dunkeldmuseum.org.au)



### Drinks & Nibbles

A community get together

Save the date...

From 4pm Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021



Drinks supplied. BYO Nibbles

COVID-Safe & numbers are limited

Please RSVP by 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020

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Community Bank  
Dunkeld & District

**Bendigo Bank**

### Recognition for service

10 years



A very special celebration this week, with Anna celebrating 10 years service at Bendigo Bank. Anna is a wonderful Manager, with the success and continuing growth of the branch, a testament to her outstanding leadership.

Thank you Anna for a fantastic 10 years service. We are very lucky to have you and look forward to many more years of your guidance, support and friendship.

### Save the Date

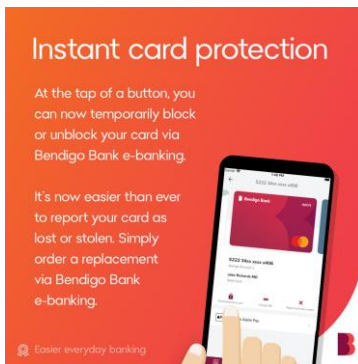
10<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations are planned for us in 2021 and we would love you to join us to celebrate this great milestone. With further details to come, please add this event to your diary:



DATE: 12 February 2021  
VENUE: Dunkeld Memorial Park  
TIME: From 5.00pm

### Instant card protection

Losing your card just became less stressful! We've added some new features to our e-banking to help keep your cool if your card goes missing 🙌



### Merry Christmas

Wishing everyone a very happy Christmas and a great New Year. Thanks for your ongoing support. It is greatly appreciated.



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## DUNKELD GENERAL STORE

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**\*NOTE CHANGE OF HOURS**  
**MONDAY TO THURSDAY - 7.00am – 4.30pm**  
**FRIDAY – 7.00am – 5.30pm**  
**SATURDAY - 7.30am – 4.00pm**  
**SUNDAY- 8.00am – 1.00pm**  
(Times may vary on Public Holidays)

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Member for Wannan

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136A/136B/136C/136D/136E/136F/136G/136H/136I/136J/136K/136L/136M/136N



## SCHOOL NEWS

Well the end of the year is approaching very quickly now. Although the end of year will be welcomed by many I'm sure, we still have a very full calendar for the last few weeks that we hope will give our students some wonderful experiences as well as help in their transition into next year. We have created many opportunities for Year level groups to come together to spend quality time with one another.

### Staffing

It's that time of year again, where we have been planning what is next in 2021. Our school will have a further drop of enrolment numbers in 2021 with a larger Year 6 class moving on this year and smaller number of new students entering our school. Funding received by a school is based on enrolments, which in turn dictates our staffing and class structures. We need to work within our budget and therefore need to plan class structures and staffing around this. Many hours have again gone into planning the best options for our students, so that all areas of the curriculum are offered and exciting learning can take place.

I would like to let the school community know that Mrs Jane Higgins has announced her retirement from the beginning of 2021. We would like to thank Jane for her many years of service to Dunkeld Consolidated School and wish her all the very best in her retirement. We will hold a farewell at the beginning of the 2021 school year.

We also farewell Mrs Laura Matthews after having her with us for the past six months. Thank you to Laura for stepping in to co-teach the Prep/Year 1 class from mid-year. She has been a wonderful addition to our staff. We wish Laura well as she returns to Hamilton North Primary School next year. We still hope to see her for some CRT days!

Mrs Christy Lazzari's contract comes to an end this year and unfortunately due to budget restraints, we cannot re-advertise. We thank Christy for all her time as a staff member, especially in office and delivering our School Newsletter each week.

In other staffing news, Mrs Jayne Greig will continue her Maternity Leave for the 2021 school year. Jayne is loving being a new Mum to baby Liam. Mr Angus Lean, one of our Education Support staff, has requested to take twelve months leave to follow his dance school ambitions and further education. We wish Angus well next year and hope to have him out at Dunkeld for some dance classes! Miss Mary-Ellen Evans has requested a time reduction to three days to pursue further education also, so will now share a class. All other staff are set to continue in their positions at this point in time.

### Athletics Sports

Thank you again to Mrs Jackie McShane, Mrs Angela Field and staff for their organisation and coordination of the School Athletics Sports. With all events now complete, we announced the overall House winner after a close contest. Congratulations to Sturgeon and also to all students for their events and sportsmanship.

### Transition

Kinder to School Transition is now in full swing with staff visits to the Kindergarten and Kinder students visiting the school recently and again on Friday 27 December. We are very impressed with the children's confidence in entering our school and sure they will happily slip in to school life.

Kind regards, Dee-Anne Gerring

### MY BUSINESS RULES

On Friday 20 November, the second My Business Rules Market Day was held on the walkway. Year 6 students set up their stalls anxious for what was about to come but, in the end it was all well and good.

Some of the products that were sold were lava bottles, personalised doormats, terrariums, key rings and much more. Most people have already paid back their loan. For anyone who is still going to be here, I can only wonder what the next Year 6 group will do. *By Grace Potter, Year 6.*



A sincere thank you to Ms Marion Colton for her generous donation to the My Business Rules Project.

## REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

On Wednesday 11 November 2020 our School Captains proudly represented the school laying a wreath at the Dunkeld Cenotaph during the Dunkeld RSL Sub-Branch Remembrance Day Service. While the weather was not kind to the attendees, our fallen were still remembered. Lest We Forget.



## *From the Kitchen and Garden...by Lillian Glazebrook and Myles Alderman*

Last week Year 4/5 students were in the SAKG Kitchen and they cooked burgers with a few bush tucker ingredients with other ingredients like curry powder, cumin, silverbeet and parsley. Burgers were served with potato chip rosettes. Phoebe Ross said, "It was very fun and interesting and there were lots of spices and herbs to put in your burger." In the SAKG Garden everything is in full swing, it is full of flowers and insects and we have been weeding and harvesting spring produce.

## TRANSITION DAYS



**Year 6 to Secondary School**  
Transition Days have had to run a little differently this year but we were still able to introduce some of our students to Ms Sam Adams from Baimbridge College

on Monday 16 November 2020.

Assisting Ms Adams convey information relating to Baimbridge College to some of our current Year 6 students were past pupils Jasmine Crawford and Antonia Huzony. It is always good to have a student perspective.

## Kindergarten to Primary School

"We can't believe we are actually at school!" a little voice said as they walked through the door. Not a tear to be seen. From there the excitement continued!



We played, drew, wrote our names, sang songs and danced using ribbons, made rainbows, went on a school tour, ate some fruit and shared our favourite stories. All in an hour and a half!

We have nine new Foundation (Prep) students ready to begin school in 2021. We can't wait to see them all again!

## Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program (SAKG)



### *From the Garden...by Lisa McIntyre*

Last week was too hot to be outside - so we brought the garden in!

The children first used their memories and map drawing skills to draw a bird's eye view of the garden. They worked out where north was, and from there, worked out the garden beds, fire pit, sheds and Chook Palace, and placed them all in relation to each other, drawing their sizes compared to other structures, and also their orientation to north. It is much harder than you think - I know, I've tried to do it quite a few times.

Then they had to identify 28 different plants that were laid out on the table. And they were not all vegetables, which made it harder. As we discussed the answers after they all wrote theirs, we worked out how to spell them correctly.

## SCHOOL CAPTAINS WEEKLY MESSAGE from Hayden Phillips and Georgia Adams

[https://app.seesaw.me/pages/shared\\_item?item\\_id=item.3d0a4f35-7ae4-4ae4-ae93-b2c258f52fea&share\\_token=8jZRbgubRQ2PM5\\_kRS75iw&mode=share](https://app.seesaw.me/pages/shared_item?item_id=item.3d0a4f35-7ae4-4ae4-ae93-b2c258f52fea&share_token=8jZRbgubRQ2PM5_kRS75iw&mode=share)

[https://app.seesaw.me/pages/shared\\_item?item\\_id=item.d12f5b6d-13b3-4e05-b78a-e01ae3e6ab9c&share\\_token=EgZEoUGeTsOCtl5YHX32wg&mode=share](https://app.seesaw.me/pages/shared_item?item_id=item.d12f5b6d-13b3-4e05-b78a-e01ae3e6ab9c&share_token=EgZEoUGeTsOCtl5YHX32wg&mode=share)

## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Our senior students have come up with some ideas to help bring the school together during Term 4. Dress to Impress occurred on Friday 27 November to support children's cancer research (gold coin donation). Other upcoming/ongoing activities include:

**Eco Bins Class Competition:** Each class has been given a rubbish bin BUT the idea is not to use it! Each class is to attempt limiting the amount of rubbish they produce. At the end of each week, the eco bin for each class is weighed and the class with the least amount of rubbish wins. This activity is happening now and will continue through to the end of the year. Nude food in the lunch box please (if possible) to help our competing grades!

**Kindness Jars:** Each class has been provided with a Kindness Jar. A jar filled with kindness tasks. Every morning, teachers will pull out a task that the whole class has to complete by the end of the day. If the task is completed by the whole the class by the end of the day, they may earn a small treat.

**Handmade Certificates:** Handmade certificates use a compilation of digitally drawn and hand drawn pieces of art that are presented to students who have made significant achievements or have been a kind class member.

**Mini Movies – 20 November 2020:** On Mini Movies Day Years 2 to 6 will form groups of mixed aged to script and produce their own mini movie. This task will require the co-operative teamwork of all involved.

**Fun Fair Friday – 4 December 2020:** Come to school in casual active wear to enjoy an hour of Fun Fair Games. Each game will be run by a student in Year 6.

**Christmas Activities Day – 15 December 2020:** After lunch the school will divide into three groups and each group will undertake a different activity. On completion of the activity, each group will rotate through to the next activity, undertaking three different tasks in all.

**Art Craft Activity Classes - 17 December 2020:** to be held over morning recess and lunch.

## The Dunkeld Consolidated School wants your Used Batteries!

The Dunkeld Consolidated School Council has been conducting an ongoing Battery Collection Fundraiser.

Kelly's Dunkeld have kindly offered to be a central collection point for used batteries for the Dunkeld Consolidated School (thank you to Jason Linskens who was instrumental in organising this). Any unwanted car, truck, tractor, boat batteries etc may be dropped off at Kelly's Hardware Store, 101 Parker Street, Dunkeld.

Components of used batteries e.g. metals, acids and plastics are reclaimed, recycled and put back into the manufacturing process to build more batteries and household products, 98% of the battery is recycled.

If you require any assistance with the pick-up of your used batteries, please contact Simon Ross on 0408 984 499. (Could you please send Simon a text regarding arranging collection of any batteries and he will organise a date and time with you. Due to technical issues, some phone messages have been lost so could the relevant people please text a message direct to Simon or alternatively, give him a call).

Thank you for your support!

### NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTION AND DISTRIBUTION DATES FOR 2020

Issue Number	Cut-off Date	Distribution Date
19	Fri 27 November <b>LAST ISSUE 2020</b>	Wed 2 December

Please note that the closing date for the Community Newsletter is **6.00pm on the Friday before the distribution date**, as listed in the table.

Please forward your content to Mrs Carol Burger –  
email: carolburger5103@gmail.com  
or phone: 0417 374 673.

### SHOP LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS

Ellen McCartney-Lees and Earlene Gellert will offer a few hand and machine made items for sale at the Naughtie Corner in Glenthompson on Saturday 5 December from 2.00pm – 3.00pm. That will be followed up with another opportunity on Saturday 19 December at 'Walanga', the home of Neil and Earlene Gellert, 357 Blue Gum Road, Willaura. My phone number is: 0448 832 202. This will be from 10.00am - 2.00pm.

Items will include: children's quilts, lap rugs, table runners and more. This will be a great opportunity to purchase some small Christmas gifts. Commissions will be discussed for anyone interested.

### From the Lions Den

It will soon be the time for bushfires but also the Australian spirit that shines in hard times - help your fellow Australians. The following poem sums it up, have a safe and happy Christmas.

Peter Hinchey



### The Fire at Ross's Farm (1894)

By Henry Lawson

*The squatter saw his pastures wide  
Decrease, as one by one  
The farmers moving to the west  
Selected on his run  
Selectors took the water up  
And all the black soil round  
The best grass land the squatter had  
Was spoilt by Ross's ground*

*Now many schemes to shift old Ross  
Had racked the squatter's brains  
But Sandy had the stubborn blood  
Of Scotland in his veins  
He held the land and fenced it in  
He cleared and ploughed the soil  
And year by year a richer crop  
Repaid him for his toil*

*Between the homes for many years  
The devil left his tracks  
The squatter pounded Ross's track  
And Sandy pounded Black's  
A well upon the lower run  
Was filled with earth and logs  
And Black laid baits about the farm  
To poison Ross's dogs*

*It was indeed a deadly feud  
Of class and creed and race  
But yet, there was a Romeo  
And a Juliet in the case  
And more than once across the flats  
Beneath the Southern Cross  
Young Robert Black was seen to ride  
With pretty Jenny Ross*

*One Christmas time, when months of drought  
Had parched the western creeks  
The bushfires started in the north  
And travelled south for weeks  
At night along the riverside  
The scene was grand and strange  
The hill fires looked like lighted streets  
Of cities in the range*

*The cattle tracks between the trees  
Were like long dusky aisles  
And on a sudden breeze the fire  
Would sweep along for miles  
Like sounds of distant musketry  
It crackled through the breaks  
And o'er the flat of silver grass  
It hissed like angry snakes*

*It leapt across the flowing streams  
And raced the pastures broad  
It climbed the trees and lit the boughs  
And through the scrubs it roared  
The bees fell stifled in the smoke  
Or perished in their hives  
And with the stock, the kangaroos  
Went flying for their lives*

*The sun had set on Christmas eve  
When, through the scrub lands wide  
Young Robert Black came riding home  
As only natives' ride  
He galloped to the homestead door  
And gave the first alarm  
"The fire is past the granite spur,  
And close to Ross's farm"*

*"Now father, send the men at once  
They won't be wanted here  
Poor Ross's wheat is all he has  
To pull him through the year"  
"Then let it burn", the squatter said  
"You shall not take the men –  
Go out and join your precious friends  
And don't come back again."  
"I won't come back," young Robert cried  
And reckless in his ire  
He sharply turned his horse's head  
And galloped towards the fire*

*And there for three long weary hours  
Half blinded with smoke and heat  
Old Ross and Robert fought the flames  
That neared the ripened wheat  
The farmer's hand was nerved by fears  
Of danger and of loss  
And Robert fought the stubborn foe  
For the love of Jenny Ross*

*But serpent like the curves and lines  
Slipped past them and between  
Until they reached the boundary where  
The old coach track had been  
"The track is now our only hope  
There we must stand" cried Ross  
"For nought on earth can stop the fire  
If once it gets across."*

*Then came a cruel gust of wind  
And with a fiendish rush  
The flames leapt over the narrow path  
And lit the fence of brush  
"The crop must burn!" the farmer cried  
"We cannot save it now"  
And down upon the blackened ground  
He dashed the ragged bough*

*But wildly, in a rush of hope  
His heart began to beat  
For over the crackling fire he heard  
The sound of horse's feet  
"Here's help at last," young Robert cried  
And even as he spoke  
The squatter with a dozen men  
Came racing through the smoke*

*Down on the ground the stockmen jumped  
And bared each brawny arm  
They tore green branches from the trees  
And fought for Ross's farm  
And when before the gallant band  
The beaten flames gave way  
Two grimy hands in friendship joined –  
And it was Christmas Day.*



## DUNKELD RSL SUB-BRANCH

**RSL Membership:** We invite ex-service men and women to be members and renew their membership to ensure the future of the RSL locally. If you are a relative of ex-service men or women you can also join the RSL. By becoming a member of the RSL you will be helping the welfare of disabled war veterans and supporting your local RSL Sub-Branch. Membership payments and application forms may be forwarded to the Secretary/Treasurer, Terrie Nicholson, 341 McIntyre's Crossing Road, Moutajup or phone: 5573 3353.

## The Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial, Ballarat

**Names of POW's:** The Trustees conduct research into the status of Australian Prisoners of War throughout the year. These newly discovered names of Prisoners of War are engraved annually onto the Memorial Wall in early December. Should you wish to add a name or include information please contact us: Bill 0419 500 983, David 0417 313 608, Ray 0429 324 429, Jason 0408 121 534, John 5334 3766 or Margaret 0417 014 978.

**Dedication and Anniversary Events:** The Annual Anniversary Service is held on the second Sunday in February commencing at 11.00am Wreath and Book Laying registration for an 11.30am start, and the general public is welcome:

- 2021 (17th Anniversary): 'Virtual Service' is to commence Sunday at 11.00am on the 14 February.

**Flag Protocol:** The Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial flies 5-Flags, these are The Australian National Flag (ANF), Royal Australian Navy Ensign, The Royal Australian Air Force Ensign, The Australian Red Ensign representing the Merchant Navy; these Flags are located in the main forecourt of the Memorial and fly left to right looking North. The National Prisoners' of War Flag is flown at the start of the Memorial.

The Trustees follow strict Commonwealth Flag Protocol at all times...Written Authorities are held from Chief of Navy and the Chief of Air Force to fly the Navy and Air Force Ensigns and as all flags fly 24/7, they are illuminated at night.

All flags are replaced at least twice a year or as needed and are destroyed with dignity and respect and in private.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.powmemorialballarat.com.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.*

## Mirranatwa Christmas Party

Come and enjoy some Christmas cheer.  
Where: At the Mirranatwa Christmas Party.  
Mirranatwa Hall at 7.00pm on  
Saturday 19 December 2020.

Santa will make a guest appearance.  
Please bring a salad or sweet to share and BYO meat and drinks.  
A warm welcome is extended to all families and friends to attend.

## DUNKELD BOWLING CLUB NEWS

### Upcoming Events:

The Men's B Grade Championships will be held on Saturday 9 January 2021.

The Ladies Open Triples will be held on 9 December 2020, entries are going well.

### Division 2 Pennant:

On Saturday 14 November 2020, Dunkeld hosted Warrnambool Lawn; Dunkeld got off to a slow start but after seven ends slipped into top gear to have a very decisive win.

The team of Syd, Kenny P, Cat and Troy, a convincing win 39 – 17, next with a 33 – 15 score line the team of Heather, Dan Mc, Shanks and Fiddler was consistent across the board.

The last rink of Tony, Cloud, Skeeta and Gus came away with a solid 24 – 10 win. Overall score of 96 – 37 and three rinks win.

On 21 November 2020, Dunkeld ventured to Port Fairy coming away victorious, two rinks won and eight shots up. Angus, Skeeta, Cloud and Tony had the narrowest of wins 16 – 15. Fiddler, Shanks, Dan and Heather went down 18 – 22 and the last rink of Troy, Cat, Prewie and Syd took the chocolates for the day winning 31 – 20.

On 28 November we play Timboon at Dunkeld.

### Ladies Club Championships:

Unfortunately with ever dwindling numbers of ladies playing a small field vied for the honour of champion. Heather in a very good match strongly challenged by Beryl, gained a win. A forfeit by Anne enabled Christine to advance to the final.

Heather then went on to take the Ladies Club Champion title, well done to the ladies and congrats must go to Heather.

Gary Wall, Publicity Officer

### Garden Notes – December

With the onset of summer, one of the main gardening jobs is watering. We find this to be one of the least understood aspects of gardening. First, we need to understand that plants don't "eat" their nutrients, they "drink" them, that is, the various soil nutrients can only be used by a plant if they are held in solution and absorbed through the plant's root system. Plant type and size and soil type will help to decide on the amount of water which a plant needs. Flowering annuals, vegetables and other soft leaf plants will need more regular watering than those with tough leathery leaves or rough bark. Plants growing in sandy soils will dry out much faster than in clay soils. This is because a clay soil with its much small particle size has more soil "pores" in which to store water therefore a given volume of clay soil will hold more water than the same volume of sandy soil. For country areas, water quality can be variable in terms of salt content and dissolved clay content. As a general rule water with a salt content of less than 500ppm (parts per million) is safe to use on the garden. Some very hardy plants can tolerate up to 1500ppm. If your bore, dam or creek water is drinkable; than it is okay to use it in the garden. If you feel that the salt content is creeping up towards the end of the summer, avoid splashing plant foliage i.e. apply direct to the root system.



The aim of watering is to apply enough water to saturate the root system completely with minimum surface run-off and minimum soakage below the root system. This makes best use of often scarce water resources.

Water needs will be determined by temperature, wind and by the age and type of the plant. Young seedlings, newly planted trees and shrubs and newly sown lawns will require more frequent watering than well-established plants. With larger trees and shrubs you should aim to give a deep watering say once per week, which is far better than a quick daily sprinkle which will only bring roots close to the surface of the soil thereby increasing the risk of drying out, the aim should be to encourage roots to "chase" water down into the deeper parts of the soil profile. If using fine sprinklers, remember that strong wind will reduce their efficiency also that a hose lying in the sun can heat up water it contains, be sure to "run off" any hot water before applying it to your plants.

Also don't forget the importance of mulching to reduce water usage. Main vegetable plantings for December and January are cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, beans, celery, sliver beet, carrots and lettuce. Don't forget to check

your nursery for a range of Christmas gifts. Thanks for your support during the year, Season's greetings.

Stephen Hughan, Ararat Nursery – phone: 5352 1123

### Our Native Meadow

By Marion Colton

Greetings everyone! Everywhere is looking so beautiful with all the new growth and flowers, especially the Callistemons in Sturgeon Street so laden with red blossoms and visiting lorikeets.

If you enjoy walking and also our native flora, it is well worthwhile to visit the Dunkeld Arboretum's Native Meadow, where such a diversity of species are flowering at present.

There are many native grasses flowering now, some quite compact, others open and feathery, others arching or pendulant, all of varying shades ranging from greens to clarets to silvery-golds and platinum.

Amongst them you will find the Kangaroo Grass, *Themeda triandra*, creating a lovely mass display; many smaller species of Wallaby grasses, *Austrodanthonia* spp., the slender arching Common Wheat-grass, *Elymus scaber*; the lovely Veined Spear-grass, *Austrostipa rudis* and a small array of tall Five-awned Spear-grass, *Pentapogon quadrifidus*, reflecting the evening sunlight.

The introduced, short and delicate Fairy-grass, looking equally beautiful in masses of pinkish-fawn, has pervaded much of the area. Amongst it many native flowers are blooming; carpets of bright yellow Scaly Buttons, *Leptorhynchos squamatus*; a colony of the delicate yellow Spur Velleia, *Velleia paradoxa*, the petals similar to those of Goodenias; and dotted amongst all the other plants, an abundance of the multiple-branching Yellow Rush-lilies, *Tricoryne elatior*.

Contrasting with these seas of yellow were multiple stretches of Blue Grass-lilies, *Caesia calliantha*. Their pretty blue flowers climbed up the stems, offset by pale yellow anthers on the stamens. Everywhere, appearing between the other species, were the green spikes of Onion-orchids, possibly the Slender Onion-orchid, *Microtis parviflora*. Nearing the end of their flowering season were a few stands of the creamy-white Common Rice-flower, *Pimelea humilis*. Occasionally, the pink flowers of Austral Centaury, *Centaureum pulchellum*, were to be seen. I looked for the blue flowers of the Blue Devils, *Eryngium ovinum* but they were not yet in full flower. They are very distinctive amongst their skeletal, spiny foliage. Sometimes, unexpectedly, I came across an area strewn with pale blue flowers. They grow in a dense mat, choking out most other species. They are known as Poison Lobelia, *Lobelia pratioides*, and somehow their petals reflected the light. As I left the area, a family of Branching Bluebells, *Wahlenbergia multicaulis*, fawelled me with their sky-blue flowers.

I'd like to thank the community for their ceaseless efforts and adaptability during all the restrictions and also for the way they have generously support one another. Hopefully, we will soon be mask-free and able to once again fill our lungs with our pure mountain air.

I hope you all enjoy your Christmases together and that 2021 heralds a wonderful year for all. Thank you.

### From Father David

It happened like this. On a crisp early morning around the lake, I was jogging steadily. Not at lightning speed, just fast enough to sustain the momentum and the stamina. Some

folk were doing the same thing except they were going in the opposite direction so we crossed paths twice. On the second time one of them called out very calmly to my breathlessness "Good job!" I was ecstatic.

For one thing I didn't think I was doing that great a job. It was one of those mornings when it was just a hard slog and the fog of the night was stubbornly refusing to lift. So to have a total stranger unexpectedly and without any prompt shout a couple of words of encouragement was quite a coup.

And therein lies the potency of their little greeting. That it was an unexpected surprise from an unexpected person. These fortuitous dollops of sugar from strangers can mean so much to so many and it costs so little. But deeper again, it got me thinking that often we don't realise how talented or persistent or dogged or lovely we truly are. Nor do we understand our potential until someone else calls our attention to our gifts. Why is that? Why are we blinkered in our perception of ourselves? If only we could see ourselves as others see us. Then we could fix some of our ugly bits and rejoice in the enchanting talents. And, I suspect that we are more acutely aware of the minuscule unglamorous blemishes and blinkered to our attractive parts. We should look out for these little opportunities to sprinkle some sparkle especially to the stranger on crisp mornings around Lake Hamilton. What might happen in our community and to ourselves if we took these moments and encouraged each other? "Good job!"

