

# 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: 20/2023 Date: Wednesday 13 December 2023

## DUNKELD CHRISTMAS EVE SANTA TOWN RUN

Santa will visit the streets of Dunkeld  
on Christmas Eve



SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER 2023

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 Melissa and Adrian Field, Dunkeld Rural Fire Brigade, Kerri and Alan Jones, Cee Blackwell, Riana of the Corrugated Cottage, Alan and Tracey Fort, Santa and helpers and for those who make this community event possible.

Enquiries - Heather Hampton - phone: 5577 2240 / 0437 947 951.

## 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 Acc: 1430 91510 – please use your name as a reference so we may acknowledge your donation.

## CHURCH TIMES

### Saint Patrick's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Father Pat Mugavin – phone: 5571 1161

Website: [www.westernborder.church](http://www.westernborder.church)

3rd Week Sunday 17 December 11.00am

Mass followed by CWL Lunch (invitation to all families to attend. Small cover charge – please bring a salad to share).

4th Week Sunday 24 December 6.00pm

Christmas Vigil / Christmas Mass (No Sunday morning Mass)

5th Week Sunday 31 December

No Mass or service.

1st Week Sunday 7 January 8.30am

Mass.

2nd Week Sunday 14 January

No Mass or service (Mass in Glenthompson).

3rd Week Sunday 21 January 8.30am

Mass.

4th Week Sunday 28 January 9.00am

Assembly of Word and Communion.

### Dunkeld Anglican Church

Sunday 17 December 5.00pm Communion at Dunkeld.

Tuesday 19 December 5.00pm Christmas Mass at Saint Mary's Church.

Sunday 24 December 9.00am Glenthompson.

Monday 25 December 8.00am Glenthompson.

Sunday 7 January 5.00pm Dunkeld.

Sunday 21 January 5.00pm Dunkeld.

We look forward to meeting you. All welcome. Enquiries to Father David – phone: 5571 1317.

### Dunkeld Uniting Church

Sunday 14 January 5.00pm Holy Communion with Rev Fiona Hill.

Sunday 28 January 5.00pm Jim Hewett.

Sunday 11 February 5.00pm David Ross.

Sunday 25 February 5.00pm Jim Hewett.

EVERYONE WELCOME – Enquiries – phone: 0400 952 716.

### Panyabyr Uniting Church

### Wurrayure Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday 17 December 9.00am

Sunday 7 January 10.30am

Sunday 24 December 7.30pm

Sunday 14 January 9.00am

Monday 25 December 10.30am

Sunday 21 January 9.00am

Sunday 31 December 9.00am

Sunday 28 January 10.30am

Sunday 4 February 10.30am



## WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER and JANUARY

| MON                          | TUES             | WED                        | THURS  | FRI | SAT                                       | SUN   |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--|-----|---|---|
| 11                           | 12               | 13<br>Issue 20 distributed | 14<br>Dunkeld Consolidated School Concert at Community Centre 6.15pm for 6.30pm start - gold coin entry. | 15  | 16<br>Mirranatwa Christmas Party @ 6.30pm | 17  |
| 18                           | 19               | 20                         | 21   | 22  | 23  | 24<br>CHRISTMAS EVE<br>Santa Town Run in Dunkeld 7.00pm |
| 25<br>CHRISTMAS DAY          | 26<br>BOXING DAY | 27                         | 28   | 29  | 30  | 31<br>NEW YEAR'S EVE                                    |
| 1 JAN 2024<br>NEW YEAR'S DAY | 2                | 3                          | 4  | 5   | 6   | 7   |

## A Tribute to Lisa McIntyre and Bev Hampton

From Vivien Brodsky, a Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) Friend, December 2023

This morning in my veggie garden as I was preparing some sheep poo "tea" for my tomato plants raised from seed by Lisa, I reflected on the many things about organic gardening, recycling and biodiversity I have learned over the years as a SAKG Friend volunteering in the garden classes. Making Potato Towers, Bee Hotels, companion planting, mulching, effective watering and planting, making compost, pruning and propagating, the list goes on! So many practical lessons combined with experiential learnings demonstrated and explained clearly and patiently by Lisa, in the beautiful garden with Mount Sturgeon towering in the background. An idyllic setting at Dunkeld Consolidated School that I am sure past and present students will recall fondly throughout their lives.

There has always been an emphasis in classes on respect and cooperation, and we worked in teams of students, teachers and Friends to weed and plant garden beds, repair nets in the orchard, discard spoiled fruit to the compost and tend to the chooks, cleaning the chook-house and moving chooks to the orchard to lessen insect pests. All this outside in fresh air and sunshine with the children, and on colder days building fires safely in the firepit, collecting herbs from the gardens to make herb billy tea for everyone to enjoy around the fire, as we listened to students from each group or team describe their labours to the whole class.

Lisa is an Ag Science Graduate, Landcare coordinator and Community Liaison Officer with Nature Glenelg Trust, consultant to farms, and an exceptional educator of broad knowledge. Working with Bev in the Kitchen (and before her Clare Kennedy for many years), they have designed and imparted lessons with much kindness, humour and encouragement to the children. A lovely creative feature of the Kitchen program was "Garden to Table" wherein students in aprons gathered produce from the garden for pre-planned menus in the kitchen with Bev and Friends, later enjoying a convivial lunch together around a long table. These meals introduced children to cuisines from other cultures, using seasonal produce from the garden and home-grown donations from the community. With the Education Department boosting Inquiry/ Science in the school curriculum, Lisa spent time in the last two terms introducing formal botany, meteorology, ecology, hydrology and soil science to the garden lessons, with engrossing practical experiments carried out by the students.

This exceptional program has been run on a shoestring budget with years of dedicated fundraising to support projects such as the handsome chook house, the building of the greenhouse, a new native garden in the school grounds, purchasing of equipment and supplies. All the while fostering a sense of inclusion for volunteers – parents, grandparents, relatives, and interested locals – and promoting friendly intermixing with the staff and students of all years, something warmly encouraged by Lisa and Bev.

I think of William Glasser's Five Fundamental Human Needs: Belonging, Independence, Fun, Self-Worth and Achievement - and just how far SAKG went to foster and meet such needs for Dunkeld Consolidated School's Prep to Year Six students. Heartfelt thanks on behalf of the many past and present Friends of SAKG to Lisa McIntyre, Clare Kennedy and Bev Hampton for your years of remarkable dedication and inspiration.



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***Freshly baked artisan bread, baguettes, croissants, muffins, quiches, gourmet pies, sausage rolls, cakes and a delicious menu.***

|           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| Thursday  | 8:30am – 2:00pm |
| Friday    | 8:30am - 2:00pm |
| Saturday  | 8:30am – 2:00pm |
| Sunday    | 8:30am – 2:00pm |
| Monday    | Closed          |
| Tuesday   | Closed          |
| Wednesday | Closed          |



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VICTORIA POLICE

## DUNKELD POLICE

Over my policing career, I've dealt with angry people, charged people, dished out penalty notices, investigated crimes, attended horrific scenes and assisted victims.

The hardest thing where sometimes I shed a tear is having to inform people of the passing of loved ones.

Lots of the roads in Southwest Victoria are in a poor state. Please take care on them over the holiday period. Perhaps if it takes a little bit longer to get to where you're going does that matter?

Please be safe, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Roger McCLURE  
Leading Senior Constable 33436  
Officer In Charge  
Dunkeld Police Station  
67 Parker Street  
0409 078 825



## Remedial Myofascial Clinic

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91b Bell Street  
Penshurst  
Victoria 3289  
**M: 0400 819 408**

## Mirranatwa Christmas Party

is on

Saturday 16 December 2023

at 6.30pm.

Bring a sweet or salad to share and BYO meat and drinks.

Everyone is welcome!

Enquires to Jen at 0407 142 047.



## DUNKELD REFUGEE & ASYLUM SEEKER SUPPORT GROUP

THE OLD BUS DEPOT

OPEN SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS 10.00am – 3.00pm  
INVITING VOLUNTEERS AND PRELOVED GOODS

### NEWS

An initiative of DRASS is The Old Bus Depot. The shop celebrated one year in operation on Saturday 2 December and approximately 200 people visited over the weekend. It was a very successful time.

The Depot is a shop located on the corner of Templeton and Martin Streets, Dunkeld, showcasing preloved goods, furniture, plants, creative works of community members and more. Everything is for sale, almost. A new range of products is now on sale, produced by people of refugee background, from Nhill, Victoria and also from Melbourne. **There are so many ideas for CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.**

The shop will close from Monday 18 December and reopen on Saturday 6 January 2024.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY, REFUGEES, AFRICAN ACTION, INTERNATIONAL AID

If you would like to know more or join the group or the shop, please contact us drassrar@gmail.com or Maree on 0448 387 998.



# STURGEON VIEW

Dine In

Takeaway

Licensed premises

Takeaway alcohol

Catering Available

Large group bookings welcome!!!

(Seat up to 50 inside)

**Menu choices, something for everyone including**

**GF, Vegan, & Vegetarian options**

## SPECIALITY NIGHTS

TUESDAY - Parma Night \$20

WEDNESDAY - Steak Night \$30

(Free pot of beer or soft drink when dining in)

THURSDAY - Burger Night \$18

Or Steak Sandwich \$20

**Freshly made in house Pizzas Available daily from 5.00pm**

## Takeaway Family Packs

Pizza Bundle - 2x pizzas, Garlic bread & 1.25L soft drink \$45

(Speciality pizzas not included)

Fish & Chips Bundle - 4 x pieces of fish chips and salad \$40

Coffee, Tea, milkshakes, soft drink, etc

Cakes, slices biscuits

Coffee & Slice deal \$10

**Free home delivery service from 6.00pm to 7.30pm**

**Tuesday to Sunday in Dunkeld town boundary only (minimum spend \$20)**

## OPENING HOURS

Monday Closed

Tuesday to Sunday – Open – 10.30am

Lunch – 11.00am to 2.00pm

Dinner 5.00pm to 8.00pm

(Closing times for dinner may vary)

109 Parker Street Dunkeld

Ph (03) 5577 2288

sturgeonviewcafedunkeld@gmail.com



## DUNKELD MUSEUM NEWS

**OPEN FOR BUSINESS:** Sunday 1.00pm – 5.00pm and Thursday

1.00pm – 4.00pm.

WEBSITE: Visit our website! [dunkeldmuseum.org.au](http://dunkeldmuseum.org.au)

### MUSEUM DUTY ROSTER

Sun 17 Dec 2023 John Kay and David Gordon

Sun 7 Jan 2024 Joyce Gordon and Julie Kincade

**UPCOMING EVENT:** Keep the **20 January 2024** free as there will be an Open Day at the Museum from 9.00am to 3.00pm, along with a Trash and Treasure/ Car Boot Sale and multi draw raffle on our vacant block at 67 Wills Street Dunkeld (next to the museum). Many stall holders have booked so there will be a wide variety of goods on offer ... more details available closer to the event.

We will be having a short break over Christmas, closing on 17 December and re-opening on 7 January 2024, though we will open by appointment if requested providing a volunteer is available. A working bee is scheduled for the morning of re-opening to dust and tidy up so if anyone is free to help, we would appreciate your assistance.

We thank all of our volunteers and helpers for their time and participation over the last year. The Committee of the Dunkeld Museum Inc wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



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The Dunkeld Progress Association (DPA) held their Annual General Meeting on 4 December 2023.

No nominations for Executive positions were received which was very disappointing. Peter Gilbert then nominated and was voted in as President. This meant that we did not have an elected committee for 2024 as the positions of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer could not be filled.

However, since then several nominations have been received for the following positions:

Vice President: Mike Mathews

Secretary: Julie Kincade

Treasurer: Joyce Gordon

This new Executive will be known as an interim Executive until the next DPA meeting on Monday 5 February where their positions will be formally ratified. Retiring members of the previous Executive will assist in the handover to the new people.

The DPA is there for the community and endeavours to make things happen in Dunkeld.

News, Views, Action, Feedback, Progress – this organisation is your link to local council.

The next meeting will be Monday 5 February 2024, 7.30pm at Sterling Place Community Centre.

Please come.

### News

Council representatives presented the draft Small Towns Strategy to the December meeting.

This draft covered many areas of consideration in Dunkeld, which was based on community consultation and further research undertaken by an external firm contracted to council. As a result, council planners will produce the Dunkeld Small Towns Strategy to be presented to councillors in February 2024 to ratify. The resulting document will encapsulate strategic planning for the next 20 years for Dunkeld.

There was much discussion and general dissatisfaction with the presented document. DPA has submitted a response to the strategy along with the extensive review of the Dunkeld Structure Plan, undertaken by a DPA subcommittee in 2021.



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## RED CROSS NEWS

Dunkeld Friends of Red Cross, wish to thank the generous donors of groceries for the Food Bank and the used stamps for raising funds, during the 2023 year. Your kindness is certainly appreciated by those at the receiving end. Also thank you to Carol Burger for the regular Community Newsletter publications, the Dunkeld Consolidated School for the printing and the Dunkeld Post Office for distribution of the Newsletter.

The first function for 2024 will be the Zone Meeting at Derrinallum on 19 March. There are around thirteen groups still operating in the region from Wangoom to Heywood and our neighbouring branch Nareeb Nareeb, may have one of the most active memberships (eleven).

Red Cross has been on the ground in Gaza under the International banner, the Palestinian Red Crescent sign and the Israeli banner - an inverted Star of David. The founder of Red Cross (1859) Henri Dunant, intended that the organization administer to the victims on all sides during conflicts and it now assists during natural disasters as well.

We acknowledge the sad passing of Carolyn Ratnik's son recently, from a rare cancer. Carolyn is currently on leave.

Season's Greetings and a safe 2024 ahead to all.

*Iris Field, contact person*



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## A chance encounter at Wormelow Tump

A rather odd coincidence prompted me to follow up on the RSL article about Violette Szabo, George Cross and Croix de Guerre, which appeared in a recent issue of the Newsletter, after Peter Hinchey's reference to this brave and famous World War II secret agent who worked for the Special Operations Executive (SOE).

The SOE was set up by Winston Churchill, having the objective, as he put it, to "set Europe ablaze". It was also colloquially known as the "Ministry for Ungentlemanly Warfare", in which spies and saboteurs were dropped into occupied Europe to work with Resistance movements and wreak havoc on the Nazis in any way they could.

Naturally, these operatives were prime targets for the dreaded Gestapo, and if captured, were interrogated, brutally tortured and often executed. Violette, as the widowed mother of a young child (Tania), and only 23 years of age, was one of the victims.

My uncle, Archibald Bruce Flinn MBE, OBE, was also co-opted into the SOE from the Royal Engineers and reached the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. I was only able to access his war records sixty years after the War ended. Unlike Violette, he was not a spy as such. Rather he was an expert in logistics and was responsible, among many other things, for the deployment of 10,000 British commando troops from Bari (Italy) into the island of Vis in occupied Yugoslavia, to boost the fight of Tito's communist "partisans" against the Nazis. Sadly, Archie died in 1952, at the age of 46, leaving two young sons as orphans (his wife had died in 1947 of septicaemia).

Some 55 years later, I was finally able to track down the younger son, Jonathon, my first cousin, and we soon became close friends, until he died of cancer last year.

Archie's death, due to a gunshot wound to the head, was found by a coroner to be suicide, but the family never believed that. Having read some of the relevant history, and given that the Cold War was then in full swing, I have a hunch that darker forces were at work, but the true cause may never be known.

Archie died in the house where he lived with his two sons, near the village of Kenthurst in Herefordshire, England, right near the Welsh border and in a very remote part of the countryside. I believe the house was owned by the military at that time. He was expecting a visitor from London that evening, to "talk business", but there was no mention at the inquest as to whether the visitor arrived or not, which struck me as odd.

On a recent visit to the UK, I found the location of the house (with some difficulty) and later drove towards the city of Hereford via a narrow back road, which emerged onto a highway near the hamlet of Wormelow Tump. I was rather intrigued by the name, but far more intrigued to catch sight of a nearby sign indicating "The Violette Szabo GC Museum".

As luck would have it, the tiny museum happened to be open that day, so I decided to visit it. I'm really glad I did. It is located in a small purpose-built stone building, behind an old

house named "Cartref House", both of which are owned by an extraordinary elderly lady, Rosemary Rigby MBE, whose mission in life has been to establish a permanent memorial to Violette and her achievements. To visit the museum, view the many exhibits and talk to Rosemary about all the history was a remarkable experience, and I commend it to anyone who happens to visit the Hereford area. The museum was established in 2000, with all the funding raised by Rosemary herself, and she continues to run it, single-handed.

The original name of Cartref House, where Rosemary has lived since 1964, was "The Old Kennels", where Violette's uncle and aunt once lived, and where she spent many holidays – right up to her last days in England during 1944.

Rosemary appeared delighted to welcome an Australian visitor, and she gave me a number of leaflets about Violette and the museum. She is keen for any publicity about it – hence this article!

Those who have seen the 1958 movie about Violette's life, "Carve her Name with Pride", starring Virginia McKenna, may have heard of the famous poem given to Violette by SOE Code Master Leo Marks. It is as follows:

*The life that I have  
Is all that I have  
And the life that I have  
Is yours.*

*The love that I have  
Of the life that I have  
Is yours and yours and yours.*

*A sleep I shall have  
A rest I shall have  
Yet death will be but a pause.*

*For the peace of my years  
In the long green grass  
Will be yours and yours and yours.*

*Peter Flinn*



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## Dunkeld Public Lands

It has been a busy year, with a number of projects completed.

A number of spotted gums have been planted along the walking track below the dam wall along Rose Street and Salt Creek. We will have the basketball backboard and ring completed before Christmas. Unfortunately, the proposed toilet at the Arboretum is yet to proceed due to DEECA not yet giving their approval, they do not respond to emails and phone calls. Emma Kealy MP has brought it up in Parliament about the lack of communication. We'll see what happens in the New Year. Thank you to the people who have donated towards this.

A big thank you to our Committee for all your help during the year.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Frank Raymond, DPLC



## SCRAPS from the SCRAPES – December 2023

Another successful year, on and off the course, for the best little golf club in the west. We also welcomed a number of new members during the year.

On behalf of the membership and visitors, thanks to the untiring efforts and professional expertise of the team of volunteers who maintain and continually improve the course itself. Each contribution by this team enhances the golfing experience for our members and visitors.

Additionally, the office bearers and general committee have managed the club through a number of challenges - COVID19 and floods to name a couple. The organising group for the Annual Tournament and the ongoing support of our generous sponsors also deserves thanks and recognition.

Our reigning Club Champions are:

Ladies A Grade: Martina Whelan, R/U Venita Mibus.

Ladies B Grade: Jo Armytage, R/U Mary Burger.

Men's A Grade: Bailey Borgmeyer, R/U Angus Jackson.

Men's B Grade: Peter "Skeeta" Maslen, R/U Bill Crawford.

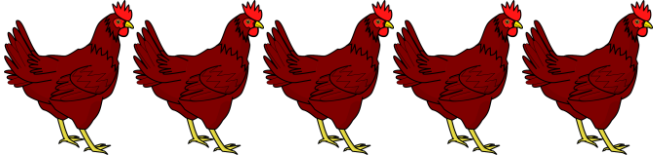
The committee for the coming year is Adrian Kelly, President; Kerren Collins. Secretary; Simon Macgugan, Treasurer; supported by Jenny Crawford, Mary Fenech, Peter Hayes, Mike Matthews, Martina Whelan, Noel Mibus and Mark Dore. The program for the year to come will feature time-honored events and some new ideas.

Apparently former Premier, Dan Andrews is having a problem with potential membership of a prestigious Mornington Peninsular golf club. It has been suggested that he might like to join Royal and Ancient Grampians, although, like his political career, there are polarized views among members. Some believe that his style might bring about the discipline to the club, which some view has been sadly lacking! Others fear that he may secretly commit the club to projects which may be difficult to pay off in the future. He has a penchant for tunnels and removing dangerous crossings!! Members, residents and visitors are reminded that the course remains in great condition over summer and provides the opportunity for visitors to add the golfing experience to other activities.

Also having a golfer in the family means there are no problems when it comes to Christmas gifts. Recent experience shows that some members continue to play with very old balls, tees they have scrounged from around the course and wearing apparel which frankly the op shops would reject. Do your golfing family and friends a favour this Christmas and buy them some decent gear! Your correspondent recently spent some time in the USA and did think about playing Pebble Beach, until I realized that I was looking at the green fee, not the phone number!

To all members, visitors, and the Dunkeld community at large, have a safe and Happy Christmas and New Year and trust the water temperature at Port Fairy and Robe allows swimming without a wetsuit.

See you on the course in 24!



### Chooks/Pullets

Delivering on 30 December.

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Hamilton, Coleraine, Casterton, Mount  
Gambier.

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**DAN TEHAN MP**  
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www.dantehan.com.au

Authorised by Dan Tehan, Liberal Party of Australia, 190 Gray Street Hamilton VIC 3300

**Bizarre Bazaar!**

Thank you to all Dunkeldians and other visitors that came to support our Christmas Market last Saturday 9 December. We are very grateful for our community support!



**Stunning Christmas Wreaths with Lisa Addinsall**

Lisa Addinsall's workshop on 3 December was out of this world! Total wonderland of treasures and beautiful creations.

Seven of us joined Lisa and learnt about different vines, flowers, grasses and more. How to dry them without issues, and how to store them. Foraging for materials and using your own produce was an eye opener! All of these materials are in our environment, and free! Talk about sustainability! Which Lisa takes even further with her regenerative approach. You must ask her about this, it's very impressive!

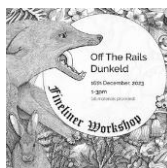
Thank you to everyone that participated, your work was inspiring and wonderful. How awesome was it that we inspired each other.

Lisa!! We cannot thank you enough for sharing your abundant skills, knowledge, creativity and love of nature with us all. You are one powerhouse creative! You focused on all of the right things when it comes to sustainable, chemical free, yet beautiful produce! Thank you, Lisa.



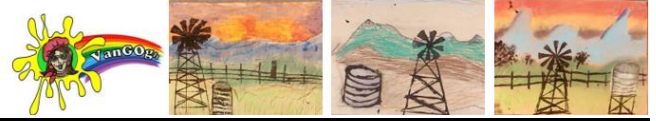
**COMING UP AT OTR Dunkeld**  
**Sunday 16 December**  
 Fine liner Workshop with Taylah Fenwick  
**1.00pm – 3.00pm**

Contact [otrdunkeld@gmail.com](mailto:otrdunkeld@gmail.com) to book.



**REGULAR EVENTS**

**VanGOgh Travelling Art Every Monday**



VanGOgh is a weekly mobile children's art program, bringing country children the opportunity to get creative in their own town and building an Art Club community. Mobile Art Club is at Off The Rails Mondays 4.30pm – 6.00pm. To secure a spot for your mini Master or for more information, contact Shelley via Facebook "Vangogh travelling art club", email [vangoghclub@gmail.com](mailto:vangoghclub@gmail.com) or phone 0488 712 937.

**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! Feel free to contact us on [otrdunkeld@gmail.com](mailto:otrdunkeld@gmail.com) or Lucinda at 0459 774 624.


**SUPPORT US!**

Become a friend of OTR Dunkeld

We 'run on the smell of an oily rag'!

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**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!**

OTR Dunkeld would like to wish all of our Community a wonderful Festive Season!

Thank you for all of your support this year and helping us keep this great community space open!

We look forward to seeing you all in 2024!

Like us on Facebook and Insta @offtherailsdunkeld



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Damien Goodman (Agronomist) 0427 159 462

Geordie Elliott (Nutrition & Production) 0438 874 587

Meg Todd (Agronomy & Animal Health ) 0437 772 861

Ben Gay (Merchandise & Logistics) 03 5579 5900

**ADDRESS—236 COLERAINE ROAD HAMILTON**

## 250 WORDS FROM FATHER DAVID

### Fasting from your phone

The wizened, mature retreat Conductor grinned and with a mischievous twinkle in his eye suggested that we fast from our phones during retreat. Whether many did or not I will never know. From my perspective I found it an interesting exercise. I only glimpsed at the screen on my phone to change the alarm so that I could awaken in time for the next dress / meal / set of prayers.

It worked well for me because I was on retreat. It would not work so well if I was back in the parish where I rely on it a bit more strenuously and frequently. I found it a liberating adventure, but a few questions came bubbling to the surface while 'fasting from my phone'.

Question one: On what day in recent history did we become so reliant on this gadget? My guess is that as the phone was able to do more and more things we became incrementally just a little more addicted. Just a little more reliant. I remember speaking in another forum and saying 'Our world is our phone is our world. Yes it was a gradual transition but as far as the pace of history goes it happened rather quickly. Say the last couple of decades?

Question two: Where would we be looking if we were successful in this venture? i.e. if we weren't looking at our screens so much, what would we be gazing at with all this spare time?

Question three: What would happen if we all had the occasional fast from our phone? I'm not advocating switching them off altogether, nor having them out of reach, just in case like, but maybe only looking at them between 4.00pm – 5.00pm each day. Could we do it? Could you do it? Could I do it?

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## BIG SUMMER READ

The *Big Summer Read* runs from 1 December 2023 until 31 January 2024. To kick off the *Big Summer Read* the Greater Hamilton Library will be hosting Emma Stuart, a local author/illustrator who will be presenting two Illustration Workshops for children on Saturday 2 December 2023:

- 9.15am – 10.15am (Ages 3 - 6)
- 10.45am – 11.45am (Ages 7 - 12)

To join the Greater Hamilton Library program and for the chance to win great prizes, participants simply fill out a registration form with their first completed reading log. Prizes include:

- **First prize:** \$500 Harvey Norman Voucher
- **Second prize:** \$300 Daktari Voucher
- **Third prize:** \$100 Family Pass for Halls Gap Zoo

Every additional 10 books qualifies for another chance to win, with Reading Logs available to collect at the Library.

For even further chances to win prizes there is also a state-wide Public Libraries Victoria competition which can be entered at [plv.beanstack.org](http://plv.beanstack.org)

For further information please contact the Greater Hamilton Library on 5573 0470 or email [library@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au](mailto:library@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au)



## From the Lions Den

**L** Liberty  
**I** Intelligence  
**O** Our  
**N** Nations  
**S** Safety



So great is the strength we possess in our unity. Mary MacKillop 1874.

### A nice Lions story:

The Lions supplied a complimentary barbecue lunch for the students and staff at the Dunkeld Consolidated School. This is an annual event.

### One of those things you really had to know:

In 1859 the first funeral service in Saint Paul's Church of England, Fairy Meadows was held. It was for Mary Wade 1778 – 1859. She had been a child convict but lived to become a founding mother in the new colony. One of her sons had donated the land for the church.

## Environment

### Nature is an Incredible Thing Part V

Thank you, God, for putting me in this part of the country.

A couple of years ago I was part of a group that went to a property in outback New South Wales to do a survey of the wildlife there. I expected to see hundreds of kangaroos – wrong; hundreds of emus – wrong; thousands of rabbits – wrong; massive amounts of birdlife – wrong. Believe me I see more wildlife here every day.

I met a professor from the University of Western Australia, he was over here photographing the orchids of the region. I always thought that Western Australia was the home of wildflowers but he told me that we have more variety in our region than they have in the whole of WA. So thank you also to Marion Colton for the information you give us about our region.

The Lions wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and thank you for your support during the year.

*Peter Hinchey*





## ELDERS HAMILTON

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## SCHOOL NEWS

### School Review and AIP

The 2023 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) has been submitted with monitoring and evidence collated, and the draft of our 2024 AIP has been submitted also. We will continue to focus on numeracy improvement and wellbeing, as we adopt the Department's priority goal.

The Pre Review Evaluation (PRSE) is complete and I would like to thank staff and School Council for their support of this process, in readiness for the School Review in Term One 2024. Thank you also to the families who completed our survey requesting feedback and what is going well and what can be improved.

**Teaching and Learning:** Mrs Jackie McShane and Ms Dee-Anne Raymond recently attended a Michael Ymer PD on the new Mathematics Victorian Curriculum 2.0, that is to be implemented in 2024 and beyond.

With the restructure and budget review of our SAKG program, our teaching staff have already begun planning for the SAKG in 2024. With a busy term one with the School Review taking place, as well as the Swimming Program and SGSSA Athletics, SAKG will commence officially in Term 2. All classes will visit the kitchen each term, as this was raised in the student surveys completed as part of our programs review. Staff are also excited to be implementing Auslan for a LOTE program for Foundation to Year 6.

**Staff:** At the end of this year, we say farewell to Mrs Alison Prentice, Mrs Lisa McIntyre and Ms Bev Hampton. Alison has been wonderful to have on staff and her passion for teaching is evident and her work with our PE program was fantastic. As we say thank you to Lisa and Bev, I

acknowledge the commitment to the SAKG Program over the years, particularly for Lisa, who assisted greatly with the initial program implementation. Lisa has had a long-standing connection with the school, with all four of her children attending, and involved in many other facets of the school community. We hope that Lisa understands how greatly appreciated she has been throughout the years. Bev came to us during the pandemic, after Clare relocated away from Dunkeld. Bev seamlessly transitioned into the program and we thank her whole-heartedly for her time and commitment.

**School Council:** At our last School Council meeting, I presented the Pre Review Self Evaluation (PRSE) for our School Review, along with sharing the data from the Parent Opinion Survey.

**Athletics Sports:** A massive thankyou to Alison Prentice for her role as PE teacher this year and putting together a wonderful sports day on Wednesday. Thank you also to school councillor Paul Phillips for the line marking.

As I reflect on my role as Principal (officially) over the last twelve months, I am pleased to have had the wonderful support of staff and School Council. There have been some difficult decisions to make, the wellbeing of all school community members to consider, and at the forefront, the learning experiences of our students. Thank you to our school and wider community, and most importantly, thank you to the students who greet me with a cheery 'good morning' and a sincere 'how are you'.

Hat's off to the class of 2023! Goodluck to our Year 6 graduates, all the very best as they begin the next phase of their education.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and safe and happy holidays.  
*Ange Field, Principal*

### House Athletics Sports Day

On Wednesday 6 December it was our school House Athletics Sports day. Thankfully the weather was great. We would like to thank Mrs Prentice for being a great PE teacher for Terms 3 and 4. We would also like to thank Mr Paul Phillips for painting the lines on the oval for us. Our last thank you goes to the parents for supporting us on the sports day and the teachers for helping the day go smoothly.

Sturgeon House was the winning sports house on the day and the following students were awarded Age Champions:

- **5/6 yrs and Under:** Harry Armytage & Layla Macgugan
- **7 yrs:** Sam Parkinson & Marli Mibus and Annie Clark
- **8 yrs:** Edwin White & Sybil Patterson
- **9 yrs:** Xavier Macgugan & Michaela Roache
- **10 yrs:** Banjo Hyland & Grace Macgugan
- **11 yrs:** Hamish Rush & Elodie Cochran
- **12 yrs:** Jack Oldfield Mann & Millie McShane

*By Jack Oldfield Mann, Millie McShane, Gemma Kyle and Lachie Gordon*



### Year 6 Graduation

On Thursday 7 December, our school celebrated the 2023 Year 6 students and their achievements. Our Grade 6 Graduation was a great success, and all of our students and families should feel very proud. Award recipients on the night were: Myers Family Dunkeld Scholarship – Max Russell and Felix Hyland, Williams Family Sports Scholarship – Gemma Kyle, School Council Dux Award – Freddie Jury and School Council Citizenship Award – Millie McShane.



Thank you to the Grade 5 parents for decorating the deck, it looked amazing! Thank you also to the Year 5 students who kindly and competently carried out 'waiting' duties!

We wish our Grade 6 Graduates all the very best as they commence a new chapter and continue their

educational journey.

### Orientation Day

On Tuesday 12 December our school held our Orientation Day for 2024 Prep students, with all other students 'stepping up' to their new 2024 year level for the day.



### Upcoming events include:

- **Whole School Concert on Thursday 14 December** – Dunkeld Community Centre – 6.15pm for 6.30pm start, gold coin donation entry fee.
- **Final Special Assembly on Friday 15 December 2023** – commencing at 2:20pm sharp – Class Captain reports, presentation of Honour Certificates and announcement of 2024 student leaders.
- Student Reports sent home on **Friday 15 December**.
- **Pupil Free Day on Tuesday 19 December** – Planning Day for 2024 for staff.
- **Pupil Free Day on Wednesday 20 December** – First Aid Training for staff.
- **Tuesday 30 January 2024 - Assessment Day** – students will be given a time to attend school on this day for assessments to take place.
- First whole day of school for **ALL** students on **Wednesday 31 January 2024**.



### DUNKELD RSL SUB-BRANCH

**RSL Membership:** We invite ex-service men and women to be members and renew their membership to ensure the future of the RSL locally. Membership renewal for 2024 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.



### Kokoda Barracks unveils new Vietnam Memorial:



Lieutenant Colonel Wendy Say with veteran and founder of the Kokoda Youth Foundation Doug Henderson in front of the new Canungra Vietnam Memorial at Kokoda Barracks in Queensland. Photos: Private Andrew Shaw

After two years of dedicated volunteer work and community collaboration, the new Canungra Vietnam Memorial opened to veterans, families and the local community on December 1.

The memorial was previously located within the confines of Kokoda Barracks in Canungra, where Australian soldiers trained before deploying to the Vietnam War. The memorial has moved to the front gates of the barracks to allow access to the wider public.

Veteran volunteers and community members constructed the original memorial in 2000.

A veteran of the 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, Doug Henderson, founder of the Kokoda Youth Foundation, said a collaborative committee supported the project.

“The Land Warfare Centre, once known as the Jungle Training Centre, holds deep-seated memories for us Vietnam veterans. This project pays tribute to the sacrifices and resilience of everyone tied to the Vietnam War, recognising their sheer courage and unwavering strength,” he said.

The new memorial site displays the iconic Long Tan Cross. At the heart of the site stands a life-sized bronze statue of a Vietnam soldier, an addition funded by the Commonwealth Government’s Saluting Their Service grant program.

Reverend Richard Brown, also a former member of 6RAR and a Vietnam veteran, said the site would play a role in helping future generations understand the importance of commemorations at the memorial.

Reverend Brown said the memorial honoured those brave soldiers who came before us, and would serve as a place of reflection for those who continued to serve. He spoke about his memories of his time at 6RAR.

“Memories of the bus running early in the morning with the mist; the great joy of huffing and puffing up Heartbreak Hill,” Reverend Brown said.

“Then to the grenade assault range, diving from pit to pit, observing the target, prying the grenade on to the next one. The joys of the battle inoculation range going underneath the barbed wire with smoke and Beckles machine gun pouring over.

“And of course we were invited to share in the obstacle course, the joys of the bear pit - straggling out of there - running over the bit of barbed wire, then the joy of jumping into the beautiful cool water of the Kuma River.”

Lieutenant Colonel Wendy Say, of Kokoda Barracks, said the memorial was the result of community coming together.

“Kokoda Barracks and the Kokoda Youth Foundation have established a wonderful partnership over the years,” Lieutenant Colonel Say said.

“I am so very thankful for the amazing work of the Kokoda Youth Foundation – not just in relation to what they have achieved with the memorial, but also what they do on a daily basis to support Australia’s youth.”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup><https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/news/2023-12-06/kokoda-barracks-unveils-new-vietnam-memorial>



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