



ISSUE 321 WANDONG/HEATHCOTE JUNCTION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER : DECEMBER, 2022 ABN 17 022 858 565

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EDITOR - Allen Hall, 20 North Mountain Rd, Heathcote Junction 3758 Ph - 0413 832 411

Delivered to Wandong/Heathcote Junction/Wallan/Kilmore/Broadford/Whittlesea & Upper Plenty

Copy online at [www.wandong.vic.au](http://www.wandong.vic.au)



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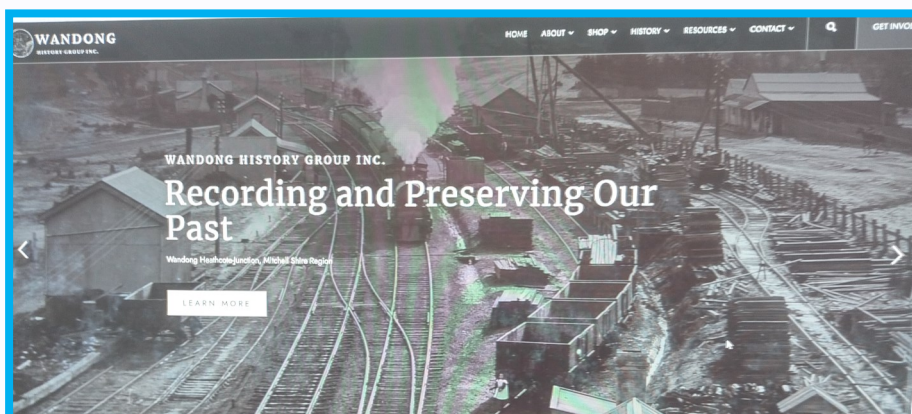
**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM "WHAT'S NEWS"**

## MAKING HISTORY AT WANDONG / HEATHCOTE JUNCTION

The Wandong History Group has launched the Wandong / Heathcote Junction website :

<http://wandongheathcotejunctionhistory.com.au>

President Karen Christensen says that while information is still being added to the website, the incredible amount of local history already loaded makes a visit to the website very worth while.



## WANDONG COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS

The Wandong Community Christmas Carols will be held this Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December. The event is free thanks to the sponsorship of the Wallan & Kilmore Community Bank. The event starts at 4.30pm with a free sausage sizzle and Santa Claus, then the carols commence at 6.30pm. The Christmas toy raffle (3 prizes) will be drawn at the carols. Come to the Wandong Community Centre at Davern Reserve, Wandong for this great family event.



## AUSTRALIA DAY AT WANDONG

Everyone is invited to the Wandong Heathcote Junction Australia Day breakfast, flag raising and awards ceremony and free hot breakfast on Australia Day 2023.



The event starts at 8am at the Wandong Community Centre, LB Davern Reserve, Dry Creek Crescent, Wandong

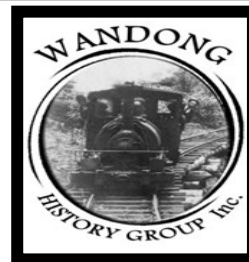
IF YOU MISS AN ISSUE OF "WHAT'S NEWS" go to website <[www.wandong.vic.au/local-news/whats-news](http://www.wandong.vic.au/local-news/whats-news)>

Wandong - Heathcote Junction - why would you live anywhere else. Until February 2023, Allen Hall (editor)

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# WANDONG HISTORY GROUP



December is here already, the year has flown by, as we struggle through the year sometimes it feels like we are getting nowhere, so the end of the year is a good time to reflect on what actually has been achieved. We are a small group of active members and we all have homes and families and work commitments as well as being involved with other groups. Personally I would like to thank all the members who contribute to our group and to the many locals who support us.

Don't forget the community carols on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December at the Community Centre, our mega raffle will be drawn that night, tickets will be available up until the draw.

Our website is now live find us at <https://wandongheathcotejunctionhistory.com.au> we look forward to your feedback on the site, we will continue to update and add more information, this has been a steep learning curve for us but we are excited to finally have what we think is a great resource for the community.

Finally, from the History Group I would like to wish everyone, a joyous Christmas and a fantastic holiday season, looking forward to seeing many locals at our first event for 2023 which will be the annual reunion followed by ANZAC Day in April.

If you would like to be part of this dedicated team looking after our history and heritage contact us we love having new members and there is a job for everyone no matter what your skill level.

We are looking for suggestions as to how Wandong should celebrate the anniversary of the Hume and Hovell expedition and we would like ideas to come from the community for this great event.

Stay safe everyone

Karen

[wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com](mailto:wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com)

PH 0432120736

**On Saturday 3rd December memories of days gone by for St Michaels Church, Wandong, were revived with the wedding of newlyweds Mr and Mrs Luke MacDonald.**





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My mats come in three sizes and are double knotted and thick, every mat hand made here in Wandong.

Email:  
[wandongite@hotmail.com](mailto:wandongite@hotmail.com)  
Ph 0432 120 736





# What's Happening

## WANDONG OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE



Service Phone Number:

0497 877 771

Your service coordinator will be available during session times. TheirCare support is available during office hours if required on 1300 072 410

How to Enrol

Visit TheirCare website:

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

and click on 'Book Now' in the top right hand corner to register your child's details.

### Operation Times

Before School Care 6:30am – 8:45am

After School Care 3:30pm - 6:30pm

Pupil Free Day 6:30am – 6:30pm

Holiday Program 6:30am – 6:30pm

## ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS

21 Dec Wes & Rhonda Cole B  
29 Dec Alan & Fay Smith W  
13 Jan Troy & Elisa Lehmann-Kay WP  
14 Jan Annemarie & Dean Hogan W  
2 Feb Frank & Nadia Amoroso HJ  
5 Feb Jarrod & Kate King Wallan  
6 Feb Shaun & Stacey Petersen Tas  
11 Feb Rob & Karen Dawson HJ  
14 Feb Chris & Carol Ryan KE

## GAZEBOS AND CHAIRS FOR HIRE

For your next function why not hire a gazebo and chairs from the Wandong – Heathcote Junction Community Group.

For hire are:  
two 6m X 3m gazebos,  
a 3m X 3m gazebo  
8 wooden trestles  
and 50 outdoor chairs.

Call David on mobile  
0409 164 660  
to arrange hire.



**MYKI RETAILER**

## COMMUNITY WEBSITES

[www.wandong.vic.au](http://www.wandong.vic.au)

[www.upperplenty.com](http://www.upperplenty.com)

## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

### CONTINUED

6 Feb	Michael Hibbert	W
6 Feb	Jan Batey	W
8 Feb	Jodie Williams	WP
8 Feb	Sean Dennis	HJ
8 Feb	John Dennis	HJ
8 Feb	Jodie McLennan	W
10 Feb	Alison Stone	HJ
11 Feb	Damian Buggy	HJ
11 Feb	Danni George	W
12 Feb	Brooke Colbert	W
13 Feb	Irene Bartlett	W
13 Feb	Dylan Hall	B
13 Feb	Guy Marstaeller	HJ
13 Feb	Rhiannon Bausch	HJ
13 Feb	Chris Placek	W
14 Feb	Les Harrison	W
14 May	Ebony May McMahon	W
16 Feb	Guy Batey	W
16 Feb	Caitlin Gough	HJ
16 Feb	Brent Candy	W
16 Feb	Lauren Saw	HV
17 Feb	Breeanna Thomas	B
17 Feb	Rosemary Hobson	HJ



## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

We wish the following people a very happy birthday

14 Dec	Megan Drenth	HJ
14 Dec	Jake Gedy	HJ
14 Dec	Mary Cawthorne	Wallan
16 Dec	Kim Marstaeller	Wallan
16 Dec	Lucas Bartolo	UP
17 Dec	Peter Waldie	W
18 Dec	Neil Batey	W
18 Dec	Alison Plumbe	C
20 Dec	Elizabeth Rayner	Wallan
21 Dec	Emma Beckett	W
21 Dec	David Rayner	Wallan
21 Dec	Dean Jarvie	Dromana
22 Dec	Tenille Mounsey	W
23 Dec	Ian Marstaeller	HJ
23 Dec	Janice Poorter	HJ
24 Dec	Bailey Dennehy	HJ
24 Dec	Donna Draper	Wallan
25 Dec	Rhonda Kemp	W
25 Dec	Jayden Duncan	HJ
25 Dec	Jake Barlow	HJ
26 Dec	Denise Limbrick	B
27 Dec	Glenda Goodison	HJ
29 Dec	Sarah Warburton	HJ
30 Dec	Cindy Woods	K
31 Dec	Janine Hobson-Buck	K
2 Jan	Leonora Bennett	HJ
3 Jan	Sophie Hall	B
4 Jan	Ashleigh Stone	HJ
4 Jan	Vicki Albert	HJ
5 Jan	Kathy Lawrence	K
5 Jan	Nicholas Page	CI
7 Jan	Denise King	HJ
10 Jan	Maree Fletcher	HJ
11 Jan	Matt Hardwick	Wallan
11 Jan	Damian Hardwick	K
11 Jan	Lachlan King	Wallan
15 Jan	Corey Dennehy	HJ
16 Jan	Kate Renouf	CI
17 Jan	Darren Symons	HJ
17 Jan	Lynton Kemp	W
17 Jan	Peter Amoroso	HJ
18 Jan	Ben Dawson	HJ
18 Jan	Dale Hanson	W
19 Jan	Hazel Carter	HJ
20 Jan	Steven George	W
20 Jan	Darren McLennan	W
21 Jan	Annie Beaman	HJ
21 Jan	John Perrett	K
21 Jan	Callan Armitage	W
22 Jan	Amanda Lee	K
23 Jan	Kerry Challenger	Craig
24 Jan	Sue Marstaeller	HJ
24 Jan	Nerissa Philp	OG
25 Jan	Adam MacDonald	W
25 Jan	Emily Fryer	K
26 Jan	Marita Murray	HJ
26 Jan	Caroline Farrugia	Wallan
26 Jan	Samuel Shingles	W
26 Jan	Kylie Shingles	W
27 Jan	Norm Beaman	HJ
29 Jan	Jason Harrington	HJ
30 Jan	Caroline Hutchison	HJ
31 Jan	Hayley Hanson	W
31 Jan	Julie Thompson	HJ
31 Jan	Jemma Wightman	W
1 Feb	Matt O'Connor	HJ
2 Feb	Jenny McSolvin	W
2 Feb	Deegan Belfiore	HJ
3 Feb	Travis Bausch	HJ
4 Feb	Colin Burns	HJ
4 Feb	Dylan Bradshaw	W
5 Feb	Toby Smith	HJ
6 Feb	Stacey Petersen	Wallan

## Wandong Playgroup

New members are welcome at playgroup.

You can start anytime of the year.

Come along and check it out.

The first session is free and  
then it's \$5 per family  
plus payment of Playgroup Victoria  
membership to cover insurance.

Playgroup is for parents, guardians,  
grandparents and careers and their  
0-5 year old children.

Come and look!

Anytime is a good time to start.

Every Tuesday (during school terms)

9.30am till 11.30am

At Wandong Community Centre,

LB Davern Reserve

Dry Creek Cres, WANDONG

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
ABOUT PLAYGROUP CONTACT:

Andrea 0413 212 946



### **ALL TOWING**

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great specials.

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Meat

Produce

Deli

Dairy

Freezer

Liquor

Wandong Licensed Supermarket  
3272 Epping Kilmore Rd, Wandong

**5787 1911**



## AN AMAZING GIFT

In this issue readers, Shirley feels to reflect on her previous article, so it is essential for all of us to be reminded of God in this special season.

As we celebrate, let us remember the birth of Jesus. What an amazing gift God has given to us and what a sacrifice it must have been to Him. This Christmas there will be many families who have lost everything through the devastating floods. Homes, belongings, special treasures will not be the same for them, their finds full of anxiety and stressing over their future.

There are many ways we can give. We can pray, serve others, give time and money and encourage. I challenge everyone to go the extra mile and make it so much better for someone less fortunate and put a smile on their faces. May your Christmas be a joyous and happy time as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Shirley Kawalski, Uniting Church Broadford.

## FEAR NOT

**Christmas comes but once a year  
So, make a change, do not fear  
All around we see such woe  
Wherever we look, wherever we go  
So this Christmas stop and think  
Could we be on the brink?  
Not knowing what may be next  
Through the Bible, many a text  
Helps us handle all our fear  
365 mentions, that's one whole year  
This too can settle our mind  
Knowing our God still is kind  
We see man's greed play a part  
Open though is our God's heart  
So, what do we really have to fear  
What is our future as we stand here?**

**For this Christmas turn to Him and celebrate  
As times now marching on, it's getting late!**

Merle Croskell.

May you enjoy Christmas this Holy season, holidays with school kids, family gatherings and remember what Christmas is all about. Then hope for a much better 2023.

We want to welcome another writer next year - Allen Trainor.

*John 14 verse 27 : I leave the gift of peace with you - His peace, not the fragile peace given by the world, but His perfect peace. Do not yield to fear or be trouble in your hearts, instead be courageous.*



## LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

### ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, WANDONG

WANDONG AVE, WANDONG  
Enquires 9308 2452  
Services: 8.30am  
on 1st & 3rd Sundays  
ALL WELCOME

### Whittlesea Anglican Church

Serving Whittlesea, Upper Plenty.  
& surrounding areas

**Christ Church:** 9 Wallan Road, Whittlesea.  
**Vicar:** Rev Ruwan Palapathwala 9014 0696  
**Web Site:** [www.christchurchwhittlesea.org](http://www.christchurchwhittlesea.org)  
**Weddings/Baptisms** by appointment  
**Sunday Services:** 10.15am. Incl kids program

#### Services to the Community:

**Whittlesea Opportunity Shop** 7 Laurel St  
9716 3144 Open M-F 10-4 Sat 9.30-12.30  
**Christ Church Craft Group**  
Friday 10-2, Church Hall BYO craft - any type  
we love to learn, Jenny 9715 1137  
**Anglican Care:** quality provider aged services  
[www.anglicancare.com.au](http://www.anglicancare.com.au)  
**Jobs at Anglican Care** [www.careerjet.com.au](http://www.careerjet.com.au)



*To equip and release people into their God given destiny*

**Meeting at 10.30am every Sunday  
at the Freedom Care Building,  
127c Northern Highway Kilmore Vic  
— entrance on Willomavin Road**

Enquiries to ;  
Pastor Frantz Heinzelmann  
Mobile: 0411 794 188  
[www.freedomcarechurch.org.au](http://www.freedomcarechurch.org.au)  
All Welcome. Love to see you there



### *Wandong District Church*

**29 Wandong Ave,  
Wandong**

**Services held at 5pm Sundays  
ALL WELCOME**

**Enquiries to:  
Pastor Allan Laurens 5787 1020  
Or David Moran 5787 1738**

## WANDONG MEDICAL CENTRE

**Dr Hossein**

**Ph: (03) 5787-2277**

**Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm**

**AstraZeneca & Pfizer vaccines also available.**

**3307 Epping - Kilmore Road  
Wandong, Vic. 3758**

## THE SHACK IS BACK

**The Upper Plenty Community  
Hall "THE SHACK"  
is open for hire.**

**For more information and  
bookings call Susan or Wayne  
on 5783 1456.**

**If not answered leave your name and  
number and we will return the call.**

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MOTEL - TAVERN - RESTAURANT  
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BOOKINGS:  
(03) 5787 1401**



**Anyone wishing to join  
Kilmore District Mens Shed  
Should contact  
John Perrett 0418 288 024 or  
Ron Hamilton 0481 268 471**

**Operating hours are  
Tuesday and Thursday  
9.30 am - Approx. 1.30 pm**

**email: [Kilmoremensshed@gmail.com](mailto:Kilmoremensshed@gmail.com)**

## The Kilmore & District Hospital



**Rutledge Street, Kilmore Phone: (03) 5734 2000**

**Urgent Care Centre  
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**Acute Ward (30 beds)**

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dietician)**

**Oncology**

**Surgical Procedures**

**District Nursing**

**Aged Care –**

**Dianella Hostel and**

**Caladenia Nursing Home Website:**

**[www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au](http://www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au)**



## MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL



### How to keep up to date with Council online:

- > E-News direct to your inbox, sign up now
- > On our website [www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au)

### Not online?

- > Fortnightly Council Ad in the local newspaper
- > Monthly radio shows

**Or, contact Mitchell Shire Council on 5734 6200.**



## GARDEN SCENE WITH GAIL

*'Wow, Christmas Already!'*

Well, technically, we're into Summer and I wonder what this season will bring. We've had a lot of rain and the plants, big and small, have revelled in it however, the weeds have also loved it, they are lush and so healthy. Blackberries have grown crazy, the little devils, so how do we control (eradicate) them? This can be a long process depending on how much cash you have to allocate to them, time available to devote to them and accessibility to the plants because some areas are so steep, overhead spraying is essential. Spraying can be quite effective however, if using herbicides isn't your choice of treatment and the area affected is flat enough for machinery to access, you can slash, rip out with machinery and discard the canes. If you miss any rhizomes underground, they will continue to grow, and you will need to redo the process. Young plants will emerge in Spring however, this process can be carried out at any time of the year. If you choose to use a herbicide, Spring is a great time, as the young plants are emerging and growing profusely and being so active the herbicide is systemically absorbed into the plant quite quickly and effectively. If you can treat black berries prior to flowers appearing, you will have a better success rate and if using herbicide there is minimal damage done to our bees and butterflies prior to flower formation. Once the berries appear birds eat them and drop the seed anywhere, further spreading the plants. Established weeds such as gorse and blackberries are havens for rabbits, wombats, feral cats and foxes and unfortunately if your soil has poor holding capacity and animals have dug holes with the cover of the weeds, this can be the start of erosion on your property. If you choose to spray blackberries, ensure you select a herbicide specific for woody plants so as not to do any damage to grasses surrounding the weeds. Due to the wet weather, we've been experiencing weeds in our gardens have been fairly easy to pull out however, as the soil dries, this will not be the case so if you can get weeds under control now, gardening will be easier. Keep in mind also as the weather warms up, our plants will experience drier conditions and some plants may have difficulty getting used to this because of our months of wet weather and you may need to ease some plants, (in particular, varieties of natives) into drier conditions by ensuring they are watered more often as they get used to the drier conditions. Deep watering's are preferable to encourage the root system to go deeper into the soil thus, decreasing evaporation of



moisture around the surface roots. Natives from Western Australia can find it difficult in our Victorian soils particularly in the areas where the soil is clay based, given that WA is predominantly a sandy soil, ideal for Protea, Waratah, Adenanthos, Leucadendron, Kangaroo Paw and some Grevillea. Of course, these plants grow here however, it is important to prepare your garden to help these plants settle in well by incorporating well-rotted cow manure and Gypsum, good organic additives that assist in grouping the clay into minuscule particles which allows water, air, and nutrients deep down into the soil to assist in keeping the roots healthy. Untreated clay can form a pan surface if you like, that can be impenetrable, and this stops all the goodies from getting to the roots of the plant and don't forget to mulch, this is essential for retaining moisture around the root system. Have a lovely festive season.

*Gail Mains Kendrick* (your local Real Estate Agent)



## WANDONG TENNIS CLUB

Email: [wandongtennisclub@hotmail.com](mailto:wandongtennisclub@hotmail.com)  
or text Lisa on 0407 112 880.

Information is posted on our  
Facebook page.

[www.facebook.com/wandongtennis](https://www.facebook.com/wandongtennis)



Our Spring night tennis season has finished with only finals to be played.

Our five night teams have all made finals. Good luck to all teams

Our social Sunday's are well attended by members and non members. Come along and enjoy a hit of tennis and bbq lunch. The next one will be held on the first Sunday in February.

Put the date in your calendar. Sunday 5th February. They are held on the first Sunday of the month.

We wish all our members a very Merry Christmas and a safe new year.

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE - BECOME A VOLUNTEER

If you are young, elderly, retired or working, please consider joining a community group and enjoy the rewards of volunteering. Community groups in Wandong Heathcote Junction are:

Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group Inc: Call 0413 832 411

Wandong Wallan Lions Club: Call 0418 142 172

Wandong History Group: Call 0432 120 736

# LIONS CLUB OF WANDONG - WALLAN INC.

President: Marilyn Moore  
PO Box 225, Wandong, Vic. 3758



## MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE

This being the last report for the year I have endeavoured to summarise what we have achieved. It certainly has been a better year than the couple just past. We have increased our membership and held a number of community events.

Daniel and Peter, being mere teenagers, have boundless energy and are leaving us blokes in our late teens puffing in their wake. Sam Bedi, also a teenager, has really come on board and is a great asset to our club. We have a monster raffle running at the moment with lots of prizes thanks to Steve and the various businesses in our three towns. I would like to thank them all for being so generous. There is a food hamper trolley set up at IGA Wandong and we will be able to distribute some Christmas cheer to a number of families.

Steve has been doing up our small trailer. It was sitting in my paddock for quite a while. It is now amazingly beautiful. We were going to enter it into an art show.

With the markets up and running again Hugh and I have managed to get in and sell cakes and tickets.

Tania is doing a great job as secretary, Hugh is managing the books and so far I have not seen any sign of house extensions or new cars. Marilyn as president continues to boss us about despite having only one good arm. Don't upset the president.

I would like to give an honourable mention to Elizabeth and my daughter Sarah for their help. For some reason they don't think that I am capable of doing things properly by myself. I am of course kept busy running the club and reporting the truth.

Marilyn is getting new teeth. I thought that she had a fearsome bite anyway. What will she be like with new choppers? I also have to report that on a recent outing she got tipsy on pink gin cocktails. There were reports of her dancing on the table but I have not been able to confirm that.

Bill has been digging drainage ditches around his shed. He is too old to be doing that. Marie has been going along behind filling them in.

Tania lost the TV remote. A national disaster. What did she do? She rang Cliff and Dianne who luckily were back from New Zealand to ask if they knew where it was. It was later found under stuff in the sitting room.

We now come to Lion of the year awards. The top award goes to Bill Forbes for towing his wheelie bin, without assistance, from South Mountain Road to Wellington Square shopping centre. A feat that will probably never be equalled.

Honourable mentions also go to Steve Munro for storing his ice-cream in the microwave and to Hugh McGowan for presenting his wife with a half-eaten cake for her birthday. Congratulations to both of you.

This may do for this year. No doubt I will be back with more Lions truth next year.

Meanwhile have a great Christmas and New Year and your fearless reporter will be back again.

Until next time.

Clyde Riley

## VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES – TRANSITION VILLAGE WALLAN



Contact –

Judy Clarke – tel 0404 740 261  
Ian Dempsey – tel 0419 890 015

## GET “WHATS NEWS” BY EMAIL

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Remember  
"Whats News" is also  
available on the website  
[<www.wandong.vic.au>](http://www.wandong.vic.au)



# KILMORE GOLF CLUB



Players are now most welcome to use the course. Use the Honesty box to pay with new prices -\$20 for 9/18 holes weekday or \$25 weekend 9/18 holes. Payment can be made using cash or by direct debit. Remember to fill in the slip from the voucher booklet and take one with you. Score cards are available in the box.

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December is the Mixed 4BBB. Registration is at 9.30 for 10.00 am tee off. Cost \$30 per pair which includes afternoon tea. NTP on all Par 3 holes. This will be followed by the presentation of awards which were able to be finalised during the year. The Junior Scholarship Girls will also be receiving their Graduation certificates on the day after completing 24 weeks of tuition by PGA professional Nathan Roberts.

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December is the rescheduled Men's Open Tournament 18 holes stroke. Entry is \$25 pp which includes sausage sizzle before golf followed by afternoon tea at the finish Grade prizes and NTP on all Par 3 holes

KGC are now offering a Social Golf Pass for \$200 per year which will enable non -members to use the course 7 days a week provided the course is open and play does not interfere with competitions held Wednesday (9-1) and Saturday (10-2) A colour coded Social pass will be issued which should be displayed at all times. This offer commences 1<sup>st</sup> October and pro rata options are available. Further information is available from [Info@kilmoregolfclub.com](mailto:Info@kilmoregolfclub.com) or our website and Facebook.

Kilmore Function room is available for hire for birthdays, weddings, funerals. Perhaps if organisations are planning Christmas breakups then this is the time to book.

Contact the club on 5782 1123 to secure your booking or email: [info@kilmoregolfclub.com.au](mailto:info@kilmoregolfclub.com.au)

The KGC members wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you on the course in the coming weeks.

Thank you to all who have supported the Club throughout a difficult year again,  
KGC Committee



*Kilmore  
&  
District*

PO Box 550, Kilmore 3764

President: Elaine De Gabrielle

Secretary: Mark Perrott

Contact: [info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au](mailto:info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au)

As this most challenging year draws to a close, Kilmore and District U3A members are readying themselves for the festive season and looking forward to a better year in 2023. Most classes have their Christmas breakup functions on during December and classes will then break until they resume in February. Details will be posted on the website as they are finalised so keep an eye out at <https://u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au/>

Enrolment day will be on Friday January 20<sup>th</sup> from 10am until 12 noon at the Kilmore Memorial Hall near the library on Sydney St. Come along and meet the convenors and see what will be on offer next year, 2023 might be the year for you to take up painting, creative writing or one of the other myriad classes that will be on offer.

The Luncheon Club enjoyed their October outing at the newly refurbished Royal Oak Bistro so much that they are planning to have their Christmas break up there. It will be held at 12.00pm on 8/12/22 and will be a two course Christmas menu for \$25.00 with 4 main courses and two desserts to choose from.

Government research shows that 44% of people aged over 65 experience social exclusion, which is twice the rate of exclusion for other age groups. Further, at least 10% of senior Australians suffer from loneliness or social isolation, a number that has failed to drop over the last two decades. So as we age it is most important to keep up the connections that provide a buffer against loneliness and U3A is an ideal environment to meet and socialise with like-minded people. It is also very affordable, the yearly fee being only \$35.00 or \$60.00 per couple.

We are looking forward to a change of venue from the current centre in Sydney St to the new integrated community facility currently under construction at the JJ Clancy reserve. Inclement weather has put the schedule back a bit but once the concrete was able to be poured, the building has been progressing in leaps and bounds. It was due to be finished in January but that is now looking unlikely. When completed there will be ample car parking, change rooms, play areas and ample space for our exercise classes, bowls, darts and other activities. Check out the artists impression on the Mitchell Shire Website, it is going to be an amazing venue when complete.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and stay safe,  
Cheers Amanda Oades

## WANDONG-HEATHCOTE JUNCTION COMMUNITY GROUP

P.O. Box 242, WANDONG 3758 Tel: 0413 832 411



### THE TIME HAS COME.

We can no longer put our collective heads in the sand and pretend that the A.R.T.C will not be building a new bridge at the northern end of Rail Street. After many meetings with the staff of ARTC we have at last been privy to some facts that we were not fully aware of.

1. ARTC do not run the trains on our line, so we need to fight another fight with those who wish to bring larger, noisier, and more invasive trains through Wandong. But that is a fight for another day.
2. ARTC have been given by the Federal Government the responsibility building a freight line from Central Queensland through to Melbourne. They will then lease time on the tracks to any one of several rail freight companies. Their only worry is to build and maintain the tracks.

Our fight with ARTC is to try and protect our town from damage caused by the dismantling of the old bridge and the construction of a new bridge some two and a half meters higher.

To achieve this, they will have to drastically alter the road heights on all sides of the new bridge, and in turn create large earthen banks on all sides to gain the necessary height for a new round about that will be some four meters higher than the current road surface just north of the northern end of Rail St.

This is going to happen and will destroy the immediate surrounds. All we can do is let them know that we are NOT HAPPY and try to win as many concessions from them as we can in regard to our parkland being re-established after they have finished, also we must try and protect a huge number of mature trees that will be impacted by the road works.

There are some people around who are saying that this will never happen. But some two weeks ago ARTC appointed engineers to start planning the works to be done in the Seymour area, and we along with Broadford will be next on their list sooner rather than later.

We have two choices, we can either throw up our hands in despair, and bury our heads in the sand.

OR

Let them know that we are not happy and that we want our town protected as much as possible. Now is the time to get involved, don't wait till the damage is done.

ARTC hold pop up days every Thursday from 10.00am till 1.00pm in the shop beside the chemists in Wandong Plaza. CALL IN AND LET THEM KNOW THAT YOU ARE NOT HAPPY, or just ask to see the maps and diagrams. Get involved, it is your town, don't let them ruin it..

DAVID MORAN.

PRESIDENT, WANDONG HEATHCOTE JUNCTION COMMUNITY GROUP.

If you want more information on what you can do ring me on 0409.164 660.

Or stop in for a chat at one of our BBQ's that we hold monthly at the IGA.

## WANDONG PUBLIC HALL

The Wandong Hall has been fortunate this year with all our regular user groups returning after the COVID lock downs with the new addition of dance classes for pre-schoolers.

The hall was also the venue for several diverse functions from Early Voting, ARTC, Art Exhibition, Birthday Parties to Reunions to Commemorations with people who had links to our Community.

We look forward to a New Year with our groups and also the prospect we can provide other activities.

The Wandong Hall Committee is still in need of a secretary to function properly to manage the hall and meet the needs of or regular user groups and casual hirers. If you feel you may be able to be part of the committee in some small way please call Christine to discuss what the role entails.

The Committee wish you a healthy, safe and enjoyable Festive Season.

Our regular user groups are always keen to have more people come along they are listed below:

Dance classes for pre-schoolers Tuesday and Thursday mornings during term time.

Contact Claire Bennett 0420 418 425

The Craft group attend every Monday, it's an informal group, bring along some lunch, and something to do if you feel like it.. There is always someone on hand to help with crafty questions in the group and this has been our longest running group.

The Lightwood Flats book club meet monthly - contact is Annie Beaman Ph: 5787 1698

Wandong Country Knitters also meet monthly, contact is Coralee Souter. Ph: 0479 163 548

Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group hold a monthly meeting Ph: 0413 832 411

Wandong History Group Monthly meeting - Karen Christensen Ph: 0432 120 736

The hall is available for hire phone Christine for bookings on 0448604770. Christine has an answering service so please leave a message if she cannot answer the phone, she will respond to all enquiries promptly.



# Wandong Primary School



As the 2022 school year comes to an end, we thought it best to share some key dates with you ahead of the end of the year and the commencement of 2023.

## DECEMBER

- 8<sup>th</sup> – Whole School Christmas Box Car Event LB Davern
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Foundation 2023 Teddy Bear Picnic
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Whole School Transition Day
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Grade 6 Graduation
- 16<sup>th</sup> – End of Year House Pool Party
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Last Day of Term Four – Early Dismissal 1:30 pm

## JANUARY

- 31<sup>ST</sup> – Start of Term One – Grades 1-6

## FEBRUARY

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Start of Term One – Foundation Students

In 2023 our team is expanding! Wandong Primary School strives to be a system leading school which ensures excellence in learning and the highest level of care for wellbeing.

Next year we are expanding our team and services for both students and families, in a way which is rare for government schools.

Joining our unique team will include an on-site, school employed psychologist, speech pathologist and social worker. This will give us the capacity to provide personalised support as it's needed, without needing to rely on external services with long wait times.

We are also investing heavily in the allied health tools needed to diagnose specific learning disorders (including dyslexia) and to provide information about cognitive and behavioural challenges. We are excited to be able to provide these costly assessments 'in house' and free to our families, who would otherwise need to pay thousands to have them done in private practices.

Sitting alongside our already fully developed teaching and learning team, learning intervention team and 18 strong classroom support team, Wandong Primary School is hoping to lead the way towards a system which ensures all children thrive and all families receive the support they need and deserve.

We hope you have safe and happy holidays and look forward to welcoming you back in 2023.

Kaitlyn Hall (Teacher WPS)

## An Invitation for You

**WHAT?** A Family Carol Service

**WHERE?** St. Johns Anglican Church, Wandong  
(behind the Primary School)

**WHEN?** Christmas Eve

**TIME?** 7.30 pm

**Please come & Join us**

## CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR

## ANNIVERSARY

**CINDY AND ROGER  
FLANNERY**

## SAVE WANDONGS HERITAGE LISTED ST MICHAELS CHURCH

Please help by donating  
your 5 cents in the collection tins  
at Kemps Bakery (Wandong) and  
Wandong Pharmacy

# WANDONG JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Please contact the Club via email [wandongjfc@gmail.com](mailto:wandongjfc@gmail.com) for further information. Or, search our face book page or Team App page by typing "Team App Wandong Warriors".

## AGE GROUPS SEASON 2023

The new age groups will be under 9, under 10s, under 12s and under 14s

## NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

We are recruiting new players, so feel free to come to training and keep on our Facebook page for further details on season 2023 training and season dates.

**BBQ and SANTA on Wednesday 14th December**  
Parents vs kids match 430-530 then bbq and Santa by 6pm .

We look forward to seeing you all next season!

Thanks to our main sponsors :

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Phone: 9716 1311      Phone: 9350 5747  
Fax: 9716 1488      Fax: 9355 7233  
Email: [ross@taxequity.com.au](mailto:ross@taxequity.com.au)



**Dear Santa**  
**I PROMISE I'VE BEEN GOOD...  
HERE IS MY WISHLIST**

NEW FOOTBALL  
NEW PAIR OF FOOTY BOOTS  
2023 FOOTY SEASON TO START

IF YOUR KID IS LIKE US AND ALREADY  
EXCITED FOR THE 2023 SEASON...  
JOIN US  
ON WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2022  
AT LB DAVERN RESERVE WANDONG  
FROM 4:30PM ONWARDS

PARENTS V KIDS MATCH  
SAUSAGE SIZZLE  
MR WHIPPY ICE CREAM VAN  
...AND THE DUDE IN THE RED SUIT MIGHT  
EVEN TURN UP TO HEAR WHAT ELSE IS ON  
YOUR WISHLIST!

MEET OUR COACHES AND COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS AND ASK US ABOUT JOINING  
THE MIGHTY WANDONG WARRIORS FOR  
2023!

## J&K Styles Group

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**Wet & Dry**

J&K Styles Group

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-Trailer

**Rates**  
-Full day: \$200 inc GST  
-Full weekend hire: \$300 inc GST  
-Week Hire (Monday to Friday): \$800 inc GST

**CONTACT US**  
Jacob 0439 757 104  
Kasey 0403 450 524  
[www.jkstylesgroup.com](http://www.jkstylesgroup.com)  
[jkstylesgroup@gmail.com](mailto:jkstylesgroup@gmail.com)  
**Find us on**

Located in Heathcote Junction  
(Delivery available)



# Celebrate the wonderful

However you celebrate, whoever you're with,  
may your Christmas be merry, always.

From the Community Bank Wallan, Kilmore and Broadford team.

**Proud supporters of the 2022  
Wandong Community Christmas Carols.**

📍 Community Bank · Wallan 5783 2422  
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## Bendigo Bank

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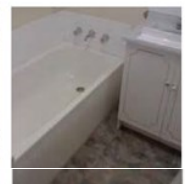
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# Wandong Fire Brigade



Wandong Fire Brigade members wish you all safe and happy holidays!

## Santa will be travelling the town on Christmas Eve!

We are excited to announce that Santa will be visiting the streets of Wandong and Heathcote Junction on Christmas Eve this year between 4pm and 7pm ish. Check out the Wandong fire Brigade page for updates.

## Santa is available for Christmas Home Visits in December.

Do you have a Christmas party coming up? Wandong Fire Brigade is back again taking bookings to have Santa visit your home on the fire truck! Donations appreciated.

For bookings please contact Heath on 0419 359 374 or [wandongsanta@gmail.com](mailto:wandongsanta@gmail.com). The only time we do not take bookings is Christmas Eve – Santa is doing his tour of the town that day from 4pm.

## 2023 Wandong Fire brigade Calendar

Wandong Fire Brigade has created a fundraising calendar for 2023 featuring many of your local firefighters together with native wildlife. Calendars include a number of important dates and contact numbers.

These calendars are \$15 each and may be purchased through our Facebook page or by contacting Yvette on 0417 545 228 or Susan on 0419 102 432. The perfect gift for the person who has everything, and an easy way to support your local Volunteer brigade.

A Massive thanks to Narrelle Joy from Narrelle Joy Photographer for her amazing time and expertise to help us create this calendar. Also a special thanks to all the wildlife carers, Snake Safe Victoria, Peake family, Shingles family, Russell family and Joy family for lending their animals or properties for our photography shoots. Thanks to the Wandong Fire Brigade crew for the laughs and your time in creating the 2023 calendar.



## The Fire Season has been declared for Mitchell Shire

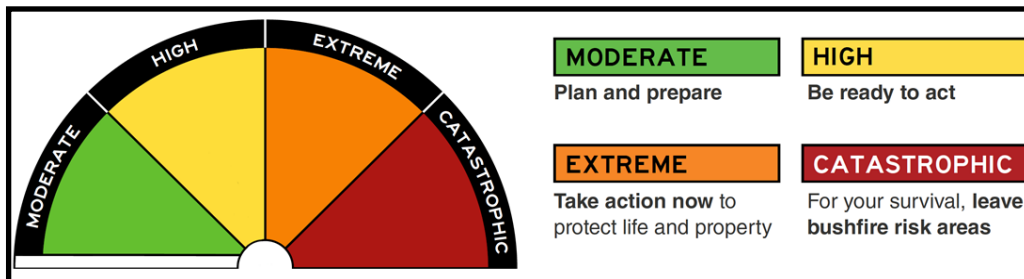
The Fire Season is due to begin declared on 00.01 of 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and will continue until 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023,

unless revoked earlier.

You cannot light a fire in the open air without written permit from CFA or a Municipal Fire Prevention Officer.

If we attend an illegal burn during this time the police will be

called and fines will be issued. For information on what is allowed during the Fire Danger period and on Total Fire Ban days see <http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can/>





# Wandong Fire Brigade



## Get Your Property and Family Ready NOW

It is so important to prepare your property before and during the Fire Season, and perform regular maintenance. Write your Fire Plan and let everybody in the family know. What is your trigger to leave? What will you do on Extreme days? What will you do on Catastrophic days? What will you take when you evacuate? Where will you go? For information check out the CFA website. [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

## Training

We have had members completing courses lately including Crew Leader, Low Structure, Suppress Wildfire and Breathing Apparatus (BA). Night Training is on Wednesday nights starting at 7pm at the fire station. For information contact Lt James Stephens on 0418221458.

## WANDONG CFA JUNIORS



## BECOME A JUNIOR VOLUNTEER TODAY!!

Aged 11-15? Learn teamwork, leadership, emergency response skills, community service and more.

WHERE: WANDONG CFA 83 Rail Street Wandong

WHEN: MONDAY NIGHTS 18.30-20.00

CONTACT: Jack 0431 563 290 OR Terry 0413 644 319





# WHATS NEWS

## @ WANDONG NETBALL CLUB

### CELEBRATING THE SEASON OF 2022

This year's end of year Presentation Night was held at the Wandong Community Hall.

The Club celebrated another successful year dancing the night away to DJ Rosalinda, from Mystical Faces, who kept the kids entertained for the evening and enjoying the delights from local Crumbs and Co. who catered the event.

Teams, families, and friends filled the room eagerly awaiting our Awards ceremony.



9 & UNDER GREEN



11 & UNDER WHITE



11 & UNDER GREEN



13 & UNDER WHITE



13 & UNDER GREEN



16 & UNDER GREEN



OUR AMAZING UMPIRES



PARTY PYRAMIDS



PARTY GIRLS

We would like to congratulate the following Superstars who took out awards for their age group/team.

### **Coaches Awards**

9 & Under Green Coaches Award - Paige Phillips & Piper Phillips

11 & Under White Coaches Award - Zoe Bell

11 & Under Green Coaches Award - Amy Elliot

13 & Under White Coaches Award - Shanae Yeend

13 & Under Green Coaches Award - Amelia Paxinos

16 & Under Green Coaches Award - Binuli Hemachandra





# WANDONG NETBALL CLUB

## Most Improved Player (9 & Under only)

9 & Under Green Most Improved – Shelby Cairns-Foster

TEAM	BEST & FAIREST	BEST & FAIREST RUNNER UP
11 & Under White	Natalie King	Dylan Cairns-Foster
11 & Under Green	Thasini Hemachandra	Anna Ricardo
13 & Under White	Chelsee Stuart	Abbey Mathieson
13 & Under Green	Chloe Marshall	Bridget Elliot
16 & Under Green	Lucy King	Hayley Rowe



## NetSetGo



This year's NetSetGo program has been a huge success with 23 participants gracing the courts each week.

NetSetGO is Australia's official starter program for kids aged 5 to 10. It's a chance to learn the netball basics, get outside and make some friends. For a lot of kids, this is the first time they'll pick up a netball or chuck on a bib. It's a fantastic learning experience.

Thank you to our NetSetGo Co-ordinator Jo Pascoe and our Coaches, Bec Leiper, Kara Crawford and Jo Mazurek for making the 2022 NetSetGo program loads of fun.

## 2023 REGISTRATION

Registrations for our 2023 season will be live on the Netball Connect App early next year.

We will once again be holding Pre-season training prior to the commencement of the playing season. Please keep an eye on our Clubs official Facebook page for dates.

Should you be interested in volunteering at the Club next year in any capacity, please email Jo at [wandongnetball@gmail.com](mailto:wandongnetball@gmail.com)

We would like to wish the entire community a  
Safe and Merry Christmas  
from all of us at the Wandong Netball Club.



The Wandong Netball Club is a child safe club. For more info please visit  
<https://www.playbytherules.net.au/online-courses>

# Have you met Mel?

Mel is your local branch manager and lending expert.

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## HE'S HERE FOR US

**Rob Mitchell MP**  
Member for McEwen

Rob.Mitchell.MP@aph.gov.au | 03 5716 3000

Authorised by R Mitchell ALP, 57-59 High St, Wallan.



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## Grassfires move so quickly, it's **impossible** to outrun them.

This summer, significant pasture growth in paddocks and roadsides means that fast-moving grassfires will be a serious risk across Victoria. Rural grassfires can be just as dangerous as bushfires, and can actually spread even faster, travelling at speeds of up to 25km/h. If you live close to open paddocks or grasslands, you could be at risk and need to be prepared. On Extreme or Catastrophic Fire Danger Rated days, the safest option is to leave early.

How well do you know  fire?

Plan. Act. Survive. Go to [vic.gov.au/knowfire](https://vic.gov.au/knowfire)

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



## Community Australia Day Breakfast WANDONG

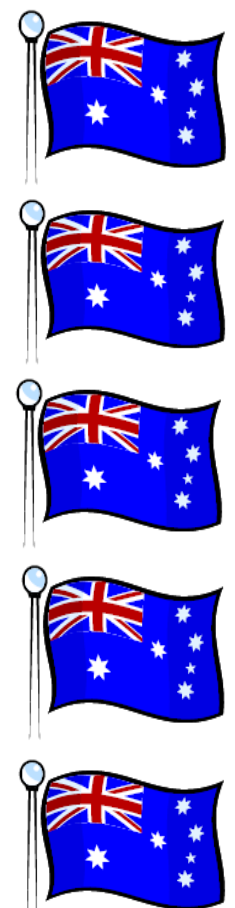
Help us celebrate the raising  
of the flag and honouring  
some outstanding citizens on  
Australia Day 2023 at the  
Community Centre  
LB Davern Reserve, Wandong  
**FREE Hot Breakfast  
from 8.00 am**  
All members of the community  
are invited to join in the fun.

Thursday 26th January  
2023 8.00am start



Flag raising 9 am  
Local Australia  
Day recipients  
awarded  
Family Event  
**FREE to all**

Wandong Heathcote Junction Sports & Community Centre  
L B Davern Reserve Dry Creek Crescent, Wandong





As 2022 draws to a close, the Reserve has continued to grow and develop and has become a great asset for our community to enjoy and a place to relax.

- New Tennis /Netball courts-Courts 5 and 6
- New court lights-Courts 5 and 6
- New paths
- Renovations of the Preschool
- Installation of Exercise Pod-stage 1.
- New fridges at the community centre and Sports pavilion
- Installation of Kitchenette in the meeting room at the community centre
- The oval continues to develop with upgrades of maintenance to the turf.

Looking forward to the following projects-  
 Redevelopment of the Community Centre  
 Drainage project for the Reserves Oval

At present we are home to the following:  
 Broadford Football Netball Club-Pre: season  
 Kilmore Cricket club-Juniors and Seniors

Our community continues to head down to the Reserve having fun doing the following activities:

- Walking the dogs
- kids in the playground
- individuals/groups doing their fitness workouts
- mums with the kids in the pram
- riding bikes
- playing kick to kick football
- passing shots in netball
- shooting hoops at the basketball ring
- riding the horses
- training dogs to behave
- Wandong primary doing their sporting activities on the Oval
- Wallan basketball in the Stadium
- Having a hit of tennis
- Doing a round of activities at the newly installed exercise pod

#### Tennis/Netball Courts Redevelopment:



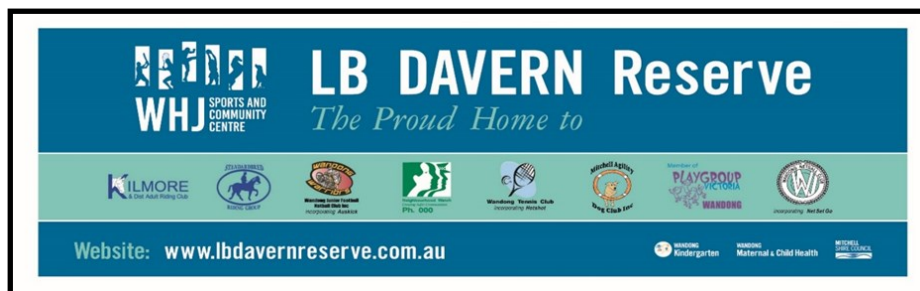
#### L.B.Davern Reserve Update in pictures:



LEFT  
 Cricket at the Reserve and  
 BELOW  
 The new exercise equipment.







If anybody in our community would like to share any photos of History of L.B Davern Reserve for us to share on what's News please send to [kooraw@bigpond.com](mailto:kooraw@bigpond.com)

Our Community building is also a great asset to hold kids parties, family type events and private functions of all sorts. Please consider when planning a function.

Get in quick as bookings are coming in fast.

Contact our booking officer  
Darlene Gunter 0418 312 762.

For all L.B.Davern Reserve Bookings to either:

- Oval Bookings, Stadium bookings and enquiries - Mitchell Shire Council Recreation and Open Space unit ph. 5734 6200.
- Community Centre and Sports Pavilion contact:



To our community, we need your help;

**We need to catch any persons vandalizing our Reserve!!!!**

If Residents notice anything out of the ordinary please contact the police on 000

It is in our community interest that we all keep our Reserve safe for all to use!!

**Please note:**

Somebody or persons are filling up the Reserve bins with their own rubbish, the Reserve bins are provided for user groups and the community using the Reserve.

Darlene Gunter  
Booking Officer for the WHJSCC on 0418 312 762

**Don't forget our Australia Day Breakfast down at L.B.Davern Reserve:**



**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**@ The Community Centre**

**L.B.Davern Reserve**

**Dry Creek Cres**

**Starts 8.00am with a free breaky**

**What a great way to start your day and head off on whatever you have planned!!!**



**From all us at the L.B.Davern Reserve we wish you a great Christmas and Happy but safe New Year.**

**L.B.Davern Reserve Committee**

Rob Telfer  
President,  
L.B.Davern Reserve Committee  
12 Dry Creek Cres  
P.O.Box 303, Wandong 3758  
Mobile 0408 393 250







**THE COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF WHITTLESEA INC.**  
REGISTERED # A0041714F  
Established 2001

**Lyrical finale at Whittlesea Probus**

Seventeen hundred and thirty-nine years after the birth of Christ when John Wesley scribed the Hymn *"hark the herald angels sing"* did he envisage that in the year 2022 one line would be significant?

*"Late in time behold him come"* was somehow appropriate! Ivan and Glenys Peterson were making a return appearance to present Christmas carols to the members of the Combined Probus Club of Whittlesea. During their workup some new equipment failed which meant a return home for a replacement, and the possibility of a late start.

But, behold, he came back and all was in tune. Other end of year issues was conducted while the choralists re-set their apparatus. Thirteen members were on the birthday register, and each were acknowledged and given a gift. Mary Mack and Teresa Carlin were approaching a big zero occasion so were greeted with community singing of Happy Birthday.

Two visitors were welcomed and invited to join our ranks. Our President and Secretary had attended the Probus Association of Victoria [PAV] meeting and related that even at "head office", filling the Secretarial role is difficult. A pictorial and graphic resume of the recent visit to the Flinders ranges was given. The basis of this was the journey diary wherein each day a participant wrote about their recollections. Due to a number of weather related cancelations on that tour a short return to the places skipped in planned for April 2023. Planning for a North Queensland trip late in 2023 is still continuing.

After joining the morning tea break the guests broke into concert! Ivan had contracted Covid a few weeks ago, and even after several doctor's visits had breathing difficulties. Glenys had also been a Covid victim, but her bout was less severe. True troopers the presentation was superb!

Traditional religious hymns, with overriding conducting by Ivan to ensure audience participation were on the agenda. The hymn "do you see what I see" has a line where the words are repeated. Our screen instead it read ECHO. The audience were instructed to let the singers say the line then to echo the words.

*Christmas where the gum trees grow* explained how our wide brown lands differ from snow covered Europe, yet Christmas is all encompassing Jingle Bell Rock, and Silent Night lead up to the finish which was Peace on Earth. Ivan and Glenys were thanked on behalf of the member's and given a small token of appreciation.

A non-religious song is twelve days of Christmas which states that on the fourth day the true love sent four calling birds. Our calling bird was the Magpie at the Wandong Hotel named Magpie and Stump. The annual Christmas luncheon had been organised for that venue. There was a quicker than normal exit from the meeting as folks headed off for the midday appointment. The return exodus was less urgent, but all had an enjoyable end to what has been a most encouraging year.

2023 will kick off on March sixth, when we will hear about an expat getting work at Buckingham Palace. After the Annual general meeting in March, in April we will hear about PTSD and Assistance Dogs. We will have a little meeting in April when the art of Bonsai will be explained.

***Written by Michael B Halley***

**Photo: Ivan and Glenys in full swing**



**Contacts at the Club**

Andrew McCormack is Membership 0438 578 652

Cheryl Manicolo is Secretary 03 9715 1420

Email [whittleseaprobust@hotmail.com](mailto:whittleseaprobust@hotmail.com)

# **WANDONG COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

**SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**COMMUNITY CENTRE, DAVERN RESERVE**

**DRY CREEK CRESCENT, WANDONG**



**Festivities commence at 4.30pm  
with a free sausage sizzle, face  
painting and Santa Claus arrival on  
the Wandong R.F.B. fire truck.**

**The carols commence at 6.30pm  
and feature the Joy of Life Choir, soloists Vivian Kenney  
and Alice Hall, the Wandong Primary School Choir, the  
Soul Voices Gospel Choir, violin ensemble “Whiz Kids”  
and the Tangent Choir.**

**This will be the last chance to purchase tickets for the Wandong  
Community Group / Wandong History Group Christmas toy raffle  
(3 prizes) as the winners will be drawn during the carols.**



We all know that the festive season can be an incredibly stressful time, however for Australia's 2.7 million unpaid carers, the added pressure of caring for a loved one makes the festive season a little more challenging.

So what can you do to manage your wellbeing during this time?

1. **Don't be too hard on yourself** – both you and the person you care for deserve a break. If you are exhausted you will struggle to cope and perhaps have no enjoyment yourself.
2. **Keep it simple** – don't set unrealistic expectations and stretch yourself too thin. Routines are good, familiarity is reassuring, and by sticking to regular mealtimes you can reduce some of the pressure.
3. **It is OK to change your plans** – if your instincts tell you that plans are no longer appropriate, then it is ok to change your mind. If you think the person you care for will be unsettled, give yourself permission to cancel or shorten your plans to fit the situation.
4. **Ask for help** – we often struggle to ask for help and try to be all things to everybody. Remember that you too are important, so delegate tasks, get some rest and say no to things as appropriate to ease some of the stress.
5. **Be Positive** – it's likely that something over the festive season will go wrong. In fact it is almost inevitable. Try not to panic, keep it in perspective, stay positive and try not to let it disrupt your plans.
6. **Self care** – find time to do the things you enjoy and that allow you to reset and focus on yourself for a little while. This may be going for a walk, reading or enjoying a bath.
7. **Eat well** – It's tough to eat well during the festive season, there are so many things to tempt us away from a healthy diet. Whilst it is ok to enjoy the food and treats on offer, remember to maintain a balanced diet. Eating healthy foods helps to keep you energized, and combined with getting both sleep and rest, can help you cope with the extra stress of the season.
8. **Plan ahead** – remember that many shops and services are either closed or have limited hours over the festive season. Make sure you are organized to ensure you have enough medications and other supplies as needed.
9. **Enjoy yourself!** – whilst not everything may go as planned, there will also be times across the festive season that are meaningful and bring you joy. Embrace these as they happen.

If you need emergency respite over the Christmas period, please call Carer Gateway on 1800 422 737.

For more information and support, please reach out to the team at the Carer Gateway by calling 1800 422 737 or heading to the website <https://www.carergateway.gov.au/>

Until next time,  
Jason

## FOR SALE:

### TRADESMAN TRAILER

Solid built 6x4 trailer with butterfly doors and timber carry bars. Includes key start 8 kva generator.

Good tyres, ready to be used.

\$2,000 or near offer.

Wandong area

- Call David on 5787 1738







## Neighbourhood Watch

Let's watch out for each other

### South Mitchell

### Planning for your holiday

The holiday season should be a time to relax and celebrate with family and friends, however coming home to a home which has been burgled can ruin it.

The reality is that criminals could detect your absence and if you don't prepare your property. In order to have a peace of mind while you are away, we recommend you consider the following safety tips.

- Ensure your mail is collected regularly by a trusted friend or neighbour;
- Cancel any newspaper or regular subscriptions;
- Arrange for a neighbour to take your bins out and in. They may also do other things to make it look like someone is home like use your driveway to park their car;
- Park a car in your driveway;
- Set a timer for a radio and/or lights;
- Secure your valuables by keeping them in a safe place;
- Ensure all doors, gates and your garage doors (including your rear access doors) are closed and locked;
- Lock away ladders and tools, anything which could be used in a burglary; and
- DON'T advertise your holiday on social media.



Before you leave on your holiday, submit an Absence from Residence form to your local Police Station. Police will add your address to their list of properties and do extra patrols past your property.

### Vacant houses targeted

There's something lovely about a house for sale decked out in all that fancy furniture & artwork. Bad guys like new estates too, but for all the wrong reasons. They see prospects, welcoming showrooms, and often, all-too-easy targets. Many criminals blend in with prospective home owners at Open for Inspections in order to case out the property. They will be looking for window & door locks, security systems, and how to break in.

COVID restrictions brought about changes to the process of selling your property to include a virtual inspection or 3D tour. We recommend you complete the following steps, before you place the property in the agent's hands, in order to keep you and your property safe:

- De-personalise your home but removing personal items (photos, private documentation, and prescription medication);
- Remove small easily pocketed valuables such as cash or jewellery;
- Store all keys and remotes out of sight;
- Consider upgrading window & door locks or install a security system; and
- Use a trusted Real Estate Agent for Inspections and ensure all potential buyers show identification at inspections.



South Mitchell Neighbourhood Watch wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday over Christmas & the New Year.

### Hotlines:

**000**

**Emergency**

**131 444**

**Police Assistance Line**

**1800 333 000**

**Crime Stoppers**

Online Reporting: <https://www.police.vic.gov.au/palolr>

For more information visit:

<https://sites.google.com/view/south-mitchell-nhw/home>



[www.facebook.com/southmitchell.nhw.inc](https://www.facebook.com/southmitchell.nhw.inc)

email: [newsletters.smnhw@gmail.com](mailto:newsletters.smnhw@gmail.com)

**We understand that  
retirement means you  
finally get to focus on  
living.... *save yourself  
time and stress***



**Have your medication  
PACKED and DELIVERED  
FREE\***

**CALL US ON  
5787 1010**



**\*FOR FIRST THREE MONTHS. CONDITIONS APPLY.  
PLEASE CALL OR SEE IN STORE FOR DETAILS**



# SUDOKU

Answers on  
page 29

Place the numbers 1-9 only once in each row, column & 3x3 block

						8	6	
			8		7			
8				3	6	1		2
7							9	3
		5				4		
1	8							6
6		8	1	9				7
			2		3			
	3	4						

## THIS MONTHS QUIZ

Answer appears on Page 29 but no cheating!

1. Which country started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?
2. Which country did eggnog originate?
3. In which Christmas movie does Tom Hanks play 6 of the characters?
4. In which country is it tradition to eat KFC for Christmas dinner?
5. What is traditionally hidden inside a Christmas pudding?
6. What colour are mistletoe berries?
7. What is the Grinch's dog called?
8. How many reindeer drive Santa's sleigh ?
9. What is the name of the tribe in *Frozen 2*?
10. How many *Home Alone* films are there?
11. Who plays Santa in *The Santa Clause*?
12. In which year was the first Christmas card sent?
13. What plant is sometimes known as the 'Christmas flower'?
14. In which country is it tradition to eat KFC for Christmas dinner?

## Kilmore/Wallan RSL Sub Branch

meets the last Thursday night of the month  
and open every Wednesday 10am -12pm at  
Kilmore Memorial Hall

Contact Rod Dally 0417 522 835  
We have Pension and Welfare Officers  
to help veterans in the area.

## MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL



### How to keep up to date with Council online:

- > E-News direct to your inbox, sign up now
- > On our website [www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au)

### Not online?

- > Fortnightly Council Ad in the local newspaper
- > Monthly radio shows

Or, contact Mitchell Shire Council on 5734 6200.

## Justice of the Peace for Victoria

Sue Marstaeller

Mobile: 0438 871 520

*Sue is available to sign documents.  
Phone for appointment.*

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- \*Commercial & Industrial
- \*Austel Licensed phone points

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Mobile 0418 323 838

# Whittlesea Community Network

92a Church Street Whittlesea 3757  
Ph: 03 9716 3361 Fax: 03 9716 3816  
Email [wchi@whittleseach.com.au](mailto:wchi@whittleseach.com.au)



Summer is apparently just around the corner and Santa is be busy in his shed.....meanwhile most of us have webbed feet! If you are paddling around in our Neighbourhood drop in for a chat, we have a new Community Access area which now houses our “Little Library” for book exchange and our “Community Pantry” in case you find yourself in need of non perishable food items. Come and check it out! Merry Christmas to all!

## Whittlesea Community House Pop Up

Whittlesea Community House will be opening a pop up centre in Church Street, Whittlesea in the former Westpac Bank building from Monday November 28<sup>th</sup> through to Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Come and visit us for information about the 2023 program, assistance with technology, a cuppa, a chat and help with access to services. Everyone is welcome!

## Community Meals

Big Blokes Brunch is a great way to start each week at the Whittlesea Community Activity Centre on Tuesdays! Bring a mate the food is great:

Tuesdays 11.00am – 1.00pm \$2.00 per person

First session for 2023 will be Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2023

Ladies Lunch -join the ladies who lunch each fortnight at the Whittlesea Community Activity Centre and meet our Chef – Dave and his team!

Final Lunch for 2022 Thursday December 8<sup>th</sup> 11.30am – 1.00pm

First lunch for 2023 will be Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2023

## Crafternoons

Join us each week on Mondays and dabble in all sorts of crafts! We are currently preparing for Christmas with cards, decorations and all manner of things Xmas! Join anytime just let us know you are coming so we can have materials available.

Mondays each week during Term 1.00pm – 3.00pm \$2.00 per session

Back in 2023 on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2023

## Boat Licence – The weather is on the improve – time to hit the water!

Saturday January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

9.00am – 1.00pm \$130 per person (students over 12 years are eligible). PWC Licence is included unless you are under 16 years

## Fix It Friday

Fix it Friday is back face to face! Sweep your problems into a pile and bring them to our experts for real help that doesn't involve a queue or a call centre!

Meet experts from Whittlesea Community Connections, Centrelink, Social Worker, Expresso Legal, Uniting Financial Counselling, NDIS, Centrelink, Victoria Police, My Aged Care, Under 60s Home Assistance, No Interest Loan Scheme and heaps more! Solve lots of drama at one place on one day! Call 9716 3361 to register in advance, it's FREE.

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 10am – 1.00pm

First session for 2023 will be held on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2023.

The current round of Power Saving Bonuses is still available to ALL VICTORIAN HOUSEHOLDS. You must have an electricity account with your name on it to apply and it is available on the basis of one per household. Ask us for assistance to apply!

SAVE THE DATE – The Whittlesea Community House Christmas Party will be held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2022. Stay tuned for details!

## THANK YOU EVERYONE!

To all of you who have placed items into the food donation bin at Whittlesea IGA we would like to say a huge thank you! These items are packed up each week as emergency pantry parcels for folks that we meet each week. Your kindness is VERY much appreciated.

A more comprehensive list of what is coming up at the House can be found on our website [www.wchi.com.au](http://www.wchi.com.au) or you can call to book any of the above on 9716 3361. See you in the New Year!



## All Weather Training Facility - Heathcote Jct (Established 1995)

Puppy School - Social Classes  
Adult Classes - Trick Training  
Behaviour Problems



**Workshops**  
Dog Park Etiquette  
Intro to Agility  
Dock Diving  
Cross Country

# Alfoxton Dog Centre

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

*Boarding Dogs / Cats - short and long term Farm Stays.  
Dogs have large indoor/outdoor pens. Also big play paddocks  
where your dog has room to get out and burn off their energy.*

*Cats and little Dogs get to hang out in fully enclosed and heated  
Mud Brick Cattery*

Phone: Anne **0402 118929**

**60 Junction Rd, Heathcote Junction, Vic**

Alfoxton is a registered Domestic Animal Business - Mitchell Shire

## FRIENDS OF DISAPPOINTMENT

Are you interested in the history,  
conservation and community of the  
Mount Disappointment State Forest and  
surrounding areas.

Join "Friends of Disappointment" to share  
history, photos and ideas.

[https://www.facebook.com/  
mountdisappointmentclonbinane/](https://www.facebook.com/mountdisappointmentclonbinane/)

## QUIZ ANSWERS (from page 27)

1. Germany
2. Britain
3. *The Polar Express*. He plays Hero Boy,  
Father, Conductor, Hobo, Scrooge and  
Santa Claus.
4. Japan
5. A coin
6. White
7. Max
8. Nine
9. The Northuldra people
10. Six
11. Tim Allen
12. 1843
13. Poinsettia
14. Japan

## Weather Report - November 2022

### Wandong/Heathcote Junction

Last month of spring and we experienced  
a sample of what the season can bring. Ambient  
conditions, both nocturnal and diurnal were  
noticeably warmer compared to previous months.

Rainfall of 110.5 mls was mainly over two days,  
19<sup>th</sup> - 24.5 mls and 12<sup>th</sup> - 19 mls and the balance of  
smaller quantities were recorded over the rest of  
the month, usually in the night hours. Rainfall  
was recorded on 18 days of the month.

Now we wait to see what summer brings

#### Stats

November 2022	-	110.5 mls
Previous year	-	109.5 mls
Average prev 10 years	-	55 mls
Total this year	-	1047 mls
Total prev year	-	820.5 mls

December stats will be in the first issue in 2023  
To all, have a Merry Christmas and all the best  
for the new year. Norm Hulett



Classes held at:  
R.B Robson stadium  
Wallan, 3756

## Recreational & Competition Gymnastics

- Morning classes from crawling to 5years
- Afternoon classes from 5 years to adult
- Classes available Monday - Wednesday
- Trial class available for first time members

Visit our website for more information

[Birraleegymnastics.com.au](http://Birraleegymnastics.com.au)

SUKODU  
solution

4	7	3	9	2	1	8	6	5
2	6	1	8	5	7	3	4	9
8	5	9	4	3	6	1	7	2
7	4	6	5	1	8	2	9	3
3	9	5	6	7	2	4	1	8
1	8	2	3	4	9	7	5	6
6	2	8	1	9	4	5	3	7
5	1	7	2	6	3	9	8	4
9	3	4	7	8	5	6	2	1

## Bringing Home a New Pup ...!

By Anne Zelvy's IACP-CDT

This is an exciting time for families... A new pup is a new member of the household... *So is this going to be a great journey or a regrettable decision..!*

### Getting Started

A new pup is a big responsibility so you really have to think about what is the best way to integrate a pup into the home. It is important to know that the better you understand how a dog works, the better the chance for a successful outcome.

Remember your dog will generally find our human world very confusing and as us humans are meant to have the 'bigger brain', it is really up to us to help the pup thru this transition period. So let's start with creating the basics for an easier home life.

**TERRITORY** - Your dog needs a safe and defined territory to live, this is the space that your dog sees as the Family Territory. It is very important that your dog feels connected to his family den, not penned off down the end of the backyard. (Pens are useful when the dog's family is away but otherwise your dog prefers to be close to the action). Your dog should have time inside with the family but also to be comfortable outside on their own. Regardless of where your dog spends most of their time, when outdoors, dogs require shelter, perhaps a kennel or a raised bed preferably under the roof on the back deck where he can see the family thru doors.

Regardless of how big a block you live on, you should have a backyard and there should be a physical barrier that defines this Territory. Nothing beats a good sturdy fence, not only will this contain your dog, but it will ensure that your dog is safe from threats from outside, such as other dogs, people or wild life. This fence should restrict your dog within the backyard, hence will also allow access for public to your front door without being harassed by your dog.

Dogs often prefer having a buffer zone in place between your territory and any outside threat. Having the front yard as a Buffer Zone to the street will often prevent the dog feeling constantly on guard, he doesn't have to worry about who is going back and forward in the street, but only to bark to warn his family if someone approaches the front door. Sometimes your dog feels the boundaries are threatened. Perhaps the neighbour's dog charges the side fence and your dog becomes scared and retaliates. Often the solution is to construct a temporary fence to create about 2 metres of 'No Mans Land' this buffer should immediately defuse the situation.

**HEALTH** - A proper diet is essential to the welfare of your dog. BUT beware of the marketing hype which is designed to make you spend money on the latest trends. For many it is so confusing - constantly bombarded with advertising that is often intending to make owners feel guilty ... However, consider what we know about processed food with human kids - We have many kids overweight, poor teeth, allergies, plus other health issues. The same applies to your pets.... Even tho the packaging will try to lull you into thinking they are good for your dogs, these are generally full of preservatives and additives. (Note: sugar and salts are preservatives but are classed as 'natural' products). This allows kibble to be packaged, then trucked all over the country and stored for many months. Also remember that the nutrient details displayed on packs is the value of the raw ingredients **prior** to cooking but kibble generally uses three heating processes in production. So with any diet *"just like with humans..... as close to natural is best"*.

A good relationship with the vet is invaluable. To monitor general health, such as dogs weight as well as making sure their teeth, ears, eyes and anal glands are all in working order. However, also question what is being offered by the clinic and ensure that this is best for your dog. Seek the help you need and don't be afraid to get a second opinion.

**EXERCISE** - Each dog is different and the physical and mental exercise that suits your dog can be difficult to place in time or kilometres per day. The trick is to ensure that there is variety, this will allow for mental stimulus, i.e. your walks should sometimes cover new territory, perhaps go to parks where he can meet new dogs. These new experiences will help to tire your dog much quicker than the usual walk.



The best way to know if you have success with finding the right exercise is when your dog gets home after an outing and is ready to chill out and relax. The more often your dog has the chance to chill the easier he/she will be to live with, however if your dog doesn't achieve this state of mind **at least** three times per week you will have problems.

(© Original property - this is not to be reproduced without the written permission of the author)



# Clonbinane Rural Fire Brigade



## Clonbinane CFA Open Day

Last month Clonbinane CFA held its first open day, it was a huge success and hopefully another open day will occur next year. The kids' zone was very popular, and visitors enjoyed the traditional snag whilst watching pumping demonstrations and a burn over drill. (See a couple of photos attached). Tours of the fire station were conducted, and emergency information and questions were answered.

## 2021 Clonbinane CFA Santa Run

Clonbinane CFA has organised for Santa to be on board for a Santa run through the streets of Waterford Park on Sunday night 18 December at 6PM. We look forward to seeing all the kids standing outside their homes and waving to Santa. The fire truck with Santa will move slowly through the streets. Please support our efforts to make your Kids' Christmas special. By support, we simply mean come out and wave to Santa.

## Your Family's Fire Plan

Your ability to make good decisions will be impacted by many factors. The safest plan is to leave early. Use the FIRE DANGER RATING as a guide as to how a fire will react if one starts in your area. Clonbinane is in the North Central Region that is used for both weather and fire danger rating forecasts. Forecasted Catastrophic Fire Danger is fire weather that our homes are not designed or constructed to withstand in a fire. Please make yourself familiar with the new national fire rating system. (See attached image).

A late decision to leave is a dangerous option. Smoke blanketed roads, blocked roads due to trees down, emergency vehicles or even a wind change that will change the direction of the fire may prevent your escape.

## Fire Danger Warnings

Visit Clonbinane CFA on Facebook for fire safety information. Clonbinane CFA does not post emergency warnings, fire danger warnings or fire weather. Go to the CFA webpage, CFA Facebook page or Vic Emergency App. for up-to-date emergency warnings and forecast information. *Emergency information is available directly on your phone by installing the Vic emergency app. Once you set up the app you will then need to set up your WATCH ZONE.*

*For emergency bushfire information visit the CFA website [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)*



## Fire Danger Forecast

After considerable high rainfalls this spring there is a high likelihood that substantial grass growth will occur. This long grass will cure and die off. With this comes the substantial risk of fast-moving grassfires. These are predicted to occur in late summer and autumn. Please remember the difference between a good summer and a bad summer can be just one day.

Please contact the brigade if you require any bushfire survival information. **Merry Christmas and a Safe, Happy New Year from Clonbinane CFA.**

**All the best for a safe Christmas and New Year. Take your time on the roads, no need to rush. Concentrate; give your Christmas journey your full attention. Capt John Mahoney**



## The Australian Fire Danger Ratings (AFDRS) levels are:



### MODERATE

Plan and prepare

### HIGH

Be ready to act

### EXTREME

Take action now to protect life and property

### CATASTROPHIC

For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas





# Your local team.

## Nutrien Harcourts Kilmore.

It's an ideal time for sellers! The local property market is strong and we have achieved excellent sale results for a range of properties in recent weeks. Nutrien Harcourts Kilmore combine a global network and innovative marketing techniques with our local expertise throughout the **Mitchell Shire**, **Macedon Ranges** and surrounding regions. Speak to us to find out what your property may be worth in the current market and how many buyers we have ready to purchase it today.

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