"WHAT'S NEWS"

ISSUE 364 WANDONG/HEATHCOTE JUNCTION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER : **NOVEMBER 2026** ABN 17 022 858 565
Email—whatsnewswhj@gmail.com 700 copies
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

FREE

"What's News" is produced as a non - profit newsletter for the Wandong / Heathcote Junction Community. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editors. Publication of Advertisements should not be taken as endorsements of products. Letters to the editors are always welcome, but will only be considered for publication with authentic names and addresses available for publication. Although every care is taken in preparing "What's News" the editors cannot accept any responsibilities or liabilities for errors or omissions.



Wandong firefighter takes on King of the Hill

The Wandong Fire Brigade is very proud of their member Jacob Styles who took on the King of the Hill challenge at Pyalong on 31st October, completing eleven laps and over 9 hours 15 minutes on the course. His effort was the result of his commitment to prepare and was double his first attempt in 2025. Well done Jacob.

IF YOU MISS AN ISSUE OF "WHATS NEWS" go to website <www.wandong.vic.au/local-news/whats-news>
Wandong - Heathcote Junction - why would you live anywhere else. Until December 2026, Allen Hall (editor)
NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE: COPY & ADS 5 December 2026 DELIVERY from 16 December 2026
Printed by Newspaper House, Kilmore

IT2U YOUR ONE-STOP TECH SOLUTION!

WE COME TO YOU

From slow systems to data disasters, we're here with fast, friendly fixes you can count on. Windows, Mac, repairs, upgrades, or malware removal—our expert team has you covered 24/7.

- BATTERY REPLACEMENT
- HARDWARE UPGRADES
- LAPTOP AND MAC SCREEN REPLACEMENT
- 24/7 EMERGENCY TECH SUPPORT
- DEVICE DIAGNOSTICS
- QUICK FIXES & FAST RESPONSE TIME
- WINDOWS & MAC REPAIRS
- VIRUS & MALWARE REMOVAL
- PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE
- LAPTOP AND MACBOOK REPAIRS
- IPAD IPHONE SCREEN REPAIRS



Need Help? Message or Call Now!

it2u | 03 9028 8990 | 0413 967 622 | IT2U.COM.AU

ALL ABOUT LEISURE PTY LTD

Your Local Caravan & RV Repairs

Our Services Include:

- Caravan & RV Repairs and Services
- Accredited Insurance Repairer
- Van Refurbishments & Modifications
- Licensed Anti - Sway Unit Installer
- All 12V & 240V Power Needs
- Solar Installations
- Hot Water Service Installations
- And So Much More!!

Contact Us Today

0417 364 549 | 10 Stotts Rd Wandong

info@allaboutleisure.com.au

Three Brushes Studio

Our delightful country studio is designed to nurture and develop inspirational ideas for students of all ages. We give vision to those who cherish creativity.

0409 131 663

Wandong's very own Art school for children 6 years and up, teens, adults & disability students.

Teaching painting, drawing, clay, string art, wood burning, mosaic & more.

Visit our Facebook page for more information

@Three Brushes Studio

CLEANING SERVICE

Cleaning By Kez

Servicing Broadford, Kilmore, Wallan & surrounds

- Domestic Housecleaning
- Commercial Cleaning
- End of Lease / Moving cleans
- Oven cleaning
- Carpet Steam Cleans

Kez
0431 439 734

Call or Text for a quote today!

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 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 CELEBRATIONS

18 Nov	Shane & Gaye	Georgelin	HJ
18 Nov	Avril & Lee	Thomas	K
28 Nov	Peter & Heather	Waldie	W
30 Nov	Kath & Vlado	Kovacic	WP
5 Dec	Paul & Tara	Duncan	HJ
6 Dec	Rosemary Rob	Hobson	HJ
15 Dec	John & Denise	Simpson	HJ

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

16-Nov	Adam	Georgelin	HJ
17-Nov	Ros	Hulett	HJ
19-Nov	Allison	Henske	W
19-Nov	Lesley	Clarke	HJ
20-Nov	Marie	Edwards	HJ
20-Nov	Lewis	Lotherington	K
20-Nov	Christine	Gordon	W
22-Nov	Richard	Zimbardi	K
24-Nov	Gerard	Goodison	Yga
24-Nov	Jamie	Smith	W
25-Nov	Lyn	Morley	K
25-Nov	Timothy	Armitage	W
26-Nov	Kate	MacDonald	W
26-Nov	Lynette	Warburton	HJ
27-Nov	Kaye	Weller	HJ
28-Nov	Jessica	Ford	W
28-Nov	Tayla	Albert	HJ
28-Nov	Jasleen	Hall	B
2-Dec	Mark	Ford	W
4-Dec	Jarrod	King	Wal
4-Dec	John	Pyle	K
4-Dec	Shelley	Jackson	B
4-Dec	Shelley	Kilroy	W
8-Dec	Kristy	Plumbe	C
9-Dec	Mandy	Coter	W
9-Dec	Oliver	Duncan	HJ
10-Dec	Amy	Batey	W
11-Dec	John	Tilbrook	W
11-Dec	Kylie	Plumbe	C
11-Dec	Ida	Zimbardi	K
12-Dec	Gemma	Leech	HJ
13-Dec	Shane	Georgelin	HJ
14-Dec	Megan	Drenth	HJ
14-Dec	Jake	Gedye	HJ
14-Dec	Mary	Cawthorne	Wal
16-Dec	Kim	Marstaeller	Wal
16-Dec	Lucas	Bartolo	UP
17-Dec	Peter	Waldie	W
18-Dec	Neil	Batey	W
18-Dec	Alison	Plumbe	C

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

For information and bookings call Susan or Wayne on
0499 907 017

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, WANDONG

WANDONG AVE, WANDONG

Enquires 9308 2452

Services: 8.30am

on 1st & 3rd Sundays

ALL WELCOME

Wandong District Church

29 Wandong Ave, Wandong

"Letting the LIGHT Shine in the World"

Services held at 5pm Sundays

ALL WELCOME

Enquiries to:
David Moran
5787 1738

Upper Plenty Merri Catchments Landcare Group

We provide support for land management issues such as weed, pest and erosion control.

Also improving soil and biodiversity by providing advice, support, and grant funding.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 6.30pm at "The Shack"
1240 Wallan road, Upper Plenty 3756.

ALL WELCOME

See our facebook page:
Upper Plenty Merri Catchments Landcare Group
And website:
Http://www.upmclg.org.au

Membership enquiries:
membership.upmclg@gmail.com

Dedicated to the World War 1 Light Horsemen.
We Do Remember them

A hundred years have now gone by
I've listened, read and now I sigh.
So removing my hat I humbly bow
Reflecting on these horsemen now.
It's in their boots I've been placed
A re-enactment of what they faced.
Leaving the Aussie bush behind
We know that war is never kind.
Far away from the old homestead
Slouch hat placed upon my head
Emu feathers now in the band
Pats on back, shakes of the hand.
Time now given to be a mate
Jokes, yarns, stories to relate.
The ship is ready to embark
On our way was the remark.
The walers are safely housed
But, seem to be much aroused.
Thinking of all our loved ones today
We're off to the Middle East they say.
The heat, thirst and so much sand
Why are we in this far off land?
New Zealanders are with us also
Wondering when it's our time to go.
The worst of all is the waiting
The rays of light now abating.
Then Charge! We finally hear
Excited with an Awesome Fear
The noisy guns, the horses pound
Across the open desert ground.
Taking the wells was our aim
Loyal to death we all do claim.
Some being jockeyed on horseback
Amongst the bloody, sandy track.
The guns are aimed much too high
But those bullets, they do fly.
Over the trenches, we pass them all
Is this the reason we heard this call?
Then why are we still alive?
How then did we survive?
As so many of us did not return
Cobbers, my mates I still yearn.
But then on another day we all shall meet
Marching into heaven on that Golden Street.

Remembrance Day would have taken place some days ago throughout this nation. Remembering soldiers past, present and cadets taking place too to be future soldiers ready for conflict. We have all heard accounts of some of the soldiers' battles and experiences. Much prayer would have been felt for their loved ones. We now look at Israel where these brave Light Horsemen were used to free Israel and the water wells. So is Australia still in a time of grace from God, as presently our parliamentary leaders are not supporting them. So are we still a blessed nation? A big reminder here we all need to take notice of is from God's own Word :
Psalm 122 verse 6 : Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. May they prosper who love you.
And they are a lot stronger than that if you want to peruse *Genesis 12 verse 3.* Whether there are results for Israel's leadership yet we shall see. Continue praying for Australia's future. MC.

GARDEN SCENE WITH GAIL

Well October started well with good soaking rain, let's hope we can get the same with November, our last month of Spring. My third lot of fertilising is due at the end on the month, I use Dynamic Lifter, great for the plants and to improve soil quality and as we all know if it rains when fertilising, that's a bonus and what about your own compost, a mix of shredded paper, plain cardboard (not glossy or coloured), eggshells, fruit and vegie scraps, used coffee grounds, spent tea leaves, soft greens (weeds & grass clippings, no seeds), straw, spent vegetable plants, well-rotted cow, horse & poultry manure, soft, fallen leaves, a bit of lime mixed in, what a concoction, turn it over regularly and you have all the good stuff to improve your soil. This is great month to mulch our gardens and there are many types of mulch to use, pea straw, lucerne, gravel, river pebbles, decorative stone, pine mulch, mixed shredded tree mulch, all help keep our soil from drying out but the trick is having treated the soil first, ensuring any moisture will be absorbed. Sometimes we plant shade or partial shade loving plants and the microclimate changes over time, protective trees are removed or die or whatever was providing protection has gone. What do we do, remove the plant, that may not be an option and if it's a tree fern, we certainly don't want to remove it because we've waited so long to get to any height. Garden screens are versatile and they are available in bamboo, laser cut metal or timber or position an umbrella, central or cantilever, shade mesh on a makeshift blind can also work. Shade sails work well and can look good, two erected at different angles looks fantastic and it might give you the chance to revamp that part of the garden. Perhaps with providing shade or protection from hot sun and wind you can grab the opportunity to completely change that area of garden. What about a garden arch, wide enough to protect the plant under it and to support a tough climber over it, one on each side. Couple this with a mural behind the protected plant, depending on the height of the plant, what about a water feature or a garden seat built into the arch? False walls framing the plant can be made of many different materials, solid, lattice, wire, decorative panels, bamboo, painted, natural, whatever works for you, what about mirrors behind plants to show off more of the garden. Shade mesh in the interim can be replaced with a quick growing hedge such as Pittosporum or Lily Pily, then you can clip shapes within the hedge or 'port holes' or randomly place small decorative colourful garden ornaments in the hedge, children will love it. We're only limited by our own imagination. The good soaking rain we got at the end of October certainly helped with weeding allowing us to get on top of garden maintenance, ha, ha, who are we kidding, we're never on top of it, gardens evolve and change and grow. Before it gets too hot, prune hedging and any plants that have finished flowering, follow up with deep watering and a solution of Seasol to reduce any stress on the plants. November is a great month to get those veggie seedlings/seeds in if you haven't already done so, this year has been very forgiving with minimum frosts and as the soil warms the veggie plants will quickly push some growth. There's a whole range of veggies to plant now, eggplants, tomatoes, cucumbers, capsicum, zucchini, pumpkin, leafy greens, corn, peas, beans, beetroot, chillies, wow, that's so good. Of course, it depends on how much area you have available to devote to veggies what you plant, but what about a tiered veggie garden. They can be made from timber, old tyres, masonry bricks, old pots, anything that you prefer. Go up instead of out to utilise as much space as possible for your veggies and incorporate companion planting as well. Curry plant deters harmful insects, Nasturtiums will attract aphids so plant away from your veggies/roses, as a climber. Tomatoes are friends with Basil, French Marigolds, Garlic, Onions and Chives. Strawberries love Rosemary as it deters slugs and Peas and Beans fix Nitrogen into the soil and they are friends with Rosemary because it repels beetles that attack bean crops. Flowers in our veggie gardens such as sweet Alyssum, Zinnias and Borage attract insects that are beneficial while Rosemary handles pest control. Companion planting reduces the need for spraying in a lot of cases however, sometimes we do need to intervene. Take care if you net your veggies because we still need the bees and the little birds that feed on undesirable insects such as aphids. For more limited space, plant your veggies in pots using several different types of plants in each pot to aid in insect control.



Have a great November, *Gail Mains Kendrick* (Your Local Real Estate Agent)

ALL PROTECT
SECURITY SOLUTIONS
Find us on Facebook
Phone Nathan 0419 585 773
Email info@allprotectsecurity.com.au
- Intruder Alarm Systems
- Intercom
- Data & Networking
- CCTV Cameras
- Access Control
- Home Automation & Audio Visual

Probus Club of Kilmore District Inc

Are you retired, semi retired or simply looking for new friendships and activities? Kilmore Probus are looking for new members and you would be most welcome.

Our meetings include guest speakers and in-house fun. Activities include weekly morning teas supporting local businesses and fortnightly/ monthly lunches.

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Monday of each month (except December) at Trackside, East Street Kilmore at 10.15am. Come and join us.

Email: probuskilmore@gmail.com

Birralee Gymnastics Inc.
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

Kilmore District Men's Shed

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

Whittlesea Anglican Christ Church

We are located at
5—9 Wallan Rd, Whittlesea.
Phone: 9716 2042
Sunday service is at 10.30am
All are welcome to stay back for a cup of coffee, tea, scones and biscuits.

Services to the Community:

Whittlesea Opportunity Shop
5-9 Wallan Rd, Whittlesea. Phone: 9716 2042
Open Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm,
Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm.

The Kilmore & District Hospital

Rutledge Street, Kilmore Phone: (03) 5734 2000

Urgent Care Centre
(Open 24/7 with Registered Nurses)

Acute Ward (30 beds)
Maternity (including antenatal classes and dietician)
Oncology
Surgical Procedures
District Nursing
Aged Care –
Dianella Hostel and
Caladenia Nursing Home Website:
www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au

FREEDOM CHURCH

During the 2009 fires, Freedom Church initiated a Non for profit company and named it :
FREEDOM CARE INC.

www.freedomcare.org.au

We are constantly looking for volunteers, please contact us if you can help.

Neighbourhood Watch Column

SOUTH MITCHELL

November 2026



Bushfire Preparation

NOW is the time to make a fire plan with your family and get your house and property fire ready.

Fine fuels, such as thin branches, twigs and leaves, ignite quickly and burn easily. These can be carried by the wind and can end up long distances ahead of a fire. Heavy fuels such as branches, trees and logs, take longer to ignite but will burn for longer and they create an extremely hot fire.

These are our tips to help you prepare:

- Clean out your gutters, roofs, and downpipes to remove leaves and clear around the base of trees;
- Keep your lawns short and well-watered;
- Maintain your garden by removing weeds, pruning bushes and trees, especially under windows;
- Keep your garden beds moist using non-flammable ground covers such as pebbles, sand or rocks. Decomposed mulch is safer than a new mulch unless kept wetted down;
- Store flammable and combustible materials, such as wood piles and rubbish, away from your house;
- Remove flammable items, such as boxes & excess furniture, from decks and verandahs; and
- Cut back branches within 10 metres of buildings.

Hotlines:

000	**Emergency**
131 444	**Police Assistance Line**
1800 333 000	**Crime Stoppers**

Online Reporting:

https://www.police.vic.gov.au/palolr

Black Friday & Cyber Monday sales

Black Friday sales have become increasingly common in Australia and are now seen as marking the beginning of the Christmas shopping season.

The Black Friday sales are in November, but many retailers will start to drop prices starting as early as November 6. Australians spend more during the Black Friday period than the lead up to Christmas. Last year, we saw most discounts range between 20 to 50% though in rarer cases we did see reductions of up to 70-80%. But beware, markdowns can vary depending on the product and may not be storewide. Previous years have seen many major retailers promoting Black Friday sales. Most deals are available at physical stores and online, but some may be exclusive to a brand's website. Advertisers and social media platforms know so much about us, that it feels like they're sometimes listening in. In the last few years, there's been a huge amount of fake retail websites that offer products that look enviably good and offering them at suspiciously cheap prices. Scammers love the ease of online shopping too.

Here are a few tips:

- Make sure the store has a refund policy;
- Check for reviews before purchase;
- Be wary if the store doesn't have an easily read physical street address;
- Check the store website is secure - it should start with "https" and have a closed padlock symbol in the URL bar;
- Never send money or give credit card details to anyone you don't trust, including the websites you browse;
- Be wary of online ads that offer huge discounts for popular brands. They often send a very poor-quality version of the item you've been coveting.

Upcoming Events

South Mitchell NHW General Meeting

We will be holding our meeting on 12 November, 2026, 7pm at the Wandong Community Centre, LB Davern Reserve, Dry Creek Road, Wandong. Everyone welcome.

Neighbourhood Watch
Let's watch out for each other

GROUP AREA: SOUTH MITCHELL
Phone: 0419 531 610
Email: newsletters.smnhw@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/southmitchell.nhw.inc
Web: https://sites.google.com/view/south-mitchell-nhw/home

ABN: 48 947 471 718
Inc. No. A0105968T
Registered Charity

www.nhw.com.au | www.facebook.com/nhw.vic

Kilmore/Wallan RSL Sub Branch

meets the last Thursday night of the month and open every Wednesday 10am -12pm at Kilmore Memorial Hall
Contact: Rodney (Rod) Dally
rod.dally76@gmail.com

We have Compensation & Well-Being Officers, please call for an appointment.

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/mountdisappointmentclonbnane/

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

Wandong PHARMACY
MYKI RETAILER
myki

Wandong PHARMACY

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

WANDONG HISTORY GROUP

Our documentary is nearing completion, in this edition see an invitation to the launch on the 12 th December. Due to space constraints this will be a ticketed event, so get in early if you want to see what we have created. There will be a sausage sizzle, with our wonderful Lions club helping us, and the film will be available to purchase on the day. Don't miss this opportunity to see Wandong's history come to life.

The History Group had its AGM last month and the existing committee was re-elected with the addition of Sharon McCarthy accepting the treasurer's role, we thank her very much for taking this on.

We are looking for members of the community to form a sub-committee to run commemorative services for the town. This job is becoming too big for the existing committee and we need more people to help, if we don't get a sub- committee then there will be no more ANZAC Day services here. By acting as a sub-committee everything would be covered under the History Group.

Return to Bunnings. After a break for a while due to ill health, we are pleased to be able to once again be part of the Bunning's sausage sizzle fund raiser, look out for us at Craigieburn next year and support your local groups.

Karen Christensen
President
Wandong History Group
wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com
https://wandongheathcotejunctionhistory.com.au

LIONS CLUB OF WANDONG – WALLAN INC.

PRESIDENT: SAM BEDI PO BOX 225 WANDONG

It is raining again. I have to have this submitted by the end of the day and I don't have much to say. My so called friends are keeping their mouths shut.

I missed the last meeting. Elizabeth forced me to go fishing. The new cake order has been sorted. Sananda is taking charge this time around. Cakes will be distributed at various outlets in Wandong, Wallan and Kilmore. We are getting ready for the school citizenship award and we will distribute hampers through the schools to needy families.

We went out for tea with Sharyn and others. Shazza wore a pair of jeans with holes and torn knees. We are going to take up a collection to buy her some new trousers.

Steve is away showing his much loved BSA motorbike. Trouble is it is unreliable and wouldn't start. It had to be put on a trailer and taken away. How embarrassing. Tania was not surprised.

Elizabeth insists that I report this incident which is really not as bad as she makes out. We were staying at Narrawong near Portland. Walking to the beach after I had had a couple of drinks, not nearly as many as she makes out, I stopped to water a bush and ended up face down in the bushes. She claimed that she was walking in front of me but I am not so sure. I might have been pushed. Anyway, blood everywhere and a Harry Potter scar on my fore head. This is going to take me a while to live down.

This will do for now, I will have more news next month.

Clyde The Champion Riley

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MCEWEN
ROB MITCHELL MP

MEDIA RELEASE

Volunteer Grant Supports Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group

Federal member for McEwen, Rob Mitchell has congratulated the Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group on successfully securing funding through the Australian Government's Volunteer Grants program.

This finding will assist the group with insurance premiums, helping to reduce operating costs and support the dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to improve their local community.

The Wandong Heathcote Junction Community group plays an important role in representing local residents, advocating for community improvements and organising projects and activities that bring people together.

The Australian Government's Volunteer Grants program provides grants of between $1000 and $5000 to eligible not-for-profit organisations to support volunteers, reduce barriers to participation and strengthen community organisations.

Mr Mitchell said community groups like the Wandong Heathcote Junction are vital to maintaining strong, connected and vibrant regional communities.

"Volunteers are the heart of our local communities, generously giving their time to organise events, advocate for improvements and make their towns better places to live," Mr Mitchell said.

"Insurance is an essential expense for volunteer-run organisations, and this funding will help ease financial pressures so more resources can be directed towards community activities and projects.

"The Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group has a proud history of working to improve the local area, and this grant recognises the important contribution its volunteers continue to make.

"Congratulations to everyone involved and thank you for your ongoing dedication to our community."



WANDONG FIRE BRIGADE

Wandong firefighter takes on King of The Hill

Wandong firefighter Jacob took on the King of the Hill challenge in Pyalong on October 31 st , completing 11 laps and over 9 hours 15 minutes on the course. Jacob doubled his efforts from his first attempt in 2025. We are so proud of his commitment to preparing for this event and all his efforts. Brilliant work, mate.



Wandong Fire Brigade Open Day

Huge thanks to everyone who dropped in to our Wandong Fire Brigade Open Day. It was a brilliant day, with around 100 people visiting the fire station. Our juniors showed off their skills by conducting demonstrations of a burn-over and a 5-person fog attack. Getting Fire Ready is crucial for every member of this community. We have witnessed the effects that fire can have on extreme days.

Santa Visits

Wandong Fire Brigade will escort Santa on a tour of Wandong and Heathcote Junction on Christmas Eve. Details will be on our Facebook page. We are taking bookings for Santa visits on the fire truck between 1 and 23 December. To make a booking, please get in touch with us at wandongsanta@gmail.com with your preferred dates and times, your address, the number of children to visit and a contact name and phone number. Donations are appreciated for this service.

Election Day BBQ

Wandong Fire Brigade will be running a sausage sizzle on election day, Saturday 28th November 2026, at the Wandong Public Hall. Drop by and grab some breaky or lunch on your way in to vote!

Prepare for Fire Season

□ Make or update your FirePlan. When will you leave on a bad fire day? What will you pack? Have you considered all members of your household, including pets?
□ Clean Up your Property NOW. Remove all leaves, twigs and rubbish from gutters. Move wood piles away from the house. Store fuel and chemicals away from the house. Mow lawns, giving at least 10m clearance around the house. Reduce vegetation around the house and prune any branches near the house.
□ Burn off any green waste piles BEFORE the Fire Danger Period is declared. Don't forget to register your Burn
□ For further information see https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/fire-safety/your-fire-plan/preparing-for-bushfire-season

Fire Restrictions

CFA fire restrictions will be brought into effect in Mitchell Shire in November, date is still to be confirmed. The Fire Danger Period is when CFA restricts the use of fire in the community. This is to help prevent fires from starting. During the Fire Danger

Period you cannot burn off unless you have a permit and comply with certain requirements. Find out what you can or can't do during the declared Fire Danger Period, and on days of Total Fire Ban at www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings- restrictions/fire-bans-ratings-and-restrictions/can-i-or-cant-i

WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL

Bike Ed

Our whole-school Bike Ed program is up and running again for Term 4! The school has been buzzing with excitement as students push themselves out of their comfort zone and pedal themselves towards new goals. It is always particularly exciting to see students who are riding a bike for the first time or completing their first laps around the oval with no training wheels. Our Foundation students have also enjoyed sessions with the AusBike program, further developing their cycling confidence and skills. For our Senior students, the Bike Ed program acts as training for their big ride at the end of the term. We are looking forward to seeing more smiles and cheers throughout Term 4 as our students continue to grow and challenge themselves to exceed their own expectations.






Grounds Update

We are so excited to have major progress on our grounds over the last few weeks, with the majority of the temporary construction fences coming down. The much-anticipated new outdoor learning area/sports pavilion is still awaiting its final touches, while our final new classroom on the block is almost ready for our Auslan classes to move in. We still have a few more projects to be completed, including further landscaping, replacing old covered walkways, a makeover for the Friendship Tree, and a new junior sporting space.




Student Leaders

Our eight senior Student Leaders have completed the Southern Goulburn Network Student Leadership Development Program. We are incredibly proud of these students and the valuable contribution that they have made to our school community this year. Congratulations to each of these young leaders on their achievement!

Continued page 13

WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL CONTINUED



Foundation – Pevan and Sarah Concert

Much fun was had by our Foundation classes as they got to travel by bus to South Morang to go see Pevan and Sarah in concert! Pevan and Sarah are teachers and entertainers who create educational songs and resources that blend literacy, numeracy and social-emotional learning. These resources are used daily in the Foundation classes at Wandong P.S. Students showed off some spectacular singing and dancing skills as they enjoyed the show with their friends!









Caring for a loved one?
You are not alone!

Get FREE tailored support from Carer Gateway.

Contact us today and let us help you find the support you need!



carergateway.gov.au
1800 422 737 Monday–Friday 8am–5pm

Carer Gateway
An Australian Government Initiative
Holstep Health
familycare

NEW LIGHTING TOWERS

COMING TO

L.B. Davern Reserve



Lauren Kathage MP

State Member for Yan Yean

T27, 14 Alliance Avenue, Mernda VIC 3754

lauren.kathage@parliament.vic.gov.au

03 9432 9782

Authorised by L Kathage, T27, 14 Alliance Avenue, Mernda VIC 3754








Now comes with a
$314
fine for riding on the footpath!
If you think e-scooters are a toy, think again.
TAC
VICTORIA
State Government

Community Bank
Wallan, Kilmore and Broadford
03 5783 2422

Bendigo Bank

1. **You** bank with **us.**

2. Your **community** shares in our **success.** Profits are returned to **support local** initiatives.

3. Your **community** has a **voice.** **Locals decide** which projects get funded.

4. **Good things happen** in the community **you** care about.

Shed City
Faster Stronger Better
est. 1965

Independent Manufacturer

Kilmore Industrial Estate,
123 Northern Hwy,
Kilmore, 3764

(03) 57 822 300
www.shedcity.com.au
sales@shedcity.com.au



Farm sheds, Machinery sheds, Barns, Garages, Carports, Garden Sheds, Paddock shelters, Stables, Aviaries.

For all your Steel Roofing, guttering, Wall Cladding, flashing needs made right here in Kilmore.









You could save up to 70% on replacement and renovation costs!

Kitchens/ Bathrooms
- Splash Backs
- Benchtops
- Cabinetry
- Wall Tiles
- Timber/Laminate
- Shower Bases
- Bathtubs
- Vanities

Don't Replace, Resurface!

We can makeover your kitchen or bathroom surfaces to look bright and fresh again using our exclusive product

- ✓ No need for expensive refiling or replumbing, and no mess!
- ✓ A new kitchen or bathroom in days, not weeks
- ✓ Established family business for over 15 years
- ✓ New easy-to-clean surfaces

☎ 0407 421 292
www.superiorresurfacing.com.au

Moments that Matter Documentary

Launch event hosted by

The Wandong History Group

Saturday 12 December 2026, 11.00 am

Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Centre



Enjoy a community afternoon with:

Sausage sizzle · Popcorn machine · Slushies · Tea and coffee

This is a ticketed event, tickets available from

wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com

The Film will be available for purchase on the day.

OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

FRRR Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal

Community Bank Wallan, Kilmore and Broadford Bendigo Bank

VICTORIA State Government

WANDONG NETBALL CLUB

>>> 🏐 SPRING IS IN FULL SWING!

Our Wandong teams have been busy out on court, with both the Kilmore and Craigieburn Spring Competitions providing plenty of excitement, teamwork and fantastic netball!

☄️ **Kilmore Spring Competition**

We're about to head into Round 4 of the Kilmore Spring Competition, and our seven Wandong teams are having an absolute ball!

Our Comets, Meteors, Shooting Stars, Galaxies, Supernovas, Eclipses and Stars have been enjoying their time on court, developing their skills, building friendships and embracing the opportunity to play alongside their teammates.

So far, the weather has been fantastic, making for some beautiful evenings of netball under the spring skies!

It's been wonderful to see so many smiling faces, particularly our new players and families who have joined the Wandong family this season.

🌟 **Craigieburn Spring Competition**

Meanwhile, our Craigieburn teams are approaching the business end of their season!

As this newsletter goes out, our teams will be heading into Round 14 of 17, with finals fast approaching and some exciting ladder positions to celebrate!

💚 11&Under Renegades – While finals are currently out of reach, our Renegades have shown tremendous improvement throughout the season. Their determination, teamwork and continued development have been fantastic to watch, and we couldn't be prouder of their efforts!

💚 13&Under Rebels – Currently sitting SECOND on the ladder! Our Rebels have had an incredible season, showing fantastic teamwork and consistency as they work towards securing their place in the finals.

💚 15–17&Under Stars – What a season! Our Stars are currently sitting FIRST on the ladder, undefeated with an incredible 13 wins from 13 games! An outstanding achievement as they head towards the final rounds of competition.

With just a few rounds remaining, we're looking forward to seeing how the rest of the season unfolds and cheering on our teams as they push towards the finals.

Regardless of ladder positions or results, we're incredibly proud of every player representing Wandong this Spring. Keep up the fantastic work! 💚🤍🏐

>>> NET SET GO IS OFF TO A FLYING START!

🌟 Our Term 4 NetSetGO program has officially kicked off, and what a fantastic start we've had!

We welcomed 14 excited young netballers to the courts for our very first session, and not even the 30-degree heat could dampen their enthusiasm! ☀️🏐

Our newest netballers arrived ready to learn, have fun and give everything a go, putting in 100% effort despite the warm conditions. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces, plenty of energy and lots of excitement as they took their first steps into the world of netball.

A huge thank you to our new NetSetGO coordinators, Ellice and Peta, along with the wonderful support of coach Sage, for stepping up to introduce our youngest players to the game we all love.

We are incredibly grateful to have volunteers willing to share their time, knowledge and enthusiasm to help develop the next generation of Wandong netballers.



Who knows? We might just be watching some future Wandong stars taking their very first steps on court! 💚🤍✨

Continued Page 19

>>> NETFIT CLINIC

🏐 NETFIT - WHAT AN INCREDIBLE DAY!
What an absolutely fantastic day we had at our NETFIT School Holiday Clinic held at Wandong during the September school holidays!

A massive thank you to Claire and her incredible team of NETFIT coaches, who once again delivered an outstanding day of netball, learning, laughter and fun. Their energy, enthusiasm and passion for developing young netballers are what make these clinics so special, and we are incredibly grateful to have them visit our club.

One of the things we love most about hosting NETFIT is seeing players come together from all over, not just our local community! It's wonderful to welcome familiar faces returning for another clinic, alongside new players experiencing NETFIT for the very first time. No matter their experience or where they come from, everyone shares the same love for netball and the opportunity to learn something new.

Throughout the day, players challenged themselves, developed new skills, built confidence and made new friendships, all while having an absolute blast!

And of course, we can't forget the famous ice bath challenge! 🧊😂 Always a highlight of the day, it brings plenty of laughs, squeals and some very brave faces!

Seeing so many young players enjoying themselves, encouraging one another and growing their love for the game is exactly what these opportunities are all about.

Thank you again to Claire, the NETFIT team and every player who joined us. We can't wait to welcome NETFIT back to Wandong for another amazing clinic! 💚



WHJ SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Hi from the WHJSC Committee, what's happening at the Reserve?



Spring has not been a good start, with cool starts and spring storms are to rev up later this month throughout Wandong and Heathcote Junction. Please be aware flooding of Dry Creek throughout the Reserve can occur with the unpredictable spring storms, so take care when using the Say G'Day trail. Also be aware of snakes through the Reserve as we have had several sightings at this point of time.

Our summer sports are now progress with their programs:
Mitchell Agility Dog Club, Wandong Tennis, Kilmore Cricket-Friday Nights and Saturday, Standardbred Riding Club, Kilmore and District Adult Rider's Club, Wandong Primary-recreational activities, Auskick- AFL Goulburn Murray program, Wandong Netball Training.

What is our community up to down at the Reserve, a lot at present and once the weather becomes warmer more activities will commence.

- **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**

Continued developments at the Reserve will complement our sport groups and community. We are very lucky to have a Reserve that has character and bush ambiance atmosphere that complements our communities.

L.B.Davern Reserve Wandong oval lighting upgrade





CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

Continued from Page 20

Mitchell Shire Council is progressing plans for a $370,000 lighting upgrade at LB Davern Reserve in Wandong, which will support local sporting participation and help meet the needs of the region's growing population.

The project includes a $250,000 contribution from the Victorian Government through the 2026–27 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund – Community Sports Lighting program, confirmed by Lauren Kathage MP, State Member for Yan Yean, at a funding announcement event at LB Davern Reserve. Council is contributing a further $120,000 towards the project.

The upgrade will deliver four new light towers and modern LED lighting, providing a minimum lighting level of 100 lux at LB Davern Reserve, the only oval in Wandong. The improved lighting will support increased participation in junior football, provide better conditions for training and playing, and help accommodate Wandong's growing population.

The upgraded oval will also be able to operate as an overflow facility for neighbouring towns experiencing rapid population growth, helping maximise the use of sporting facilities across the shire.

Our community, we need your help;
We need to catch any persons vandalizing our Reserve!!!!
Keep our Reserve Safe
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!!

Neighbourhood Watch.

The Community Centre is open for bookings, enquire now.

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.
You can contact our booking officer.
Darlene Gunter on 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: Darlene Gunter, Booking Officer for the WHJSCC on 0418 312 762**



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



WHERE
The Shack
1240 Wallan–Whittlesea Rd, Upper Plenty VIC

SATURDAY
21 November 2026
9:30am – 3:30pm · Free entry · Everyone is welcome



Local people. Local food. A stronger future. — Upper Plenty, Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung country

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE DAY · UPPER PLENTY

FREE ENTRY · PRODUCE STALLS · GUEST SPEAKERS

MEET THE FARMER

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE DAY — Grow you good thing!

Join the **Upper Plenty Merri Catchments Landcare Group** and the Upper Plenty community at **The Shack** for a day celebrating local food, farming and the people who produce it. Part of **AgDay**, the National Farmers' Federation's national celebration of Australian agriculture.

WHAT'S ON THE DAY

1. **Local produce stalls**
   Fresh fruit and vegetables, honey, lamb, beef, pork, heritage poultry and other regional food — straight from the people who grew and raised it
2. **Good food & a cooking demonstration**
   Freshly prepared food, homemade cakes, tea and coffee, a live cooking demonstration with a chef — plus a hamper of local produce to be won
3. **Two speaker panels**
   Local farmers and industry experts, MC'd by agriculture educator and regenerative farmer Amanda McClaren — see the panel topics below
4. **For everyone**
   Keen cooks, curious families, small landholders, or anyone who wants to know where their food comes from

REGISTER

SCAN TO REGISTER
events.humanitix.com/upper-plenty-agday

Food cooked on site
Cakes, tea and coffee all day

Hamper prize
Filled with local produce

Free entry, all welcome
Register online — bring cash for stalls

SCHEDULE

9:30 am	Doors open — produce stalls, coffee and cakes
11:00 am	**Speaker panel** — MC Amanda McClaren
12:00 pm	Cooking demonstration with a chef
2:00 pm	**Speaker panel** — MC Amanda McClaren
3:00 pm	Hamper drawn
3:30 pm	Finish

ON THE PANEL

Two panels of local farmers and industry experts, both MC'd by **Amanda McClaren**, agriculture educator and regenerative farmer. Between them they cover:

Regenerative farming
How farming with the land is changing our landscapes

Agricultural education
Pathways in, for new and small-scale producers

Food production
What it really takes to put food on the table

Upper Plenty Mechanics Institute Hall — *Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung country*

This inaugural event aims to strengthen connections between local farmers and the wider community, while highlighting the vital role agriculture plays in our region. **Come and be part of the conversation.**

For more information or to support the event: **Paul Gruigan** · mountcleves@bigpond.com · 0488 905 757

WITH THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL · GOULBURN BROKEN CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY · VIC · WARIALDA BELTED GALLOWAY BEEF · VICTORIAN FARMERS' MARKETS ASSOCIATION · OPEN FOOD NETWORK AUSTRALIA

COMMUNITY · FARMS · FOOD · HEALTHY LANDSCAPES · BRIGHTER FUTURES

UPPER PLENTY MERRI CATCHMENTS LANDCARE GROUP

upmclg.org.au/events

Mitchell Shire Dog Parks - *Where do dog owners stand……? Part 1*

Time and time again I have owners asking whether they should take their dogs to dog parks. However there are so many factors to take into account before I can even hope to offer advice.

Domestic Animal Act Victoria - Firstly, Agriculture Victoria is the authority for policies on domestic dogs, they then hand the day to day responsibility to **Local Government** and mandates that every 4 years Councils must set an **Animal Management Plan.** Implementation for this 'Plan' may be as simple as posting a survey on the Council website… Hence this then meets with 'compliance' but in effect really allows local Government to change the rules almost at whim and usually with little, if any, real research into the actual need or benefits to the dog community.…

Personally I do question whether this process is effective… Most dog owners never even realise that there should be community involvement, even consider our Shire didn't even bother sending out the survey when they mailed the upcoming registration papers **- so how do we even know we get to have a say ????**

A common example of new rules means we see new signs posted - NO DOGS ALLOWED… DOGS MUST BE ON LEASH… etc…. Often these restrictions have no real benefit but can be more about Councils using an easy reactive response to possible complaints, rather than any attempt to help educate the public.

Responsible Pet Program - This program was funded thru State Government, generally from a percentage of dog registration fees. Starting back around 2008 we saw the implementation of dogs visiting primary schools where children where being taught about how to approach dogs. This program was also to encourage local councils to provide pet education/expo's for the public.

A previoius example: Mitchell Shire did offer an annual **Pet Expo at Wallan**, which was a great opportunity for the public to learn more about pets and how to handle dogs out in public. This also showcased local Trainers, Clubs, and Pet business within our Shire - you would have thought this was a terrific idea for public and business in general and could easily have expanded to duplicate this Expo concept at Seymour. The first Expo was held sometime around 2015. However this was suddenly cancelled in 2022 and never to be heard of again !!!!!… I suspect it comes down to being in the ***too hard basket*.**

Statistics… How Boring…. - Consider the 2021 Census shows a population of 49,000+ with 19,000+ homes and we have had significant increase over the last 5 years, these figures have now grown to around population 69,000 and 26,000 homes AND growing at an escalating rate. So what are the dog numbers?
Dog Registrations - As different residential zones allow 2 dogs and farming zones allow 6 dogs then it is fair to assume a large percentage of homes could have 1-3 dogs. July 2026 council records show less than 7,000 dogs registered which seems incredibly low. This would mean our Shire could be missing out on a likely number of say 19,000 dogs with (basic fees range from $55 to $72 per year) perhaps in the region of $1,000,000 in **lost revenue.** This money could go a long way to employee staff to chase up unregistered and problem dogs and still have some change left over to improve dog parks.

Dog Parks - Council list off-leash parks on the website. They state 5 fenced parks in the southern part of the Shire which are basically small, flat, rectangular and soul-less. They might have a double gated entry, a water point a fence and if lucky there might be a few trees. Mainly in estates and are often built as part of the property developers public space requirement (just like a kids playground). One in Wallara Waters estate has added some activity equipment. But as these are only 2,000 to 4,000 square meters they will provide very limited exercise space for large dogs.

Biggest Issue - Generally the Shire's existing park format is that ALL dogs are designated together in the one space. So we place a little fluffy 'oodle in with the big solid American Staff's and the energetic fixated kelpies. This is a formula for trouble. Imagine if you built a toddlers playground in the middle of a skate park and then surrounded this by a BMX Track. Surprise..Surprise ! we would end up with parents and teens arguing as well as little kids crying and screaming.

Note: Luckily the new park that just opened October in Seymour (funding from State Gvt) does provide two seperate areas for different energy dogs - This is a much better format and should be copied to the existing parks to ensure good options for dog owners in each township.

Alfoxton Dog Centre
Wandong, VIC
Author : **Anne Zelvys** IACP-CDT - **0402 118929**

….. continue with Part 2 next month ……

© original not to be reproduced without written permission

U3A WALLAN INC.

University of the Third Age

Wallan Neighbourhood House

42-47 Bentnick Street Wallan

Hello Readers,

Begun in 1983 as Senior Citizens Week, the now renamed Victorian Seniors Festival brings together our senior members in the community, to enjoy a month of celebrations and togetherness, and many opportunities to participate in a variety of activities such as dancing, educational programs and concerts.

This year Mitchell Shire Council held four free Morning Melodies across the Shire, at Seymour, Wallan, Kilmore and Beveridge and one free Concert in Broadford. These events encourage people to enjoy a sing along with others, meet up with friends and generally have a good time.

Our Wallan U3A members began the month with a Morning Melodies at our Neighbourhood House, where we danced to music provided by renowned entertainers, Horizon Duo. Many thanks to Mitchell Shire Council for hosting the morning and providing a morning tea.

As part of the month long festivities, our singing group joined with the Kilmore U3A ukulele group to perform and entertain attendees, with a catalogue of songs that had everyone singing along and tapping their feet. Thank you to Kilmore U3A for hosting such a successful event.

The Country Concert in Broadford was hugely successful, with entertainment provided by Melissa Langton and husband Mark, both extremely talented performers. Melissa's singing was enhanced by her brilliant keyboard playing husband Mark, who played and sang their way through a wonderful medley of familiar 60's songs. Their banter on stage was a bonus and had us all laughing .

With regards to our normal monthly activities, our trivia hosted by John, was very well attended, and happily for everyone, the jackpot question was answered correctly by every table and the prize pot was shared equally .

Our monthly lunch was held at the Rose Cafe in Kilmore, with some of us still salivating over the delicious chicken and avocado toastie which is apparently "to die for". Well done Rose Café.

Our Social Secretary Nola has organised a visit to the Fire Services Museum in East Melbourne, more details about that next issue.

Just a reminder to you all, there are line dance classes for beginners at the Wallan Neighbourhood House on Mondays from 1.30 to 2.30pm and they are absolutely FREE. This class is such an easy and fun way to exercise, I urge you to come along and give it a go, Grace our tutor is very experienced, easy going and very welcoming.

Another important event on our calendar is our Social Dance, on Friday the 6th of November at our Neighbourhood House from 6 to 10 pm. We invite seniors to attend on this fun night out, where our entertainment will be provided by Noel Pearson, a favourite of ours. The cost is $10 per head which covers pizza, tea and coffee. We ask attendees to bring a small dessert or nibbles to share. Susie will be selling raffle tickets for the many prizes to be won on the night.

Hope to see many of you there. For any further enquiries please contact John on 0413 083 089.

Till next time. Bye for now, Tina C

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. Join one of the community groups operating in Wandong Heathcote Junction.

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

SUDOKU

Answers on page 27

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

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

THIS MONTHS QUIZ

Answer appears on Page 27 but no cheating!

1. What company was initially "Blue Ribbon Sports"?
2. What is acrophobia a fear of?
3. Who was the Ancient Greek God of the Sun?
4. Aureolin is a shade of what color?
5. Mount Kilimanjaro is in which country?
6. What was the primary cause of the Great Irish Famine?
7. In which country was Elon Musk born?
8. Which rapper is also known as Slim Shady?
9. Which mammal lays eggs?
10. What does CPU stand for?
11. What is the most populous city in the United States?
12. What's Spider-Man's real name?
13. Who played Iron Man in the Marvel films?
14. What is Australia's oldest chocolate bar?
15. Where is the "big merino"?

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL

How to keep up to date with Council online:

> Download the My Mitchell App
> E-News direct to your inbox, sign up now
> Follow us on socials
> On our website www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au

Not online?

> Fortnightly Council Ad in the local newspaper
> Monthy radio shows

Or, contact Mitchell Shire Council on 5734 6200.

mbug
Mitchell Bicycle Users Group

For information about coming MBUG rides, check out the website at
< www.mbug.org.au >
or contact the Secretary, John on 5781 1604

ROB & LEONIE FERRIS
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
REC 3028

*Light & power points
*Security systems
*Underground Mains
*Stove & hot water repairs
*New houses & rewires
*Safety switches & smoke detectors
*Commercial & Industrial
*Austel Licensed phone points

Phone 5782 1746
Mobile 0418 323 838

U3A Kilmore & District

PO Box 550, Kilmore 3764
President: Elaine De Gabrielle
Secretary: Mark Perrott
Contact: info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au

Spring is in the air and aren't we all the better for welcoming the sunshine with open arms. As the days grow longer, it is a wonderful time to reconnect with friends, explore new interests and make the most of the many opportunities available through our community. While some plans have changed, there is still plenty happening across our groups, with activities to suit a wide range of interests and interests.

Our Cinema Group has unfortunately decided to cancel all outings for the rest of the year due to safety concerns following the recent events in Craigieburn. The safety of our members is our highest priority. Although this is disappointing news for film enthusiasts, members can still enjoy a range of other social activities and opportunities to connect with one another.

Memoir Writers is a small group that has experienced lower attendance during the winter months. If you are considering writing about your own life or the experiences of a family member, there is room for several additional participants. A memoir may describe a memorable trip, an event you attended, or another meaningful experience. It is, fundamentally, a true account. Your memoir does not need to be lengthy; it may take the form of a short story or a collection of related stories.

Kilmore History Group will be addressing the topic of Indigenous Australians in early Kilmore at their meeting at the JJ Clancy Community Hub scheduled for 1:30pm Monday, 7th September. All welcome.

The Luncheon Group have been having a great time lunching at the Lancefield Hotel, Hogans Hotel, the Lost Watering Hole (in fact 36 members joined us there!) and the 1860 Wine Bar in Romsey. With the price of fuel still on the rise again they are still staying close to home, and our next outing is to the Lancefield Lodge on 8th September. We hope to see you there, if you haven't joined us yet it's not too late to come and have some fun.

KILMORE COMMUNITY GARDEN - HANGING GARDEN COMPETITION

A reminder that entries are open for the Kilmore Community Garden Hanging Garden Competition which is being held as a prelude to their Spring Festival on 18th September. Whilst the weather has not been ideal at the moment for highlighting your beautiful hanging plants with the onset of spring there should be beautiful displays to enter into the competition. You can submit your photos or make further enquiries at info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au

U3A is open to people over 50 who are no longer working full time and is a fun and cost-effective way to learn new skills, to meet like-minded people and to socialise. If you would like more information on these or our other classes, please contact us at: info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au or mobile 0436 331 395.

Don't Forget!

The Victorian Seniors Festival is just around the corner! Held throughout October, it offers seniors across the state a variety of free and low-cost events. Victorian Seniors Card holders can also enjoy nine days of free public transport across Victoria, from 3 to 11 October 2026. Don't forget to take advantage of all that is on offer.

Christina

WANDONG TENNIS CLUB

Email: wandongtennisclub@hotmail.com
or text Lisa on 0407 112 880.

Information is posted on our Facebook page.
www.facebook.com/wandongtennis

Our Tuesday and Thursday night competitions are almost finished with finals to be held in December.

Good luck to all teams for the rest of the season.

The green ball competition is holding their gala day on Saturday November 14th at Kilmore tennis club.

Coaching is available at the club. Please contact Karl on 0423611317
Or kv.tennis@hotmail.com

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

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

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 carers 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:
Briony Schaeffer 0413 828 175

Weather Report

Heathcote Junction/Wandong

OCTOBER 2026

October started very wet and finished the same. There were a few days of sunshine but not many, but it is spring, very unpredictable. We still have one more month of spring so we will see what happens in November.
The rainfall was recorded on seven days and apart from two of these days, the rain was quite heavy and steady.
Our supply dam Sunday Creek was recorded at 79% on the 28th. October which is up from the same time last year of 66% capacity.

Rainfall stats

October - 115.5 mls
Previous year - 49 mls
Average prev 10 years - 81 mls
Total this year - 760.5 mls
Total prev year - 516 mls

QUIZ ANSWERS (from page 25)

1. Nike
2. Heights
3. Apollo
4. Yellow
5. Tanzania
6. Potato blight
7. South Africa
8. Eminem
9. Pl Central
10. Central Processing Unit
11. New York City
12. Peter Parker
13. Robert Downey Jnr
14. Cherry Ripe (1920s)
15. Goulburn NSW

***SUKODU* solution**

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

THE COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF WHITTLESEA INC.
REGISTERED # A0041714F
Established 2001
MEDIA INFORMATION
MICHAEL B HALLEY PUBLICITY OFFICER

An arresting event

With a bombardment of news about the exponential growth of crime in suburban Melbourne, particularly in areas that traditionally was safe to attend, the Whittlesea Township Probus Club decided to investigate the whys and wherefores. An approach was made to Crime Stoppers that took up the request and came the monthly meeting held on Monday 2 November. Aiden Bloomfield, Community Engagement Officer travelled across suburban Melbourne to Whittlesea and enthralled members with an overview of his organisation. The Community Engagement Team is equipped to speak with groups of all sizes about a variety of safety topics.

These include reporting crime and suspicious behaviour, home and personal security, scam awareness, online safety, and many other areas related to crime prevention. Crime Stoppers is an independent not-for-profit organisation that partners with the community, media and police to encourage people to prevent crime and to confidentially share what they know about unsolved crime or suspicious activity.

Crime Stoppers believes everyone has the right to feel safe from crime. They share practical advice on how you can protect your community, and the people and things that are important to you. The reporting system developed over the past forty years is strictly confidential. You are in control of the reporting process – you choose how much information you share and whether you want to remain anonymous.

Around two thousand people a week make the call either direct or online. Every four minutes a call is received reporting a suspect occurrence to Crime Stoppers. The information is passed onto the police that are responsible to follow up the citizen's advice. Analysing 152486 reports 1161 arrests were made. $20m million worth of drugs were confiscated and property worth$6 million recovered. Reported incidents in Whittlesea Council district are five point five percent lower than the same period last year, and are below the state average. Breach of family violence conditions are in the top five areas of concern.

Opportunity theory suggests crime results from an individual's motivation to commit a crime, and the opportunities available to them to commit that crime. This theory argues that for crime to happen, both motivation and opportunity must exist. Aiden addressed this and gave a series of incidents how even a careful person can give an opportunity for a crime to occur. It may also be a reason why a person of previous good character may commit a crime.

The Executive recognises the Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledges the Wurundjeri Willum Clan as the traditional owners. Michael B Halley is the nominated Publicity Officer and authorised to produce media information
Contact via email michael.halley1@bigpond.com

For instance a survey of 220 vehicles in a suburban carpark found that almost 10% were unlocked and many had things likely to tempt a thief clearly visible. Car theft is on the rise due to technology used by manufacturers to gain market share. Whilst accessing and starting a vehicle is now instantaneous the criminal element has means to override the technology.

There are known barriers that cause individuals to come forward with information. Fear of being identified, mistrust in police or government and lack of trust in the justice system are some that Aiden discussed and gave positive advice to allay fears!
Not many members who attended the meeting would have been aware of the seriousness of wildlife crime. Not only smugglings of wildlife but everyday occurrences such as illegal shooting or intentional injury to birds or fish. The illegal importation of hedgehogs from South Africa is a major threat to our bovine industry. A polished performance came to an end exactly on time and people will no doubt go home and consider small things that they can do to reduce their risk of being a victim of crime.
More personal vigilance can also prevent crime. The slogan "if you see something say something" was brought more into focus.







Kilmore Golf Club Inc.

Monthly Medal. This month there were three medals awarded. Lindsay Musgrave, Molly Bell & Rob McFadden.

The Foursomes winners were: Ian Gray & Matt Murray

Club Championships have started for both Men & Ladies so serious golf is on the agenda for all

The Lancefield Bowl was held on Thursday 25th and our team of Sophie Banon, Helen Dennett & Dianne Dixon were happy winners.

Next month Events: include The Annual Melbourne Cup 4-person Ambrose, Ladies Tournament, Kilmore Open weekend (Sat 4BBB, Sun Men's stroke) and the continuation of the Club Championships.

Australian Sports Foundation.
This campaign is still open for all to contribute to support Kilmore Golf Club. Any amount of contribution will be most welcome. If we all work together great things can happen. You don't have to be a member to contribute and assist your local golf club.
asf.org.au

Better golfing weather is coming and it is time to dust off your clubs, get some exercise and perfect your swing at golf. You may consider purchasing lessons in advance for a Christmas present or have lessons yourself.
Contact our visiting PGA professional Bryan Wearne His contact number to arrange lessons is 0407844500.

Other Christmas suggestions may be a Social Pass (pro rata) for the busy person or a membership – again prorate.

For more information contact
info@kilmoregolfclub.com.au OR 57821123 and leave a message

PROBUS CLUB of WALLAN

Wallan Probus meets 2nd Wednesday of the month except January, at 10.30am at Hogans Hotel in the backroom near the back door.

For semi to retired people. We have bus trips, mystery tours, guest speakers, lunches and morning tea every Friday between 10am to 12pm in the same room.

For information ring Leigh on 0409 199 654 or
email: leigh.gascoigne@bigpond.com

Philman Excavations
House and Shed Sites, Driveways,
Horse Arenas, Retaining Walls
★ Excavator ★ Bobcat
★ Truck and Trailer ★ Float Hire
★ AUGER & ROCKBREAKER
Supply and deliver crushed rock, sand and topsoil
Phil Mansfield
0418 532 969
OH&S and fully insured



ALL TOWING
Tilt Tray Tow Truck
ANYTHING MOVED
Cars Boats Caravans
OLD CARS REMOVED FREE
Competitive Rates
GOOD OLD FASHIONED Country Service
Aaron - 0425 832 466
A & J Metal Recyclers - ABN 67103013404


PROUDLY BACKED BY OUR
2026 SPONSORS
SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT OUR CLUB
Australian CARAVAN Centre
LEADER Caravans
Supreme Caravans
NORTHERN CONCRETE GROUP
DGE RURAL
GMH CONCRETE GROUP
AFT TIPPER HAULAGE
ADVANCED CRANES
Wandong PHARMACY
ALL ABOUT LEISURE PTY LTD
Caravan & Rv Repairs
0417364549
MODULAR·DECK·ACCESS
'Innovative Modular Structures for Modern Transitional Spaces'
Hazcom Electrics
Gas & Fuels Services
1300 180 980
MSP
Mitchell Shire Plumbing Pty./Ltd.
Lauren Kathage MP
State Member for Yan Yean
CPC interiors
LAWLOR AND LOY VIC. PTY. LTD.
LAND SURVEYORS • PLANNING CONSULTANTS
www.lawlorandloy.com.au
PH: 5783 1761
K&O CONCRETE GROUP
Multipipe
Underground Network Solutions
Southern Star Advisory
Fawkner AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS
Phone 9359 3271
Hunter & Co Collective
MAGPIE & STUMP HOTEL
IGA
ALLPIPING
KILMORE BARBERSHOP
buxton
@WandongJuniorFootballClub
https://wandong-junior-football-club.square.site/

Our Town's Football Club

Big news at the club with the official appointment of our new U16s Coach, Brad Sanderson. Brad brings an incredible amount of football experience to the Warriors with a playing career spanning over 500 games of football.

Brad started in the under 9s and then went on to play 465 games with West Preston. This has bred a massive deal of passion and knowledge for the game.

We are pumped to have him leading our eldest Warriors out on to the field in 2027.

2027 Pre-Season Training

We're hungry to get back into it. Our coaches are ready to go. Get down to the ground and build your fitness and skill. We want you to hit the ground running in 2027.

Where : LB DAVERN Reserve

Time: 5.00pm

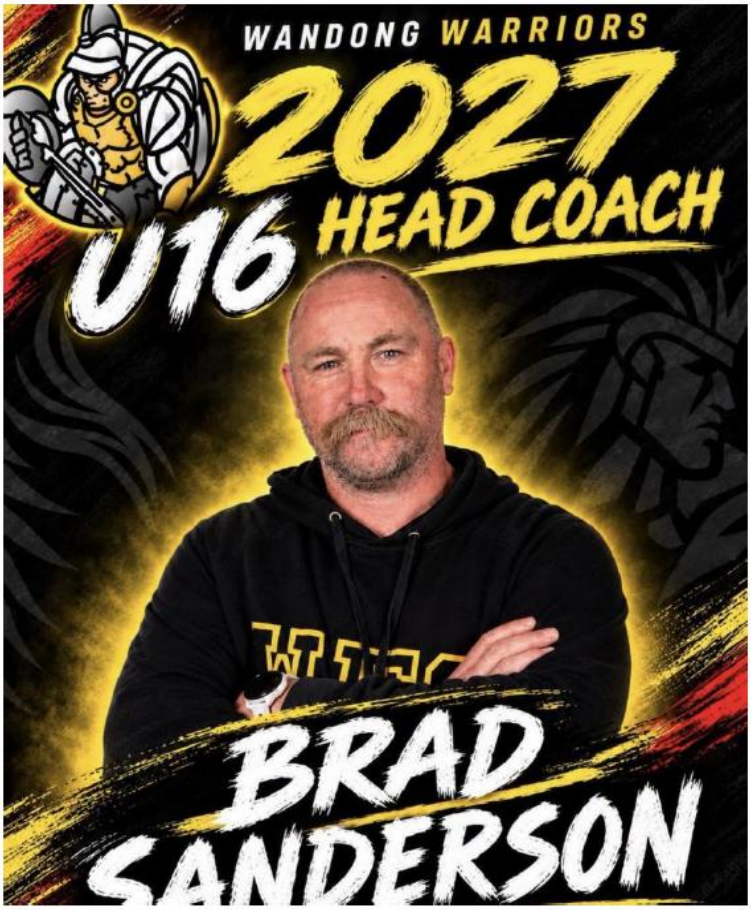
Date: 9th of November 2026

Who: U14s and U16s

Returning players and new recruits

We want you!

Go Warriors!



Wandong IGA

It's all about locals and how they like it!



Your Local Store. Your Community.

We're here for you!

Open every day 8am-8pm

Come on in and support your local store.

See in store for many great specials.

Great Range of:

- ✓ Groceries
- ✓ Meat
- ✓ Produce
- ✓ Deli
- ✓ Dairy
- ✓ Freezer
- ✓ Liquor



Wandong Licensed Supermarket
3272 Epping Kilmore Rd,
Wandong

5787 1911

Proudly supporting our community

Local events, schools, clubs and so much more.

Here for the locals

Friendly faces, great service and a store that's all about supporting the Wandong community.