



This Week's Sponsor:

Skipton Progress Association Inc

Thank you very much

SKIPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



A Wonderful Afternoon in Beautiful Surroundings...

That's the way it was for the Skipton Historical Society who hosted an Afternoon Devonshire Tea in the lovely gardens of "Gumbower" homestead in Skipton.

And so lucky with the weather, after a week of rain and wind and uncertainty, it was clear skies and sunshine.

Run as a fundraiser, the first for many years, it was such a pleasure for Society members to see so many visitors, enjoying the surroundings and most importantly the opportunity to engage with friends and neighbours, meet with new friends, and catch up with those from further afield, suddenly Covid was really behind us!

Our first thanks are to the owners of "Gumbower" who invited us to use the homestead gardens for our event, and whose unfailing support saw us through. The gardens are so lovely, everyone who wandered through or who just sat and admired over a cuppa were amazed at the recent transformation, and the careful and imaginative restoration of the house.

(Last weeks SCN photographs were great, a way of sharing with everyone the beauty of the

gardens. Thank you Val Day for today's additions)

President David Hunneybell of the Society would like to thank everyone in the Society who worked so hard (and so did he!), who cooked the scones, served them with delicate cups of tea, who did all the hard work of setting up and taking down, who made all our visitors so welcome, and then did the washing up. Hard work, but such a great result...

thank you to all our visitors, who have given us a measure of financial confidence for the future, and thank you again to "Gumbower" and it's owners, for huge support and help in our community event.

Thank you too, to Gary and Howard for entertaining us with their button accordions and skilful playing, exactly the right accompaniment for the afternoon.



To our visitors from Skipton and District and way beyond, we all had a great afternoon, we hope you enjoyed it too.... we must do this sort of thing more often!

Lilla Orton, VP Skipton Historical Society Inc
Contact via email skipton.history.au@gmail.com
Or ring Secretary on 0407 310 990



Above: This happy group of visitors were passing through the Town and had dropped into the "Skipton Community Department Store" in the hope of finding a possible bargain "In-Store". They were told about the Historical Society's Devonshire Tea at Gumbower so decided to call in. Lucky for them Ivan Sanders (standing) was on hand to answer their many questions about Skipton and the Historical Society.



Popular Locals enjoying their afternoon Tea.

Public Notices

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Contact Stewart or Belle 5349 5553 with enquiries.

**Service Times: Presbyterian Congregation
Skipton / Lismore**

- * Week One 10 am Skipton
- * Week Two 10 am Skipton
- * Week Three 10 am Skipton
- * Week Four 10 am Skipton
- * Week Five 11am Lismore.



Public Notices

**Anglican Parish of Beaufort & Skipton
SKIPTON COMBINED CHURCHES
CHRISTMAS CAROLS SERVICE**

will be held
Sunday 17th December, at 6pm
in Christ Church, Anglican Church
A plate please. All welcome.
Contact Marilyn Ellis on 0438 038 776
for further information.



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CHRISTMAS TIMES 2023

Anglican Parish of Beaufort & Skipton

Christmas Eve : Sunday 24th December 2023
Midnight Mass: St Johns Beaufort at 6pm
Midnight Mass: Christ Church Skipton at 8pm
Please Note: There will be No Service in Skipton in the
morning of Sunday 24th December.3

* * * * *

Service times: 9.00am on the 2nd & 4th Sundays
of each month.

Contact: Marilyn Ellis 5340 3515 for enquires

St John The Baptist Catholic Church, Beaufort

- * Week One Sunday LLA 10:00am
- * Week Two Sunday Mass 8:30 am
- * Week Three Sunday LLA 10:00am
- * Week Four Sunday Mass 8:30 am
- * Week Five Sunday LLA 10:00am .



Catholic Parishes of Linton, Redan and Sebastopol:

Communities of Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale & Snake Valley

All Linton Parish Enquiries Contact Parish Priest: Fr. Eugene McKinnon,
Presbytery: 508 Leith St, Redan Phone: 5331 4981,

Sunday Masses throughout

St Peter's Catholic Parish of Linton

- St Brigid's, Snake Valley Saturday 6.30pm
- St Peter's, Linton Sunday 9.00am
- St John's, Skipton Sunday 10.30am
- St. Aloysius, Redan St. James, Sebastopol
- Thursday 9.30am Friday 9.30am
- Saturday 6.00pm Sunday 10.30am
- Sunday 9.00am



- St. Aloysius, Redan Thur 14th Dec. End of Year School Mass 9am
- St. James, Sebastopol Frid 15th Dec. End of Year School Mass 9.15am

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2023

Christmas Eve Mass – Sunday 24th December

- St. Aloysius Redan School Auditorium - 6.00pm Mass
- St. Brigid's Snake Valley – 6.00pm Mass
- St. James' Sebastopol – 7.00pm Carols & 7.30pm Mass
- St. John's Skipton – 7.30pm Mass

Christmas Day Mass – Monday 25th December

- St. James' Sebastopol – 9.30am Mass
- St. Peter's Linton – 9.00am Mass

New Year's Day Mass - Monday 1st January 2024

- St. James' Sebastopol - 9.30am

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Bishop: Bishop Paul Bird CSsR *Parish Administrator:* Fr Ed Moloney.
Assistant Priests: Fr James McKay. *Visiting Priests:* Fr Barry Ryan.
Parish Secretary Sacramental Coordinator Tony Beggs.
Finance Officer: Bernadette Prestwood.
Safeguarding Officers: Tony Beggs/Maria Noonan



WEEKDAY MASSES

- Monday – 12:05pm Tuesday – 7.00am and 12:05pm
- Wednesday – 7.00am and 12:05pm Thursday – 7.00am and 12:05pm
- Friday – 12.05pm, (Reconciliation at 11.00am until midday)
- Saturday –10.00am (Reconciliation at 10.30am)

WEEKEND MASSES Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil

- Sunday 8.00am, 10.30am, 5.00pm

Centralised Baptism Preparation Session will be held at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall on **Thursday 1st February at 10.00am & 5.30pm**. Bookings to be made with the Parish Offices.

Ordination to the Diaconate- Seminarian Cay Trinh will be ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 10.00am. **All welcome to attend.**

WORK WANTED

Crutching Trailer—One Stand.
X-Bred Ewes and Lambs
Phone: 0488 032 910

FOR SALE

- 1 x Single Swag—excellent condition.
- 2 x Single Swags—excellent condition, and they can be joined into a double.

Call Pat on 5340 2177 or 0473 421 802
And make an offer.

FOR SALE

Beautiful car—MGTF 1954 model.
British Racing Green. Excellent condition.
She drives beautifully but just needs a new owner who loves to drive her with the wind in their hair and the burble of a happy motor.
Call Pat on 5340 2177 or 0473 421 802
Only if you are interested.

FOR SALE

45 Litre Fridge/Freezer—Companion
Xero—with cover.
12/24 Volt. \$300.00
Phone: 0408 211 926

BIBLE THOUGHT

Praise the Lord, my soul,
And forget none of His Blessings.
Psalm chapter 103, verse 2



SKIPTON TRANSFER STATION

Beaufort Road, Skipton.

Transfer Station opens next on

- Wed 13th December 2023, Sun 24th December 2023,
- Wed 27th December 2023, Sun 7th January 2024,
- Wed 10th January 2024, Sun 21st January 2024,
- Wed 24th January 2024, Sun 4th February 2024,

Opening Hours: from 1 pm to 5 pm.





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Bradvale Community Christmas Gathering

The community of Bradvale held their annual Christmas gathering at the Beaufort Hall on Saturday 2nd December.

It was a lovely evening with great food, lots of chatting and a visit from Santa bringing lots of happy smiles.

The community took the opportunity to acknowledge and thank Mrs. Barbara Grist for her contributions to Bradvale.

Mrs. Grist was presented with fresh flowers and a nursery voucher as a small token of the Bradvale community’s appreciation for over 55+ years.

- Photo 1 – Mrs. Grist
- Photo 2 – Suzanne and baby Posy (born 23rd Oct, 2023) & Mrs Grist: The youngest and oldest attendees at the gathering!
- Photo 3 – Santa with the happy children!





Social workers
Nurses

Search  **jobs that matter**

Psychologists
Occupational Therapists

MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH A CAREER IN MENTAL HEALTH

Victoria's mental health and wellbeing system is changing.

There's never been a better time to join Victoria's public mental health and wellbeing system. There are hundreds of rewarding jobs and career opportunities where you can make a difference to Victorians within a supportive and encouraging environment.

To make a difference to your mental health career, visit
jobsthatmatter.vic.gov.au

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne





**The Court House Museum
and
the Old Police House
In**

Stewart Park Historical Precinct,
Skipton will be open to visitors
On Sunday 17th December 2023
From 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Remembering the Years of the Skipton Art
and Craft and Flower Show,
and then the Skipton Rose Festival,
Which later became the Skipton Rose and Iris Show,
and looking around at the Roses in today's
Skipton Gardens,
memories in Historical Society records.



Tickets in the Ballarat South Rotary Raffle
available, fundraising for the Society.
Contact welcome via email
skipton.history.au@gmail.com
Or phone Secretary on 0407 310 990

From The Editor

The next week's edition of SCN will be the last for 2023.

If you have events or meetings coming up during January or early February please get the information in during the week, so that you don't miss the opportunity to inform readers of SCN of your events.

Many thanks to all of the people who provided Sponsorship for SCN Delivery by Australia Post, during the year.

This service to our community would not be possible without you.

Many thanks to Amendeep Singh for providing this service to those in our Skipton & District, and Kaylene Grigsby and Kim Haley for delivery to the Mannibadar farming Community.

This service is just wonderful but SCN has to pay for the service to residents, so please consider becoming a Sponsor for future editions in 2024.

\$75.00 per edition will pay for one delivery of SCN.



Skipton



Christmas Raffle

Prizes include:

Homemade Decorated Christmas
Cake

Made & decorated by Skipton
Staff

½ Ham on the Bone

Kindly donated by Beaufort
Butchery

Large Christmas Hamper

Kindly donated by the Skipton Health
Service Staff

\$50.00 Voucher

Kindly donated by Gorst Rural

\$50.00 Fuel Voucher

Kindly donated by Skipton Roadhouse

\$1.00 Tickets available at Skipton Hospital



**Update for Christmas
Great News Everyone!!**
Lions will be running the
Lights Competition again this
year with the judging to be
done on the weekend of
16th/17th of December.

Results will be announced at the
Town Christmas Party.

SKIPTON TOWN CHRISTMAS PARTY 2023.

Will be held on Thursday 21st of December.

The Flood Recovery Committee along with our normal
sponsors will be bringing

The Town Christmas Party to Skipton this year.

- Bike decorations with 2 sections being "A Bike That Can Still Be Ridden", and "a Bike As A Work Of Art".
- We have added 2 sections for a Decorated Scooter "A Scooter That Can Be Ridden", and "a Scooter As A Work Of Art". for 11 and under only.

Prizes will be awarded in 3 age groups

Under 11, [Bikes and Scooters] and
for Under 18, and Open for the best Bike.

**All Members of Skipton & District are invited to
join in the fun and to wish Friends a Happy
Christmas.** As well as the usual entertainment
we will have Pedal Go Kart Racing and a Photo
Booth at this year's party. More information to
follow closer to the night. Find a bike or a Scooter and start to
decorate now.

Just a few days left for you to get your decorating done.

Good luck Everyone. K



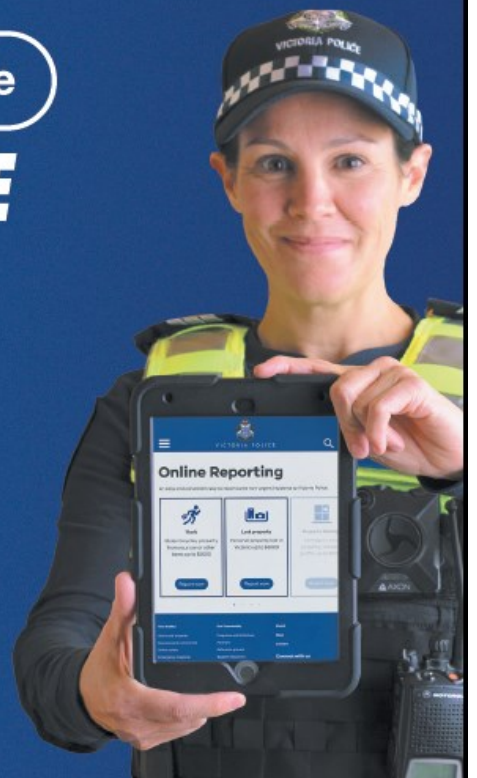
WHEN YOU NEED THE POLICE, BUT NOT THE SIRENS

IF YOU'VE HAD YOUR  OR  GO MISSING,
COME HOME TO FIND YOUR  HAS
BEEN DAMAGED, HAD YOUR  STOLEN
OR YOUR  BROKEN INTO, OR
WANT TO REGISTER A  WITH POLICE...



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Vision Australia Skipton Auxiliary Christmas Break-Up

After a busy year of raising funds for Vision Australia, the local Skipton Auxiliary Members decided to hold their Annual Christmas Gathering for this year in the beautiful garden at "Gumbower", celebrating with a delicious Devonshire Tea served to them by the Skipton Historical Society Members.

Photographed by SCN's photographer Val Day, with property owner Liz Phillips taking time to chat with the ladies ensuring they didn't need a top up for their cuppa.

They had a delightful afternoon catching up with each other before the festive Season, capping it off with a leisurely stroll around the garden enjoying the serenity of the surrounds.

The Vision Australia Christmas Raffle was drawn at the Monthly Market at the Hall.



Corangamite elects Mayor Makin and Deputy Mayor Hickey

At its November meeting Corangamite Shire Council elected South-West Ward Councillor Kate Makin as Mayor for the coming 12 months.

Central Ward Councillor Laurie Hickey was elected Deputy Mayor.

Cr Makin thanked her fellow Councillors for their support and said she was deeply honoured and humbled.

"I see our Shire's potential, its aspirations and its challenges. Today I don't promise a miracle but a dedication to serve, to listen and to act with integrity.

"As your mayor I envisage a Council where every voice matters, where innovation thrives and where progress doesn't leave anyone behind.

"I pledge to foster transparency, encourage collaboration and champion initiatives that propel us towards a brighter, united future. Together, let's build a community where each resident feels heard, valued and is proud to call home.

"Thank you for your trust and together let's write the next chapter of our Shire's success story."

Cr Makin said she was committed to fulfilling the responsibilities of the esteemed position with dedication and passion.

She thanked outgoing mayor Ruth Gstrein for her leadership over the past three years.

"I know I have big shoes fill and I will try my hardest to fill them," she said.

"Thanks also to Cr Geraldine Conheady for her two years in the role of Deputy Mayor.

"It's fantastic to have such dedicated Councillors representing the community and I look forward to continuing to work with them.

"As mayor I promise to be a tireless advocate for every corner of our beautiful Shire.



"Together let's work towards fostering a stronger, more connected community where everyone has a voice. Together, let's make Corangamite an even better place to live work and thrive."

Cr Hickey congratulated Cr Makin and also thanked his fellow Councillors for their support.

"I think the Deputy Mayor role within Corangamite in these next 12 months is going to be pretty import given there's a lot of budgetary constraints that need to be managed.

"There's going to be a lot of opportunity for new mayor — and when I say new mayor, some of us have only been in Council for three years — there's going to be a requirement for some decent backing and I believe I'm certainly able to bring that to the role.

"It is a good opportunity to be able to even further get into the workings of the Corangamite Shire and I would hope, with support of my fellow Councillors, I'll make the Deputy Mayor role that supports the community."

Under the local Government Act Council can set the mayoral term for either one or two years.

Due to the next Council elections being held on Saturday 26 October 2024, Councillors set the term for one year until 6 am that day.

Christmas and New Year arrangements



The Mayor, Councillors and staff wish our community a happy and safe festive season.

CLOSURE OF OFFICES

The Camperdown Civic Centre will close on Friday 22 December 2023 at 12.30 pm for the Christmas New Year period, re-opening on Tuesday 2 January 2024 at 8.30 am .

LANDFILL/TRANSFER STATIONS

Corangamite Regional Landfill (Naroghid) will be closed Monday 25 December , Tuesday 26 December and Monday 1 January. Simpson Transfer Station and Port Campbell Transfer Station will be closed Tuesday 26 December. All other Transfer Stations won't be affected by the public holidays and operating as normal.

RUBBISH, RECYCLING AND GREEN ORGANICS COLLECTION

Wheelie Waste office will be closed for the public holidays.

Timboon, Simpson and Port Campbell

Collection will be Tuesday 26 December 2023 and Tuesday 2 January 2024

Lismore, Derrinallum and Skipton

Collection will be on Wednesday 27 December 2023 and Wednesday 3 January 2024

Camperdown - south of the Princes Highway

Collection will be on Thursday 28 December 2023 and Thursday 4 January 2024.

Cobden and Camperdown - north of the Princes Highway

Collection will be on Friday 29 December 2023 and Friday 5 January 2024.

Terang, Noorat & Glenormiston

Collection will be on Saturday 30 December 2023 and Saturday 6 January 2024.

Weekly Green Organics Collections

Please note that the weekly green organics collections finish on Friday 30 December 2023.

Bin Collection

For any missed waste and recycling bins or bin collection issues please contact Wheelie Waste on 5561 2286.

SWIMMING POOLS

The Camperdown, Cobden, Lismore, Skipton, Terang, and Timboon pools will be closed on Christmas Day, Monday 25 December 2023.

SPORTING CENTRES

The Timboon Sporting Complex will be closed from Friday 22 December 2023 and the gym reopen Monday 8 January 2024 For further details on school holiday activities, classes and programming in January 2024 please visit the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/timboonsportscentre/>

The Camperdown Community Stadium will be closed from Friday 22 December 2023. For further details on school holiday activities, classes and programming in January 2024 please visit the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CamperdownStadium/>

LIBRARIES

All the libraries in the Shire will close from Friday 22 December at 1 pm, with normal hours resuming on Tuesday 2 January 2024.

Signs will be placed in all libraries notifying members of the closure and notification will also be given on library website.

VISITOR INFORMATION SERVICES

The Port Campbell Visitor Information Centre will be closed on Monday 25 December 2023.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

All Maternal and Child Health Centres will close from 12.30pm Friday 22 December 2023 and be closed for the Christmas/New Year period. The MCH service will reopen from Tuesday 2 January 2024.

Please call the 24/7 Maternal and Child Health Line on 13 22 29 for advice and support. If your baby is unwell, please contact your closest medical service. The 24/7 Parent line is also available on 13 22 89.

CHILD CARE

All Child Care Services across the Shire will close on their normal operational days starting Friday 8 December 2023 to Monday 18 December 2023 and will recommence from Monday 29 January 2024 depending on the service venue start date.

KINDERGARTENS

All Kindergarten services will finish for the Christmas/ New Year holiday period from 5pm Wednesday 20 December 2023 and recommence from Tuesday 30 January 2024

For urgent requests over the Christmas and New Year period, please call 5593 7100 and follow the prompts.

For all other non-urgent requests, please contact us after 8:30 am on Tuesday 3 January 2023.

CORANGAMITE SHIRE

Noticeboard



CORANGAMITE SHIRE

FIRE DANGER PERIOD

The Fire Danger Period started at 1 am, Monday 20 November.

With a hotter and drier summer period predicted, make sure you know what you can and can't do during the Fire Danger Period. Visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au/can

No burning off in Corangamite Shire unless you have a permit.

2024-2025 Budget input

This is your chance to provide input during the first stages of budget preparation. What would you like to see prioritised in your community?

Have your say at corangamite.vic.gov.au/2024Budget or contact your local ward Councillor corangamite.vic.gov.au/Councillors

LISMORE SWIMMING POOL

12-7 pm
weekends, public holidays and school holidays

1.30 - 7 pm School term

6.30-8 am
Morning lap swimming
Wednesday | December only

10 am-12 pm
Water aerobics
Monday & Wednesday | Full season

Open Saturday 2 December 2023

Join our team

School Crossing Supervisor

- Two hours per week, 3pm-4pm Thur and Fri
- \$31.31 p.h.
- Based in Terang

Applications close 5 pm Sunday 17 December.

Family Services Intake and Administration Coordinator

- Fixed term for 12 months
- 32 hours, 4 days per week
- \$70,666 - \$78,534 pro rata, based on qualifications and experience
- Based in Camperdown

Applications close 5 pm, Sunday 7 January 2024.

Traineeships

- Sport and Recreation Certificate III
- Business Administration Certificate III
- Animal Regulation Certificate IV

- 12-month traineeship
- Study and work at the same time
- Great benefits including a 19-day month
- Based in Camperdown

Applications close 5 pm, Sunday 7 January 2024.

Apply at corangamite.vic.gov.au/employment

Subscribe to e-News

Stay informed and keep up-to-date with what's happening around Corangamite Shire by subscribing to our monthly e-news at corangamite.vic.gov.au/e-news

corangamite.vic.gov.au   

13 DECEMBER 2023

BSHS NEWS BULLETIN

HEALTH SERVICE CELEBRATES SUCCESSFUL YEAR

The Health Service recently reported a successful year of operations, both financially and operationally at the 27th Annual General Meeting.

Board Chair, Dr. Margaret Way, acknowledged former Board Chair, David Lenehan, who recently completed his

appointment as Board Chair. David's experience and leadership has contributed to the Health Service's success in reaching a stage of stability and achieving a stronger financial performance.



Meryn Pease (CEO), David Lenehan (former Board Chair) and Dr. Margaret Way (Board Chair)

Highlights for the year included receiving funding through the Regional Health Infrastructure Fund for planning of additional single rooms at Ripon Peace, being awarded Small Employer of the Year at both the Victorian and Australian Training Awards, continued growth in Home Care Packages, an operational surplus and a 2024-2028 new Strategic Plan.

STAFF RECOGNITION AWARDS

20 Years | Renae Dickie, Rhonda Hocking, Cherise Jones

15 Years | Anne Williamson, Jenni Gordon, Tony Grundell, Nikki Elliot, Laura Osbourne, Jenni Pett

10 Years | Petrina Phillips, Rhonda Cowell, Bonnie Howlett, Leonie Tellefson



13 DECEMBER 2023

BSHS NEWS BULLETIN

HEALTH SERVICE TAKES OUT NATIONAL AWARD

The Health Service was pleasantly surprised at the recent Australian Training Awards, where we were honoured with the prestigious Gold Award for being Australia's Small Employer of the Year. This follows the earlier success in winning the Victorian award in



Meryn Pease (CEO), Gayle Tierney MP (Minister for Training & Skills) and Kim Stevens (Learning and Development Manager)

August. CEO Meryn Pease and representatives from the Health Service attended the function in Hobart where they were presented the award.

This award serves as a testament to the hard work and dedication of the entire staff, as well as the unwavering support from the community. The Education team have assisted with providing training opportunities enabling 64% of permanent non-clinical staff to gain a certificate or diploma qualification in the last two years.

The Health Service's emphasis on continuous learning and professional growth played a significant role in the organisation's selection as finalists for the esteemed award. It was noted by representatives of the judging panel that the Health Service was recognised that each employee was treated as an individual with individual aspirations, empowering staff to explore new study and career pathways.





GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL

SUMMER SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN IN GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

Council is hosting a series of free activities for young people aged 12 to 25 years throughout the upcoming Summer School Holidays, with fantastic activities running from Tuesday 9 January to Thursday 25 January 2024.

The free school holiday activities held across the Shire have been designed to support the needs and interests of young people, while also providing opportunities to learn new skills and connect with other young people.

The full list of school holiday activities available are:

Week one:

- Tuesday 9 January, 2 to 5pm – **Cupcake Decoration** at The Well, 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale.
- Tuesday 9 January, 2 to 6pm – **Drop-in** at the Golden Plains Youth Hub, Milton Street, Bannockburn.

Wednesday 10 January, 2 to 6pm – **MasterChef Pretzel Making and Drop-in** at the Golden Plains Youth Hub, Milton Street, Bannockburn.

- Thursday 11 January, 1.30 to 4pm – **Oz Tenpin Bowling Ballarat** at 901 Doveton St Nth, Ballarat.

Thursday 11 January, 2 to 6pm – **Drop-in Board Games** at the Golden Plains Youth Hub, Milton Street, Bannockburn.

Week two:

- Monday 15 January, 10am to 4pm – **Ballarat Wildlife Park** at 250 Fussell Street, Ballarat East.
- Tuesday 16 January, 2 to 6pm – **MasterChef Mexican and Drop-in** at the Golden Plains Youth Hub, Milton Street, Bannockburn.
- Wednesday 17 January, 2 to 5pm – **Paint by Numbers** at The Well, 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale.

- Wednesday 17 January, 2 to 6pm – **Drop-in** at the Golden Plains Youth Hub, Milton Street, Bannockburn.

- Thursday 18 January, 2 to 6pm – **Mario Kart Madness** at the Golden Plains Youth Hub, Milton Street, Bannockburn.

Thursday 18 January, 2 to 6pm – **Drop-in** at the Golden Plains Youth Hub, Milton Street, Bannockburn.

Week three:

- Monday 22 January, 1.30 to 6pm – **Kardinia Park Aquatic Centre**, at 25 Park Crescent, Geelong.

- Tuesday 23 January, 2 to 6pm – **MasterChef Bacon & Cheese Pizza Scrolls and Drop-in** at the Golden Plains Youth Hub, Milton Street, Bannockburn.

- Wednesday 24 January, 2 to 6pm – **Acrylic Pour and Drop-in** at the Golden Plains Youth Hub, Milton Street, Bannockburn.

- Thursday 25 January, 10am to 3pm – **World Series Paintball** at 165-315 Gifkins Road, Little River.

Thursday 25 January, 2 to 6pm – **Drop-in Switch Olympics** at the Golden Plains Youth Hub, Milton Street, Bannockburn.

Golden Plains Shire Council Mayor Cr Brett Cunningham said there was a great range of activities right across the Shire for young people to enjoy in the summer school holidays.

“Council’s free school holiday program is a great opportunity for young people to mix with their peers while enjoying a range of fun and exciting activities.” Cr Cunningham said.

“All programs are safe and inclusive and supervised by staff from the Youth Development team, so we encourage you to check out what’s on offer and register through Council’s website.”

To register or find out more information about the Summer School Holiday program, visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au/school-activity-program or contact Council’s Youth Development Team on 5220 7111.

CITIZEN AWARD FOR YOUNG FUTSAL CHAMPION – PATRICK BENNETT

Young Haddon sportsman Patrick Bennett has been recognised for his achievements in Futsal (indoor soccer) with a Golden Plains Shire Citizen Recognition Award.

At only 6 years old, Patrick has been selected to represent Victoria’s under 8s team and will compete at the 2024 National Club Futsal Championships in Sydney from 12 to 14 January.

Patrick has only been playing Futsal for 12 months but has shown a natural aptitude for the sport which has propelled him onto the national stage.

He enjoys learning new tricks and skills, and he has been making the three-hour round trip to Melbourne with his family for weekly training with the Victorian team in preparation for the upcoming national championships.

Golden Plains Shire Mayor Cr Brett Cunningham said Patrick had shown an admirable dedication to the sport at such a young age.

“Patrick competed against other young people from right across the state for selection in the Victorian team, and against those with significantly more training and development opportunities

in Melbourne,” Cr Cunningham said.

“His selection for the Victorian State team is a testament to his training and shows his skill and commitment to his chosen sport,” he said.

“Golden Plains Shire is proud to recognise the fantastic achievements and contributions made by young people in the community, and we congratulate Patrick on his journey so far and wish him luck in the national championships.”

Council’s Citizen Recognition Award program recognises Golden Plains Shire residents who take part in State Level or Above competition.

To nominate yourself, or another resident, visit www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/community/awards-and-recognition/recognising-local-citizens



Golden Plains Shire Mayor Cr Brett Cunningham with Patrick Bennett

NEWS FROM GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE GOLDEN PLAINS TWILIGHT MARKET RETURNS BIGGER THAN EVER

Residents and visitors are invited to join us for the biggest Golden Plains Twilight Market to date on Thursday 14 December from 4 to 9pm at the Bannockburn Heart, corner of Milton, Byron and High Streets, Bannockburn.

Thanks to our sponsors Beyond the Valley, GPG Naturgy Group, Josco Civil, Ramsey Property Group, Golden Plains Storage by Murrell Group and Stockdale & Leggo Bannockburn, the Bannockburn Heart will undergo a vibrant transformation. Experience a lively plaza with diverse stallholders offering delicious food, exquisite crafts, live music, free activities and more.

An extension of the popular monthly Golden Plains Farmers' Market, the Twilight Market is a one-stop shop for everyone's Christmas needs, with over 90 stallholders that will feature a vibrant array of local vendors and artisans, showcasing their culinary dishes plus arts and crafts.

There will also be live performances by Kieran Tobin and local Bannockburn student performers, free activities for the kids including face painting, balloon twisting, a jumping castle, animal farm, and a special visit from Santa with the CFA.

Mayor Cr Brett Cunningham encouraged residents and visitors to head to the Twilight Market for a fun-filled evening.

"This year's Twilight Market is set to be bigger than ever with over 90 stallholders set to appear, compared to 47 in 2020. We're grateful for all the support the Twilight Market has received over the years that has allowed this number to almost double," Cr Cunningham said.

"By visiting and shopping at the Golden Plains Twilight Market, you're helping our local growers and makers and supporting our local economy this festive season," he said.

"I encourage everyone to pop down to the market and pick up those last-minute Christmas gifts for your loved ones, all while enjoying live music, a bite to eat and a fun evening out for the whole family."

To see a full list of this year's stallholders, visit goldenplainsfarmersmarket.com.au/twilight-market

Residents and market-goers are also advised of changes to local traffic and parking. More information can be found at goldenplains.vic.gov.au/news

For more information, contact Council's Community Development Officer at enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au or call 5220 7111.

Starting from February, the regular Golden Plains Farmers' Market will be held on the first Saturday of the month in 2024 from 8.30am to 12.30pm at the Bannockburn Heart.

DRAFT TRACKS AND TRAILS STRATEGY OPEN FOR FEEDBACK

Golden Plains Shire Council is inviting input from the community on the draft Tracks and Trails Strategy (the Draft Strategy) which was endorsed for public exhibition at its meeting on Tuesday 28 November 2023.

Following extensive community engagement in January and February 2023 through a series of workshops, surveys, and consultations, approximately 200 responses from the community have helped to shape the Draft Strategy.

Residents are now invited to have their say on the Draft Strategy from Thursday 30 November 2023 to Thursday 11 January 2024, contributing to the finalisation and adoption of the Draft Strategy at the February 2024 Council meeting.

The Draft Strategy aims to embrace the region's recreational tracks and trails network; identify recommendations for addressing new trails, missing links and realignments; improve liveability and health and wellbeing outcomes for all residents; promote safe, active transport and commuting options to reducing reliance on motor vehicles; improve environmental outcomes and reflect the needs of the community.

Golden Plains Shire Council Mayor Cr Brett Cunningham encourages residents to provide their valuable input on the Draft Strategy.

"At the beginning of this year we had close to 200 responses to the Tracks and Trails Strategy which has resulted in a comprehensive and inclusive strategy that promotes physical activity, outdoor exploration and environment stewardship," Cr Cunningham said.

"The Draft Strategy provides strategic direction for future advocacy and investment in a trail network to encourage safe, active transport and guides the future planning, development and activation of tracks and trails across Golden Plains for the next 10 years," he said.

"I encourage community members to view the Draft Strategy and provide feedback. Your continued involvement is vital in ensuring that our Tracks and Trail Strategy aligns with our shared vision."

The \$60,000 Golden Plains Shire Tracks and Trails Strategy Project was funded by \$30,000 from the Victorian Government's Local Sports Infrastructure Fund's Planning Category and \$30,000 from Council.

The Draft Strategy and opportunity to provide feedback can be viewed online at goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations or hard copies can be collected at Council's Customer Hubs, Golden Plains Civic Centre, 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn and The Well, 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale.

For further information on the Draft Strategy, contact Council's Manager Recreation and Community Infrastructure on 5220 7111 or email enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au

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Council seeks feedback on draft Camperdown Production Precinct plan

Plans are afoot for a high-quality business park to attract major business investments to Camperdown.

Corangamite Shire Council is calling for feedback on the Draft Camperdown Production Precinct Masterplan.

The precinct—on Old Geelong Road, just north of town—will build on the strength of the Shire’s agricultural sector, with a focus on large dairy, meat, nutritional and other associated manufacturers.

Deputy Mayor Laurie Hickey invited Shire residents to download the draft and provide feedback on Council’s website.

“The vision is to create a precinct that will promote innovative business opportunities, particularly for the food and fibre industries which are the backbone of our Shire economy,” Cr Hickey said.

“We already have one major dairy processor there, in Australian Dairy Nutritionals, and have had interest from other companies interested in establishing premises here.”

Cr Hickey said Camperdown’s central position in a highly productive farming region, with the Princes Highway and rail line connecting to Melbourne, made it an ideal location for agricultural and manufacturing businesses to set up.

The Shire has invested in access roads upgrades, with trade waste and turning lane issues being addressed.

“That means employment opportunities locally and money coming into the Shire to benefit the wider community.

“The challenge is to make sure there is sufficient land with power, water and other services that businesses need to establish their operations.

“This Masterplan will give practical actions for Council, landowners, businesses and the community, to achieve that and enable long-term growth which will be fantastic.”

Cr Hickey said feedback can be left at corangamite.vic.gov.au/CPD until 5 pm, Thursday 4 January, or sent to Council’s planning department at 181 Manifold Street, Camperdown, or planning@corangamite.vic.gov.au

“All comments received will be considered in the finalisation of the masterplan, before it is adopted early next year.”

The Victorian Planning Authority has supported the process with funding from the Victorian Streamlining for Growth Program.

Council seeks input to plan 2024-2025 Budget

Corangamite residents are being asked for their priorities as Council starts preparing the 2024-2025 Budget.

Mayor Kate Makin encouraged residents to have their say as Council sets the priorities for next Financial Year.

“We’re inviting people to give us their input about what projects are important to them,” Cr Makin said.

“What would you like to see prioritised in your town or community? What do you think is most important across the Shire as a whole?”

“The aim is to make sure resources are shared equitably and the best results are achieved for our ratepayers’ money.

“It’s important to find the right balance between what the community wants and delivering projects in a financially responsible manner.”

“This is particularly challenging in an environment of supply chain challenges and skills shortages.”

Cr Makin said residents could fill in a survey as the first step in developing the comprehensive Budget.

Residents can have their say at corangamite.vic.gov.au/2024-2025Budget by 5 pm Monday 15 January 2024, or by contacting their Ward Councillor.

Councillor contact details can be found at corangamite.vic.gov.au/Councillors or by calling the Civic Centre on 5593 7100.

Hard copy survey forms are also available at libraries in Derrinallum, Timboon, Camperdown, Terang, Cobden and the library depot in Skipton.

There will be more community consultation next year to finetune the draft Budget.

Cr Makin said Council was also seeking input into the 10-year Financial Plan which helps guide Council’s long-term approach to allocating resources and managing budgets in a financially sustainable manner.



Sporting News



Ballarat Highlands Bowls Pennant Results Division 7

There were no Bowls played on Saturday 9th of December due to rainfall

Next Saturday 16th December:

Round 12 **BHRBC Ballarat 3** at **Skipton 1**.

Road rehabs underway across Corangamite

The \$9.45 million 2023-2024 roads program is well underway across Corangamite Shire.

Director Works and Services Brooke Love said Council has already completed a 1 km rehabilitation of Vite Vite Road in Derrinallum and a 1 km rehabilitation of Castle Carey Road in Boorcan this financial year.

“Our crews have just about completed a 1.6 km rehab job in Sisters Noorat Road, Noorat and a 0.7 km job in Chocelyn Settlement Road, Chocelyn, and are about to start a rehab on Old Geelong Road,” Mrs Love said.

“Other major rehabilitation projects in the current capital works program include works on Wiridgil and Glenfyne Brucknell roads.”

Another 66 km of local roads across Corangamite Shire will be resealed in the new year.

Mrs Love said that was about 7% of the Shire’s sealed local road network.

“Council maintains 914 km of sealed local roads which need periodic sealing to maintain the surface and stop water getting in and weakening the underlying pavement.

“The new surface has a lifespan of about 15 years but all of our local roads are resurfaced well before their use-by date.”

Council crews will do any patching that might be needed before the sealing contractor arrived, so the underlying pavement is in good condition before the protective seal is applied.

A condition assessment in 2020 found 99% of Council’s local sealed roads were in adequate condition. Council will be again collecting road condition data in the new year.

Mayor Kate Makin said Council awarded the contract for sealing of various local roads throughout Corangamite Shire and Warrnambool City in 2023-2024.

“For the past eight years we have cooperated with Warrnambool City Council to share resources and have both our annual sealing programs done under one contract,” Cr Makin said.

“This has been more efficient and reduced costs for both Councils.

“The contractor will source accommodation, meals and fuel locally for their crews during the works which will have flow-on benefits for our local economy.”

The Corangamite portion of the \$2,761,820 (plus GST) contract will cost \$2,139,404, which is \$39,596 under budget.

Cr Makin said the savings would be put towards other road maintenance activities.

She said Council remained committed to maintaining local roads and advocating to the State and Federal Governments for further improvements to the arterial road network.

For a map and list of roads to be resealed during this year’s program, go to www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/sealing-program.

Celebrating CFA volunteers

Volunteers are the most giving people, which is why it’s so important to celebrate them on International Volunteer Day (IVD).

Today marks IVD, which aims to recognise the passionate individuals who give up their time for the betterment of their communities all around the world.

This year’s theme, “if everyone did”, centres on the power of everyone to do something to make a positive change.

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan said our CFA volunteers make positive change in their communities every day.

“If everyone did what our volunteers do, imagine the impact it would have locally and collectively,” CO Heffernan said.

“CFA has a strong volunteer membership of nearly 52,000 people who give up their time to help others.

“Whether it be responding in times of need, engaging with communities about fire prevention or supporting causes and local fundraising activities, our passionate volunteers stand ready to protect the lives and properties of Victorians with tireless commitment and dedication.

“Happy International Volunteer Day to all our volunteers and thank you for being part of the CFA family.”

Here’s what a few of our incredible volunteers say about being part of CFA.

Ally Smith from the Bitten Fire Brigade says volunteering with CFA means protecting life and property through firefighting.

“It’s also being able to support the community before, during and after a fire as a community liaison officer,” Ally said.

Amy from the Balnarring Fire Brigade said her favourite part of being a volunteer was being part of the community.

“Learning about fire in general and giving back to the community as well” Amy said.

Balnarring Fire Brigade member Aaron said being a volunteer was a great experience.

“We get to help members of the community in their time of need. It’s great community engagement with the kids coming up and saying hello, and it’s just an all-round great experience,” Aaron said.

Eddie Matt from the Rye Fire Brigade said his favourite part of being a volunteer was gaining new skills and doing a diverse range of roles.





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“This Masterplan will give practical actions for Council, landowners, businesses and the community, to achieve that and enable long-term growth which will be fantastic.”

Cr Hickey said feedback can be left at corangamite.vic.gov.au/PPP until 5 pm, Thursday 4 January, or sent to Council’s planning department at 181 Manifold Street, Camperdown, or planning@corangamite.vic.gov.au

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The Victorian Planning Authority has supported the process with funding from the Victorian Streamlining for Growth Program.



Central Highlands Water Region’s water supply in good position while focusing on everyday water use

Central Highlands Water’s (CHW) Annual Water Outlook report has been released. The report looks into current water storage, ground water levels and expected inflows, weather conditions and summer consumption to forecast the water supply for the year ahead.

General Manager Infrastructure Planning and Operations, Paul Donohue, said, “Despite the current El Niño declaration and drier conditions over much of winter and spring, our water storage levels are healthy.”

“This is largely due to the wet conditions over the previous two seasons,” said Mr. Donohue.

“Through our recent pricing plan engagement, our customers told us that sustainability and reliable services are important to them and their community and by encouraging the community to be water wise through the summer months, we can deliver on this.

“Thank you to everyone across our region for playing their part by using water wisely. As we come into the summer period, it’s a great time to refer back to our Permanent Water Saving Rules and ensure we keep this up,” he said.

Our Permanent Water Saving Rules are a set of common-sense rules that apply year-round to help everyone save water. The key rules include:

- Handheld hoses can be used at any time but must be fitted with a trigger nozzle and be leak free.
- Vehicles can be cleaned at any time with a bucket or a handheld hose.
- A residential garden or lawn can be watered using a handheld hose, bucket or watering can at any time.
- A residential watering system can be used between 6:00 pm and 10:00 am on any day.

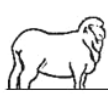
CHW refers to the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) latest updates on weather conditions and works closely with the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action and other water corporations to provide water to our region.

The BOM outlooks indicate that December 2023 to February 2024 temperatures are very likely to be above average for almost all of Victoria.

For more information on our Permanent Water Saving Rules, please visit: chw.net.au/pwsr

For information on CHW’s future water planning, and to read the Annual Water Outlook, please visit chw.net.au/wateroutlook

Mount Emu Creek



Skipton Community News

Community News

Stewart Park

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The Skipton Community News is a project of the Skipton Progress Association Inc. and is published on Wadawurrung land. The Skipton Progress Association respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

13th December 2023 **Volume 46**

Issue 40

Thank you to this week's sponsor Sponsor name **Skipton Progress Association Inc**

Meetings & Coming Events

FIRE DANGER PERIOD is in place for **CORANGAMITE SHIRE, PYRENEES SHIRE AND ARARAT** (Rural City of Ararat).

Make sure you know what you can and can't do during the Fire Danger Period. Visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au/can

NO Burning Off in Corangamite Shire, Pyrenees Shire, City of Ararat, unless you have a Permit.

Saturday 16th December: Round 12 **BHRBC Ballarat 3 at Skipton 1.**

Sunday 17th December: Skipton Historical Society welcomes visitors to **THE COURT HOUSE MUSEUM** and the **OLD POLICE HOUSE** will be **OPEN TO VISITORS** from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Remembering the Years of the Skipton Art and Craft Show, and then the Skipton Rose Festival, contact welcome ring Secretary on 0407 310 990 or via email skipton.history.au@gmail.com



Sunday 17th December: **COMBINED CHURCHES CAROLS SERVICE** will be held in Christ Church, Anglican Church at 6pm A plate please.

Contact Marilyn Ellis on 0438 038 776 for further information. All welcome.

Thursday 21st of December. **SKIPTON TOWN CHRISTMAS PARTY 2023 AT THE SKIPTON RECREATION RESERVE. 5:30PM.** The flood recovery committee along with our normal sponsors will be supporting the Town Christmas Party this year.



For more details please see page 2.

Sunday 14th January: **FIREWORLD DISCOVERY CENTRE & MUSEUM** (Streatham) **open from 11:30am until 4:30pm** (will be a week early as Bruce will be unavailable on the third Sunday). Contact Bruce McKenna, Secretary/Treasurer, 0466 286 011.

Saturday 20th January: Round 13 **BHRBC Skipton 1 v Midlands 4** at Skipton.

Saturday 27th January: Round 14 **BHRBC Skipton 1 v Mt Xavier 3at** Skipton.

Sunday 11th February: **FIREWORLD DISCOVERY CENTRE & MUSEUM** (Streatham) **open from 11:30am until 4:30pm** (will be a week early as Bruce will be unavailable on the third Sunday) Contact Bruce McKenna, Secretary/Treasurer, 0466 286 011.

Saturday 24 March 2024: **NEXT LAKE BOLAC EEL FESTIVAL** This will be our 14th festival and work is already underway by the Committee. The Festival will include the well-loved Healing Walk, Art Auction, Smoking Ceremony, Music Program, Forum, a multitude of workshops, and the Twilight Ceremony. Our 2024 theme will be finalised soon. Stay tuned.



Got an Event Coming Up? Need a Venue? To make BOOKINGS FOR SKIPTON'S MECHANICS HALL Contact: Shayley Grigsby on 0447 050 095

SKIPTON LIBRARY IN MECHANIC'S HALL

Opening Times: Tuesday 10.00am to 12.00pm, Friday 3.00pm to 5.00pm. Fiction, non-fiction, LARGE PRINT, DVD's, E-Books, Children books & DVDs, Biographies. Free membership, all welcome. Come and check us out

FROM THE EDITOR:

Having had no response to my recent request for Sponsors for the final editions of SCN before we break for Christmas Holidays, it has again been left for SPA Inc to cover that cost SCN would like to thank the many faithful Sponsors who contribute each year. Without their continued generosity this service would not be possible. It is hard to determine how many people along the Mail Routes really appreciate receiving the weekly newsletter and its news.



However, our Advertisers find SCN to be a fantastic way to reach their target market; with the exposure they receive for their services. It should be appreciated as being very special.

SCN is also online for those outside our district providing a very comprehensive service from the local Skipton Progress Association Inc the SCN Editor and the enthusiastic Volunteers on the Folding Team.

Each year SCN needs forty-one Sponsors, if this cannot be achieved, the service of delivering newsletters to your letter box each week may well cease. 2024 will signal the 47th continuous year of SCN..

Please give becoming a Sponsor at \$75.00 some thought. This wonderful service to residents of Skipton & District is quite unique, with other communities delivering to some people but not all by delivery through the post. Those communities pick up in stores.

Sponsorship to SCN pays the weekly delivery costs for the newsletters to be delivered to all of the homes and properties in this 3361 district, some 3351 3360 and 3324. There are 324 altogether, (we pay 20 cents for 257, for the Town and surrounds, and 25 cents for 67 to outlying farming community). With additional 156 copies distributed by post and to neighbouring communities through outlets.

If you can assist please contact The Editor, and send payment of \$75.00 to contact details below.

Banking Details: CBA Skipton, BSB 063 838, A/C 1001 9260.

Use It, or, Lose It!! The Facebook is terrific way to keep informed but it's nothing like a hard copy.

Editor Kathy Sproules 14 Scott St Skipton, Phone 03 5340 2340, fax 5340 2434. Email: skiptonscn@bigpond.com Just phone.

SCN can also be found online at www.skiptonaustralia.org and on Facebook, for those who prefer the newsletter electronically.

Donations are always appreciated to off-set other production costs.

Banking Details: CBA Skipton, BSB 063 838, A/C 1001 9260.

DISCLAIMER: All information in SCN is derived from sources believed to be accurate and current at the time of publication.

The Editor reserves the right to withhold any items considered to be inappropriate for this publication.

Anonymous contributions will not be published. Name and contact number must be provided with all articles intended for publication so contributor can be contacted if required. Views expressed in SCN are not necessarily endorsed or approved by Skipton Progress Association Inc. Kathy Sproules Editor.



MEMBER 2023