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**Feb 14<sup>th</sup>: Valentine's day, try our Rosewater & raspberry sponge cake. Lover's delight!!**

**March 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 5pm to 9pm, souvlaki, wine & beer, join us in the garden for a Friday evening bevy.**

**March 17<sup>th</sup>: St Patricks Day, enjoy a Green Beer! Sunday evening 5 to 9 pm. Enjoy the Craig, Irish tunes.**

**See you there.**

## Corangamite launch event for new-look Business Assistance Scheme

Corangamite Shire is calling on local business owners, creative industries and community enterprises who want to unlock their potential.

Council will launch its new funding program, the Business Assistance Scheme (BAS) at a networking event in Camperdown on Thursday 15 February.

The event, at The Farmhouse @ 153 from, 5.30 pm - 7 pm, will feature guest speakers from Alderwood Manor, Timboon Fine Ice Cream and Murfett & Whiting Electrical. Light refreshments will be provided.

Everyone is welcome and can register their attendance for catering purposes at [www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/BASlaunch](http://www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/BASlaunch)

- The Business Assistance Scheme is open all year round and provides four streams:
- **Business Facade Improvement** – up to \$3,000 (\$1 for \$1) for physical works for businesses to improve their shop fronts and up to \$500 for landscaping works.

## Have your say

We would like your feedback on our new Environment & Sustainability Strategy. Corangamite Shire has compiled a 10 year draft Strategy for what we, as a Council, can achieve in Environmental Management and Sustainable Practices. The draft Strategy is open for community feedback until 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

**Find out more and Have Your Say at [corangamite.vic.gov.au/EandSSstrategy](http://corangamite.vic.gov.au/EandSSstrategy) or scan QR code in last weeks SCN Corangamite Council Notice Board.**

## Corangamite Shire

### New Business Assistance Scheme

- **Creative Industries and Placemaking** – up to \$2,000 to activate a public space and increase participation in community life.
- **Community Enterprise** – up to \$2,000 to build community capacity in project planning, management and delivery.
- **Fees and Enabling Infrastructure** – assist new businesses to establish by reducing up-front costs of permit and registration fees. Could include a co-contribution to public infrastructure required.

Mayor Kate Makin said Council was keen to support local businesses, community enterprises, creative industries and new businesses looking to establish in Corangamite.

"This new funding scheme is a broader approach to supporting the arts, culture, tourism and a circular economy," Cr Makin said.

"It is an initiative that has come out of our Grow and Prosper Plan for Corangamite.

"The scheme supports traditional business and economic development like we have previously.

"But it also recognises the importance of projects that activate public space and encourage people to visit, invest and spend time here.

"These initiatives all combine to make Corangamite a great place to live," Cr Makin said.

For more information, go to [www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/Business](http://www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/Business) or call Council on 5593 7100.

## Public Notices

### Anglican Parish of Beaufort & Skipton

Contact: Marilyn Ellis 5340 3515 for enquires  
**Service times:** 9.00am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month.



### 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.



### 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

Happy New Year all, St Brigid's Snake Valley will be celebrating their 100-year anniversary. This occasion will be marked by celebrating Mass on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 6.30pm. All are invited to attend

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 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 10:30 am until midday)

Saturday –10.00am (Reconciliation at 10.30am)

WEEKEND MASSES Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil

Sunday 8.00am, 10.30am, 5.00pm



### SKIPTON TRANSFER STATION

Beaufort Road, Skipton.

#### Transfer Station opens next on

Sun 18th February 2024, Wed 21st February 2024,

Sun 3rd March 2024, Wed 6th March 2024,

Sun 17th March 2024, Wed 20th March 2024,

Opening Hours: from 1 pm to 5 pm.



### BIBLE THOUGHT

The men, disciples of Christ Jesus, worked miracles, confirming the message of God's grace.

John chapter 14, verse 3



## Public Notices

### Skipton Progress Association Inc.



The Annual General Meeting  
 of the  
 Skipton Progress Association Inc.

Will be held on  
**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024**  
**At 7.00 p.m.**

**In the Skipton Mechanics Hall,**  
 7 Anderson Street, Skipton.

All positions are declared vacant,  
 Nominations for positions can be made,  
 forms to be submitted to the Secretary up to  
 two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting,  
 Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024.

Nomination forms (page 5) are available in this and subsequent issues of the Skipton Community News, and should be submitted to P.O. Box 60, Skipton, 3361 or to the Secretary, Lilla Orton, from whom further details can be obtained Ph 0437 455 049



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ABN: 72461617258

## Ash Wednesday Mass Times

(Wednesday 14th February 2024)

- 9.30am at St. Aloysius Redan
- 12 (noon) at St. James' Sebastopol

#### Ash Wednesday – February 14th

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and during lent we are all asked to deepen Christian life through prayer, fasting and alms giving. Ash Wednesday is the commencement date of the Ballarat Diocesan 150 year Anniversary. Our liturgies throughout Lent, will acknowledge our ongoing need for conversion.

**Ash Wednesday Mass Times** 7.00am 10.00am (St Patrick's Primary School will attend) 12.05pm 7.00pm (will be preceded by Adoration and Benediction at 6.00pm).

**Ashes for Ash Wednesday** St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Community members are invited to bring palms from 2023 Palm Sunday celebration to the Cathedral during this week or over the weekend of 10th/11th February and place them in the baskets provided. These palms are the base for the ashes used in the Ash Wednesday rite of having ashes placed on our foreheads as a sign of penitence and sorrow.

## The World Day of Prayer

will be held

at Christ Church, Anglican Church  
 on Friday 1 March 2024 at 2pm.



The guest speaker will be  
 The Venerable Catie Inches-Ogden.

Catie is recently retired to Ballarat and will speak about her life over many years as a Defence Force Chaplain.

All are welcome to come and join us for a short service followed by afternoon tea.







## Now that's a Good Green Idea...

On Australia Day in Skipton it was good to catch up with Council members who are following up on Corangamite Council's Environmental and Sustainability Strategy. Please look out for information in forthcoming issues of the Skipton News and on line for their survey "Have Your Say" asking for feedback and ideas about where we should be heading. And "sustainability themes" include "waste" - so sad to see on that day the lack of direction as to how to dispose of waste. Bins with green lids, yellow lids, red lids, and in February a new bin for glass (but only bottles and jars) - it's not hard really and even if you can't recycle things, re-use is second best.

Thanks to the Council for the extended collection of green waste and organics (green lid) at the end of each year, best idea ever! And thanks to our friend at the Transfer Station who is so helpful, remember almost anything with a plug is e-waste, free drop-off for recycling. It's all about reducing landfill, we can all do our bit...

Lilla, Skipton Progress Association (0437 455 049)



### Golden Plains Kerbside Collection

*cont*

Council is in the early stages of planning and in the coming months will provide more information to residents on how to use their new purple bin at the time of the rollout.

For more information and to complete a short survey to help inform Council's waste transition planning, visit [goldenplains.vic.gov.au](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au)

## CHANGES TO KERBSIDE RECYCLING COLLECTION IN GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

Golden Plains Shire Council is gearing up to introduce a new household waste and recycling system that will improve the way residents recycle at home.

Under Victorian Government legislation, all Councils must move to a standard four-bin system: red for general rubbish, yellow for mixed recycling, lime green for combined food and garden organics (no later than by 2030), and purple for glass (no later than by 2027).

In line with the changes, Council is commencing with the introduction of a new separate purple glass bin in 2024. At the same time of the introduction of the new purple bin, the frequency of collection for the yellow recycling bin will change from weekly to fortnightly.

Golden Plains Shire residents will soon need to separate their waste and recycling into three streams:

Glass

Mixed recyclables

General waste

Council's waste data shows that around 15 per cent of the community's mixed recycling is made up of glass bottles and jars. By putting glass bottles and jars in a separate bin, more of them can be recycled into new items and the quality of other recyclables will be improved.

From October 2024, residents from Golden Plains Shire Council will start using their new glass purple bin for glass only. Until then, households should keep using the current waste and recycling system as normal.

Golden Plains Shire Council Mayor Cr Brett Cunningham said the introduction of the new glass purple bin would help improve recycling outcomes and divert waste from landfill.

"Council is committed to improving and enhancing its waste practices and keeping glass separate has been shown to improve the quality of other recyclable materials. This helps create a more environmentally responsible collection service for our Golden Plains Shire community," Cr Cunningham said.

**Cont left column**



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**Email: [ykniblett@gmail.com](mailto:ykniblett@gmail.com)**



CORANGAMITE SHIRE

# Noticeboard



## Business Assistance Scheme

### Launch and networking event

**Thursday 15 February,  
5.30–7 pm**

**The Farmhouse @ 153**

**153 Manifold Street, Camperdown**

Please join us to launch Corangamite Shire's new Business Assistance Scheme; a program to enable Council to support new and existing local businesses. The event includes the opportunity to network and to hear from three local guest speakers from Alderwood Manor, Timboon Fine Ice Cream and Murfett & Whiting Electrical.

Light food and refreshments provided. Alcoholic drinks available for purchase.



Please register via the QR code, or website below.

[corangamite.vic.gov.au/business-assistance-scheme](https://corangamite.vic.gov.au/business-assistance-scheme)

## 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](https://corangamite.vic.gov.au/e-news)

## Have your say

We would like your feedback on our new Environment & Sustainability Strategy.

Corangamite Shire has compiled a 10-year draft strategy for what we, as a Council, can achieve in environmental management and sustainable practices. The draft strategy is open for community feedback until 5 March.



Find out more and have your say at [corangamite.vic.gov.au/EandSStrategy](https://corangamite.vic.gov.au/EandSStrategy) or scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.

## Join our team

### Accountant

- Permanent full-time
- 19-day month and flexible working arrangements available
- \$81,696 - \$89,184 based on experience
- Based in Camperdown

**Applications close 5 pm, Monday 12 February.**

### Financial Services Coordinator

- Permanent full-time
- 19-day month and flexible working arrangements available
- \$90,378 - \$100,241 based on experience
- Based in Camperdown

**Applications close 5 pm, Monday 12 February.**

### Early Education and Care Trainee

- Two-year traineeship
- Study and work at the same time
- 19-day month
- \$23.23 per hour

**Applications close 5 pm, Tuesday 20 February.**

### Communications Officer

- Fixed term part time
- 24 hours per week, days and hours negotiable
- \$35.76 - \$39.74 based on qualifications and experience
- Based in Camperdown

**Applications close 5 pm, Tuesday 20 February.**

**Position descriptions and applications at [corangamite.vic.gov.au/employment](https://corangamite.vic.gov.au/employment)**



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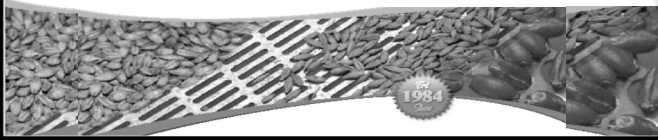


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**The Court House Museum and the Old Police House**

In the Stewart Park Historical Precinct  
Montgomery Street, Skipton  
will be open

**On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February -- 2.00 p.m. to 4.p.m.**

Skipton and District Historical Society welcome all,  
and will be especially grateful to hear from or meet  
anyone who is interested in donating or loaning  
shearing equipment and memorabilia to augment the displays in our  
planned **Wool Display** in the **Police Stables**



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



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## Free workshops

### Understanding AI

**Wednesday 21 February, 10 am-12 pm**  
**Rose Room, Terang Civic Hall**

Learn how to tap into this new age and use AI in small business. Participants will also dive into platforms such as ChatGPT and how they can work for you, along with what to watch out for.

BYO device, Android or Apple.



Register at [bit.ly/3vCjza7](https://bit.ly/3vCjza7) or scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.

### Food Safety Supervisor (FSS) Course

**Wednesday 20 March 2024, 9 am to 5 pm,**  
**Killara Centre, Camperdown**

Face-to-face training day for Corangamite businesses and community groups to complete the Food Safety Supervisor (FSS) Course.

At the completion of the course you will receive a Statement of Attainment for SITXFSA006 Participate in Safe Food Handling (Food Safety Supervisor Certificate).

Please call Kellie Duhnoven on 0429 471 288.

## New library catalogue



Corangamite Moyne Library Service is updating their library catalogue to make it easier for you to find the book you want to read next.

The new interface has the same functionality as the old catalogue but is much easier to use and has a refreshed look which makes browsing much easier.

You can choose from the most popular books in Victoria, see what books are coming to the library soon, and browse new adult and junior titles.

**The new catalogue will be going live on Tuesday 20 February.**

## Free art sessions for youth aged 12 -25

**Textured Art - Pallet Knife Art**  
 Thursday 22 February, 4-6 pm

**Watercolour - Textures & Paper**  
 Thursday 14 March, 4-6 pm

**Collage - Animals**  
 Thursday 28 March, 4-6 pm

**Decorating Shoes With Art**  
 Thursday 11 April, 4-6 pm

**Stencil Art**  
 Thursday 9 May, 4-6 pm

**Magazine Collage Art**  
 Thursday 23 May, 4-6 pm

**Paper Mache Mask/Wall Hanging - Session 1**  
 Thursday 13 June, 4-6 pm

**Paper Mache Mask/Wall Hanging - Session 2**  
 Thursday 27 June, 4-6 pm

Facilitated by Stacey Williams at Alderwood Manor, 56 Curdie Street, Cobden.



Register at [bit.ly/3tp0UOi](https://bit.ly/3tp0UOi) or scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.

## MELI

**smalltalk program delivered at Skipton community playgroup**



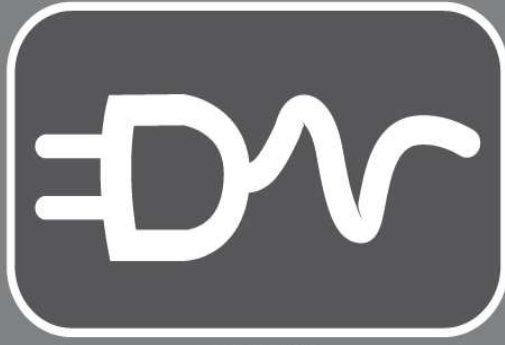
A playgroup for children aged 0-5 years which supports parents as their child's first educator.

A trained facilitator will provide activities for you and your child to enjoy together.

Weekly **smalltalk** topics are introduced to explore how young children develop & learn.



PROGRAM DETAILS	
LOCATION	Skipton Community Playgroup Beaufort and Skipton Health Service 2 Blake Street Skipton
DATE/TIME	Commencing 7 February 2024 Wednesdays 10am-12pm
WHO	Parents/Carers of children 0-5 years. Eligibility criteria may apply
COST	FREE
CONTACT	Please contact Meli on: 5231 4740 <a href="mailto:earlyyears@meli.org.au">earlyyears@meli.org.au</a>



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**FRIDAY  
22 MARCH  
COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT  
WORKSHOP**

10 am to 3pm,  
Bannockburn and Smythesdale



**We are trialling something new, come along and share your thoughts to make a difference!**

In-person attendance is required and lunch provided. **RSVP by Wednesday 13 March 2024**

Please register using the QR Code and include any additional/dietary needs. Limited transport options available.

If you have any queries, please call the Community Inclusion Team on 5220 7111 or email [enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au)



**2040  
COMMUNITY VISION**

*Have Your Say*  
**SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

*Council invites you to help shape the future of Golden Plains Shire*

Visit the 'Community Vision 2040 Refresh Have Your Say' webpage to complete the online survey and learn more about engagement opportunities.



**ARARAT VETERINARY CLINIC**

**ARARAT VETERINARY CLINIC**

**Phone: 5352 1021**

1 Port Fairy Road, Ararat,  
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**Opening Hours:**

- ◆ Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
- ◆ Saturday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

**BEAUFORT VETERINARY CLINIC**

**Phone: 5349 2003**

40 Neill Street, Beaufort,

**Opening Hours:**

- ◆ Monday: 9:00am—5:30pm
- ◆ Tuesday: Closed
- ◆ Wednesday: 9:00am—5:30pm
- ◆ Thursday: 9:00am—5:30pm
- ◆ Friday: 9:00am—5:30pm
- ◆ Saturday: Every 2nd Saturday (please call the Clinic to confirm).

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**BABY STEPS TO MOVE YOUR WAY**

**Golden Plains Shire Council invites parents, caregivers and bubs to join in the free Move Your Way – Baby Steps Program (the Program) from Monday 4 March to Friday 12 April 2024.**

The program aims to overcome obstacles to physical activity by providing baby-friendly activities throughout the Shire over a 6-week period for parents and caregivers, providing opportunity for movement and social connection.

Weekly activities, including Yoga, mat Pilates and baby sensory sessions, led by local facilitators, will take place in Bannockburn, Meredith, Lethbridge and Smythesdale.

Golden Plains Shire Council Mayor Cr Brett Cunningham encouraged parents, caregivers, and bubs to come along to the sessions.

“Move Your Way – Baby Steps is a fantastic initiative that aims to improve mental and physical wellbeing for parents and caregivers and provides an opportunity for social connection by reducing obstacles to local physical activity opportunities”, Cr Cunningham said.

“Childcare limitations and lack of time can make it difficult for parents and caregivers to find time to exercise, so a key focus of this program is bub friendly activities with local facilitators who have a passion for helping people move better and feel stronger.”

Registration is essential. To register for the activities, visit [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/events](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/events)

The first 30 participants to register and attend a class will receive a free yoga mat.

For more information, contact Council’s Health and Wellbeing team at [enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au) or call 5220 7111.

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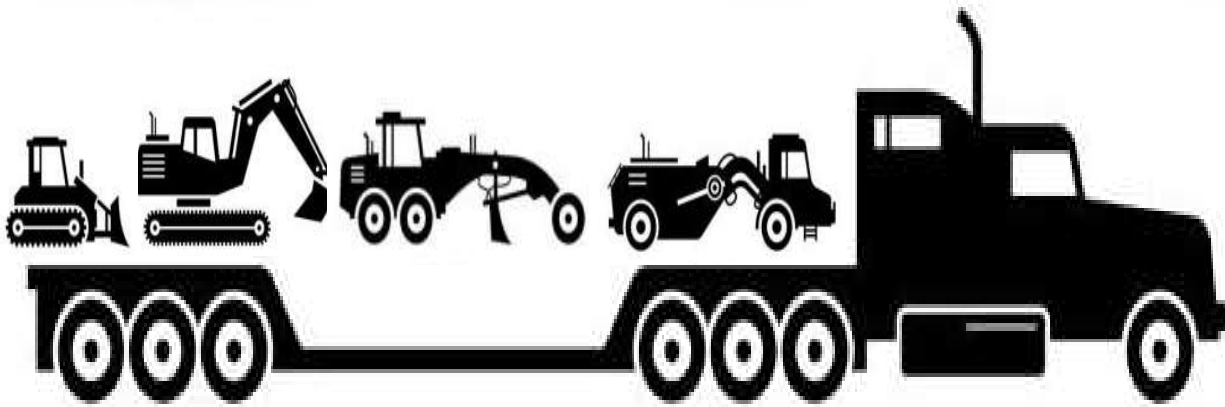
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### Pyrenees Shire News New cricket nets at hit in Beaufort

Beaufort’s Goldfields Recreation Reserve now has three brand new cricket practice nets and a storage shed for the cricket club and little athletics club.

The cricket facilities at the reserve haven’t been updated since being built in 1970 and these new facilities provide a better practice surface and improves safety for all users.

“Being able to provide better facilities for our clubs around the Shire is fantastic. These new nets address significant safety concerns with the old nets, making sure all our players are able to safely train,” said Pyrenees Shire Council Mayor Cr Robert Vance.

The new nets and storage shed were unveiled on Monday by Member for Ripon Martha Haylett MP, marking the completion of the \$305,681 facility.

The new facilities were made possible with a \$100,000 grant from the Victorian Government, a \$135,681 contribution from Pyrenees Shire Council, and contributions of \$30,000 from the Beaufort Community Bank and Australian Cricket

Infrastructure Fund, and \$10,000 from the Beaufort Cricket Club.

“It takes a lot of hard work to get a project like this off the ground everyone involved in making this happen should be proud of the result,” Cr Vance said.

The nets will be available for use by local cricket clubs, visiting cricket clubs, and local schools.

“We look forward to this facility being used by both our community and visiting cricket clubs for many years to come,” Cr Vance said.



Enjoying a few overs: Cr Robert Vance,, Keeper: BCC President Andrew Oddie and in Slips: Member for Ripon Martha Haylett MP, PSC Manager Assets Tim Day and Tim Chandler Cave Hill.

## *Skipton Progress Association Inc.*

### NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS, 2024-2025, SKIPTON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.



I.....

And Seconder.....

Nominate.....

For the Position of .....

Signatures (Proposers).....

Nominee Accepting Nomination.....

**Both persons nominating should be financial members of the Skipton Progress Association Inc. as should the nominee. (Membership \$5.00) Nomination forms may be submitted to the Secretary of the Association, P.O. Box 60, Skipton, Vic 3361 to be received two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting, on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024 in the Skipton Mechanics Hall at 7.00 pm. In the absence of formal nominations for an elected position, nominations will be taken from the floor at the Annual General Meeting.**

Nomination Forms should be completed and returned to Secretary, Skipton Progress Association Inc. P.O. Box 60, Skipton, 3361. two weeks before the date of the Annual General meeting. Please contact Secretary on 0437 455 049 for comments or queries or to return forms in person.

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## FARMERS URGED TO MONITOR DAMP HAYSTACKS FOR FIRE RISK

CFA is urging farmers to ramp up their hay maintenance for the remainder of the season, following a surge in haystack fires, with CFA responding to more than 50 since November.

Igniting predominantly in the western parts of the state across the Wimmera and Loddon Mallee, CFA has responded to 29 in the North West region and 12 in the West region.

The rise calls for the agriculture sector to monitor the moisture and temperature of their hay more regularly, to store in separate stacks and in sheds away from farming equipment and structures.

A recent haystack fire of over 1,000 hay bales in Arapiles on a total fire ban day in the Wimmera and the Mallee serves as a timely reminder for the agriculture sector to ensure they are implementing the appropriate management tools to prevent fire risk.

CFA District 17 Commander Lindsay Barry said spontaneous combustion is the leading cause of haystack fires in Victoria and just one damp bale is enough to ignite a whole stack.

"We are currently in the storage phase of hay season, and there are some contributing factors that lead to ignition," Lindsay said.

"Unfortunately, at the beginning of the season, some bales weren't produced to industry standard, and were stored away with too much moisture.

"Green or damp hay is susceptible to overheating, so those two in combination will make a fire."

Lindsay said due to the significant rain we have received during summer, haystacks that were neither placed inside a shed nor covered with a tarp have been considerably exposed.

"The hay has been pressed for so long, and because of the summer we've had, the majority of fires are where hay has been stored outside and exposed to the elements," Lindsay said.

"Water and hay don't really mix, especially when they stack together. This creates organic decomposition which produces

heat, and you end up with a hay fire due to spontaneous ignition."

Having experienced something similar this time three years ago, Lindsay recalls farms received over 100 millimetres of rain in one storm hitting their haystacks, and a trail of fires as a result.

"For farmers who own hay, or who manage haystacks, we need them to be more vigilant and ensure they're doing regular temperature checks," Lindsay said.

"If they are warm, put measures in place to break down and separate the stacks and use machinery to put in strategic breaks if you can.

"Because of recent weather, we can only implement maintenance and management now."

More information on how to prevent haystack fires can be found on CFA's website (<http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/hay>).



## NETWORKING LUNCHES FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY HALL COMMITTEES

Sharing challenges and finding solutions

**TUESDAY 12 MARCH**  
12-1 PM (MELB. TIME) ONLINE

Providing an environment that fosters connection, collaboration, and inspiration, this FREE online networking opportunity is for those who serve on local community hall committees across Victoria.

This month's discussion topic is: **Fundraising for your hall**

Operating and maintaining a hall on behalf of your local community obviously requires money to undertake many of your tasks - even the most basic. Whether it be paying the insurance, keeping the lights on, replace the roof, or any of the myriad of things in between, most of our responsibilities require funds.

**So what does your hall do to source the dollars you need?  
How do you budget for the things you need to fund?**

So if this sounds like what you need, book in now - places are limited!




# capability

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**Term 1, Week 2 - 9th February, 2024**

School Phone No. 5340 2002  
 Email: [skipton.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:skipton.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
[www.skiptonps.vic.edu.au](http://www.skiptonps.vic.edu.au)



We would like to acknowledge the Wadawurrung people, the Traditional Custodians of the Land where we farm, learn and play. We would like to thank their Elders past, present and emerging for preserving their land and sharing their culture that we promise to respect. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples.



**Important Information**

**Friendship Fridays**

Each Friday afternoon, students will be working in multi-age groups to support their social skills and ability to build respectful relationships with their peers. This time will provide opportunities for leadership from our Grade 5/6 students and encourage our younger students to build their confidence within the school. Examples of skills in focus on Friendship Friday include - team building, oral language development, emotional regulation, opportunities for critical and creative thinking.

**School Council**

It is almost time to start forming our 2024 School Council. The term of service on a school council is two years. The time commitments include eight meetings per year on a Monday night (School Councils) and one sub-committee per term. The council is currently likely to have four vacancies for the upcoming school year and all of these vacancies are for parents. Nominations will not be required as yet, but if you are thinking about being involved or have any questions, please see Chanelle.

**Parent Helpers!**

We are always looking for volunteers to support our students learning and listen to them read. In the coming weeks, as our buildings reach completion, we will be on the lookout for anyone who may like to help out.

**Leaving School Early**

Please make sure that if you are collecting students early from school, or for an appointment that you will need to enter the school through the main office. If the gate is closed, simply slide it across and come in - please do not enter classrooms throughout the day from the deck. Students MUST be signed out and signed in when returning.

**CSEF and Conveyance Allowance**

There are two forms of student financial assistance available for some families. If you are attending your closest primary school and drive more than 5km to your bus stop, you may be eligible for the Conveyance Allowance to assist with travel expenses. CSEF is also available to families who have a current healthcare card and receive some sort of government assistance. CSEF is \$150.00 per year and can be used to help pay for camps, sports or excursions. If you think you qualify for either of these options please see Natalie for an application form.

**Grade 5/6 Young Leaders**

Once again our Grade 5/6 Students have the wonderful opportunity to participate in the Young Leaders Program at the Exhibition Centre in Melbourne. Permission for this event was posted on Compass on Wednesday. Please provide permission and payment via Compass or if required, please see Natalie about arranging a payment plan.

**Newsletters in 2024, will be shared via Compass and Facebook. If you would like a hard copy, please let us know!**

**Term 1 Timetable**

- Prep - 2**  
 Wednesday - Auslan, Library & Sustainability  
 Thursday - Digi-Tech  
 Friday - P.E
- Grade 3/4**  
 Monday - P.E  
 Wednesday - Auslan, Digi-Tech & Choice Learning (starting soon)  
 Thursday - Sustainability
- Grade 5/6**  
 Wednesday - Auslan, Digi-Tech & Choice Learning (starting soon)  
 Thursday - Sustainability  
 Friday - P.E



**Upcoming Events**

- Term 1, Week 3**  
 Monday 12th Feb  
 • Finance Sub-Committee 9am  
 • Assembly 3:10pm  
 • Community Engagement Sub-Committee - 6:30pm  
 • School Council 6:30pm

- Wednesday 14th Feb  
 • No Prep Students

- Friday 16th Feb  
 • Grade 5/6 Young Leaders Excursion in Melbourne

- Term 1, Week 4**  
 Wednesday 21st Feb  
 • No Prep Students

- Thursday 22nd Feb  
 • Skipton PS Swimming Carnival

- Term 1, Week 5**  
 Monday 26th Feb  
 • Assembly 3:10pm

- Wednesday 28th Feb  
 • No Prep Students

- Thursday 29th Feb  
 • Clean up Australia Day Grade P - 4!

This week I would like to congratulate Isabella V, Angus, Kaylee, Tama, Georgia, Matilda T, Emily, George R, Evie, Poppy, Lily, Arli, Alfie, Georgi M, Viv & Maisie for being selected to take part in the Victorian State School Spectacular. All students are welcome to join in rehearsal at school when they start in the coming weeks.

This week, Archie from Kids Helpline spoke to our Grade 3-6 students about being safe online. He was informative, engaging and shared an important message in sharing with an adult when you are not feeling safe while using technology.

This week, I am setting a challenge for the school community...help us name our newsletter! If you have any ideas... LET US KNOW! *Chanelle Felcher*

**Our Learning**

**Prep - 2**

We have had a busy week in the Foundation-2 class with all students completing their maths assessments. We have settled in to our Sounds Write groups and will continue to build, read and write new words targeting our focus sounds. Reading groups have been established and students will be working on a variety of tasks involving word work, comprehension, fluency and letter recognition. We will continue working on counting in maths next weeks with students working at their point of need. In respectful relationships we continue to explore emotions and how this impacts facial expression and body language.

**Grade 3/4**

The Grade 3 and 4's had a great week and really enjoyed making sushi to finish it off. Week 3 sees the class further develop skills in Place Value in Numeracy sessions. Literacy sessions will see a focus on language conventions to support the development of persuasive writing. When reading, we are learning to make brave choices when selecting reading material.

**Grade 5/6**

Next week in 5-6 will be a busy one! We'll begin Literature Circles, begin revising our understanding of text types in preparation for NAPLAN and develop our Place Value understanding. The week will end with a trip to Melbourne for Young Leaders!



**Start of Term Happy Snaps!**



**Thank you!**

Thank you to these wonderful Mums for supporting the school by helping out on the gate in the heat at Harvest over the weekend.

We appreciate you!



**MELI**

**smalltalk program delivered at Skipton community playgroup**

A playgroup for children aged 0-5 years which supports parents as their child's first educator.  
 A trained facilitator will provide activities for you and your child to enjoy together.  
 Weekly smalltalk topics are introduced to explore how young children develop & learn.

PROGRAM DETAILS	
LOCATION	Skipton Community Playgroup, Beaufort and Skipton Health Service, 2 Blake Street Skipton
DATE/TIME	Commencing 7 February 2024, Wednesday, 9am-12pm
WHO	Parents/Careers of children 0-5 years, Eligibility criteria may apply
COST	FREE
CONTACT	Please contact Meli on: 6 5341 4540, <a href="mailto:earlyyears@mell.org.au">earlyyears@mell.org.au</a>

**ANZ HOT SPOTS**

WEDNESDAY  
**February 14th**  
 Start @ 4.00 pm  
 Derrinallum Rec Reserve

6 WEEKS GOLD COIN/WEEK  
 Kids will be moved to the group that best suits their skill level

FUN, FRIENDLY & WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT  
 GREAT INTRODUCTION TO TENNIS & CONTINUING TO STRENGTHEN THEIR SKILLS

Small groups of 4, delivering a more personalised program.

AGES 3-12 YEARS

Please bring along a drink bottle & a hat

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## CFA

**Keeping our heritage safe**

Cultural landmarks, artefacts and other evidence made over thousands of years of continual occupation by Victoria's Indigenous communities are irreplaceable and protected by legislation.

CFA actively encourages a proactive approach to protect heritage values, whether they are of Indigenous or non-Indigenous (historic) heritage:

We include cultural heritage values advisers in incident management teams (IMT).

We include cultural heritage awareness information in the annual preseason incident management team briefings.

Joint Fuel Management Program plans as part of CFAs vegetation management program include thorough heritage values assessments for each treatment.

The annual program of vegetation management activities across Victoria includes a range of different treatments. Fuel reduction burning along roadsides, some reserves and private land is the main method of fuel management we undertake, usually in spring or autumn.

Increasingly, we support Traditional Owner groups to carry out cultural burning, which can also help reduce local fire risk. Other methods we use to reduce fire risk include non-burn fuel treatments including mechanical such as mulching or slashing of weedy vegetation, and sometimes biological such as grazing animals to remove and lower grassy fuels.

Each treatment option has a different level of risk to identified heritage values present within the landscape. To reduce potential damage to any known or recorded values at a site, whether Indigenous or historic origin, steps are taken to identify and protect those identified values.

CFA's cultural heritage adviser reviews every fuel treatment nominated in the Joint Fuel Management Program to identify any recorded Indigenous or historic heritage values. If a recorded value does exist, a suitable way is found to protect the value identified.

Heritage values vary greatly, from the conspicuous and obvious to the indiscernible and intangible. The identified value may be a living or dead tree with a shield, coolamon or canoe tree, or even climbing toe

holds cut to make possum hunting easier. Or it could be a large, fire-hollowed veteran tree.

"In CFA, as in emergency services more broadly, we do our best to make sure our people on the ground have the best information at hand," Cultural Heritage Adviser Michael Sherwen said.

"But we always ask our people in the field to keep their eyes open to the possibility of new finds. For example, after the 2020 Budj Bim fires near Heywood, the leaf litter layer was burnt off and revealed previously unknown ancient stone eel traps and stone house sites.

Another example was at Ruffy after a wildfire. During site rehabilitation works CFA members noticed grooves in rocks.

"Later inspections by Traditional Owners confirmed they were previously unknown axe-grinding grooves, and nearby they found birthing trees and other artefacts. More of our heritage is always being revealed."

Certain areas are known to hold burial mounds, ceremonial sites (such as Corroboree rings), stone formations or birthing sites. You may also find axe heads (see the main photo of an axe head in situ).

Areas where flood plains occur in riverine environments, such as along our major river systems including associated wetlands and billabongs, are likely to have numerous cooking mounds throughout.

In the Budj Bim World Heritage Landscape in south-west Victoria, an entire landscape is identified as having "living cultural connection".

The recognised value may also relate to the heritage gates of a parkland reserve, mining, historic bridges, or an Avenue of Honour viewed as a local or regional landmark and icon.

Ways to protect a particular value will depend on the physical nature of the identified value, the fuel types and the proposed fuel treatment. Mitigation measures are developed in consultation with the person who has nominated the treatment, usually the district's vegetation management officer, and may be as simple as excluding a section from treatment if there is a need to do so.

Victoria's heritage belongs to all of us, just as it belongs to generations who will come after us. It is our obligation to carry out our activities ensuring the legacies of heritage left to us are safe-guarded.

Q. What's the difference between the English cricket team and a funeral director.

A. The funeral director doesn't lose the ashes.

Q. What's the difference between the Australian cricket team and Cinderella

A. Cinderella knows when to leave the ball.

## Meetings & Coming Events cont

### SKIPTON SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB MEETS EVERY MONDAY AT SKIPTON MECHANICS INSTITUTE HALL

From **2pm till 4pm** on Monday, and on the **fourth Monday** have an earlier start of **12 noon** for Lunch. Committee Meeting follows at 2pm.

“Seniors” is a fantastic way to enjoy a weekly outing and to make new friends. Play Cards, Bingo, Carpet Bowls, and “lots of Other Stuff”!!

- \* Seniors also have trips and outings throughout the year.
- \* Just come along, you will be happy you did.

### 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

### Got an Event Coming Up? Need a Venue? To make **BOOKINGS FOR SKIPTON'S MECHANICS HALL**

**Contact: Shayley Grigsby on 0447 050 095**

### EUCHRE CARD GROUP

Meet on Wednesdays @ 1.30pm  
In the Billiard Room, Mechanics Hall..  
All Welcome. All ages will enjoy Cards.

### BEAUFORT ART TRAX GALLERY

Is Open: 11am—3pm Friday and Monday  
10am—4pm Saturday & Sunday.  
Phone: Heather: 0427 492 082

Thursday 7th March: **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of **SKIPTON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION Inc.** will be held at **7.00 p.m.** in the **Skipton Mechanics Hall**, Anderson Street, Skipton. Please take this opportunity to become involved with Skipton Progress Association Inc, contact Secretary Lilla on 0437 455 049 or President, David Hunneybell on 0431 1204 610 with queries.

Saturday 9th March: **SKIPTON MARKET** will be held in **Skipton Mechanics Hall**, from **9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.**

Stall bookings and inquiries to Jan, Market Co-ordinator on 5340 2204 or check *facebook* Skipton Community Market.

Saturday 9th March: **ART TRAX 'ARTISAN' MARKET & OPEN GALLERY** Art. Craft. Art Supplies. Other Stalls. 9 am—3 pm Railway Station, Pratt St Beaufort. Site Enquiries Phone 0427 492 082

Saturday 9th March: **BEAUFORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CAR BOOT / GARAGE SALE** Open Court Room with Historical Display 9 am – 3 pm 9 Livingstone St Beaufort Cost \$15.00 per Site Contact Ph: 0428 963 222

Sunday 10th March: **WATERLOO HALL CAR BOOT / GARAGE SALE Free Entry Event 9am – 2 pm 885 Beaufort – Lexton Rd**

**Cost \$15.00 per Site Ph: 5349 3009 or 0439 477 309**

Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd March: **LAKE BOLAC 14th EEL FESTIVAL. Festival theme: “Song, Story, Dance: Ceremony and Celebration”** The 2024 Eel Festival will include the well-loved Healing Walk, Art Auction, Smoking Ceremony, Music Program, Forum, a multitude of workshops, and the Twilight Ceremony. The Workshops include:

- Basketweaving with Bronwyn Razem Gunditjmara Artist/Weaver—Aunty Bronwyn is such a talent and has worked her magic on a broilga and yellow cockatoo in previous years. She is also a delight to spend time with whilst learning more about weaving.



## Sporting News

### Ballarat Highlands Bowls Association Pennant

**Results Round 7:** Saturday 10th February: Skipton Bowlers were not able to fill their Teams to play Pennant this weekend so forfeited to their opposition.



**Maybe for the future success for the Skipton Bowling Club, you might consider joining up.**

Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd March: **LAKE BOLAC 14th EEL FESTIVAL. Festival theme: “Song, Story, Dance: Ceremony and Celebration”** Art Auction, Music and Heaps More



**Friday Art Auction: Smoking Ceremony; Feature artists – Kylie Moroney & Howard Brandenburg; Where Water Meets.**

**Saturday Forum Snapshots – Professor**

**Aunty Eleanor Bourke AM and Malcolm Johnson**

Immediately following the Welcome to Country at 11am, the festival's highly popular Forum event will begin. This year, the Forum presenters will be speaking to the festival theme: “Song, Story, Dance: Ceremony and Celebration”, followed by question time by audience members. Two of the speakers at the forum will be Professor Aunty Eleanor Bourke AM and Malcolm Johnson, a University of Tasmania PhD candidate in human geography.

**The 2024 Lake Bolac Eel Festival – Kuyang Lapakira** (Plenty Eels) will be blessed and opened with a smoking ceremony in the Lake Bolac Memorial Hall on Friday night just prior to the art auction by local Gunditjmara/Djabwurrung man, Paul Kelly. **Where Water Meets**, a mesmerising Tasmanian chamber-folk

duo of violin, guitar and shakuhachi flute, will then continue to set the mood for an inspiring evening of art and creativity, transporting listeners into spacious soundscapes as art auction attendees mingle and peruse the artworks to be auctioned.

Murnong Mummas, a Castlemaine Indigenous catering service, will prepare a vegetarian supper, featuring bush tucker ingredients, for art auction attendees during the dinner break.

Artworks by nineteen Victorian artists will be offered at auction on the night. Two of those artists are Howard Brandenburg and Kylie Moroney.

**Howard Brandenburg: Love of Leptocephalus', a work in progress**

Howard is a painter and scientific illustrator from New Mexico who now resides in western Victoria. In his paintings, he combines freedom of expression with fascinating designs and structures that have evolved in the natural world.

**Kylie Moroney: 'Buluk Puae Buae'**

Kylie is a Warrnambool based teacher and photographer who has been capturing the big skies of South West Victoria for the past ten years. From the coast to Lake Bolac, Kylie has captured the Milky Way, storms and auroras in places which are otherwise often overlooked.



GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE



## FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY AT MOVIE AFTERNOONS

**Golden Plains Shire Council is excited to announce two free movie afternoon events in February 2024 courtesy of the Victorian Government's Crime Prevention Strategy.**

Join us for these exciting community events:

- On Saturday 17 February from 1 to 5pm at the Cape Clear Recreation Hall, Recreation Road, Cape Clear, featuring the movie 'Lilo & Stitch' and
- On Saturday 24 February from 1 to 5pm at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre, 27 High Street, Bannockburn, featuring 'The Lego Movie.'

Join us for a delightful afternoon where you can experience a fun movie, indulge in diverse food truck delights, enjoy face painting, an animal petting zoo, and live music.

Golden Plains Shire Council Mayor Cr Brett Cunningham encouraged young people and families to attend the movie afternoons.

"We extend a warm invitation to families and community members across the Shire to come along with your family, grab some popcorn, and settle in for an afternoon full of entertainment you won't want to miss," Cr Cunningham said.

"These events play a crucial role in fostering pro-social behaviour and positive community engagement among young people, their families and friends," he said.

To register for the movie afternoons, visit [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/events](https://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/events).

For more information, contact Council's Youth Development team at [youth@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@gplains.vic.gov.au) or call 5220 7111.

The movie afternoon events are made possible through funding from the Victorian Government's Crime Prevention Strategy.

## **COMMUNITY VISION 2040 REFRESH – SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Golden Plains Shire residents and visitors have an opportunity to review Council's Community Vision 2040 to ensure we continue to work towards our community's goals.

Between 2019 and 2020, community members shared their thoughts and aspirations to create the Golden Plains Shire Community Vision 2040. The Community Vision 2040 identifies four priority areas; Community, Liveability, Prosperity, and Sustainability to be focused upon for the next 20 years.

Community members are now invited to help review this important strategic document through an extensive engagement process from Monday 15 January to Friday 29 March 2024.

Community engagement activities will include an online Have Your Say survey, meetings with key community groups, opportunities for residents and visitors to engage at local community events, including markets, and a Community Engagement Workshop available to attend in Bannockburn and Smythesdale.

Golden Plains Shire Mayor Cr Brett Cunningham said Council wanted to ensure the Community Vision 2040 continued to reflect community aspirations and goals.

"When developing the Community Vision 2040 document throughout 2019 and 2020, community members told Council they envisioned enhanced social networks, increased spaces for young people and the aged and disability community, as well as upgraded civic amenities.

"There was also a focus on education, and the promotion and protection of sustainable practices were sought while greater employment, community events, and connectivity were also recommended," Cr Cunningham said.

"As our community evolves, we are now asking if the Community Vision 2040 still reflects their aspirations to ensure we're still working towards the right goals.

"I really encourage people to share their thoughts and make a difference through the consultation process," he said.

To learn more about how you can get involved and register for the Community Engagement Workshop available in Bannockburn and Smythesdale on Friday 22 March, visit [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations](https://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations)

Once the consultation is complete, Council will prepare a What We Heard report summarising the feedback provided by the community in mid-2024. Council will then prepare a draft updated Community Vision 2040 document which will be considered for endorsement by Council in September 2024.

After November's Council election, the document will then assist the newly elected Council in preparing the next Council Plan.

**Roads      Tree Removal/Mulching**

0437 287 726







**Site Cuts/Piling**      **Demolition**