

*This Week's Sponsors:*

*Skipton Community News*

*Thank you very much*

### Happy Christmas from all at the Skipton

At the December "Skipton Christmas Market" Coordinator Jan Murphy, (*left of photo*), joined the Members of Skipton Friends of Vision Australia to draw their Christmas Raffle. *Winners below*

Joined by some of the regular Stall Holders, Jan took the opportunity to thank everyone for their ongoing support as they rounded off another great year for the popular Market.

Always filled with well-stocked Stalls, the Skipton Mechanics Institute Hall holds its Monthly Markets the second Saturday of each month from 9am till 1pm.

**NEXT SKIPTON MARKET** will be held on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January**, will be a **Pop-Up Street Market**, from **9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.** on Montgomery Street, Skipton, support and the weather allowing. Please contact Market Co-ordinator Jan on 0422785017 for further information and indications of interest or check facebook/Skipton Community Market.

### Skipton Friends of Vision Australia

Would like to thank the SPA Market Group for support with their Christmas Raffle with sincere thanks to the friendly Staff at Skipton Op Shop for displaying the Raffle prizes and the Vision Australia Calendars, and for selling both the Calendars and Raffle Tickets.



Thanks to Country Grocers for selling tickets, and thanks to our members and friends for donating towards our wonderful raffle – thank you.

#### Winners of Raffle:

Jay Court – 1st; Charlie Knight – 2nd; Pat Hutchinson – 3rd; Len Suckling - 4th; Lilla Orton – 5th

Appreciation to our Community for your caring help shown in many ways.

Christmas wishes and a Happy Happy New Year for 2024.

Yvonne Shady – President, and Marg Fraser – Sec/Treasurer.

**Skipton Christmas Party**

## Tomorrow Night, Thursday 21st of December at Skipton Recreation Reserve

# BBQ

### Visit from Santa



Entertainment will include Pedal Go Kart Racing and a Photo Booth; **Enjoy the Fun of the "Decorated Bike" Competition.**

2 sections: "A Bike That Can Still Be Ridden", and "a Bike As A Work Of Art".

Prizes will be awarded in 3 age groups

[Under 11, Under 18, and Open] for the best bike in each section.

**And the new "Decorated Scooter" Competition.**

"A Scooter That Can Be Ridden", and

"A Scooter As A Work Of Art". for 11 and Under only.

## Lions Christmas Lights Competition Winner to be announced



*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*

**CHURCH & CAROLS at WALLUNDUC**

Friday 22nd December at 6pm  
Drinks and Nibbles after.  
All welcome.

**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 at Christ Church, Skipton in the morning, Sunday 24th December.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Service times:** 9.00am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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

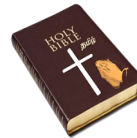
Thursday 9.30am

Friday 9.30am

Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 10.30am

Sunday 9.00am



**BIBLE THOUGHT**

Praise the Lord, my soul,  
My innermost spirit,  
Bless the Holy Name.

Psalm chapter 103, verse 1

**SKIPTON TRANSFER STATION**

Beaufort Road, Skipton.

**Transfer Station opens next on**

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, Wed 7th February 2024,

**Opening Hours: from 1 pm to 5 pm.**



**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.



**SKIPTON SWIMMING POOL**

11 am–7 pm

Weekends, public holidays,  
school holidays

2.30–7 pm

School term

6–7.30 am

Morning lap swimming

Thursday | Full Season

9–10.30 am

Mid morning swimming

Tuesday | Full Season

Open Saturday 2 December 2023



# Stop kidding yourself. If you drink, don't drive.

Thinking about driving after a couple of drinks? Think again.  
If you blow .05 or over, you could face serious penalties,  
including fines, losing your licence, getting an interlock installed  
in your car and having to blow zero for three years.



## GRANTS FOR GROUNDBREAKING CREATIVE PROJECTS

Artists and creatives across Ripon are invited to apply to the Allan Labor Government's Creative Projects Fund.

The program supports independent artists and creative workers to build their skills and careers, develop new creative work and experiences, and take them to local, national or international audiences and markets.

Grants of \$5000 to \$20,000 are available to Victorian professional artists, creative practitioners, collectives, groups and organisations working in all creative disciplines – from design to dance, fashion to film, theatre, augmented and virtual technologies, visual art, music, literature and more.

In 2022, the first round of the program supported more than 100 creative projects statewide which have collectively employed 896 individuals – including providing an important boost to creative professionals in early stages of their careers.

Member for Ripon Martha Haylett said, *“The Creative Projects Fund helps professional artists and small creative businesses to develop new work, bringing their ideas to life.”*

*“Through this fund, we are backing our local talent, and helping to take our region's stories and creativity to audiences and markets across the state and around the globe.”*

The Fund aims to support a wide range of ideas and perspectives, reflecting the diversity of the creative industries and Victoria's wider community. It includes dedicated streams for First Peoples and Deaf and Disabled applicants.

Applications are also encouraged from culturally and linguistically diverse, LGBTIQ+ and regionally based creatives.

The Creative Projects Fund invests in the creative people and ideas that fuel the state's \$38.4 billion creative industries and is an action of the Victorian Government's Creative State 2025 strategy.

Applications for the General, Deaf and Disabled and First Peoples streams open on Thursday 7 December 2023 and will close at 3pm on Thursday 1 February 2024.

For more information or to apply, visit [creative.vic.gov.au/funding-opportunities](https://creative.vic.gov.au/funding-opportunities).

**FROM THE EDITOR:** In Skipton we have quite a number of talented Artists and Musicians and Creative people (just look at the innovative designs of the Christmas Lights around Town, *(go for a drive around Skipton after dark!!)*, who might find that they are eligible to apply for this funding to assist them in their various endeavours. Give it a go and apply!!

Possibly the Artist at 28 Montgomery might think about making an application, or those who ran successful Workshops in 2023. K

## REGIONAL SPORT TO SHINE BRIGHT FOR ALL

The future of sport is bright in regional Victoria, with a new fund opening to help local clubs update their infrastructure and facilities to make way for more locals to play – thanks to the Allan Labor Government.

Member for Ripon Martha Haylett welcomed the opening of the new Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund (RCSIF) – with funding of up to \$60 million available.

The RCSIF is funded through the Regional Community Sport Development Fund and the All-Abilities Sport Fund – announced in July – following consultation with regional communities who said new infrastructure and upgraded facilities were needed to keep local sport thriving.

Regional sporting clubs and community organisations are encouraged to work with their local council to bring their best ideas forward and make their club accessible and future-ready for generations to come.

The four streams cover a wider variety of upgrades to suit a range of clubs:

- Up to \$3 million available to develop or upgrade multi-sport indoor courts and aquatic facilities through the Indoor Stadium and Aquatic Facilities Stream
- Grants up to \$1 million available through the Community Facilities Stream to build or upgrade sports pavilions, sports lighting, play spaces and active recreation facilities
- The Women and Girls Facilities Stream has grants of up to \$1 million for new female friendly change rooms or sports courts to help level the playing field

**Member for Ripon Martha Haylett said** *“Sporting clubs are the beating heart of our rural and regional communities, and they provide so much more than just a place to get active. This fund will make sure they have the best facilities and infrastructure to get even more locals involved.”*

For the first time there will be a dedicated All Abilities Infrastructure stream that will provide grants of up to \$1 million to renovate existing facilities to ensure they are accessible for people with disability.

Complementary grants of up to \$50,000 are also available to help boost wider community participation at the upgraded facilities, in partnership with sporting organisations and local disability service providers.

The Fund encourages regional clubs to design the facilities that matter to their local teams and community, with a focus on getting more people involved regardless of their age, gender, background or ability.

Applications for the first round of the Fund are now open. For more information or to apply, visit [sport.vic.gov.au](https://sport.vic.gov.au)



**YOU CAN'T CONTROL FIRE,  
BUT YOU CAN PREPARE FOR IT.**

The best way to keep you and your loved ones safe this fire season, is to make sure you have a fire plan.  
Go to [fireplanner.vic.gov.au](https://fireplanner.vic.gov.au) to create your personalised fire plan now.

**HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW FIRE?**

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

**VICTORIA**  
State Government

### Shining a light on Council offices

The side of the Civic Centre in Camperdown was lit up with the debut of a new projection system as about 1500 people enjoyed the Light Up Camperdown festival on Friday night.

The installation was funded by a grant from the State Government's \$5 million Our Regions: Living Local – Regional Fund. Minister for Regional Development Gayle Tierney said the projector was a real win for Corangamite.

"We're proud to back this project as it brings the local community together in celebration and attracts visitors passing by to enjoy what's on offer in the region."



The fund is aimed at activating public spaces to promote social connections, enhance liveability and revitalise regional shopping strips. Corangamite Shire Mayor Kate Makin said the projector would be an asset to make the town centre more vibrant and would improve safety by providing more lighting.



"It's a great innovation with so many possibilities," Cr Makin said. "The side wall of the Civic Centre makes a great screen that can be seen by motorists travelling down the highway.

"It could potentially provide great opportunities to promote community events and festivals, tourism, special occasions or safety messages. In the new year Council will formalise a set of guidelines for how it can be best used to support our community."

Council Events and Creative Industries Team Leader Tammy Young said the projector was chosen because it could provide brighter and much more vibrant colours than comparable models.

"It uses coloured lasers which provide sharper images and video than projectors using other light sources. The image will be clearer even in less-than-ideal lighting conditions like long summer twilights. It is more energy efficient, using 25% less electricity than many other projectors and is temperature insulated and thermostatically controlled for safety."

The projector was installed by local contractor Dickinson Electrical.

# Christmas & New Year arrangements



## STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Andrew Mason 0428 301 909

### DIRECTORS

David Rae – Director Corporate and Community Services 0427 838 272

Brooke Love – Director Works and Services 0409 976 204

Justine Linley – Director Sustainable Development 0457 444 118

### MANAGERS

Jarrold Woff – Manager Facilities and Recreation 0409 701 797

Mikayla Hein – Manager Works 0457 594 212

Aaron Moyne – Manager Planning and Building 0417 165 625

Katie Hearn – Manager Community Services 0488 464 323

John Kelly – Manager Assets 0409 803 044

Steven Welsh – Manager Information Services 0417 128 983

Adam Taylor – Manager Finance 0428 094 344

Lyall Bond – Manager Emergency and Environment 0419 377 854

Michele Stephenson – Manager Human Resources and Risk 0400 056 369

Rory Neeson – Manager Growth and Engagement 0427 633 766

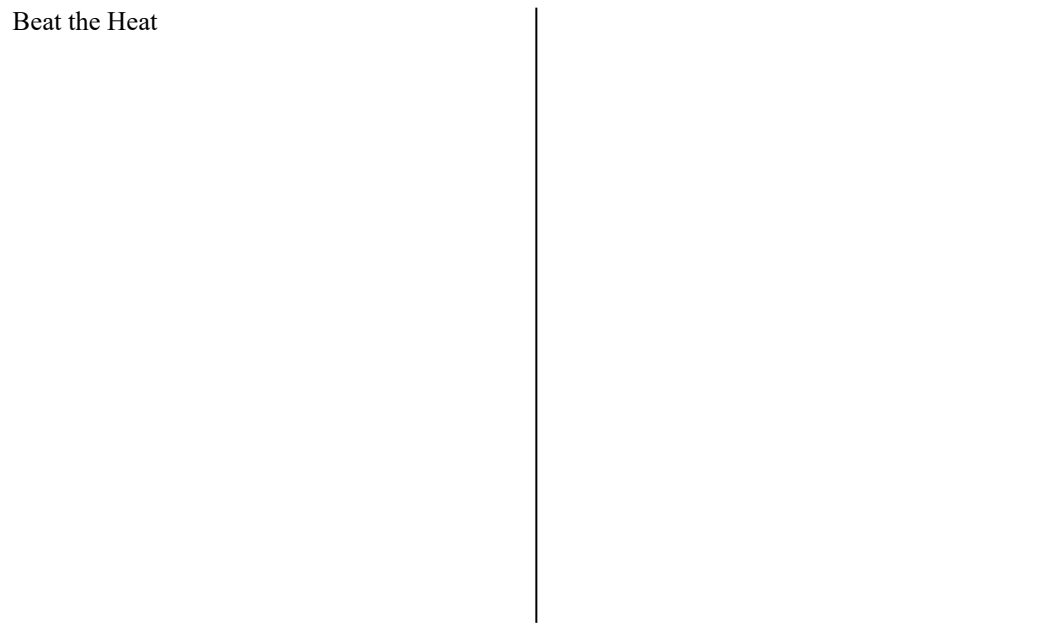
### SERVICE PROVISION COORDINATOR

Chloe McGowan – Team Leader 0409 798 561

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Sharna Whitehand – Emergency Management Officer 0418 331 479

Beat the Heat



## Skipton Progress Association Inc.

At the end of a busy year, free at last of the major threat of COVID19, all of us in the Skipton Progress Association would like to take this opportunity to wish all of Skipton a happy and safe Holiday season, a very Happy Christmas, and let's join in looking forward to 2024.

The major achievement of the year was the final completion of the **Blade Shearer sculpture**,

the members of our Special Events Committee and the volunteers and co-opted members who joined them did a magnificent job in the launch of the statue, a tribute to

Skipton's champion blade shearer, "Ben" Wilkie, his family and the contribution he and his fellow shearers made and are still making to the wool industry that was the base of the wealth

and importance of the Western District. The Skipton Spring Festival that accompanied the

launch was a triumph for the whole town and way beyond, the support from so many was

absolutely vital, huge thanks to all who worked so hard.

The Progress Association have now committed to **an annual Festival**, the date in 2024 has been set, Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November, and we are also beginning to plan for a Musical Festival during the year with the support of Corangamite Council. It has been our privilege also

to participate in projects that are bringing Skipton back to life and public attention, even if all we are asked to do is administer funds or publicise through the Skipton Community News what is happening in town, and report on events, ceremonies and artistic and craft workshops, business renewals....

A new initiative to the public face of Skipton is our facebook site **skiptonprogressassociation**.

where we are showing or repeating information about forthcoming events and meetings and mini articles, most importantly at this point about Australia Day. In 2024 Corangamite Shire will be celebrating this important day in Skipton on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January, please keep checking the site for details into the New Year, while our SCN goes into recess for the school holidays.

The Association has held it's last meeting for the year, but will return to work in February 2024, with our first meeting on the now traditional "first Thursday" Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 7.00 p.m.

in the Skipton Mechanics Hall. All are welcome to attend general monthly meetings, membership of the Association costs you only \$5.00 and your commitment. The right to vote at meetings and move motions is limited to members. Our Annual General Meeting is held in March of each year, 2024 AGM will be on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 p.m., all offices are declared vacant at that meeting.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December was National Volunteer Day, we can only add that without volunteers

our town could not operate, congratulations to all the unsung heroines and heroes who keep us going, and especially to the CFA volunteers who keep us safe and who need help now and into the future as we stare down our changing climate.

### Best wishes to all for 2024

David Hunneybell, President, Skipton Progress Association.

Phone 043 104 610

Lilla Orton, Secretary, Skipton Progress Association. Phone 0437 455 049

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

*Anonymous Author Not Known*

There is a list of folks we know

All written in a book;

And every year at Christmas time

We go and take a look.

And that is when we realise that

These names are a part

Not of the book they're written in

But of our very hearts.



For each name stands for someone  
Who has touched our heart sometime;

And in that meeting they've become

The 'Rhythm of the Rhyme'.

We really feel we are composed

Of each remembered name,

And while you may not be aware,

Of feeling quite the same,

Our life is so much better

Than it was before you came.



For once you have known someone

The years cannot erase,

The memory of the pleasant word

Or of a friendly face.

So never think our Christmas cards

Are just a mere routine,

Of names upon a list, forgotten in between.

For when we send a Christmas card

That is addressed to you,

It is because you're on that list

Of folks we're indebted to.

And whether we've known you

For many years or few,

In some way you have had a part

In sharing things we do.

So every year when Christmas comes

We realise anew

The biggest gift that God can give

Is knowing folks like you!!





### *Friends of the RSL Skipton Branch*

At their last meeting of the year Friends of the RSL Skipton Branch took the opportunity to look back on what has been a very busy year.

We have been enormously encouraged by the response by Skipton and District Residents and those from further afield to the activities we have organised and the ceremonies we have observed during the year. It is also time to thank those who volunteered their time and effort to help in the organisation and running of activities, and to thank for their support the Emergency Services Officers, Victoria Police and especially the students and staff of Skipton Primary School who without fail support and encourage us with their participation.

Thank you everyone,  
we wish you a safe and happy Holiday Season,  
and a peaceful New Year.



Friends have committed to supporting in 2024 the activities and the ceremonies observed during this last year...

- **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March.**  
**Reunion Lunch for all War Veterans,**  
Skipton Golf and Bowls Club.
- **Thursday April 25<sup>th</sup> .ANZAC Day**  
**Dawn Service of Remembrance, at the Memorial.**  
And,  
**ANZAC Day Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Skipton War Memorial.**
- **Sunday August 18<sup>th</sup> . Vietnam Veterans Day**  
A brief ceremony will be held to mark this Day
- **September 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> . Legacy Week**  
All support will be offered to Legacy.
- **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November. Remembrance Day**



*Graham Layley, President*

*Gail Ward, Secretary, ph 0403 530 293*  
*Friends of the RSL Skipton Branch*



### **GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL**

#### **WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR SPRING IN THE SHIRE PHOTO ESSAY COMPETITION**

**The winners of the 2023 Spring in the Shire Photo Essay Competition were announced at the Golden Plains Twilight Market in Bannockburn last week.**

This year's theme of Photo[synthesis] supported visual storytellers to explore the beauty of the environment, as well as environmental issues and challenges. Amateur photographers of any skill level were encouraged to capture this theme through their lens. The winners and runners-up included:

**Major Prize** (18 years and older) - \$600 cash prize.

- Winner: Keama Rowan – 'Hidden in the Reeds' (Bannockburn)  
Runner-up: Lyn Steele – 'The Mighty Moorabool' (Meredith)

**Young Adult** (13 to 17 years) - \$400 cash prize.

- Winner: Amelia Preston – 'Freddy the Frog' (Rokewood)  
Runner-up – Sophia Rowling – 'A Sunset' (Teesdale)

**Junior Prize** (up to 12 years) - \$200 cash prize.

- Winner: Jessica Richens – 'Two Little Bugs' (Inverleigh)  
Runner-up – Clancy Steele – 'Reflection of Tree in Water' (Inverleigh)

Prize sponsors included Turosi Giving, Bannockburn Free Range Chicken and Geelong Landcare and runner-up prize winners received a handmade basket by Wadawurrung artist Trina Dalton Odgies.

Golden Plains Shire Council Mayor Cr Brett Cunningham said the 27 competition entries truly captured the Shire's natural beauty and surrounds.

"We were very impressed with the quality of entries for this year's competition which really highlighted the beautiful surrounds, vibrant communities, and amazing flora and fauna we have in Golden Plains," Cr Cunningham said.

"I would also like to thank Spring in the Shire judges Caitlin and Jemma from the Youth Activation Committee, Cr Helena Kirby, RMIT's Dr Li Ping Thong and Deakin University's Dr Sean Loughrey as well as the generous support of our sponsors who made the competition possible."

The Spring in the Shire Photo Essay Exhibition will feature at locations including the Bannockburn Cultural Centre, The Well in Smythesdale and the Golden Plains Civic Centre in Bannockburn over the next 12 months.

# Skipton Rail Trail back in action after flood repairs

The Skipton end of the Ballarat-Skipton Rail Trail is back in action after the last of extensive repairs were completed.

Council’s Infrastructure Projects Officer Dean Finlayson said the trail was significantly damaged by floods in October 2022.

“After the floods civil engineers did an assessment and determined floodway, re-sheeting and drainage works were required,” Mr Finlayson said.

“A local contractor re-sheeted about 5.5 km of the trail managed by Council between Anderson Street and Spring Hill Road.

“The works included reconstruction of damaged sections including the concrete floodway just south of the Skipton golf course.

“We’ve also built up, reshaped and graded the trail to improve drainage, re-sheeted and rolled the surface, and provided side

The approach to the end of the Rail Trail before the work was done.



Same stretch of the Rail Trail after the work was completed.

drainage to allow water to run into existing table drains.

“The works will significantly reduce the risks of future erosion due to drainage from severe wet weather.”

North Ward Councillor Nick Cole said the timing was perfect with the trail open for the festive season holiday and summer.

“The rail trail is a great asset for Skipton,” Cr Cole said.

Damage from the flooding event



Same section of the Trail after the completion of the work done.



“It’s a safe and accessible way for locals to get out for some exercise and enjoy fresh air, sunshine and the beautiful environment.

“It’s also an inviting gateway to bring cyclists, hikers and horse riders down from Ballarat to explore what we have in Corangamite.

“A new coffee shop is open in town now – Bluestone, Bubbles and Banter – where visitors and tourists can enjoy a nice cuppa and wind down on the banks of the very scenic Mt Emu creek after the rail trail.”

Local Government Victoria’s Council Flood Support Fund provided \$315,000 for the repairs.

**From the Editor:** On behalf of the wider Skipton Community, and the users of the Skipton-Ballarat Rail Trail, I would like to express sincere thanks to the Local and State Governments for making these funds available to restore the Rail Trail (through the Corangamite Shire Council Flood Support Fund for Skipton) to see this much needed and much appreciated restoration project to fruition.

The Ballarat Skipton Rail Trail is extremely popular with hikers, cyclists and horse riders who choose to travel in the quiet serenity the trail allows to make the pleasant trip to Skipton. Some come shorter distances than others, and some come all the way from Ballarat (and beyond), to enjoy the lovely scenery along their way with the yellow canola in bloom and cereal crops, grazing animals, and the properties set aside for wildlife sanctuary, and along the trail to Skipton to find all that the town offers. There are some who bring a tent to stay overnight at the end of the trail.

The Skipton end of Ballarat Skipton Rail Trail forms part of the Linking Skipton Network of walking trails making it possible to do a small loop around Jubilee Park, or to go right around the full distance. Traders of the Town have indeed been fortunate to welcome visitors passing through the town and to share stories they tell of their travels along the way.

With terrific food outlets and the opportunity to buy stuff for a picnic to enjoy the beautiful parklands in Skipton before heading home again. K



## NHW Christmas breakup

Twelve Neighbourhood Watch members enjoyed a lovely breakup dinner at the Derrinallum Hotel with six members unable to attend on the night. LSC Anthony Graham wished everyone a safe and happy Christmas and reminded all to take extra care on the road during the holiday season and to also take steps to keep properties safe.

NHW will meet again on the first Monday in February and especially would like to welcome any new Skiptonites – details will be in this paper.

## Skipton Senior Citizens Club Christmas BreakUp Lunch

Liz and her Staff created a very festive atmosphere for the Skipton Seniors on Monday to celebrate the festivities of the season at the newly opened “Bluestone Bubbles and Banter”. The gathering rounded off another great year and after pulling their bonbons, they donned the party caps and laughed at the funny jokes as they had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. Enjoy the holiday break Everyone, catch you back again in the new Year.



## SKIPTON SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB MEETS EVERY MONDAY AT SKIPTON MECHANICS INSTITUTE HALL (BELOW.)

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 outings throughout the year. Just come along.

## SKIPTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (ABOVE)

Skipton NHW meeting dates are announced in SCN for residents invited to attend. Keep an eye on Calendar Dates at back of SCN. The importance of NHW is to keep an eye out on the safety of the community’s assets against vandalism and to report anything that is of concern to our local Police Member, LSC Anthony Graham, so that he can intervene if necessary. You can assist as well. It you see anybody acting suspiciously report registration number and details. Criminals often come to country towns and farming communities to steal property and stock. K



[windermere.org.au](http://windermere.org.au)



## Have you experienced property damage, trauma, or loss as a result of the 2022 Victorian floods?

The Recovery Support Program can provide support for people who have been affected by the 2022 Victorian floods.

Recovery Support Workers are a single point of contact for those who need it. Support provided by them may include:

- A discussion about your needs and what next steps might be appropriate.
- Referrals to external agencies for mental health and wellbeing needs.
- Information and resources to connect you to local services to assist in the recovery process.
- Advocacy and assistance with completing applications/paperwork required for financial or insurance claim processes and grants.
- Assistance with access to available material support options.
- Advocate on your behalf regarding recovery challenges.
- Outreach visits by an allocated Recovery Support Worker if this is helpful to your situation.

The Recovery Support service may be able to provide you with a small amount of financial support to respond to immediate financial need.

### **Who's it for?**

Individuals and families who live in Victoria who were impacted by the 2022 flood events.

### **Cost**

There is no charge for the support provided by this program that is funded by the Commonwealth - State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) and the Victorian Government.



*Some of our recovery support workers: Tracy, Amanda, Trace, Mimi, Wendy, Claire and Thilini*

To access this program or find out more:

Phone 03 8793 4206 Email [recoverysupport@windermere.org.au](mailto:recoverysupport@windermere.org.au)

*The Windermere Recovery Support Team are actively supporting the community. Please do not hesitate to contact our Intake Team. They are ready to discuss your individual situation and link you in with your local support agency to assist you in your recovery journey.*



**FROM THE EDITOR:** This is the final edition of SCN for 2023. Taking School Holiday breaks SCN will be back when the children and their teachers return to school with the first edition of SCN published on the 31st of January 2024.



For those Groups and Organisations planning events in the early New year, it is now too late to get anything advertised through January in SCN, but if you need any help to get your word out for events then let me know and I will try and get it put on the SPA webpage.

Many thanks David for your help in adding the newsletters in 2023 to the domain webpage www.skiptonaustralia.org. it has certainly been of tremendous assistance to me. At the end of 2022, our previous SimpleSite changed unexpectedly to a Danish Company which has a completely different format system and I have had terrible trouble trying to access. one.com

Not having been born in the electronic era, I needed to ask for help. Much appreciated David. He has added his own touches to the site, well worth a look.

Still with no response to my request for Sponsors for SCN this final edition will again be sponsored by SPA Inc if this obvious apathy continues, I will have no choice than to start to trim the postage costs from the production of this wonderful community service to the people of Skipton and District. SPA will have sponsored five editions in 2023, and with many not fully understanding the positive significance of a weekly newsletter throughout their community, the impact might not be felt for a while but you will see changes, with the goodwill of The Editor being tested. First to be impacted will be delivery to the outlying districts who might will find that their service will ceased. Australia Post charges an additional 5 cents for delivery to these people making it 25 cents per household per week SCN incurs considerable costs but needs the community members to assist or delivery will cease. Groups and Organisations might like to consider becoming a sponsor to SCN in 2024. Give it some thought please. Each week it costs SCN over \$70.00 for delivery.

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. If you can assist please contact The Editor, and send payment of \$75.00 to contact details below. SCN has regular generous sponsors but it ifs for others to give it some thought please.

SCN is not able to continue to absorb this expense. Costings for producing a weekly newsletter to Skipton & District will be analysed further during the break, however, the rates will need to rise slightly.

*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.*

**Just Seven more Sleeps to go until Santa Comes to visit Skipton**

**You still have time to write your "Letters to Santa"**

Just one question to add to the bottom of your letter:

"Santa ,

Is it Too Late to be Nice!"

\*\*\*\*\*

Skipton Telephone Directory 2024

Same as everything else it appears!!

I have received only four little "Update Coupons" to date.

There should be at least eighty or ninety according to my observations of the newer residents, businesses and people who have moved away, or are now sadly deceased. The Directory **will be updated** for Businesses so if you want to be included deadline extended to 8th of January 2024.



## Sporting News



### Ballarat Highlands Bowls Pennant Results Division 7

Saturday 16th December 2023, Skipton Bowlers travelled to Ballarat to play Ballarat 3, on an overcast and cool afternoon.

**Skipton 1 90 shots 16 points def Ballarat 3 68 shots 2 pts**

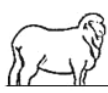
|                  |                  |                |                  |           |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------|
| Chery Sturgeon   | Darryl Rowe      | Ian Collins    | Frank Ellingham  | Won 24-17 |
| Maureen McNamara | Jim Hinton       | Douglass Smith | Brendan McIntyre | Won 21-15 |
| Gail Ward        | _____            | Stuart Haley   | Tim Clarke       | Won 20-23 |
| _____            | Elizabeth Bolton | Imogen Clarke  | Scott Ferdinands | Won 25-13 |

Bowlers will now have a break for the Festive Season. Next Match will be played in Skipton Saturday 20th January: Round 13 **BHRBC Skipton 1 v Midlands 4** at Skipton.

*Happy Christmas to all at the Skipton Golf & Bowls Club, enjoy the festivities, K*



Mount Emu Creek



# Skipton Community News

Community News

Stewart Park

HOUSEHOLDER  
POSTAGE PAID  
Skipton VIC 3361

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.

**20th December 2023** **Volume 46**

Issue 41

Thank you to this week's sponsor **Sponsor name Skipton Community News**

## Meetings & Coming Events

Thursday 21st of December: **SKIPTON TOWN CHRISTMAS PARTY 2023 AT THE SKIPTON RECREATION RESERVE. 5:30PM.**

Entertainment will include Pedal Go Kart Racing and a Photo Booth; **Enjoy the Fun of the "Decorated Bike" Competition.** 2 sections: "A Bike That Can Still Be Ridden", and "a Bike As A Work Of Art".



**Prizes will be awarded in 3 age groups :** Under 11, Under 18, and Open, for the best bike in each section.

**And the new "Decorated Scooter" Competition.:** "A Scooter That Can Be Ridden", and "A Scooter As A Work Of Art".

**for 11 and Under only.**

The flood recovery committee along with our normal sponsors will be supporting the Town Christmas Party this year.



**Winners of Christmas Lights Competition will be announced.**

Friday 22nd December: **CHURCH & CAROLS at WALLUNDUC** at 6pm. Drinks and Nibbles after. All welcome.

Saturday 13th January: **SKIPTON MARKET** will be a **POP-UP STREET MARKET**, from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. on Montgomery Street, Skipton, support and the weather allowing. Please contact Market Co-ordinator Jan on 0422785017 for indications of interest or further information or check facebook/Skipton Community Market.



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.

Friday 26th January: **AUSTRALIA DAY** will be celebrated in Skipton, Details will be available on Skipton Progress Association Facebook site: [skiptonprogressassociation](https://www.facebook.com/skiptonprogressassociation) as they become known, or on [www.crangamite.vic.gov.au](http://www.crangamite.vic.gov.au)

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

Thursday 1st February: **SKIPTON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION Inc. will meet at 7.00 p.m. in the Skipton Mechanics Hall** for the monthly meeting of the Association. Last meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting on Thursday March 7th. Please contact Secretary on 0437 455 049 for further information.

Sunday 4th February: **SKIPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY** will hold it's first monthly Meeting of the year in the Old Police House, in the Stewart Park Historical Precinct, Montgomery Street Skipton at 2.00 p.m. Contact welcome at [skipton.history.au@gmail.com](mailto:skipton.history.au@gmail.com) or phone Secretary on 0407 310 990.

Saturday 10th February: **SKIPTON MONTHLY MARKET** will be held in the **Skipton Mechanics Hall**, from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m., with a wide variety of stalls, and a warm welcome to a snack and coffee with friends in the Supper Room. Stall bookings and inquiries to Jan, Market Co-ordinator on 5340 2204 or check *facebook* Skipton Community Market.

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.

Sunday 24th March: **Reunion Lunch for all War Veterans**, Skipton Golf and Bowls Club.

**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.

### 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

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Free membership, all welcome.

Come and check us out

Thursday April 25th **.ANZAC Day, Dawn Service of Remembrance, at the Memorial, and, ANZAC Day Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Skipton War Memorial.**

Sunday August 18th: **Vietnam Veterans Day.** A brief ceremony will be held to mark this Day

September 1st – 6th: **Legacy Week**, All support will be offered to Legacy.

Monday 11th November: **Remembrance Day**

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