



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER No. 436 JUNE 2026

*Free, but your spare coins help cover costs.  
Thank you all for the \$78.30 collected in March*

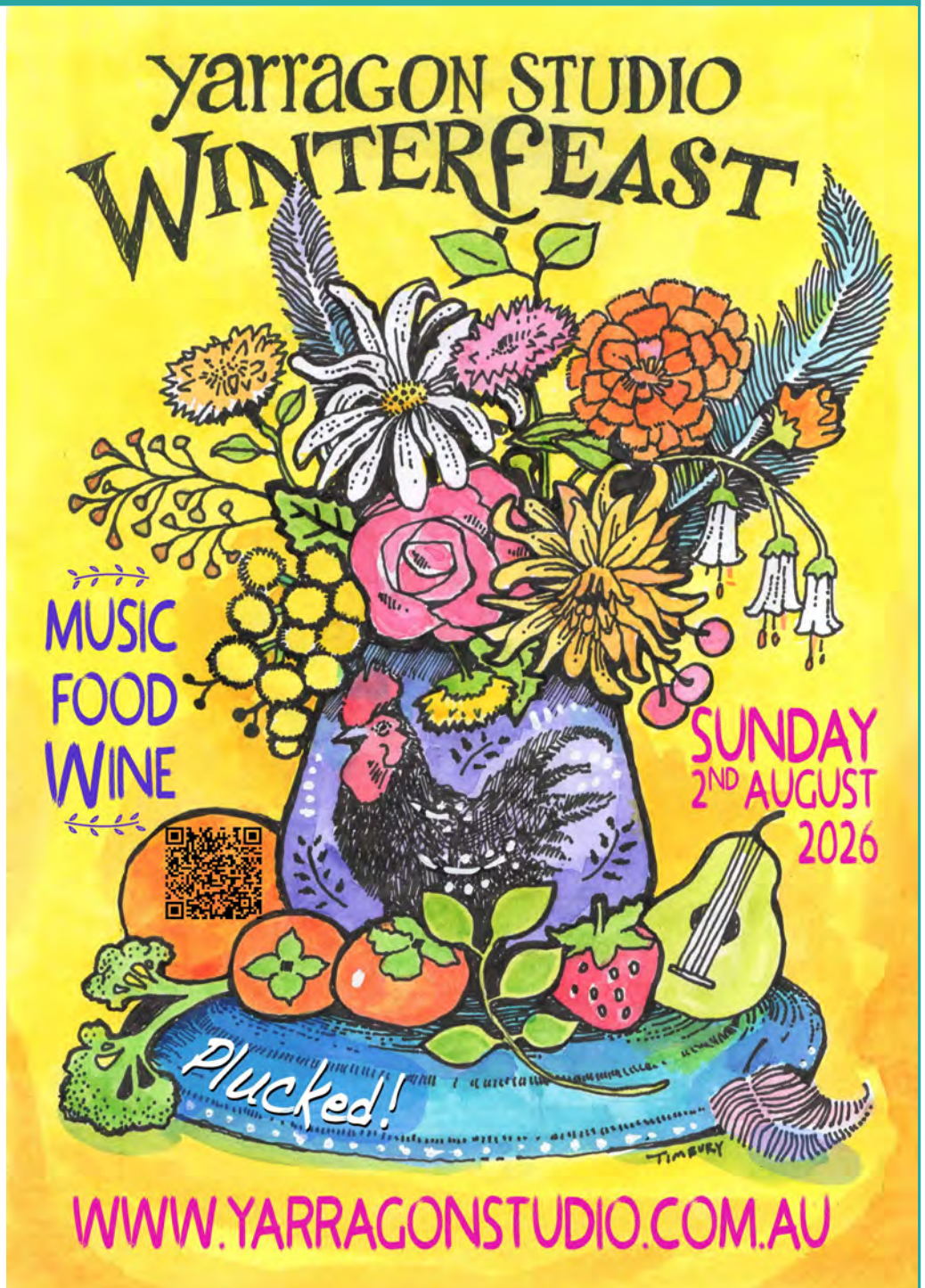
## YARRAGON STUDIO COLLABORATION WITH HELEN TIMBURY

*By Christina Flann*

This beautiful poster is the result of a collaboration between Yarragon Studio (chamber music venue), Yarragon Arts Council Inc. (not for profit cultural association) and fabulous local artist Helen Timbury (Helen Timbury Designs based in Drouin).

Through Rachel Needoba (Butterfly Factory) and Bill Downie (William Downie Wines), we were put in contact with Helen. Earlier this year, she created another beautiful poster for our March Yarragon Studio Festival with our rooster, George in pride of place. You may have seen it around Yarragon.

This is our third year of running festivals and so far they have all been sold out events with nothing but positive feedback. There are still a limited number of tickets available for this Winter Feast coming up in two months. It will showcase opera singer Sally-Anne Russell (mezzo-soprano) and friends, Samantha Cohen (lute/theorbo/guitar) and Geoffrey Morris (guitars). Food by Long Paddock (Lindenow) accompanied by Entropy Wines and Proud Mary Coffee.



[WWW.YARRAGONSTUDIO.COM.AU](http://WWW.YARRAGONSTUDIO.COM.AU)

# REGULAR & TO DO

## MONDAY

### MOBILE LIBRARY

2:30-5:30pm  
Yarragon Hall carpark



### FIRE BRIGADE

7:30pm at fire station  
1A Murray St  
Captain Ashley Smith  
0427 274 666  
yarragonfb@gmail.com



### WEST GIPPSLAND CONCERT

BAND 5:30-6:15 Band Basics  
6:30-7:15pm Greenhorns  
7:30-9:00pm WQCB  
Last Monday of each school  
term: 7:30 FREE CONCERT  
Uniting Church, Yarragon

**Q: What do you call a fish with no eyes?**

A: Fsh.

Oscar

## TUESDAY

### CRAFT GROUP

9:30am-12:30pm Uniting  
Church Hall, Campbell St.  
Join us for craft and laughs.

### YARRAGON HOTEL

7:00pm Trivia Night

### YDCA

TBA, CFA meeting room  
Secretary Richard Polmear  
0407 347 545



## WEDNESDAY

### GARDENING GROUP

10:00am or  
10:30am to  
lunch time  
at the backyard  
of the Uniting  
Church.  
Share your  
knowledge  
and learn from other gardeners.



### LIONS CLUB

2nd & 4th Wed at  
St Jarlath's  
Catholic Hall in  
Rollo St.  
President Peter Petschel  
0477342429  
Secretary Allan Logan  
0435 576 100



LIONS on MANE Op shop  
Wed to Sun  
10:30am to 2:30pm  
LIONS GARAGE SALE  
Hann's Lane  
Every 4th Saturday, often  
more.

### LEARN TO TANGO

No partner or experience  
necessary.  
7-8:30pm,  
Uniting Church Hall

## THURSDAY

### BOWLS CLUB

Shady Creek Rd  
Ph: 0490 831 283



October to April, social game  
night 1st & 3rd Thursdays  
followed by a meal.

Meal orders must be placed  
by 5:30pm on the Tues prior.

## FRIDAY

### PILATES MATWORK

11:00 am weekly  
Yarragon Public Hall

### **Oscarism of the Month:**

*Fininiky instead of Finicky*

## SATURDAY

### CRAFT & PRODUCE MARKET

4th Sat., 9:00am-1:00pm  
Yarragon Public Hall  
Campbell St



### SILKROAD COMMUNITY TRAFALGAR FARMERS MARKET

First Saturday of every  
month, 9:00am-1:00pm  
Trafalgar Croquet Club, 25  
Ashby St, Trafalgar



## SUNDAY

### St Mark's Anglican Church

The Anglican Church in  
Yarragon meets on 2nd and  
4th Sundays of the month at  
8:30am at St David's Uniting  
Church building (9 Campbell  
Road, Yarragon).

### St David's Uniting Church

9 Campbell St. Service  
details on noticeboard at  
church.

### St Jarlath's Catholic Church

YARRAGON  
10:00am  
Mass

every Sunday; Trafalgar 6:00pm  
Mass every Saturday  
Parish Office 5633 1166

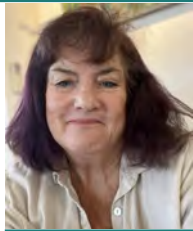


### YARRAGON STUDIO CONCERT

21 June 3.00pm  
Josh Hooke - Piano recital +  
William  
Downie  
Wine



The **Yarragon Community Newsletter** is produced **monthly** by community volunteers, and **printed by** Viatek in Warragul.



**Co-Editor:**  
Deborah Churchill

Newsletters can be picked up from:


- \* Post Office
- \* Foodworks
- \* Yarragon Pharmacy
- \* Fozzigobble Café
- \* Lions on Mane Op Shop





**Co-Editors:**  
Christina Flann and Oscar Bijl

and viewed on [www.yarragonnews.au](http://www.yarragonnews.au)

To subscribe to e-newsletters, arrange advertising, and contribute articles *which must include your name and phone number*, you can write, email or phone:

 Yarragon Community Newsletter  
PO Box 209, Yarragon 3823

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

 0438 565 721

Items for inclusion *which must include your name and phone number* can also be placed in any of the donation boxes.

Business Card: ~9x5.5cm	Free
1/4 page: ~9.3x13.7cm or banner: 4.5-6.9x19cm	\$15
1/2 page: ~9.3x19.05cm or 27.5x9cm	\$45
Full page: 27.5x19cm	\$60

**Advertising** space is **limited**. Please organise advertising with the editor. Free ads for Yarragon only.

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Although every effort is taken in the compilation and printing of this newsletter, no responsibility is taken for any errors that may occur. © 2026 Yarragon Community Newsletter.

**DEADLINE for**  
**July 2026 edition**  
**21 June**  
**12 noon**

## WHAT BIRDS ARE VISITING MY BIRD FEEDER?



By Margaret Young

They are Spotted Turtle Doves. There must be other birds coming to dine but Spotted Turtle Dove are all I have actually seen. All of the various seeds in the Native bird mix I put out are eaten. So who else is visiting?

Spotted Turtle Doves are not natives, they are from Southern Asia and India, introduced to Melbourne in the 1870's, hence their other names - Burmese Spotted, Indian Lace Neck or Spotted Dove, Chinese or Indian Turtle Dove.



They are a medium-sized (31.5cm), slim bird with a longish tail. Their distinctive feature is a black patch over their neck spotted white giving it a lacy look, like a little collar. Their colouring is in soft tones - grey head, pale pink breast and brownish back. In flight the outer tips of the tail feathers are tipped white. Their flight is quick with regular wing beats but you will also see them give a quick flick of their wings.

However, on the ground they walk sedately as they search for seeds. If startled they will take off with a clatter of wings, and when landing they raise and lower their tails.

I mostly see Spotted Turtle Doves walking along my side fence checking if the cat is in the garden before flitting over to the feeder. (Fortunately my cat sleeps inside a lot.) These Doves are common along the East coast of Australia, Tasmania and around Perth. They prefer open forests, gardens and urban areas and get around in pairs and small groups. They forage on the

ground for grass seeds, grains, fallen fruit and seeds of other plants. Occasionally they are seen catching flying insects such as flying ants.



Their nest is a flimsy cup shape made of twigs in a low bush or ledge of a building, or even on the ground. The female lays two whitish eggs. Both parents take part in nest building and feeding - modern parenting! The eggs hatch in about 13 days and the babies are fledged in a fortnight. So they might raise another brood in a season. Their vocalisation matches their soft muted colours, a gentle coo cooing. It's a sound I love to hear on my side fence when the huge earth moving machines over the back are not rumbling by. (They are nearly finished!).

So enjoy these pretty gentle birds cooing on your fence or walking sedately over your lawn.



WEST GIPPSLAND CONCERT BAND PRESENTS:



**MONDAYS**  
4 MAY & 8 JUNE  
5:30 - 7PM

**FREE!!!**

**COMMUNITY KIDS DRUM WORKSHOP**

**YARRAGON PUBLIC HALL**

**NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!**

**WE PROVIDE INSTRUMENTS!**

**PERCUSSION DRUMS WITH STEVE SCHULZ**



**Embracing Community Music!**

The West Gippsland Concert Band invites all kids to a DRUM Workshop, On Mondays 4 May and 8 June and a presentation concert on Monday 22 June, with drum specialist Steve Schulz. No experience needed, and if you'd like to try out more than drums we can provide ALL wind instruments.

[WWW.WESTGIPPSLANDCONCERTBAND.COM.AU/WORKSHOP](http://WWW.WESTGIPPSLANDCONCERTBAND.COM.AU/WORKSHOP)



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[www.anglicarevic.org.au/fostering](http://www.anglicarevic.org.au/fostering)



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# THOUGHTS FROM A LOCAL

By Roy Lindsay

You may recall that last month I sent in notification advising of Council's plan to significantly alter the future of Yarragon.

## Background

At the Council Meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup> Council's Planning Department proposed two major changes affecting the Yarragon Community -

1) To rezone from 'Neighbour Residential' to 'Commercial 1' a 1.8 ha (4.5 acre) lot in Rollo Street between the South of The Ale House and the first house in Rollo Street.

This piece of land has been marked 'for potential future commercial use' for over 10 years – similar to the large residential developments marked as 'residential investigation areas' at each end of the town, and the large 'low density residential investigation area' at the southern end of town

In each case these areas were included in the recently-adopted 'Yarragon Township Plan' proposing the areas will be needed within the period of the plan – ie. to the year **2041**, however as population forecasts used have since proved to be hopelessly inaccurate there is now no justification for at least a further 7-10 years.

In addition, there is ample room for utilisation of the current Commercial areas along the main tourist strip without encouraging developers to start again 'at the other end of town', fragmenting the shopping and Tourist areas.

It therefore becomes a 'timing issue' and the rezoning must be abandoned at this time for the good of Yarragon.

2) Council's other concerning proposal is to place a new and severely restrictive 'Design and Development Overlay' (DDO5) on a huge section of private residential properties in Campbell and Murray Streets currently consisting of around 35 lots, and will greatly control (among other things) – low-rise built form, garages, carports, house extensions, building heights, building setbacks, window placements, roof forms, bin enclosures, ground floor frontages, glazing requirements, non-reflective glass, parking, landscaping & trees, front fences, signs, etc. and

in addition is clearly designed to increase 'medium density housing' on the larger blocks as noted in the Yarragon Structure Plan.

Details can be found at Item 10.2 at <https://bawbaw.resolve.red/web/Player.aspx?id=1856&key=-1&mod=-1&mk=-1&nov=0> (and in particular Attachments 4 & 6).

A deferment until May was achieved to allow the Yarragon Community to get involved and a Public Meeting was held.

Both matters went back to Council for their finalisation and meantime many Public Submissions have been forwarded to Council and excellent Community support was evident from the Public Meeting held in Yarragon earlier this month.

**I am delighted to advise that as a result of the Yarragon Community's action at the Council Meeting on Wednesday 27 May, Council voted to remove the proposed rezoning, to Commercial 1 on the Rollo Street lot.**

Council listened intently to the 3 verbal submissions on the night and spent quite some time discussing the matter in open Council.

The submissions and discussions can be viewed from Time Marker 16.30 at Ordinary Council 27 May 2026. It was clear that the attendance of around 12 - 15 Yarragon residents assisted in Council understanding the Community's opposition to the rezoning, and we'd like to thank the residents involved for their support.

Another win for Yarragon !!!

The DDO proposed for Campbell Street will proceed.

**The Yarragon Community was recently described by one Councillor as "the most engaged in the shire."**



Fine art - Flowers - Jewellery

Local artists; handcrafted works; Allambee Flower Farm flowers

'Let's head home' by Laurel Foenander  
oil on canvas, framed in oak: 100x100cm

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## WHAT ARE THE EDITORS UP TO?

By Christina Flann, Debbie Churchill & Oscar Bijl

**Oscar:** Submitted six photos to the Tanjil Valley Art Show (Kings Weekend in Hill End).

**Christina:** Preparing for the Yarragon Studio Winter Feast. Dealing with new superannuation tax laws (yay).

**Debbie:** Loving life in Yarragon, after two years in this beautiful town.

Teaching mixed media art and preparing for July exhibition.

**Deborah Churchill**

*Out of the Box*

Exhibition Opening  
2pm Sunday 5th July

Baw Baw Arts Alliance  
Yarragon Railway Station  
OPEN Wednesday to Sunday 10am-3pm  
[www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au](http://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au)



Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026  
to  
Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2026





2 Campbell St Yarragon  
Open Wednesday to Sunday 10-4  
Ph: 0488 246 830  
ABN: 90 614 562 673

**HELP WANTED**  
Maria would like someone to construct a chicken coop for her hens!  
All materials will be provided!  
Call Maria on 0423009911

*Yarragon Hotel*



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## OPENING HOURS

Every day from 11am

Lunch 12 - 2:30pm

Dinner 5:30 - 8:30pm

Take-away 5 - 8pm

*Bookings appreciated & recommended*

OSCAR's monthly photo (see more @ Hill End)



**HOGGET**  
KITCHEN  
*Jazz Club*




Thursday 18 June 6PM  
Julien Wilson and Friends

Julien Wilson (Sax) - Carl Dewhurst (Guitar)  
Cameron Undy (Bass) - Sam Bates (Drums)

[hogget.com.au/events/hoggetjazzclub](http://hogget.com.au/events/hoggetjazzclub)



"Mad Hatter" Paul Robinson

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warragul camera club Inc.

For more information feel free to contact us by email at enquiries@warragulcameraclub.org or contact the club secretary: Bruce Langdon on 0418 595 080

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Susan**

**Yarragon**

**0414875631**

**REVERSE  
DRAW**

**GRAND PRIZE  
\$4000**

SUNDAY, 7 JUNE | 12 PM START  
DOWTON PARK, YARRAGON

**TICKETS \$100**

Roast rolls provided  
Free beer and wine, plus discounted spirits  
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\*Terms and Conditions Apply\*

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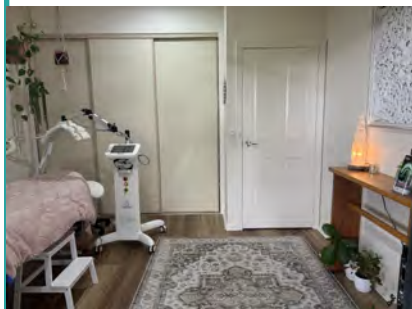
# YARRAGON NEW BUSINESS VENTURES

Compiled by Deborah Churshill

## Lissys Little Beauty

I'm very excited to announce that Yarragon now has it's very own LED Lounge at Lissy's Little Beauty.

Medical-Grade LED light therapy uses specific, targeted light wavelengths (such as blue, red, green, yellow and near-infrared) to treat skin conditions such as acne, inflammation, rosacea and ageing. This Professional in-clinic device provides higher light intensity and tissue penetration than consumer devices, delivering faster and more noticeable results.



This treatment, also known as photo-biomodulation, converts specific light wavelengths into cellular energy (ATP) to heal tissue and reduce inflammation.

\*Blue light (~415nm)

Penetrates the oil glands to kill acne-causing bacteria and reduce breakouts.

\*Red Light (~630nm-660nm) Boosts circulation, promotes collagen production and encourages cellular renewal for anti-aging. \*Near-Infrared (~810nm- 850nm) penetrates deepest to accelerate wound healing, ease muscle pain, and decrease chronic inflammation.

LED Lounge opening offer of 10 x 20 minute sessions for \$350.... (Packages of 10 sessions are usually \$420) And it's

a super relaxing treatment!

At Lissy's Little Beauty I also offer specialised treatments such as Microneedling (amazing for skin resurfacing, acne scarring & deeper lines in the face IPL Permanent hair removal (never shave again!) and IPL Photorejuvenation (helps to minimise fine lines, pigmentation and tiny veins on the face, restoring your overall skin health & complexion)

Laser Tattoo Removal, Laser Carbon "Hollywood" Facials (wonderful for an oilier skin and to refine enlarged pores)

Radio frequency Skin Tightening Book in for a free consultation.

I also do all Beauty treatments like waxing, gel nails, manicures & pedicures, dermaplaning, divine facials, the best spray tan ever, lash lifts & lash extensions... all of your beauty needs really.

I have had my beauty studio in Yarragon for over 11 years now, and I adore all of my clients and our community.

Text me on 0428554329 for a booking or visit my page on facebook & instagram to book online. I look forward to meeting you.



Gippsland local mechanic Jayden brings years of hands on experience as a Heavy Diesel Mechanic, specialising in harvesting equipment, tractors and earthmoving machinery.

His background includes mining work throughout Western Australia, giving him a strong foundation in keeping heavy equipment operating reliably in demanding conditions.

Now based in Gippsland Jayden is keen to build strong relationships with local farmers and businesses by providing dependable onsite support.

Known for his reliability and quick response times, his focus is on getting customers back up and running with minimal downtime.

Website <https://www.cotterillearthmovingrepairs.com.au>

Contact Jayden 0412814309



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# LION'S CLUB REPORT

By Tamara Galea and Trelawney Geary



Through having the Yarragon op-shop and the volunteers who dedicate their time to work there, they have managed to raise and donate over \$100,000 in the last 12 months. From the lions to all the volunteers, a massive thank you! We couldn't have done it without every single bit of support from everyone.

27<sup>th</sup> of June will be our next garage sale. Please come down and see what we have in stock this month. Better get in quick.

The over 55's night is being relocated to the public hall. This event is on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December.

At the request of the Yarragon Football Club, lions club members will be helping at the home games.



## JARS!!!

If you or anybody you know have any jars that can be donated, please bring them down to Yarragon op-shop.

# YARRAGON FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB LADIES DAY

From YFNC Facebook page

On May 24, Yarragon Football Netball Club hosted our Ladies Day Function, welcoming the senior netballers from Longwarry Football Netball Club for a day of guest speakers, entertainment and fun, all in support of the McGrath Foundation.

We were incredibly lucky to hear from Faith from the McGrath Foundation, as well as Hayley Morris, who bravely shared her own personal story and journey. We also had some surprise entertainment from @sashastarr.dq who helped make the day one to remember.

A huge thank you to our Events Coordinator Elly-Rose Burr for putting together such an amazing event, along with all of the volunteers who helped make the day run so smoothly.

Between raffle ticket sales and our pink socks fundraiser, we were proud to raise just over \$2,000 for the McGrath Foundation.



# BBSN CLOTHING EVENT 25 JUNE

By Amanda McLeod



## WHAT ON EARTH IS HAPPENING TO CLOTHING?

Earth is being buried by fashion. What can be done?

Catriona Ferguson, community presenter known for delivering engaging talks that combine cultural history, sustainability, and practical learning, will encourage us think about the environmental consequences of what we wear, highlighting the fashion industry as one of the world's most environmentally damaging industries. She will explore the growing problem of waste clothing and textile byproducts, as well as the importance of upcycling and reusing garments.

The presentation on Thursday 25 June at Yarragon promises to be both thought-provoking and engaging, exploring not only how fashion reflects history and technological change, but also how our clothing choices impact us all.

Participants are invited to wear their oldest functional item of clothing and be ready to share its story – how long they have owned it, why it has lasted, and why they still love wearing it.

This event is for everyone – even those who insist that fashion is not for them. After all, we all wear clothes, and every garment has a story about history, technology, culture, and the impact our choices have on the world around us.

**Thursday 25 June, 7pm**

**Yarragon Uniting Church Hall, Campbell Street**

Supper provided, Entry by donation



To register visit: [www.bbsn.org.au/events](http://www.bbsn.org.au/events)

# COUNCILLOR UPDATE

By Cr Brendan Kingwill

There's been plenty happening around Yarragon lately, with several important community projects either completed or well underway – all aimed at making the town safer, more accessible and better connected for locals.

The biggest project to wrap up recently is the brand-new \$3.9 million sports pavilion at Dowton Park, which is already being enjoyed by local clubs during the current footy season.

After the old pavilion was demolished and more than 12 months of construction work, the new facility now provides modern, high-quality spaces for players, volunteers, families and spectators. The pavilion includes upgraded change rooms, female-friendly and accessible facilities, a coaches' box and timekeeper's room, a multi-purpose social area, canteen facilities, storage areas and improved parking and viewing spaces for spectators. Its looking fantastic. It make me want to grab the old cricket bat or even dust off the footy boots.

The project also includes several sustainability features such as solar panels with battery storage, energy-efficient lighting and water-saving systems to help support the facility well into the future. Plans for an official opening will be announced soon.

Nearby, a new 70-metre walking and cycling path has also been completed along Market Street, creating a safer connection between residential areas and Dowton Park Reserve. Previously, many people – including parents with prams, young children, older residents and people with disabilities – had to navigate uneven ground to access the reserve.

Work is also continuing on a new shared footpath along Loch Street between Yarragon Primary School and Rodier Road. The project includes drainage upgrades, new kerb and channel works and extra on-street parking improvements, with completion expected in mid-2026.

These projects are fantastic investments in Yarragon's future and will benefit the whole community for years to come.

As always, if you need to contact me feel free to do so.

0474652435

Bren-  
dan.kingwill@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

Or Follow me on Facebook  
@crbrendankingwill



# THE ANNUAL BOOK FAIR IS DONE!

By Andy Holnan Community Safety Officer Yarragon Rural Fire Brigade



And what a fantastic achievement it was! The book fair team have caught up on sleep, with the Brigade lucky enough to not have the pager go off in the days after too. The Brigade continues to partner with the Primary School for a great outcome supporting the community. This year's Book Fair was one of our busiest ever, with a big crowd coming in both Saturday and Sunday. Expect us to be back first weekend in May 2027! The restocking has already begun, so there will be plenty of fresh reads on the tables. There are a few ideas in the mix for next year to try and create an even better experience, stay tuned.

## Yarragon Fire Brigade

The CFA has over 50,000 Volunteers, spread across 1200 brigades. Yarragon is one of those brigades, made up of a strong team of people dedicated to supporting the community. CFA is led by a Chief Officer, currently Jason Heffernan. The Chief Officer is called upon in legislation to enact powers in Victoria for the protection of lives and property from fire. To do this, the Chief Officer delegates powers through a chain of command to members of the Yarragon Fire Brigade. This delegation starts with an election of officers of volunteer brigades. And would you know, there has been a point to my story...

In May, Yarragon Fire Brigade held its biennial elections. Our Brigade members vote for the leadership of the Brigade, to take on a two-year role. Operationally, our Brigade is led by a Captain in a Red Helmet (as pictured), and four Lieutenants. However, there is a lot more to the Fire Brigade than putting water on a fire! There are also functional and administrative roles undertaken to support our Brigade. Administrative roles include a Secretary, Treasurer and Communications Officer. Functional roles include Coordinators of Training, OHS, Community Safety and Fundraising.

Combined, these members form a Brigade Management Team. The BMT ensures the brigade meets the CFA's core Mission, protection of life and property.

Our Brigade has returned most officers in the same role as the last term, continuing to build on the work from the last two years. There are a few new faces to our BMT; a new Communications Officer, Treasurer and Community Safety Coordinator.

We welcome Lachlan Adams to the role of Comms Officer, taking over the reins from our current and continuing 1st Lieutenant Melinda Kemp. Lachlan will be managing our radios, paging equipment and backup communication systems.

Melissa Adams will be taking over Treasurer from Graeme Bruce. Graeme has moved on from the country life in Cloverlea to enjoy more time with family, travelling and enjoying retirement.

We thank Mel and Graeme for their time and dedication in the roles they have filled for quite some time. Our Brigade wouldn't have run so well without your commitment!

Whilst for now, I pass over the baton to the lovely Lisa Somerville who will take on the Community Safety portfolio at Yarragon Fire Brigade. In the last two years, I've enjoyed writing articles on fire safety and what our Brigade has been getting up to. For now, I'm staying on in an operational capacity, and will enjoy spending more time with my young family.

As always, Yarragon Fire Brigade is always looking for more operational and support members to help our community. Our Brigade would love to hear from anyone from the community who would like to join.



## Yarragon Fire Brigade Election Results:

- Captain – Ashley Smith
- 1st Lieutenant – Melinda Kemp
- 2nd Lieutenant – Sean Warren
- 3rd Lieutenant – Andy Halnon
- 4th Lieutenant – Colin Lackman
- Secretary – Tegan Brown
- Treasurer – Melissa Adams
- Communications Officer – Lachlan Adams
- Community Safety Coordinator – Lisa Somerville
- Training Coordinator – Sean Warren
- OHS Coordinator – Colin Lackman
- Fundraising – Geoff Conway





# YARRAGON BOWLS CLUB

By Glenda Beagley

**June Birthdays:**  
Harry Langres and Sam Mazza



**Vic Open VO26 Tournament:** This year we hosted 4 days of competitions. We were lucky enough to see some well fought games against some very experienced people. We were also fortunate to have two number 1 World players in the ladies singles. Selina Goddard from New Zealand and Hat Ting Ha from Hong Kong. On the other end of the scale, some of our newer and less experienced players took part in the ladies singles matches. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to test themselves at a higher level, which was both exciting and a little intimidating. Judging by the smiles on their faces, they embraced every moment. We were proud to host these events. It's always wonderful to welcome new clubs and bowlers to our green. The games were of a very high standard and exciting to watch. We hope everyone enjoyed their games and our facilities.

**Fun Bowls facts: Selina Goddard:**

- Became World No. 1 women's bowler in 2025
- Named New Zealand Female Player of the Year (2025)
- Won Australian Opens Women's Pairs (2025)
- Achieved an incredible clean sweep (singles, pairs, triples) at the Victorian Open (2025)

Selina is known for:

- Her calmness under pressure
- Tactical brilliance and consistency
- Ability to perform at the highest level across multiple formats

She's also a regular competitor in Australia and has strong connections to clubs here, making her a familiar face on the Australian bowls scene.

**Green Restoration:** We have refurbished the green once again! Thanks to the tireless efforts of Sam Mazza, Kevin McLaren, Tony Hiriart, Jason Roberts and other helpers - our green will be ready for the new season in around September.

**Presentation Night:** We held our Presentation/AGM night on 14th May 2026. We had a fantastic evening with raffles, laughter and fun. This year we incorporated a fun "roast" of certain members of the club. This was done in a light-hearted way and taken in good humour.

Harry Langres was awarded his Veterans badge, which makes him a member of the exclusive O.B.E club (Over Bloody Eighty)! Sorry it was so overdue Harry, it should have been 2018! (oops!)

Kevin McLaren was re-elected President of the Club for another year. Thank you Kevin for your commitment and positivity in representing our club within our local community and Country Victoria as a whole. All board positions were filled.

**High Tea:** We will be hosting a high tea on Sunday the 26th of July from 2-5pm.

Theme: Op-shop vintage garden party

Only 40 places at \$25 per head with a promise of yummy treats, raffles, live music and lots of fun! For enquiries and bookings please contact Glenda Beagley – 0431 215 726



**Results Yarragon Bowling Club season 2025/26:**

**Men's Singles Winner:**

Rhett Galley

**Runner Up:** Sam Mazza

**Ladies Singles Winner:**

Lindsay Wright

**Runner Up:** Kaye McLaren

**Men's Pairs Winners:**

Kevin McLaren & Harry Langres

**Runners Up:** Kevin Arnold & Richard Polmear

**B Grade Winner:** Tony Hiriart

**Runner Up:** Gary Green

**Men's 100 Up Winner:**

Kevin McLaren

**Runner Up:** Peter Petschel

**Not Played:** Ladies Pairs, Ladies 100 Up, Mixed Pairs

**Sponsor Contributions:**

The winner of the end of the month barrel draw was Tony Hiriart with a Foodworks receipt!

**Our sponsors for the 2025/26 season:**

- Club Hotel Warragul
- Dementia Doulas (Jan Doull)
- Fonterra
- Fowler Street Dental
- Fritz Mylius Painting and Decorating
- Gippsland Fresh
- Him He Me
- Neilsen Funerals
- Paul O'Toole Cartage
- RGM Investment Holdings
- Select Office Supplies
- Trafalgar Tyre Service
- Warragul Country Club
- Westfalia
- Wildflower Studio Yarragon
- Yarragon Automotive
- Yarragon Bakery
- Yarragon Foodworks
- Yarragon Hotel
- Yarragon Lions Club
- Yarragon Pharmacy
- Yarragon Post Office

We also recognise the tremendous support that the Community/Bendigo Bank of Trafalgar and District has provided the Yarragon Bowling Club and encourage locals to support them.



To contact the bowls club about sponsorship, games, or hiring facilities (with limited catering available):

The new Function Coordinator is Tony Hiriart on 0429163532 for all bookings. Email:

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

[www.yarragon.bowls.com.au](http://www.yarragon.bowls.com.au)

YarragonBowlingClub

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

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12 INDUSTRIAL COURT YARRAGON

**BBSN CONVERSATION CAFE**

Let's chat climate

**Baw Baw sustainability network**

When: First Monday of every month  
Where: Violet & Ivy, 137 Queen St, Warragul  
Next meet-up: Monday 4th May, from 10:00am

**YARRAGON PRIMARY SCHOOL & EARLY LEARNING CENTRE**

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# ART UPDATE

By Carol Monson



Behind every voluntary community-based organisation there is always a committee of dedicated and creative volunteers. The Baw Baw Arts Alliance (Bbaa) is one such group in which members are encouraged to respond to fresh ideas stimulating creativity. The latest inspiration is the 'Teal Room Challenge' in the Station Gallery, Yarragon. This challenge is an initiative of Sue Murphy who heads the committee managing the Station Gallery, Trafalgar Artspaces and the VRI Hall in Warragul. Each month members of Bbaa are asked to create a small work of Art along a theme. The May theme of Insects resulted in some extraordinary responses. Imagine moths in felt, butterflies in wire. Bbaa hopes the theme of 'Nature's Treasures' in June will produce even more colourful and eclectic small works of Art that visitors will enjoy.

Take time to visit the ever-changing exhibitions in the 'Station Gallery', Yarragon. During June Pat Smithson displays the results of experimenting with a style of painting that references her 1999 mural painting business, 'Over the Walls'. Pat has used an ancient grid method to enlarge original designs. All the semi abstract acrylic paintings are her responses to the beauty of nature she sees around. At the same time an artist new to the Baw Baw Arts Alliance, Sue Crees, has her gentle sea-scapes hanging 'On the Wall', a smaller section of the gallery.

The Alliance continues to offer Arts activities to the public throughout the year so do not miss the free workshops at the VRI Hall, Queen Street, Warragul, on the third Saturday morning of each Month. The May felting workshop attracted a number of both experienced in the Art of felting and those with less felting know-how but all were welcome. Coming up on Saturday, June 20, is a

chance to see the work of the Artists involved in the Warragul Art Group and chat to some of them about their work.

While at the VRI Hall pick up information about the many media and skills-based workshops and drop-in groups conducted by the Arts Alliance every week. For further information see:

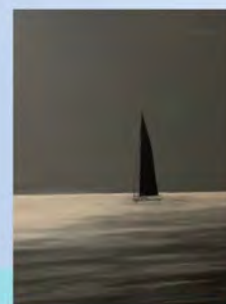
[www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au](http://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au)



## Sue Crees

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026 to  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Baw Baw Arts Alliance  
Yarragon Railway Station  
OPEN Wednesday to Sunday 10am-3pm  
[www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au](http://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au)



## Pat Smithson Grid Paintings

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026 to  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Baw Baw Arts Alliance  
Yarragon Railway Station  
OPEN Wednesday to Sunday 10am-3pm  
[www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au](http://www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au)



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Understand your rights and responsibilities, so you can talk about safety at work. To speak to WorkSafe with an interpreter call 131 450, or visit [worksafe.vic.gov.au/languages](http://worksafe.vic.gov.au/languages)

Scan for information in Simplified Chinese.

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# 50 YEARS OF THE THORPDALE POTATO FESTIVAL

By Moriah Taylor

The Thorpdale Potato Festival is preparing to celebrate an incredible milestone. 50 years since the first festival began in 1977, with festivities set for 7 March 2027.

The festival committee is currently working behind the scenes to bring this special event to life, including securing sponsorships to support what has become an iconic celebration. The festival not only showcases Thorpdale's proud potato-growing heritage and surrounding community, but also gives back, with proceeds reinvested into the community to support local groups and initiatives.

The festival draws visitors from far and wide, all coming to experience the unique charm of Thorpdale. For this 50th anniversary, plans are underway to honour the festival's rich history, while also celebrating how far it has come.

To help bring this history to life, the committee is calling on the community. If you have any old photos, memorabilia, or keepsakes from past festivals, they would love to hear from you. These items will help create a special display, showcasing the stories and memories that have shaped the festival over the years.



Let's come together to celebrate the Thorpdale Potato Festival and the community that makes it so special.

If you have something you're happy to share, please contact the committee via [hello@thorpdalepotatofestival.com.au](mailto:hello@thorpdalepotatofestival.com.au)





# COUNCIL News

## Let us know how we can better engage with YOU!

We want to hear from you, our community, as to how Council is doing at connecting with and hearing from you. A revised Draft Community Engagement Policy is now open for feedback on Baw Baw Connect.

This Policy, once adopted, outlines how Council will work with residents, community groups, businesses and other stakeholders when developing projects, strategies and making decisions that impact the Shire.

It reinforces our commitment to transparency, strengthens our commitment to accessible participation and further opens up the conversation about how we can work better with the people our decisions impact the most.

Visit Baw Baw Connect [www.bawbawconnect.com.au](http://www.bawbawconnect.com.au) and have your say, your way before 22 June.



## Baw Baw Connect

Council currently has a community engagement opportunity open for consultation!

**Draft Community Engagement Policy** (open until 22 June)

Visit [www.bawbawconnect.com.au](http://www.bawbawconnect.com.au) to Have Your Say, Your Way!

YOUR SAY, YOUR WAY.



## Upcoming Events:

For a full list of the current events, visit [www.bawbawshire.co/Events-Calendar](http://www.bawbawshire.co/Events-Calendar)



## Upcoming Council Meetings:

The following Council meeting will be held in June 2026 in the Fountain Room, West Gippsland Arts Centre.

**Wednesday 24 June – 1.00pm**  
Ordinary Council Meeting

All community members are welcome to attend in person or tune in via the Live Stream on our website.

For a full list of the meetings for 2026, visit [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings)



## Your kitchen caddies are arriving!

By now, many households across Baw Baw Shire will have received their new kitchen caddy as part of the Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) service, being introduced on 6 July 2026.

From this date onwards, residents must place their food scraps into the kitchen caddy for emptying into the green bin, alongside your garden clippings.

We know many of you have questions about this new service, so please visit Council's website [www.bawbawshire.co/FOGO](http://www.bawbawshire.co/FOGO) or phone Customer Service on 5264 2411.

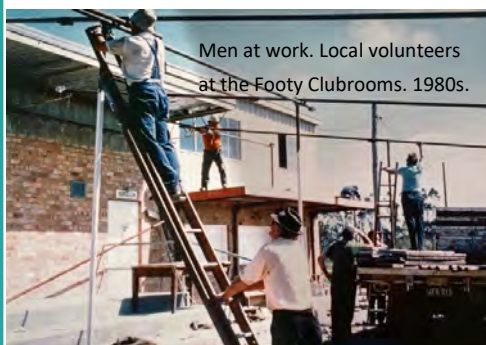
# LOOKING BACK: FOOTBALL CLUB ROOMS

By Tini Cook

Wow what a busy, buzzy place Yarragon was on the weekend of 2-3 May. The amazing Book Fair had the car park full and people lined up before the doors opened; there was the Football//Netball Club Reunion to mark the opening of the new magnificent club rooms, and a concert at the Uniting Church hall. And this was just Saturday!

Have you seen the new clubrooms at Downton Park? The facilities are amazing with a great social area serviced by an industrial sized and equipped kitchen, a fully equipped commercial bar and all the other amenities - office, toilets, first aid, etc. The Baw Baw Shire has created a magnificent facility for the community and the Downton Park Committee is to be congratulated on pursuing and achieving this.

It really gave my tour guide Deb Handley pause to think what her parents and others of their generation would think of it all. It was all done so differently in the past when the sporting and social facilities were all initiated, funded and built by hundreds of volunteer hours by community members, with very little in the way of Council or State grants. Local businesses were also canvassed to contribute - and most did.



Men at work. Local volunteers at the Footy Clubrooms. 1980s.



Ladies helping at footy kiosk in the 1990s.  
Peg O'Rourke, ?, Sonia Roberts, Thema Kingwill,  
Pam Morrison, Betty Elliot.

In the 1970s a committee was formed to move the football ground from Reserve Road to Market St and the work to establish Downton Park is a story in itself, and that is what Betty Elliot did, typing and printing 'Downton Park - The first 20 years.'

Laurie Wheller was in charge of the design and construction of the ground. Bill Seymour and Paul Kennedy helped to rough the ground out. Once people could see that the ground was underway the support by the local people was overwhelming.

It is amazing what a community can achieve when working together for a common goal. Ted Roberts supervised volunteers on the construction of the pavilion. Max Cleversley did most of the plumbing and Terry Kilday and Nick Solohub the electrical work. Wally Trickey offered the use of equipment or anything that was needed from his farm - tractor, diesel, post hole digger, etc.

Oh how they worked hard and together to plan,

provide the manpower, machinery and materials to build the original clubrooms at Downton park while the women did much of the fundraising.

A generation of ladies here in Yarragon baked, cooked, sewed, potted plants and manned street stalls and catered for weddings, balls and other functions all their adult lives, all as volunteers. When suppers were required, the Ladies Committee culinary and organisational skills were called upon for 'Smoke Nights', Euchre parties, Dances, Raffles, Balls, Weddings and Concerts.

It is interesting to note a 1972 wedding catered for by the Downton Park Ladies charged \$2.75 p/p for a 3 course meal for 110 guests and hall decoration \$10 extra and they were well pleased with the \$312.50 raised.

The recently demolished facilities at Downton park were proudly used by the community for some 50 years. They were quite an upgrade of the tin sheds at the old Reserve Road football ground that was the site for Yarragon football, cricket and other sporting events from 1916 to c.1973.

In the 1920s the ladies boiled the water for afternoon tea in two Kerosene tins, perched on rocks over the fires out the back of the humble club rooms. In the 1930's they upgraded to an outdoor copper, which they had to go and collect pine cones for, to use as fuel, for those endless cuppa's. The 1940's saw Nina Stott, Joan Trickey, Belle Bowers, Mrs. Bill Walsh, and Hazel Handley, who could be found each home game making sandwiches at Nina's; up to 14 loaves were made, no pre-sliced bread in those days and as there was butter rationing, Mrs. Deppeler would make butter and mix it with mashed potatoes. Les Handley decided to upgrade the hot water facilities for the ladies, he added a tap to a copper tank that fitted over the wood fire. What luxury!

Sources: 'For the Love of the Game' - 100 years of Yarragon Football 1896-1996 by Bernie Green 1996.; 'Downton Park-The first 20 years' by Betty Elliot 1989.



These ladies each devoted countless volunteer hours, some for over 50 years, to the Football Club.  
Dot King, Mel Blake, Thelma Cleversley, Belle Bowers and Irene Knight - Associate Life Members.



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## YDCA

By Richard Polmear



A public meeting was held in St David's Uniting Church Hall on Tuesday 28 April to discuss BBSC's plans to:

Rezone a portion of the superblock which formed part of the subdivision associated with Planning Scheme Amendment C145, a 300+ lot subdivision approved that lies east of Rollo Street, and

Apply Design Development Overlay 5 to sections of Campbell and Murray Streets.

The Yarragon and District Community Association would like to acknowledge and thank our 3 local BBSC Councillors, Mayor Kate Wilson and Councillors Adam Sheehan and Brendan Kingwill for attending and participating in the meeting. It allowed a number of misconceptions and mistruths to be raised and assurances given. The meeting was conducted in a positive spirit.

None-the-less YDCA expressed some concerns about timing, traffic flows and drainage pre-requisites associated with the rezone but generally supports the application of the DDO5. YDCA believes the Yarragon Township Plan falls short in identifying and resolving future issues that could lead to problems similar to those being experienced by Warragul and Drouin.

The YDCA meeting followed the public meeting. Members were informed of :

the successful Australia Day event from co-ordinator Judy Lackman, and

the planning in progress for Yarragon's 150-year celebrations in 2028 from Jen Lowe.

The next meeting of the YDCA will be our Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held on 21 July 2026 at St David's Uniting Church Hall, Campbell St, Yarragon, commencing at 7pm. All are welcome.

YDCA membership fees are due. The cost is \$5 per person or \$10 per family. Please pay to Treasurer Jen.

## WARRAGUL LADIES TENNIS

**Needed: tennis players of all standards. We play on Thursday morning at Warragul North Tennis courts at 9.30am. We desperately need fill-in players.**

**Please call Lynette Vaughan on 0409 342 406 if you are interested.**



# BACK TO YARRAGON 150

By Jen Loew

This event is planned for March 2028, which seems a long way off, but there is a lot of planning to be done.

At the meeting in May we discussed what form a street parade might take. For this we need to know what clubs and members of the community would participate and in what way. To make it safer and less subjected to traffic management it may be more appropriate to have it around the Dowton Park oval. So, we will be contacting clubs soon to make some decisions on a parade.

The West Gippsland Concert Band is keen to be involved so we will have lots of music along the way. Is anyone up to composing a Yarragon Song for the event?

We are still open to people who have memorabilia or stories about Yarragon's past to pass on. Please contact us at [back2yarragon150@gmail.com](mailto:back2yarragon150@gmail.com) if you would like to contact someone to pass on any information.

To all those Yarragon people who took part in the Centenary of Yarragon 50 years ago as youngsters, we would love to hear from you and have your input into this next milestone event. Some of you may even be in the photo below, 1950 Grade 2.

Another school photo is below. Please send any names that you can identify to [back2yarragon150@gmail.com](mailto:back2yarragon150@gmail.com) or write them out and pop them into a newsletter box in one of the businesses around Yarragon.

The next meeting for the planning group for Yarragon's 150 Years celebration will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday June 16th at the Uniting Church Hall. We welcome you to come along!

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## Ladies Coffee Morning

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## WEST GIPPSLAND CONCERT BAND

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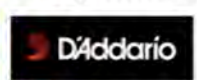
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Supported by the Baw Baw Shire Council Arts & Culture Fund

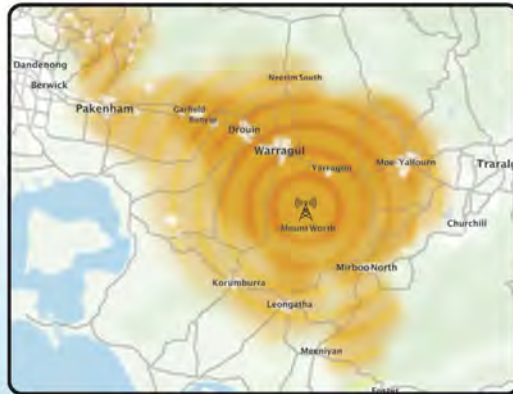


# WEST GIPPSLAND COMMUNITY RADIO

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3BBR-FM broadcasts a variety of music, local news and interviews to Baw Baw Shire in the West Gippsland region of Victoria, Australia on 103.1 FM and streaming online.

West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. is a not-for-profit organisation run entirely by volunteers to serve its local community. We offer opportunities for people to learn radio production and public speaking skills in a supportive environment.

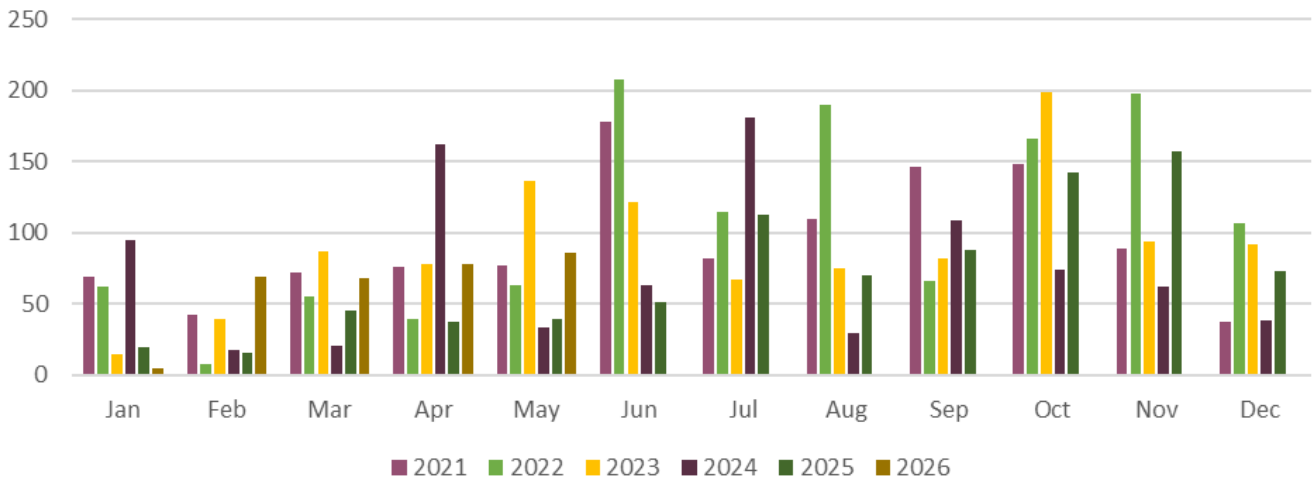


LISTEN LIVE



LISTEN AGAIN

## Rainfall 2021 - 2026



### Rainfall Record for 2026 and the five years prior, as recorded in McIntyre Road, Yarragon.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total	Total
2021	69	42	72	76	77	178	82	110	146	148	89	37	336	1126
2022	62	8	55	39	63	208	115	190	66	166	198	107	227	1277
2023	15	39	87	78	136	122	67	75	82	199	94	92	355	1086
2024	95	18	21	162	33	63	181	29	109	74	62	38	329	885
2025	20	16	45	37	39	51	113	70	88	142	157	73	157	851
2026	5	69	68	78	86								306	306



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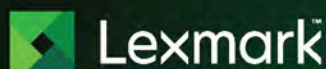
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