COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER No. 439 SEPTEMBER 2026

Free, but your spare coins help cover costs.
Thank you all for the $62.40 collected in July

THANKFUL FOR COMMUNITY

By Christina Flann

In the July edition Tini Cook told us about living in Yarragon for 75 years. My family has now been here for 5 years. It's a different scale, and I know I'll never be a local because that takes history, but I very much feel a part of this community.

When we moved in one of our neighbours asked if we were going to live here permanently or just on weekends. Another joked that he would only take us seriously once we'd lived here five years. Check. Not that long ago that same neighbour drove me home with bags of produce from his garden as thanks for returning his wayward dog who had come to visit us.

Just last week we borrowed a wood splitter from the Conways and Geoff dropped it off and picked it up! Wouldn't even take petrol money. So we've made a deal for a bottle of Niels' cordial and us helping him do some splitting in a week or two.

Another friend's car needed repairs and they borrowed my beaten up Subaru (Zoe) and then did a tip run for us. True friendship. Another neighbour, Nicole, supplies gorgeous flowers for our events and Michael just mowed our road verges for us. He was the first neighbour we met when helping out after a tree fell right in front of our house when we'd only lived here a few weeks.

Then there are all the wonderful volunteers at the Lions Club, supporting so much locally including the op shop (we drop things off as well as collecting more than we meant to). Lisa is helping me almost daily, cleaning the dozen airpots I've collected for coffee at the Winter Feast, helping me drop things off at the op shop, washing tablecloths, you name it, we've done it together.

The Yarragon Studio festivals that we run would not be possible without our volunteer crew. Bill and Rachel our co-conspirators, Jude, Lisa (again). Niels has dozens of stories about community from WGCB, particularly Barbara and Peter Kingwill from the Uniting Church Yarragon, invaluable help and such lovely people.

And there are the dozens of people who volunteer their time to contribute to this newsletter. I started talking about Tini and just mentioned Lisa, who both contribute (history and CFA). The newsletter only exists because a community of volunteers contribute and work behind the scenes to make it happen every month. Jen and Trevor Lowe quietly make, maintain, collect, fill and refill the newsletter boxes around town every month. Peter Court now prints each edition at home at materials cost price on his own time and drops it to the Lowes.

Jude is our treasurer. And currently runs the Yarragon South phone group with messages about cows on the road or tree blockages. She was giving Jim, who has been doing it for years, a bit of a break.

And this just scratches the surface. There are so many people helping each other and making this a community. All the volunteers who make the kids' sports run, who keep the churches going, who take in the loose dog and post it on the community facebook page, who check on their neighbours.

So I would like to give thanks for our community and I feel blessed to be a part of it.

Yarragon Hotel

www.yarragonhotel.com.au

OPENING HOURS

Every day from 11am
Lunch 12 - 2:30pm
Dinner 5:30 - 8:30pm
Take-away 5 - 8pm

Bookings appreciated & recommended

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 WGCB
Last Monday of each school term: 7:30 FREE CONCERT
Uniting Church, Yarragon

Q: Why did the cat headbutt the other grumpy cat?

A: Cos she's pretty, but a bit stupid.

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, Uniting Church Hall
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 Sharyn Gaul
0408 318 143
Secretary Leeanne Evans
0419 301 841

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

TAI CHI
9:00-10:00am weekly
Uniting Church Hall Yarragon

PILATES MATWORK
11:00 am weekly
Yarragon Public Hall

SATURDAY

CRAFT & PRODUCE MARKET
4th Sat., 9:00am-2:00pm
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

YARRAGON STUDIO CONCERT
3:00pm SATURDAY! 5 Sept
Timothy Young Piano Recital

www.yarragonstudio.com.au

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).

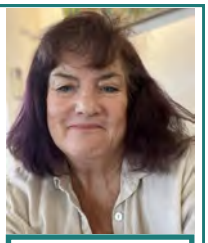
St David's Uniting Church
9 Campbell St. Service details on noticeboard at church.

St Jarlath's Catholic Church

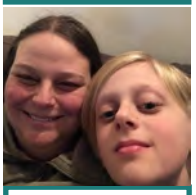
YARRAGON
10:00am
Mass
every Sunday;
Trafalgar
6:00pm
Mass every Saturday
Parish Office 5633 1166

Oscarism of the Month:
I disenjoy going to school. No, unenjoy.

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



Co-Editor: Deborah Churchill



Co-Editors: Christina Flann and Oscar Bijl

Newsletters can be picked up from:

* Post Office
* Foodworks
* Yarragon Pharmacy
* Lions on Mane Op Shop

and viewed on 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:

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	$10
1/4 page: ~9.3x13.7cm or banner: 4.5-6.9x19cm	$20
1/2 page: ~9.3x19.05cm or 27.5x9cm	$50
Full page: 27.5x19cm	$75

Advertising space is limited. Please organise advertising with the editor. Free business card ads available for Yarragon businesses only.

The remarks or views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editor, Committee of Management, or any volunteer involved in the production of this newsletter.

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 October 2026 edition

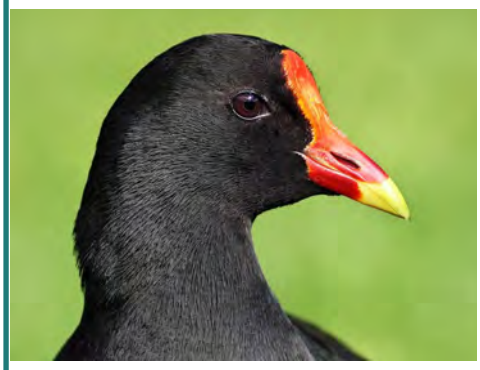
21 September

12 noon

WHAT WATER BIRD IS THAT DOWN AT THE WETLANDS?

By Margaret Young

It is the Dusky Moorhen, also called a Black Gallinule or Moorhen. It is about the size of the Eurasian Coot I wrote about last month (38 cm) and also part of the Rail family. Its upper parts are dark olive/brown and slate grey to black below which explains its "dusky" name I suppose. A few white stripes to the under tail covets are a bright spot on all that duskiness, as well as the red frontal shield tipped in yellow on the end of their bill.



During Autumn and Winter the frontal shield is duller in females and young males but, come warmer months and breeding season, the shield grows brighter in both sexes. To top off this colour palette the Dusky Moorhen's extra-long legs are olive green below the knee and duller yellow above!! When in flight these long toed, long legs dangle down.

You will mostly find Dusky Moorhens along the Eastern states of Australia and on the bottom corner of Western Australia, in pairs or loose colonies but, according to one of my books, not Gippsland!! That might be out of date as there is a photo of a Dusky Moorhen in one of the Birds of Drouin booklets (part of Friends of Drouin Trees excellent publications). They are also found in Borneo, Timor and Western New Guinea. I am also sure I also saw one swimming sedately on the pond of a stately home while watching the Antiques Road Show! So they are not Australian natives.

Dusky Moorhens are not as prevalent as Purple Moorhens or Eurasian Coots but inhabit similar watery areas such as well vegetated swamps, town lakes and rivers with wide grassy margins and stands of reeds or dense trees along the banks such as Willow. When swimming you will see them flicking their tails and jerking their heads. If you disturb Dusky Moorhens when they are on land they will skitter away emitting a strident "kerk" and other loud shrieks.

For a nest they construct a bulky saucer of sticks, stems, bark and grass built on top of rushes, reeds or other handy vegetation in or near water. Sometimes they will choose a bank or roots of a river bank tree or low branch above water. Like similar water birds they might also build a flatter, more exposed resting platform-like a backyard deck to hang out with the neighbours. Seven to ten buff or sandy coloured eggs blotched and spotted with purplish brown are laid on this saucer nest. The chicks are a fluffy dark grey with a paler red/yellow beak and tiny yellowish wings that flick in and out of the fluff as they are fed. (Google it!). The whole group or colony shares the raising of the young.

They feed on land and water eating seeds, tips of shrubs and grasses, algae, molluscs and other invertebrates. They will consume carrion and bread and other scraps left by other birds such as gulls or ducks. The chicks are fed on chewed up worms and molluscs with plant matter gradually added as the grow.

So this is the last in my trilogy of water birds with distinctive beaks/frontal shields - there might be more! I hope this will help you sound authoritative when you are out with others around a pond or river. In fact, perhaps we need to appreciate every water bird we see now that the dreaded Bird Flu has reached our shores, it is big concern.

P.S. You can purchase the Friends of Drouin Trees little books in our own Town and Country Gallery.

YARRAGON FIRE BRIGADE NEWS:

By Lisa Somerville Community Safety Officer Yarragon Rural Fire Brigade

Getting Ready for Summer

As we move towards the warmer months, now is a good time to take a look around our yards and tidy up a few areas before the grass dries out and the fire season arrives.

You don't need to do everything at once. **Pick one small job this weekend and start there.**

Clear away dry leaves, grass and other rubbish from around your home, sheds and fences.

Trim back overgrown plants and shrubs, particularly where they are close to buildings.

Move wood piles, mulch and other flammable materials away from your house where possible.

Keep access to your home clear so you, your family and emergency services can get in and out safely.

Have a look under your house, around sheds and along fences — these areas can easily collect dry vegetation and other combustible material.

This month's Connected Communities Challenge

Don't tackle the whole yard — choose one area and give it some attention this weekend.

A small amount of preparation now can make a big difference when summer arrives.

Prepared Together. Safer Together.

Australia Post

77 Princes Highway, Yarragon

POST LETTERS & COLLECT PARCELS

PERSONAL BANKING

CARDS & GIFTS

LOTTO TICKETS

the Lott Official Home of Australia's Lotteries by Tatts

Ladies Coffee Morning

New to Yarragon?
Been here for years?
Been here forever?
Let's get together.

Friday 18th September 10am at Five Aces

All Welcome.
Don't be concerned you may not know anyone – you soon will.

RUN BY OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS
ELLEN & PETRA

Appointment Only - Phone: 0458 488 543
Located at
District Nursing @ Warragul Hospital

FREE COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR THOSE EXPERIENCING HAIR LOSS WITHIN BAW BAW SHIRE

WEST GIPPSLAND CONCERT BAND

Celebrating community music

FREE music education for all
Every Monday at the Uniting Church Yarragon

530PM Band Basic - Training Band
630PM Greenhorns - Junior Band
730PM WGCB Concert Band

Experienced WWCC tutors
Instruments available free of charge

grow your photography passion

Inspire, Motivate, Educate, Enjoy

The Warragul Camera Club provides a wide array of events from casual social gatherings and photographic outings to structured workshops and courses covering all types of photographic techniques.

It's the perfect place to learn more about your camera and photography, meet new friends and enjoy the beauty of this great art with like minded friendly people.

SINCE 1956

warragul camera club Inc.

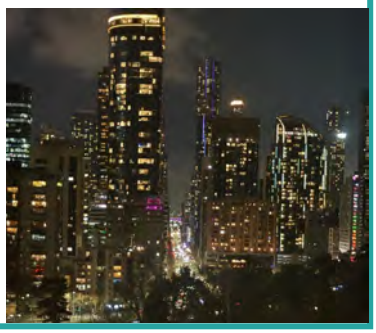
For more information feel free to contact us by email at enquiries@warragulcameraclub.org or contact the club secretary: Bruce Langdon on 0418 595 080

WHAT ARE THE EDITORS UP TO?

By Christina Flann, Debbie Churchill & Oscar Bijl

Oscar: I was recently sick for a week, in that time I played soooo many computer games, mostly a new game called Arma Reforger which is a kind of war game. New images below.

Christina: We ran another successful Winter Feast. I've helped a friend move houses. And am very much enjoying my new electric car. Life is good.



Debbie: Off for a brief stay in Melbourne with an impressive night view.

YARRAGON PUBLIC HALL NEWS

By Lynette Vaughan

We are happy to say that we now have a portable PA system for the use of the hall hirers. If you need it just let Alison know.

We have had a bit of plumbing work done as we had some mishaps with all the rain. The tank has had to be drained and hopefully will be back in place soon.

Thank you to all the groups and private people that use the hall. It is mostly kept very clean and tidy. It is so nice for everyone to walk in and be greeted by a clean space.

Also thank you to the Fire Brigade for keeping the lawn and yard in good shape.

Any ideas for improvement to the hall, please let the committee know.

Bookings and queries phone: 0474 376 002

BAW BAW Real Estate

YARRAGON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Thinking of

Selling?

Local knowledge. Trusted advice. A clear plan for your next move.

Yarragon & surrounds

Residential • Rural • Land

Ben Codling
Your local real estate contact

0448 182 707
ben.codling@bawbawrealestate.com.au

LION'S CLUB REPORT

By Tamara Galea and Trelawney Geary

As our beautiful spring weather approaches us, let's get into it with some positive news. We welcome back to the Yarragon lions, Richard Sandy.

What do we have going on this September? First, and nearly most important, is the Lions Christmas raffle! That's right, it's that time of year again where our members get out in the sun and get to see all your friendly faces. Our tickets will be available from the 20th of this month, So come on down the Lion's Op Shop on Mane and grab a ticket, who knows yours could be the winning one.

There are 4 great prizes that could be won and those are:

1. The Esplanade Resort Lakes voucher valued at $600 plus meal voucher of $250
2. $500 at Bunnings. Who doesn't love Bunnings?
3. $300 hamper/voucher at Gippsland Food and Wine
4. Yorkshire beard handmade chopping board valued at $200

Our over 55s dinner is happening on the 16th of December at the public hall in Yarragon. Just giving everyone plenty of notice so that we can get plenty of people to attend, as this event is wonderful and brings people together.

The Yarragon lions would like to thank the YFNC for trusting in us to man the gate for the last seven home games. It has been a privilege to help our local football club out, and we couldn't thank them enough for helping us out with our sausage sizzles when we needed it. This is exactly the kind of community spirit our town needs.

YARRAGON PRIMARY SCHOOL & EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

VICTORIA CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME (CDS VIC)

C2000008892

Big on customers

Bigger for Yarragon & District.

When you bank with us, you get legendary customer service that helps make banking easier. And because we share profits, the community benefits too.

Talk to our friendly team about your everyday banking, business, and home loan needs.

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YARRAGON BOWLS CLUB

By Kaye McLaren

A highlight of late July was our Vintage Op shop High Tea.

What a fantastic afternoon. We were overwhelmed with support from our local community, which saw this event become an amazing success. So successful we are being asked to do it again next year. We are so happy that everyone enjoyed our event.

The raffles, mystery auction and pop up op shop proved very popular. Food was plentiful and enjoyed by all. We had lots of members who helped with the food preparation.

Special thanks to Liz Harris, Kaye, Glenda, Lindsay, Robyn, Alison and Peter for all of your efforts. Our thanks to everyone who came and helped make it such a successful event.

How good did our waiters/ waitresses and bar staff look? Think they deserve a special mention for their efforts both before, after, and on the day. Kaye, Glenda, Robyn, Lindsay, Tony, Kevin and Sam. Thank you so much. Thanks also goes to Nola White who supplied us with the crockery and doily banner which really set the atmosphere of the afternoon.

The vintage display of Shirley's 69 year old wedding dress was a highlight. Heartfelt thanks to our amazing members who helped on the day.

The afternoon continued with the presentation of the best dressed. Congratulations to Gill Murray and Mark Cleeman who took out the best dressed.

Town & Country Gallery
YARRAGON

Fine art - Flowers - Jewellery

Local artists; handcrafted works; Allambee Flower Farm flowers

'Autumn harvest, Granite track' by Emma Niehof
Mixed-media on canvas, 76x76cm

OPEN 7 DAYS 10-4
Ph: 5634 2229
www.townandcountrygallery.com.au

YARRAGON BOWLS CLUB

By Glenda Beagley

September Birthdays:
Gordon Wright, Leeanne Evans, Richard Polmear

Alison Petschel was second and Margaret Atkinson was third. Well done to all.

The Mystery Auction was won by Raylene Galley, who I'm positive will enjoy her picnic hamper.

Raffles also proved popular once again. Lindsay did a wonderful job of selling the tickets. Lots of people headed home with some lovely prizes. Many thanks to John O'Malley who continues to support us with some amazing prizes.

Now its time to start thinking of our next season. If you think you may like to play bowls this season please contact the club. Its a fun inclusive sport, all new members are welcome. Even if you just want to play socially we want you to join us in the fun.

Our first Barefoot BBQ Night is on Thursday October 8th then the 22nd due to Daylight Saving starting. After that we will revert to the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. Cost this season is $20 per adult and $15 per child for a game of bowls and a two course meal. Its always a fun night. For catering purposes please call or text 0490 831283 to book in by the Tuesday prior.

The potential date for opening of our green is Saturday 12th September with a practice match against the Drouin Bowling Club starting at 1pm followed by afternoon tea. Please see our Facebook page for confirmation closer to the day. Come along and enjoy a fun afternoon which will be followed by afternoon tea.

Fees: Our fees are now due. These can be paid by bank transfer as per our recent email or to our Treasurer Ross McDermott. Please contact our President/Treasurer for more information on 0490 831283. Fees remain at $180 for Pennant members and $30 for social members and $30 for Juniors up to age 18. Once fees are paid we will update Bowls Link for all members wishing to play Pennant next season.

Our sponsors for the 2026/27 season:

Club Hotel Warragul
Dementia Doulas (Jan Doull)
Fonterra
Fowler Street Dental
Fritz Mylius Painting and Decorating
Gippsland Fresh
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
www.yarragon.bowls.com.au

YarragonBowlingClub

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24 Hour/7 Day access
CCTV and security lighting
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Undercover storage - spaces available
CLEAR YOUR SHED AND YARD

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allinstorage3823@gmail.com
12 INDUSTRIAL COURT YARRAGON

BBSN

By Amanda McLeod

SAVE THE DATE: CREATIVE HARVEST TURNS 10!

Ten years, countless tomatoes, plenty of muddy boots and Creative Harvest is back!

Mark your calendars for **Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 January 2027**, when food gardens across West Gippsland will throw open their gates for a very special **10th anniversary** celebration.

If you love growing your own fruit and veggies, peeking over the garden fence to see what everyone else is growing, or simply getting a little garden inspiration, Creative Harvest is the place to be.

Come and wander through real food gardens, meet the gardeners behind them, swap tips, discover clever ideas and perhaps go home with a serious case of **"I'm going to grow that!"**

Whether you're a seasoned green thumb, a garden novice or someone who thinks gardening starts and ends with remembering to water the parsley, there'll be plenty to enjoy.

And there's lots happening behind the scenes already. Gardens are being lined up, workshops are taking shape and ideas are popping up like seedlings after rain.

Tickets go on sale from 1 November, so put the date in your calendar, tell your gardening buddies and start planning your weekend.

Ten years is definitely worth celebrating and we can't wait to open the garden gates and show you what's been growing!

Keep an eye on www.creativeharvest.org.au for all the latest festival news.

Baw Baw Sustainability Network September Event - NextGen: Turning Waste into Green Hydrogen in Gippsland

Thursday 24 September, 7pm

Yarragon Uniting Church, Campbell Street

Join the Baw Baw Sustainability Network for a conversation with Scott McArdle, an experienced Gippsland-based project developer with a background spanning agriculture, waste, energy and emergency management.

Scott is the founder of Nexsys Industries Consulting and a Director of Zerogen, working on innovative projects that bring together waste recovery, renewable energy and low-carbon fuel production.

He will discuss the **'Gippsland Sustainable Fuels Precinct'**, which aims to transform materials currently treated as waste - including municipal and commercial waste and residual biomass from regional industries - into valuable low-carbon fuels such as hydrogen and methanol.

Discover how this innovative approach could help reduce waste, support Gippsland's circular economy and contribute to decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors such as heavy transport and stationary energy.

To find out more and to register for catering purposes visit: www.bbsn.org.au/events

All welcome.

BAW BAW ARTS ALLIANCE AGM

By Carol Monson

The Baw Baw Arts Alliance (Bbaa) recently held its Annual General Meeting at the 'Station Gallery' in Yarragon. This gallery is managed by the Arts Alliance along with two other properties, 'Artspaces' at the Trafalgar Railway Station and the VRI Hall in Queen Street, Warragul.

Jessie McLennan, past president, and Deb Churchill, 2026 to 2027 president.

President Jessie McLennan opened the meeting by welcoming Deputy Mayor of Baw Baw Shire, Suzanne Allen, Councillors Trish Jones and Brendan Kingwell and thanked organisations who have provided ongoing support to the Arts Alliance including Regional Arts Victoria, Baw Baw Shire, Community banks in Trafalgar and Drouin and 3BBR. In her final report Jessie spoke about her own ongoing commitment to the work of the Arts Alliance in developing the Creative Arts in the shire of Baw Baw. Having been a president from 2010 to 2012 and again in 2024 to 2026, Jessie was able to comment on a number of strengths of the Alliance. One is the succession plan for the president to change every two years thus enabling the organisation to remain active, dynamic and responsive to community needs.

Other strengths are having a vision that encompasses the ongoing development of a creative arts environment which supports the well-being of the community. Despite being a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers, the Baw Baw Arts Alliance continues to grow, increasing the range of Arts opportunities through workshops, drop-in groups, exhibitions, support for developing and professional Artists via the retail space for Artwork and the 'Arts and Makers Market'.

The list of events and activities run by the Arts Alliance is extensive and Jessie paid tribute to the many volunteers needed for such extensive programs. The volunteers run drop in Art groups, co-ordinate rosters, serve in the gallery shops, curate and hang the regular exhibitions, work on the management committee, conduct annual NGV children's activities, record Artist interviews, publish poetry, organise a range of markets, arrange Art activities for members of the general public, promote Art through the combined Baw Baw Arts Alliance and Warragul Rotary Easter Arts Sale, maintain regular publications and a web site to keep people informed of the exciting opportunities for Artistic creativity available in the Baw Baw Shire. This is an exhausting list.

At the Annual General Meeting, Councillor Trish Jones presided at the annual elections and presented the new Baw Baw Arts Alliance Committee of Management to guests at the meeting. New president for 2026 is Deborah Churchill, Jeff Thege continues as secretary, Prue Barridge, continues as Treasurer, Anita George is vice president and Jessie McLennan assumes role of past president. General committee members are Janine Richardson, Carol Monson, Sue Murphy, Michelle Beer, Zoe Clark.

In concluding Jessie congratulated Deborah Churchill for being elected as the 2026 to 2027 president of the Baw Baw Arts Alliance. Jessie herself moves into a role she has had previously, that of Market co-ordinator, which she will share with Annie Laughon

The meeting concluded with a presentation from Anne Lorraine, director of the Warragul Art Studio Gallery (WAS), who spoke of various aspects of running an Art Gallery including the restoration of the 1930s Art Deco style, former farmhouse, in which WAS is housed.

ART UPDATE

By Carol Monson

Having just had its annual general meeting the Baw Baw Arts Alliance has every right to pat itself on the back for the achievements of the past twelve months.

What some may not know is that, aside from running a gallery shop and staging regular exhibitions in the 'Station Gallery', Yarragon, Bbaa provides a great many drop in groups in a wide range of creative Arts. The Artspaces in the Trafalgar Railway Station and the VRI Hall in Queen Street Warragul are the venues for these vibrant groups that range in size from 5 participants to 15 or more, depending on demand.

At Artspaces in Trafalgar Railway Station, Trish Smithson runs an exciting new group called ArtStudio 2 where you can learn to draw and paint. Trish has many drawing and painting skills and is keen to share these with others. She will introduce all in the group to using a sketchbook, basic techniques for drawing and painting using pen, brush, pencil, ink. There will be some traditional techniques taught. People may also bring work they want to continue. Trish will be in the Artspace every Wednesday from 11.00am to 1.30pm during school terms.

Next door in Artspace 1 from 10.30-2:00 Deb Churchill, newly elected president of the Alliance, runs her Artstudio 1 group making books, cards, scrappy dolls, mixed media and writing. Take any projects you are working on because the primary aim is to enjoy yourself, meet like-minded people and share skills. Deb has skills in a variety of areas and loves to teach others.

Also starting up in Art Space 1 at Trafalgar Railway Station is a project-based knitting group for beginner knitters. Experienced knitters are also welcome. You will have all materials provided for each fun project. Tuesdays 10.00am to 1.00pm weekly. For details ring Michelle on 0419 028 961.

A must for those who love the Arts but may not have the time to go to a formal group is the Jewellery Fair in the VRI Hall on Saturday, September 19 from 9.00am to 2.00pm.

For the many other groups see www.bawbawartsalliance.org.au

Left to right, Prue Barridge (treasurer) Sue Murphy, Jessie McLennan, (immediate past president) Carol Monson, Deb Churchill (2026 to 2027 president), Rob Salada (Director of Community Bank, Drouin and District) Jeff Thege (secretary) Zoe Clark, Janine Richardson, Michelle Beer, Anita George (vice president)

YARRAGON 150 YEARS

By Jen Lowe

The next planning meeting for the Yarragon 150 years celebrations to be held in 2028 is on:

Tuesday 8th September, 7.00 p.m.

at the Uniting Church Hall

Campbell Street Yarragon

We are still taking ideas on board so yours would be most welcome if you would like to attend.

As part of this celebration, we would like to publish as many named school photos as we can. Below is one of 1967 Grades 5&6. If you can name some or all of the people in this photo please send your names, back row, middle row, front row, left to right, to back2yarragon150@gmail.com or drop them in to one of the newsletter boxes around town.

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'Yellow-tails' by Helena Coltman
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www.townandcountrygallery.com.au

COUNCIL News

Get Ready, Get Techy, GO!

Baw Baw Shire Council is proud to support a series of sessions being held across the Shire to build emergency readiness and resilience, within the community.

The Get Ready, Get Techy, Go! sessions are being held during September and October.

The sessions will cover bushfire planning and safety and go through resources available to help prepare for these kinds of events.

The following workshops will be held:

- Home Care Workers Emergency Readiness Workshop, 4 September, 8.45am to 1pm, Warragul Country Club.
- Willow Grove Emergency Readiness Community event; 2 October, 5.30 – 8.30pm at the Willow Grove Hall.
- Seniors Festival Emergency Readiness Workshop, 20 Oct, 2 – 4pm, Warragul Country Club.

Email Cherie Howe at Cherie.howe@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au for more information.

Special Consideration Program here to support FOGO rollout

Baw Baw Shire Council has introduced a Special Consideration Program (SCP) to support members of our community with the new collection schedule for the red general rubbish bin.

In July, Council introduced the Food Organics Garden Organics program, and under this new program, residents are now required to place their food scraps in the green lid bin alongside their garden clippings.

The introduction of this program also saw a change in frequency for collection of the green FOGO bin to weekly and the red general rubbish bin to fortnightly, and the SCP is here to provide support, following this big change.

To find out more and to see what the eligibility criteria is, visit **bawbawshire.co/FOGO** or **scan the QR** code.

EMPLOYMENT EXPO THIS MONTH!

Baw Baw Shire Council will host the annual Employment Expo in September this year.

When: Wednesday 30 September
Time: 10am - 1pm
Where: Fountain Room, West Gippsland Arts Centre

Stay tuned to our website and social media channels for more information!

Upcoming Council Meeting:

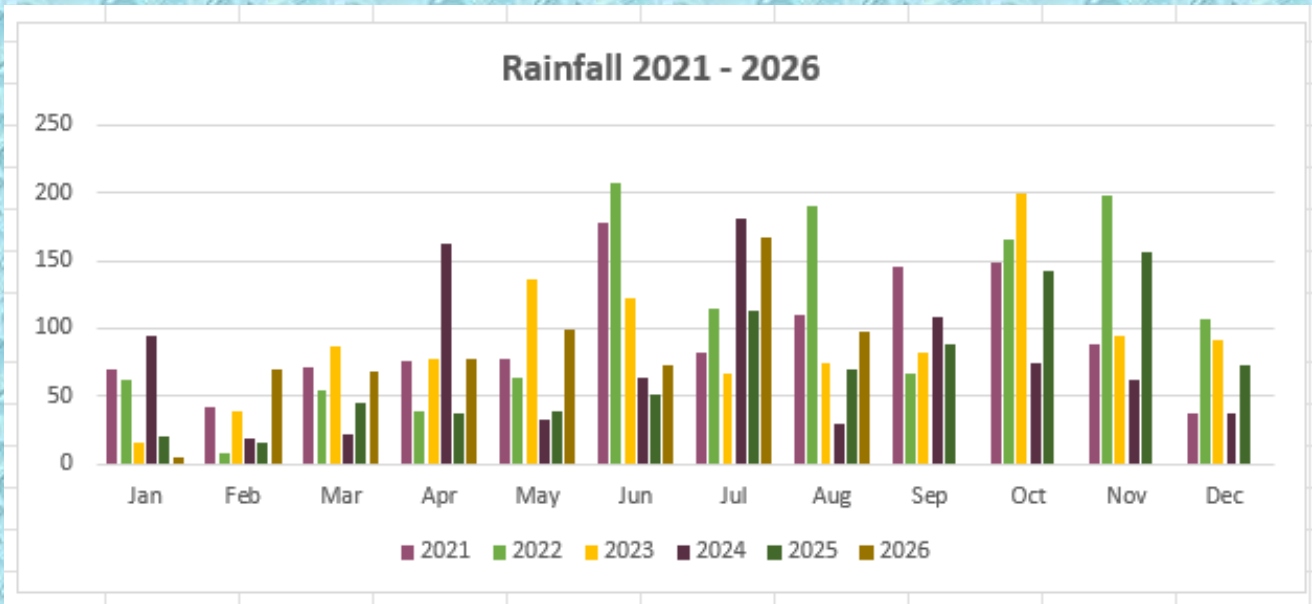
The following Council meeting will be held in October 2026 in the Fountain Room, West Gippsland Arts Centre.

Wednesday 14 October – 5.30pm
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**

W bawbawshire.vic.gov.au E bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au T 1300 229 229



Rainfall Record for 2026 and the five years prior, as recorded at McIntyre Rd 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	706	1126
2022	62	8	55	39	63	208	115	190	66	166	198	107	740	1277
2023	15	39	87	78	136	122	67	75	82	199	94	92	619	1086
2024	95	18	21	162	33	63	181	29	109	74	62	38	602	885
2025	20	16	45	37	39	51	113	70	88	142	157	73	391	851
2026	5	69	68	78	99	73	167	98					657	657

3BBR

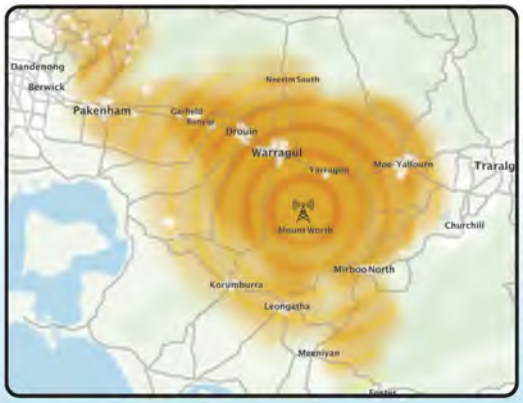
WEST GIPPSLAND COMMUNITY RADIO

103.1FM

3bbrfm.org.au

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