

LOCAL NBN WORK CLOSE TO FINISH

Buninyong should be connected to the nbn system by “early to mid 2016”, nbn co’s State Manager for Corporate Affairs, Michael Moore, said recently.

As reported in *Street Talk* in the October edition of the *News*, contractors have been active around Buninyong in the past few months preparing pits and laying cables.

The nbn company was established by the Australian Government to design, build and operate Australia’s new broadband network. Its goal is to provide phone and internet access at very high speeds to service providers to then on-sell to residential and business customers.

Fibre used

Some 2,200 premises in the Buninyong and Mt Helen areas will receive a fixed line (fibre) service. Fibre is capable of supporting high ‘bandwidth’ that can bring a wealth of benefits including faster speeds and a smooth online experience.

Laying of the new fibre network in Buninyong and Mt Helen has almost been completed in large conduits under the streets.

Michael Moore told the *News* that the next step of the rollout is to be completed relatively soon. “Homes and businesses in Mount Helen and Buninyong are being progressively connected to the network and will be finished by early to mid-2016,” he said.

Fibre cable will be run all the way to the buildings, so existing copper lines will not be required.

Mr Moore also said that “a fixed wireless service is already available in much of the surrounding area, including Scotsburn and Durham Lead.”



Wendy Kirby with fibre technician/contractor, Anthony Tomasello, testing the network connection after the Pig and Goose was connected to the nbn.

There will be small ‘nbn boxes’ attached to properties, but nbn contractor, **David Quick** said that care would be taken about their placement. “I’m constantly telling the boys at our toolbox meetings to treat the placement as if it’s their own house,” he said. “We try to avoid having a box right at the front of people’s houses.”

David also spoke of the equipment used by the contractors including long, underground drills for use under driveways to allow for cabling - especially good for some of the long driveways in the district.

Connected

Wendy Kirby from *The Pig and Goose* recently had the business connected to the nbn network and was happy with the work done. “They have been hard at it for weeks, but now it’s all cleaned up like they had never been here,” she said.

The nbn company has a process to deal with any concerns about the roll out. For information about this or getting connected to the network, please contact nbn via the website www.nbnco.com.au or speak to your phone or internet service provider.

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Archibalds inspiring the district



Student portraits by (l to r) Eleanor aged 7, Patricia aged 9 and Kate aged 10.

The Archibald Prize, one of Australia's favourite and most prestigious art awards for portrait painting, has come to the Art Gallery of Ballarat, and has inspired some in Buninyong and district.

A regular around the village, **Brigid Corcoran** of Saltbush Kitchen at M.A.D.E, has teamed up with the Art Gallery to host an Archibald Prize 2015 event – **An Adventure in Australian Art and Native Bush Foods**.

The event includes a private tour of the exhibition, native bush food, and an

art-inspired cocktail party. Brigid has created a menu reflecting the creativity and art of the exhibition, with the food washed down with some of her favourite cocktails.

Brigid, daughter of former Buninyong Postmaster **Tony** and **Pauline Corcoran**, has a passion for sharing the flavours of bush food she will be showcasing at the Archibald event. "It's about introducing people to new flavours and increasing awareness and accessibility while using the flavours in a contemporary way," said Brigid.

Bush food flavours on the night, may include lemon myrtle, warrigal greens, mountain pepper and strawberry gum.

The event will be held on Saturday 14 November. Tickets are \$80 and can be purchased online at www.made.org/whats-on/archibald-2015-saltbush/.

Local portraits

Warrenheip Street art gallery – Zuni Gallery – and its students will also be showcasing their Archibald-inspired talents at their annual exhibition.

Following a series of lessons on portraits using different styles and techniques to create portraiture, Zuni's 38 students will be displaying their works from 21 to 29 November. All artwork will be available for sale.

Zuni Gallery owner and artist, **Trudy Nicholson**, is proud to be exhibiting the variety of student works. "We have explored the person and how we can present it in all the different means, angles and moods," explained Trudy.

The exhibition opens on Saturday 21 November at 10am at Zuni Gallery, 307 Warrenheip Street. There will also be food, music, face painting and entertainment on the day.

Vintage sports car event here

Vintage sports car enthusiasts recently gathered in Buninyong prior to the second day of the Vintage Sports Car Club's event that brought them to district areas.

Local organisers for the Ballarat two-day rally, **Ian Waller** and **Graeme Burnham**, said the first day's drive had been to Myrniong, Daylesford and Clunes before returning to Ballarat for a club dinner. The event included 37 pre-war cars and almost 100 people.

This long-standing motoring club (formed in 1945) believes in driving vintage vehicles rather than simply admiring them. It also conducts hill-climb, alpine touring and night trial events as well as one and two-day rallies.

The oldest vehicle at the rally was a 191v8 Vauxhall. It has four cylinders and four gears with the gear-levers mounted on the right hand side in keeping with the right hand drive of all cars at that early stage of motor sports.



1930 Bentley speed 6



1933 Bugatti type 44

Community Newspapers 'News' stars in State awards



BDCA Secretary Gayle Adams receives one of the awards from CNAV President John Ellis.

After only being in production since April of this year, the Buninyong Community News took out three significant awards at the annual conference of Victorian community newspapers. There are 72 local papers registered with the Community Newspaper Association of Victoria (CNAV).

After being given an 'Honourable Mention' in the Best Newspaper category – recognising excellence in layout, style and content – the *Buninyong & District Community News* (BDCN) took out the runner-up awards in the categories of *Best Editorial Comment* and the *Best History Story*.

The Opinion piece in the June edition of the BDCN titled *Where's Wally and Buninyong* was commended by the judges for "using a humorous theme to tackle the issue of small communities being not well recognised in planning at a local government level".

In the *Best History Story* category, the lead article in the inaugural April edition

– *The Mystery of the Fire Bell* – was referred to by the judges as "a bit of a quirky story about the Buninyong fire bell which disappeared in 1898, and which reflects the importance of serendipity when it comes to history...Is it the original bell or not? Time will tell, but they were lucky that this bell was found by chance and returned to the Brigade."

“*This is a great achievement for a new community newsletter*”

CNAV President **John Ellis** said it was an outstanding effort for a community newspaper which has been produced for less than a year to be so strongly recognised by the panel of expert judges. "This is a great achievement for a new community newsletter," he said.

The *Buninyong Community News* was recommenced in its new format earlier in 2015 by the Buninyong and District Community Association (BDCA) following a two year hiatus in the hard copy production of the long-standing earlier version of the local community paper.



streettalk

THE WESTERN entrance to Buninyong is really looking good lately. The Council keeps the grassed area on the northern side of the Midland Hwy cut and neat, while the Buninyong Golf Club has taken on a 'community' role by mowing the other side of the road from the clubhouse almost to Macs Road. Well done, BGC!

GREAT also to see the 'Buninyong Shire' Avenue of Honour being returned to the state it should be in. Permits are being finalised to enable the removal of other trees that have crowded out the memorial trees. Latest research shows that 164 servicemen from the 'old' Shire lost their lives in World War I. Each will soon have a commemorative plaque along the Avenue.

SOME CURIOSITY about the latest gaggle of orange-vested men seen meeting with BDCA reps outside of the Pig & Goose recently. They were from Council and VicRoads sorting out details of the new pedestrian crossing to be sited there.

A FEW MONTHS ago we were assured by Cr Innes that "not one cent" of the \$650,000 or so allocated to the Town Hall precinct projects would be spent on associated VicRoads' work. Hope that still holds, as the concrete contractor doing all of those kerbs that are appearing daily must be rubbing his hands with glee. Sad to see those lovely smooth kerbs replacing the bluestone ones, though.

NOW THAT the new heritage way-finding signage is up around the village, the award for the worst remaining piece of signage is that at the junction of Mt Buninyong Rd and the Midland Highway. Even when you know the area, it is hopelessly signed and continues to pose a risk of serious crash occurring up there particularly for vehicles coming from the Geelong direction. It has been suggested to VicRoads that they could pull down that huge green sign outside of the Community Bank and use it better up the hill.



GREEN WASTE FREE DEAL

With the fire danger period fast approaching it's time to identify risks on your property and to prepare to reduce the spread, speed and intensity of fire.

Residents have the opportunity to dispose green waste free of charge at the City of Ballarat's Gillies Street Transfer Station between Monday 16 and Sunday 22 November.

The transfer station is located in Gillies Street South and open 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 4pm Saturday and Sunday.

Green waste must be separated from other waste and loads must not exceed three cubic metres. Residents who bring non-green waste and mixed loads will be charged at normal rates

GARDENS HAPPENINGS

The Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens (FOBBG) have some interesting activities coming up. In conjunction with the local Kindergarten there will be a series of activities in the Gardens on 26 and 27 October on the theme of Water. They are also holding a pre-Christmas BBQ in the Gardens for members and friends on 2 December from 6.00pm (non-members are welcome).

The group bus tour to the Dandenong Ranges on 5 November (see BDCN, September p 8 for details) still has a few vacancies

RSL ANNUAL DINNER

The Buninyong RSL extends a warm invitation to all district residents to join them at their Annual Dinner – always an enjoyable evening.

Buninyong Golf Club

Friday, 27 November at 6.30 for 7 pm

Two course meal \$34. Drinks at bar prices. Tables of four to twelve persons.

Here's a chance to meet, mix with and support the local service men and women and chat with VIP invited guests.

Enquiries: **Max Thorne** 0418 519 529

Friends and families at Scotsburn

The Scotsburn campus of Buninyong Primary School recently welcomed three of the Hicks family who have recently arrived from outback WA. They are **Jacob** (Prep), **Josh** (Grade 3) and **Nathan** (Grade 5). The boys have started at the Scotsburn campus this term, and are settling in very well and making lots of new friends which is wonderful.

In the last week of term three, Scotsburn students enjoyed their 'Celebration of Learning' evening, providing students an opportunity to share many of the wonderful things they have been doing throughout the year

with their families. A large number of families attended the night and made for a lovely atmosphere.

The school was very thankful for **Steve (Mrs Murphy's husband)** who volunteered his time to cook the BBQ for the families on the night. Steve's brilliant work enabled Scotsburn to raise enough money to purchase a new pump for their fish tank.

The school thanks Midvale Meats and the Buninyong Bakery for their extremely generous donation of the sausages and bread for the BBQ.



From left: Nathan, Jacob and Josh Hicks.

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Changing the image of older men

When the Men's Shed movement started off in Australia in 1996, it was regarded by some as an interesting curiosity – a few eccentric old blokes, many with grey beards, who liked to get together with their tools and bits of wood in some crummy little backyard building, and talk together for the 'good of their health'.

The Buninyong Men's Shed group, formed in 2010, probably still has a few eccentric old blokes, and some with grey beards, but they have well and truly trashed the above stereotype.

For a start, they are a dynamic group of some 36 members who meet regularly in a state-of-the-art building adjacent to the Buninyong Tennis Complex. They lobbied hard with funding agencies to get the \$90,000 needed to complete their large and well-equipped building opened earlier this year.

They may well still have a bit of a chat together, but the activities of the group go well beyond sticking a few bits of wood together, or shaving a lump of timber into the shape of a chair leg, and cheering one another up!

Community action

Indeed, the Buninyong Men's Shed has become a valued local group that participates heavily in community affairs and assists with community projects.

A prime example of this is the role they took on with the Buninyong Graffiti

Removal Unit. The local Men's Shed not only stores and maintains the unit but has undergone training to operate it and remove any graffiti which appears in the Buninyong area.

They are also currently discussing the possibility of making concrete plinths for the Buninyong RSL Avenue of Honour restoration project.

They have picked up on other community projects including:

- making concrete posts for the Buninyong Cemetery in the 'heritage' style to match the posts that had existed there for many years
- building playground equipment for Buninyong, Scotsburn, Canadian and Delacombe primary schools
- working with the Buninyong/Mt Helen Lions Club to build the community BBQ in the area above the skate park

Of course these guys also enjoy the occasional beer and a pie or two together - often even involving women in their social activities.

They may well still have a bit of a chat now and then for the sake of their health, but when this group pops out of that big green shed to get involved in some community activity, they all look pretty healthy. The jury is out on whether it's the chats they have together, or the beer and pies that have done the trick!

Buninyong & district COMMUNITY NEWS

This publication is a community project of the Buninyong & District Community Association (BDCA) supported by the City of Ballarat and the Buninyong Community Bank.

Published monthly

Editorial Advisory Committee:

Gayle Adams, Michelle Corcoran, Deb Ellis, John Emery, Greg Veal.

Newsletter Co-ordinator: Jodi Beale

Editorial Consultant: Barry Fitzgerald

All contributions (copy, letters or advertising) must be submitted **before the twelfth of each month to buninyongnews@gmail.com.** News enquiries to 0439 300 756. Advertising enquiries to 5341 2844.

Copy should not exceed 400 words and a maximum of two photographs per item may be submitted (but not necessarily published). Material may be edited because of space, style, or clarity, or for legal reasons.

The name and address of the person submitting any material must be provided (address not for publication).

The Editorial Advisory Committee reserves the right not to publish material considered to be offensive or inappropriate or not deemed to have community interest or relevance.

The views expressed or information provided in this publication are not necessarily those of the Buninyong and District Community Association, the City of Ballarat or of the Buninyong Community Bank, including any officers, members, agents or contractors.

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Show of support for Shorter brothers

Since the October long weekend, Buninyong Foodworks and its customers have helped raise money for the Shorter family.

Max (6), William (4) and Hudson Shorter (2) each have been diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), a progressive neuromuscular disease that destroys muscle tissue and leaves the boys with a life expectancy only into their twenties.

The implications for families living with a boy with DMD are devastating, and it is truly tragic for the Shorter family to have three boys with the disease.

The Foodworks campaign has raised \$1400 that will go directly towards ongoing costs and the future needs of the boys. With extended family living locally, the Buninyong Football Netball Club also recently raised money for the Shorter brothers.



Buninyong Foodworks staff and the Shorter Brothers banner outside the supermarket.

Buninyong Foodworks manager, **Cameron Brown**, has decided to keep the Shorter brothers tins out for further donations in the supermarket and out and around town. If any other businesses would like to contribute,

please see Cameron to obtain fundraising tins.

To show further support, donations can be made in the tins or online at www.mycase.com.au/page/105213/shorter-brothers-fight-against-duchenne

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Buninyong Golf Club Xmas Party. Saturday 5th December 2015
 6:30pm for 7:00pm, with 3 course dinner. \$65 per person.
 Ring 5341 3217 for bookings.



Andrew grows native bush foods

What started as an interest in native bush food and spices, will soon be paying for itself for Buninyong resident, Andrew Aitken.

Cultivating a variety of bush foods in the bush setting of the home he shares with wife **Clare** and two year old son **Thomas**, Andrew will be providing a variety of fresh bush herbs and spices to **Brigid Corcoran** of Saltbush Kitchen at M.A.D.E.

Brigid, a self-confessed 'black thumb', was buying lots of her bush food ingredients from Bendigo, until she heard Andrew was interested in propagating bush food. "Now the plan is that Andrew will be growing lots of spices and bringing them in to here for me to pick from and use fresh from his garden," said Brigid.

Having recently planted twenty pots of river mint, Andrew will bring the potted plants in to exchange with others at Saltbush. Andrew has started with a 200 square metre bed "to see what will work."

While some plants were a traditional food source for the area, others are

rare in the wild, or endangered in parts of Australia. Some, such as strawberry gum, don't really exist in Victoria. Yam daisy is also rare because of grazing.

"Preparation of the bed was started in Spring as our soil is clay and needs improvement – especially to grow mountain pepper," Andrew said. Other flavours Andrew will be propagating include strawberry gum, river mint and Warrigal greens.

This venture won't be Andrew's first adventure into bush food; having previously worked with aboriginal people in Alice Springs doing bush tucker tours for tourists, including finding and eating sugar ants and witchetty grubs.



Brigid Corcoran and Andrew Aitken with potted bush spices outside Saltbush Kitchen.

Letter to the editor

Looking for rental property

Dear Editor

My family, currently living in Tasmania, has just spent a lovely week in Buninyong. It seems a great community. While we were there we picked up a copy of the *Buninyong & District Community News* and thought we might look for some help through its readers.

For reasons of work, we are relocating to the Ballarat area in December 2015, and would like to rent a four bedroom house on a few acres/farm in a quiet and safe area in the Buninyong district. We'd be grateful if you could spread the word around Buninyong. If you know of a place to rent, please contact us by email at m2e1stew4@gmail.com. Many thanks.

Esther
(full name and address supplied)

Brigade reminder to plan and prepare

With daylight savings in, it's a timely reminder to plan and prepare for the approaching fire season.

To help with preparations, the Buninyong Fire Brigade has provided some valuable fire safety checks:

- Check your smoke alarms and make sure they are in working order.
- Make sure you check your gutters and keep your yard clean and tidy.
- Keep an eye on the weather conditions throughout the summer – we are in the **central** fire ban district of Victoria.
- Ensure your driveway is wide enough to get a fire truck in. See the photo above for truck dimensions.
- Ensure that you have a fire plan.

The Brigade will soon be doing their annual calendar delivery, starting the first week

of November. They will also be having an open day at the station; drop in and see them as part of the Good Life Festival 25 October.

To find out more about fire safety, and what you can and cannot do on a total fire ban day, visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au. Also check out the new Buninyong Fire Brigade Facebook page at www.facebook.com/buninyongfirebrigade



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Buninyong Good Life Festival

Antique evaluations by one of the best

Many people seek art and antique appraisal to learn the history and fair market value of an item. However, works of art and antiques are evaluated not only to discover the history of an item, or to identify methods of research, but also to uncover interesting facts about a particular piece.

The 2015 Good Life Festival brings offers an opportunity to have items evaluated by one of the region's best antique evaluators, **David Senior**.

Moving to Buninyong in 1963, David has been away at times but always called Buninyong home. With a wealth of experience, he has been dealing in and evaluating, antiques and collectables for over 45 years.

David founded and ran the 'Antiques and Collectables Centre' in Ballarat for some twenty years. It was arguably the largest antiques centre in Victoria during that time. He was also requested to accept a position within the Australian Federal Government as an approved authenticator of antiques and collectables. His work was mainly for Australian Customs clearing shipping containers of antiques and checking the items for authenticity.

Over the years, David has been privileged to view many items – some of sentimental value and some in the range of \$100,000+. Offering some valuable advice, David says “some things to consider when buying antiques are rarity, demand, condition and choosing the correct market to either buy or sell.”

Evaluations at the festival

What people should and shouldn't bring on the day:

Size is the main factor (items should be easily carried on site). David does not evaluate modern collectables, or stamps and coins or comics. But with anything outside of his areas of expertise, he can usually suggest an appropriate resource.

Cost to have an evaluation at the Good Life Festival: Normally the cost is a minimum of \$130 per item, but as this is a special event to raise money for charity, the price is a mere \$5 per item!

Where to find David on the day and what times: In the Uniting Church grounds, next to the CFA. Times are from 11.30am until 3.30pm on the Sunday 25 October.



David Senior pictured with banquet lamps used for lighting homes in the mid to late 19th century.

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Bees give berry farm extra buzz



Left to right: Ernie Neale, Margaret Neale, Jurgen Rochelmeyer, Gail Rochelmeyer

The Buninyong Blueberry Farm, on the south side of the Midland Highway, halfway up the Mount Buninyong hill, has been a local attraction for many years since being established in 1982.

Ernie and Margaret Neale produce almost 4000kg of berries on the farm each year, with pick-your-own (PYO) berries being popular with locals and visitors. Ready picked berries are usually available from the start of January each year, and the PYO 'season' usually follows in late January.

Growing blueberries is a real science – requiring the right blend of acidic, well-drained soils, plenty of water,

a sunny but sheltered position, mixed in with 700 or so 'chill' hours in winter to set the fruit. Over the years, the Neales have mastered this recipe and produce quality berries annually.

But this year, a new element has been added to the blueberries growing on the volcanic soils on the south foothills of Mt Buninyong – thousands of tiny bees.

Boost

Yendon beekeepers **Gail Schuler** and **Jurgen Rochelmeyer**, recently have placed three of their beehives at the blueberry farm to improve berry pollination and boost the production of the farm.

Ballarat Regional Beekeepers President **Amanda Collins** said that the relationship that Gail and Jurgen had developed with the Neales, by placing hives at the farm, was a win/win for both parties. "Beekeepers are always looking for safe and suitable locations with sufficient bee forage, and being able to locate them at the blueberry farm is a great cooperative exercise," she said.

Ballarat Regional Beekeepers was established in March this year following a meeting at the Buninyong Botanical Gardens and has a membership of around 40 beekeepers, ranging from novices to 'master' beekeepers.

“to locate them at the blueberry farm is a great cooperative exercise”

Anyone interested in becoming involved in beekeeping can find details by emailing ballaratregionalbeekeeping@gmail.com or by attending the next meeting of the group on 6 November 2015 at 7.00pm at the Ballarat South Community Hub, Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol.

Incidentally, if a newly-arrived hanging hive of bees is found on a local property, give Gail or Jurgen a call (0408 592 091) for assistance.

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From local rabbits to Army honours

One of the biggest fans of the new-look *Buninyong & District Community News* is a career soldier presently based at the Gallipoli Barracks at Enoggera, Queensland.

Major Bryan Bunney, 57, is from a Buninyong family and attended the local primary school in the 1960s and subsequently the Sebastopol Technical School. His childhood in Buninyong was spent playing football and cricket and rabbiting in local paddocks.

Finding employment was tough in the Ballarat area, so he left the district in 1977 to join the Army – a decision he describes as “one of the best moves I have ever made”.

Commencing as a medical storeman, he has had detachments and postings to all medical units in the Army.

Rising through the ranks he attained the rank of Captain in 2002 and Major in 2011. Major Bunney is now Quartermaster of the 2/14 Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry).

He has served in all states in Australia, in East Timor and with the multi-national forces in Sinai, Egypt. He has been awarded several honours

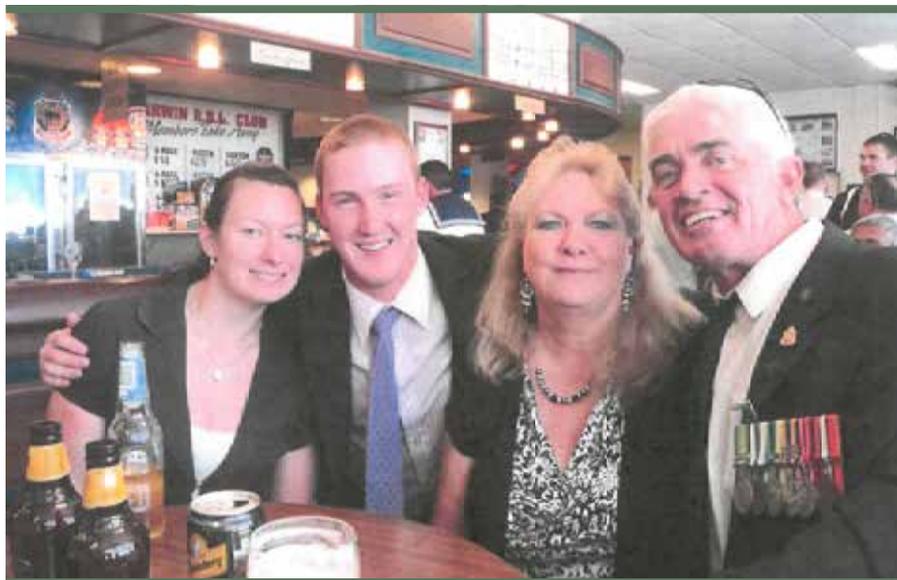
including four clasps to the Defence Force Service Medal.

With “heaps of relatives” in the Buninyong district, including sisters, a brother, uncles, aunts and cousins, he returns to Buninyong occasionally from Queensland.

“ *it is a great read, and lets me keep in touch with what is happening* ”

With three grown-up daughters living in the Brisbane/Gold Coast area, he and partner Laurel currently reside in Brisbane.

Major Bunney said that he is really interested to see copies of the *Buninyong & District Community News* because “it is a great read, and lets me keep in touch with what is happening in the town.” He has invited any of his former friends or contacts to email him at bryan.bunney@defence.gov.au .



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BDCA meets VicRoads and Council on crossing

A controlled pedestrian crossing seems set to be installed across Buninyong's Warrenheip Street at Forest Street, according to VicRoads and City Council traffic engineers.

The location of the crossing and related issues such as signage were discussed at an on-site meeting on 8 October (see picture below). Present at the meeting were Vicroads' **Ben Anderson** (Team Leader, Road Safety and Traffic Engineering), **Alan Carter**, (Acting Team Leader Traffic Management), **Jim Leonard** (Traffic Engineer, City of Ballarat) and BDCA representatives **Gayle Adams** and **Barry Fitzgerald**. City Councillors and **Geoff Howard** MLA were unable to attend.

Despite general agreement having been reached at a community meeting on 2 June 2015, that a location near the Community Bank was preferred, it was stated by VicRoads staff that issues such as "connectivity" (between Desoza Park and the recreation precinct), and the numbers of persons observed to be crossing the road in that general vicinity were telling factors in the decision to locate it at the Forest Street location.

Heritage concerns

BDCA members said that it was important that the installation of the crossing had as minimal impact as possible on the heritage ambience of the village. Taking account of this the Vicroads and Council engineers agreed to

- locate infrastructure such as control boxes away from the

Warrenheip Street frontage

- ensure that the poles for the pedestrian lights were in a neutral or heritage colour
- consolidate or reduce the present rag-bag collection of signs in the general area

Other issues

Other general issues stressed by the BDCA included the need for any 'crossing' works to take account of the proposed project to upgrade the pavement and other areas along Warrenheip Street north of Forest Street, the current lobbying to remove the V-Line bus stop from the area, the need to confer with the working group presently doing master-planning for Desoza Park, and with National Road Cycling Championships personnel.



Opportunity to join the Buninyong News team

REPORTERS

The new-look community newsletter has been recognised at the recent Community Newspapers Association of Victoria awards (see page 3 of this edition).

To continue to achieve the paper's aim of providing Buninyong and district with quality and comprehensive coverage of local news and information, we are looking for help from persons with 'reporting' or photographic skills willing to make regular contributions to the newsletter.

Areas might include sports, local personalities, business, local history, new faces, youth activities, groups and association happenings and the like.

If you are interested in being involved, please contact **Gayle Adams** by phone 5341 2844 or by email bfitz@netcon.net.au

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AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, 5 LYDIARD ST NTH BALLARAT 3350

Local RSL sellers look for support

Be proud to wear a red poppy

Over the next week or so, Buninyong RSL volunteers will be out and about at tables with a range of red poppies for sale. Funds raised will go to needy former servicemen and women.

Long ago, the red poppy was adopted as the symbol associated with Remembrance Day (11 November), and it has become a much-loved symbol to show support for the men and women who, having served their country, are now in need of assistance.

Poppies were among the first flowers to bloom on the devastated battlefields of France and Belgium, and since 1921, have been used in remembrance of those who fell in times of war.

President of the Buninyong Sub-Branch of the RSL, **Ray Mende**, said that the Poppy Appeal is a cause that most Australians can identify with, and that “many feel a great sense of pride in wearing the poppy in the lead up to, and on, Remembrance Day.”

Mr Mende said that there were many forms of help provided to veterans.



“It can include direct financial assistance, help with medical expenses, provision of mobility aids, home maintenance, food vouchers, assistance in gaining employment, advocacy to help secure compensation, and assistance with funeral expenses,” he said.

“Year after year we receive great support from the people of Buninyong for the Poppy Appeal. The RSL and the veterans it helps are truly grateful for this on-going support. Again this year, wear your poppy with pride,” Mr Mende said.

Cross Check

The Buninyong RSL is currently restoring the white commemorative crosses put on display on each Anzac Day and Remembrance Day. The crosses will be in place by the cenotaph for Remembrance Day (11 November), and community members with a connection to the crosses are asked to check that the details are correct. Likewise, if you believe a family member should be recognised with a cross please advise any member of the RSL of the details or problem.

Also six name plaques from six memorial trees in the Buninyong Botanic Gardens commemorating six World War II servicemen have undergone maintenance and restoration. Two new plaques arranged by the RSL will replace those not able to be recovered. These plaques will be dedicated following the Remembrance Day Service in RSL Park.



Buninyong RSL President, Ray Mende.

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Bank helps develop future leaders

Young people today, are tomorrow's parents and community leaders. As responsible corporate and community citizens we should assist and guide them, supporting them when contemporary lifestyle issues have an unhealthy influence on them or their families.

The Directors of Buninyong and District Community Bank believe that communities can be transformed by the human values of the people within. "We stand for helping communities – providing the seed capital for a project or the small assistance needed to achieve change or improvement, and to flourish," Chairman of the Board, Steve Falconer said.

Over the past two years, the Bank has invested heavily in our youth. A great example is the support of the secondary school students who attended the Magic Moments Youth Leadership and Business Summit during the July school holidays.

At these summits, ten students from Mt Clear, Damascus, and Phoenix Colleges each had an amazing, life changing

experience. Mixing with their peers from all across Australia and learning how to set life goals, make healthy lifestyle choices, understand the business world and opportunities within it, counteract bullying and similar behavioural threats.

The growing alumni of Magic Moments participants, funded by the Buninyong Community Bank, have learned to believe in themselves and their roles as future

community leaders. Their parents and school mentors are impressed and grateful that their kids have participated, and as a Bank we are happy to have helped inspire the next generation of community leaders – sound and safe investment.

If you'd like to know more, contact Randall Dreger, Branch Manager, or Steve Falconer, Chairman, on 5341 8066.

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Bernie Massey has been appointed Branch Manager of the Harcourts Buninyong Lifestyle office.

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Bernie's obvious exceptional client focus priority & past success is evident from the many happy clients he has dealt with over the years.

"Thanks for getting us a price well above our expectations, your enthusiasm shone through and your regular reporting back made us feel well looked after. We were also impressed at the effort you put into assessing the financial viability of prospective purchasers. Thanks Bernie."

Patrick & Helen Varney

Harcourts Buninyong, 308A Warrenheip Street, Buninyong

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F: 03 5341 3139

M: 0438 396 877

E: Bernie.massey@harcourts.com.au

W: www.ballarat.harcourts.com.au

One ward city option out in VEC Report

Good outcome for Buninyong



The preliminary report by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) into the representation and structure of the Ballarat City Council proposed little change to the current structure of Wards and councillors.

The report was released on 23 September 2015 and called for any responses to recommended options by 21 October. Eight submissions (two from Buninyong) were made prior to the release of the preliminary report. Of these, four suggested no change to the present three-Ward structure for the Ballarat Council.

In its report the VEC noted that the *“Buninyong & District Community Association and the Buninyong RSL Sub-Branch highlighted the benefits of the current model, including increased diversity among councillors, increased representation of the diverse interest and areas in the municipality, avoiding Ballarat-centric decision making, increased capacity for councillors to develop local expertise while retaining cross-ward involvement and commitment, and that it enables communities to feel that it is possible to have direct communication with councillors.”* (page 12).

The findings of the preliminary report included:

- that the current number of Councillors for Ballarat City Council is appropriate
- that the current electoral structure is working well in Ballarat
- that all wards have been well contested in the past two elections
- that the informal vote was below five per cent in all wards and elections
- that the structure is achieving ‘fair and equitable’ representation

Importantly, the Report noted that the VEC *“considered that an un-subdivided structure would be unviable in the City of Ballarat due to the high number of candidates at general elections, creating an unwieldy ballot paper”* (page 15).

Changes

The Report did propose a number of minor changes to ward boundaries. So far as the South Ward (including Buninyong) is concerned, the proposed changes were:

- to move the suburb of Redan to the Central Ward
- bringing voters north of Latrobe Street into the Central Ward, and
- including all of the suburb of Delacombe into the South Ward

The full report and copies of submissions made) is available on the website of the Victorian Electoral Commission at www.vec.vic.gov.au/reviews/ballarat. The BDCA has again submitted a follow-up paper supporting the preliminary recommendations.

AROUND THE CHURCHES

Schedules of the services and happenings at local churches.

ST PETER & PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fisken Street, Buninyong
Contact **Margaret McCarty**
5341 3243

Mass times:

1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays at 10.30am.
2nd and 4th Sundays at 9am

UNITING CHURCH

Learmonth Street Buninyong.
Rev Lindell Gibson 5341 3200

Services:

Buninyong: Sunday 9.30am
Meredith: 2nd Sunday 11am
Sebastopol: 2nd, 4th, 5th Thursday 11am

HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH

Warrenheip Street, Buninyong.
Rev Mark Schnerring 5341 3281
www.buninyonganglican.org.au
Sunday Services: 8.30am and 10am

BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Tom Buscombe 5330 2657
Service held in Buninyong Town Hall,
Sundays 10am

SCOTSBURN CHURCH

Midland Highway, Scotsburn
Contact **Heather Stokes** on
5341 7609
First Sunday in the month at 10am

Contributions and advertising

Email contributions and advertising for the *Buninyong & District Community News* to buninyongnews@gmail.com before the twelfth day of each month.

Enquiries: 0439 300 756

Learn about the Steiner approach to education

The Ballarat Steiner School, situated in Moss Avenue, Mount Helen, is holding a **Steiner Education Information Night** on Wednesday 28 October. This evening will enable attendees to 'follow' the students' journey through the classes with each class level teacher discussing the curriculum and how it meets the different stages of child development.

There will be a question and answer session at the end of the evening when

past students will be available to discuss their experience at the school and their integration into mainstream schooling.

For many years the Ballarat Steiner School's focus has been on delivering a high quality and rich educational experience to children. A hands-on creative approach to the teaching of literacy, numeracy and natural science is provided.

Children are also engaged in an imaginative and artistic program that includes painting, drawing, modeling, eurythmy, cooking, woodwork and gardening. Music is taught and played throughout the primary school and is an integral part of the daily classroom activities.

The school provides excellence in all areas of the curriculum and equips children with all the skills to move effortlessly and confidently into secondary school.

Phone **Anna** or **Denise** (5341 8188) to register your interest in attending.
www.ballaratsteinerschool.com.au . 244 Moss Avenue, Mount Helen.



Coming Events

- 25 October Buninyong Good Life Festival**
Desoza Park and around town
9.00 am – 4.00 pm
- 25 October Open day at Fire Brigade**
Learmonth St, Buninyong
- 28 October Steiner Education Information Night**
Steiner School,
244 Moss Ave, Mt Helen
(see story opposite)
- 5 November Friends of Botanic Gardens Bus Tour**
(see page 4)
- 11 November Remembrance Day Service**
RSL Park
- 14 November An Adventure in Australian Art and Native Bush Food**
(see page 2)
- 21-29 November Zuni Gallery Exhibition**
(see page 2)
- 22 November Beneath the Mount**
Wine, food and fun at Sinclair of Scotsburn
(see page 6)
- 27 November RSL Dinner**
Buninyong Golf Club
6.30 pm
(see page 4)
- 5 December The Big O and Friends,**
Buninyong Golf Club
6.30 pm
(see page 6)
- 12 December Buninyong Community Carols**
Desoza Park
From 6.30 pm



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Stuart Crumpler – local artist goes from

Quality luggage to quality lifestyle

The Crumpler brand has an international reputation as a top-end product in the bag and luggage business. But the affable, laid back local artist who gave his name to the company, is glad to be back doing his own thing in Buninyong as a furniture-maker, sculptor, metal fabricator, wood oven maker and... mountain bike rider.

Stuart Crumpler had “never ever been to Ballarat” before coming for an interview for a place in the Visual Arts course at the University of Ballarat in 1993. His wife **Suse** is also a UB graduate of the Visual Arts course, majoring in painting.

After graduating, and living back in Melbourne, Crumpler was supplementing his sculptor/furniture-maker’s income by working as a part-time bike courier.

And that’s where his life took a dramatic turn.

Not happy with the bags then used by bike couriers, Crumpler took it on himself to design and stitch together scraps of material and straps to make a functional, comfortable and long-lasting bike courier bag.

Famous brand

With two partners, he formed the Crumpler company in 1995, soon expanding from bike courier bags into the manufacture of quality laptop bags and luggage and travel goods. Within a few years the company had taken its products to the world. The highly-regarded Crumpler travel goods continue to be marketed internationally.

But in 2010, after fifteen or so years in that business, Stuart left the company and since has had “five very good years away from the ‘bag game,” he said. “The fun had gone out of running the business.”

A chance trip to Daylesford and the Ballarat district in 1997, saw Stuart and wife Suse stumble upon, and subsequently buy, the rolling hilltop ten acre lot on Hastie Street, Buninyong where they later built their home and Stuart’s massive workshop. “We originally planned to settle somewhere in the Yarra Valley, but we just love being here,” he said.

Enjoying life

“Now, I’m very much doing my own thing, and enjoying things greatly. I’m even getting back on the mountain bike three days each week,” he said.

These days doing his “own thing” can range from landscaping and stonework projects around the house, to producing high quality furniture from recycled timbers, to all kinds of metalwork, and even manufacturing wood-fired ovens from brick and stone.

He has done work for the Mitchell Harris complex in Doveton Street (he’s especially proud of the huge arched door



Stuart Crumpler in his Hastie Street workshop

he made) and is currently producing a range of timber and metal work products. These include a massive timber door, and ‘industrial style’ wooden and steel furniture and shop fittings for the new Athletic Club Brewery in Mair Street, Ballarat. He said that “people are now seeing my work in these places, and one job leads to another.”

Together with Suse and children **Owen 17, Belle 15 and April 10**, Stuart Crumpler has long put aside the stresses and strains of running an international business and now usually can be happily found working on any one of a dozen projects in his Hastie Street workshop.

Inspired by the Archibalds

Portraiture (and more) Exhibition at Zuni Gallery

307 Warrenheip Street, Buninyong

21-29 November 2015

- Exhibition opens at 10.00 am on 21 November, all artworks for sale
- A variety of student works including figurative portraiture
- Food, music and face painting on 21-22 November



Over 360 local sites for The challenge of geocaching

Referred to as a “real-world, outdoor treasure hunt”, geocaching is a fun and healthy way to explore local or more distant places with family, friends and groups.

Geocaching is an outdoor adventure where players use a GPS device or mobile phone app to find cleverly hidden containers located locally and around the world.

A geocacher hides a ‘geocache’, in a waterproof container that could contain small trinkets for trade, known as ‘swaps’. These can be anything from a small toy, key ring, business cards, stickers or an eraser, to swaps that are trackable tags, with unique codes and special missions, to take to the next geocache. If a finder takes something from a geocache, they replace it with something of equal or greater value.

The location and GPS coordinates of the geocache are logged onto a website for other players to find. At a minimum, the geocache will contain a logbook for finders to sign. After signing, geocachers log their experience onto a website or mobile phone app.

Anyone can be a geocacher, united by the spirit of exploration and the joy of discovery, and local residents are embracing its broad appeal. A quick search of one geocaching website gave the location of over 360 geocaches in the Buninyong and district area.

Local finds

Mount Helen geocacher and Buninyong CFA volunteer, **Gareth Smith** has been geocaching with his family for about two and a half years. Their first one was found within the Mount Helen Technology Park and their second was found near the Buninyong RSL.



Scotsburn students, Toby, Rory, Quinn, Abby, Campbell, Freya, Felix and Nathan, celebrating together after finishing the course.

“It’s a good little hobby as it does get people out and about and it can be really challenging” Gareth said. “For us, it takes us to places we wouldn’t normally go.”

Geocaching can also be great way to learn the history and geography of the local environment. One example is an ‘earth cache’ to be found locally containing information on the history of the crater formation at Mount Buninyong.

The Scotsburn campus of Buninyong Primary School recently held a geocaching fundraiser on 17 October. Participants enjoyed a morning attempting to find an array of secret geocache locations and codes by using maps and coordinates set out by the senior class at Scotsburn.

Event organiser and Scotsburn senior teacher, **Claire Morris** said “A lot of time and effort went into the event and

we were very pleased to see those who turned up thoroughly enjoy the morning.”

There are a number of geocaching websites including geocaching.com, with over 10 million registered users. There is also a free geocaching ‘megaevent’ in Melbourne in November, see <http://geocaching.melbourne/event2015> .

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Around the village...



Although still a work in progress the new bluestone walls being built as part of the Town Hall Precinct project are already proving popular as outdoor seating. Shown at the September Village market is Jo O'Kelly from Buninyong and children (L to R) Annie 4, Jimmy 1, and Billy 6.



On the house – the boys from Onshore Plumbing working on the heritage veranda at the Community Bank's old cottage restoration project at 407 Warrenheip Street.



One of the driving forces behind the restoration, local businessman, Ron Delaland –assembling one of the desks being used by staff in the office of the Buninyong & District Community News.



Buninyong

Ask a local

The team at PRD Nationwide Buninyong have over 60 years combined experience working within the Real Estate Industry.

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New 'way-finding' signage to help village visitors

Another cooperative BDCA/Council project has been completed recently. This was the erection of nine 'way-finding' signs around the village, designed particularly to assist tourists and visitors to Buninyong.

For more than two years the Community Association has been pressing for the signage. In 2014, the project received funding from the Buninyong Engaging Communities Fund and, a BDCA working party comprising **Barry Fitzgerald**, **Merle Hathaway** and **Roger Permezel**, provided direction on the location and content of the signs.

While the signage generally accords with the design of similar signage in the Ballarat CBD, the heritage colours of Deep Indian Red and Old Cream were chosen for the Buninyong signs to better fit with Buninyong's heritage streetscapes.

Council help

City of Ballarat Strategic Planner **Mukul Hatwell** facilitated the final stages of the construction and erection of the signage.

The third and last stage of the BDCA's Signage project will see the erection of five "interpretative" signs at various locations around the village including at Tannery Flat, Royal Park, the site of



the old Crown Mine, the lower entrance to the Old Burial Ground and at the Meeting Tree in Nolan Street.

The Buninyong & District Historical Society will be heavily involved in the selection of photographs and information to be included on these signs.

The first stage of the Signage project was completed in early 2014 with the erection of the four stone entrance

signs and solar lighting at the four principal entrances to the village.

Ballarat Regional Tourism Director George Sossi said the overall signage project would be "a great boost to tourism in Buninyong. The signs look great and direct people to most of the many interesting aspects of this historical village," he said.



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