

# Feed aid convoy rolls in



**With a police escort, flags flying, horns blaring, and drivers waving, one of the largest peace-time convoys of vehicles rolled into Buninyong at midday on Australia Day. It was welcomed by a small crowd of cheering and clapping locals.**



*Need for Feed project organiser Graham Cockerall from Pakenham Lions Club*

The convoy consisted of eight semi-trailers, five rigid trucks, and a collection of 45 utes, 4WDs, horse floats and any other vehicle that could carry stock and animal feed. Another semi-trailer load of hay had also been delivered to Elaine on the previous evening by a farmer who was unable to join the convoy.

Loaded onto these vehicles were 500 large rolls of hay, 800 small bales, large quantities of pet food, and equestrian equipment donated by Gippsland pony clubs. The convoy had left Pakenham at 8.00am and gathered at North Ballarat before travelling along the Midland Highway to Buninyong.

## Response

The convoy was the response of the Pakenham Lions Club Need for Feed project which provided desperately-needed animal feed for farm and other district properties hit by the 19 December fires.

After a BBQ lunch provided by local Lions Club members at the Men's Shed, the

convoy continued on to the fire-affected areas of Scotsburn and Clarendon.

Organiser **Graham Cockerall** of the Pakenham Lions Club, was himself a farmer's son, and a CFA member for more than 30 years. He said that the Need for Feed project had been started by Lions Clubs in the Gippsland area after the disastrous fires in 2006 that destroyed large areas of Gippsland and parts of the township of Bright.

He said the project aimed to assist with stock and animal feed until burnt pastures and fencing could be re-established.

The Pakenham Lions Club raises funds through concerts, car and ute shows and donations from other Lions Clubs. The Sebastopol Bowling Club also contributed some \$1200 to this feed project.

While some feed was taken directly to larger properties such as *Narmbool*, two local depots are now being used to store and distribute the bulk of it. These are at **Graham Burnham's** Scotsburn property and at the Elaine Farm Supplies yards.

# Lions ensure fire helpers are fed

**The Buninyong-Mt Helen Lions Club has marshalled the support of almost twenty Ballarat district service organisations to help feed the volunteers working with the bushfire recovery charity BlazeAid.**

Lions Club President, **Ian Voigt** said the response of the district service clubs to the call for help, in providing a quality evening meal each weekday to the 30-50 volunteers working with BlazeAid, has been outstanding.

Mr Voigt said that whilst the local Lions Club had agreed to take responsibility for ensuring the meals were provided each day, a big part of the Club's role was enlisting the involvement of other groups and establishing an ongoing roster to share the workload, and provide meals every night.

There has been ready and consistent support from almost all local Rotary Clubs and Lions Clubs, together with the local Buninyong CWA, the CFA Auxiliary, Men's Shed and Bowling Club. The project has built stronger links across Ballarat's service organisations and a cooperative base for future emergency response and recovery situations.

## 1200 meals

Over 1200 two-course evening meals will have been provided to BlazeAid volunteers by the end of February, with potentially another month of work still to go. A conservative estimate of the value of the meals provided to date is \$9,000, which excludes labour and travel costs.

A large number of district service organisations have become involved, including Lions Clubs of Ballarat, Brown Hill, Meredith, Haddon, Alfredton Lucas, Creswick, Bacchus Marsh, the Lions Quilters, and the Rotary Clubs of Alfredton, Ballarat West, Wendouree Breakfast, Ballarat South and Ballarat East.

Buninyong-Mt Helen Lions Club has also been busy catering for local community fire recovery events sponsored by the two local municipalities and the hugely successful Need for Feed fodder rally.

"We have probably catered for over 500 people at these events, so our organising and cooking skills have certainly been tested and honed over the last couple of months," Mr Voigt said.



*Mt Helen Lions Club members providing a BBQ meal for the Community Recovery event at the Buninyong Pool.*



*Buninyong CWA members Lyn Fleming, Pat Howden, Jenny Bridgewater, Pauline Kennedy and Maree Crosbie serving the evening meal to BlazeAid volunteers at the Garibaldi camp.*

## SWEET HELP BY CWA

**Following the Scotsburn fire, Buninyong CWA members are providing home-made biscuits, fruit loaves and cakes for the BlazeAid camp established initially at Back Creek School site and now at Garibaldi.**

These items are used in the field meals taken by volunteers working in removing and re-establishing fencing on the affected properties.

Guide units across the Eureka Guides District have supported the project. Guides have worked individually and collectively towards their service or cookery badges with biscuit and loaf making. Buninyong Guides have baked over eight dozen biscuits during their two cooking nights.

The project has produced almost 1200 biscuits since 29 December.

Buninyong CWA meets in the Buninyong Uniting Church Hall – access from Scott Street – monthly on the second Monday at 1.15pm. New members are always welcome.

# Masons build fences too

**Freemasons from around Ballarat have joined with other community groups in swinging into action to assist in efforts to help local fire-damaged properties.**

Ten members from the Sturt Buninyong, Guiding Star, Learmonth, Mt Franklin-St George and St Johns Lodges have assisted the work of BlazeAid by contributing some 25 days of fence removal and reconstruction work.

The Freemasons District Taskforce coordinator, and Master of the local Lodge, **Ron Fleming** said that the State Taskforce had been in action since the 1983 fires of Ash Wednesday.

“Assistance can be provided following fire, flood and other disasters, and also in support of community events,” he said.



*District Freemasons Ron Fleming, Bryan Ehlert and Daryl Kopke shown with two BlazeAid volunteers at the end of another day's fencing and clean up.*

## RSL welfare

# Fires and food grants



*Buninyong RSL President Ray Mende, Mandy Rae, John O'Connor and Treasurer Dennis Meehan following the presentations.*

**Buninyong RSL's welfare program has been distributed in two directions in recent months.**

The fifteen annual Christmas hampers, assembled with the generous assistance of FoodWorks Buninyong, were delivered to senior members and widows of the RSL family.

Sadly, the December Scotsburn fire impacted on two RSL members **Bruce** and **Mandy Rae** along with **John** and **Marla O'Connor**.

In conjunction with RSL State Headquarters a cheque for \$4,500 was presented to both families during the February branch meeting.

Proudly Australian owned and truly independent

Geraldine, Dairy Manager

**FOODWORKS**  
*Buninyong*



### Community get together

The second Scotsburn Fire Community Get Together at the Scotsburn Hall was another terrific night with around 100 locals enjoying the dinner and taking the time to relax.

The Scotsburn Hall Committee and the Upper Williamson's Creek Landcare Group will be running more of these events on the first Friday of each month with key themes each time.

Contact Andrea Mason, 0427 338 482, scotsburnhall@gmail.com

### GLF and Village market

The Good Life Festival (GLF) Committee which took over the organisation of the Buninyong Village Market from the

Ballarat East Rotary Club in 2014 has indicated that the market set for 28 February will be the last run by it.

A spokesperson for the Committee said, "The market provided an income to run The Buninyong Good Life Festival and it also supported many community groups through the community BBQ, but we find it impossible to continue due to a lack of volunteers on the committee and also the unavailability of the Buninyong Town Hall for six Market Sundays, due to an ongoing booking at the hall."

The Buninyong Community Association will look other at options for continuing the market.

### Funding boost for men's sheds

Men's Sheds across Victoria are set for a significant boost after the Minister for Families and Children and Youth Affairs, **Jenny Mikakos**, announced that the State Government had made a \$1 million funding allocation.

The Minister was speaking last month at the Buninyong Men's Shed where some local 25 members, two officials from the

Victorian Men's Shed Association, **Cr Peter Innes** and **Geoff Howard MLA** were present.

Ms Mikakos said that since 2006, 234 sheds had opened in Victoria, 58 of them in areas affected by drought or fires.

Under the new funding allocation, grants of up to \$60,000 may be allocated for new sheds, and up to \$30,000 for improvements to existing sheds. There would be a loading for sheds in disadvantaged areas. Applications will close in late May 2016.

### Trail riders wanted

The Buninyong branch of the Australian Trail Horse Riders Association was formed late last year with Secretary, **Natalie Strachan** from Napoleons and Treasurer, **Natalie Scholten** from Mt Rowan looking out for interested new members.

The two Natalies plan to hold monthly trail rides at weekends and weekdays as suits the members together with some social networking. Like-minded riders can contact Natalie on 0428 716 187 for further information.

# KNOW YOUR RISK.

**FIRE DANGER RATINGS TELL YOU HOW BAD A FIRE WOULD BE IF ONE STARTED.**

This summer, it's up to you to check Fire Danger Ratings daily. You could be at risk of uncontrollable fires on Severe, Extreme and Code Red days.

## STAY INFORMED.

To check Fire Danger Ratings visit [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au) call **1800 240 667** download the **FireReady app**



Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

# The road with no end

Tucked away in the local press in late January, was the announcement that planning for Stage 2 of the Ballarat Link Road had commenced in 2015 and now awaits government funding.

The stage of some 12.5 kilometres in length will run south of Boulevard Drive, Alfredton, and then cross the Glenelg Highway heading towards the Midland Highway at Magpie.

The Buninyong & District Community Association has lobbied Councillors and politicians for years to highlight the almost-certain negative impact this project will have on the amenity of Buninyong. In *The Courier* report of 25 January, Ballarat Mayor Des Hudson was reported as saying that with the growth of Ballarat, provision for “transport, especially heavy transport, is critical.”

We agree. But where is this ‘heavy transport’ going to go when it hits the Midland Highway? It’s pretty darned certain it’s not then going to do a U-turn and head back into Cr Hudson’s bailiwick of Sebastopol! Some form of by-pass for Buninyong is critical, yet the boffins at Vicroads and at Council can’t seem



to grasp that planning beyond Magpie is now long overdue.

It’s hard to believe that road planners have not learnt something from the several major Melbourne roads that end nowhere and link with nothing, resulting in traffic chaos. Seemingly not!

This issue has got to be one of great importance for local voters when when Federal and Council elections come around later in the year.

## 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

**Management Committee:** Gayle Adams, Michelle Corcoran, Deb Ellis.

**Newsletter Co-ordinator:** Jodi Beale

**Editorial Consultant:** Barry Fitzgerald

**Reporters:** Barry Fitzgerald, Cassandra Carland, Ray Sullivan, Russell Luckock

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.

Newsletter printed by Baxter and Stubbs, Ballarat.

**Newsletter available online at:** [www.buninyong.vic.au/news/newsletters](http://www.buninyong.vic.au/news/newsletters)

**BUNINYONG NEWSAGENCY**  
501 Warrenheip Street, Buninyong  
Ph: 5341 2154



Newspapers, Tattsлото, Petrol,  
Car Wash, Dog Wash

Competition now national

# Success of Marmalade Fair

**The sixth year of Buninyong's Marmalade competition saw entries from all over Australia. This year's winning entries came from Tasmania, South Australia and Queensland as well as from local areas.**

The winner of the overall Best-in-Show entry in the competition came from the small Tasmanian town of Relbia (pop. 675), south east of Launceston. **Susan Prewer**, a first-time entrant, won with her Cumquat, Strawberry and Chilli marmalade that took the eye of the CWA judges and scored maximum points. Her husband **Warren**, a previous supporter of the competition, took out two class First Prizes.

Other interstate prize-winners were **Janet Ryan** from Georgetown in Far North Queensland, well inland from Cairns (in a four-year drought!), and **Robert Haynes** from Naracoorte in South Australia.

However, there was also strong Victorian competition coming from Maryborough, Melbourne, Barwon Heads, Horsham, Mildura and Sea Lake as well as locally from Ballarat, Lal, Lal, Scotchmans Lead and Buninyong.

Entries from several local residents also won prizes in the competition. These included **Christine Storey** from Lal Lal, **Lyn Draffin** from Scotchman's Lead, and Buninyong's **Lyn Fleming** and **Russell Luckock**.

Each marmalade entry was scored out of 20 points by expert CWA judges, **Barbara Porter**, **Sue Gass**, and **Janette O'Keefe**. Prizes were awarded for each citrus class including Grapefruit, Cumquat, Orange,



*ABC Radio Ballarat's Chief of Staff, Prue Bentley (right), chats about the MarmalAshes trophy with Lady Potter, Patron of Buninyong Marmalade, Cr Peter Innes and Ballarat Mayor, Cr Des Hudson.*

Lime and the delightfully tangy Seville Orange. Some entrants enhanced their citrus base by adding specific flavours and these included berry and stone fruits, ginger, elderflower, chilli – and even whisky and gin!

## MarmalAshes

In a parody of cricket's Ashes series, the Australian XI, comprising eleven marmalade jars plus a 12th jar, was then selected by Chief Selector, **Roland Rocchiccioli**, in conjunction with the CWA judges.

This will compete against the England XI for the MarmalAshes trophy at the

International Marmalade Awards in Cumbria in March. While Australia won for the first three years, England has prevailed in the last two. A Buninyong District XI was also selected and sent to compete against an England County XI.

The official opening was conducted by ABC Radio Ballarat's Chief of Staff, **Prue Bentley**, while the Patron of Buninyong Marmalade, **Lady Primrose Potter**, travelled up from Melbourne for the event which raised \$1,152 for Hospice and palliative care organisations.

*Russell Luckock*


ADVERTISEMENT

Proudly supporting the

## *Buninyong community*

**JOSHUA MORRIS MP**  
State Member for Western Victoria

Authorized by Joshua Morris MP, 211 Dana Street, BALLARAT. Funded from Parliamentary Electorate Office and Communications Budget.

211 Dana Street, BALLARAT VIC 3350  
PO Box 553, BALLARAT VIC 3353  
t. 03 5332 9443 f. 03 5338 7033  
joshua.morris@parliament.vic.gov.au



# Taking action on rabbits

**The Buninyong area currently is experiencing high numbers of rabbits. In response to this and feedback from the public the Leigh Catchment Group, in conjunction with the Victorian Rabbit Action Group has arranged a 'Rabbit Control Workshop' for early March.**

The workshop will give participants

- a basic understanding on how to control rabbits on their property,
- an understanding on why we need to control rabbits to protect our local ecosystems
- an "on site" demonstration to show different rabbit control techniques.

Rabbits are one of Australia's most destructive pest animals. They are well suited to Australian conditions and breed prolifically. They are able to produce numerous litters per year. Two rabbits can breed to over 180 rabbits in just eighteen months. It's important to control rabbits on your property as they

- destroy pasture, crops and plant communities impacting on agriculture and the environment;
- cause soil erosion and associated sedimentation of waterways;
- compete with native fauna for food and habitat.

If you have little knowledge about, or would like to refresh your memory on basic rabbit control methods this workshop is suited to you.

Rabbit Control Work Workshop  
Saturday 5 March from 10am – 12noon  
Royal Park, Buninyong

The workshop is free and anyone is welcome to attend. A light lunch will be provided for participants. For more information, please contact **Nick McKinley** from the Leigh Catchment Group on 0455 147 398 or leighcg@ncable.net.au.

## streettalk

**GOOD TO SEE** one of the two vacant shop fronts on Warrenheip Street is about to come back to life. Formerly the home of *Lana Rose*, the shop looks set to open as a Pilates studio to be run by **Stephanie Neal**, currently a physiotherapist just a few doors down the street. The business, known as *Elite Pilates*, is expected to open very shortly.

**TALKING OF NEW** businesses, **James Rendell** recently opened his marketing company – *Co-Pilot* – in the Village Square complex in Learmonth Street. Co-pilot provides strategic marketing solutions that help businesses improve their marketing programs. He, wife **Lauren** and two children have moved into a new home further up the Buninyong hill.

**IT'S WORTH** wandering by the Buninyong Youth Space on the corner of Inglis and Forest Streets to see what's happening there. What was a vacant lot about two years ago now has Parkour equipment, a BMX bike track, and the vastly improved skate park/basketball area has just been completed. Council, assisted by the Community Bank, deserve a pat on the back for this. With the BBQ adjacent, this is now a great recreation area for youth.

**GOOD NEWS** and bad news. Thumbs up to Council for finally assigning someone to prepare a concept plan for the "North End" project – the revitalisation of the block in Warrenheip Street, between Forest and Eyre Streets. The Community Association has been lobbying for this project for a long time. Conversely, the lack of action by Vicroads in taking on the bleedingly-simple task of moving the 60kph speed zone signs back to the vicinity of the golf course on Learmonth Street is unbelievable.

**UGLY.** The western entrance to the village has recently seen a large dark blue semi-trailer parked on the nature strip near the golf course. Looks awful... and could be dangerous...

## Contributions and advertising

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

**News enquiries 0439 300 756**  
**Advertising enquiries 5341 2844**



# For John Emery Cars and community are his life

**When John and Helen Emery moved to Buninyong in 2001, after retiring from running a busy car business in Ballarat for over 20 years, they thought that the pace of life would change for them in the quiet village.**

Maybe it did for a few months, but then followed fifteen years of involvement in community affairs in Buninyong.

It started in 2001 with John's joining the Buninyong Progress (now Community) Association, a group he later led as President. Around 2007, the Association discussed the idea of again trying to get a bank in the township. There had been an unsuccessful earlier attempt to do so.

With a small Steering Committee, John had discussions with the Bendigo Bank with a view to establishing a community bank branch in Buninyong. The years 2008-9 were spent in promoting the idea, and convincing the community to invest the \$750,000 capital required to start the bank.

It's now history that the successful Buninyong Community Bank opened at its Warrenheip Street location in August 2010 and is now contributing to many community projects.

But John Emery hasn't always been a small village person. He was born and

went to school in the eastern Melbourne suburb of Ivanhoe.

As a teenager he developed an interest in cars and motor sport. That led onto a career of some twenty years working in sales and development with major companies, including Alfa Romeo and Volvo.

After a stint in Launceston in the 1970s as the with Volvo, John and Helen came to Ballarat in 1978, buying the VW and Subaru car dealership in Creswick Road – a site where the business was run with Helen as a partner until 2000.

## Motoring in the blood

He continues to have an avid interest in motor sport. After a period where he raced "historic" cars, he now broadcasts a motoring session on ABC FM radio, and still does motor sport commentary which has taken him to events such as the Targa Rally in Tasmania and the Grand Prix rallies to Adelaide.

He was heavily involved in the establishment of the Ballarat Festival of Motoring which includes the annual exhibition of classic racing cars at the Ballarat Mining Exchange.



Locally, John is now involved in the Buninyong Probus Club, a group he helped establish in 2005, in the *Sing Australia Choir*, in the Community Association, and in acting as MC for annual Christmas Carols in Desoza Park. He recently retired from the Board of the Buninyong Community Bank.

He and Helen have two sons, not surprisingly both involved in the motor industry.

**Richard** is the CEO and Managing Director of Nissan Australia, and **Timothy** heads up marketing and advertising with a group of Melbourne dealers.

John says that he's trying to cut back on much of his community involvement, but there's little doubt this affable seventy-eight year old will find it hard to resist having a finger in a few pies around the village for years to come.

ADVERTISEMENT



**Geoff Howard MP**  
State Member of Parliament for Buninyong  
Listens, Cares, Acts!

15 Main Road Ballarat 3350  
(03) 5331 7722

geoff.howard@parliament.vic.gov.au  
GeoffHowardMP



Authorised by Geoff Howard MP, 15 Main Road, Ballarat VIC 3350

This advertisement is funded from Parliament's Electorate Office and Communications budget

# Much of interest for locals at the Old Library



Local identity, Don Ogilvie, and Information Volunteer, Sandra Lorensini, chat outside the Old Library

**While many Buninyong residents will have seen the big “i” A-frame outside of the Old Library on Warrenheip Street, relatively few have dropped in to see what happens in there or to have a look at the quite surprising range of local resources held at the Buninyong Information Centre.**

Out-of-towners and tourists call in at the Information Centre at 408 Warrenheip

Street to gather brochures and information about the village. Locals are also most welcome to visit. Each week, some 45 people visit the centre and are assisted by the friendly volunteers who are on-hand to dispense advice about things to do in and around Buninyong and to assist with genealogical or historical enquiries.

Located in what was the Reading Room of the Old Buninyong Library,

the range of interesting material includes tourist brochures and maps, information packs with special offers for new residents, historical books, objects and photos, family history resources and the complete records for the Buninyong Cemetery.

The majority of visitors to the Buninyong Information Centre come from regional Victoria, followed by Melbourne, NSW and the other states. UK/Europe and US/Canada head the list of international visitors followed by Asia, then New Zealand. Day trippers account for around 35% of visitors, with a further 20% on holiday, and 15% calling in to look-up their family history.



## EASTER SERVICES

Good Friday (25<sup>th</sup> March) – 10am  
Easter Sunday (27<sup>th</sup> March) – 10am

Child friendly

More information at [buninyonganglican.org.au](http://buninyonganglican.org.au)  
or the Minister, Mark Schnerring, on 5341 3281



(corner Warrenheip and Scott Streets)

An initiative of  
The Buninyong  
Good Life  
Festival

**BUNINYONG  
VILLAGE  
MARKET**

**Sunday  
28 February  
9am-1pm**

**Market Square  
Buninyong Town Hall Precinct**



# THE RED DOOR NOW WIDE OPEN

**The re-opening of the Red Door Pizzeria on 12 February, at its new home at 401 Warrenheip Street, marked another move forward for Buninyong's now buzzing restaurant and dining scene.**

After first opening in December 2013 in cramped quarters further north along Warrenheip Street, the newly-opened restaurant now comfortably caters for small and group bookings in the historic old Whykes Grocer's shop, more recently

home to Unique Garden Décor.

Originally a country bred carpenter from Horsham, owner **Trevor Whitworth** took up residence in Ballarat a few years ago to teach at Yuille Park Community College, but had long been drawn to the rustic beauty of Buninyong. He moved, with his partner **Odette**, to Durham Lead about a year ago.

"In the new restaurant we can cater much better for our popular take-away trade,

and also can offer dine-in customers a spacious area with a charming, relaxed and casual atmosphere," he said.

While the pizza menu will remain unchanged, Trevor and Odette have plans to introduce simple Italian style pasta dishes, and home-made traditional ice creams soon.

### Local and quality

Trevor has long been passionate about quality food and sourcing quality local products. The move to the charming historic building now provides the perfect opportunity to create healthy, quality take-away food or a comfortable dining setting for both the local community and visitors to the character filled town of Buninyong.

He feels that it is important to provide the healthiest and most convenient food to customers and to fulfil the growing trend of "buying local which is sweeping Victoria."

In addition to the comfortable dining area, plans are afoot for *al fresco* dining at the front once the Council project to upgrade the pedestrian area is undertaken, and there is already a beer garden in a relaxed setting at the rear. In addition to wines and other drinks, he will offer five boutique beers, with two being rotated on tap.

The Red Door Pizzeria is now open Wednesdays to Saturdays between 5pm and 10pm, and Sundays between midday and 9.30pm.

Trevor can also be seen out and about occasionally in his mobile pizza trailer which, among other things, he makes available for fund-raising for local schools, as well as for package deals for weddings and parties.

ADVERTISEMENT



**Catherine King MP**  
Federal Member for Ballarat

*Standing up for the  
Buninyong community*

5 Lydiard St North, Ballarat 3350  
P: (03) 5338 8123 F: (03) 5333 7710 [www.catherineking.com.au](http://www.catherineking.com.au)



AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, 5 LYDIARD ST NTH BALLARAT 3350

## Wagging tails in Desoza Park

# Beware – Archie is a guard dog!

**Dogs are among the most popular of pets and, wherever there are humans, dogs will invariably be there too – as pets, companions, helpers, guard dogs and rescuers.**

Given the widespread interest in dogs in this community, *The News* has decided to include an occasional feature on some of Buninyong's dogs (and their owners).

Living close to Desoza Park, I see the daily parade of wagging tails attached to small, medium and large furry bodies pass by. Though their size and appearance varies, their enthusiasm and pleasure at being out and about doesn't. They love it.

They are especially happy when their owners stop for a chat because the dogs can greet their own canine friends as well.

### Test passed

The first featured dog is **Archie**, accompanied on his walk by owner **Kim**.

Believe it or not, Archie, a one year old Miniature Schnauzer, is a guard dog! After some tools were stolen from a vehicle parked on their property,

owners Kim and Craig decided that they needed a dog to alert them if someone was snooping around in the middle of the night.

Archie takes his responsibilities very seriously, recently passing a test with flying colours by sounding the alarm in time to scare off a stranger.

He even lets the neighbours know if someone is nearby their place as well. But when any 'emergency' is over Archie settles down quietly.

The big bonus of course is that Archie is also cute, intelligent, funny, doesn't shed, only needs an occasional clip, and loves a cuddle. Archie was bred by a local Buninyong breeder.

Cassandra Carland



Celebrating 90 years

1926-2016

*Invitation*

to all past and present members  
to the

*Anniversary  
Dinner*

at the Buninyong Golf Club

**SATURDAY 30 APRIL, 6.30PM**

**\$25 ph**

**BOOKINGS 5341 3217**

## BREAKFAST

In the Heart of Buninyong

# The Old Bluestone Cafe

From 8am 7 DAYS  
03 53418166 - 324 Learmonth Street  
**BREAKFAST - LUNCH - COFFEE - CAKE**  
We Look Forward to Serving You



*Buninyong  
Beauty Therapy*

11 Learmonth Street, Buninyong 3357  
Ph: (03) 5374 2039  
E: buninyongbeautytherapy@inet.au  
www.buninyongbeautytherapy.com.au



AMM 10/11/2016

# Brewery concert aids refugees

**A concert in aid of local refugees was held recently at the old Buninyong Brewery. The concert was organised by the Ballarat Rural Australians for Refugees.**

Ballarat Ukulele Collective charmed the audience with their high-spirited popular songs, while recorder and guitar quartet, Measure 4 Measure, played probably for the last time. Their classical guitarist, **Tony Dyson**, leaves Ballarat soon.

**Aran Mylvaganam**, founder and spokesperson for the Tamil Refugee Council, spoke passionately about his own horrific experiences, and why Tamils who have fled from Sri Lanka fear to return.

Boat Chorus, a recently formed vocal improvisation group, then used his words as inspiration for some particularly moving pieces, one playing on the words "Hello" and "Goodbye".

**Teira Stuart**, known as Siren Song, wound up the afternoon with her own haunting compositions for voice and guitar.



The concert raised over \$1,500 with more donations still coming in. All funds will go to assist a young local Sri Lankan family

fighting to remain in Ballarat, and to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, which supports them and other asylum seekers.

## The Team At Harcourts Buninyong Welcome The Return Of Graeme Paizis!

Graeme is one of the most well-known & respected Real Estate Agents in the Ballarat District and as a fully Licensed Estate Agent with over 30 years in the industry he ensures smooth sailing for all of his clients during their real estate transaction.

Contact Bernie or Graeme today!



**Bernie Massey**  
M: 0438 396 877  
P: 5341 3941  
E: [bernie.massey@harcourts.com.au](mailto:bernie.massey@harcourts.com.au)



**Graeme Paizis**  
M: 0418 503 747  
P: 5341 3941  
E: [graeme.paizis@harcourts.com.au](mailto:graeme.paizis@harcourts.com.au)



Here we are.  
Working  
together.

**Harcourts**

# You won't need cash at this chook raffle

**There is nothing much more quintessentially Australian than the traditional chook raffle for raising money for a worthwhile cause.**

Whilst the humble chook has raised many a dollar over the years, change is inevitable and the requirement of community groups to raise larger sums of money has seen organisations adopt fancy web portals or office fronts with *eftpos* terminals as standard.

But what of the many smaller organisations who want to run a trivia night or fundraising day when people are relying on cards much more, resulting in carrying less and less cash?

Once again your Community Bank has answered the call by purchasing a Community POS which is a portable *eftpos* terminal which customer clubs or groups can apply to borrow. This will enable card payments to be taken on the day of the event (or the chook raffle) both quickly and simply.

A perfect example of the Community POS terminal in action was at the recent Ballarat and District Livestock and Bushfire Relief fundraising concert held



*Sam Wilson, Woody Yaloak Equestrian Centre and Narelle Tatt, Customer Relationship Officer Community Bank.*

at the Woody Yaloak Equestrian Centre in Smythesdale. The concert raised \$8500 and congratulations go to **Sam Wilson** and her team on a successful event for a very worthwhile cause.

So if your community group is a customer of the Community Bank and looking to collect funds using *eftpos*, contact the bank and request to use the Community POS.

*Greg Veal*

# Funding available for gorse control

**Gorse is known as the prickly, horrible introduced plant that quickly invades paddocks reducing their usability, harbours pests, is highly flammable and has a seed that is viable for a long periods of time.**

It costs a lot to get rid of and there are many landholders who have been struggling to get rid of it for several years.

**Jennifer Johnson**, Gorse Project Officer at the Victorian Gorse Taskforce, is assisting landholders within the Durham Lead, Clarendon and Lal Lal target areas.

The taskforce has provided funding to the Leigh Catchment Group and Moorabool Landcare Network to assist in

the removal of this weed and landholders can access a rebate up to 50 per cent towards the cost to control gorse.

The Gorse target areas include Clarendon – Lal Lal (covering the area from Durham lead across to Lal Lal and down to Elaine) and some limited assistance is still available in the Moorabool Landcare network area (between Mt Warrenheip and Gordon).

Contact the Gorse Project Officer on 0417 594 225 or [culingaia@bigpond.com](mailto:culingaia@bigpond.com). The rebate program will only be available for a short time, so take advantage of the assistance while it is still available.



## POLICE BEAT

**IN THE EARLY HOURS** of 3 January, a Holden Commodore utility lost control at the roundabout in central Buninyong. A passenger in the vehicle suffered broken bones and lacerations. Police are investigating the matter and appreciate assistance received from Buninyong residents.

**BETWEEN 5 AND 7 JANUARY**, three thefts from motor vehicles were committed in Palmerston Street, Buninyong. Once again, all three vehicles were un-locked. Please don't make yourselves a target. Lock it, remove it or lose it. Insurance companies historically will not cover any claims where vehicles have been left un-locked.

**A RESIDENT OF WINTER STREET** Buninyong was the victim of senseless damage to a letterbox at a property there in the early hours of 25 January. An offender ripped a letterbox out of the ground. Some good work by Crime Scene Services, saw a number of fingerprints obtained. Watch this space!

**AN UNKNOWN OFFENDER** stole a small amount of copper from an active power pole in Scotchman's Lead Road on 30 January. This is possibly the stupidest act that has been reported to police for quite some time. The offender may get more than a "shock" if the offending is repeated. Any suspicious persons or vehicles can be reported to Police via 000.

**BUNINYONG POLICE** have been working hard to assist residents of Scotsburn, Clarendon and Durham Lead after the devastating fires of December. Patrols are continuing daily, as they have been since the fire swept through. Police have received one report regarding the theft of a small amount of copper.

**RECENTLY WE REQUESTED** information on the Eye Watch Page in relation to a male involved in theft of petrol from the BP Buninyong. As a result, a male of interest has been identified. Community members are the eyes and ears of the police force, and your assistance is greatly appreciated!

## New program starts at primary school

# Pupils learning to live and achieve



Josh Ebbels and some of the students who 'role model' for the younger ones.

At the start of the 2016 school year the Buninyong Primary School welcomed two new teachers. They were Katie Adamson, a graduate teacher whose home town is Swan Hill, and David Young from Woody Yallock who is one of the new Assistant Principals. In that role he has joined Josh Ebbels who came to Buninyong in August 2015 from Phoenix College at Redan.

At Phoenix College, Josh Ebbels was involved in the secondary school programs to improve the social, emotional and learning well being of the students. However, after fifteen years he was "ready for a change". He said

that on walking into Buninyong Primary School last year "it was immediately obvious that this is an amazing community with fantastic teachers."

### Positive program

Part of his role as Assistant Principal at Buninyong is to 'improve learning and the school experience' for students. Soon after his arrival, Josh introduced a program called the 'Buninyong Positive Program' which was adapted from the many programs available about the social and emotional learning of students.

Ten members of staff have volunteered their time to get this program 'up and

running' with feedback to be collected at the end of each term.

The emphasis is on teaching the students aspects of living often missed in the usual day-to-day school life. These include developing students' skills in areas such as listening properly, having respect for their peers and elders, and how to grow in confidence so that they can understand their limits and to ask for help when they need it.

The expected outcome for students who gain such skills is that academic achievements will become easier and they will become more confident and contributing citizens.

### Listening

For example, two half hour lessons of the program have focused on listening as a class group, followed by an activity group a week later to demonstrate that they now know what listening is. With Prep to Grade 6 students together in each group, the older children will use various activities to role-model this skill to the younger ones.

The next step is to change the "I can't do it" or "I'm no good at that" reaction that many students have to something new and challenging. The program aims to have the student instead react with "well, if I can't do it (yet)... what will help me understand it?"

This is all part of the positive education framework which includes a focus on confidence, support, asking questions and knowing that, while it is 'OK' to make mistakes, what is learnt from those mistakes is important.

Parents are also asked to be involved in various ways. For instance if the theme for the fortnight is 'respect' then parents are asked to discuss what that is with their children, how do they show it, and when it should be shown, so that the program's message is reinforced at home.

Cassandra Carland

- digital & offset printing
- graphic design
- rubber stamps



3-7 Grenville Street South, Ballarat Vic. 3350  
Postal Address: PO Box 51, Ballarat Vic. 3353

**03 5333 3379**

contact us today...

[www.baxterandstubbs.com.au](http://www.baxterandstubbs.com.au)

Est. 1904 *you name it, we print it!*

**Baxter & Stubbs design, print & web**

Scotsburn school campus

# Nine new Preps, teacher and mural



*Nine little new pupils all in a row – (L to R) – Ella Turner, Rose Chandler, Matilda Williams, Rueban Blackburn, Tully McLean, Kara White, Carlos Carta, Archie Bowers, Xavier Wooding*

An intake of new students, a new teacher and a new-look multi-purpose room have marked the start of the school year at the Scotsburn Campus of the Buninyong Primary School.

Nine new pupils in the preparatory grade have commenced this year along with two new students in other grades bringing the student population at the campus to 60 pupils.

This year Grade 6 students will be taking on leadership responsibilities in various areas. Roles allocated are **Campbell Palmer** (Specialist), **Amelia Plier** (Environment), **Dylan Lyons** (Media) and **Nathan Hicks** (VOTS/Events)

A welcome new face on staff is experienced specialist subjects teacher **Deb Hunter** who will be teaching in areas such as PE, Japanese and Arts. She was formerly at the Ballan Primary School.

During the Christmas break the multi-purpose room at the school received a face-lift with the painting of a new mural there by acclaimed artist/illustrator, **Louisa West**. Louisa, a friend of a school parent, gave her time on a voluntary basis using paint donated by Masters store.



## DINNER

Thursday nights  
from 6.00pm

keenly priced meals and drinks

All welcome

**Bookings**  
**5341 3217**

Buninyong Golf Club  
613 Learmonth Street



**BREAZE**  
ENERGY  
SOLUTIONS

Solar Power & Solar Hot Water  
On Grid & Off Grid  
Domestic & Commercial

energysolutions@breaze.org.au

**03 4309 4027**

**A home loan  
that's the start  
of something  
bigger.**

 **Bendigo Bank**  
Bigger than a bank.

At Buninyong and District Community Bank<sup>®</sup> Branch we're offering great deals on home loans tailored to suit your needs, with interest rate discounts and reduced fees.

Drop into our branch located at 401B Warrenheip Street, Buninyong or phone Greg or Randall on **5341 8066** to find out more.

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



National and overseas experience

# Young Jayva has Futsal fever

**The sport of Futsal may be unknown to some, but that is certainly not the case for an eleven year-old Buninyong boy who is an emerging star in the sport.**

**Jayva Goriss-Dazeley** recently returned from Sydney after representing Victoria, as co-captain, at the Australian Futsal Association National Championships. It was the second year the young goalkeeper has represented the state in Sydney.

Previously known as indoor soccer, Futsal was the name chosen for the sport in the 1980s. Played between two teams of five players, one of whom is the goalkeeper, the game is played on a hard court surface delimited by lines and with a smaller ball than regular soccer.

Originating in Brazil, the sport has many famous former players including Brazilian football greats **Ronaldo** and **Ronaldinho**.

## Tour

Jayva's talent also saw him selected to tour Hawaii in November last year with the Australian 11 year old team. He received a Ballarat Sports Foundation Scholarship to assist with the costs of the tour.

"The boys did a great job, coming back from some early defeats to win their final games against the top American teams

at the event," said Jayva's mother Anitra.

Jayva trains at the Ballarat Futsal Centre and is goalkeeper with the Ballarat Red Devils' under-13 side in the National Premier League's (NPL) Victoria junior league. He was only nine years old when selected to be goalkeeper in the under-12s, making him one of the youngest players in the NPL at that time.

When asked what he likes most about the sport, Jayva said "Futsal is fast-paced and fun. I like it when I come out of goals and do goalie runs because the other team is not expecting it - I'm like another player, attacking."

Proud mum Anitra, also added "I admire the way Jayva is going after his dream." She said that "Futsal and soccer are Jayva's whole life. He does extra goalkeeper training on top of general futsal and outdoor soccer training three times a week."

Jayva is developing a focused outlook on life and, whenever he plays, he gets to hang out with his mates, so it is lots of fun for him too.

For further information on Futsal in Ballarat and the western region, visit the Ballarat Futsal Centre [www.ballaratfutsal.com](http://www.ballaratfutsal.com) or Futsal Ballarat [www.futsalballarat.com.au](http://www.futsalballarat.com.au)

*Jodi Beale*



*Goalkeeper Jayva Goriss-Dazeley in action against the Hawaiian state representatives from Po'okela SC at the War Memorial Gym, Wailuku, Maui.*

## 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](http://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

## Easter Services

### BUNINYONG ANGLICAN CHURCH

Good Friday (25 March) – 10am  
Easter Sunday (27 March) – 10am

### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Easter Sunday 9.00 am

### UNITING CHURCH

Maundy Thursday 7pm (Buninyong)  
Good Friday 10am (Sebastopol)  
Easter Sunday 9.30am (Buninyong)

### BAPTIST CHURCH

Good Friday – 9.30am  
Easter Sunday – 10am

### COMBINED CHURCHES OF BUNINYONG

Good Friday Walk 'Way of the Cross'  
Starts at steps of Buninyong Town  
Hall at 8.30 am

# Locals help to keep Puffing Billy rolling along

**For some fifty years, Puffing Billy, the vintage steam train that runs on a very narrow gauge line between Belgrave and Gembrook, has been an icon of Victoria's tourist industry.**

Although Belgrave is some 160 km from Buninyong, two local men have made major contributions to keeping the Puffing Billy story alive.

**Warren Mauseth** was employed for many years as a diesel maintenance engineer for Vicrail and moved to the Ballarat district in the late 1980s. After his retirement to Buninyong, Warren volunteered his services as a Puffing Billy driver, a role he has enjoyed for the past ten years.

He said that apart from keeping up contact with the trains and railways, he really likes the interaction with the public. "It's fun to see all of the wide-eyed tourists when they first see the steam belching from the engines, and to see the dangling legs of young children as they enjoy the 1 hour 50 minute ride between the two stations," he said.

## Home model

Warren is now adding to his interests in rail by creating a model railway at home, based on the period of the late 1960s and 1970s when steam gave way to diesel and electric powered trains.

The other Buninyong link to Puffing Billy comes through the contribution made

to the railways management by long-term Buninyong resident **Peter Hiscock**.

After being CEO of Sovereign Hill for some 22 years, in 2004 he joined the Board of the Emerald Tourist Railway Board. He was Chairman and Deputy Chairman from 2006 to 2011, and was able to enhance the business planning and heritage value of Puffing Billy as a business and tourism enterprise.

For the record, there are actually five Puffing Billy trains that run on the historic railway line from Belgrave to Gembrook with various stations in between. One of these engines, a 1901 Garrett with two engine units, can pull sixteen carriages up the Menzies Creek hill by itself, but, more commonly, two engines are coupled together for the climb. Occasionally the drivers have to dump a flow of sand onto the track to maintain traction especially if the rails are wet or icy.



*Warren Mauseth on the job with Puffing Billy*

In the fire season, trains are followed by fire patrol units as the Queensland coal used in the boilers can sometimes create embers that float to the ground.

While steam trains stopped carrying passengers to the Buninyong station from Ballarat in 1930, Warren Mauseth and Peter Hiscock have kept a strong local link with the days of steam through their involvement with the much-loved Puffing Billy train.

*Russell Luckock*



**BUNINYONG**  
**GARDEN & RURAL SUPPLIES**

---

**OPEN 7 DAYS**  
7565 Midland Highway, Buninyong  
P: 5341 3627 M: 0447 456 048

**Large range of landscaping and garden products as well as pet produce**

- soil, sand, stones (incl bluestone)
- mushroom compost, bark, mulch
- potting mix, gypsum
- pea straw
- horse, dog, cat and chicken feed
- alpaca/goat feed

**... and much, much more**

# Some memories of Jean Cartledge Township life in the 1940s

**In the early 1940s, George and Jean Cartledge (nee Nichols) with young daughter Jean, moved from Palmerston Street to a modest house on the north eastern corner at the intersection of Warrenheip and Elizabeth Streets, Buninyong.**

The Cartledge and Nicholls family names are ones that continue to be strongly represented in the Buninyong area.

Jean now lives in Russell Street, having moved about fifty metres to her current home a few years after her marriage to **John Emmlin**, who recently passed away.

The family didn't have a motor vehicle until much later, and George would travel by bicycle out as far as Mt Mercer and Grenville to work cutting wood and catching rabbits, and taking on any other employment he could find.

George was a keen gardener with an extensive vegetable patch and flower

garden, with prize dahlias that he often sold. Jean's mother was responsible for the twice daily hand-milking of ten cows. They were sometimes grazed on that part of the James Reserve where there are now five relatively new houses. But more frequently after the morning milking they walked to a paddock further up Elizabeth Street owned by **Mrs Eason**.

### The separator

Her mother would sell some of the milk to the Wallace factory, put some through a separator – the cream often being used to make butter which she sold - and the skim milk was fed to various animals. Father was usually banned from the separator because he turned it too quickly.



*Keeping her bicycle in good order was an important task for Jean Emmlin (Cartledge) shown here with brother-in-law Jo Poeth*

She would help around the house, and frequently walk to local shops to buy meat or fruit and vegetables.

Bread was delivered by **Paddy Jones** well after the family's bed time. Such was the level of trust amongst people in those days, that the back door was always left open for him to come in, deliver the bread, then make himself a cup of tea and have something to eat.

Jean left school at thirteen years of age, having missed a lot of time with scarlet fever. She worked in various shops in Ballarat, then spent seventeen years at the I & R Morley textile factory in Ballarat North.

Although the family had enough to eat, with much of their diet provided from home, their diet wasn't always highly varied: Father would often say that although they had rabbit and potatoes last night, at least tonight they could look forward to potatoes and rabbit.

*Richard Lea*



Young Jean would walk to Buninyong Primary School with her lunch wrapped in newspaper, which had to be recycled. She particularly remembers helping to make cocoa for the students there.

**For all your local electrical requirements**

Phone Murray on  
**0417 518 930**

**coopelec**  
industrial | commercial | domestic

REC 11582

# Autumn fair on soon

**The Ballarat Steiner School, Kindergarten and Playgroup is holding its popular annual Autumn Fair and Open Day on 6 March This local event is always a wonderful way for locals to experience the vibrant school community.**

For the last ten years the fair has brought together families from the Ballarat area for a celebration of the season with fine crafts, music, delicious food, children's activities and entertainment.

The Fair and Open day is a perfect way for friends and prospective parents to see the Ballarat Steiner School community in action, view student work and speak to the teachers. Many parents and students were first introduced to the school by attending this public event.

The day provides many child focused activities such as storytelling, face painting, pony rides, craft, canoe rides as well as providing great entertainment for adults. Coffee, organic food, market

stalls, produce and plants, as well as live music featuring Ballarat Ska Union, U3A recorder group and lots more can be enjoyed.

The Fair is held at the school's beautiful rural property. This is a wonderful day for those interested in learning more about Steiner education and having a relaxed look around the school and grounds, as well as those who are looking for an entertaining day out. There will be tours conducted throughout the day.

The Fair is on Sunday, 6 March from 10am – 3pm, at 244 Moss Avenue, Mount Helen.

For more information, please phone the office on 5341888 or email at [welcome@ballaratsteinerschool.com.au](mailto:welcome@ballaratsteinerschool.com.au). [www.ballaratsteinerschool.com.au](http://www.ballaratsteinerschool.com.au)





**FOUNDATION**  
LEGAL

*Local people. Local knowledge.*  
Expert Advice

Conveyancing	Wills & Powers of Attorney
Business Law	Family Law
Litigation	Criminal Law

Suite 2, Village Place  
309 Learmonth Street, Buninyong  
[www.foundation.legal](http://www.foundation.legal)  
Ph 1300 729 338



## Buninyong

### Ask a local

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

We have a strong commitment to give both Vendor and Purchaser the best possible service and advice to guide them through the sales process for all their real estate requirements.

Our Team look forward to new challenges offered in this vibrant area of Buninyong, Mt Helen and the surrounding districts.

Feel free to call or drop into our office with any queries regarding our local real estate market, whether buying or selling. We look forward to being of service to you.



**Gary Jones**  
0419 576 545



**Phil Crosbie**  
0407 542 289

*Sell Smarter!*

**T** 03 5341 2200 **F** 03 5341 2235 **E** [reception@prdbuninyong.com.au](mailto:reception@prdbuninyong.com.au)  
511 Warrenheip Street Buninyong Vic 3357 [prdbuninyong.com.au](http://prdbuninyong.com.au)

Pig & Goose puts together

# Great night out for BlazeAid workers



BlazeAid volunteers all signed their thanks on a blackboard at the restaurant. (L to R) David Adby, Wendy Kirby, Clive Kirby, Eileen Davies, Katie Adamson

## Buninyong's Pig & Goose Restaurant has joined the list of other local businesses in making a significant contribution to the fire recovery work in the district

On 20 January, restaurant owners **Clive** and **Wendy Kirby** hosted some 48 BlazeAid volunteer workers at a complimentary dinner at their Warrenheip Street restaurant.

Since arriving in the district immediately after the December fires the BlazeAid volunteers have had food and meals provided to them by local service clubs.

Co-ordinator **David Adby** said that while his colleagues "owed a tremendous debt to these groups and clubs, the dinner at the Pig & Goose restaurant was a really generous gesture by the owners."

## A nice change

"It made a really nice change to get away from our usual camp setting, dress up a bit, and enjoy a very special meal in a lovely setting," he said.

For the first four weeks, the BlazeAid workers had used the Geelong Christian College's Back Creek farm at Scotsburn for administration and a camp site.

Since mid-January the new location of the group's camp has been at the old Garibaldi School site.

Pig & Goose Restaurant chef-owner Clive Kirby said that he and wife Wendy had tried to think of some way of joining with the community in offering their support to the fire-recovery efforts. "We knew that these volunteers had come from all over Australia to help local property owners to clean-up and especially to construct much-needed fencing," he said, "so we thought that they might enjoy a night out at our restaurant."

The Kirbys provided the BlazeAid team with a special three course dinner menu with a choice of free range chicken with provolone cheese, or fresh flathead fillets, individual pavlovas and kiwi fruit, and a yoghurt pannacotta and berries dish.

He said that much of the food had been donated by companies such as Peter Carey's Quality Meats (Ballarat), the Seafood Store (Melbourne), and Wilsons Fruit & Vegetables (Ballarat)

All front-of-house and kitchen staff donated their time to make the evening an outstanding success.

Powercor project update

## Big battery on its way

The September issue of *Buninyong Community News* broke the front page story on Powercor's multi-million dollar battery back-up project for power supplies to the local area.

Advice has now been received that Australia's largest battery has left its testing facility in Chicago and is expected to arrive on Australian shores in the coming weeks.

The two megawatt energy storage system has recently completed a series of intensive Factory Acceptance Tests including attempts to put pressure on the system to crash it. The battery rose to the challenge, withstood the tests and is now on its way to Australia from the United States of America.

Powercor expects to commence testing of the battery in Buninyong from April 2016 with the battery fully operational by mid-year.

## Outage time down

The two megawatt battery will be housed in a standard 40 foot shipping container and is expected to reduce outage time for Buninyong residents to less than 33 minutes a year.

"This \$8m investment will highlight the capabilities and value of using a battery storage system on a rural long feeder in Buninyong, south of Ballarat. This will allow us to determine if using the installation of batteries on the network will successfully increase capacity temporarily during peak demand periods," said **Richard Scholten**, Powercor's Regional Business Manager.

"As an electricity distributor, we are constantly looking for ways to allow our electricity networks to operate more flexibly and maintain reliability while ensuring that customers still receive a low-cost distribution service.

This project is one such initiative that demonstrates our commitment to building an evolving network," said Mr Scholten.