

Critical meeting to launch start of **TOWN PLAN**

All residents are invited to one of the most important exercises likely to impact on life in Buninyong for the next twenty years. The launch of the City of Ballarat's *Buninyong Township Plan: Towards 2040* will be held on Tuesday 4 September at the Town Hall.

The planning process will stretch over several months and involve various opportunities for community consultation, meetings with key community groups, and direct resident feedback via surveys.

The Buninyong project will provide a long term vision and action plan to guide and manage change here in the period up to 2040.

It follows similar work undertaken by the City of Ballarat over the past two years in Learmonth and in Miners Rest.

The City's general expectation for the Plan is that it will result in "a detailed understanding of local planning issues that are important to the community and establish a direction to guide these challenges."

It should

- give the community a collective long-term vision and action plan
- give the City of Ballarat and the community a better understanding of and need for, local services and infrastructure
- assist the City to prioritise its investment in the local area
- help community groups when applying for grants or funding

With the support of Council, the Buninyong Community Association has organised

the 4 September launch scheduled to run between 6.00pm and 7.00pm.

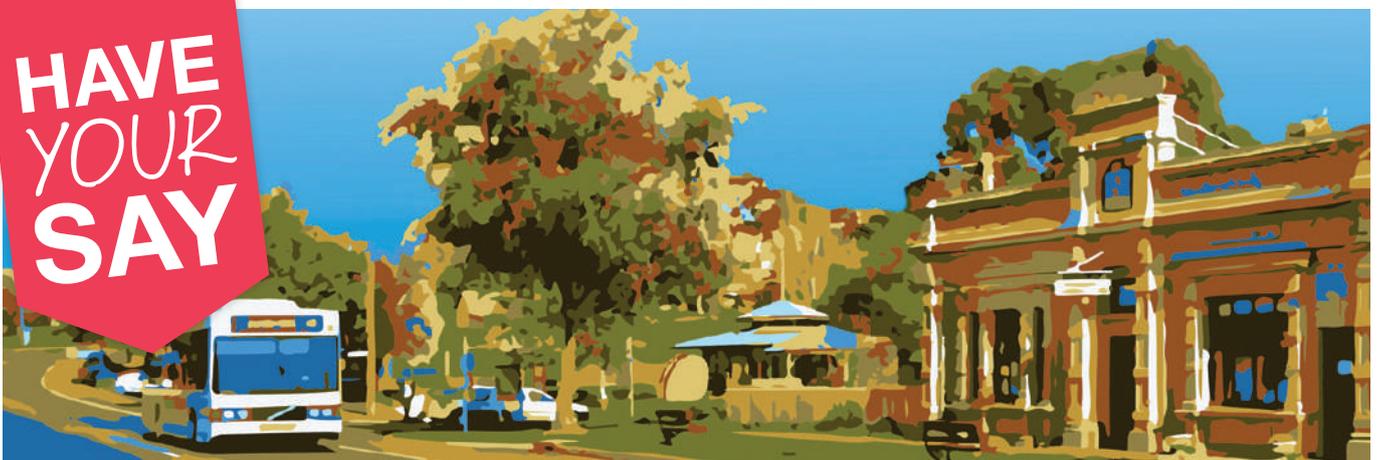
Attendees will be given hard copies of a survey and also post cards for submitting comments and views. Councillors and senior Council staff will be present to explain the process to be followed and to answer questions from the community.

A sausage sizzle catered for by the local Lions Club will be available.

This launch event follows on a well-attended seminar series - *Imagine Buninyong* - held on 13/14 June last year and led by visiting community planning guru Peter Kenyon.

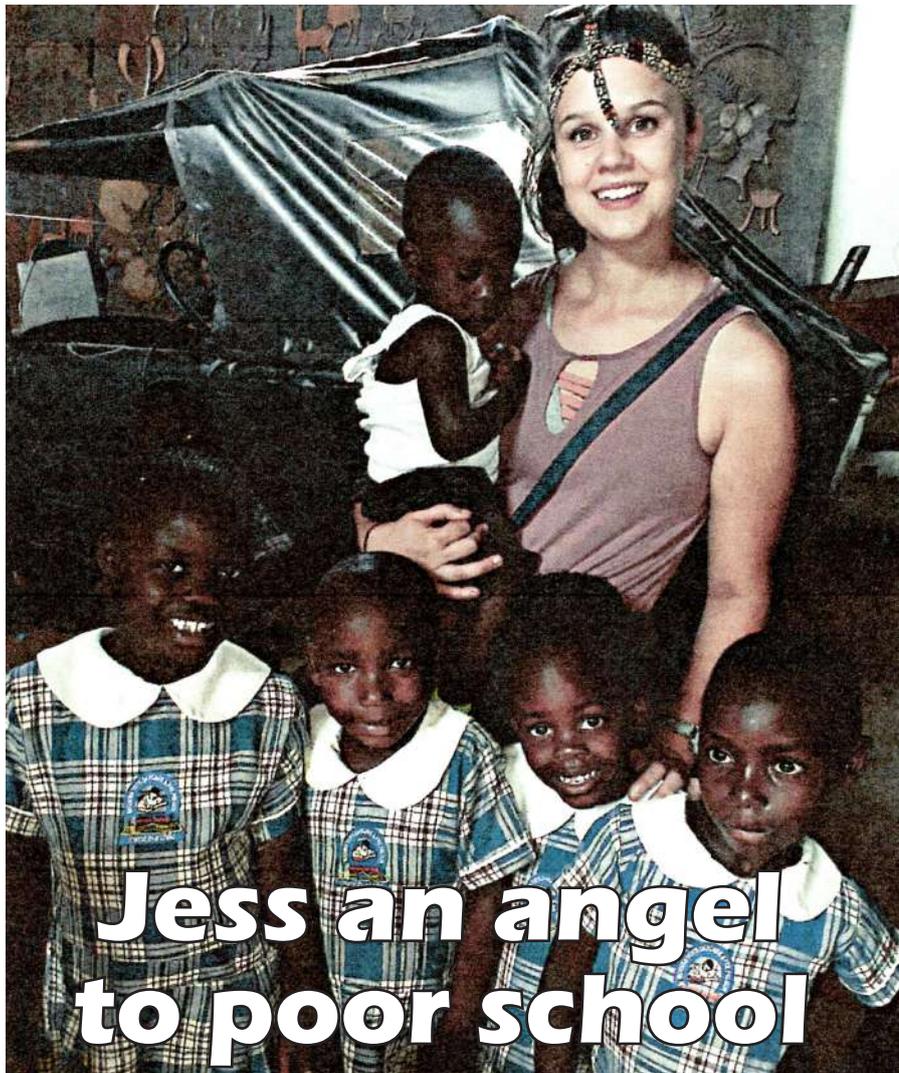
A report on those sessions was compiled by **Jacqui Stepnell** and **Samantha Elshaug** and has been submitted as part of the impending Council project.

**HAVE
YOUR
SAY**



Buninyong Township Plan

THE CITY OF BALLARAT IS PARTNERING WITH THE BUNINYONG COMMUNITY TO DELIVER THE BUNINYONG TOWNSHIP PLAN: **OUR TOWNSHIP TOWARDS 2040.**



Jess an angel to poor school

A few weeks ago Ron Delaland received an email with photographs from a former part-time employee Jess Corden. He suggested to *The News* that “there might be a story in this”.

For five years while she was a student at Damascus College, and later at the Australian Catholic University (ACU), Jess Corden from Napoleons was also a smiling face behind the counter at the Buninyong BP/ Newsagency.

After leaving school, Jess took a ‘gap’ year and volunteered with two friends in a school at Ainaro in East Timor, a country she had visited during Year 11 as part of a social immersion program run by Damascus College.

In November 2017 she graduated from the ACU with a degree in Early Childhood and Primary Teaching.

But she still had a vision to help out in a developing country and, during her final year at ACU flew up to Queensland where

with the help of a ‘friend of a friend’ she made contact with **Bishop Joel Ntambi** who was a guest at an educational conference there. He is the founder and Director of a school in Zirowwe, Uganda.

Link

After each returned home, they corresponded and a link was established with the *Global Development*

Group (GDG), a relief fund agency through which donations are channelled to help fund basic living expense of volunteers working in underdeveloped countries.

In early 2018 Jess, now aged 23, moved to Uganda where she is a volunteer teacher in a very needy school - *Christ’s Ambassadors* - in Zirowwe, in Uganda’s Luweero district. The township has a population of some 5000 and is about 50km north of Kampala. She has committed to spending the next two years there.

With the help of fund-raising efforts in Buninyong and Mt Clear, and with the assistance of the GDG, Jess continues to carry out her volunteer work in the small Zirowwe school. The school does not have electricity or running water and has drop toilets. Showering is via a bucket and hot water must be heated over a fire and transferred to the bucket. Daily meals consist of beans and maize which are grown by the school.

Help

Jess often assists her students with medical costs – such as paying for treatment for malaria – and with basic school supplies. Recently a family member took over educational and sporting equipment which had been donated by generous people in this district. The students greatly appreciated the gifts.

Anyone wishing to send financial help (tax-deductible) to Jess can do so by Googling Global Development Group webpage, selecting the Donate option, following the prompts and entering GiveToJ927C. The project is listed under Joel Kakembo Development Activities.



Government grant gets Solar on the shed

Two local organisations, the Buninyong Men's Shed and the Buninyong Bowling Club, have each received an Australian Government *Solar Communities Program* grant of \$12,500 to place solar panels on the roof of their clubhouses.

The grant will enable the installation of an 8.5 kw system, using thirty large solar panels at each venue.

Clubs save

Bill Jolly, a member of each club, was involved in negotiating the grant and in arranging for the installation which took place in mid-August. He said that the clubs were expecting a major reduction in the power bills which for the Men's Shed



(operating for just two days each week) currently averaged some \$180 per month, and some \$250 per month at the Bowling Club.

Geelong-based electrical company *Future Friendly* facilitated the grant and undertook the install at the two Buninyong locations. They have installed over 7000

systems throughout Victoria including some of the largest grid connected solar systems.

(Above) Shown unloading the first of the solar panels to go on the roof of the Men's Shed in Forest Street are (L to R) Future Friendly technician Simon Kerr, Bill Jolly and Jeff Douglass (Men's Shed) and Guy Skewes (Director, Future Friendly)

Local play success Hot times in that canteen

The simple static set of a canteen/kitchen in a country football club's pavilion worked well for the recent Ballarat production of **Miranda Donald's** play *Think of Me on Thursdays*.

The tightly-written script had the actors ranging across boundaries of banal small talk, sharing of dreams and personal relationships, sexual fantasies and even

into the realm of death and the after-life. The final moments of the play, when one of the 'canteen ladies' dies suddenly, introduced an element of pathos into an otherwise rollicking combination of slapstick humour and trivial human interaction.

Strong

Lead actor **Miranda Donald** (also the Director and Producer) gave a strong

performance in her role which included a good dash of colourful language setting her character apart from the other more homely

characters in the play. The four other women provided a good mix of the down-to-earth and more urbane personalities likely to be found in any group of volunteers. Stage husband Andrew (**Simon Buckle**) added some light relief in his intermittent caricature role of a man fascinated by his spinning mop, while the other male actor **Ryan Britton** was well-cast in his role of Jack who sparked off various fantasies for the women in the canteen.

Overall, the play was racy and pacy and was well-received by the good sized audiences which attended the various sessions.

Lots of background help was provided by local Buninyong sporting teams, and by backstage and front of house individuals.



performance in her role which included a good dash of colourful language setting her character apart from the other more homely

Empty shops put Village heart at risk

For about three years the Community Association (BDCA), backed up by *The News*, has been lobbying Council, PTV, VicRoads and other authorities to provide funding for an upgrade to the Warrenheip Street business strip. More recently the Buninyong Business Network (BBN) and the Community Bank have added their support.

Now, at least five businesses in that strip recently have closed. While it is reported that steep rental costs rather than lack of funding or action for Warrenheip Street is the main cause, the failure of Council and Councillors to fund or strongly support the strip's improvement plans has certainly contributed. Parking problems caused by the intransigence of PTV about moving that bus stop is also a factor.

A visit to Geelong's CBD over recent years has shown what the sight of many vacant shops does to kill community life. Now, all of a sudden the Geelong Council is tipping in millions to try to restore business life and community access, facilities and safety.

In Buninyong, over the past year or so, the following businesses have gone

- Celebrations
- Divine Vintage
- GMC Osteopathy
- Ribbon Health
- Maxx Services

The resultant array of empty shop fronts and *For Lease* signs does little to help other business and certainly is off-putting for visitor tourism.

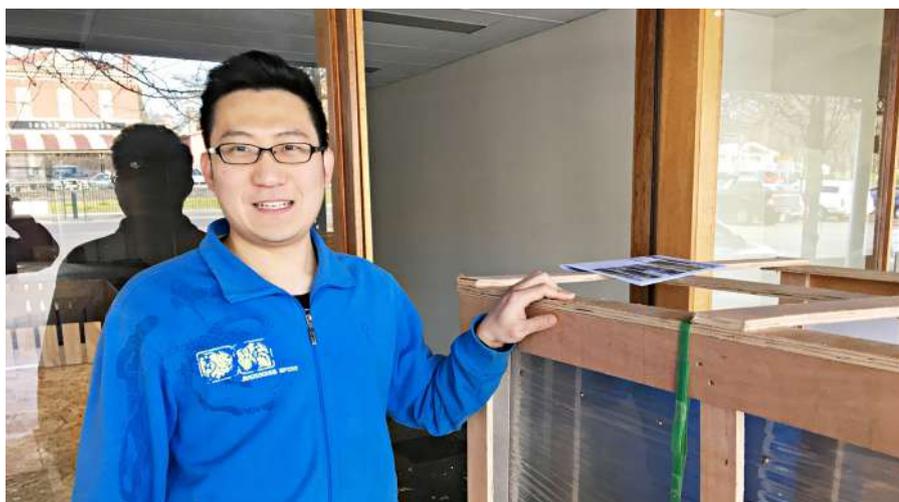
The BDCA, BBN and the Community Bank have made a detailed submission to Regional Development Victoria for funding to kick start the Warrenheip Street improvement project.

But it still needs real support from our strangely-quiet Council and Councillors, and especially from local politicians to get it across the line.

Meanwhile around the corner in Learmonth Street it was good to see some recent action which will soon bring the former *Sew Special* shop back to life with the arrival of the Asian grocery and restaurant business.

A few weeks ago *The News'* Ray Sullivan met and chatted with the business-owner/chef. At the time he was trying to solve the puzzle of moving a very large crate of heavy kitchen equipment into the store through a too-narrow front door.

Along with his wife and other family members he expects to open his takeaway and noodle restaurant in mid-September (see photo below). At least one good move! More in the next edition.



Buninyong & district COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Published monthly

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All contributions (copy, letters, photographs or advertising) must be submitted **before the twelfth of each month to buninyongnews@gmail.com**. Enquiries to 5341 2844.

Copy should not exceed 400 words and a maximum of two photographs per item may be submitted. 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 Management Committee reserves the right not to publish material considered to be offensive or inappropriate or not deemed to have community interest or relevance.

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Member of the Community Newspapers Association of Victoria

pollySHOES

Buninyong Little Athletics
Fashion Parade

Buninyong Town Hall
Thursday 6th September
6.45pm

Drinks at bar prices

Clothing and shoes can be purchased directly after the event.

Tickets can be purchased at eventbrite.com.au
'Buninyong Little Athletics Fashion Parade Fundraiser'

Small turn out for two tree days but **Still plenty of action**

A few enthusiastic tree planters braved the cold to plant trees on nature strips and in public recreational areas around Buninyong recently. It was part of National Tree Day which aimed to focus the community on the need for more trees. Trees were planted in the township on Saturday and in the Mt Buninyong Reserve on Sunday.

The co-ordinators of the planting days, *Buninyong and District Community Association* and *Upper Williamsons Creek Landcare* were hoping for a big roll-up of volunteers. It was advertised in *The News*, with flyers at the Service Station and Post Office and on-line.

Disappointing

However the numbers attending were disappointing - eight on Saturday and about fifteen on Sunday. Perhaps it was the cold weather – but this was unavoidable as trees must be planted during their winter dormancy.

The majority of people believe that climate change is one of the serious threats to our planet. But mature trees are a means to reduce that threat.

So why isn't the local community prepared to chip in and help make Buninyong district a tree-place to remember?

The Mt Buninyong Reserve is a great community resource but it has seen considerable tree loss.



“Trees are such an important resource for the planet and in these times of climate change it is a pity we could not mobilise more young people. We planted over 200 trees. Perhaps residents and park users will help get the trees through their first summer by lending a hand to water them. That would make a difference,” said **Peter Hiscock** who organised the project.

With the help of **Tony Coxall's** new excavator the Blackberry Lane Recreational Track was cleared of the undergrowth, blackberry and carrot weed that had become invasive. New young trees were planted beside the track as well

as in the Mt Buninyong Reserve and it is hoped that these will create and maintain a koala corridor.

Russell Luckock



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Young William May

A hero of Garibaldi

The old Garibaldi school which has been closed since 1943, remains one of the iconic historic buildings of this district. Now used as the hall for local gatherings, it was also a hub for the BlazeAid workers who were in the district after the December 2015 fires.

In its heyday, the Garibaldi School had up to 114 pupils. But, in war-time 1915, it fell on hard times when the Education Department decided not to replace the sole teacher at the school.

Approved

Enter a fifteen year old local lad **William Alban May** who was so concerned about the future of the school and its pupils that he took it on himself to write a letter (in beautiful cursive script, see opposite) to the Education Department offering to take on the role as teacher there. Very shortly after, his letter came back with the stamp "Approved" on it.

So probably for the only time in the long history of the Victorian Education Department, a primary school was handed over to the care of a fifteen year old who, along with some help from

parents, kept it open until a new teacher was appointed some years later.

Memorial

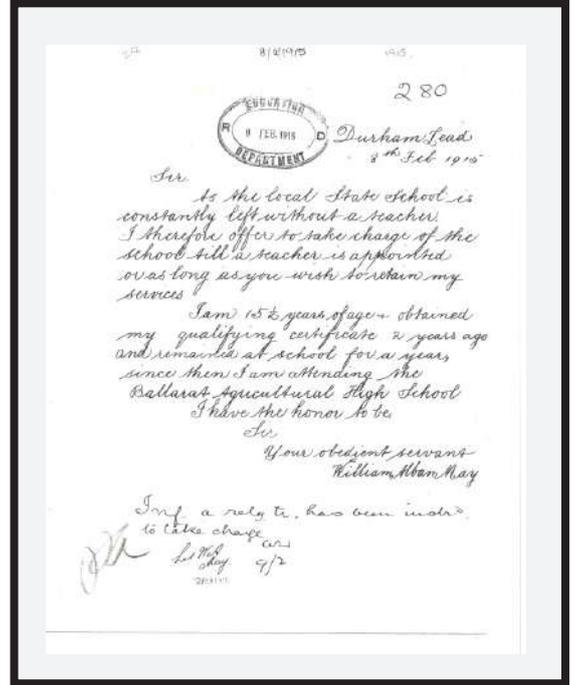
Now the Shire of Golden Plains has contributed to a new sculpture erected in the school grounds.

It commemorates both the school's history and in particular the role of William May in keeping it open 103 years ago.

The sculpture, made of laser-cut stainless steel and limestone, depicts the school with a figure of a boy pupil in the foreground. Designed by Geelong artist **Jacinta Leitch**, it is titled *A Letter of Wisdom*, and on the base is a plaque with a copy of the letter sent by William May.

The sculpture was officially unveiled by **Cr Helena Kirby**, Mayor of the Golden Plains Shire, on 12 August.

As part of the ceremony a time capsule was buried near the base of the sculpture.



Looking at the sculpture are long term-residents Rhonda Hodgetts and Jill Ebbs (right) together with new settlers in the district Michelle and Karl Kasback and children Austin, 8 and Angus, 11. Holding the time capsule is Jacinta Leitch



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Come and sing with new choir

When local resident Christine Rossiter came up with the idea to start a community choir in Buninyong, local music teacher Georgie Williams was delighted to be asked to lead it.

The health benefits brought to individuals and community from singing together are well documented, and Chris and Georgie want to make this available locally.

Georgie Williams is a piano teacher, singer-songwriter and performer who moved to Buninyong with her musician partner **Geoffrey** three years ago.

Excited

"It has been on my mind that it would be great to have a singing group in Buninyong. So when Chris mentioned it I was really excited," Georgie said

Through *Wild at Heart Community Arts* she co-facilitates song-writing workshops in Ballarat for people who have experienced mental illness.

Georgie loves working creatively with groups which she finds to be 'connecting and very inspiring'. She said, "The benefits of having a place to meet with like-minded people, to take risks and do something really creative together are immeasurable. Singing in harmony and in rhythm with each other creates a nurturing space. We all need that!"

Uplifting

A Buninyong resident for 25 years and member of the *Ballarat Centre for Music and the Arts'* adult vocal group, **Chris Rossiter** wanted to make a stronger association with local community members now that she is retired.

She said that when she sings in a group she feels 'uplifted' afterwards. "There are some great choirs in Ballarat but it's

wonderful to connect with local people, so I thought why not make something available right here in Buninyong."

Chris said that she was thrilled when Georgie immediately jumped on board. "With her wealth of experience and boundless enthusiasm she will make a wonderful choir leader," she said.

Harmony

Chris and Georgie said that the choir's repertoire would range across "anything with harmony and parts" and include old classics, and modern and world music.

Probably starting in mid-October, the choir will meet and rehearse at the *Red Door Pizzeria* on Wednesdays 12.00pm - 1.15pm.

In the spirit of a true community group, there will be no auditions and no prerequisites of being able to read music. Everyone will be welcomed.

Anyone interested or for more information call Georgie on 0434 525 595.



streettalk

BUREAUCRACY AT WORK!! In the August issue we carried the story of the two local posties who, after thirteen years here, had been moved on by *Australia Post* to work in Ballarat. Had to go to Melbourne for three weeks' trainingabout how to ride their bikes!

BIG DAY COMING UP on 5 October for Mt Helen residents who have chosen to appear before VCAT to put their case to support Council's rejection of planning approval for the big ten unit development on the Eddy Avenue corner.

AT LEAST ONE SECTION of Council takes action on requests for needed works out here. **Daryl Wallis** and his Parks & Gardens team have followed up quickly on a call for the village street vines to be pruned and re-tied. They also came good with a promise to replace vandalised signage on the Cathcart Street Reserve. This group has also been terrific in the Avenue of Honour restoration project.

IF THAT NEW FACE in the meat and deli sections of the local *Foodworks* store looks a bit familiar, it's **Janeen Sternberg** who for many years was the owner of the *Krooze Inn Cafe* up at Mount Helen.

THAT POOR OLD FLAG on the Town Hall is now down to pocket handkerchief size. Sure bet if it was on its Sturt Street counterpart that the city would have broken their own 'no flags' rule a long time ago.

MICHELLE FROM THE OLD Bluestone Café had a near-miss recently. When she was coming to work along the Western Highway a huge tractor tyre came adrift from a truck in front and missed her car by inches. Clever people can work out what the combined speed of the tyre crashing into a car travelling at say 100kph would have been.

Ian new Mason's Master

Ian Crosbie is the new Worshipful Master of Sturt Buninyong Lodge following a recent installation ceremony conducted by officers from the 2018 Grand Lodge Team. It was watched by 44 local and district Freemasons. The evening of colourful pageantry and ritual concluded with a roast supper.

The 2018 Sturt Buninyong Lodge team progressive component are all Master Masons and this was last achieved in 2005. It is the endeavour of all Lodges to have the incoming Worshipful Master and his team all to be Master Masons.

Ian becomes the twenty-first Master to lead the consolidated lodge since 1998 when the Buninyong Lodge No 23 (formed



Incoming Master of Sturt Buninyong Lodge W Bro Ian Crosbie (centre) with his principal officers John Dunstan, Senior Warden (left) and Anthony McKnight, Junior Warden.

in 1856 as an Irish Constitution Lodge), and Sturt Lodge sponsored by Buninyong in 1927 joined to form the current lodge.

Only three Master Masons have been installed in No 23 during this time with the remaining being Past-Masters.

The Lodge meets in Buninyong Masonic Centre at 7.30pm on the third Saturday of each month, and invites all Freemasons affiliated or not to consider making contact. Non-freemasons are also encouraged to engage in conversation towards membership.



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104 Moss Ave Mount Helen



411 Learmonth St Buninyong



429 Yendon No 1 Rd Yendon



23 Marina Dve Mount Clear

Gary Jones
0419 576 545

53412200

Phil Crosbie
0407 542 289

511 Warrenheip St Buninyong VIC 3357

Neville Dooley
0419 307 882

prd.com.au

Selleck's Flat FOUND!

Ed: *The June edition of The News carried the story 'Finding Selleck's Flat' about the question raised in the national publication Placenames Australia, as to the location of the 'missing' old township in this district. This writer seems to have nailed it down.*

The centre point of Selleck's Flat is the junction of Platt's Rd and Scott's Lane, Scotsburn.

The Buninyong Shire Rates for 1871 identifies thirteen ratepayers living at the Flat, although Selleck is not mentioned. Looking at the Buninyong Parish Map, Selleck's property abuts the NE Corner of that junction.

Arnall Buckle, Thomas Carrigg, Martin Finn, John Guthery, Dominic Franchi and Robert Stitson, all identified as living at Selleck's Flat in the

1871 rates records, are also shown on the Buninyong Parish Map as having purchased properties.

Junction

These properties are located in a circle, only a short distance from the Platt's Rd-Scott's Lane junction.

Also identified in the Rates Records as living at Selleck's Flat, but not shown in the parish plan, are **Alfred King, William Plownel, Michael Rava, James Stockbridge and William Weber**, all identified as wood splitters. Where individuals rented land they were responsible for paying the rates.

Unfortunately it is not possible to identify the exact location of the properties they were renting from the *Rate Records*, but they were probably renting properties of individuals identified on the Parish Plan close to the junction, but not in the rates.

Neil McCracken, Buninyong.



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Christmas trees appear at busy village market



The Buninyong Village Market on 28 July was very well supported by stallholders and proved popular with the public. Ambling was the only way to progress through the crowds and actually reaching one of the more than 55 stalls for a closer look was a challenge.

But the mood was happy, the weather was good and money was frequently changing hands because of the variety and quality of the items for sale. There was clothing, toys, jewellery, garden ornaments, plants, artwork, biscuits and cakes, makeup, health products, pet products, ice

creams (obviously), a busker providing entertainment and Christmas trees!!

Christmas trees

Christmas trees in July? Of course! Because these are special trees from *The Buninyong Christmas Tree Farm* which was established by Buninyong locals **Miranda Donald** and **Brigid Corcoran**. The trees are unique and sustainable Christmas trees, hand-made by the *Buninyong's Men's Shed* using recycled timber pallets.

The timber pallets are transformed into 165cm tall trees with a timber base

providing stability, and finished with an exterior paint in a choice of charcoal, red, white, mint or plain timber. They are a sustainable alternative to the standard Christmas tree and, of course, will last for many years.

And each tree comes with a handmade star. There are also smaller 'table top' trees if space is a problem or if a smaller tree is preferred. Ten per cent of all sales proceeds is donated to the *Ballarat Soup Bus*.

Art series

There are also special Christmas trees from a designated *Art Series* painted by local artists who are given a free hand to 'do their own thing' artistically.

The results are dramatic, colourful and eye catching. These special trees obviously cost more with all of the profit going either to the individual artist or to a charity of their choice.

If you didn't see the trees at the recent Buninyong Village Market don't despair. There are other opportunities coming up over two weekends on 24 and 25 November and 1 and 2 December at the *Netherby Homestead*, 606 Warrenheip St. between 10am and 4pm. But on the opening night on 22 November the display will be open from 5.00pm to 9.00pm.

Cassandra Carland



Steiner Education Information Night
7pm Wednesday 24th October tel 03 5341 8188

244 Moss Avenue Mount Helen ballaratsteinerschool.com.au



From war in Europe to peace in Buninyong Irma hits one hundred



Irma (front left) enjoying her 100th birthday party along with family and friends. (Front) Andris Bergs, Leonie Smith, Ian Eyme. Rear (from left) Mara Bergs, Deb Bergs and Irma's daughter Mitza Clark.

Life wasn't always good for Buninyong resident Irma Klava, who celebrated her one hundredth birthday on 17 August with a family dinner at the Pig & Goose Restaurant.

At the end of WW2 her family managed to escape Latvia just before the invading Russians closed the borders. They fled on the last ship out. Irma remembers that more than once during the voyage, they were told to lie on the deck and 'be very quiet' because enemy submarines had been detected in the area.

The family of four - **Irma**, her husband **Osvald**, two year old **Mitza** and Irma's mother in law- landed in Germany where the English and Americans had set up refugee camps.

Long time

After staying in the camp in Germany for seven years, they were due to leave for America but young daughter Mitza became ill with a lung problem. They feel fortunate that the recommendation from the camp doctor was that they should instead head for Australia because it is 'always sunny

there' and it would be better for Mitza's health.

Arriving in Melbourne they were then sent to the *Bonegilla* migrant camp, outside of Wodonga, where, eventually, more than 300,000 migrants had their first experience of Australia. Irma certainly remembers the flies! And when she saw her first possum she thought it was a rat. Then it urinated on her.

Mechanic

Although her husband Osvald was a trained motor mechanic, later under paid contract to the Government for two years, he and the family were initially sent to Mildura to pick grapes for three months.

Fortunately, a Ballarat Lutheran **Pastor Noack**, who was involved in organising work for immigrants, heard about Osvald's skills and found him a job in Ballarat as a motor mechanic.

Being a country girl used to hard work, Irma was given a housekeeping job at the *Provincial Hotel*, causing amusement among the locals when she tied the

bundles of laundry on her back as she used to do back home in Latvia.

After Mildura, the cold winter in Ballarat was a bit of a shock and Irma had her first experience of chilblains.

While loving the whole of Australia, Irma thinks Buninyong and particularly her Eyre Street unit where she has now enjoyed living comfortably for about 27 years, is special. Why does she love it so much?

Irma lists the friendly people, their generosity towards each other, being able to walk safely everywhere, all the lovely trees and the fresh air, and having family living close by.

Most Buninyong residents would agree with Irma that this is a good place to live.

Cassandra Carland

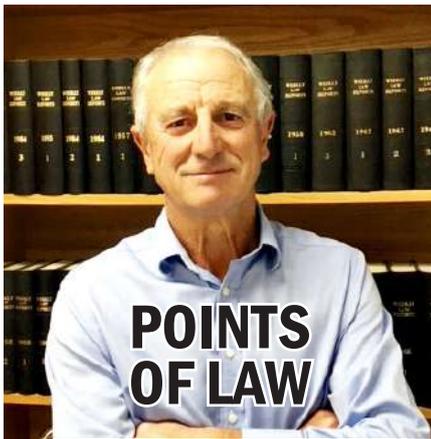
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Recently, *Families Australia* cited a 2015 ABS study which found that 52 per cent of Australian were in a 'regular' marriage, and 12 per cent in a 'de facto' marriage relationship. Age was a crucial factor with some 29 per cent of under 35 year olds being in the latter form of relationship, with this figure dropping to just nine percent for persons older than 35 years.

Knowing about living together

The term *de facto* is no longer current and was replaced with the legal term *Domestic Relationship* in July 2002. The term means "a person to whom the person is not married but with whom the person is living as a couple in a genuine domestic basis, irrespective of gender".

The change was designed to prevent discrimination not only of the couple, but equally of any children born out of the relationship.

It is possible to register the relationship under Victorian Legislation but this is dependent on a number of factors, such as the duration, sexual relationship, common residence, care and support of children and financial interdependence to name a few.

Two years

It is a widely-held belief that such relationships must exist for at least two years before they are recognised but this is not strictly correct, as all the above factors are taken into account when applying for registration, or in any dispute as to whether such a relationship existed or not.

There is no legal barrier to adults choosing to have the same surname, regardless of any relationship. A person can apply to Births Deaths and Marriages Victoria (Telephone: 1 300 369 367) to change their name at any time, which can avoid practical problems such as applying for a loan or buying property and choosing the surname of any children born out of the relationship.

It should be noted however, that the name of a child cannot be changed without the consent of both parents or a Court Order.

Dean A. Cinque

Disclaimer

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

School into science

Flour fireballs and flying toilet paper

Buninyong Primary School kicked off National Science Week celebrations with a day of experiments, explosions, research and thinking. Every year the students and teachers celebrate all things science by dressing up and participating in science activities as well as visiting the science cinema.

This day complements the interesting work students do throughout the year in Science and allows them to see Science come to life using equipment that is not normally available to the school.

This year Buninyong PS engaged the visiting science show *Mad About Science* to help explain some scientific principles through their engaging 60 minute sessions. The show was jam-packed with science madness including giant smoke vortices, levitating beach balls, flying toilet paper, flour fireballs and hair-raising electricity.

The celebrations were all part of the 2018 *National Science Week* (11 –19 August)

that had the theme *Game Changers and Change Makers*. This year's theme was inspired by three significant celebrations:

- the 200th anniversary of the publication of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (genetic engineering, biotechnologies, prosthetics, bionics, genetic modification, brain enhancement and ethics)
- the 40th anniversary of the birth of the first IVF baby (genetic engineering, biotechnology, nanotechnology), and
- the *International Year of the Reef* (coral reefs and the scientists who study them).

Buninyong PS is proud to be part of this celebration each year. It involved a number of lunchtime activities during the week to continue the focus on Science that influences everyday lives.

Pictured below are a couple of 'mad' scientists – **Ruby Williams** and **Riley Van Ek**.

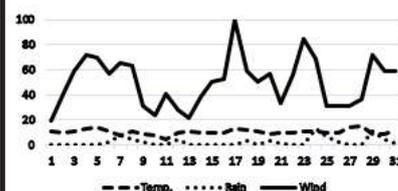


Ernie Neale's Monthly RAINFALL REPORT

Very windy and dry

The persistently dominant feature of July's weather was the wind. It blustered all through the month, with most days recording peaks of 40 kph to 100 kph. The SES had a very busy month.

This graph of observations taken at the Ballarat Airport is dominated by the beat of the wind.



The pulse of the wind was matched closely by the falls of rain and through it all temperatures fluctuated below 15°C. It was a classic cold, wet and windy July.

We received 73.6 mm of rain, a little over the recent average but not enough to catch us up to the annual average to date. We're still about 50 mm down on that.

So, despite all the wind and bluster in July, this year is still shaping up as one of the dry ones.

JUL 2018			
Date	Rain	Date	Rain
5	0.3	7-8	22.0
12	5.5	13	0.3
16	0.5	18	4.9
21	9.0	24	7.0
25	5.0	26	2.5
30	15.2	31	1.4
Total		73.6mm	
July 2017		69.0mm	

Scotsburn campus Pupils win in ACU debates

Two teams from the Scotsburn campus participated in the annual Australian Catholic University Schools' Debating Challenge Cup.

Following much preparation and practice under the guidance of their teacher **Mr Geddes**, the students competed admirably, winning each of their debates. They now wait to see if they have made it to the next stage of competition.

This was a wonderful chance for the students to develop their public speaking skills and to participate in an activity that takes them out of their usual comfort zone.

100 down

Another school landmark in early August was the celebration by the Grade Prep students after reaching their one hundredth day at the school.

To mark the occasion they participated in some fun activities which were capped off with a chocolate cake, made by their teacher **Miss Wood** on the previous evening.

(Above) Winners in the ACU Schools' debates were (L to R) Claire, Scarlett, Pat and Will.

(Below) Celebrating their first 100 days of school were Roxy, Rhylee, Summer and Aidan



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Catherine King MP
Federal Member for Ballarat

*Standing up for the
Buninyong community*



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AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, 5 LYDIARD ST NTH BALLARAT 3350



October's big week

Live music, fun runs, market days, open gardens, pantomime, art exhibition and a Spring fair are being organised for a whole-of-weekend event set for the last weekend in October!

As the *Buninyong Festival* is now a biennial event, Festival President, **Lisa Cressey** thought that it made sense to showcase more of what Buninyong has to offer in smaller, more community organised events in Buninyong.

Bringing together smaller events that were already scheduled around that weekend and creating more with a new branding of *Springtime in Buninyong*, patrons will be able to find lots of interesting and diverse things to do over the whole weekend.

A full program of events will be available on the Buninyong Festival website from 1 October – event posters will be up around town – and a full program of events will be published in the next edition of *The News*. Ensure you keep up to date by 'liking' the Buninyong Festival Facebook page – www.facebook.com/BuninyongFestival. The Festival's website is www.buninyongfestival.com.au Facebook. Event contact is Lisa Cressey ph. 0408 116 202

Community Co-op to meet

The *Buninyong Community Co-op* is looking to establish a Committee of Management. It aims to assist the Buninyong community to reduce their environmental footprint, at the start, by offering loose dry foods, and moving on from there.

There will be a planning meeting at the Community House, Warrenheip Street on Sunday 9 September at 1.00pm. Look for Buninyong Community Co-op on Facebook or email buninyongcommunityco.op@gmail.com

More bag workshops

The elves who have so far produced over 1000 *Boomerang* shopping bags will be at it again with a series of four workshops at the Community House, 407 Warrenheip Street during September. The workshops will run between 1.00pm and 3.00pm on Tuesday 4 September and Wednesday 19 September, and between 2.00pm and 4.00pm on Sundays 9 and 23 September.

Elaine sports day

The Open Day and Registration Day for the Elaine Cricket and Tennis Clubs will be held at noon on Sunday 9 September. Free BBQ and prizes.

Catchment Group AGM

The AGM of the *Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group* is set for Monday 8 October commencing at 6.00pm at the Clarkesdale Bird Sanctuary, 376 Linton-Piggoreet Road, Happy Valley.

There is more information on the website – www.leighcatchmentgroup.org or call Nick on 0455 147 398.

Fun plans for plan launch

After the formal session to launch the Township Plan on Tuesday 4 September (see p 1) involving Council staff and community groups, the community will be invited to join in the opening fun by moving to the area in front of the Town Hall.

Following a short speech by a student, the giant bow across the Town Hall entrance (shown in picture below) will be untied by children and community members. A sausage sizzle and supper will follow.



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Ten schools compete **SOLAR BOATS SAIL SOON**

Designing a small boat, powered only by the sun, would challenge many engineers. But that's just what Grade Six students from Buninyong Primary School are doing for the **Victorian Model Solar Vehicle Challenge**. With only a solar panel kit with an electric motor and their imaginations, students must design boats using recycled materials.

Four-member teams from Buninyong will compete against ten other schools from the Ballarat area on Wednesday 19 September. Buninyong Primary School will host the event.

State finals

Top teams will be selected for the State round to be held at Scienceworks in Melbourne.

Grade Six teacher **John Oellering** said students were equipped with knowledge about energy sources and sustainability, but ultimately they have to design and construct a useable boat as a team. "There are lots of rules and regulations they have to stick to in the design - such



as the width, length and height - and they must use recycled materials," he said.

"Students are judged 50 per cent on their boat's design and speed, and 50 per cent on their presentation, which includes a poster and a talk about their boat."

Subject links

Mr Oellering said teachers integrate the project across the curriculum, including English where students write letters to different companies asking for sponsorship and maths as students must perform calculations, such as timing, decimals, medians and mode.

Two of this year's participants, **Isabella McCarthy**, 11, and **Caleb Smith**, 11 (pictured above) were excited about the opportunity to enter the contest.

Isabella will be designing a boat from foam and toothpicks, while Caleb will be trying out cork.

Students are assisted in their projects by Federation University student and volunteer, **Imogen Forsyth**.

This is the second year for the primary school to compete in the program, with two teams from Buninyong represented last year at the State competition. Mr Oellering said the program grew from two primary schools in the Ballarat area competing last year to more than ten, and the number of sponsors also was growing.

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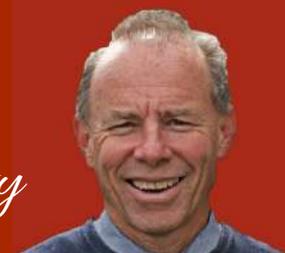
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Golf club honour to Frank Nolan

Buninyong Golf member Frank Nolan recently was accorded Life Membership of the Buninyong Golf Club (BGC). On Saturday 28 July Frank received his life-membership from President Ron Delaland in a special presentation after completion of the day's competition.

Fellow members, friends and Frank's family joined the Club President for the presentation.

Life membership is given to a small but distinguished group of people who have

provided a significant period of service to their Club. Frank Nolan's record of service to the Buninyong Golf Club over 27 years put him firmly in this category.

Contribution

Frank became a member of the golf club in 1991. He joined the Committee as Treasurer in 1997 and over the next 21 years held the offices of Vice-President (two years), President (four years), Treasurer (eight years) and then spent four years as Captain.

In addition to his terms in office Frank has played a major part in sub-committees responsible for Club governance issues including the revision of the BGC constitution.

Ron Delaland thanked Frank for the personal support he has given him in his current role of President. He said that "Frank's advice and guidance has always been valuable and welcomed." Ron also mentioned Frank's present health problems and wished him all the best on behalf of the BGC Committee and members.

Ray Sullivan



Awards to young stars

Two young Buninyong athletes were featured in the presentations when the WestVic Academy of Sport presented *Athlete of the Year* awards at the August dinner of the Ballarat Sportsmen's Club.

Wheelchair racer, Sam Rizzo and tennis player, James O'Sullivan made the finalists' list for the second year in a row. James has continued to impress on the tennis court with Gold Tournament wins at Geelong and Mornington and a third in the Hardcourt Championships.

Sam was announced as the winner of the award for the second year running. His Commonwealth Games selection and his sixth place in the final of the 1500 metres were the highlights of a successful year.

Due to his strong performances throughout the year Sam has been selected by *Athletics Australia* (AA) in the U17 and U18 *Talent Recognition List* as part of AA's High Performance program. He is currently completing Year 12 at Damascus College.



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New home search for Pat's red bikes

To celebrate the hosting of the **2012 Cycling Australia Road National Championships (CARNC)** in Buninyong, long-term resident and cycling enthusiast **Pat Hope** came up with a welcoming gesture from the village to visitors attending the event. She collected a fleet of old bikes, had them painted up with red paint and the **Buninyong Red Bikes Project** was born.

Each year since, Pat has prepared the bikes in December with plantings of pansies in the handlebar baskets and had them placed around the race route and village for the week of cycling events.

The cycling races in January 2019 will see Pat handing over the annual Red Bikes Project because of the sale of her home. The Friends of Buninyong Botanic Gardens, with the Buninyong Men's Shed, will take on management of the fleet and kids from Buninyong Primary School planting and tending the flowers baskets.

The *Red Bikes Project* group is currently seeking a new home to store some twenty bikes and is calling out to the Buninyong community for use of a vacant shed, a container or some other dry and safe facility that is available year-round.

If anyone can assist in storing the Buninyong Red Bikes fleet, please contact **Roger Permezel** on 0419 007 773.



Buninyong Primary School students (L to R) Sophie Stock, 10, Finn Sullivan, 5, Hilary Sullivan, 11, and Annabel Sullivan, 9 meet with Men's Shed members Jeff Douglass, John Strong and Bill Jolly to talk about the red bikes project.



Aussie Team

Top Buninyong golfer **Helen Pascoe** has been selected in the Australian Seniors Team to meet New Zealand at the Grange Course in Adelaide in October. Helen is ranked three in Australian Senior Women's rankings.

President's Double

Club President, **Ron Delaland** made it a double when he recently won the August monthly medal and the play-off for the July medal. Consecutive medals, well done.

Congratulations to **Mick Innes** on winning the Medallist of the Year.

Four from Four Plus One

Buninyong Club bowlers took out four titles in the recent Ballarat Indoor Bias Bowls grand finals.

The men's Division 3 side defeated Creswick by 10 shots. **John Nunn's** rink won by 14 shots. The Division 4s had a six shot win over Learmonth with "**Bart**" **Simpson's** rink winning by ten shots.

Buninyong also won the Mixed 4s title and the Ladies Div. 3 "put the icing on the cake" with another grand final win in their competition. A Buninyong mixed Fours team won the recent VRI tournament.

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Steve's clocks keep ticking away

There's no chance of just stumbling across the workshop of one of the few people in Ballarat, or indeed Victoria, who still spends up to fifteen hours a week working on old clocks of all shapes, sizes and origins.

You would have to travel for several kilometres up an unsealed bush road near the boundary of Garibaldi and Durham Lead to find **Steve Hodgetts** whose 20 acre property was luckily spared in the horrific 2015 bushfires that started not too far away.

The charred trees, only a few metres from his home and workshops, are a stark reminder of that day when, as a CFA member, he was off fighting the fires elsewhere, leaving his wife **Rhonda** alone in the house which later became circled by fire.

She and the house were saved by a combination of luck, the sprinkler system installed on their home, and the arrival of a crew of firefighters from the Hardies Hill CFA brigade.

A lemon

Steve developed an interest in clocks in the mid-1980s when he bought an old Ansonia wall clock. "It turned out to be a lemon, and I had to have a crack at fixing it," he said. Fix it he did, and that began a thirty year fascination and involvement with old clocks.

To learn more, in 1985 he sought the help of **John Woof** who had the *Grandfather's Clock Shop* in Lydiard Street South,



Ballarat. Wolf became his teacher and mentor. In 1998 Steve turned his hobby into a clock repair business continuing that until 2016 when he "sort of retired." He even completed a certificate course in Watch and Clock Making at RMIT.

His ability to work on the fine mechanics of clocks is not surprising given his spending 26 years as an electro-mechanical technician with the PMG/Telecom/Telstra organisation. He even makes spare parts for his clocks in his sophisticated engineering workshop full of lathes and milling equipment at the rear of his clock workshop.

Old ones

Steve now restricts his work to clocks that are pre-1920. He said that his most interesting commission was to repair the ornate oak long-cased and gilt-faced clock given by **Peter Lalor** of Eureka fame to his wife **Alicia Dunn**, on the occasion of their marriage in 1855. It is now owned by a private collector from Canberra.

These days Steve Hodgetts, aged 63, remains active as a CFA volunteer with the

Hardies Hill Brigade, being Chairman of the Garibaldi Hall Committee, and pottering about on his property with a few sheep and his two dogs.

Despite that, if you are looking for him, it's a pretty sure bet you will still find him in his workshop with his magnifying face mask pulled down, fixing up or fitting some tiny pin or cog in an old pre-1920 clock.



The two Stans....football tragics

For some thirty years, the *Two Ronnies* were a famous duo of English comedians. For almost as long, the *Two Stans* have been locally famous for their support of the Buninyong Football Club.

It's a certainty that if there is a football game in Buninyong, **Stan Hunter**, 68, and **Stan Schaper**, 78, will be found side by side just outside of the door to the clubrooms. The former, with a mile-wide smile and draped in his team's colours will be there perched on his wheel chair, holding a notebook in which best players and other statistics for each game are recorded.

Alongside

Right alongside him will be the 'other' Stan with his cloth cap and binoculars slung around his neck looking as if he should be in a trainer's hut at Flemington rather than at the football at Forest Street.

Stan Hunter has lived in the district all of his life, coming from a farming background at Yendon. His links with the Buninyong

Football Club go back to 1969 when he started as a player, going on to play 136 games including being a member of the 1970 Premiership team.

History

In 2004 he was made a Life Member of the Club, and 2017 saw the launch of his club history, *From a Bunny to a Bomber*. After filling many club roles over the years, these days he maintains the team sheets, and this year is charged with allocating the 'best player' votes after each game.

After his playing days at Redan were cut short by a very serious injury Stan Schaper became one of Ballarat's best senior umpires.

He was the first 'local' umpire to officiate at a Ballarat Football League game after all BFL matches had VFL umpires in charge. He is in the BFL umpiring 'Hall of Fame' after 13 years and 227 games.

Stan said that he kept fit for umpiring by regular runs up to the summit of Mt Buninyong. He reckons he has done that

track some 1500 times. Now he cycles for about 30km a few times each week.

He became involved with Buninyong in 1995 when one of his sons, **Christopher**, joined the Bombers. In that year he met his good mate Stan Hunter. They discovered that, over the years, family members had also competed against each other in the local tennis competition.

Move

Two years later, in 1997, two more of his sons **Dennis** and **Michael** who had been playing with Sebastopol, came here to join their brother. Over the years the boys played in twelve Reserves and Senior Premiership teams.

So in the 23 years since then, the "two Stans" who describe themselves as a "pair of football tragics" have become an inseparable fixture at Buninyong football games. These days, Stan Hunter lives at Mt Clear while Stan Schaper lives on the Midland Highway just west of the village.