

FlatMatters



Kangaroo Flat & District
Community Enterprise
Bring You FLAT MATTERS

FREE



Distributed to Kangaroo Flat • Golden Square • Maiden Gully • Marong • Lockwood • Big Hill

October 2024 | 175

COMMUNITY GAINS GENEROUS DONATION



Photo: Henry Miller St Monicas Junior Football Netball Club, Lilly Miszewski Kangaroo Flat Community Enterprise and Nick Smith Kangaroo Flat Cricket Club with club members.



In a significant boost to local sports and community safety, the Kangaroo Flat Community Enterprise is delighted to announce that it has generously donated an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to Kangaroo Flat Cricket Club and St Monica's Football Club.

KFCE Exec member Lilly Miszewski presented the AED to the clubs at a recent training night and was delighted that the clubs made a joint application.

"Housing the AED at the Crusoe College sporting complex is a great location with access to both

clubs and a range of other users now and into the future.

"This invaluable lifesaving device will serve the entire community, offering critical support in the event of a cardiac emergency. With the AED now readily accessible, the chances of survival during a cardiac event are dramatically increased, providing peace of mind to athletes, spectators, and all who frequent the complex, Lilly said.

St Monicas Henry Miller said "The generosity of the Kangaroo Flat Community Enterprise is a testament to their ongoing commitment to supporting local initiatives that enhance the well-being of the community.

"This donation underscores the importance of being prepared for emergencies and highlights the collaborative spirit that continues to strengthen Kangaroo Flat.

"Both the Kangaroo Flat Cricket Club and St Monica's Football Club extend their heartfelt thanks for this vital contribution, which is sure to benefit the entire region for years to come.

"A major project for the Kangaroo Flat Community Enterprise is to ensure that life-saving Defibrillators are available within our community.

"The Community Enterprise group has joined with Thales Australia, who have donated a total of \$50,000 towards ensuring that Enterprise groups across Bendigo will each receive units to place in their regions.

The Kangaroo Flat Community Enterprise is keen to see the defib units placed in high profile locations.

If your club would like to be considered for a Defibrillator (AED) please contact us at secretarykfce@outlook.com

Support your local businesses because... FlatMatters

FEDERAL FUNDING HELPS SECURE THE GREAT STUPA

The Australian Government is providing \$50 million in grants to keep Australians practising their religion safe across the country, including \$255,837 for the Great Stupa of Universal Compassion in Bendigo.

This funding is being delivered through the Federal Labor Government's \$50 million Securing Faith-Based Places program, designed to help protect Australians from crime and violence motivated by religious or racial intolerance by funding security guards

and security infrastructure, including cameras, lights and fencing.

The \$255,837 project at the Stupa is currently being implemented across four stages, with stage one seeing the successful implementation of new security cameras, upgraded server and security software and extra hard drives for future expansion.

Stage one was completed prior to a vandalism incident on 5 May, which saw several statues and artefacts damaged at the Great Stupa.

Stage two of the security upgrades will begin in the coming months.

The \$50 million Securing Faith-Based Places program reaffirms the Federal Labor

Government's commitment to ensuring that people of all faiths can live in Australia free from violence and discrimination.

Federal Member for Bendigo, Lisa Chesters said "Bendigo has a proud multi-faith community and its important locals feel safe from racial and religious discrimination.

"The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion attracts visitors from all over the world and these grants will help protect the site by funding CCTV, security systems, motion detectors and alarms."

"The vandalism that occurred in May is a reminder of the need to address the security risks at places of faith and cultural significance."



MOST TRUSTED BANK



The Bendigo Bank has again been named the most trusted bank in Australia by research house Roy Morgan.

Bendigo Bank CEO Richard Fennell said he was most pleased to receive the accolade on behalf of all team members who work hard every day to deliver good outcomes for customers.

"This significant recognition reflects Bendigo Bank's commitment to being bigger and better for our more than 2.5 million customers.

The award is testament to the hard work and dedication of our entire team and to be crowned most trusted again validates our customer – first approach to banking.

Our customers know Bendigo Bank is bigger for them and their banking needs.

Awards like these demonstrate that a genuine and compelling alternative to the major banks is available if you want it.

If you are looking at switching, Bendigo Bank has the quality products, award winning customer service and innovative digital offerings that customers expect."

To learn more about Bendigo Bank's products and services go to

bendigobank.com.au



Goldfields Libraries



A PERFECT MATCH

Do you know what is a perfect match? Libraries, Reading and Coffee. And now we have the perfect blend at Kangaroo Flat Library!

We have two brand new coffee machines which you can use any time you come to the Library. They grind real coffee beans, don't use pods, and have a great selection of coffee types.

And just when you thought it couldn't get any more perfect, add into the mix our lovely Atrium

Garden. Just flourishing into Spring perfection, it is a gorgeous free community space in which to enjoy the warmer weather – with a coffee in one hand and a book in the other!

Or perhaps you are looking for a new place to catch up with an old friend or two. With seating for young and old, our water feature burbling in the background, and ferns and flowering plants surrounding you, what more could you wish for? Except coffee... which is now available!

Gold coin donations are appreciated, but not expected. Simple instructions are available, but staff can help if you need.

So why don't you plan to spend some 'you' time with a coffee in our Atrium, and just relax. Or make it a destination and meet someone for a coffee and a chat.

See you in the Library soon!

FREE
COFFEE
AVAILABLE

ASK STAFF!



FlatMatters FlatMatters FlatMatters FlatMatters



MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT

The City of Greater Bendigo council election will take place this month.

It is a special moment as residents choose council representation for the coming years on key issues such as maintaining roads, managing public spaces, enforcing by-laws, handling planning issues and managing waste collection.

Voting for this election is by post only.

From Monday October 7, ballot packs will be mailed out to all voters.

Your Ballot Pack will contain:

- A **BALLOT PAPER**
- **CANDIDATE STATEMENTS**
- **BALLOT PAPER ENVELOPE (For your vote to go in)**
- A **REPLY-PAID ENVELOPE (For your ballot paper envelope to go in)**

Simply follow the instructions in your ballot pack to complete your vote.

Make sure you post it or drop it off at the election office before 6pm Friday October 25.

Kangaroo Flat Community Enterprise was keen to hear on what the local applicants have to say on local issues:

- JB Osborne Theatre
- New Skate Park
- Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre parking
- Kangaroo Flat Community Plan

GOLDEN SQUARE WARD

- **Maryann Martinek** = J B Osborne Theatre is a valuable space and must be upgraded. Council agreed back in 2017 that a Skate Park would be provided in Browning Street Kangaroo Flat but since then it has remained unfunded.
- **Vaughan Williams** = I believe the J B Osborne Theatre is an important site and should be retained and maintained. I have

IMPORTANT DATES

- ~~Monday September 9 – 9am – Nominations open~~
- ~~Tuesday September 17 – 12noon – Nominations close~~
- ~~Wednesday September 18 Ballot Draw~~

Monday October 7
Ballot pack mail out begins

Friday October 25
Voting Closes at 6pm

Friday November 1
All postal votes must be received by 12 Noon

Friday November 15
All election results declared



always been advocating for more parking at Gurri Wanyarra. I was disappointed that the Skate Park was not in the last council budget and hopeful it will be included next year. I totally support the development of a Kangaroo Flat Community Plan.

- **Matthew Dwyer** = I am keen to see the further development of the J B Osborne Theatre. I would certainly support a Community Plan in the future that could look at the needs of the community and the Skate Park, Gurri Wanyarra parking, and other great ideas could be included.
- **Karen Corr** = I am fully supportive of the KFCE Plan to repair and upgrade a critical facility into an inclusive multipurpose space for the entire community to enjoy. Gurri Wanyarra is a key facility for this community, and I am eager to work with KFCE and Gurri Wanyarra to develop practical solutions and improve parking. In regards to a Skate Park, if the local community advocates the project as a priority I am fully supportive of its development. A Community Plan is a valuable tool to document what is needed in the community, track progress, and advocate for funding or action.

will provide an option for activity and interest, especially for the youth. I am a fan for ongoing focus with Community Plans. Communities are dynamic, and needs will be constantly changing, especially in growing communities.

RAVENSWOOD WARD

- **Damien Hurrell** = If elected I will consult the local community in regards to the J B Osborne Theatre and learn from interested groups and view any funding proposals. I am very supportive of the development of the Skate Park having reviewed the concept plan and the consultation summary. I would like to see a complete review of the Kangaroo Flat Community Plan and evaluate the success and failures of the 2009 plan We need to bring it up to date and plan for the next 15 years.
- Donna Nicholas = Unavailable
- John Cooper = J B Osborne Theatre should be retained and upgraded if it is viable to do so. We need to show we care about our history. A Skate Park is a good idea as it offers free recreational facilities. I believe a well-publicised Community Plan would be a good idea, as long as it is based on what residents want to have happen in the ward.
- Emma Berglund = JB Osborne Theatre is a great building that can be better utilised by the community and an upgrade is urgently needed. I agree with all locals that more parking is required at Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre. I am absolutely supportive of a Skate Park in Kangaroo Flat and I would love to see a Community Plan developed for Kangaroo Flat to build on all the ideas to ensure we continue to grow.

LOCKWOOD WARD

- **John McIlwraith** = Unavailable
- **Jay Brady** = Specifically, J B Osborne Theatre should be upgraded. It is a venue that can serve multiple community needs. My view is that this should be given attention – as a priority. In terms of parking at Gurri Wanyarra, I have seen the problems firsthand, so absolutely support an increase in parking. A Skate Park in Kangaroo Flat

CITY THANKS INTERCULTURAL AMBASSADORS



The City of Greater Bendigo held a special Graduation Ceremony to thank the 2023/2024 Intercultural Ambassadors.

The Intercultural Ambassador Program is a voluntary leadership opportunity for multicultural and First Nations community members from across Greater Bendigo to share their culture, connect with others, and enhance understanding and cultural diversity.

The graduating ambassadors include Nishadi Weeratunga, Marissa Theresia, Laila Hashimi, Yadwinder Singh, Miriam Casas, Shilin Joseph, Eunmi (Rachel) Cho, Maha Htoo Sein, Enos Mahachi, Dr Thaera O'Brien and Dassanyake Sampath (Sam) Wickramasinghe.

City of Greater Bendigo Community Partnerships Manager, Andie West said the Intercultural Ambassador program is a fantastic initiative that is helping to build relationships and connections between all members of the community.

The program aims to build the capacity and confidence of ambassadors and provide opportunities for growth, learning and leadership as well as advanced social cohesion more broadly.

The City's Intercultural Ambassadors for 2024/2026 will be inducted at Zinda Festival at Bendigo Botanic Gardens Garden for the Future on October 12, 2024

BENDIGO WRITERS' COUNCIL



Photo: Amanda Scotney

Explore the world of writing October 30 with Amanda Scotney.

Amanda is a Tasmanian born Melbourne based writer, occasional short film maker and the Founder of Minds Shine Bright, an arts business that runs writing competitions, community writing projects and publishes books.

Her writing has been published in magazines and anthologies and she writes the Minds Shine Bright monthly update.

Amanda loves traveling to regional Australia and finds inspiration in natural beauty and by connecting with creative communities.

Bendigo Library

259 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo

Wednesday October 30

7pm to 9 pm

Cost: \$10 Door prize and supper.

For more information bendigowriterscouncil.com

MAJOR UPGRADES START AT BENDIGO SPECIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SCHOOL



Member for Bendigo West Maree Edwards has turned the first sod on an \$8.9 million capital works project at Bendigo Special Developmental School (SDS), that will upgrade and modernise the school and provide even more opportunities for students.

The project was funded in the Victorian Budget 2022/23 and will deliver brand-new classrooms and learning spaces, giving around 150 students better learning opportunities through purpose-built facilities that meet their needs.

With construction now under way, students and teachers at Bendigo SDS will be able to use their new facilities from Term 1, 2026.

Maree Edwards says students at Bendigo SDS can also look forward to a new outdoor health and physical education hub, funded by \$303,125 from the 2020 Minor Capital Works Fund. The hub will open in early 2025.

“This upgrade will deliver modern, purpose-built classrooms and learning spaces, so students at Bendigo Special Developmental School can achieve their full potential and teachers can help them thrive. I’ve been proud to work with staff, school council members and students to secure the funding for this project, and I can’t wait to see the benefits this will bring for the whole school community.”

In addition, ambulance paramedics called out by the service will now be equipped with blood ketone level testing kits to determine if the patient can be managed at home safely.

The service would be available 24 hours a day and would offer help in a range of different languages.

The virtual ED is a joint initiative of Diabetes Victoria, Northern Health, Ambulance Victoria,

Royal Flying Doctors, PHN Victorian-Tasmanian alliance and the State Government.

Lockwood Community Playgroup

FREE



Find us on facebook

Lockwood Primary School

190 Wiegards Rd Lockwood

Friday's 9:30 - 11 (During school term)

5435 3224 or Mel 0421 277 079

8 minutes from Kangaroo Flat

Country atmosphere, indoors and outdoors, educational based play, spiny leaf insects, CRAFT (the kind you don't want to do at home!) bubbles and more!

FAIR

**Saturday 26 Oct
8am-1pm**

Craft

BBQ

Plants

Preserves

Baked Goods

Morning Tea



Raffle

Trash and Treasure



Books



For further info contact Geoff on 0418 145 105

48-54 Church Street, Kangaroo Flat



St Mary's

Anglican Church

FlatMatters FlatMatters FlatMatters FlatMatters



KANGAROO FLAT PROBUS CLUB

The month of October is Probus month!

Members have been asked to wear something in Blue and Yellow as these are the colours for Probus.

Members are also asked to please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea which will all take place at our meeting on Wednesday October 9. Following the meeting lunch will be held at the Red Energy Area.

Coffee, Cake and Chat

The next Coffee, Cake and Chat will be held at

Peppergreen Farm on Wednesday October 23.

Tram ride and morning tea

The Trips and Activities Committee have a number of things organised, the first being a Tram ride and morning tea. Members are asked to meet at the Central Deborah Mine at 9.30am on Wednesday October 16. The cost is \$26 per person.

Beauty and the Beast

On October 30 we are going to the Musical Beauty and the Beast.

The bus will be leaving from the Kangaroo Flat Station at 8.15am. Cost \$150.

MCG and Sports Museum

November 20 is the visit to the MCG and

Sports Museum. The cost for bus and tour is \$85. Following this, we will go to South Wharf for lunch and shopping. The bus will be leaving at 8am.

Midweek Melodies

The next Midweek Melodies is December 5 at the Capital Theatre. This will be Christmas Carols.

Christmas Breakup

Please put in your diary, the Christmas Breakup which will be held on Wednesday December 11 at the Kangaroo Flat Bowling Club.

For further information regarding Probus Kangaroo Flat please phone Bev Blume on 0413 623 618.



CWA - BENDIGO NORTHERN GROUP

We would like to invite more ladies to join us in helping to improve conditions for women and children, lobby for change etc.

Seniors Week

During Seniors Week we will be holding 2 functions. At the Kangaroo Flat Library on Monday October 7 from 1.30pm to 3.30pm and we will be having a 'meet and greet' to show what we are doing in the community.

Food Security Guest Speakers

And at the Bendigo Retirement Village on Tuesday October 8 from 1.30pm to 3.30pm will be guest speakers discussing Food Security including seed saving and how to sort your rubbish into the correct bin. This will be followed by afternoon tea. \$5 entry.

Sewathon

The Bendigo Branch held a 'Sewathon' following their Meeting. The members are

aiming to create 20 patchwork quilts ready to be donated to the community. Photo above shows one of the quilts.

Craft Days are the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 1.30pm at 150 Neale Street, Flora Hill. Bring along what you are working on or join in the 'craft of the day.'

For more information or enquiries see CWAbendigonortherngroup on Facebook or contact Group President Michelle on 0431 398 905 for updates about meetings and functions.



BACKHAUS OVAL TO SUPPORT JUNIOR SPORT IN GOLDEN SQUARE

The City of Greater Bendigo has purchased a strategic piece of land in Golden Square to support the future provision of active open space.

Backhaus Oval was identified in the 2020 Golden Square Recreation Reserve Master Plan and 2022 Golden Square Structure Plan as an ideal site to address Golden Square's undersupply of public open space.

The City has negotiated the sale of the site from the Diocese of Sandhurst.

Chief Executive Officer Andrew Cooney said the City would invest in the coming years in bringing the oval and facilities up to a standard suitable for community sport.

"This is an important parcel of land that is considered in adopted strategies as an ideal

site to provide more open space in Golden Square, particularly to support junior sport," Mr Cooney said.

"This investment will help to address the current overuse of Golden Square Recreation Reserve (Wade Street) by spreading the load for junior and senior football training and games, support the growth in women's participation and support forecast population growth in the local area.

"Backhaus Oval is also ideally located, with links to the Bendigo Creek Trail walking and cycling corridor, which will soon include the Bendigo Low Line connection, and the site is already an existing recreation facility and appropriately zoned for community sport.

"The sale is expected to be finalised in the next month and the City's immediate priority will be make good works to ensure structures on the site are safe. An upgrade program will be prepared to guide staged future investment."



Kangaroo Flat Community Enterprise™
Proudly Supporting our Region

Do you have a community project that needs support?

If you have a project that needs some help to get it off the ground, then let us help you.

Apply for a grant today at www.kfce.com.au or contact us at kangarooflatcommunityenterprise@outlook.com



Together we make good ideas happen.



GARDENS CAFE-RESTAURANT RETURNS

Photo courtesy Bendigo Times

BOTANIC Gardens based cafe-restaurant Omari has reopened after being forced to close for more than eight months due to an electrical fire.

The fire ravaged the venue's event space, toilets, office and storage area, while the cafe-restaurant suffered a considerable amount of smoke, water and heat damage.

Omari director Jareth Richardson said it's an "incredible feeling" to be finally back in business.

"There's this mix of relief, excitement, and a renewed sense of purpose," he said. "It's been a challenging and emotional ride, to say the least.

"Omari isn't just a venue for us – it's a big part of who we are, so watching it be out of action for this long has been really

tough.

"There were moments where the uncertainty of when we could reopen weighed heavily, not just on us, but on our entire team and the community."

If you've been a fan of Omari in the past, you're going to love what we've done with the place, and if it's your first time, there's no better time to experience it than now.



POSITIVE OUTLOOK FOR WATER



Water storage levels in the Coliban Water region are holding steady despite a drier than usual winter.

And the prospects are looking good for Spring, with the Bureau of Meteorology climate outlook for the months ahead suggesting average rainfall during spring to translate into good inflows for our storages.

General Manager Coliban Water and Climate Strategy, Adam Crameri says limited winter rainfall had resulted in smaller inflows to Upper Coliban, Lauriston and Malmsbury reservoirs.

"Rainfall was well below average with only 148 millimetres received at Malmsbury Reservoir, compared to the long term average of 244 millimetres.

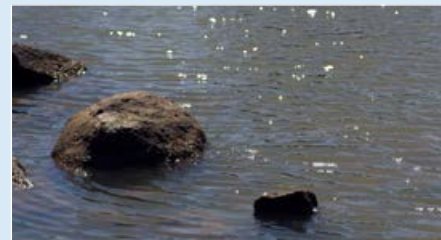
Despite this, storages are still in a good position thanks to high inflows received in previous years. The figures are still strong with the combined volume of Upper Coliban, Lauriston and Malmsbury Reservoirs sitting at 53,032 megalitres or 76% of capacity.

We are holding 52,559 megalitres in Lake Eppalock which is 96% of our share, and have also received good allocations to date with the Campaspe system at 100% and Goulburn and Loddon at 97%. These reserves put us in a good position for this time of the year with a positive outlook for the seasons ahead."

Coliban Water reminds residents that with the warmer weather in the coming months will come higher consumption with the average customer using around 210 litres of water per day.

Among the easy ways to save water is using economy cycles on your dishwasher and washing machine.

In the garden it is recommended to use mulch to reduce water loss on garden beds and also consider drought resistant plants.



BENDIGO HEALTH NEWS



When the idea of joining Bendigo Health's Specialist Palliative Care Activity Group was first suggested to Motor

Neurone Disease (MND) patient Lorraine Clarkson, she thought, "no way".

The last thing Lorraine wanted to do was sit and talk about dying in their last few months of life.

The weekly activity group has provided her with emotional, social and clinical support in a fun and safe space.

"I live on my own and this group has become my outing for the week. It gives me something to look forward to—a chance to connect with others and rediscover parts of myself that I thought were lost. I've always been creative.

I've been an artist, a gardener, and a hairdresser for 53 years. When I lost the use

of my arms, I thought that was the end of my creativity and I was ready to give up. The moment I put that paintbrush in my mouth, I felt like a piece of me was still here. My brain still knew what to do, and I realised I could keep going, just in a different way.

This group is more than just an activity; it's my lifeline. It's given me back my purpose. Even when I get down, putting a paintbrush in my mouth pulls me out of it. This isn't just about end of life—it's about living."

Group coordinator Liz Whelan said most people will go through the palliative cycle of life, which is where the palliative care team can help.

"Being referred to palliative care in some ways is not the end, it's just the beginning of the next process. It's about finding ways to keep living—whether that's for weeks, months, or even years. This group isn't about death and dying; it's about living."



FIRE SEASON APPROACHES

As summer approaches, fire safety becomes a paramount concern, especially in regions prone to wildfires. With rising temperatures, dry conditions, and strong winds, the risk of fires increases significantly.

To protect lives and property, it's crucial to understand and implement fire safety measures.

The primary risk during summer is wildfires.

These uncontrollable infernos can spread rapidly, destroying forests, homes, and endangering lives.

Human activities like campfires, discarded cigarettes, and fireworks are common ignition sources. Additionally, lightning strikes can trigger

fires in remote areas.

Preventing wildfires is essential.

It starts with maintaining defensible space around your property, removing dead vegetation, and keeping flammable materials away from structures.

Following local regulations on fire bans and restrictions is critical.

Campers and hikers must adhere to fire regulations and ensure their campfires are safely extinguished.

Early detection is vital in mitigating wildfires.

- Install smoke alarms and prepare an emergency kit

- Stay informed through local news and apps providing real-time fire information

- Evacuation plans and routes should be well-defined, and you should be ready to leave if authorities issue evacuation orders

Lastly, community efforts are essential.

Encourage your neighbours to practice fire safety measures and support local fire departments and emergency services.

By taking these precautions, we can minimize the risk of wildfires and ensure a safer summer for everyone.



MAIDEN GULLY FIRE BRIGADE NEWS

BY ANDREW HOWLETT

New BA Servicing Room: Breathing Apparatus (BA) is a critical tool in today's firefighting.

After use, the sets require a fresh cylinder, and the masks need to be washed and dried.

To do this effectively, brigades need a clean room, deep sinks, cylinder racks, and plenty of bench space.

So, we set about building a suitable room around the existing sinks in our workshop.

The room has recently been commissioned and is very effective giving us a facility equal to the newest stations being built. Bunnings and Franklin & Walsh Builders helped by donating much of the materials with Ardor Projects providing us with design advice.

The Annual Open Day is being held on Sunday,

November 10.

Brigade volunteers will be welcoming the community members to show off our fire station, vehicles, and other facilities.

This is a great opportunity to chat about your personal summer fire preparations while watching a range of demonstrations.

This year, we will again be having some special visitors with their vehicles along with as well as other community groups. You can learn how to put out a fire on your stove.

Activities run between 10am and 1pm. And there will even be a coffee van to make a purchase!

Captain Peter Dole says, "We would like to see families drop in to enjoy a free sausage sizzle, get a photo sitting in either the little red fire truck or a full-size truck with Captain Koala, and have some fun learning about fire safety which is most important as summer approaches.

Find out how you could become an emergency services volunteer!

PLANNED BURNS FOR SPRING

Several areas in our region will see designated Planned Burns this spring.

Each year Forest Management Victoria carries out a fuel management program in public parks and forests to reduce the risk of bushfire to communities, property and the environment.

Planned burning is a vital part of the fuel reduction

work conducted throughout the year by highly skilled fire crews from Forest Fire Management Victoria.

The final decision to proceed can only be made on the day of the proposed burn, following monitoring of weather conditions and the local fuel moisture levels.

This Spring expect to see plenty of smoke in the area as Planned Burns are planned for Big Hill, Mandurang South, Maiden Gully and Lockwood South.





Grant Phillips
Director / Franchise Owner

BENDIGO

13 Phillips Drive, Kangaroo Flat, VIC 3555
Tel: 03 5447 0009
Email: bendigo@pedders.com.au



innate [ˈnæt] adjective
inborn; natural; intuitive; inherent

505 High Street, Golden Square
Phone: 5447 0557

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Lisa Chesters MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BENDIGO

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lisachesters.org

Authorised by Lisa Chesters, ALP,
16 Myers St, Bendigo



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Garry Phillips
m 0428 347 055

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**Uniting
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Support and assistance centre for people in need

HAS RE-OPENED @

Kangaroo Flat Uniting Church

(cnr Church & Camp Streets)

HOURS: Tuesday: 9am – 2:30pm
Thursday morning by appointment
Friday: 9am – 2:30pm

CONTACT: Max Blume, Co-ordinator
03) 5443 5458 (during open hours)

**Uniting
Mums & Bubs**

Supports families in need with little ones from newborn – 2 years with:

Nappies, formula, clothes,
bassinet & cot bedding, nursery furniture etc.

NO REFERRAL NEEDED

Visit us on Tuesdays or Fridays
@ Kangaroo Flat Uniting Church
9:30am - 2pm (Ph: 5443 5458)



**MARONG'S NEW KINDER
ONE STEP CLOSER**

More kindergarten places will soon be available for Marong families with Member for Bendigo West Maree Edwards and Mayor Andrea Metcalf turning the first sod at the new site.

The \$5.5 million project is set to deliver an integrated early learning centre with three kindergarten rooms, two allied health rooms, which could be used by maternal and child health and other health services, staff facilities, an outdoor play area, kitchen facilities and bathroom amenities.

Maree Edwards says the centre is forecast to be operational at the start of 2026.

"This kinder will help to support the successful roll out of our Best Start – Best Life reforms and will create a new and expanded kindergarten for Marong.

With the population set to rise in Marong over the coming years, investing in this important infrastructure now is vital to the future of the area."



**SENIORS FESTIVAL
PROGRAM
AVAILABLE NOW!**

The program for the 2024 Greater Bendigo Seniors Festival which runs from October 6 - 13 is now available at local libraries, neighbourhood houses, Bendigo and Heathcote Visitor Centres, the City of Greater Bendigo's customer service centres at Heathcote and Galkangu Bendigo Gov Hub and online at www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/events/greater-bendigo-seniors-festival

A standout event of this year's festival is the Showcase Concert featuring Amber Joy Poulton in her show - Honky Tonk Queens which takes place at 11am on Friday October 11 at the Capital, View Street, Bendigo.

Amber Joy Poulton is renowned for her hit theatre show the Coal Miner's Daughter, which brings to life the legacy of country music's first queens—Patsy Cline, Dolly Parton, Tammy Wynette, and Loretta Lynn. This show features classic hits like Jolene and Stand By Your Man while celebrating the spirit of ageing well. Tickets are on sale now at the Capital Box Office or by visiting www.gotix.com.au

The program also features a range of other events including morning and afternoon teas, exhibitions, performances, exercise programs, come and try days, dancing, live music and more.

This year's program is packed full of great events with something for everyone and with many events either free or low cost it's a great time to get out and about and try new things.

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Church Corner - WEEKEND CHURCH SERVICES

UNITING CHURCH

Services have resumed at our Kangaroo Flat Church, cnr Church & Camp Streets, on Sundays at 9:30am. All are welcome.
Phone: Minister 0400 853 868

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

193-195 High St. Kangaroo Flat
10am Holy Communion Service
Each Sunday at 10.00am
Listen to Life FM 105.1 - Sundays at 8am & 6pm
For a message from St Mary's Ph 5447 7427.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Street, Sundays 10am, and the Karen language service each Sunday at 2pm

ST. MONICA'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Station Street and High St, Kangaroo Flat
Saturdays at 6pm and Sundays at 9am. Phone 5443 4400

ENJOY CHURCH

10 Phillips Dr, Kangaroo Flat, Sunday
10am - Ps Martin 0403 266 008
Kangaroo Flat weekend

SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Contact Bobby 0409 957 463
10 Lockwood Road, Kangaroo Flat PO Box
1136 Kangaroo Flat 3555

LOCKWOOD UNITING CHURCH

813 Calder Alternative Highway, Lockwood South. Worshiping every Sunday morning at 9.30am. "All are welcome".

INVITATION FOR LIFE

God has unlimited promises written throughout scriptures. He gives them freely.

There was a price for them all to be fulfilled when Jesus died on the Cross. He paid the price. That was done to set everyone free.

Jesus invites us all to follow Him. Grace flows, like his love, for anyone who reaches out and follows him.

When we do that, he promised that he'd never leave, or forsake, us. How generous and caring of him to always be there for us.

When Jesus walked the earth, he healed everyone who came to him. Everyone! That still applies today. "By His stripes we were healed." Isaiah 53:5.

All you and I have to do is reach out and invite him into our lives. God is not fussy, he loves us all.

"He who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:13.

How do we do that when we are facing debt, illness, family strife, job dramas and the brutality of life in general?

Just sit down, call out from where you are right now and say, "Jesus please come into my life. Thank you for dying for me on the Cross and forgive me for all my failings."

That's all. He will do the rest forever.

Ps Peter Pritchard
0413 682 999

IS JESUS REAL?

Christians have claimed that Jesus Christ to be the Son of God. He was there at the beginning of time as stated in John 1:1-3 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. 1:14 And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto Thomas, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

If these few verses in the Holy Bible are true, then Jesus plays a pivotal role to reach God. And in John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.", we are reminded again that Jesus is truly the redeemer for our iniquities.

We can see how Jesus Christ is the centre of the Christian faith. To many Christians, believing in the existence of Jesus, the works and miracles he had performed, his sacrificial crucifixion on the cross for mankind and his resurrection from the grave are all common knowledge. But to many who live today in the 21st century, the Holy Bible may not be so convincing in proclaiming the existence of Jesus.

In the next 4 monthly articles, we will try to find out if Jesus of Nazareth, really existed, and as how he was portrayed in the Holy Bible. We will try to understand why so many believe in Jesus as the Son of God. Because, if Jesus did walk the earth, then the Holy Bible is really relevant and the teachings of Jesus Christ must be taken seriously.

To be continued.....

If you have questions about Jesus, you are most welcome to visit us at Southside Community Church, 10 Lockwood Road (opposite ALDI), Kangaroo Flat. Sunday Worship Service at 10am.



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PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY FOR SUMMER

Residents are being urged to get ready for the hot summer months by preparing their properties before the fire danger period is declared by the CFA.

City of Greater Bendigo fire prevention officers are commencing property inspections to ensure property owners are maintaining their properties in preparation for the fire season.

Current weather conditions will cause spring grass growth to dry out quickly and become a fire risk.

Some key actions for residents include keeping grass low around homes and sheds, clearing gutters of leaf litter, removing flammable items from decks and verandas and cutting back overhanging branches.

Residents are reminded that they can dispose of their green waste for free all year round at the City's Eaglehawk Landfill and the Heathcote and Goornong Transfer Stations.

Further information about Fire Prevention Notices, requesting an extension to complete works or reporting a fire hazard on private land is available at <https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/residents/fire-floods-and-emergencies/fire-hazards-and-prevention-notice>

For information about preparing and maintaining your property visit <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property> or call the City's Municipal Fire Prevention Officer Darren Masters on 1300 002 642.



LOCKWOOD COMMUNITY FREE PLAYGROUP

FRIDAYS 9:30AM- 11:00AM DURING THE SCHOOL TERM
LOCKWOOD P.S 190 WIEGARDS RD LOCKWOOD

4TH OCT - Outside play & picnic - sandpit play, exploring the LPS preps outdoor play area & picnic. (Weather depending)

11TH OCT - Painting mannequin heads

18TH OCT - Bring a cool rock to play group & pebble painting. Lots of different rocks will be on display.

25TH OCT - Nature wands - Circular wand made from natural materials with a clear contact centre. We will walk around the school grounds collecting interesting leaves flowers etc.

1ST NOV - Crowns - Decorate a crown with glitter, pencils & Sequins



CONTACT US

Let the community know the great things happening in your area.

Share your stories and photos by emailing them to flatmtrs@outlook.com

Deadline is the 20th of each month.

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<https://kfce.us17.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=631bcc9531c64b2dd4671c6c&id=409c08a671>



COUNCIL WORKS UPDATE

FLAT MATTERS is now working with the City of Greater Bendigo to provide an insight into works projects being undertaken within the Kangaroo Flat region.

More information www.bendigo.vic.gov.au



The following projects are CURRENTLY under construction or completed:	Date due to be completed
Lighting the Regions - Street Light LED replacement program	Sep-23
Edwards Road, Maiden Gully - Shared Path	Sep-24
Simpsons Road, Eaglehawk - Footpath	Sep-24
Spring Gully Cricket Nets	Sep-24
Thistle St Bridge - Golden Square	Sep-24
Elmore-Mitiamo Road, Hunter - Road Reconstruction	Sep-24
Sedgwick Road, Mandurang - Blackspot Upgrade	Sep-24
Edwards Road, Maiden Gully - Blackspot upgrade	Sep-24
Bendigo Airport - Civil Works	Oct-24
Midland Hwy Drainage	Nov-24
Municipal Baths	Nov-24
Forest Lane, Bendigo - Road Reconstruction	Nov-24
Strath Town Centre, Strathfieldsaye	Nov-24
Nolan St - Road Reconstruction	Dec-24
Strathfieldsaye Tennis Courts	Dec-24
Kennington Reservoir Upgrade	Apr-25

It's on AGAIN!



BAREFOOT BOWLS PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
BEGINNER'S BAREFOOT BOWLS
November 6, 13, 20, 27
Plus December 4th

5.30pm roll-up for 6.00pm game

- Club bowls available
- Flat soled shoes
- Sausage sizzle from 5.30pm
- Cost \$5 per player

For a meal, a fun game, meet new friends and enjoy yourselves. Don't miss out.

CONTACT FOR ENTRIES KFCB 5447 7300
Ian Brockhouse 0425 791 331

 KANGAROO FLAT LIFESTYLE ESTATE
by LINCOLN PLACE



BELVOIR PARK
GOLF CLUB

CHRISTMAS BONANZA

Saturday DEC 21st 2024

7.45am/12.30pm shot gun

Sponsorship Package \$500



2024 BENDIGO COUNCIL ELECTION

VOTE 1

EMMA BERGLUND

for
Ravenswood
Ward

Includes Kangaroo
Flat, Lockwood South,
Harcourt North and
Ravenswood



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MORE INFO:

Gary Place 0428 630 977
Allen Corry 0400 699 755



Alcoholics Anonymous

7pm Sunday @ St Marys Anglican Church, 193-195 High Street Kangaroo Flat. Enter from carpark at rear on corner Bank St/Church St. Enquiries 1300 22 22 22.

Bendigo Ballroom

Lockwood South community hall, 784 Calder Alternate Hwy. Every Wednesday, 6pm for revision, dance at 7-10pm, enjoy supper for \$5 Fridays, inquire for times for easy beginners and advanced. \$5 First Sunday each month @ Marong Community hall. For more info ph, 0427 598 284 or 0438 550 521. Daryl Smallman, President.

Bendigo Bridge Club

We welcome new members! Play: Monday Club Pairs: 1:30 Wednesday Relaxed Pairs: 12.30 pm - Social play. Wednesday Club Pairs: 7 pm Friday Club Pairs: 1:30 pm Last minute problem? Running late? Please let the session director know by calling Jennifer Goddard 0413 745 415 OR Paul O'Hare: 0419 345 240

Bendigo Coin & Collectables Club Inc.

Meet every Friday fortnight at 7.30 pm Venue - Quarry Hill Community Hall, Hamlet St, Bendigo. New Members Welcome Contact Paul Brownlie - 0408 496 808

Bendigo and District Parkinson's Support Group

1-2pm. Second Thursday of the month. Umpires Rooms, Napier St, Bendigo. A friendly sociable group and an opportunity to exchange information with others. Contact 5436 or 0417 332 033

Bendigo & District Prostate support group

Meet at 6pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month. They meet at the Bendigo Athletics centre, 58 Retreat Road, Flora Hill, all are welcome to attend. For more information contact 0430 037 922.

Bendigo and District Quilters

Meet every Thursday 10am - 9pm at Long Gully Community Centre Havilah Rd, Long Gully. and Last Saturday of the month - 10am -9pm New members welcome. More information contact - bendigoanddistrictquilters@outlook.com Ruth Turner - 0417153057

Bendigo Evening VIEW Club

"Voice, Interest, Education for Women" Supporting The Smith Family by raising funds to help disadvantaged students with their education needs. 4th Wednesday of month at 6pm for 6.30pm Lakeside Hotel, 286 Napier Street, Bendigo (opposite Lake Weeroona) Meals \$26. Bookings Deirdre McDougall 0419 595 674 Or for all enquiries re club Sue Rawlings 0407 436 311

Bendigo Garden Club Inc.

3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. Bendigo Showgrounds. Contact : Laurelle Smith, 5447 0017 New members welcome.

Bendigo Gem Club Inc.

10 Galvin St. BENDIGO 3550 Email: bendigogemclubinc@gmail.com Website: https://bendigogemclub.tidyhq.com BGC meet Tuesdays & Thursdays Zoom chat Wednesdays 8pm **Tuesdays** - 5-8.30 pm Instruction available

in silversmithing & cabochons

Thursdays -10am-4pm silversmithing, cabochons, faceting, mineral group. Instruction available GEM EXPO second weekend September Members online shop Silver casting Only 10 min walk from Bendigo Station

Bendigo Legion Angling Club

7.30pm 1st Monday of the month. Bendigo Tennis Centre.

Bendigo Philatelic Society

Monthly meetings on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7.00pm. At the Kangaroo Flat RSL, Station Street, Kangaroo Flat, opposite the IGA. Contact : Libby (President) 0448 120 066 or Margaret (Treasurer) 0427 341 115. Visitors always welcome !!!

Bendigo Positive Birthing

www.facebook.com/bendigopositivebirthing for more details phone: 0447 453 644

Bgo Radio Controlled Aircraft Club

monthly meetings last Monday of month 7.30pm in the Y Community Hall, Lockwood Road, opposite ALDI. Club's web site on www.bracc.asn.au

Bendigo Bushwalking & Outdoor Club

is a long established club catering for Bushwalking and Hiking adventurers. It Meets monthly in the Forest Street Uniting Church Hall and has pre meeting catch up for a meal at the Kangaroo Flat Sports Club at 6pm, for interested participants. Hans Tracksdorf M 0400 049 891

Central Victoria Morris Minor Car Club

For anyone with an interest in Morris Minor cars. We meet the first Friday of the month, 7.30pm at the Kangaroo Flat Uniting Church, Church Street, Kangaroo Flat. (No meeting January). Email: cvmmccsecretary@gmail.com Lynne Crichton - Secretary CVMMCC inc

Community Enterprise

Last Thursday of each month, 6pm, Sports Club Dower Park

Enjoy Church

Phillips Drive, Kangaroo Flat Details: http://enjoy.church/bendigo. Contact: Campus Pastor Martin Oravec on 0403 266 008.

Friends of Crusoe No. 7 Park

Meet first Wednesday of every 2nd month starting February at the Rotary Gateway Park at 7pm, plus has working bees and activities in the parks. Contact the Secretary at focr7p@gmail.com

Golden Gully Jam Sessions

1-4pm Tuesdays & Thursdays, fortnightly. Informal get-togethers for people who want to make some music and have some fun! Aimed at the over 60's, but open to all. Pop, Rock, Blues, RnB, etc. No audience. No cost. Contact: ggjamsessions@gmail.com

Golden Square Croquet Club

Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Contact Allan 0408 500 439 For Junior players Saturday mornings contact Bill 54473439

Heartbeat Bendigo Branch

A support group for cardiac patients, family & friends. Fundraising for cardiac equipment through public and social events. Meetings held bi-monthly on 3rd Sunday, Jan, March, May, July, Sept, Nov. 2pm at Chum Street Uniting Church hall. Enquiries to President Frank Ward - 5447 4545 or 0407 855 685.

Kangaroo Flat Baptist Church

"Come and Chat Group" Knitting for missions - a welcome cuppa and good conversations. We support a girl in Nepal. Enjoy good company every Monday 9.30am till midday. All Welcome!

Kangaroo Flat Community House

21 Woolcock Avenue, Kangaroo Flat Ph. 5447 9687 Open Monday - Thursday 9am-3pm Various programs including: social group, yoga, craft, playgroup, cooking, meditation, art, tax help, applications for NILS (No Interest Loan Scheme) More information on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/kangarooflatcommunityhouse

Kangaroo Flat Fire Brigade

Meets First Thursday of each Month. Fire Fighter Training Time: 7.30pm Venue: Kangaroo Flat Fire Station Helm Street, Kangaroo Flat Contact: 54470204

Kangaroo Flat Scout Group

Outdoor activities for boys and girls aged 6 - 18 years old. Please contact Group Leader Tim Pannell 0408 451 362.

Lions Club

1st Wednesday of each month Business Meeting. 3rd Wednesday of each month Dinner Meeting. Please contact Secretary regarding venues. President Heather Gartside Secretary Richard Hall 5499 6100

Maiden Gully Fire Brigade

First Tuesday of each month Firefighter Training Time: 7.30pm Venue: Maiden Gully Fire Station 5 Beckhams Road, Maiden Gully Contact www.maidengullycfa.org.au

1st Maiden Gully Scout Group

Maiden Gully Scouts meet every week during the school term at the Maiden Gully Scout Hall, Cnr Beckhams Rd and Calder Hwy, Maiden Gully: Joey Scouts (6-7yrs) Tuesday 5.30 -6.30pm

Cub Scouts (8-11yrs) Thursdays 7-8.30pm Scouts (11-15yrs) Thursday 7-9pm To find out more contact Cate on 0405 381 611

Maiden Gully Progress Association

We hold our meetings at the Maiden Gully Community Small Hall, the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm. New members welcome

Marong And District Senior Citizens

We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at the Marong Community Hall from 11.30am to 3.30pm for various activities. New members most welcome. Enquiries to Elaine 5446 7403 or Robyn 5443 9676

National Seniors Bendigo & District

Over 50s. Bi monthly meetings, guest speakers. Monthly dine outs and coffee mornings. Day trips Contact Jeanette 54439726 or kjns4647@gmail.com for details.

Needles & Threads

Meet every second Monday from 9.30am to 11.30am We knit, crochet and sew items for charity. New members welcome. Please call Sherran for meeting dates and details. Venue: St Mary's Anglican Church Hall Enter from Church Street, Kangaroo Flat Enquiries to Sherran - Ph 0419 528 960

Partners of Veterans Assoc

3rd Monday of the month, at 11.30am at the RSL

Probus Club of Kangaroo Flat (Mixed) Inc.

Every 2nd Wednesday each month 9.45am St. Mary's Church Complex High St, K/Flat. Contact Bev. Blume 5443 1809. - Visitors welcome.

RAAF Association -Bendigo Branch.

1st Thursday each month February to December. Venue, Kangaroo Flat, RSL building. Contact Mr. Reinhard Goschiniak, secretary, 5429 3888 or 0419 375 060. Email, reinhard10@bigpond.com Membership open to ex Air Force members, relatives and all interested.

Rotary Club of Kangaroo Flat:

Meet each Monday 6pm for 6.30 start at the Rotary Function Centre (opposite Apco). New members welcome www.facebook.com/rotarykangarooflat/

Kangaroo Flat RSL

Contact: Marty Stradbrook, President - 0429 020 485 Member meetings held 10.30am every 3rd Tuesday of the month Members Social Club meet Tuesdays 9.30am - 12.30pm New members welcome RSL Hall, Station St, Kangaroo Flat

Special Olympics Group

Pam (President) 0418 304 927 John (Ten Pin Bowling Coach) 0400 641 405 Michele (Barracudas Swim Coach) 0409 173 656

Spring Gully Dance

Dancing every Saturday night 7.30 - 11pm, and Monday nights from 7.30 - 9.30pm. Venue - Spring Gully Hall, 135 Spring Gully Road, Spring Gully. Contact Keith 5444 2953

The Little Chimps Playgroup

Commencing on the 8th October at 396 High Street Golden Square in the Seventh Day Adventist church hall. Every Wednesday during school term from 10:30am - 12:00pm. Contact Kerryn Greaves 0432 354 617. Please see enclosed a flyer for further information.

The Bush Dance & Music Club Inc

Hold a dance at Holy Trinity Church Hall Keck St Flora Hill on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Starting at 8pm with the Emu Creek Bush Band playing. Admission \$8 adults under 16 yrs free. Raffle & lucky door prizes. All very welcome. Please bring a plate of supper to share. More information phone Mary 5442 1153 or Dianne 0418 172 286.

U3A Bendigo

We offer over 70 learning, social and recreational activities to our members each weekday at locations across Bendigo. For more information visit our website at https://u3abendigo.com/, email activities@u3abendigo.com or phone 0490 858 469.

Voltaire Calisthenics

Maiden Gully Classes: Recreational and competitive teams. For participants age 3 and over. Contact Voltaire for class times. Phone: 0437 343 656

Y's Service Club (Women)

2nd Tuesday of the month, contact 0409 179 485 for venue details

Y Service Club of Kangaroo Flat

Every Wednesday at 6.30pm Y Community Hall. Lockwood Rd opposite ALDI. ph 03 4411 1847

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FIREWORKS, ANIMAL-BASED ENTERTAINMENT TO CONTINUE

Council has voted to allow the continued use of fireworks and animal-based entertainment at City of Greater Bendigo events, with a review to be held in three years' time or earlier, if needed.

The future review will be an opportunity to reconsider current budgets and the latest technology, which could be a potential alternative when it comes to the use of fireworks.

In supporting the continued use of animal-based entertainment, the City will strengthen its processes for contracting licensed operators.

The City recently surveyed the community about the use of fireworks and animals at events run by the City only, following two Notices of Motion that were endorsed at the May Council meeting requesting staff investigate alternative forms of entertainment that are more inclusive for people and safer for animals and wildlife.

Two separate surveys were prepared for the community, the fireworks survey focused on New Year's Eve and Bendigo Easter Festival Easter Saturday fireworks displays, while the use of animal-based entertainment related to petting zoos, wildlife displays and pony rides at events including the Bendigo Easter Festival, Fun Loong Fun Day and Play in the Garden Day.

The overwhelming feedback from the community was to continue with both forms of entertainment.

Mayor Cr Andrea Metcalf thanked the community for providing feedback.

"The community clearly values the current fireworks displays and use of animal-based entertainment at various family-friendly events. The word 'joy' was the most-used word when surveying residents and others who attend these events," Cr Metcalf said.

"Council also recognised these free and low-cost forms of entertainment are particularly valuable at a time when our community is under increased financial pressure, and that attending such events represented valuable traditions for families.

MARONG RULES

Celebrations have gone long and hard after the Marong Football Club claimed their third premiership in a row in the Loddon Valley Football League.

In a testing grand final played at Mitiamo against Pyramid Hill, the Marong players adapted to the conditions and after quarter time they were never headed in the run home to the final siren.



GRAND FINAL SCORES

MARONG 8.13.61

PYRAMID HILL 3.7.25

Best players for the premiers were Jimmy Gadsden,

Matthew Riordan, Jonty Davis, Lachlan Lee, Nathan Devanny and Michael Bradbury.

BENDIGO PETANQUE CLUB NEWS

By Sue Tapp

The Bendigo Petanque Club participants got amongst the footy finals theme for the September competition at the Kangaroo Flat Sports Club.

There was an epic showdown between the Pies and

the Swans with a lot of complaints from one team about sledging.

The Swans sailed through that one but suffered a defeat at the hands of Eagles supporters.

Meanwhile the Pies were able to do an Anzac Day reboot and beat the Dons.

The Doggie team and the Storm followers also had

some very competitive games.

Well done to all the members who dressed up and to Wendy for her delicious Western Bulldogs cupcakes.

We welcome new members to our group so come along on a Thursday morning from 9- 11.30am at the Kangaroo Flat Sports Club car park.

Contact Jill for further information 0427 493 294.



FUNDS FOR SPORTING CLUBS

Local sporting clubs have been urged to apply for the latest round of the Sporting Club Grants Program, with grants of up to \$5000 available.

The Nationals' Member for Northern Victoria Gælle Broad said applications for this round of the program are open until October 11, with funding available across a range of categories.

The grant categories include:

- \$5000 for training coaches and volunteers,
- \$4000 for setting up new sports or active recreation programs,
- \$1000 for uniforms and equipment, and

- \$750 to assist clubs with travel to away games and competitions.

Ms Broad said sporting clubs were important grassroots organisations, and receiving a grant would make a positive difference.

"Our local sporting clubs run on the smell of an oily rag so a grant can make a real difference in terms of equipment, coaching, player development and support for volunteers.

Local sporting clubs bring people together, keep us active and provide opportunities for people of all ages to get involved in their local community.

For application guidelines visit <https://sport.vic.gov.au/funding/sporting-club-grants-program>



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6TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



The Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre in Browning Street Kangaroo Flat is set to celebrate its 6th Birthday on Saturday October 27.

The pool complex, built at a cost of over \$32 million has become the pride and joy of Kangaroo Flat and as well as being a major employer in our region the Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre has recorded over 1.5 million visits since opening.

It has been a marvellous asset for the region, and it all came about through input from local residents both young and old as the pool project was the number one priority at a Community Workshop conducted at the Kangaroo Flat Sports Club on July 23, 2009.

The City of Greater Bendigo council adopted the Kangaroo Flat Community Plan in December 2009 with the main priority of the Community Plan being a new aquatic centre.

The grand opening was held on October 27, 2018 and to mark the occasion, Gurri Wanyarra will be hosting a catered birthday event on Monday October 28 at 10.30am for both members and the general public to attend.

FLAT MATTERS caught up with Belgravia Leisure Regional Manager Cam Nation to find out more about the Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre.

FM: Belgravia Leisure must be ecstatic with the figures since the grand opening?

CN: Over 2 million visits since opening day including roughly 500,000 attends in the 2023/24 financial year!

Across all City of Greater Bendigo facilities, the centre also provides the

best value outcome for residents and ratepayers with the lowest 'Cost to City per visit per day' at less than half the cost to the city's other year-round facility.

FM: How many staff are currently employed at the centre?

CN: Currently, the Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre employs 167 staff members across

various areas, including Aquatics, Health Club, Learn to Swim, Café & Reception, and Exercise Physiology. Our workforce is composed of 72% women and reflects a diverse range of ages and life experiences, with the largest group being under 30 years old (59%) and the second largest group being 50 and over (20%).

FM: How does this centre rate with others managed by Belgravia Leisure?

CN: The Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre is one of Belgravia's largest facilities, boasting over 4,600 members. It has the highest number of 'Aquatics' memberships across Victorian sites, thanks in part to its extensive aquatics offerings, which include a large wellness pool, spa/steam/sauna area, accessible facilities, and a popular splash park.

The recent renovation of the gym, equipped with state-of-the-art machines featuring 22" consoles on the cardio equipment, further enhances its appeal, making Gurri Wanyarra a favoured destination. Additionally, Gurri Wanyarra features one of the most sought-after Reformer Pilates studios within Belgravia Leisure, with 10% of health club members taking part in the program.

FM: Has Belgravia Leisure recently entered into a further agreement with the City of Greater Bendigo?

CN: Belgravia Leisure has recently been awarded the contract to continue as the managing partner for six facilities in the City of Greater Bendigo: Gurri Wanyarra, Faith Leech Aquatic Centre, Brennan Park Swimming Pool, Marong Swimming Pool, Heathcote Swimming Pool, and Long Gully Splash Park. This contract will extend until June 2028 and includes several key initiatives, such as the introduction of a new Reformer Pilates studio (funded by Belgravia Leisure) and a \$650,000 investment in new gym equipment (also funded by Belgravia Leisure).

As a key partner with the city, Belgravia Leisure will invest over \$1 million in upgrades to the centre throughout the duration of the contract. This, along with additional funding from the Council, will ensure the site continues to promote important health and wellbeing outcomes for the Greater Bendigo community."

FlatMatters FlatMatters FlatMatters FlatMatters

HERBERT'S RIPPER RESULT



From crafting his golf swing as a junior on a purpose built layout near Ravenswood,

Lucas Herbert has just scored his biggest pay day at the LIV Golf Teams Championship in Dallas, USA.

The Bendigo product played a key role for Ripper alongside Cam Smith, Matt Jones and Warrnambool's Mark Leishman.

Team Captain Cam Smith refers to Lucas Herbert as the Gladiator.

"I think Herby, when stuff is not going his way, or the teams way, he really steps up and grows an extra leg and really pulls something out of the hat every week."

CHELSEA WINS AGAIN



Kangaroo Flat netballer Chelsea Sartori is the Bendigo Football Netball League best and fairest winner for the second year in a row.

Chelsea is the captain of the Roos 'A' Grade team and she has now gone back-to-back in taking out the prestigious Betty Thompson Medal.

Chelsea says her medal win was very satisfying and demonstrated the great feeling amongst the playing group at Kangaroo Flat.

The Roos Captain has been one of the star players for many years now, after first winning the Rising Star award playing at Castlemaine ten years ago.

BETTY THOMPSON MEDAL VOTING

CHELSEA SARTORI KANGAROO FLAT	20
MADDY STEWART GISBORNE	18
SHEA CLIFFORD SANDHURST	15
RUBY TURNER SANDHURST	14
ASHLEY RYAN KANGAROO FLAT	14



BONANZA GOLF DAY LOOMS

Photo: Andrew Martin and Kris Mueck

One of the biggest golfing events in Central Victoria will be hosted by Belvoir Park Golf Club later this year.

The Bertocchi backed Christmas Bonanza is the major fundraising event of the year for the local golf club and early indications point to the big day being a huge financial success.

A club spokesman says local businesses have been quick to jump on board and sponsor a Hole for the big day along with local companies wanting to provide prizes for the day.

Organisers are tipping there will be more than 200 players from a wide area of the region taking to the course on Saturday December 21 in the 4BBB Stableford event, which will see the winning team taking home Bertocchi Christmas Hams and electrical goods provided by Harvey Norman.

The club is hopeful of seeing PGA professionals Andrew Martin and Kris Mueck take to the testing Big Hill layout.

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www.rotaryclubofkangarooflat.org for details

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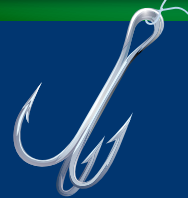
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- Contact President. Phone: 0417 317 004.

BLAC FISHING REPORT

Email: blac.centralvic@outlook.com

www.bendigolegionanglingclub.wordpress.com



ROCKLANDS TRIP REPORT

AFL Grand final weekend saw 7 people journey to Rocklands Reservoir near Horsham.

We stayed at Rocklands House owned by the Horsham Angling Club.

This spot was new for all of us and it was great to discover a new destination with very comfortable accommodation and facilities.

We left Bendigo early Friday and we were all on the water by late morning or early afternoon noting the competition started at noon. The day was glorious, minimal wind and barely a cloud in the sky. The fishing was tough though with one 43.5cm yellow belly landed by Steve. Fiona hooked a tiger trout but it flicked off at the boat. Tambo took a guess at over 50cm.

The fishing, while tough, has great potential for future trips (4 species hooked in one weekend) and the accommodation was perfect for our needs at a very reasonable price catering for both campers and inside sleeping. We will be going back, so look out for dates when the new calendar is released. Thanks to Steve, Kerrie, Tambo, Darryl, Timmy and Wilco for making it a fun weekend. Cheers Fiona.

For current storage level updates:

<https://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/catchments/storage-levels>

BENDIGO LEGION ANGLING CLUB TRIP PLANNER 2024

OCTOBER 17 - 20 - Dartmouth Dam. John Telford Memorial Trophy - Trip Captain Rob T

Purrumbete. Purrumbete holiday Park - Trip Captain Steve M

the Murrumbidgee River, Russell Ford Memorial Trophy. Trip Captain TBA

NOVEMBER 22-24 - Lake

DECEMBER 7 - 8 - Cod Opening - Maude NSW - on

DEC - Christmas Break up

BACK AT THE HELM



Kangaroo Flat Football Club has announced the appointment of Tyrone Downie as Senior Coach.

The Roos say the new leader will bring a wealth of experience, leadership and passion to the club as they chase success in the 2025 season. Also joining the coaching group will be Jason Stevens and Corey Greer who have also played a great part in the development of the Roos over the years.

Tyron Downie is no stranger to football action at Dower Park where he has been a former captain, best and fairest winner and was senior coach back in 2012 and 2013.

In 2015 he was drafted to the Gold Coast Suns through the Rookie Draft.

Tyron Downie is a popular figure in sporting circles across the region and FLAT MATTERS was pleased to take part in a Q & A with the new Kangaroo Flat coach.

FM: When did you apply for the position of Senior Coach and what was your motivation?

TD: I was starting to think that it was the right

time for me to get back into football after a three-year break. I went to watch a few games of Kangaroo Flat throughout the year which grew my interest to get back involved and with the position being advertised I expressed my interest to a couple of my friends involved in the club which ended up with a meeting with Jason Stevens to discuss what it may look like which is how we ended up with the great coaching group we have now!

FM: After missing out on finals action again this year, what is the potential for the group going forward?

TD: Our aim for the group is to set the foundations for success. That is retaining existing players, targeting returning previously Kangaroo Flat players and adding key players to the gaps in our list.

FM: Have you had an opportunity to meet many of the current Roos players?

TD: Jason and myself have already presented our plan for the year to the Senior and Under 18 playing group before this season ended.

FM: Have you started working on who your coaching assistants and support staff will be for the 2025 season?

TD: As mentioned, Jason Stevens Head of Football will also be a Senior Assistant Coach

along with Corey Greer. We expect to have U18 and Reserve coaches announced.

FM: Will you be targeting some key position players to come and join you at the Roos?

TD: Only in the gaps that we have from our existing list. We do though know we have small quality kids coming up on top the talent in our existing squad.

FM: When do you plan to have a summer training group in place?

TD: Commencement of training is on the 18th of November. We will complete a 4 week block prior to Christmas.

FM: What is your opinion of the facilities on offer at Dower Park and the adjacent Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre?

TD: We have a great set up at Dower Park along with Gurri Wunyarra especially compared to my playing days here. I look forward to utilise the facilities we now have. A playspace would be a great edition to the reserve especially as we are a growing family club.

FM: What is your realistic goal for the Roos in 2025?

TD: Improvement and focusing on enjoying the journey. Where that takes us, we will have to wait and see.