

The Tarrangower Times

Friday, February 21, 2025

TARRANGOWERTIMES.COM.AU

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Looking for somewhere to eat-check out our Dine Out Directory on page 23

Maree Edwards Interview
Page 3



Tomato mania hits Maldon
Page 9



Locals have their say
Page 10



Clover 7, Charlie 9 and Ochre the dog. Photo courtesy Rob Leeson.

Stallholders at the Maldon Antique Fair last weekend were humming ‘Four Seasons in One Day’ but most reported that it was a fantastic event. Visitors from Mildura to Maryborough and from Ballarat to Bendigo swarmed around Maldon for the fair, which took place on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 February during wildly changeable weather.

There were some theories that the rain in Melbourne was a deterrent for people travelling from the big city, but those

who attended in spite of the variable skies were rewarded with a fantastic array of stalls. Many were equipped with both sunhats and raincoats.

Jen Pearce and Jo Stratford from Bendigo made a day of it. “We’re looking for coloured glass,” said Jen. “Or anything old really,” added Jo. They agreed that a trip to the antique fair was a nice day out together.

Kim from Kyneton had braved the winds to sell vintage finds as a farming fund-raiser. “I sell my wares to feed my

Finnsheep — the breed is from Finland — their claim to fame is that they have litters of up to six lambs.”

In addition to the visitors from far and wide were the browsing locals and even a few with their own stalls. The challenge with antiques, of course, is to enjoy perusing and selectively collecting while trying to avoid creating a crowded house.

Michelle Dorian

Continued on page 20



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23RD FEB

The Martini Set

Caravan Park consultation creates conversations



NEWS that Mount Alexander Shire Council (MASC) is seeking feedback on the future use of the Maldon Caravan Park site has set local tongues wagging. Residents are invited by council to consider four options and complete an online survey, attend an in-person session or contact them directly (see full details on page 9).

Residents have been chatting in person and sharing details on social media of the consultation, which is gathering feedback for council to review and deliberate upon. The *Tarrangower Times* has heard and observed some common sentiments including:

- Everyone should share and participate in the survey in order to make their voices heard and provide the council with comprehensive data.
- The caravan park is perceived to be an important asset of the town.
- Many residents might not be able to attend the community drop-in session because they are holding stalls as part of the Townwide Garage Sale.

With the Maldon Antique Fair attracting many visitors last weekend, it was a timely opportunity to ask some caravan park guests

for their views on the place.

“Maldon Caravan Park is a hidden gem,” said Kerrie Simons from Geelong. “My daughter and I came in December. Then my husband and I came up for the Australia Day weekend and we’ll be back again in Easter.” Kerrie has usually stayed in a cabin but this time wanted to bring her dog so was trying a tent. “The facilities are excellent and the people who run it are amazing. We love the old town and the hospitality here.” However, she indicated that the cheap accommodation was a big draw-card. “We probably wouldn’t come here as much without it.”

Mark Wilkinson was also impressed with the caravan park. “Can’t fault the place,” he said.

Antique fair and swap meet organiser Mark Blythe said many stallholders stay at the caravan park. “Most bnb are a two-day minimum stay, that’s approximately \$500, these people are selling antiques not selling Rolexes,” Mark said. “There is not enough casual and budget accommodation in Maldon, really, we can’t afford to lose this. The ‘Blue Light’ place is in private hands now, we’ve lost that. For a place that prides itself on tourism, we can’t afford to lose any more.”

MASC, which manages the facility located on government land, stated in mid-2024 that it had no plans to close the caravan park; it was welcoming new caretakers, confirming that it was open and taking bookings (as reported in the *Tarrangower Times* on Friday 21 June, 2024).

MASC has been approached for further information.

Michelle Dorian

Chicken waste combustion frustration



RESIDENTS living near broiler farms in Baringhup have expressed their concerns and frustration to councils, politicians and the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) after another fire broke out in a waste pile last week. In emails viewed by the *Tarrangower Times*, a resident (who has not given permission to be named publicly) claims that existing broiler farms are allegedly not abiding by the Broiler Code of Conduct and the Central Goldfields Shire Council’s conditions for operation.

A CFA spokesperson confirmed that a truck was called to a property on Thursday 13 February, stating: “One Baringhup West CFA unit responded to reports of a fire on Green Lane in Baringhup at around 8.35am. Crews

discovered a pile of chicken litter smouldering. Incident was deemed safe at 9.05am.” It is at least the second such incident in recent weeks (as reported in the *Tarrangower Times*, Friday 17 January).

The emails reveal that residents are concerned about the risk of fire to property, livestock and people and they express frustration about the enforcement of guidelines around management of chicken waste, which can include bedding material such as wood shavings and sawdust, as well as bird carcasses.

The EPA indicated after the earlier fire that it has guidelines about, “how to store and manage combustible materials, such as spent chicken litter, in a way that protects the environment and human health from the risk of fire.”

The *Tarrangower Times* has approached the EPA and Central Goldfields Shire Council for statements and information about the new incident, asking whether it will attract repercussions for the operators or affect future decision making around chicken farms.

Michelle Dorian

Be vigilant, scams affect everyone

The Importance of Online Safety and How to Prevent Scams in Australia



ONLINE safety is crucial in Australia, where scams and cyber threats are on the rise. According to the ACCC and Scamwatch, Australians lose millions annually to fraud. Protecting personal and financial information is essential, whether shopping online, banking, or communicating via emails and text messages.

Phishing scams are among the most common threats, with fraudsters impersonating banks, government agencies like myGov, or service providers like Australia Post. These messages often urge recipients to click on malicious links or provide personal details. To identify phishing attempts, watch for suspicious email addresses, grammatical errors, and urgent

demands. Avoid clicking unknown links and verify the sender before sharing sensitive data.

Online shopping scams also pose a risk, as fake websites and sellers trick consumers into fraudulent purchases. Before buying, check website authenticity, secure payment options, customer reviews, and contact details. A legitimate site should have HTTPS encryption and a padlock icon in the address bar. Be wary of deals that seem too good to be true and shop only from reputable Australian retailers.

Banking fraud is another concern, with cybercriminals attempting to steal login credentials through fake apps or messages. Always use official banking apps from trusted sources and enable two-factor authentication (2FA). If you receive suspicious messages from your bank, contact them directly. The Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) provides resources and alerts on emerging threats.

To stay secure online, use strong passwords, enable multi-factor authentication, and update software regularly. By staying informed and cautious, Australians can reduce risks and protect themselves from scams.

Please contact the Maldon Community & District Bank for advice. We’re here to help. Call or visit our branch. In March, Jack Kennedy from Bendigo Bank’s Financial Crime Risk Department will run a scam training session. More details to follow.

Fire report

CAPTAIN Brendan McKnight of Baringhup Fire Brigade reports that on Saturday 15 February, which was a particularly windy day, there was a callout to Newbridge after a smoke report from the Tarrengower tower. “It was up at the Bio Gro plant, the composting plant, it went over the fence and across the road.” Brendan said that the fire burnt a long, narrow strip of about one hundred hectares. “Then it hit a bare patch and the helicopter arrived,” he said, which helped to contain the fire. Brendan said the conditions were difficult for the fire fighters. “It was putrid weather with wind, dust. You couldn’t even see.”

(For information about an incident in Baringhup on Thursday 13 February, see the other article on this page).

Maldon CFA’s 1st Lieutenant (Acting Captain) Bruce Clements reported that on Sunday 16 February, the team supported the Walmer

brigade at a grass and scrub fire in Creasey’s road, Muckleford, with five tankers on site in total. Maldon sent two tankers and the FCV, which stands for Forward Control Vehicle. “It’s normally used as a strike team leader’s car, it’s very handy for the incident controller for communication purposes,” he explained, saying it was less likely to experience reception ‘black spots.’ The Muckleford fire, which may have reignited from a burn-off prior to the fire danger period, did not go too far and was contained in under 20 minutes. The Maldon firefighters were also called to the Newbridge fire but they were turned back before arriving.

Meanwhile, Newstead CFA Captain Doug Richardson reports that they have been quiet for the week and no call-outs in the past week.

Everyone is looking forward to continued cooler and calmer weather, fingers crossed!

Michelle Dorian

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Bite size news and opportunities

Blue-green algae warning for Cairn Curran



High levels of blue-green algae have been detected in Cairn Curran Reservoir and Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) is warning people to avoid all activities that require contact with the water. GMW will place warning signs around the lake which will remain in place while high levels of blue-green algae are present, while the reservoir will remain open to the public for other activities.

GMW Water Quality coordinator Bianca Atley advised visitors to take care. "Contact with it can cause rashes; sore eyes, ears, and nose; or, if swallowed, nausea or vomiting. It is therefore important for people boating or enjoying activities near the water to take extra precautions."

GMW recommends people and pets avoid contact with the water but if contact occurs, wash affected skin immediately in clean cold water. An alternative water supply should be sought for stock and pets while affected water should not be used for cooking, drinking, washing or showering. Boiling the affected water will not make it safe for these purposes.

It is not possible to predict how long the algae will remain at high levels. Stay up-to-date with blue-green algae warnings by phoning 1800 013 357 (select the option for blue-green algae information) or visit the GMW website: www.g-mwater.com.au/news/bga

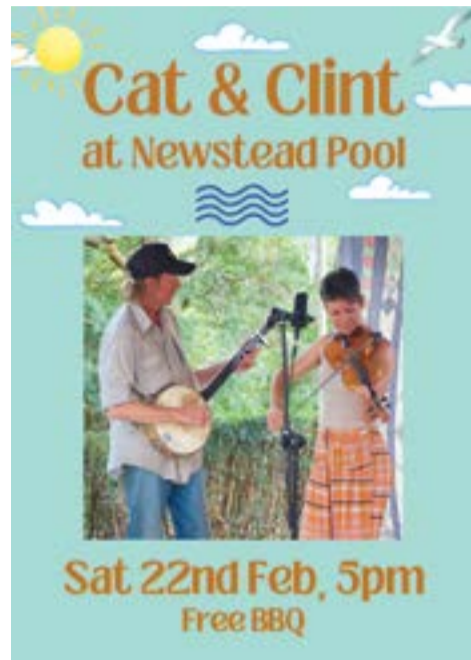
Young Muckleford artist's work hits the road



Thea Sydes of Muckleford, who was recently presented a Mount Alexander Youth Award in Music and the Arts, is a multi-talented artist with a passion for nature and so was the perfect candidate to create a gorgeous design for the side of a waste collection truck. Thea is one

of three artists whose work will roll around the shire on bin-collection days, brightening the streets and spreading environmental messages. The Mount Alexander Shire Council (MASC) Eco Art Truck project, which also features artworks by Kirsten Moegerlein and Joe Pratt, explores the sustainability theme 'reduce, reuse, recycle' and supports emerging artists to practice large-scale, professional art. Thea said: "I hope this artwork will inspire people to reflect on the importance of taking care of our endangered species and inspire them to reuse and recycle to make their own artworks."

Be cool at Newstead Pool



The end of the summer swimming season is approaching but Newstead Pool is still planning some cool events! This Saturday 22 February from 5pm, Cat and Clint will bring their Old-Time Mountain Music, featuring sweet vocal harmonies, ringin' banjo and traditional fiddle tunes. Keep an eye on the Newstead & District Swimming Pool Facebook Page, which is run by community volunteers.

Ground covers protect soils

The Department of Agriculture points to recent isolated dust storms as a reminder of how fragile some soils are, saying that there is still time to prevent this damage by de-stocking more vulnerable areas of the farm. While dust storms contain mostly mineral materials, they also contain significant quantities of organic matter, one of the most valuable components of soil. Leaving stock in a paddock for an extra couple of weeks to make use of remaining water supplies can be all it takes to expose the paddock to the risk of wind erosion. The key to preventing wind erosion is to maintain as

much ground cover as possible and avoiding disturbing the soil. Aim for 80% cover in pasture paddocks and 60% cover in crop stubbles. Ground cover also helps moderate temperature extremes in soil and retains moisture. When groundcover levels are low the only practical way to reduce the risk of wind erosion is to remove livestock to other paddocks or place stock in a stock containment area. Further information on support available can be found at www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/dryseasons or by calling 136 186.

Feedback sought from Autism community



Autism Awareness Australia (AAA) is seeking feedback from parents and carers of children and young adults on the autism spectrum. The peak body is encouraging parents and carers to complete a survey and provide feedback on the key challenges they're facing right now, as significant change is about to hit the sector. AAA CEO Nicole Rogerson said the survey will play a critical role in helping the peak body advocate for the needs of autism families across Australia. "This survey is an important opportunity for parents and caregivers of children and young adults with autism to have their say, share their key concerns, and help us advocate for the right reforms," Ms Rogerson said. "All responses are anonymous and we encourage our community to be as open and honest as possible." The survey remains open until 28 February 2025. To complete the survey, click <https://6mtii7v-0vw.x.typeform.com/aaasurvey2025>

Duck hunting commences in March

The State Government claims that the 2025 duck hunting season model is backed by science. Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos announced on Friday 14 February that the Adaptive Harvest Management (AHM) model, which was developed in the USA in the late 1990s, will be used in Victoria for the first time to guide the management of the season including daily kill limits. The Victorian duck season will run from Wednesday 19 March until Monday 9 June.

The Victorian Government says that hunting is a "legitimate activity" and says it has adopted AHM as a more transparent method for regulating the "recreational harvest" of ducks. The Victorian Game Management Authority

explains AHM as: "an evidence-based process for setting game duck season arrangements. It involves using information to select the best approach to achieving a management objective, implementing management actions, measuring the response, adjusting the approach as required, and then repeating the process."

The Coalition Against Duck Shooting (CADS) says that waterbird numbers are already low and the season risks spreading the deadly H5N1 bird flu as well as the highly pathogenic H7N8 strain, by shooters and rescuers disturbing and handling any wetlands birds that may be infected. CADS also says that the government is, "disregarding its own Parliamentary Inquiry which recommended a total ban on native bird hunting from 2024". A Legislative Council Select Committee urged the Victorian State Government, in August 2023, to discontinue the activity on all public and private land from 2024.

Greater Bendigo nurses take industrial action

Greater City of Bendigo's maternal and child health nurses and immunisation nurses commenced protected industrial action on Friday 14 February as part of their campaign for improved wages and conditions. Enterprise bargaining negotiations between the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (Victorian Branch) and City of Greater Bendigo, which began in June 2024, have reached a stalemate.

According to the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (Victorian Branch), Greater Bendigo has some of the lowest paid maternal and child health and immunisation nurses across central Victoria's local government areas and the ANMF (Vic Branch) says they have not had a pay rise for 17 months. ANMF says that nurses are reporting a significant increase in families with complex needs, placing pressure on workloads and stress on the workforce.

Backing First Nations Tourism In Victoria

First Nations groups across the state can now apply for new grants to expand their First Nations tourism experiences. Victorian Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos announced on Friday 14 February that up to \$3.6 million in grants under the First Peoples Tourism Industry Strengthening Program are now available. These grants will create and expand tourism offerings that celebrate and empower family, community, culture and Country.

In 2023, more than 500,000 people visited Victoria and participated in First Peoples tourism experiences as part of their travels – spending a total of \$1.3 billion.

Continued on page 11

Are you concerned about scams?

You're invited to a free community session with Jack Kennedy from Bendigo Bank's Financial Crime Risk Department and Lyn Hartley from Community Bank Maldon who will share insights on the importance of online safety and how to identify and prevent scams.

Thursday, 27 March, from 5pm to 6pm at the Maldon Neighbourhood Centre (1 Church Street, Maldon). You don't have to be a bank customer to come along.

RSVP for catering purposes by calling 5475 1747 or emailing MaldonMailbox@bendigodelaide.com.au.



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Speaking (and listening) with Maree Edwards MP



Let your concerns be heard! Member for Bendigo West Maree Edwards MP

IT didn't take long into a conversation with Maree Edwards to be reminded of the size of her Bendigo West electorate and the number of tiny towns that it contains; she easily listed about 10.

It's a challenge to keep up with Maree's energetic and passionate description of her district and her evaluation of its constituents' concerns. By the end of the conversation it was clear that while Maree is a clear and fast talker, her stated preference is to listen. Which is exactly what we would hope from an elected representative and we should be sure to speak up about our concerns.

2025 focus

Maree called to update the *Tarrangower Times* readers about her advocacy priorities for 2025, pointing out that while some issues are common ones, there is variety across the electorate. "There are different small communities with different concerns," she said. "There are also some broader issues that I think everyone's concerned about that I think need to progress. And the big one that everyone's talking about

is housing." Maree said that she has been working with Council's dedicated housing worker, making progress despite numerous challenges. "I've been working very closely with Mount Alexander Shire, who have been given the opportunity to identify a number of sites and we're looking at social and affordable housing," she said. "These things don't happen quickly. There's been an increase in costs, shortage of skills, shortage of tradespeople."

Cost of living is another of the overarching concerns that affects people across the region. "As a government we have talked a lot about the cost of living and the pressure on families," Maree said, offering examples of initiatives like the \$400 school bonus and the Energy Saving Bonus. "We want to look at other measures like this as well that will help alleviate pressures."

Small towns in context

Following the recent announcement that the Goldfields World Heritage bid has progressed, the *TT* asked how decisions would be made about funding for infrastructure and maintenance projects, given the huge region

in question and the number of areas in need of a financial boost. Maree told me that this would involve consultation and collaboration. "It is not just State Government," she said, referring to the World Heritage bid. "The local governments have been driving it. Mount Alexander shire, for example, in that region, will be having a say." She also referred to the key role of local organisations, many of them volunteer-run, in advocating for community priorities. "There are multiple groups that have particular interests, they are the stakeholders," she said, naming examples such as the Harcourt Progress Association. "The Maldon Machinery Museum is an absolute treasure, as is the Maldon Museum; they hold the history of the town and the region. They are valuable tourist destinations already, we want to give them the opportunity to expand and attract visitors. So support from me is absolutely crucial and I hope that they feel confident to reach out."

Maree highlighted three historic sites. "Some other matters that I've been working on with local groups: Carmans Tunnel, the Beehive chimney, Butts (pavilion). These are three issues that I know are high on the agenda for Maldon, because they are so linked to our goldfields history. I am hoping to gain some funding towards them, make sure they are front and centre when talking about Maldon as a historical goldfields town."

Traffic talk

Maree indicated that traffic in Maldon has her attention. "The traffic issues have been raised consistently since I have been an MP, the increase of heavy vehicle traffic. I'm working closely with VicRoads on shorter term and long term solutions, such as a bypass." She described 'traffic calming measures' such as

speed humps, reduced speed limits, narrowed roads. "It's a matter of (determining) which will benefit Maldon the best," she said.

Maldon Caravan Park

"Consultation processes are important because that is how people get heard," Maree said, in relation to the Council's survey about the caravan park. "Once the consultation process has concluded I will seek a briefing. If a consultation process takes time it can mean that they are hearing more voices. I think it's important that people have their say."

Speak up

Maree encouraged community members to make their concerns known. "I'm happy to receive feedback from anyone in the community. I don't know what I don't know," she says. Moreover, she said that while not all issues lie under the State Government umbrella, people can approach her office with any civic concern. "These are avenues that are always available, my door is always open, my staff are always available."

The *TT*'s conversation with Maree was a great reminder that Maree juggles requests and complaints across a broad and diverse area from Marong to Yandoit and from Shelbourne to Faraday. There are a variety of ways to progress our own priorities, including advocating via community groups or by calling the electorate office direct. Contact details can be found at: tinyurl.com/2p82dm8h.

Maree summarised her role as Member for Bendigo West: "My job has always been and will continue to be: to listen to what the issues are, so that I know what they are and so I can help to address them."

Michelle Dorian

Discover the fun of science



Discovery Bendigo General Manager Alissa Van Soest, Jess Saunders Manager of Engagement at Goldfields Libraries and Federal Member for Bendigo Lisa Chesters.

FEDERAL member for Bendigo Lisa Chesters donned a pair of lab goggles to announce funding for Discovery Science and Technology Centre in Bendigo last week, showing just how much fun science can be. Discovery is a unique and exciting destination full of interactive exhibits such as a planetarium, vertical slide and the Kaleidoscope play-based learning space. It's fantastic fun for families — including parents and grandparents — who are looking for new ways to entertain the kids and now it is coming to libraries.

Discovery will receive \$98,000 as part of the Maker Projects – Community STEM Engagement Grants program. It will use the funding to expand its 'Curious Kids' STEM (Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) program to 10 regional libraries in Central Victoria over the next two years. "As a mum of a three - and five-year-old, I know how

important opportunities like this are," Ms Chesters said. "Young children are inquisitive and having the opportunity to engage them in STEM activities in local libraries is a great way to help foster a love of science from a young age."

Discover science in local libraries

The program will be delivered in partnership with Goldfields Libraries, which includes locations in Castlemaine and Kangaroo Flat. Curious Kids is designed for children aged three-five years old, providing access to engaging and high-quality STEM education in safe, inclusive library spaces. Sessions will introduce early learners to scientific concepts in a fun and age-appropriate way, while school holiday workshops offer older students opportunities to explore topics like robotics, circuits, astronomy, and AI.

Sharing STEM with grandparents

Goldfields Libraries Manager of Engagement Jess Saunders said that part of the funding would go towards intergenerational sessions. "We have a lot of grandparents attending our early years sessions: story time, toddler time and rhyme time," she said. "This funding means we can offer an inflatable planetarium show for seniors and children to enjoy together, for example."

Soon there will be multiple ways to share stimulating STEM activities with the young people in your life; at Discovery in Bendigo or at a session at a nearby Goldfields Library.

Michelle Dorian

Vet addresses microchip concerns

LOCAL veterinarian Andrea Khong from Maldon Vet Clinic is reassuring pet owners amidst uncertainty around microchips, as rumours circulate about a microchip database.

A widely used private pet microchip registry called HomeSafeID has ceased communications, possibly due to insolvency of its parent company, causing fears that the data would be lost and rendering the microchips useless.

Animal Welfare Victoria, of the Victorian Department of Agriculture, states: "From 7 February 2025, HomeSafeID is no longer licensed under the Domestic Animals Act 1994 to keep and maintain an animal (microchip) registry service for Victorian pet owners." However, the department says on its website that it has received all the records from HomeSafeID, while the Australian Veterinary Association is providing guidance about the situation to vets.

Andrea says that affected clients are being contacted and that for now, the HomeSafeID database is still available for use. "The main role of microchips is to reunite lost owners with their pets," Andrea says. "So owners should also ensure their pets are properly secured at home with owner's contact phone number on their pet's collar."

Instructions for Pet Owners

Andrea advises that any pets who received their microchips at Maldon Vet Clinic will have been registered with HomeSafeID and the clinic will be in touch to arrange alternative registration. Pet owners can enter microchip numbers at petaddress.com.au to find out where their microchips are registered. If it is HomeSafeID, visit the website www.homesafeid.com/ and confirm your pet's details while it is still accessible. The vet clinic is happy to help pet owners who are unsure of their microchip numbers, but requests an email in advance to arrange a suitable time. Maldon Vet Clinic is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm. Email queries to: info@maldonvet.com.au.

Mount Alexander Shire Council requires dogs and cats to be registered with them, see: <https://tinyurl.com/mvven85n>.

Michelle Dorian

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Tim Noonan | 0413 464 949
Rob Waller | 0418 571 130



313 Barker Street, Castlemaine.

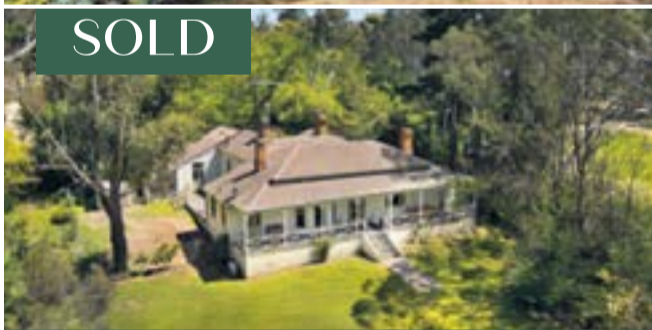
3 1 2 434

- Charming Edwardian timber & stucco home in central Castlemaine – circa 1920s.
- 3 bedrooms, grand box-bay window, timber floors & cosy fireplaces.
- Level, private garden with 2-car carport. Just moments away from North Primary School, botanical gardens & CBD.

For Sale
\$695,000

View
Saturday 22nd February: 11:45am-12:15pm

Blasi Mulholland | 0417 311 733
Narelle Waller | 0408 571 131



SOLD

28-30 Burnett Road, Castlemaine

4 3 4

- 'The Woodlands' c 1861-1885, a historic solid brick residence on 1.158 hectares.
- 9 main rooms, large verandah, and in-ground lap pool.
- Located in the prestigious Botanical Gardens Historic Homes Precinct.

Rob Waller | 0418 571 130
Blasi Mulholland | 0417 311 733



SOLD

36 Castlemaine Road, Maldon

3 1 1

- 'Dalry', a character cottage, set in treed gardens opposite Long Gully Reserve.
- 3 double bedrooms, cosy sitting room with fireplace, and separate dining room.
- Established garden with fruit trees, and paved areas.

Rob Waller | 0418 571 130
Blasi Mulholland | 0417 311 733



SOLD

53 Gingell Street, Castlemaine

3 2 2

- Victorian era cottage with landscaped gardens, fruit trees, and terraced stone gardens.
- 3 bedrooms, 2 modern bathrooms, and a farmhouse-style kitchen.
- Energy-efficient with 6.5kw solar system.

Rob Waller | 0418 571 130
Blasi Mulholland | 0417 311 733

Belle Property Castlemaine | 5470 5811
167 Barker Street, Castlemaine

Belle Property Maldon | 5475 1055
30A Main Street, Maldon

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\$465,000 103 Fergusons Road Portland



It's fantastic waterfront 2.5 acres with uninterrupted, never to be built out sea views to the south west, perfect for watching the sun set over the sea. A perfect site to build your dream home. STCA.

\$425,000 1159 Maldon Castlemaine Road Maldon



Brilliant level building block, close to town, cnr Rowes Rd.
Approximately Half an acre of town zoned land, with services adjacent adjoining crown land.

\$920,000 8 Faheys Road Gordon



Immaculate three bedroom two bathroom home on 3,000 sqm near Ballarat with lovely views and a mega shed.

\$485,000 Western Highway, Great Western



Huge Opportunity! Wineries Region. Permits for winery, cellar door sales, caravan park and residence. Thirty-two acres of lightly treed land with a creek and dam

\$459,000 39 Burke Street, Landsborough



A relaxed Country feel is created by warm open fires and cold inviting beers at this iconic Pub in the picturesque Pyrenees Tourist Winery Region. Available as a freehold or going concern.

\$310,000 72 Duscher Road, Great Western



Grampians Shed Happens! Situated in Great Western near Stawell. This is a cracker. 19+ acres with a 131 sqm shed with power and water tank to convert to a dwelling STCA. Rural living zoned.

\$690,000 The Maldon Lolly Shop, Leased Investment



With a brand new 5+5+5 lease in place, this is a secure investment with great capital growth potential.

\$840k-\$890k Units 1 & 2/21 Camp St, Trentham



Two Brand new 3 or 4 bedroom houses on separate titles in sought after Trentham, available individually or together, ideal for extended family.

\$520,000 4195 Colac Lavers Hill Rd., Weeaprounah



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We have over 40 listings all over Victoria on realestate.com.au and over 5,200 followers on Facebook.

Tomato mania will hit Maldon in just over one week!



MARK it on your calendar - this fun event is not to be missed. There will be something for all age groups! With eight days to go, there is still time to prepare your entry in the inaugural tomato-growing competition, which will be held in the Progress Hall at the Maldon Community Centre on Monday 3 March. Do you grow the best tomatoes in the Maldon district? Perhaps you grow the biggest or the ugliest? Or you may be famous for the tastiest tomatoes in the district! All entries are welcome.

The Maldon Garden Club will allow you to compete against other avid tomato growers to finally decide who has this loved pastime of tomato growing down to a fine art.

This event is part of the Club's 25th anniversary celebrations. Come along, and you can indulge in a yummy ice cream from Maldon Fudge & Ice Creamery while you wait for the exciting results! Bottled water will be available for sale on the day, along with a mega plant stall. There will be a colouring

competition to keep the primary school-aged children busy and a raffle, with the first prize being a voucher from Golden Nugget Restaurant, the second prize an Elk Horn plant and the third prize a garden book.

Even if you are hopeless at growing tomatoes, there is a category for you! You may produce the ugliest, funniest-shaped or even the most diseased tomato! Whatever your ability at this mystifying pastime is, come along with your entry at 4pm on the day, with judging to commence at 5pm. There will be an entry fee of \$2, with one entry per category accepted. The winning entry will receive a trophy and rosette, and the runners-up will take home a sash to mark the occasion.

The Maldon Garden Club is extremely grateful to the Community Bank Maldon & District for the grant that made this competition possible.

Contact Christine Gibb on 0428 810 633 for further details.

Kerry Cain



MALDON GARDEN CLUB INC. TOMATO COMPETITION ENTRY FORM 2025

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER _____

TOMATO VARIETY (IF KNOWN) _____

CATEGORY ENTERING;

- TASTIEST
- BIGGEST
- FUNNIEST SHAPE
- UGLIEST
- MOST DISEASED

COST \$2 PER ENTRY PER CATEGORY

TOTAL \$ _____

All tomatoes for judging to be delivered to Progress Hall (Community Hall) by 4pm Monday 3 March 2025. Judging commences at 5pm. Prize Winning Sashes presented 6pm. Contact: Christine Gibb 0428 810 633.

Help shape the future of the Maldon Caravan Park



"I encourage residents to come along. It's a great opportunity to learn more, ask questions and provide feedback in-person."

Community feedback, along with details on planning costs and other factors, will be included in a report for Councillor consideration in mid-2025.

Have your say

- Complete an online survey at shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au.
- Call 5471 1700 and ask to speak to Council's Property Portfolio Coordinator.
- Email your feedback to info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au.
- Come to a drop-in session and speak to a Council officer.

Drop-in sessions

Drop-in sessions are an opportunity for community members to learn more about the Maldon Caravan Park, ask questions and provide feedback in-person.

SESSION ONE:

For local business owners and event organisers

When: Wednesday 26 February, 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Where: Maldon Community Centre

SESSION TWO:

For community members

When: Saturday 1 March, 8.00am to 11.00am

Where: Maldon Old Bank Corner

For more information, FAQs and to have your say, visit shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au.

MOUNT Alexander Shire Council is inviting residents to have their say on the future of the Maldon Caravan Park.

Council is currently managing the operation of the park and is reviewing the future potential use of the site.

There are four options up for consideration:

- Continue maintaining the operation of the caravan park.
- Repurpose the land for recreation and/or leisure.
- Repurpose the land for social and affordable housing.
- Hand the land back to Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA).

"Council is committed to ensuring our assets remain fit for purpose and relevant to our community," said Karen Evennett, Council's Manager Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities.

"Community feedback gives us valuable insight into what residents want and need in Maldon and may influence the future use of this space.

"We're holding two drop-in sessions – one for local business owners and event organisers, and one for community members.



Maldon Caravan Park



Council is inviting residents to have their say on the future potential use of the Maldon Caravan Park.

There are four options up for consideration:

- Continue maintaining the operation of the caravan park.
- Repurpose the land for recreation and/or leisure.
- Repurpose the land for social and affordable housing.
- Hand the land back to Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA).

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Learn more at shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au.

Working together for a healthy, connected shire
mountalexander.vic.gov.au (03) 5471 1700



Reply to Brian Fitzgerald

After a lifetime of many discussions, much writing and occasional protesting about and against racism, sexism, unregulated capitalism, war, environmental destruction, etc., I know the poor odds of changing anyone's firmly held beliefs. Unfortunately most Australians would rather forget history, ignore facts, refuse rational debate, and draw on supportive hypotheses or fictions. Peter Dutton's politically motivated, referendum-skewing, totally unsubstantiated claim that a Constitutionally recognised indigenous Voice to parliament would divide Australia is a commonly used example of the latter.

It was not my intention to give personal offence to Brian, only to counter the views he expressed. I apologise for my insensitive use of the verb 'parrot'.

However, his statements that Castlemaine's Australia/Survival Day celebrations were marred by "a lengthy & tiresome reminder of whose land we are on...spoiled by repetitious advice about Aboriginal custodianship...dominated by Survival Day content" (31/1), and the patrician tone of "There are a number of [other] days...where people of Aboriginal descent...may conduct survival or invasion events" (14/2) seemed, if not racist, then lacking in sensitivity to, or respect for, the first people of this land, and I cannot apologise for my response.

I agree with him that combining Survival Day with Australia Day is "offensive & inappropriate", although for different reasons to his. I absolutely agree that the government should let him "have one day per year where [he] can celebrate our great country without commiserations". All that needs to be done is shift that celebration to a different date, one that doesn't mark the onset of loss of country, cultural destruction and genocidal war for indigenous Australians.

Unfortunately the appropriate date hasn't happened yet – the day Australia declares itself an independent nation, no longer legally tied to the British Crown. That will be an Australia Day worth celebrating.

**Lauren Williams,
Poet & Pacifist,
Maldon**

Celebrating what exactly?

I have been reading with interest the letters debating Australia Day celebrations. January 26 became a national public holiday in 1994.

It led me to think about what it is we are actually supposed to celebrate and commemorate on January 26.

The day it commemorates: The arrival of the First Fleet of 11 convict ships from Great Britain in 1788 and Captain Arthur Phillip raising the Union Jack at Sydney Cove.

Until 1782, English convicts were transported to America. However, in 1783 the American War of Independence ended. America refused to accept any more British convicts, so England had to find somewhere else to send their prisoners. Transportation to New South Wales was the solution. Great Britain used Australia as a convict dumping ground to relieve overcrowding in its prisons after the American Revolution. Australia's remoteness made it an ideal place to send British convicts. You could say no care and no responsibility, out of sight and out of mind.

Is this really what we are celebrating on January 26? I hope not.

Perhaps Federation Day January 1 would be a more meaningful day for Australians to celebrate. This day in 1901, the six British colonies united to form the Commonwealth of Australia. Or perhaps May 27 1967, when the Australian Constitution changed to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples in the population and allowed them the right to vote. These seem worthy of celebrating.

**Tina Fratta
Maldon**

Agree to disagree

Oh dear! At the risk of prolonging the Australia Day debate, Mr Fitzgerald's letter of 14 February demands a response. I went through a 'can't be bothered' moment, but one must have the courage of one's convictions. He rejected my position on the Australia Day event, as is his right. I reject his position wholeheartedly and I think we must agree to disagree.

He said, 'to wallow in the dark parts of our history is self-destructive.' How? Is Mr Fitzgerald speaking on behalf of the nation or himself? Who or what is being destroyed? The one thing we are at risk of destroying is the truth. Just because it is Australia Day we cannot set the truth aside because it might spoil the celebration. We cannot cherry-pick the good bits. You can choose not to participate if you are uncomfortable with being reminded of our history. When you say, 'let me have one day without commiserations,' you do not have ownership of the day any more than I do.

I came to this country with my ten-pom parents and experienced discrimination

firsthand as a 'hostel kid' at the local primary school. Other kids had been told we were dirty and not to associate with us. European migrant kids had it much worse, bullied for their lack of English and salami sandwiches. We had to claw ourselves out and my values in life have been framed by it. We have contributed to building an amazing multicultural country, but at what expense?

I attend Anzac and Remembrance Day events in memory of my father, a UK WWII veteran. We do not wallow in this very dark part of our history. It is solemn as it should be. Lest We Forget. Then we all go off to pubs and clubs for a bit of a knees up.

I am totally flabbergasted at Mr Fitzgerald's understanding of 'the spirit of reconciliation.' Reconciliation is about strengthening relationships, but apparently not on the most significant day of our collective history! The way forward is to reconcile with the past. The last sentence of the Uluru Statement from the Heart is, 'We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.' I will accept the invitation.

I am not sure I would want to fly the patriotic flag for a country that does not have the courage to own its 'dark history.'

Finally, The Australia Day Council Website states this:

'Our national day provides an opportunity to reflect on our complete and complex history, and to understand that acknowledging and reconciling our past helps lay a path to a stronger future.'

It's a time we can all reflect on and learn about our national journey including the ongoing history, traditions, and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.'

Note, 'our national day,' everyone.

**Mary Dalton
Maldon**

Patriotism

I've heard it said that Patriotism is Xenophobia in Disney wrapping.

**Oz Patterson
Nuggetty**

Queensland Fruit Fly

I've got a fairly big, productive garden in town and have been battling Queensland Fruit Fly in my nectarines and peaches. I'm pretty careful about garden hygiene and make sure any fruit dropped from the trees is swiftly removed as that's what QFF love. I've also got traps that can be refreshed at Mt Alexander Timber and Hardware.

If fruit fly is detected, the affected fruit must be frozen or microwaved to kill the larvae before composting. Unfortunately, unless everyone in town does the same, it doesn't matter how good I am about it; they're flies, and they will go wherever there is fruit.

I recently did a letterbox drop and so walked around and visited quite a large portion of Maldon and was surprised by how many empty houses there were. A lot of them seemed to be quite neglected and have fruit trees. All the fruit will end up rotting on the ground, which is perfect for QFF.

This is a public appeal for people to take care of their fruit trees for the good of everyone, not just in Maldon but everywhere. Sadly, I can no longer enjoy the pleasure of biting into a piece of fruit fresh from the tree, as I might get a nasty surprise. A short explanation appears here agriculture.vic.gov.au/qff.

Claire Cooper

A Storm in a Teacup?



I'm an owner of the 'Bushells Building' on High Street in Maldon. I recently received the following request which made me chuckle, and I thought your readers might enjoy it as well.

'Hello, I hope you are well? I'm emailing today regarding the Bushells mural on the property 45-47 High Street, Maldon. We're looking to get an artist to correct the spelling (painting the letters 'our' to correct the spelling on flavour) on the existing mural. Looking to get in touch with the homeowner to see if this would be possible? There will be filming onsite and we will need access to the roof to update the mural. Happy to jump on a call to discuss further – look forward to hearing from you.'

Carmel

ADVERTORIAL

Great journeys begin here

If you have an early or late flight and don't feel like adding the stress of dodging kangaroos on the way to or from the airport, the answer may be right here.

From just \$199 - \$215 for up to four people and with luggage, Castlemaine Flyer will pick you up from your door and deliver you right outside your terminal. Imagine your holiday starting right then as you sit back in one of their luxurious Teslas with complete peace of mind that you will make your flight on time without the hassle of finding a car space at the airport and then dragging your luggage to the terminal ahead. Ahh, now that is luxury!

Subtracting the stress, petrol costs (or public transport), and car parking costs may put you ahead.

Castlemaine Flyer also covers your return trip. As you drag yourself off a long and tiring flight, go through customs and find your baggage, you will know with confidence that your Castlemaine Flyer will be waiting for you no matter what time your flight may be (any time, day or night). The driver will

track your flight and be aware of any changes in landing time; they will text you and let you know their location at the pickup point. This eliminates the need to stay in a hotel at the airport due to fatigue and severely impaired concentration levels after that long flight. You will be delivered to your front door, and the friendly driver will help with your luggage.

Nick Frederiksen is the founder of Castlemaine Flyer. This personable young man told the *TT* that the idea began as a brain worm, which came to fruition in July 2023. Nick had one Tesla then and started the business as a side hustle while still operating his software/hardware business.

In just over a year, Nick has built a fleet of seven Teslas and eight drivers, which is impressive. Nick now works full-time at this company and is passionate about the service he offers.

His staff are competent, polite and safe drivers who offer a prompt and punctual service.

The rave reviews on castlemaineflyer.com.au say it all. Contact Nick via email: nick@castlemaineflyer.com.au or phone: 0427 007 021.

Kerry Cain



Nick with one of the Tesla fleet.

Big turnout expected for Taradale Festival



NOW in its 16th year, The Taradale Mineral Springs Festival is confirmed for Sunday 9 March from 10 am to 4pm. Awarded Mount Alexander Shire Community Event of the year 2024, the Festival is a major feature on the Central Victorian calendar for the Labour Day long weekend.

The Mineral Springs Festival Committee is planning to make this year's event another memorable day for local families and day trippers. Attractions will include over 70 stalls offering a wide range of food, wine, craft beer, gin, whisky and kombucha. There will be craft, jewellery, plants, clothes, a CFA display and activities, live music on stage all day, plus many children's activities, face painting, the bubble fairy, storytelling and Captain Koala.

Committee President, Matt Butta said, "We have worked for many months to assemble a great lineup of stallholders and entertainment for this year's event. We have a raffle with over \$8,000 in prizes, including a \$5,000 travel prize courtesy of Broadhurst Property, with tickets just \$5 each."

Entry to the Festival is \$5 with free admission for children under 15. All proceeds go towards Taradale Volunteer Community Groups to assist with local projects. "We are very grateful to our sponsors Andy Chapman and Girls, Broadhurst Property, Castlemaine Slate & Stone, Interior Solutions, Lisa Chesters MP, Long Paddock Cheese, Malmsbury Pharmacy, Metro Taradale, Oxart, R B Sellars, Rambowool Socks, Taradale Country Cottage, The Stables Malmsbury and Watts Fresh. The event is supported by the Mount Alexander Shire Council Event Grants Program," concluded Matt.

Bite size news and opportunities

Continued from page 4

The First Peoples Tourism Industry Strengthening Program will provide even more support to this growing sector, backing these unique organisations to grow their one-of-a-kind tourism offerings.

Applications are open until 10 April 2025. For more information about the program, visit tourism.vic.gov.au.

Building community with Men's Sheds

A number of organisations in Mount Alexander Shire have received significant funding towards community building through the 2024-25 Men's Shed Funding Program. Mount Alexander Vintage Engine Club Inc. will receive \$76,000.00; Nalderun Education Aboriginal Corporation will receive \$93,705.00 and Castlemaine Men's Shed will receive \$9,886.40 under the latest round of funding. Minister for Carers and Volunteers Ros Spence announced on Friday 14 February that the funding will ensure they have welcoming and well-equipped spaces to work on projects, make friends and access support. Minister Spence said: "Men's sheds are essential community spaces where men can forge friendships, share experiences and support each other in a safe and welcoming environment, as well as working on meaningful projects."

Vegetable growers survey raises concerns

A third of vegetable growers are considering leaving the industry within the next year, with more still indicating they would do the same if offered a fair price to sell their farm, according to the latest AUSVEG Industry Sentiment Survey, conducted by the peak body for Australia's vegetable, potato and onion industry. The results of the survey, which was open from December 2024 to February 2025, have raised questions about the future supply of Australian-grown fresh vegetables. The survey found that almost 50 percent of growers were again financially worse-off than a year ago and almost 40 percent of

growers expected to be financially worse-off in another year's time. It also found that growers are continuing to delay or reduce investing in capital infrastructure improvements (81%), innovation and productivity improvements (56%) and maintenance of assets (46%). In a continuation of the trend from previous sentiment surveys, rising input costs, poor farmgate returns, workforce shortages, industrial relations changes, lack of funds to invest in innovation, and an overwhelming compliance burden have again been identified as the key factors leading growers to reconsider their futures.

Pet sounds

In ground-breaking news of the week, a pet insurance company has 'revealed' the most popular dog names for 2024. Popular music, films, brands, fast cars and fast foods all appear in the list, and while some traditional names remain ever-green there is no sign of Fido, Rover, Toto or Pat. At the risk of making you less intelligent for reading but just for a bit of fun, here is the list:

Top 10 Dog Names, 2024

Luna	Daisy	Bear
Milo	Teddy	Molly
Charlie	Frankie	
Coco	Ruby	

Rare and unusual names, 2024

Taylor Swift	Holden
Prince Harry	Mariah Carey
Angus Beef	Cheeseburger
Jon Snow	Harry Potter
Louis Vuitton	Swiftie

TV Guide

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

ABC TV	SBS	SEVEN	NINE	TEN
6:00 News Breakfast [s] 9:00 ABC News Mornings [s] 10:00 Planet America (PG) [s] 10:30 Take 5 With Zan Rowe (PG) [s] 11:05 The Newsreader (M I) [s] 12:00 ABC News At Noon [s] 1:00 Silent Witness (M I) [s] 3:00 Nigella Bites [s] 3:25 Grand Designs (PG) [s] 4:15 Long Lost Family (PG) [s] 5:00 A Bite To Eat With Alice [s] 5:30 Antiques Roadshow [s] 6:30 Hard Quiz (PG) [s] 7:00 ABC News [s] 7:30 Monty Don's Spanish Gardens [s] 8:30 Silent Witness (M I) [s] 10:15 Optics (PG) [s] 10:45 Hard Quiz (PG) [s] 11:15 ABC Late News [s] 11:30 Guy Montgomery's Guy Mont Spelling Bee (NZ) (PG) [s] 12:15 Grand Designs: East London (PG) [s] 1:05 rage New Music (MA15+) [s] 5:00 rage (MA15+) [s]	5:00 Worldwatch 9:10 Wonderful World Of Baby Animals (PG) 10:00 Puppy Secrets - The First Six Months 11:00 Georgia From Above (PG) 12:00 Worldwatch 2:00 The Abyss - Rise And Fall Of The Nazis: Up In Flames (PG) (In English/German) 3:00 NITV News Nula 3:30 Plat Du Tour 3:40 The Cook Up With Adam Liaw (PG) 4:10 Secrets Of The Royal Gardens (PG) 5:05 Jeopardy! (PG) 5:30 Letters And Numbers 6:00 Mastermind Australia (PG) 6:30 SBS World News 7:30 James May - Our Man In Italy: God's Apology (M I) 8:30 Tony Robinson's Marvellous Machines: Mighty Machines (PG) 9:25 Mysteries Of The Ancient Dead: The Bo Zoroastrians, Mongolia 10:20 SBS World News Late 10:50 Bonn (M v) (In German)	6:00 Sunrise [s] 9:00 The Morning Show (PG) [s] 12:00 Seven Noon News [s] 1:00 Better Homes And Gardens [s] 2:00 The Hunting Party (M v) [s] 3:00 The Chase UK (PG) [s] 4:00 Seven News At 4 [s] 5:00 The Chase Australia (PG) [s] 6:00 Seven News [s] 7:00 Better Homes And Gardens [s] 8:30 Movie: "The Greatest Showman" (PG) ('17) - Celebrates the birth of show business and tells of a visionary who rose from nothing to create a spectacle that became a worldwide sensation. Stars: Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams, Zac Efron, Zendaya, Rebecca Ferguson, Austyn Johnson, Cameron Seely, Keala Settle, Sam Humphrey 10:40 Australian Idol: Top 30 (PG) [s] 12:20 Dr Harry's Animal Encounters (PG) [s] 1:20 Travel Oz: Spirit Of Australia (PG) [s] 2:00 Home Shopping 4:00 Million Dollar Minute [s] 5:00 NBC Today [s]	6:00 Today [s] 9:00 Today Extra (PG) [s] 11:30 NINE News Morning [s] 12:00 Movie: "The 13th Summer" (M I,v) ('22) Stars: Hannah Levien, Nathan Phillips 2:00 Pointless (PG) [s] 3:00 Tipping Point (PG) [s] 4:00 NINE News Afternoon [s] 4:30 Tipping Point Australia (PG) [s] 5:30 WIN News [s] 6:00 NINE News [s] 7:00 A Current Affair (PG) [s] 7:30 David Attenborough's Mammals: The New Wild (PG) [s] 8:40 Movie: "The Hitman's Bodyguard" (MA15+) ('17) Stars: Elodie Yung, Ryan Reynolds, Tsuwayuki Saotome 11:05 Movie: "No Sudden Move" (MA15+) ('21) Stars: Don Cheadle, Benicio Del Toro, David Harbour, Noah Jupe 1:00 Getaway (PG) [s] 1:30 Home Shopping 4:00 Skippy The Bush Kangaroo [s] 4:30 Home Shopping 5:30 Postcards (PG) [s]	6:00 The Drew Barrymore Show (PG) [s] 7:00 Frugal Foodie [s] 7:30 Farm To Fork [s] 8:00 The Bold & The Beautiful (PG) [s] 8:30 Deal Or No Deal (PG) [s] 9:00 Lingo (PG) [s] 10:00 Entertainment Tonight [s] 10:30 Wheel Of Fortune UK [s] 11:30 Judge Judy (PG) [s] 12:00 Farm To Fork [s] 12:30 Family Feud (PG) [s] 1:00 10 News First: Lunchtime [s] 2:00 Wheel Of Fortune [s] 2:30 Lingo (PG) [s] 3:30 10 News First: Afternoon [s] 4:00 Family Feud (PG) [s] 4:30 The Bold & The Beautiful (PG) [s] 5:00 10 News First [s] 6:00 Deal Or No Deal (PG) [s] 6:30 The Project (PG) [s] 7:30 Wheel Of Fortune UK [s] 8:30 The Graham Norton Show (M) [s] 10:50 10's Late News [s] 11:15 The Project (PG) [s] 12:10 The Late Show (PG) [s]
ABC ENTERTAINS	SBS VICELAND	7TWO	9GEM	10 BOLD
12:05 Not Going Out (PG) 12:50 My Family (PG) 1:20 Penn And Teller: Fool Us (PG) 2:00 ER (PG) 2:45 Doctor Who (PG) 3:30 A Bite To Eat With Alice 4:00 Would I Lie To You? (PG) 4:30 MythBusters (PG) 5:20 Love Your Garden (PG) 6:10 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces 7:00 My Family (PG) 7:30 QI (PG) 8:00 Would I Lie To You? (PG) 8:30 Movie: "Addicted To Love" (PG) ('97) Stars: Meg Ryan 10:10 ER (PG) 10:55 Not Going Out (PG) 11:40 rage (PG)	5:00 Worldwatch 10:00 Front Up (PG) 12:00 France 24 English News 12:30 The Nine Lives Of Howard Stern (M I,s,v) 1:25 Question Team (M s) 2:20 Lee Lin Chin's Fashionista 2:30 Blaktrax 3:30 BBC News At Ten 4:00 ABC World News Tonight With David Muir 4:30 PBS News Hour 5:30 Cycling: 2025 ProVelo Super League: Round 3 *Live* 8:30 NITV News Update 8:35 If You Are The One (In Mandarin) 9:35 Love And Sex In Japan (M I,s)	8:00 Million Dollar Minute 9:00 Surf Patrol 9:30 NBC Today 12:00 Better Homes And Gardens 1:00 Escape To The Country 2:00 The Great Australian Doorstep (PG) 2:30 Sydney Weekender 3:00 DVine Living (PG) 3:30 Harry's Practice 4:00 Surf Patrol 4:30 Better Homes And Gardens 5:30 Escape To The Country 6:30 Bargain Hunt 7:30 The Yorkshire Vet (PG) 8:30 Escape To The Country 11:30 Bargain Hunt 12:30 DVine Living (PG) 1:00 Auction Squad	8:00 Home Shopping 10:30 Pointless (PG) 11:30 My Favourite Martian 12:00 Days Of Our Lives (PG) 1:50 Keeping Up Appearances (PG) 3:10 Antiques Roadshow 3:40 Movie: "The Man In The White Suit" (G) ('51) Stars: Alec Guinness 5:30 Our Yorkshire Farm (PG) 6:30 Antiques Roadshow 7:30 Yes Minister 8:30 Movie: "9 To 5" (AKA 'Nine To Five') (PG) ('80) Stars: Jane Fonda 10:45 The Closer (M) 11:45 Yes Minister 12:45 Innovation Nation	6:00 Home Shopping 8:00 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield 8:30 Jake And The Fatman 9:30 Diagnosis Murder (PG) 11:30 JAG (PG) 1:30 Charmed (M v) 2:30 Jake And The Fatman (PG) 3:30 Diagnosis Murder (PG) 5:30 JAG: People V. Mac/ The Black Jet (PG) 7:30 NCIS: Iced/ Untouchable/ Bloodbath (M) 10:20 FBI: Hard Decisions/ Payback (M v) 12:15 Home Shopping 2:15 Diagnosis Murder (PG) 4:05 JAG (PG)
NITV	SBS MOVIES	7MATE	9G0!	10 PEACH
12:00 Movie: "Under The Cherry Moon" (PG) ('86) Stars: Prince 1:55 Kairakau (PG) 2:30 The Cook Up With Adam Liaw (PG) 3:00 Waabiny Time 3:35 Spartakus And The Sun Beneath The Sea 4:05 The Mysterious Cities Of Gold (PG) 4:35 Motown Magic 5:00 Our Stories 5:30 NITV News: Nula 6:00 Bamay 6:40 Great Blue Wild 7:30 Movie: "Belle" (PG) ('13) Stars: Gugu Mbatha-Raw 9:20 What We Do In The Shadows (M I,s,v) 10:50 NITV News: Nula	12:25 Movie: "The Big Chill" (M d,I,s) ('83) Stars: Glenn Close 2:25 Movie: "Magnetic Fields" (AKA 'Magnitika Pedia') (M I) ('21) Stars: Elena Topalidou (In Greek) 4:00 Movie: "The Extraordinary Journey Of The Fakir" (M I,v) ('18) Stars: Dhanush 5:50 Movie: "Paris Can Wait" (PG) ('16) Stars: Diane Lane (In English/ French) 7:30 Movie: "Dance First" (PG) ('23) Stars: Aidan Gillen 9:30 Movie: "My Policeman" (MA15+) ('22) Stars: Harry Styles	9:00 America's Game 10:00 Blokesworld (PG) 10:30 Freesurfer (PG) 11:00 Storage Wars (PG) 11:30 American Restoration (PG) 12:00 American Pickers (PG) 1:00 Pawn Stars (PG) 3:00 STIHL Timbersports (PG) 3:30 Counting Cars (PG) 4:30 Storage Wars (PG) 5:00 American Restoration (PG) 5:30 American Pickers (PG) 6:30 Pawn Stars (PG) 7:30 Surveillance Oz (PG) 8:30 Movie: "Ambulance" (PG) ('22) Stars: Jake Gyllenhaal	6:00 Children's Programs 11:00 Transformers: Bumblebee Cyberverse Adventures (PG) 11:30 Bakugan (PG) 12:00 Gossip Girl (M s) 2:00 The Golden Girls (PG) 2:30 The Nanny (PG) 3:30 Seinfeld (PG) 4:30 The Addams Family 5:00 Bewitched 5:30 I Dream Of Jeannie 6:00 The Golden Girls (PG) 6:30 The Nanny (PG) 7:30 Movie: "Indiana Jones And The Temple Of Doom" (M v) ('84) Stars: Harrison Ford 10:00 Movie: "Loop Track" (M) ('23)	10:00 Family Feud (PG) 10:30 The Drew Barrymore Show (PG) 11:30 Deal Or No Deal 12:00 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert (PG) 1:00 The Neighborhood (PG) 1:30 The King Of Queens (PG) 2:00 Becker (PG) 2:30 Frasier (PG) 3:30 The Neighborhood (PG) 4:00 Farm To Fork 4:30 The King Of Queens (PG) 5:00 Becker (PG) 5:30 Frasier (PG) 6:30 Ghosts (PG) 7:00 Friends (PG) 8:00 The Big Bang Theory (PG) 9:30 Frasier (PG)

Classifications: (G) General, (PG) Parental Guidance, (M) Mature Audiences, (MA15+) Mature Audience Over 15 Years
Consumer Advice: (d) drug references, (s) sexual references or sex scenes (h) horror, (l) language, (mp) medical procedures, (n) nudity, (v) violence

Television schedule for Saturday, February 22, showing programs on ABC TV, SBS, SEVEN, NINE, and TEN channels. Includes show titles, times, and brief descriptions.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Television schedule for Sunday, February 23, showing programs on ABC TV, SBS, SEVEN, NINE, and TEN channels. Includes show titles, times, and brief descriptions.



Home Care Packages

Get local support to help you better at home.

For more information call Susan Andrews, Home Care Packages Coordinator, 5479 1000 or email: hcp@castlemainehealth.org.au



Reminiscing about the post

THE phrase ‘learning curve’ suggests a gentle incline, but when Jan Elliott and Lee Mead talk about their journey to becoming Postmistresses, they describe a very steep slope indeed.

They have recently been reflecting upon their six years running Maldon Post Office, between 2006 and 2012, in light of the repaint of the Main Street pillar box. The *Tarrangower Times* chatted over coffee to Jan and Lee about postal procedures, including shades of red (but more about that later).

Originally inner-Melbourne dwellers, they sold up and shipped out to Maldon because they saw an opportunity here when the post office building and business was listed for sale. “We already liked Maldon, we loved the heritage,” said Lee. Coming from a background in medical research, neither had any experience with retail or business. Jan laughs at the memory of them leaping in unawares. “How hard can it be to sell stamps?” But before gaining approval from Australia Post to step into the business, thorough training and assessment was required. The whole process took about eight months, with an enormous amount to learn. “Even things they don’t do at the post office, you need to know about because people will ask,” Jan said.

They had both worked extensively in science labs and they now believe this made them well-equipped to cope with Australia Post (AP) procedures, with skills such as following systems and using mathematics to calculate postage and weights. They shared some aspects of the running of the business and split others, but both agree that the customers were the best part of the job. “It was the greatest way to move to a small town, people were so

welcoming,” Lee said. And while sometimes sorting, delivering and managing the mail can induce stress on both sides of the counter, Jan had a handy tactic: “The trick is to just keep smiling.”

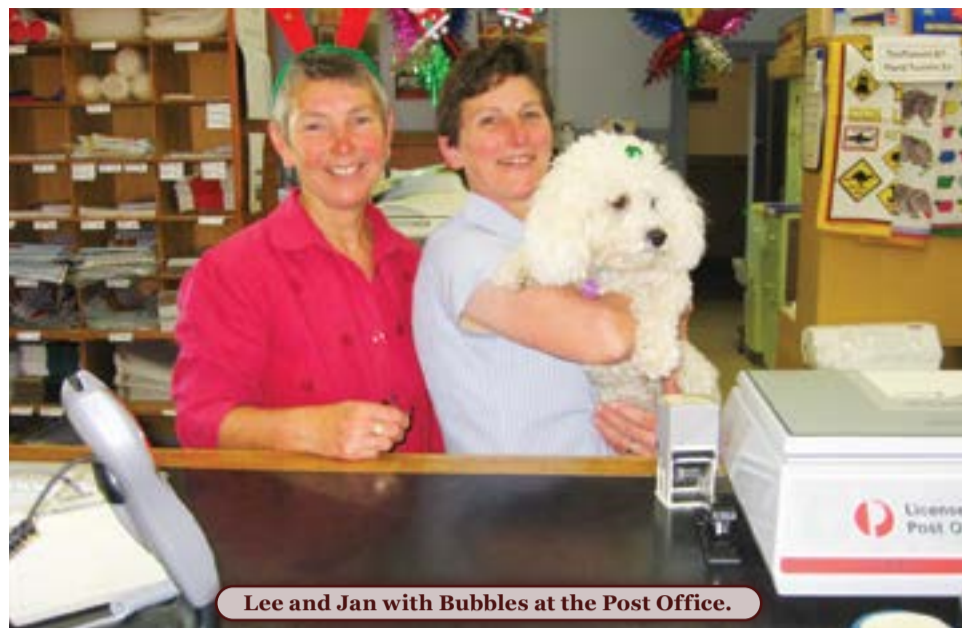
Lee and Jan both look back fondly on their time as Postmistresses and they share a variety of happy memories including the ‘zero commute’ of living next door to work and the literary connection with Henry Handel Richardson, who famously wrote *The Getting of Wisdom* based on childhood memories of living at Maldon Post Office.

In 2009 they welcomed their dog Bubbles, who became a post office celebrity (see *Doggos of the Goldfields* in the 7-2-25 edition of the *TT*). These days they miss the daily chats with customers, but both are very active community members, each volunteering with numerous groups from the CFA to the Tarrangower Cactus Control Group.

And as for the new hue of the historic pillar-box on Main Street? Lee and Jan are concerned that it’s not the Australia Post corporate colour. “You can’t do anything related to Australia Post without it being ship-shape,” said Lee. Plus, they believe that a classic ‘pillar-box red’ is appropriate for history’s sake. Jan said small changes to the streetscape will make a difference in the long run. “If we want to maintain Maldon’s uniqueness, we have to maintain what’s here.”

These former Postmistresses care deeply about the mail and this town; their many contributions show that the steep ‘learning curve’ was worth the trek for them and for Maldon.

Michelle Dorian



Lee and Jan with Bubbles at the Post Office.



Former Maldon Postmistresses Lee Mead and Jan Elliott.

Applications for Event Grants now open



Town Folk Festival, 2024 Event Grant recipient.

APPLICATIONS for the next round of Mount Alexander Shire Council’s Event Grants are now open.

The program supports groups and individuals who are running public events, and there are three funding streams of \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$3,000 available.

The last round saw 16 groups benefit from the program including Newstead Live, The Maine Game and Taradale Mineral Springs Festival.

Funding can be used for a wide variety of event-related costs, including venue and equipment hire, marketing, traffic management and more.

“At Mount Alexander Shire Council, we’re passionate about building a thriving events culture. It’s good for community, good for the culture and it’s good for businesses,” said Ed Butler, Manager of Engagement and Customer Experience.

“That’s why we make these grants available, so every event, large and small, can get the support they need to thrive,” said Mr Butler.

Previous Event Grants recipient Lyndal McClure, President of the Castlemaine Jazz Festival, said she valued the support the festival receives from Council.

“Castlemaine Jazz Festival was very grateful and excited to receive a Council Event Grant,” said Ms McClure.

“We also appreciate the support of the events team.”

To apply and for more information on the grants program and previously funded projects, visit www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/EventGrants.

Applications close on Friday 14 March.

To speak with a Grants Officer to discuss your application, call 5471 1700 or email grants@mountalexander.vic.gov.au.

THE ARENA

(of public opinion)

Care to flex your democratic right and engage in public dialogue?

Then show us your thumbs citizens! Just like that emperor dude did, in that film with that gladiator guy!

Shoot your tasty discourse through to editor@tarrangowertimes.com.au and have your say!

Thumbs up:
Congrats to all involved in another fantastic antique fair—great for Maldon!

Thumbs down:
To the driver on Bendigo Rd who tossed a bag of rubbish out the window—only for it to scatter everywhere. Shame!

Name & address supplied

TT Letters to the Editor Policy

We are always interested to hear your views on current topics and important issues. Please include your full name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Only your name and location will be included if the letter is printed.

You can choose to withhold your name and/or location in print, but you must provide this information to the TT.

Please keep letters to 300 words or less. By submitting a letter, you agree that we may edit it for legal, space, readability or other reasonable reasons. Publication does not imply that the Tarrangower Times endorses your view.

Please send your letter to editor@tarrangowertimes.com.au or post to PO Box 18, Maldon 3463.

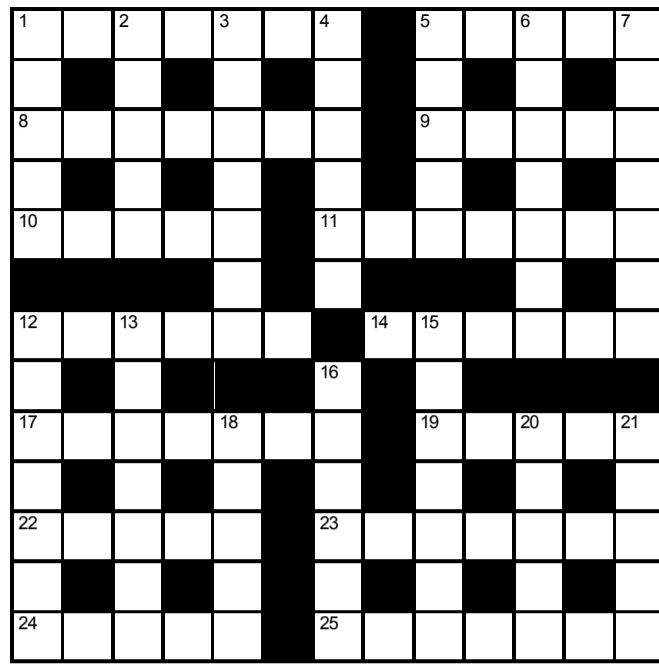
QUICKIE CROSSIE

QUIZ OR QUILTS

WORD SAFARI

Across

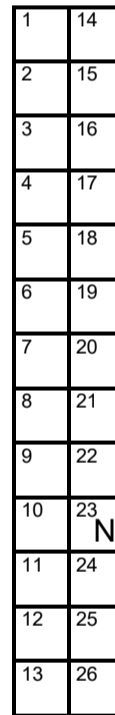
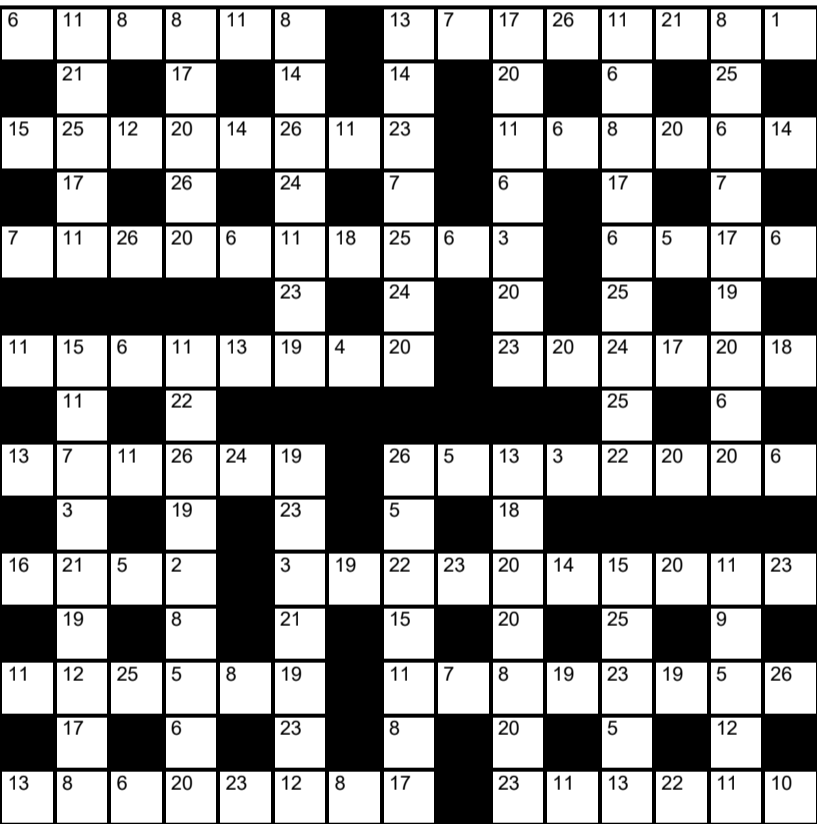
- 1 Trend
- 5 Edges
- 8 Predicted
- 9 Picture
- 10 Subject
- 11 Occupied
- 12 Least risky
- 14 Talc
- 17 Sketch
- 19 Body
- 22 Marry in secret
- 23 Beginnings
- 24 Types
- 25 Component



Down

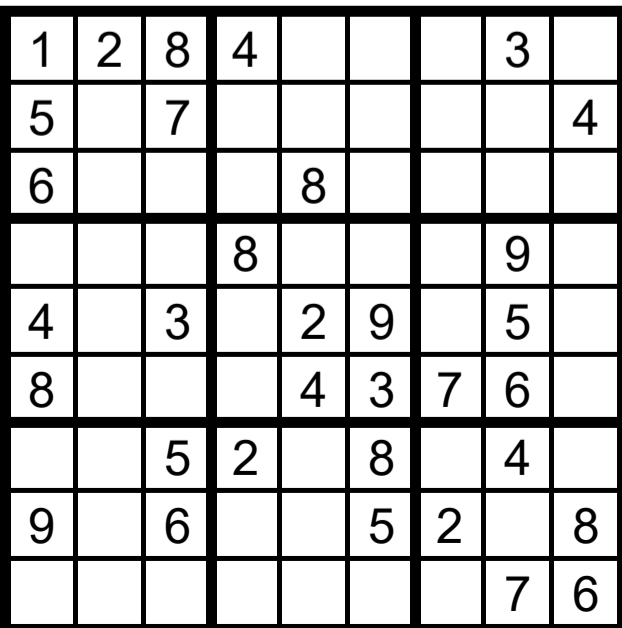
- 1 Argue
- 2 Infuse
- 3 Bugs
- 4 Moved head up and down
- 5 Sway
- 6 Towed
- 7 Slight
- 9 Silhouette
- 10 Snub
- 11 Concepts
- 12 Gloom
- 13 Taste
- 15 Silhouette
- 16 Snub
- 18 Concepts
- 20 Bring up
- 21 Start

CIPHER BRAIN-SYPHON

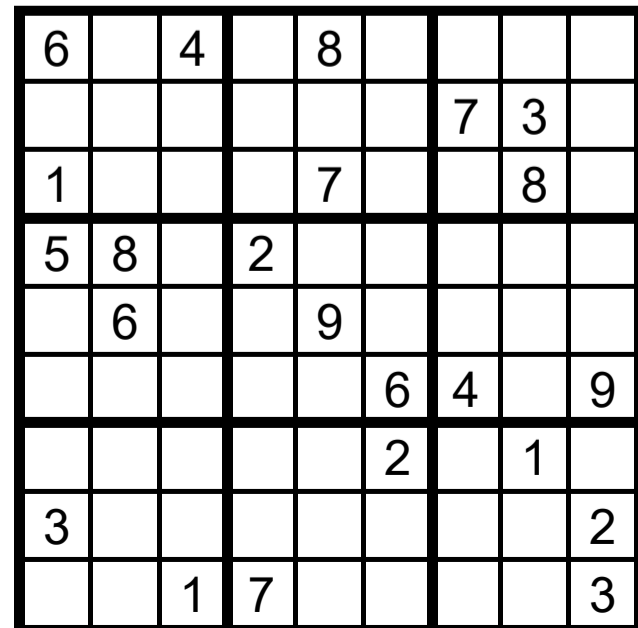


SUDOKU TSUNAMI

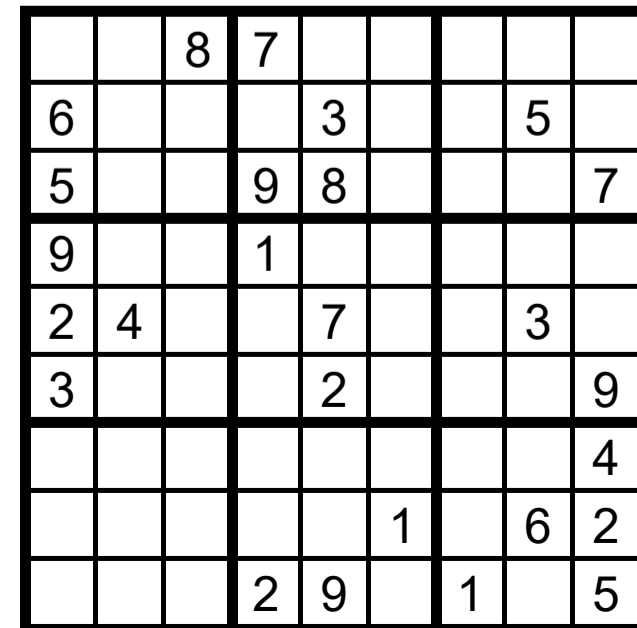
EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



1. How many points are on the crown featured on the Rolex logo?
2. In the 1987 hit song, the Bangles wanted listeners to walk like a person of which nationality?
3. Which world famous building can be found at the Champs de Mars 5 Avenue Anatole?
4. What is the collective name for a group of dolphins?
5. In which decade did Australia's population reach 20 million?
6. The Farsi language is widely spoken in which country?
7. In basketball, what does the acronym PPG mean?
8. According to legend, what was Walt Disney afraid of?
9. What is the name of the largest organic construction on Earth?
10. What year did country artist Johnny Cash die?
11. What is the capital of Sweden?
12. Australia and what two other countries have played in four Rugby World Cup finals?
13. What does the USS stand for in the name of Star Treks' Enterprise?
14. Which former US President once posed shirtless for a class of sculpture students to set an example of the ideal male physique?
15. Which government organisation is often referred to via the acronym DFAT?
16. What is the smallest composite number?
17. In which conflict was the Battle of Dunkirk fought?
18. Which country do the letters ROU stand for when they appear on an athlete's top?
19. Which Italian tourist attraction was built as a bell-tower to a neighbouring cathedral and is approximately 56 metres tall?
20. Areology is the study of which planet?

BONUS QUESTION: Which US newspaper has won the most Pulitzer Prizes for journalism?

Trivia by Tom Trifonoff of Australian Rural & Regional News (ARR.News)

MY WORD

- Start with the first word!
- Change one letter to form a new word!
- Repeat until you reach the final word!

Example:
COLD
CORD
CARD
WARD
WARM

Words must actually exist.
Obscure words encouraged.
Good luck!

THICK
CREAM



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- Duty
- Education
- First aid
- Flags
- Good turn
- Guides
- Guiding
- Hike
- Honour
- Initiative
- Innovation
- Inspiration
- Mentor
- Nature
- Oath
- Patrol
- Planning

- Promise
- Respect
- Ropes
- Safety
- Scouting
- Service
- Sharing
- Shelter
- Sisterhood
- Skills
- Sport
- Stamina
- Swag
- Teamwork
- Tent
- Tradition
- Training
- Travel

- Trust
- Uniform
- Whistle
- Woggle
- Woodcraft

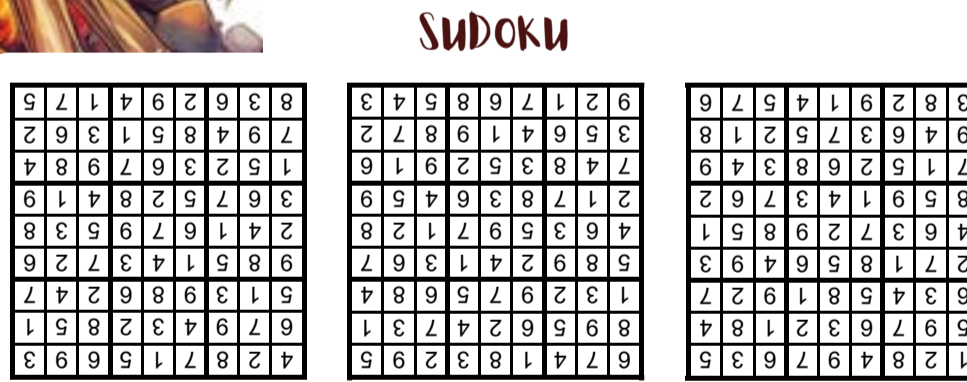


THEME: World Thinking Day, Saturday the 22nd of Feb



SEE YOUR NAME IN PRINT!
Got a splendid idea or theme for the Word Safari and Colouring Me In? Tell us, and if selected, we'll make it! Email your name/age to: danie@tarrangowertimes.com.au

COLOUR ME IN!



MY WORD!
THICK • CHICK • CRICK • CROCK • CROAK • CREAK • CREAM

QUIZ OR QUILTS

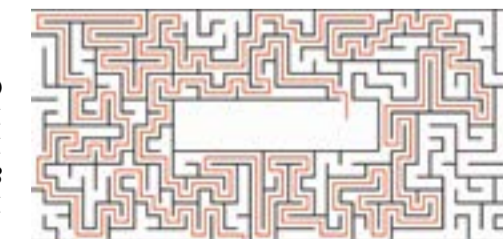
- QUESTION: The New York Times**
1. Five points
 2. Egyptian
 3. Eiffel Tower
 4. Rod 5, 2000s (2005)
 5. Iran
 6. Iran
 7. Points Per Game
 8. Mice
 9. The Great Barrier Reef
 10. 2003
 11. Stockholm
 12. New Zealand and England
 13. United Star/Space Ship
 14. Ronald Reagan
 15. Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
 16. Four
 17. World War Two
 18. Romania
 19. Leaning Tower of Pisa
 20. Mars
 21. BONUS

QUICKIE CROSSIE

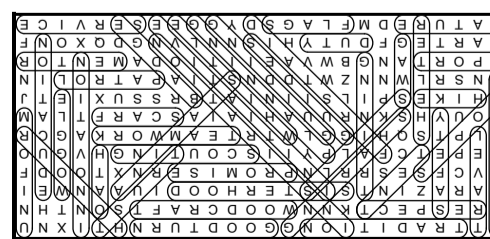
- Across:** 1 Fashion, 5 Sides, 8 Gussied, 9 Images, 10 Topic, 11 Engaged, 12 Safes, 14 Powder, 17 Drawing, 19 Torsos, 22 Elope, 23 Origins, 24 Sorts, 25 Elements.
- Down:** 1 Fight, 2 Step, 3 Insects, 4 Nodded, 5 Swings, 6 Dragged, 7 Slender, 12 Sadness, 13 Flavour, 15 Outline, 16 Ignore, 18 Ideas, 20 Katsic, 21 Onset.



MAZE HAZE



WORD SAFARI



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Natural Newstead

THE following is a recent blog post by Geoff Park from 'Natural Newstead: Observations of flora, fauna and landscape in central Victoria'. Text and photographs are printed courtesy of Geoff Park.



Sacred Kingfisher with spider prey, perched on one of the original piers from the Jenkin Bridge.

Perched on history

When we first arrived in the Newstead district in the mid-1980s a trip to town involved a drive over the Loddon River across the Jenkin Bridge. This wooden bridge, constructed in 1935, was significantly lower than the present highway bridge that replaced it in 1990.

The first bridge over the Loddon River at Newstead was privately built in 1855, soon to be replaced in July 1856 following floods. The first public bridge was built in July 1860, eventually replaced by the Jenkin Bridge in 1935. The regular and dramatic flooding on the Loddon must have necessitated frequent repairs, but some of the foundations remain to this day.

The remains of the Jenkin Bridge now serve another useful purpose, as perches for the **Sacred Kingfishers** that nest in the nearby river bank. A pair recently nested just downstream of the piers, in a tunnel constructed in the Post-settlement alluvium, a legacy of the dramatic changes wrought from the 1850s on our fragile landscape.



Remnants of the Jenkin Bridge over the Loddon River @ Newstead, 2 February 2025.



The plaques commemorating the opening of the current bridge (1990) and the former Jenkin Bridge (1935).



Arriving at the nest site with a skink.



Aborted landing ...



... then back again.



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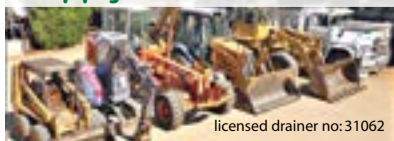
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A COMPLETE UNKNOWN

(LAST WEEK)

M 141 MIN

BABYGIRL

MA15+ 114 MIN

CAPTAIN AMERICA: BRAVE NEW

WORLD

M 118 MIN

CONCLAVE

PG 120 MIN

BRIDGET JONES: MAD ABOUT

THE BOY

M 124 MIN

	THU 20	FRI 21	SAT 22	SUN 23	MON 24
A COMPLETE UNKNOWN (LAST WEEK) M 141 MIN	3:15 PM	3:15 PM	3:15 PM	3:15 PM	\$11 TICKETS ALL DAY 3:15 PM
BABYGIRL MA15+ 114 MIN	10:30 AM 6:15 PM	10:30 AM 8:15 PM	10:30 AM 8:15 PM	10:30 AM 6:15 PM	10:30 AM 6:15 PM
CAPTAIN AMERICA: BRAVE NEW WORLD M 118 MIN	1:00 PM 6:00 PM	1:00 PM 8:45 PM	1:00 PM 8:45 PM	1:00 PM 6:00 PM	1:00 PM 6:00 PM
CONCLAVE PG 120 MIN	10:45 AM	10:45 AM	10:45 AM	10:45 AM	10:45 AM
BRIDGET JONES: MAD ABOUT THE BOY M 124 MIN	12:45 PM 3:30 PM	12:45 PM 6:15 PM	12:45 PM 6:15 PM	12:45 PM 3:30 PM	12:45 PM 3:30 PM

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NICE WEATHER FOR DUCKS



Drivers view.



I was asked recently (on MainFM actually) why we chose to live in Maldon. All the usual reasons, pretty little town, interesting shops, My Tarrengower Hill Climb, etc. But after being here for a while, it's the people that make it interesting and we really do have some interesting people here.

Acting on a tip-off, I went down to Cairn Curran on Sunday morning because I was told the Duck would be there. You've seen the pictures, so there's no surprise that in this case, feathers were not a feature.

Simon Allen had his DUKW or Army Duck out for a swim.

An army duck is an amphibious vehicle created during WWII for troop and cargo transport to facilitate beach landings and river crossings.

Simon is one of those interesting people I mentioned, he doesn't live right in Maldon, but he's nearby and that's good enough for me. He is a coach builder by trade and specialises in military vehicles. His workshop is full of projects like jeeps and trucks and he's one of those people who the more you talk to, the more you learn and I suspect you'd never really get to the bottom of his expertise. The thing about this particular project is the attention to detail, the handmade webbing pouches for the documents, the stencilling of the operating instructions, the period fire extinguishers and even the mock-up 50 calibre machine gun, which all combine to make this unusual vehicle very authentic. I like enthusiasts.

I was lucky enough to actually go for a ride/cruise along the beach and around the lake.

The speed boats were all looking very coy when the Duck took to the water; it was not to be outdone. At 31 feet (10m) and 13 tons (6,500 kg) you can't ignore it.

There was really no fuss about it though. Started right up, drove along like a truck, straight into the water, changed from the driving wheels to the propeller and we're off around the lake.

I even had a turn at the wheel, literally easy as.

The name DUKW comes from General Motors Corporation model nomenclature:

- D**, 1942 production series
- U**, Utility
- K**, all-wheel drive
- W**, tandem rear axles, both driven

Nothing to do with it being amphibious at all, very dry for a duck.

They made over 20,000 of these things. I really can't imagine 20,000 army ducks, but the Chadstone Shopping Centre car park holds 9,000 cars, so double that and you're close.

To be precise, the DUKW was built around the GMC AFKWX, a cab-over-engine (COE) version of the GMC CCKW six-wheel-drive military truck, with the addition of a watertight hull and a propeller.

So, if you happen to see it driving/floating around, you can nonchalantly say, there goes Simon in his duck...

Ian Riley



The duck.



Replica 50 Cal machine gun.



Propeller.



Foot controls.



Drivers position.

Archiving history at the Athenaeum

Rain, gale and shine

Continued from page 1



Volunteers working on the library's archives.

BEHIND closed doors on Monday mornings, a team of Athenaeum Library volunteers is busy archiving our historic documents. For the past six months, with input from an experienced archivist, we've been meeting to sort, organise and catalogue such things as old (sometimes mundane, more often fascinating and occasionally hilarious) correspondence, newspaper articles, borrowing ledgers and financial records.

About 15 years ago, three volunteers embarked on a similar project which was sadly abandoned, but not before they stored, somewhat randomly, many documents in an antique mahogany cabinet we have on permanent loan from the former Royal Mint in Melbourne when it closed in 1968. A previous Library President, Joy Leneaux-Gale and Treasurer, Winsome Strickland, significantly contributed to this when they photocopied historic correspondence between the Maldon Athenaeum and the former Department of Lands and Survey held in the archives of what is now the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action. More recently, a former library volunteer, intrigued by some photographs on the library's walls, began looking into their history and in so doing found old minute books and other documents stored in one of our sheds.

Thanks to their work, our current team inherited a treasure trove, albeit a jumbled one much in need of attention. We're still collating a mountain of correspondence, we're still sorting through financial records, but we have an almost complete set of minutes dating back to 1863 stored in two drawers of the old Royal Mint cabinet. Another drawer holds chronologically-ordered Athenaeum-related newspaper clippings dating back to 1926 (it took weeks to read through all the old newspapers that had been kept, to determine whether or not they contained anything about us). Then there's a drawer for the handwritten records of books borrowed by members before the days of computerisation.

When we've finished, this will be a permanent archive as well looked after as our book collections because, like our books, the historical records will be catalogued so that everyone, volunteers and interested researchers alike, will know where to find them.

But the driver behind this archiving project is its sister history-writing project for which our archives are an invaluable source of information not available elsewhere. Again, this is not the first time there have been attempts to write a history of the Maldon Athenaeum (the first we know of was in 1969). But for various reasons, apart from a short and incomplete history written to give volunteers an overview, previous attempts have foundered.

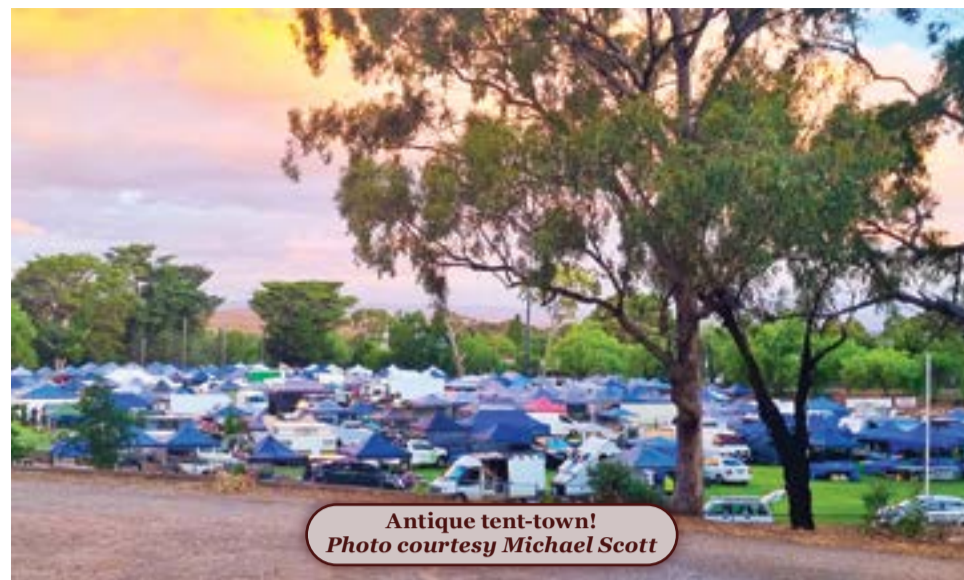
So what makes us confident we will succeed this time? Firstly, we now have access to technology not available before – so, rather than a hard copy publication, we will publish the history on our website in the form of a series of short evocative vignettes. Not only is this much cheaper than printing hard copies, but it means the history will be accessible to a wider audience.

Secondly, we are fortunate to have within our current membership a good combination of skills to pull it off: we have people with backgrounds in research, writing for publication and editing; we have people who are adept at managing our website and uploading finished vignettes.

So far we have written and uploaded more than a dozen vignettes, each contributing to a chronological history or paying tribute to the Library's connections to the local and wider community. Titles include *Getting Established: trials and triumphs*, *Mrs Beale and the First Lending Library*, *The Billiard Room*; *Borrowers: a snapshot in time*, *Popular Girl Competition*, *The First Minute Book and Artworks and Photos: a guided tour*. More are in the pipeline.

We aim to launch the history pages on our website later in the year. In itself, it will be an historic event! Watch this space.

Lynda Achren, on behalf of the Maldon Athenaeum Library



Antique tent-town!
Photo courtesy Michael Scott



Kim from Kyneton, with her wares, which included an antique sample coffin.



Jen and Jo enjoying a day out from Bendigo.

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Close results

MY dilemma this week was to how do I write up a 'ghost' account of the afternoon's Bridge play? Unfortunately, I was delayed and missed our regular get-together. AWOL you could say!

One thing I do know is that everyone who attended would have had great visions of getting a top score and hopefully achieving at the highest level when all scores were in. Were the cards an even lot, or were there odd appearances of what seemed to be 'ghost hands'. By all accounts, on further consultation, the afternoon's play was very even as the final results will reveal. Everyone is playing at a good level and given the cards dealt, makes it very enjoyable for all. So, no ghosts encountered it would seem! Of course, the cards rule, don't they?

A break for afternoon tea would have been most welcome, as it is each week, and does help get our minds back on track to complete the final boards.

The Computer Manager soon had the scores entered and tallied with the final results being as follows:

In first place were the very able partnership of Ken and Liz with 21 points. One point away in second place were partners in life and at the Bridge table, Kevin and Jo with 21 points. Jan G and Werner were third with 18 points. Well done to all. The numbers were down a little and we are always happy to have new players walk through the door to join us in this game we play!

A special get-well message to Hanne, Werner's better half, from all of us and we look forward to seeing Hanne getting the new replacement mobile.

We will be back next week to play out the cards once more and until then ... Goodbye.

Whatever your age group or skills please feel free to join us each Thursday at the Senior Citizens Rooms 1pm to 4.30pm to help us in our endeavours to

USE IT OR LOSE IT

Judy McKnight

BLAST FROM THE PAST

The new Australians

ON Thursday 12 June 1958 four 'New Australians' took the Oath of Allegiance and became British subjects and Australian citizens during a brief but impressive ceremony at the Maldon Shire Hall, (now the Maldon Museum). The Shire President Cr Albert Wood assisted by the Shire Secretary Rex Beach conducted the ceremony before a crowd of more than 80 people.

The men who took the oath were Romulus Gaita, who came from Yugoslavia, Michael Popek from Poland, and Robert Deicmanis and Rudolfs Silins, both from Latvia. All four had been in Australia for at least eight years.

Cr Wood extended a warm welcome to all those present, who had come out despite the cold night. He said he hoped locals would meet these 'New Australians' and become good friends. Speaking to the four men who had taken the oath, Cr Wood told them they had renounced their allegiance to their native country and now owed their loyalty to the British Crown. He also spoke of the new privileges they would enjoy, such as the right to vote and stand for public office. Cr Wood then presented them with their Naturalisation certificates and the Bibles on which they had taken their oath.

Local MLA Clive Stoneham then congratulated the men on the significant step they had taken and reminded them that it was the duty of every Australian to work for the progress of their country. Stoneham also congratulated the large number of Maldon people who attended; it showed they appreciated the importance of the occasion.

After similar speeches by three Shire councillors, Robert Deicmanis responded on behalf of himself and his colleagues saying they were greatly honored to become Australian citizens. In his travels he had seen quite a bit of the country and realised how good Australia was. Forsaking their homeland was a hard decision and it had taken him 10 years to make up his mind. Deicmanis said Australia was 'young and beautiful - like a flower' and the combined energy of its old and new citizens would make it 'an everlasting bloom'. The ceremony concluded with the presentation of flowers to the wives of two of the 'new Aussies'.

Following the ceremony, the audience joined in a community sing-along conducted by the local CWA branch. They then enjoyed a coloured slide show of CWA president Alice Buckman and her husband Murray's holiday tour of the Continent and the British Isles. The ladies of the CWA also presented a delightful supper.

Tony Kane

This information was supplied by the Maldon Museum and Archives.

IN MALDON TODAY RADIO PROGRAM



TODAY Slats and EC will spend time with serial guest and IMT pastor Father Wahid, talking old-fashioned religion in a world rapidly losing its orbit.

Last Friday, St Valentine's Day, Ann and Nancy had the pleasure of chatting with Adrian Upward (pictured) of The Good Food Providers about his fascinating journey as a chef. After travelling in his early 20s - mainly for skiing - Adrian did an apprenticeship with a German chef in a Melbourne Hotel. Then on to the very old-school Fanny's Restaurant where everything was made in-house. After Melbourne, Adrian worked as a chef in many countries: Hong Kong, China, with the Saudi Royal Family in the Middle East, Bali, and even Royal Ascot on the Windsor Estate, which was very formal.

Next week, ever fancied yourself fiddling? Or splashing paint about? EC and Nancy interview Sean Kenan about street music and art - now here's a man with two strings to his bow. And with a bit of luck, the indefatigable Maree Edwards may find time to drop into the studio with news from state parliament and possibly of another grandchild.

To catch up on our previous programs click on [mixcloud.com/nancymay007](https://www.mixcloud.com/nancymay007).

See our ad page 26.

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The Tarrangower Times is part of Australia's biggest rural news network

A platform for independent news and stories written by, for and about people living outside Australia's capital cities Australian Rural & Regional News is the first platform featuring independent news from and for the whole of rural and regional Australia.

There are many dedicated independent journalists and publishers based outside the Australian capitals reporting on the news from their local area and others that focus on rural and regional news.

Some independent news publications are long-established mastheads that have been the trusted source of news for their community for generations and are now in print and online. Some older independents now produce only digital editions. Other newer independents from the digital age have always been online only.

Australian Rural & Regional News also features relevant news and media releases from clubs, societies and organisations, companies and businesses, government bodies, local councils and State and Federal Ministers and Members of Parliament. Australian Rural & Regional News is a growing newsroom, separate from the mainstream media, covering Australia outside the capital cities. arr.news

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH Call it Out!



Family and domestic violence support services:

- The Survivor Hub
- Full Stop Australia: 1800 385 578
- 1800 Respect National Helpline: 1800 737 732
- DV Connect Women's Line: 1800 811 811
- 13 YARN 13 92 76
- Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800
- Headspace: 1800 650 890
- Lifeline (24-hour Crisis Line): 13 11 14

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Maldon Athenaeum Library

Your Community Library

97 High Street, Maldon. Dja Dja Wurrung Country.

Open Mon, Wed & Friday 2-4pm, Saturday 9.30am-12 noon.

Enqs: 0437 094 469 maldonathenaeumlibrary@gmail.com

www.maldonlibrary.org.au

Library news

STOP Press! Carmel Bird at the Maldon Athenaeum Library, Monday 3 March, 10.30am.

Don't miss this fabulous talk by celebrated Castlemaine writer of novels, short stories and essays. Carmel's most recent works include *Love Letters to Lola*, a collection of 18 stories, with reflections on writing them, and *Arabella*, a picture book for children and for people of all ages, especially those who love cats. The title of her talk will be 'The Joy of Writing', which will encompass her own joys of it all and will give the group an opportunity to discuss and ask questions.

If you are planning to come to Carmel Bird's talk, you are invited to book by phoning 0437 094 469 or by calling into the library and leaving your name and contact details. All are welcome, not just library members.



Carmel Bird

Two more library volunteers

This week we introduce two more members of the library volunteer team who have a special interest in the library's history and archiving of our resources.



From left: Heather and Jan

Jan McKeown

I've been with the library approximately 19 years and I love its history. I find it fascinating: the history of it all from way back when the first minute books were written, through to today. And the interesting personalities revealed, how things were run, how they have evolved. The library archives reveal just how the reading of books has changed and the shifting popularity of certain genres over the years.

Working in the library you meet so many different people and find out what they have done in their lives, their careers and what they are doing now. It has all changed in the last 20 years, and I am 20 years older, so it looks different. At 83 I am still reading lots of books. We would be lost without our volunteer library: it's unique and I really love the place. We have fabulous fun... it's the people.

Heather Pavitt

After moving here from Queensland, I decided to join the Maldon Athenaeum Library as I'd always been a keen reader. I soon learnt about the history of the library and how it was run totally by volunteers. So, I decided to become involved. I started off a couple of afternoons a month on the front desk but

soon found out about a host of other jobs and library projects, which sounded intriguing.

I joined the archiving group. This group meets once a week to sort out historic documents. It has proved quite fascinating work and really an enjoyable way to spend an hour or two with like-minded people from so many interesting backgrounds. Reading through some of the old library records; minute books, correspondence, reports and newspaper articles, the personalities of previous volunteers, as far back as the 1800s, really comes through. The work they carried out over the years has made the library what it is today – a vibrant, well-stocked library all made possible by a wonderful team of people working behind-the-scenes.

I'd recommend volunteering at the library – there are so many different areas you can work in. There's no pressure to do more than you have time for and whatever you do, your help is very much appreciated. Volunteering is also a great way to meet people in our lovely little town. Everyone who comes in to the library is up for a chat – whether it is about the weather or the book they have just read. I always end up borrowing more books someone has recommended. Best of all, helping out at the library is great fun.

Library reviews

***The Burrow* by Melanie Cheng, 2024**

The Burrow follows members of the Lee family as they navigate grief and hope in their quiet Australian Jin, an emergency physician and father; Amy, a published author and mother; Lucie, their bookish and introverted 10-year-old; and Pauline, Amy's mother who's trying to make amends. Racked with grief for Ruby, Lucie's baby sister who died in a shocking accident, the family adopts a rabbit in the hopes of bringing much-needed cheer to their home. At first, each family member benefits from the distraction of a new and needy creature, but when a violent home invasion breaks their fragile sense of peace, the family is forced to confront the terrible circumstances surrounding Ruby's death.

***The King's Witches* by Kate Foster, 2024**

1589 - Princess Anne of Denmark is betrothed to King James VI of Scotland, a royal union designed to forever unite the two countries. But first she must pass the trial period: one year of marriage in which she must prove herself worthy of being Scotland's new Queen. If the King and the Scottish royal court in Edinburgh find her wanting, she faces permanent exile to a convent. Determined to fulfil her duties to King and country, Anne resolves to be the perfect royal bride. Until she meets Lord Henry.

By her side is Kirsten Sorenson, her loyal and pious lady's maid. But whilst tending to Anne's every need, she has her own secret motives for the royal marriage to be a success. Meanwhile, in North Berwick, a young housemaid by the name of Jura is dreaming of a new life. She practises the healing charms taught to her by her mother, and when she realises she is no longer safe under her master's roof, she escapes to Edinburgh. But it isn't long before she finds herself caught up in the witchcraft mania that has gripped not just the capital but the new queen.

***Prequel: An American Fight Against Fascism* by Rachel Maddow, 2023**

Rachel Maddow charts the rise of a wild American strain of authoritarianism that has been alive on the far-right edge of US politics for the better part of a century. Before and even after US troops had begun fighting abroad in World War II, a clandestine network flooded the country with disinformation aimed at sapping the strength of the U.S. war effort and persuading Americans that our natural alliance was with the Axis, not against it. It was a sophisticated and shockingly well-funded campaign to undermine democratic institutions, promote antisemitism, and destroy citizens' confidence in their elected leaders, with the ultimate goal of overthrowing the U.S. government and installing authoritarian rule. At the same time, a handful of extraordinary activists and journalists were tracking the scheme, exposing it even as it was unfolding. In 1941 the U.S. Department of Justice finally made a frontal attack, identifying the key plotters, finding their backers, and prosecuting dozens in federal court.

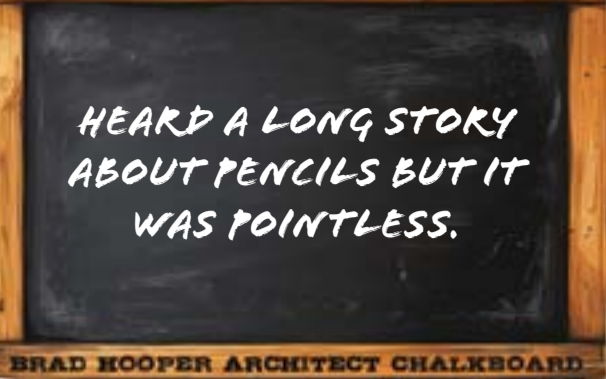
***All the Birds, Singing* by Evie Wyld, 2013**

Jake Whyte is living on her own in an old farmhouse on a craggy British island, a place of ceaseless rains and battering winds. Her disobedient collie, Dog, and a flock of sheep are her sole companions, which is how she wanted it to be. But every few nights something, or someone, picks off one of the sheep and sets off a new deep pulse of terror. There are foxes in the woods, a strange boy and a strange man, rumours of an obscure, formidable beast. But there is also Jake's past, hidden thousands of miles away and years ago, held in the silences about her family and the scars that stripe her back, a past that threatens to break into the present.

With thanks to Goodreads

Maldon Athenaeum Library

HEARD A LONG STORY ABOUT PENCILS BUT IT WAS POINTLESS.



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Doggos OF THE Goldfields

Introducing our readers to their local doggies and what makes their tails wag!

TT: You look comfy there on your bed of leaves, Coconut.

Coconut: I'm just resting. Where-ever I lay my head, that's my bed.

TT: Don't you have a real bed?

Coconut: You mean the place in front of the TV?

TT: The couch?

Coconut: That's the word. I don't mind sharing if people want to watch something.

TT: That's generous of you.

Coconut: Especially if they scratch my bum or behind my ears while they are watching.

TT: Aha. You are an interesting grey and white colour, is that why you are called Coconut?

Coconut: Actually I'm blue, I'm a blue border collie. Nobody really knows why I am called Coconut. Blame the kids. Many people call me Tony.

TT: Tony is an uncommon dog's name, too. Who calls you that?

Coconut: Also the kids.

TT: Why do they call you Tony?

Coconut: It sort of evolved from Coconut to Coco to Toto to Tony.

TT: There's some dog-name logic in there. Hopefully those kids give you lots of attention and take you on walks every day.

Coconut: They do give me lots of attention. And they give me carrots, my favourite treat.

TT: And the walks?

Coconut: Not so much.

TT: Dogs need walks.

Coconut: I know, luckily I have other people who take me on walks when they have time.

TT: You need more walks and less rest, Coconut.

Coconut: It's all fluff, I swear.



Coconut is our Doggo of the Week. 21 February, 2025.



Friday 21 February - Arty Rex - Maldon Bowls Club

48 Main

Friday 21 February - **OMN** - 6pm-8pm

Saturday 22 February - **DBOMs** - from 7pm

Sunday 23 February - **Featherhead** - from 4pm

Saturday 1 March - **Sarah - Ghosts in the Highway** - from 7pm

Sunday 2 March - **1800 Thunderchief** - from 4pm-6pm

Friday 7 March - **The Complete Unknowns** - 6pm-8pm

Blue Cockatoo

Every Friday night - **Open mic** - from 2pm-5pm

Golden Nugget

Sunday 23 February - **The Martini Set** - from 1pm

Sunday 2 March - **Jared Healy** - from 1pm

Maldon Bowls Club

Friday 21 February - **Arty Rex** - 5.30pm

GOT A CREAMY NEWS SCOOP?

CONTACT THE TIMES...

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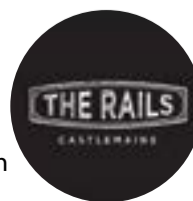
MALDON HOTEL

58 Main Street-5475 2231
OPENING HOURS
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Bookings recommended
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Win Horrigan

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Your Family.
The Maldon you served and loved.
The Friends left behind.
Your Grandchildren.
Your Great Grandchildren who would
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Ken & Fay, Dennis, and Doreen.

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Cruelty - DELWP Epsom branch: (03) 5430 4444
- ask for the Snr Wildlife Officer

Report shooting and/or dog attacks via email to:
ocr@delwp.vic.gov.au and copy in:
lily.dambrosia@parliament.vic.gov.au

Stray dogs - contact the council on:
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- Classifieds - 12noon Tuesday.
 - Casual Display - 12noon Tuesday.
- #### CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES:
- Community and News 12noon Tuesday.
 - Late notices such as Births and Deaths by 10.30am Wednesday.

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Create a performance as individuals or in small groups, guided by experienced director, Michelle Dorian. Over 8 weeks participants will develop / devise new works or reimagine existing texts, culminating in small public showings. Gain tools to develop or improve performance craft and confidence, enjoy creating with a small team, have fun thinking about new ways to express ideas and stories. Starting Sunday 2 March, 3pm-5.30pm. \$80/\$60 concession. Ph: 5475 2093

Rainfall Baringhup				Rainfall Maldon				Rainfall Newstead			
Week Ending 18-2-25				Week Ending 18-2-25				Week Ending 18-2-25			
0.0mm				0.0mm				0.0mm			
Monthly totals so far:				Monthly totals so far:				Monthly totals so far:			
	2025	2024	2023		2025	2024	2023		2025	2024	2023
Jan	19.2	95.1	41.8	Jan	20.4	101.4	47.0	Jan	25.4	124.8	30.0
Feb	32.5	2.5	8.1	Feb	43.2	1.0	10.4	Feb	61.0	14.0	11.4
Mar		0.5	53.0	Mar		0.0	54.4	Mar		0.8	34.0
Apr		58.5	75.8	Apr		84.0	89.4	Apr		76.4	84.8
May		32.0	24.5	May		45.8	33.2	May		34.6	30.6
June		21.4	97.9	June		28.2	119.8	June		27.8	96.4
July		47.2	31.9	July		63.4	25.8	July		50.0	38.2
Aug		34.4	23.4	Aug		43.0	34.6	Aug		60.8	26.8
Sept		28.7	13.4	Sept		46.4	20.0	Sept		28.2	16.6
Oct		29.1	40.6	Oct		47.4	56.8	Oct		31.6	34.0
Nov		31.2	24.9	Nov		38.6	28.4	Nov		40.2	16.6
Dec		25.8	105.7	Dec		23.2	130.4	Dec		43.2	118.6
Total	51.7	406.4	541.0	Total	63.6	523.4	661.2	Total	86.4	532.4	538.0

Water Storage Capacity as at 18-2-25					
Cairn Curran	Max ML	143,601	Current ML	76,230	% Full 51.81
Malmsbury	Max ML	12,118	Current ML	2,264	% Full 19.00

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Maximus is a charming, old-fashioned cat with a lop-sided smile, rescued from a Melbourne pound and seeking a loving forever home. Despite his early hardships, he remains a gentle and affectionate soul, eager for human companionship and the comfort of a cozy lap. He enjoys simple pleasures like brushing and food and is low-maintenance, preferring a quiet, peaceful environment. Maximus, a clean and well-mannered feline, is the embodiment of a beloved teddy bear, bringing warmth and companionship wherever he goes. He is an ideal pet for those seeking a loyal and loving presence in their lives and is ready to transform his new home into his castle with his gentle demeanour and heart-warming purrs. If you can offer the patience and care that this special cat deserves, he will surely reward you with endless joy and companionship. Age: Approx 8 years. Chip No: 978142000101844. Located: Maryborough. Adoption fee: \$130. Strictly indoor only or safe cat enclosure.
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Vinnie the Velcro Doberman is ready to stick by your side forever!
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VICTORIAN ELEGANCE



on Display in Maldon

Photos courtesy Maldon Rose.

MALDON took a step back in time over the weekend as a group from a Victorian-era historical society visited the town, delighting locals and visitors with their period-accurate attire.

Dressed in exquisitely detailed gowns, waistcoats, and top hats, the group turned heads as they strolled through the streets, pausing for photos and sharing their love of history with curious onlookers. Their visit added a touch of 19th-century charm to the town's heritage streetscapes.

As part of their visit, the group gathered for high tea at The Dessert Society, where the setting and classic treats complemented the atmosphere of the day. The occasion highlighted Maldon's enduring appeal as a destination for history enthusiasts and those looking to immerse themselves in the past.



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Contact Geoff McLennan 0419 717 501, geoffmclennan@bigpond.com

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Fun, Play & Recreation:

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Maldon Bowls Club
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Community Night BBQ and Barefoot Bowling
Friday 21 February 2025 - 5.30pm
Children most welcome!!!
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Free Bowling Practice/Coaching for parents
+ Junior Development from 4pm

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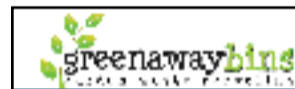


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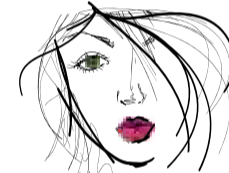
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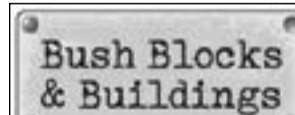
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Walmer Gun Club Report



SUNDAY 2 February saw six squads turn up for a warm day of shooting. Sponsored by Spike and Mandy Long the Wattle Vale Day is named after the property that the Gun Club is on.

Event 1; 40 target D/B; AA & O/A Ben D'Antonio 53/53, 2nd AA Carl and Ringo 59/60, 1st A Peter Bea-

man 52/53, 2nd A Kane Evans 39/40, 1st B Arianne James 40/41, Scott Farr 39/40, 1st C Elleasha Brown 35/40, 2nd C Emmett Ferguson 39/45.

Event 2; 20 tgt S/R. A & O/A David Button 50/50, 2nd A Adam Monaco 26/27, 1st AA Carl Comensoli 19/20, 1st B Russell Matthews, 2nd B David Mannix 19/20, 1st C Elleasha Brown, 2nd C Emmett Ferguson 24/26.

Event 3; 20 pr NWZ D/D. Overall winners Kane Evans and Russell Matthews. Runners up Les and Carl Comensoli.

Raffle winner; Holtie.

Trellys off the fence winner was Ben D'Antonio.

Our next shoot is this Saturday 22 February, at 11am.

Mandy Long



Arianne James with president Les.



Emmett Ferguson with president Les.

Tennis Talk!

EVERY week, the Maldon Tennis Club interviews a member of the club. This week, we have Aaron Vissers; a longtime coach of Maldon Tennis Club!

What's been your favourite tennis related experience?

My favourite, and proudest, tennis experience is my involvement with the Maldon Tennis Club. Seven years ago, when I had just started coaching tennis with Jim Wid Tennis, we were approached by the club about providing coaching. The club had been struggling to find a coach and we were wanting to reinvigorate their membership. Since then I have watched the club grow their member base, develop some very good young players, the building of new clubrooms and win their first pennant. I feel very fortunate and honoured to have been a small part of the club's history.

Which grand slam would you go to and why?

I have been to the Australian Open many times, and I plan to go to many, many more. Maybe I will get to watch a player I have coached there one day. Of the three other Grand slams I would love to go to Wimbledon. For me, Wimbledon is the heart and soul of tennis so to be able to watch one of the finals there would be amazing.

Is there a tennis player you admire and why?

It is very difficult for me to choose one player I admire because I have been a tennis fan my entire life and taken aspects of all my favourites over the years and melded them into my own play style. My short list would have to be Boris 'Boom Boom' Becker, Mark 'The Scud' Philippoussis, Pat Rafter, 'Pistol' Pete Sampras, Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic, and Ash Barty.

Thank you for your thoughtful answers, Aaron, and everybody stay tuned for next week's Tennis Talk!

Eva Gross



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TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
7:30AM	Brekky Show with Ian Fetting	Brekky Show with Dan	Bruce Kaye's Country Brekky Show	Brekky Show with Ian Fetting	Brekky Show with Bruce Kaye	Sports Brekky Show with Dan & Bruce	Wood Songs
8:00AM							Marie's Melodies
9:00AM	The Morning Show with Les Maygar	The Morning Show with Maxine	The Morning Show with Lindsay	The Morning Show with Maxine	The Baby Boomers Morning Show with Dan	Maryborough Harness Club Show	9.30 - One Day At A Time
10:00AM						Essential Hits with Tim Symons	Class Gems with John Sayers
11:00AM	Bruce Kaye's Country Highway	Lunch Break with Grace La Vella	Cruising with Lins	Les Maygar's Americana	Love Is On The Air With Renee DeRobertis	Alice's Restaurant	Easy Listening
MIDDAY						Bruce Kaye's Country Highway	Strictly Vinyl (Encore)
1:00PM	Lunchtime Live With Robyn	Bruce's Juke Box Gems	Essential Hits with Tim Symons	Highview Live	MEC Live	Oz Country	Is It Relevant Today?
2:00PM	Community Hour	Community Hour	Community Hour	Community Hour	Community Hour	Wood Songs Encore	Nashville Mix (Encore)
3:00PM	Alice's Restaurant with Robyn	On Air With Brian Peel	Dave & the Big Fella	Flashback To the 60's	Nashville Mix with Dave Moyle	Bring Up The Curtain with John Sayers	Bruce's Juke Box Gems
4:00PM	School's Out With Hope	Train Wreck	Vinyl Discovery With Peter G	Heading Home with Grace La Vella	Ladies Night Out	Classic Album of the Week	Thru Traffic With Will & Stu
5:00PM	Ladies Night Out	Animal Crackers			Flash's Fantastic Friday Show with Gordon	Thru Traffic With Will & Stu	Paul Freeman's Got The Blues
6:00PM	Off The Beaten Track with Renee	Moondog's Rock 'n Roll	Magic Carpet Ride	Animal Crackers			Clunes Calling with John Sayers
7:00PM	The Great Australian Dreamers With Jacko & Crew			Turn Up Your Radio with Geoffrey Paul	Friday Night with Andy	Lee Is Boppin' the Blues	Ian Fetting's Jazz & Blues
8:00PM		Al Pal's Strictly Vinyl	Ian Fetting's Good Vibrations				
9:00PM	Sassy's 80's Mixtape			Lost Oz 45s		Remixerama	
10:00PM	Al Pal's Double Ups	Lee's Blues & Roots Revue	On Air With Brian Peel	Raised On Rock with Mark O'Neill	Sassy's 80's Mixtape		King of Instruments with John Sayers
11:00PM	Feature Artist Hour		Live In Concert		Flashback To the 60's	Saturday Night Dance Party	One Day At A Time Encore
MIDNIGHT	Non Stop Music	Non Stop Music	Non Stop Music	Classic Album Encore	Non Stop Music		Let The Bands Play



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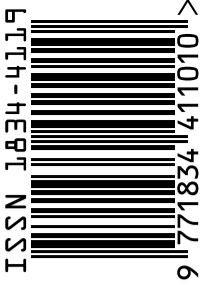
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Maldon Bowls Club



LAST Saturday's Pennant semi-final resulted in a loss to Maryborough Golf: 79 shots to 53.

The weather was very windy and very chilly. It was very pleasing to see Maldon supporters travel to support our team.

Annette's team of Phillip,

Mike and Geoff had a very even contest over the first 11 ends winning 6 of the first 11 ends. The scores were 11 all but unfortunately Golf drew away to win 8 of the next 9 ends to run out winners 25 to 13.

Wes's team of Tyson, Maree and Eric had some good scores of three 2s and a 3 in the first half to trail 11 to 12 after 11 ends. Over the last 11 ends Maldon scored a 3, 1, and a 2, whilst the opposition scored a 5, 4, 2 and 2 singles to win 28 to 17.

Jim's team of Ken S, Trevor and Peter made a solid start scoring on 6 ends to lead 11 to 9 after 11 ends. Unfortunately they dropped a 7 to be down 14 to 16. The team fought hard to pull back Golf's lead to draw level at 23 all with one end to go. Maldon played some great bowls to have shots on the kitty holding two. Victory was not to be as Golf's last bowl took the kitty back to their 3 bowls. That's the luck of bowls. The final score 23 to 26.

Our team set the season goal of making the finals and we look forward to improving on this next year.

Last week's Maldon Triples was played in very hot conditions. Twelve teams competed on the day with a Maryborough Highland team winning. Special thanks to our sponsors of the day Maldon Machinery and Hardware.

Thanks also to Maldon Quality Butchers for their kind raffle donation.

TONIGHT, Friday 21 February is our Community BBQ barefoot bowls evening. The weather will be great as will the live music by Arty-Rex. There are some great raffle prizes on offer and we are family friendly - \$5 entry. See you there.

Good Bowling all.

Peter Sedgwick

Maldon Golf Club



AFTER an absence of five years, the Club's decision to field a team in Golf Central Victoria District pennant competition was a great challenge prior to the upcoming commencement of our playing season.

Last Sunday, the team ventured to Axedale to play against the formidable team

of players from one of the District's leading Clubs, Bendigo Golf Club - 2nd on the Leaders Board after winning Round 1. Maldon players were successful in winning two of their games and drawing two games. A great result Winning 3/2 and maintaining top spot on the Leaders Board.

RESULTS

Richard Ruff lost 6 down after 13 holes
Harry Murray won 3/2 lead by 3 holes, 2 holes to play.
Chris Mulholland All square. Equal won after 18 holes
Garry Hutchins won 3/2 lead by 3 holes, 2 holes to play
Ian Long All square. Equal holes won after 18 holes

This Sunday, off to Heathcote to compete against Axedale Golf Club - currently 2nd on the Leaders Board. All the best to the team.

Maldon Pétanque Club



*It was fine on Sunday
So games got underway*

AT long last, the Club was able to gather for its first games for 2025 after postponing the previous three sessions due to the heat.

It was sad to note that we have lost two valued members who have passed away. Steve Phillis was in his 20th year of membership. Having been a committee member and a trophy winner, he also played

with the Social Pétanque Group. Mike Forsyth had played with both the Club and the Social Pétanque Group. Mike was best known around the club for his computerised scoring at both club games and tournaments; Mike was husband of our committee member Bev.

It was also announced that last year's Player of the Year Trophy winner, Len Paul, would be leaving us to move to Canberra; we hope he takes his boules.

We had 22 players turn out, all ready to show their wares, some have had a lot of practice and some very little, it did not seem to matter as everyone soon got into the swing of the game. After the three games, there were three players who had won all their three games. Gerry Marthe with 26 points, closely followed by Esther Boulger 22 points and Colin Chapman with 14 points

Unfortunately, our Mixed Triples Tournament in March has been postponed through a communications problem not of our doing. Hopefully, we can get it going again in May.

Everyone is welcome on our game days to either have a game or to just come and see what the game of pétanque is all about every fortnight at our pistes at the rear of St Brigid's Church. We'll provide you with the equipment and offer coaching. As a bonus, we'll present you with a complimentary bottle of our house wine. For further information, please contact Geoff McLennan 0419 717 501 or geoffmclennan@bigpond.com.au.

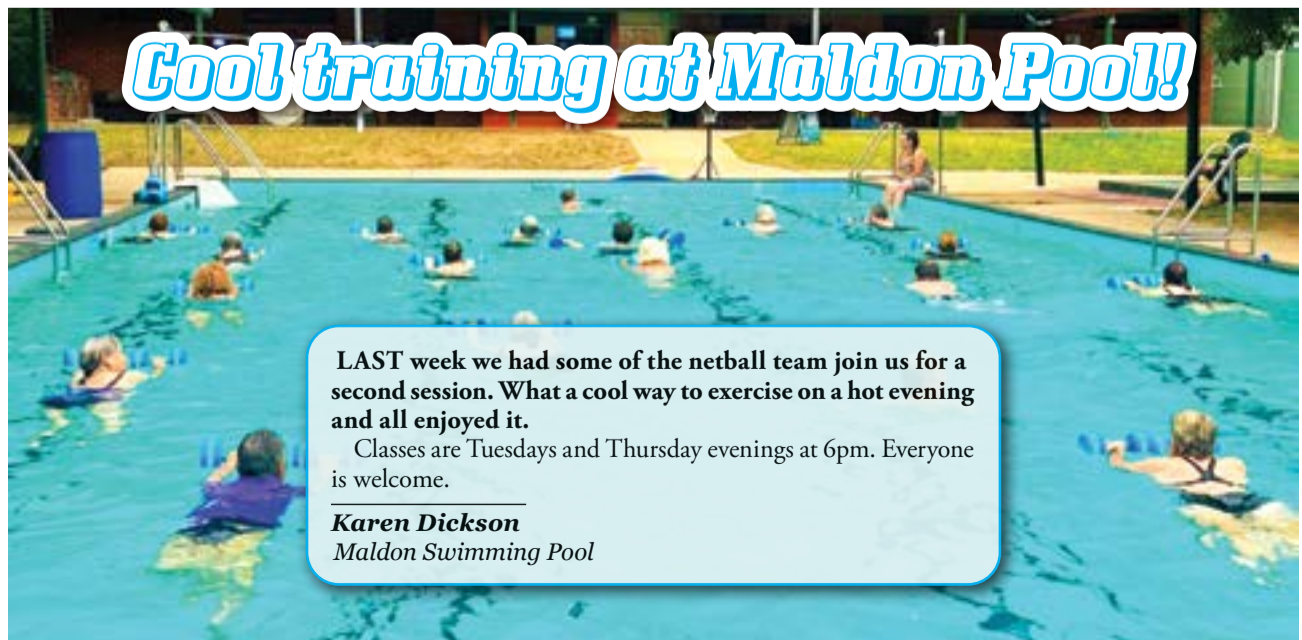
Our next games will be on Sunday 2 March, 1pm on the St Brigid's pistes. All welcome.

Check out our website maldonpetanqueclub.com.au. Please remember to support our sponsors: Community Bank Maldon & District and Cantwell Property.

Geoff McLennan



Phil Hopley with three visitors from the Bendigo club - Maxine, Sue and second place-getter Esther.



Cool training at Maldon Pool!

LAST week we had some of the netball team join us for a second session. What a cool way to exercise on a hot evening and all enjoyed it.

Classes are Tuesdays and Thursday evenings at 6pm. Everyone is welcome.

Karen Dickson

Maldon Swimming Pool