

FEBUARY 2026

Published By
Jessie Boer
Neighbourhood House

3610

FREE

MURCHISON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



WHATS HAPPENING IN OUR TOWN

Murchison Heritage Centre

Open Saturday mornings 10-12

Group bookings please contact 0475 018 743

The Neighbourhood House Murchison

The Preloved shop is open Saturdays 10am-1pm

Murchison Swimming Pool

The Swimming Pool is open

The Men's Shed

Monday 26th January Australia Day Celebrations

Sunday 22nd February Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Shepparton

Australia Day

Australia Day celebration on Monday the 26th January



CFA MURCHISON FIRE BRIGADE

By Bob Langford

As residents might be aware CFA Murchison Fire Brigade has been actively involved in the current wildfire crisis in the Longwood area. Tanker crews have worked extremely long hours in often dangerous and unpleasant conditions in their drive to protect the public from what has proven to be the worst incident involving wildfire in our region for many years.

All over the State CFA members from the large multi unit brigades to the small single shed units have answered the call to help. In some cases firefighters are away from their home base for days at time leaving jobs and families to fight for the common good. If it wasn't for the Australian tradition of 'Volunteerism' embedded in CFA these fires would go largely unchecked and become more extreme. We give thanks also for the help received from our interstate colleagues, volunteers from the RFS of New South Wales and CFS of South Australia without which the task would be more difficult. Their help has been magnificent.

Our volunteers are proud of what they do. They never boast about it but operate quietly without fuss, often putting their public duty before their family and working life. Volunteers in some situations have been known to lose their own properties whilst working hard to save others. One example I can cite is us coming across a tanker from Ruffy who despite news that their town had been razed stood by their task at a watering point where we were able to replenish our tanks enabling us to continue the fight. That is devotion to duty and must be admired. Not all of our volunteers are on the front line during times of crisis. Some elect or are appointed to stay behind to look after our community. Murchison and its environs is never left undefended. Other members are actively engaged in internal support activities such as cleaning vehicles and replenishing stores and equipment to enable crews to rest before their next task. All our members, frontline or not contribute something to the whole.



Save our planet by signing up to the digital version of the 3610 Murchison newsletter

<http://eepurl.com/h-iLCz>



MURCHISON NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE IS LOCATED ON THE LANDS OF THE NGURAI-ILLUM PEOPLE AND WE ACKNOWLEDGE THEM AS TRADITIONAL OWNERS. WE ALSO PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THEIR ELDERS, PAST AND PRESENT, AND ABORIGINAL ELDERS OF OTHER COMMUNITIES.



3610 MURCHISON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Behind every member is an understanding wife, husband, partner or family who acknowledges their loved ones need to leave at sometimes inconvenient or unsociable hours to attend an emergency situation where others are in trouble. This is what makes CFA a family with us all depending on each other. To all of those who wait quietly and patiently at home for their loved ones to return from 'yet another job' tired and often uncommunicative. Your patience, your sacrifice, is measured in the success of our team achievement, that of saving lives and property and for this we thank you.

Our Community support is very strong and much appreciated by the Brigade. Murchison, similar to that of other small towns and villages is unable to make donations of goods and or services to assist our efforts on the fireground however, we understand that our Murchison Community support comes from the heart. The very best kind !

If you happen to see CFA units or any other Emergency volunteer units on the move please acknowledge them with a wave or if driving sound your horn as an acknowledgment of support. These gestures mean a lot to overtired crews. Also if driving, please where you can prioritise their movement and understand their possible weariness due to prolonged operational exposure on the fireground.

Thank you so much Murchison for your support and understanding. We are there for you !

With sincere thanks, CFA Murchison Fire Brigade.



Murchison Historical Society

A Prayer for Genealogists
 Lord, help me dig into the past
 And sift the sands of time
 That I might find the roots that made
 This family tree of mine.
 Lord, help me trace the ancient roads
 On which my father's trod
 And led them through so many lands
 To find our present sod.
 Lord, help me find an ancient book
 Or dusty manuscript
 That's safely hidden now away
 In some forgotten crypt;
 Lord, let it bridge the gap that haunts
 My soul when I can't find
 The missing link between some name
 That ends the same as mine.
 (Author unknown)

I came across this poem in a family history record – I am sure
 anyone who has tackled their family history will relate to the
 sentiment contained therein.

Kay Ball

Another little piece found in a history book:
 Yesterday is History,
 Tomorrow is a Mystery
 Today is a Gift
 That's why it's called the Present.
 (Author unknown)



Murchison Mens Shed

Hopefully we have all had an enjoyable and safe break over the
 Christmas and New Year Period with friends and family. However, we
 must share our thoughts and prayers to all those who are suffering d

uring the continuing ordeal of the present bush fires, and our thanks go to the many volunteer fire fighters and support staff.
 Our first day back at the shed after the festive break was Wednesday 7th January, where we sat around drinking
 coffee, chatting and watching the cricket. President Dennis was chef for the day, and produced a chicken lunch with a
 variety of side dishes, and desert, that will be very hard to top by future chefs during the year.

This was followed by our first general meeting to plan our strategies for the next 12 months.

The start of the new year also means that the Membership fees of \$40.00 are now due.

We need to know our financial membership numbers before the end of January, to cover our AMSA insurance policy which
 becomes due in early February.

Coming Events

- Wednesday 14th January Removal of Christmas decorations from main street in Murchison helpers most welcome be at shed by 10.00 am
- Monday 26th January Australia Day Celebrations at Murchison Swimming Pool
- Wednesday 4th February Lunch at the Men's Shed Chef Con Scarvelis
- Sunday 22nd February Sausage sizzle at Bunnings Shepparton
- EFTPOS available, Stall from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm
- Sunday 1st March Clean up Australia Day
- Wednesday 4th March Lunch at the Men's Shed Chef John McKenzie

Men's sheds are all about men's health, well being, and mate ship.
 There is no pressure!

Men talk more freely shoulder to shoulder, at a workbench or cooking a BBQ
 among othermen, and this can have huge health benefits whether you talk
 about your health or ribbing each other about the piece of timber you cut to
 the wrong length, or the lousy cup of coffee you made, So if the Murchison
 Men's Shed "OPEN" banner is on display on Watson Street, come in ,
 meet and chat with the guys.

New members are always welcome

For more information contact

Con Scarvelis (Secretary) on 0421525665

or Dennis McCullagh (President) on 0428148210



MURCHISON MEN'S SHED INC

INC No. A01097471; ABN 47749064930 ; ATO, DGR
10A Watson Street Murchison Vic 3610

Values: Respect, Honesty, Inclusiveness, Community Focused, Integrity

Murchison men's shed inc.

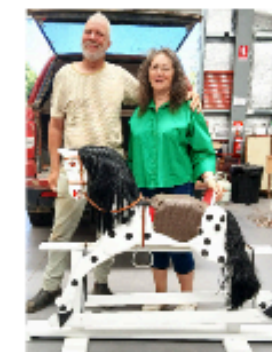
**Christmas
 2025
 raffle
 winner**

Refurbished
 Wooden
 Rocking
 Horse

congratulations



Carole Pyers



3610 MURCHISON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

3610 Murchison Community Newsletter is a program of Neighbourhood House Murchison (Vic) Inc.

Articles are due no later than the 14th of each month.

Publication will be the last week of each month.

Please email your article to 3610ourplace@gmail.com

Subject line: Your Name/Organisation name

- All articles are subject to publisher/ Management approval.
- Please submit in a Word document.
- Please submit Images as jpeg.
- Articles published are neither in favour or not in favour of politics.
- All articles must be submitted by the monthly deadline to be included in the next edition.

Rates and Guide for submission.

- Community group/ Not-for-profit Organisation Local Area rates:
Up to full page: Free
 - Not-for-profit organisations from non-local area welcome. Space may be limited.
 - Frontpage will be shared on a monthly basis between local Community organisations.
- For further details contact the Manager
3610ourplace@gmail.com

Commercial Monthly Rates:

Full Page: \$70
1/2 Page: \$40
1/4: \$25
1/8 (business card): \$15

Annual Sponsorship :

Business card size.
\$150 for 12 editions.
Annual sponsorship also includes
1 x half page article per annum with photos.
For further details Contact Jessie Boer at
3610ourplace@gmail.com
Ph: 58262373
Monday to Friday 9am-3pm

LOCAL ADVERTS



Share your world
Become a foster carer

It's the little things that matter most – like having a safe place to call home, someone you can smile with and the right support.

You can make an extraordinary difference in the life of a young person by sharing those ordinary, everyday moments.

We are looking for compassionate individuals, couples and families to become foster carers to provide a safe and supportive home for vulnerable children and young people. We'll support you 24/7 and provide all the training you need.

Share your world. Become a foster carer.

1300 592 227
lwb.org.au/foster-care
Scan to find out more.



LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS

Murchison Preloved Shop



MON - FRI
9 AM - 3 PM
SATURDAY
10AM - 1PM



Like us on Facebook

VISIT WWW.MURCHISON.ORG.AU



23 IMPEY ST
MURCHISON

Become a volunteer

To register your interest in becoming a volunteer with VICSES, scan the QR code, or visit:
ses.vic.gov.au/joinus.



Neighbourhood House Murchison offers food relief Monday to Friday 9am-3pm at 23 Impey St
We replenish goods every Tuesday at midday
Please see the Manager or volunteers for non-judgemental assistance



Proud Sponsors



Support at Murchison Neighbourhood House every Friday 2pm-3pm



St Vincent de Paul Society
VICTORIA

good works

Murchison Medical Clinic



21 Impey St, Murchison
Mon to Fri 830am - 530pm
PH: 5826 2575



WYBALENA
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25-27 IMPEY ST
MURCHISON

'Your Friendly local community focused Retirement Village'

Lee Gardiner 0438 464 913
Stan McMaster 0416 052 885
Marg McMaster 0417 262 213



GREATER SHEPPARTON

All Welcome COMMUNITY GARDEN

Wednesday Mornings
9am - 11am

Embrace the community spirit by creating beauty

GARDEN

23 Impey St, Murchison
Monday to Friday
9:00 - 3:00pm
Ph: 5826 2373
www.murchison.org.au
manager@murchison.org.au

LOCAL SERVICES DIRECTORY



D & J Electrical PTY LTD
Phone: 0428242782
Email: admin@djelectrical.org



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PH: 5826 2246

Open 7 days a week

Mon-Thur 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-530pm,
Sat & Sun 8am-4pm

**Murchison
Post Office**
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9am to 5pm
51 Stevenson St
Ph: 58262219

45 Stevenson St,
Murchison
Mon to Fri
9am-5pm
PH: 5826 2208



**Murchison
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03 5826 2552
open 7 days



Neighbourhood House Murchison (Vic) 2026 Annual Program Guide Open Monday to Friday | 9am - 3pm

(Please note: Programs/Activities don't operate during school holidays or public holidays)

Our purpose: To nurture inclusive, welcoming, and safe spaces where every member of the Murchison and District community can engage in diverse activities, build meaningful connections, and feel a true sense of belonging

PRELOVED SHOP

Murchison Preloved Shop
Monday to Friday | 9am - 3pm
Saturday | 10am - 1pm
Preloved goods at very low prices
Clothing, Toys, Kitchen goods, etc

Community Book Store
Monday to Friday | 9am - 3pm
Saturday | 10am - 1pm
Great quality books at low prices

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Food Share Program
Monday to Friday | 9am - 3pm
Donation | Replenished every week

FREE Fruit & Vegetable Exchange
Help yourself to Fruit & Vegies |
Donate
Monday to Friday | 9am - 3pm

Community Meals
Every Monday & Wednesday
12pm - 1pm | 2 Courses | \$8 Per Serve
Enjoy a lovely home cooked meal
along with other members of the
community
Everyone is welcome

Coffee Hub
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday |
9am - 11am
\$5 Coffee & a home made sweet or
\$3 for just a coffee or tea

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE SERVICES

-Commercial Kitchen Hire
-Room Hire
-Private Office Hire
Please contact the
Neighbourhood House Manager
for availability and prices on
58262373

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SUPPORT
Every Friday | 2pm - 3pm | FREE

Community Computer
Computer Available & WIFI | FREE
Monday to Friday | 9am - 3pm
Printing, Photocopying, Scanning |
Fee's apply

Laundry Services Available
Washing | Drying
\$3 Per Wash or Dry

3610 Community Newsletter
Published Monthly | Contact the
Neighbourhood House Manager if
you'd like to help on 58262373

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Housing for the Aged
Action Group
Providing housing assistance to
seniors who need help

Primary Care Connect
Paramedix Program
Free health assessments, blood
pressure checks, diabetes checks

Community Calendar of Events
Neighbourhood House Murchison
plans multiple events for all
members of the Community to
join such as Fund Raising
Activities, Town Events, Christmas
Carols and more
To get involved or to find out
whats happening please speak
to the Neighbourhood House
Manager on 58262373

Got an Idea!!!
Please reach out to the
Neighbourhood House Manager
to share your idea or to start up a
Community Activity on 58262373

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Murchison Walking Group
Tuesday & Thursday | 9:30am
FREE | Departs from the
Neighbourhood House

Community Garden
Wednesday 9am - 11am | FREE
19 Impey St, Murchison
Embrace the community spirit by
helping to create a garden to be
shared by all, everyone welcome

Murchison Gardening Group
4th Wednesday of the month |
\$1 Per Person

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Murchison Readers Group
Last Friday of the month |
10am - 11am | \$2 Per Person
Enjoy the pleasure of each others
company while discussing books

Sewing Group
Friday | 11am - 2pm | \$2 Per Person
BYO | Anyone is welcome to join

Art and Craft Group
Monday | 10am - 2pm |
\$2 Per Person
Create your very own
masterpiece

SKILLS AND TRAINING

IT Support
Wednesdays | Fortnightly
930am - 230pm |
Gold coin donation
Bring your own device

Skill Building Workshops
Workshops are planned monthly
and published through
communication channels, social
media and flyers

Thank you Neighbourhood House's supporters





Statement from the Hon Wendy Lovell

Today I have advised Jess Wilson of my decision not to recontest the seat of Northern Victoria Region in the November 2026 State Election, after 24 years of service.

It has been a great privilege for me to represent the people of Northern Victoria Region and before that, North Eastern Province, in the Victorian Parliament. Shepparton has been my home for my entire adult life and the opportunity to represent the region I care so deeply about has been the great honour of my life. I thank the people of Northern Victoria Region and North Eastern Province for electing me six times.

I am proud to have served as a Cabinet Minister in the Baillieu and Napthine Governments, as Minister for Housing, and Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development, and to have served as Deputy Leader of the Government and Opposition (Council) over a period of seven years. I am particularly gratified that programs I introduced, such as Education First Youth Foyers, have become embedded in Victoria's housing response.

The Liberal Party's values embody the aspirations of all Victorians, and I am very thankful to have been given the opportunity to represent those values as a country Liberal MP. I would like to thank those members of the Liberal Party who have served as the chair or as an executive member of my electorate council and the thousands of party volunteers who have supported me over the years. I particularly thank my current chair John Lithgow who has held this position for many years.

I would like to thank my family for their unwavering love and support. Whenever needed they have been there as a grounding influence, a cheer squad or as counsellors during some of the tougher times like the 2009 bushfires and 2022 flood. Without them my career would not have been possible.

Behind every member of Parliament is a hard-working team and I would like to thank my current electorate staff Tamara, Claire and Rob, and my former electorate and ministerial staff for their incredible loyalty, dedication and hard work.

Lastly, I wish Jess Wilson, my colleagues, and all Liberal candidates every success for the November 2026 election.



Victoria's firefighters left dangerously under-resourced

One Nation Victoria calls on the Allan Labor Government to urgently address the critical under-resourcing of the Fire Emergency Services as firefighters face another dangerous bushfire season.

Frontline firefighters continue to struggle without adequate equipment, staffing, nor support necessary to keep Victorians safe, leaving both emergency personnel and communities at risk.

With the CFA having issued a statement of potential catastrophic outcomes for the first time since the Black Summer bushfires, and with evacuation notices already being issued across the state, the Allan Government has serious questions to answer with regard to where the funds raised through the controversial Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF) are going.

Under its predecessor, the ESVF raised \$1.3 Billion in 2024-25, figure projected to increase to \$1.6 Billion. Yet, Victoria's firefighters are facing a fire truck and equipment crisis that leaves them with old, unreliable, and unsafe equipment.

"This tax does not seem to be about funding emergency services, but about trying to fix the economic black hole that this financially irresponsible Government has put our state in", said Bianca Colecchia, State Secretary for One Nation Victoria. "This is simply unacceptable, especially while firefighters are putting their lives on the line. They are screaming to be heard."

"It is not good enough. Victorians deserve better, and frontline workers deserve to have the proper equipment to safely perform their job and keep our communities safe. Where are these funds going?"

One Nation Victoria urges the Government to immediately allocate the necessary resources to emergency services, while calling for transparency and accountability on the collection and allocation of the funds raised through the ESVF tax.

“WYBALENA “

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