

AUGUST 2025

Published By  
Jessie Boer  
Neighbourhood House

3610

FREE

# MURCHISON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## WHATS HAPPENING IN OUR TOWN

• Murchison Heritage Centre is in recess for the season  
For group bookings please ring Janet 5826 2363.

• Murchison Indoor Market brought to you by the Neighbourhood House on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> of July 9am-1pm at the Murchison Community Centre (10 Watson St). Live music, free kids activities, Sausage sizzle, Coffee van  
• The Preloved shop is open on Saturdays 10am-1pm starting August

The Men's Shed

• Saturday 26th July Sausage sizzle at the NHM indoor market at the community centre.  
• Wednesday 30th July VMSA gathering at the Shepparton Greyhound centre

Murchison Primary School and Murchison Preschool

• Rhinestones & Rodeos on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August at 6pm



**SATURDAY 26TH JULY**

# MURCHISON

## Indoor Market

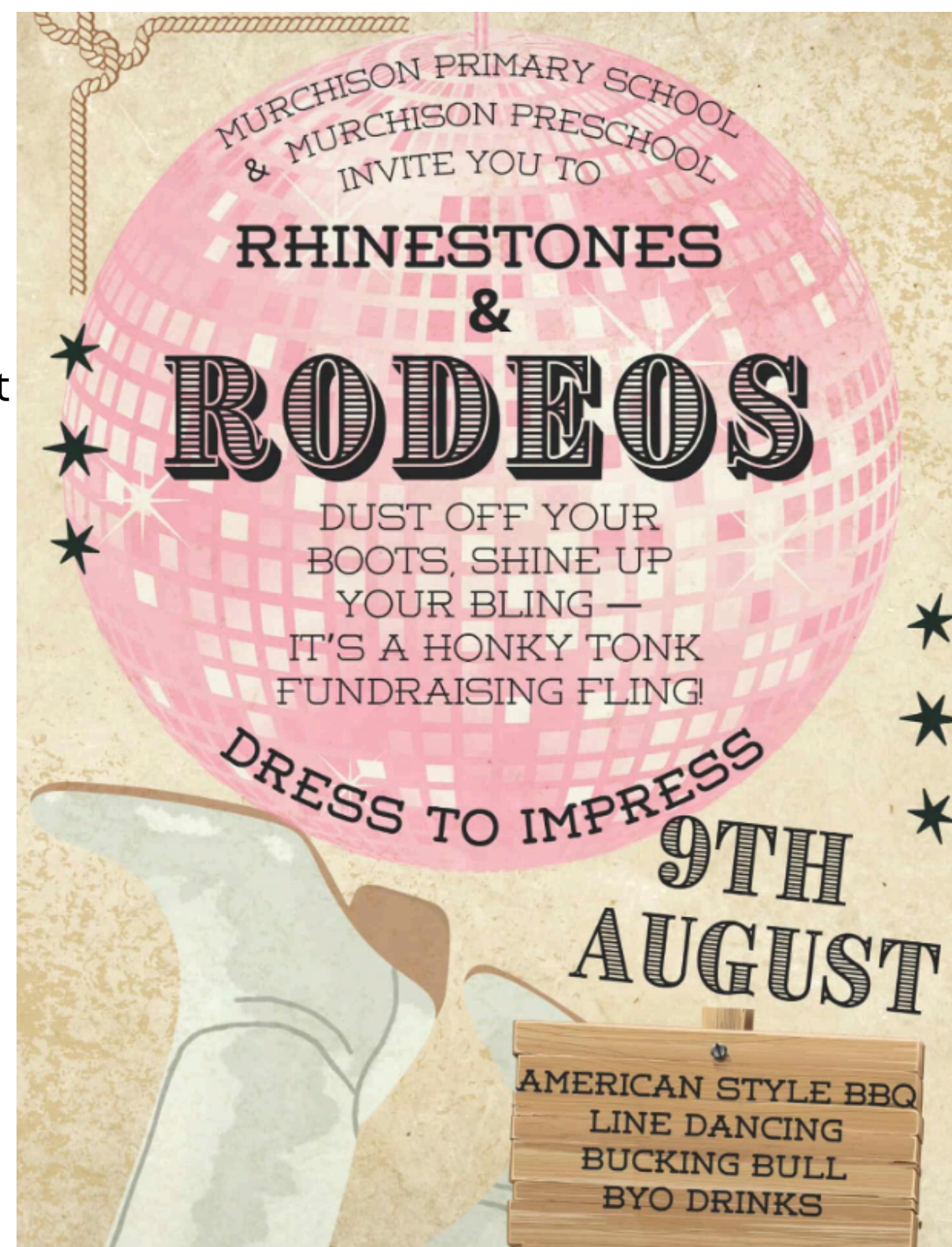
**BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE**

**9:00AM - 1:00PM**

**COMMUNITY HALL  
10 WATSON STREET  
MURCHISON**

- COFFEE VAN
- HOT FOOD
- LIVE MUSIC
- FREE KIDS SENSORY & CRAFT ACTIVITIES

 Neighbourhood House Murchison  
Heart of the Community



MURCHISON PRIMARY SCHOOL  
& MURCHISON PRESCHOOL  
INVITE YOU TO

# RHINESTONES & RODEOS

DUST OFF YOUR  
BOOTS, SHINE UP  
YOUR BLING —  
IT'S A HONKY TONK  
FUNDRAISING FLING!

**DRESS TO IMPRESS**

## 9TH AUGUST

AMERICAN STYLE BBQ  
LINE DANCING  
BUCKING BULL  
BYO DRINKS



# DISRUPTION

An Immersive Art Experience

**Calling all young creatives!**  
Submit your artwork online or participate in a free art session for the opportunity to have your art featured in this animated exhibition. Submissions close Monday, 11 August 2025.

 Are you 12 to 25 years old?  
**GET INVOLVED!**  
shepp.city/disruption | 5832 9700  
recovery@shepparton.vic.gov.au



Save our planet by signing up to the digital version of the 3610 Murchison newsletter  
<http://eepurl.com/h-iLCz>

 Like us on  
**Facebook**

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.







## 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 Mens Shed

Our recreation room at the shed is coming along in leaps and bounds, builder Peter Bromley and his offsiders have finally finished installing the windows, doors and gyprock sheeting to the walls and ceiling. Next week the painters and electrician will be in to finish off.

On Wednesday night, 2nd July, sixteen residents braved the rain and cold to Matt from the Shepparton Council talk about scams during the Elderly Abuse Awareness presentation which was followed by light refreshments.

### Coming Events:

- Saturday 26th July Sausage sizzle at the NHM indoor market at the community centre.
- Tuesday 29th July 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm pre-assessments for FoodRedi Program.
- Wednesday 30th July VMSA gathering at the Shepparton Greyhound centre 8.30 am- 4.00 pm
- Wednesday 6th August Lunch with Chef Rob 12.00 noon
- Tuesdays 12th, 19th, 26th August FoodRedi Program. 11 am – 1.00 pm
- Wednesday Lunch with Chef Ian 12.00 noon
- Saturday 23rd August Annual General Meeting
- Wednesday 3rd September Lunch with Chef Dennis

Meanwhile our Murchison Men's Shed "OPEN" banner will be on display on Watson Street when ever we are open, So come to the Men's Shed 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

## Apology:

from Murchison Men's Shed Inc.

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> of July.

Elder Abuse Awareness evening.

As those who attended know, our guest speaker did not turn up.

I have since found out that she had a car mechanical problem.

The contact number supplied to her by the co-ordinator had a wrong digit in it and she was unable to contact us.

Matt, from the Shepparton Council stepped in at the last minute with great information on how the elderly can avoid scams.

Thank you Matt, you did a good job recovering the evening from the missing guest speaker.

We had 18 guests for this informative event, followed by a light supper and hot drinks in our warm shed.

The members of Murchison Men's Shed put on these health information sessions, open and free, to the local community, with the help of GV Health and the Greater Shepparton City Council.

We look forward to putting on more of these events for the community in future months.

Looking forward to seeing more community members at these free events.

If there is a health topic that you are interested in, please let me know and we will try to organise it.

We hope to see you all at the Indoor market on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July.

Dennis McCullagh.

President. MMS.

0428 148 210

**G'day,**

**Murchison Men's Shed here.**

**Yep**, I know, just those old blokes in a tin shed makin stuff out of bits of wood.

**OK, let's talk about somthin serious.**

**Men's Health Week** has just passed and I'm not here to tell you how to suck eggs or even how to hammer a nail... but today I wanna talk about something a bit serious. It's this habit a lot of us blokes have got into — somethin' goes a bit funny in the body, and instead of callin' the doc or poppin' down to the clinic, we jump on the internet and ask Dr. Google.

**Mate...** don't do it. I've done it meself — you wake up with a dodgy shoulder or the knee's clickin' like a busted ratchet, and five minutes on the internet later you reckon you've got anything from gout to goat flu. It's a fast track to panic and bad advice.

**Here's the thing:** Google doesn't know you. It doesn't know your history, your medications, or that time you fell off the back of the ute and never quite got that hip checked. It just spits out the worst-case scenario and a pile of clickbait. And don't get me started on forums.

**Bloke** named "MuscleWizard1983" reckons he cured his sciatic pain with tiger balm and raw liver — doesn't make him a physio.

If your car was playing up, you wouldn't search "weird engine noise" and just hope for the best — you'd take it to the mechanic. So why treat your own body like a busted whipper snipper you're too proud to fix? We've got brilliant health professionals here in Murchison. GPs, physios, nurses — even health info right here in our shed. These folks are trained, tested, and know what they're on about. They'll give it to you straight — no snake oil, no guesswork.

**So**, if something's off — if you're in pain, short of breath, dizzy, or just not feelin right — don't muck about. Don't be stubborn. Don't be proud. Be smart. Go talk to someone who knows. Strong isn't just how much you can lift. It's also knowing when to ask for help.

**Righto** — stay healthy, stay sharp, and keep your shed — and yourself — in top nick.

**And** that goes for you young blokes too, not just those blokes at the shed.

**Our shed is open to all men 18 to Infinity.**

**Contacts:** Murchison Medical Clinic, (03) 5826 2575 Hours 8.30am Mon to Fri

Men's shed President, Dennis 0428 148 210

Men's shed Secretary, Con 0421 525 665

Email: [murchisonmensshed@gmail.com](mailto:murchisonmensshed@gmail.com)



## **CFA MURCHISON FIRE BRIGADE**

**By Bob Langford**

Hello Murchison. August approaches and as we slide towards the rear end of winter, **Home Fire Safety** continues to be the main topic of Brigade advice.

My apologies for being repetitive but keeping the home fire safe is a paramount consideration and while the Murchison Community has a very good track record in this respect, we must not become complacent.

A few of the Home Fire Safety tips we need to consider are;

■ **Domestic Wood Burning Fires and Stoves:** Before operation or re-lighting ensure the flue is clean. Over time chimneys and flues will accumulate a residue of creosote which is highly combustible at elevated temperatures and could lead to chimney fires causing damage to the dwelling. Flue cleaning before use is strongly suggested. You might think it is clean enough, but you can't see the deposit.

■ **Electric Blankets:** Check the condition of the blanket before and during use and discard if signs of wear and exposure of wiring is observed. Please ensure that the blanket is switched off before retiring.

■ **Portable and fixed heating appliances:** Use carefully and keep out of the way of children and pets. Never leave these appliances unsupervised. Always ensure that air outlets or inlets are never blocked which is extremely important when using gas fired appliances as the combustion process produces toxic carbon monoxide. Be aware when these appliances used for drying clothes.

Remember – **‘ONE METRE FROM THE HEATER’ !**

■ **Gas Patio Heaters:** Keep on a flat, solid, non flammable surface ensuring all gas connections are tight and the unit is turned off when not in use. Never use this type of heating system indoors. Carbon Monoxide is a killer; only use gas appliances approved for indoor use and ensure adequate ventilation.

■ **Chimineas or Outdoor Fire Pits:** Keep at least 3 metres away from flammable items including buildings, decking and other structures. Extinguish it with water before leaving.

■ **Electrical Appliances:** A common cause of fire. All equipment should have an Aust Standard or Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM). Ensure power boards have overload protection and aren't covered eg. by clothing, pillows, doonas etc. Do not piggyback into one socket or use double adaptors. One plug per device is recommended. Also beware of the dangers of re-charging computers and mobile phones. Do not cover up these items while charging or leave them unattended to charge. Be aware also of the dangers associated with charging mobile Lithium Battery powered electrical appliances such as cars and scooters , and to a lesser extent tools.

■ **Cigarettes and open flames:** Cigarettes, candles, incense and oil burners can cause fires. Always extinguish any open flame or cigarette before leaving home or going to sleep. Just think, that beautiful soporific aroma of a scented candle burning before sleep might easily turn into your worst nightmare if not extinguished.

■ **Home Fire Escape Plan:** If you haven't got one then make one. It could save your life or lives of loved ones and pets. Don't ever neglect your pets, they are also part of the family !

Some questions to ask yourself –

■ Are your smoke alarms correctly placed and working ?

■ Have you the correct extinguishers for your situation and fire blanket ready for use ?

■ Have you developed and practiced a home fire escape plan ?

■ Is the Emergency Number 000 prominently displayed ?

■ Is your fireplace safe ?

■ Is your kitchen safe ?

■ Are your electrical appliance in good working order and power boards not overloaded ?

If you can answer 'yes' to the above questions then you are on the correct track to safety.



Should you wish to discuss any aspect of Home Fire Safety please do not hesitate to contact CFA Murchison Fire Brigade.

We can also arrange for a personal Home Fire Safety assessment through one of our experts should you feel it necessary. Our Fire Station on Robinson Street Murchison is usually manned for routine maintenance purposes between 0900 and 1200 on Sundays and If the doors are open so are we, so call in and have a chat.

One more important thing is that should you ever be faced with an emergency requiring fire brigade attendance please do **not** call the station. It is unattended and we don't live there.

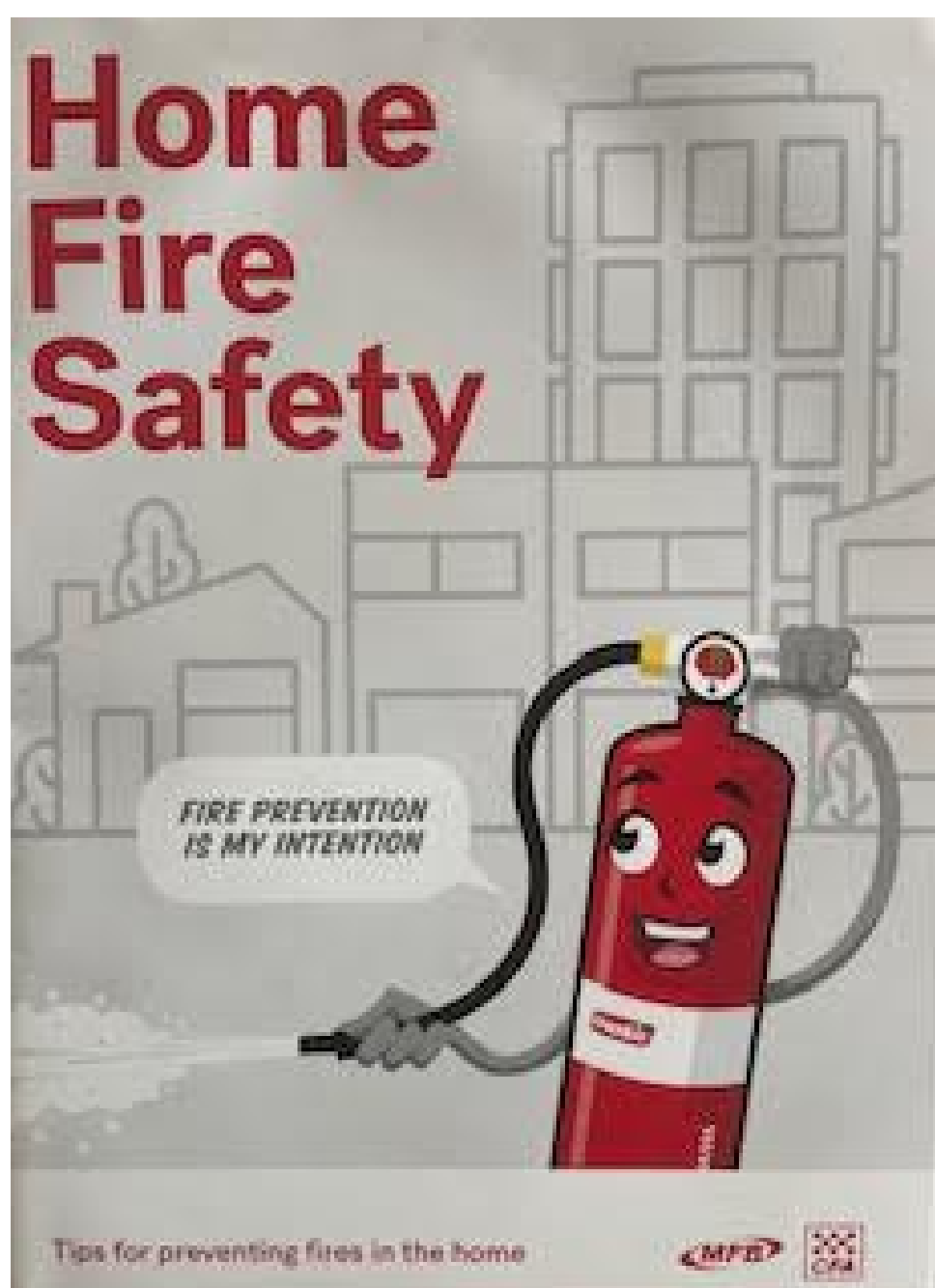
Calmly dial 000 and when answered request the Emergency Service required your name, nature and location of the emergency and a contact phone number. Listen carefully to any instructions given by the operator. Help will be dispatched as soon as possible.

**Follow us on our Facebook page CFA MURCHISON FIRE BRIGADE for all the latest news and advice. Let us know you are out there !**

**LET'S ALL STAY SAFE THIS  
WINTER !**

**CFA MURCHISON FIRE BRIGADE  
IS RECRUITING !  
INTERESTED ?**

**HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES ?  
WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE A SENSE OF  
COMMUNITY, A SENSE OF ADVENTURE, A SENSE OF  
HUMOUR AND WHO CAN WORK IN A TEAM.  
DON'T JUST THINK ABOUT IT,  
COME AND TALK TO US, YOU WILL LIKE US !**





## Murchison Historical Society

### **ANNIVERSARY OF THE SINKING OF THE SHIP *Montevideo Maru***

July 1 st this year marked the 83 rd anniversary of the loss of the Montevideo Maru, a ship transporting Australian Prisoners of War, sadly sunk by friendly fire in 1942.

An American Submarine torpedoed this Japanese ship, as there were no markings to indicate it was transporting over 1,000 Australian Prisoners of War. All on board drowned and so it is recorded as Australia's worst maritime disaster.

The location of the wreckage, off the coast of the Philippines, was only located 2 years ago. It is lying deeper under the sea than the wreck of the Titanic and although the position is now known, the wreck will be left undisturbed.

Stanhope has an impressive mural in their town of the Montevideo Maru, and interpretive signage telling the story and details of locals whose lives were lost that day.

Murchison men also lost their lives due to this tragedy. One was Henry Anthony Gregory, who had been working as a County Court Judge in New Guinea for about 20 years. His wife Amy, only knew of his certain fate after the war ended when records revealed he had been on the Montevideo Maru. Henry Gregory was the nephew of E J Gregory, prominent citizen of Murchison and proprietor of Gregory's Bridge Hotel. His wife Amy, was E J's daughter.

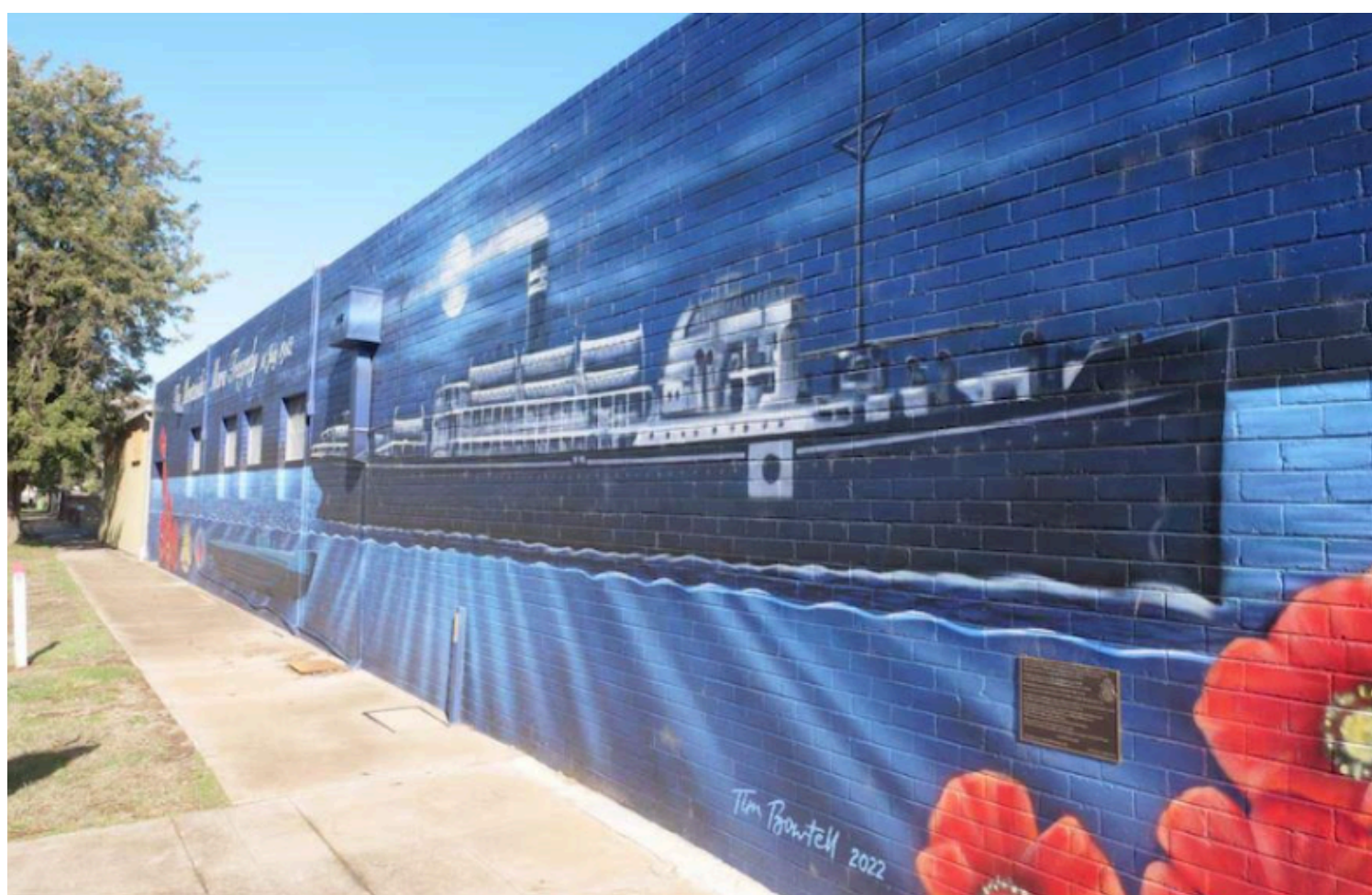
Another member of the Gregory family was on the ill-fated Montevideo Maru. Norman Gregory, a gunner in the Army and only 23 years of age, also lost his life that day in 1942.

Norman was the grandson of E J Gregory and youngest brother of well-known Murchison identity, Keith Gregory.

Recent information from the Crawford family has revealed that the life of another person connected to Murchison was lost on the Montevideo Maru. Allen Pattinson married Connie Crawford who grew up on the Andrew Crawford family farm on River Road, North Murchison. They had only married in 1941. Allen was in the AIF in Rabaul when taken prisoner and when he lost his life, Connie was left a widow at 35 with a very young son.

The sadness surrounding the sinking of the Montevideo Maru touched many Goulburn Valley people. It is worth a drive to Stanhope to have a look at the mural, read the well-presented information on the panels located across the road from the mural to find out more about this part of Australian War history.

Kay Ball, President, Murchison & District Historical Society Inc.



### **MURCHISON HERITAGE CENTRE**

#### **Murchison & District Historical Society**

4 Stevenson Street, Murchison PO Box 98, Murchison 3610

**Regular open times of the Heritage Centre  
are in recess until mid-September**

**We apologise for any inconvenience**

All enquires please contact:

murch.hs@outlook.com

murchisonhistoricalsociety.wordpress.com

Group bookings: Janet - 5826 2363

*Thank You*






**MURCHISON PRESCHOOL ENROLMENTS FOR 2026 OPEN NOW**

We encourage you to reach out to discuss any of your questions, to come and get a feel for our learning space or visit [www.grpsa.com.au](http://www.grpsa.com.au) to fill in an application

- Nature Learning program terms 2 and 3
- Pre-Prep rollout



**Free Blood Pressure & Health Assessments (Adults 18+)**

**HEALTH HUBS MURCHISON**  
**Murchison Neighborhood House**  
 23 Impey St, Murchison VIC 3610

**HEALTH HUB DATES**

<b>Monday 7 July 2025</b> 9:00am - 11:00am	<b>Monday 4 August 2025</b> 9:00am - 11:00am
<b>Monday 18 August 2025</b> 9:00am - 11:00am	<b>Monday 1 September 2025</b> 9:00am - 11:00am

The CP@clinic is a free health check-up. You can talk to a paramedic and/or nurse about your health and wellbeing needs and concerns. All personal information will be kept private.

**For more information about CP@Clinic, please call:**  
**Primary Care Connect at (03) 5823 3200 to speak to our friendly Consumer Care Team.**









**Contact Us:**  
 399 Wyndham Street, Shepparton  
 (03) 5823 3200  
[/primarycareconnect](https://primarycareconnect.org.au)



**RESILIENCE CANOPY PRACTITIONER TRAINING**

**Train to build community resilience**

**FREE** for Greater Shepparton community member (conditions apply)

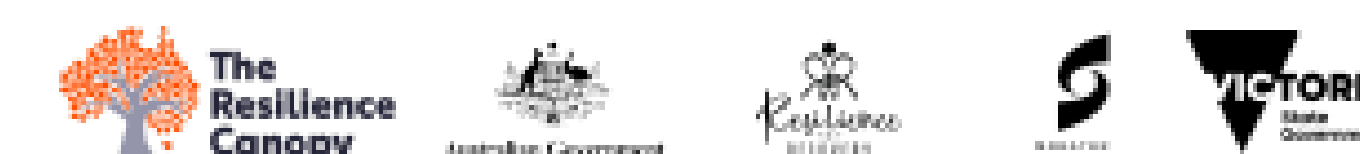


**Mooroopna, VIC**

**Register Now**  
 Click here or scan the QR Code  
[resiliencecanopy.com.au](https://resiliencecanopy.com.au)

**4-Session Program**  
 31 July to 12 Aug 2025  
 Mooroopna Education & Activity Centre







**2025 HOPPERS SOCIAL CALENDAR**

14	Sat 19th July	SHEPP EAST (A)	Black Tie Ball
15	Sat 26th July	STANHOPE (H)	Past Players Re-union - Goods & Services Auction
16	Sat 2nd Aug	GIRGARRE (A)	Junction Hotel
17	Sat 9th Aug	BYE	
18	Sat 16th Aug	VIOLET TOWN (H)	Sponsors Day
	Sat 13 Sep	GRAND FINALS	After Finals Party - Meal & Bar Open
	Fri 26 Sep	Legends Games @ Toolamba then to Junction Hotel (AFL GF weekend)	
	Fri 10th October		Senior Vote Count & Presentation Night
	Sun 12th October		Junior Vote Count & Presentation Day

 **TICKETED EVENT**

 **MORE INFORMATION ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE**



WE are **YOUR** community health connection!



**\$8 PER SESSION BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

**CIRCUIT CLASS**

**Primary Care Connect is bringing OUR GYM directly to the Murchison community!**

Primary Care Connects Circuit Class consists of structured exercises completed as a group by alternating from one exercise to another. Sessions focus on increasing whole body muscular strength and endurance, overall fitness, and improving movement and mobility. Our Circuit Classes are suitable for people of all ages and fitness!



**Murchison Community Hall**  
 10 Watson street, Murchison



# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://WWW.MURCHISON.ORG.AU)



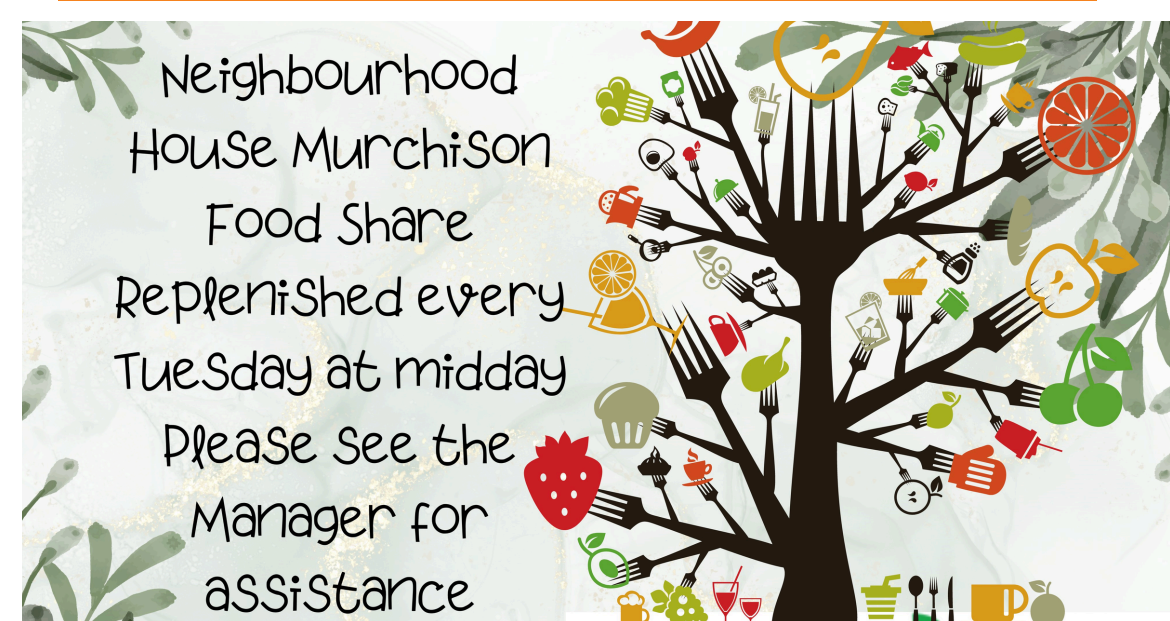
**23 IMPEY ST**  
**MURCHISON**

## Become a volunteer

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



Scan me



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



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
VICTORIA  
*good works*



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



**GREATER SHEPPARTON**



23 Impey St, Murchison  
Monday to Friday  
9:00 - 3:00pm  
Ph: 5826 2373  
[www.murchison.org.au](http://www.murchison.org.au)  
[manager@murchison.org.au](mailto:manager@murchison.org.au)



WYBALENA  
RETIREMENT VILLAGE  
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



## LOCAL SERVICES DIRECTORY



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



25 Stevenson St  
Murchison  
03 5826 2443

**Murchison**  
• RIVER ROAD •  
CARAVAN PARK  
0497 149 058

LINDSAY'S JEWELS  
Variety  
Provider  
& GIFTS

ewartplumbing  
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colmsmowing@gmail.com  
colmsmowing.com.au



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Heating,  
Cooling &  
Plumbing**  
**0408 333 484**



Longleat Wines

105 Old Weir Rd Murchison

Open Sat/Sun 10-5

Wine—coffee/cake—meals

Bookings: 0421602520 Email: info@murchisonwines.com.au

murchisonwines.com.au

**BOLTON ESTATE AGENTS**

If you're thinking of selling  
your property.

Please call Chris Bolton on  
0413 092 698

Murchison's only local  
Estate Agent



• TREE REMOVALS • TREE PRUNING •  
• STUMP GRINDING •  
• 24/7 EMERGENCY TREE CARE •

**0457 283 085**

JAKE CARRICK



**Murchison Supa Valu Centre**  
33 Stevenson St, Murchison

PH: 5826 2246

Open 7 days a week

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

**Murchison Bakery**  
& TEAROOMS

39 Stevenson Street  
Murchison Vic 3610

OPEN 7 DAYS  
(03) 5826 2336



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

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



**Murchison  
Pharmacy**



www.avonleflowers.com.au



Solar PV systems for  
Domestic, Business and Commercial  
Ph: (03) 58262513  
email: info@gvce.com.au  
www.gvce.com.au



4895 Goulburn Valley Highway  
Murchison East  
P.O. Box 64, VIC, 3610

**MILOS & PERSIDA VUKCEVIC**  
Phone: 5826 2267

FUELS • OILS • AUTO GAS • TYRES

**RAILWAY  
HOTEL**  
MURCHISON EAST



Find us on fb.  
03 5826 2552  
open 7 days





## Neighbourhood House Murchison (Vic) 2025 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  
Preloved goods at very low prices  
Clothing, Toys, Kitchen goods, etc

**Community Book Store**  
Monday to Friday | 9am - 3pm  
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  
Paramedic 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

**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  
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## **Shock at fourth rise in a year for burial prices at RPCV**

The shock announcement of a fourth price rise in a year for burial costs at Remembrance Parks Central Victoria (RPCV) cemeteries raises further doubts about the trust's leadership and ability to govern, says Liberal Member for Northern Victoria Wendy Lovell.

A massive hike in the price of a standard lawn grave will mean grieving families face potential cost increases of over \$1,600 dollars – up to 86% more – to bury a loved one in newly developed areas at RPCV cemeteries in central and northern Victoria, including sites in Greater Bendigo, Greater Shepparton, and Donnybrook.

In 2024, RPCV raised fees by the statutory CPI increase on 1 July. The cemetery trust then made the controversial move to further increase prices by an average 14% in December 2024 after a price and product review, followed by a third increase on 1 July 2025, in accordance with the CPI.

A day later, on 2 July 2025, RPCV announced a fourth price increase in the form of a new and much more expensive fee structure for graves in newly developed sections of their cemeteries that open after July 2025 – with new sections already under development at Eaglehawk and Pine Lodge.

Standard lawn graves in all newly opened sections will now cost \$3,600, which is \$1,665 more than a standard lawn grave currently costs at the trust's White Hills and Kialla West cemeteries – an 86% increase.

A standard lawn grave at Axedale will increase by \$1,180, or 48.8%. At the remaining locations, including Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Kangaroo Flat, Pine Lodge, and Donnybrook, the standard lawn grave will increase by \$730 or 25.4%. Funeral directors, and family members caring for ageing parents, are now deeply concerned that as existing sections of the cemeteries quickly fill up, the current fee structure for those plots will soon no longer be available. Families seeking a resting place for their loved ones will then be forced to pay the new and much more expensive fees that will apply to all new sections that open at cemeteries after July 2025.

These massive fee increases follow a series of operational, financial, and governance scandals at RPCV, and raise further doubts about the financial and managerial competence of the current board and chair.

The RPCV trust failed to table its 2022-23 and 2023-24 annual reports until March 2025, and did not hold the required annual general meetings during that time, meaning the board avoided public scrutiny and accountability at the very time that its cemeteries were involved in a series of operational scandals.

In 2022 RPCV attempted to implement an exorbitant increase in the cost of burials, which was squashed after significant community backlash. In 2023 came the adornment scandal when cherished family mementos were removed from graves without permission. Then 2024 started with two controversial incidents in which graves were recklessly disturbed by maintenance crews, and ended in December with a dramatic increase in the cost of a plot and burial. Now RPCV has begun the 2025-26 financial year with yet another massive hike in prices, by dressing up the existing standard lawn grave in a newly opened section as if it were a new and better memorial product.

Comments attributable to Liberal Member for Northern Victoria Wendy Lovell:

“Massively increasing the fees for standard lawn graves at RPCV cemeteries shows that the trust's board and chair are completely out of touch, and don't understand the financial pressure that families are under during a cost of living crisis.” “The current chair has overseen a series of operational, financial, and governance scandals during her tenure, but has avoided scrutiny by failing to table annual reports or hold annual general meetings.”

“The Allan Labor Government reappointed the chair just in time to announce a massive increase in fees, demonstrating Labor's obsession with taking money from the pockets of Victorian families to cover over its own financial incompetence.”

“Labor can't manage money, can't manage cemeteries, and Victorians are paying the price.”



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