JANUARY 2023

SO TO FREE

MURCHISON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER







"Candling" trees in the hours of darkness





In the morning light



MURCHISON FIRE BRIGADE CFA

BY BOB LANGFORD

As this is the first edition of 3610 for 2023 we at Murchison Fire Brigade CFA would like to extend everyone the compliments of the season and best wishes for a happy, successful and safe New Year.

As we move into 2023 and the Fire Danger Period (declared in December 2022), Murchison Fire Brigade has been busy attending fire related incidents, some of which might have been avoided by more careful thought and planning on the part of property owners. An over abundance of long dry grass and an ignition point has caused several incidents which, for the prompt attendance of local brigades would have easily turned into more serious situations. Local farmer owned water spraying utes and spray carts have sometimes been voluntarily deployed to assist and CFA is appreciative of their help..

Continued Page 10

Volunteers Needed



Neighbourhood House Murchison is currently looking for volunteers to help out in the Op Shop, Bookstore and kitchen. It's great fun and a great opportunity to get involved in community action and development.

Contact Louis on **5823 2373** or at **manager@murchison.org.au** if you're interested.

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Neighbourhood House Murchison

3610 MURCHISON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER IS A PROGRAM OF NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE MURCHISON (VIC) INC.

Articles are due no later than the 17th 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 and month of edition.

- All articles are subject to publisher and 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 of the
- at 3610ourplace@gmail.com

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- 1/8 (business card): \$15
- Annual Sponsorship Business card size. \$250 for 12 editions.
- Annual sponsorship also includes 1 x half page article per annum with photos. For further details Contact Katrina Campbell at 3610ourplace@gmail.com

Neighbourhood House Murchison 23 Impey Street Murchison VIC 3610

P: 03 5826 2373 E: info@murchison.org.au murchison.org.au

Opening hours; 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday (excluding Thursday).



amazing volunteer

in our community that deserves recognition?

Nominate them today for the Greater Shepparton Volunteer Recognition Awards!

Nominations close Monday 27 February 2023.

For further information, categories and nomination forms, visit greatershepparton.com.au or scan the QR code.







A QUICK SHOUT-OUT TO TATURA **FAMILY BUTCHERS FOR** SUPPORTING MURCHISON **EVENTS AT THE END OF 2022. GREAT MEAT, GREAT PEOPLE!**

2022 DECEMBER WRAP-UP CELEBRATING MURCH!

BY NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE MURCHISON

At the end of 2022, after a challenging year, the fabulous Murchison & District community came together for two community events to celebrate the town and thank local organisations for their support during the year.





The first of these was held on 4th December 2022 at the Railway Hotel in Murch East and gave the community a chance to celebrate the hard-working folk who helped out during the flooding event, and to raise some money for local emergency services. The free event was organised by the Murchison Planning Committee, the Railway Hotel and the Neighbourhood House – with support from Murchison Bakery, Lions Club, SES, CFA and the Men's Shed – and raised over \$1600 for local emergency service organisations. Around 100 people attended and enjoyed a barbecue, music, a few drinks and a raffle on a sunny and warm Sunday afternoon. We had a blast!





Murchison Christmas Market & Carols took place on a drizzly Sunday afternoon in December and was a roaring success! Despite the weather, over 300 people turned out for games, music, food, market stalls and – of course – to chase Santa around Murchison Riverside Gardens. The event was planned and run by the wonderful folk from the Murchison Carols Committee and supported by Greater Shepparton City Council and almost all local community organisations. A special thank you to Murchison Community Centre for the stage and chairs, Lions Club for cooking the barbecue, Murchison Primary School for the wonderful music and to all others who attended, held market stalls and helped out on the day. We can't wait to do it again in 2023!

UPDATE FROM MURCHISON PLANNING COMMITTEE ABOUT RECENTLY INSTALLED ABORIGINAL ART INSTALLATION ON THE RIVER VIEWING PLATFORM ADJACENT TO THE KID'S PLAYGROUND IN THE PARK.





Late last year, the Planning Committee was successful with the application for a CPIF (Community Plan Implementation Fund) grant, available to offer First Nations artwork to be positioned in communities.

Local indigenous artist Tammy Lee Atkinson came out to Murchison just before Xmas, and used the themes provided, and her knowledge of aboriginal history in the area to create this wonderful design.

For those who haven't seen it, just walk up the right-hand side of the kid's playground, and onto the river viewing platform. The whole seat was used as a canvas for this fantastic artwork.

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MURCHISON PRIMARY SCHOOL BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE!



What a jam packed end of year for Murchison Primary School! Our senior students had the opportunity to head to Melbourne for 3 days on DOXA camp. They got the experiences of catching trams, trains and walking through the city. Ice Skating was a highlight for many.

Students have had cross-age activities, mixing of students from Foundation to Grade 6, to try a variety of activities – STEM, craft and games to name a few! It's always great to see how well students of all ages get along and help one another out.







There have been some emotional moments as we prepare to say good-bye to our wonderful Grade 6 students. We have celebrated their achievements (and general wonderfulness) with a breakfast, dinner and Graduation Ceremony. We wish them success as they head to their chosen high schools next year.

Over the summer break Murchison Primary will be running a vacation care program, this is open to all primary school aged children and 2023 Foundation students. Please contact the school if you would like further information on 03 58262 391.

Happy New Year to all! Bring on 2023.

Murchison Flood Recovery Centre

If you were affected by the 2022 floods, Neighbourhood House Murchison can help. We can provide assistance with emergency relief grants, information about various services and who to talk to, and food and material support. Generous people from the community - and from organisations all over Victoria - have donated loads and loads of clothing, blankets, toiletries, cleaning products, hygiene products and much more, and it's available for those in need.

If you need assistance

Murchison Flood Recovery Centre

rt Neighbourhood House Murchison

- Food Care Packs
- Material Aid and Support
- Material Aid and Support
- Assistance with Emegency Relief Grants



HISTORY OF THE CHURCHES IN MURCHISON

BY KAY BALL PRESIDENT, MURCHISON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH





Photo of sanctuary window by Montgomery

Christ Church Anglican Church was built in 1884 on the corner of Impey and Watson Streets. Prior to this, Anglican services were held in the Mechanics Institute, Presbyterian and Methodist churches. An early service held in the Mechanics Institute in 1876 boasted a congregation of 60.

Dedication of the church by Bishop Goe did not take place until 1895, the delay thought to be due to the policy of clearing debt on the building before this formal step. The red brick building is described as rural Gothic revival in style, typical of the era but with an unusual transverse gable-roofed entry porch at the west end. A special feature are the high-quality colourful stained-glass windows, notably the three sanctuary windows in memory of Thomas Prettejohn who died in 1900, that are by renowned stained-glass artist, William Montgomery. Montgomery produced around 2000 stained glass windows in Melbourne and across rural Victoria and New south Wales during an impressive career spanning nearly 40 years. Other very attractive windows are by Brooks, Robinson & Co. and are in memory of members of the Gregory family – Major Ernest Gregory, his sister Muriel and their mother Mary.

The Dargalong Church, built in 1897, was transported to Murchison in 1930 to become the Sunday School and Meeting Hall and continues to be used as the Church Hall today.

In earlier times the minister lived in the rectory next door in Impey Street, which was built in 1920. Since it was partially destroyed by fire in 1961, the minister has resided in neighbouring towns.

Christ Church is in the Diocese of Wangaratta and at various times over the years has been part of Parishes that have included Arcadia, Avenel, Nagambie and Rushworth, and more recently Christ Church together with St. Paul's at Rushworth have been attached to Shepparton. A new structure has been formalised as from the 20th November last year, when Bishop Clarence officially declared Murchison and Rushworth churches a stand-alone Parochial District. Rev. Helen Malcolm is the Locum Priest-in-Charge at present until a Priest is appointed who will provide ministry arrangements from the Parochial District of Violet Town, Longwood and Euroa.

City of Geater Shepparton lists Christ Church Murchison in their Heritage Study, and notes it to be 'of local historic, aesthetic and social significance'.

Regular church services are held at 11am each Sunday except on the 5th Sunday in the month when the service is a combined one at 10.30am, alternating at Christ Church Murchison and St Paul's Rushworth.

More about the other two Murchison churches, the Uniting Church and Catholic Church in future editions of 3610.

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

BOLTON ESTATE AGENTS

Do you like to cook?

Are you interested in community-led projects?

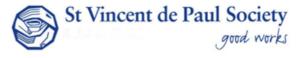
Murchison Neighbourhood House

is seeking volunteers to assist with a new community initiative to provide cheap and local catering for wakes.



Contact Louis on 03 5826 2373 or at manager@murchison.org.au to get involved!





Assistance is available

Every Friday from 2 - 3pm

At the Neighbourhood House

Neighbourhood House Murchison

23 Impey Street

03 5826 2373 info@murchison.org.au



MURCHISON BOWLS CLUB



The Bowls Club hosted their Open Pairs Tournament on 7th January.

A big thank you to Total Tree and Stump Removal for their sponsorship. They were here watching and presented the winners with prize money. It was a great day!

Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all who participated.



MURCHISON FIRE BRIGADE CFA

BY BOB LANGFORD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Murchison Brigade does not act alone. During Fire Danger Periods CFA operations are structured around an integrated mutual support network where neighbouring Brigades are automatically despatched in support of the Primary Brigade. Depending on the severity of the incident help may be drawn from the areas of Moorilim, Toolamba, Tatura, Rushworth, Arcadia, Meipol, Nagambie, Baillieston and Wahring. Some Brigades operate specialised equipment such as Ultra-Light Tankers, Big Fill Pumps and Utes suitable as Forward Control Vehicles. Confronting an incident, the first responder might request one or more of these specialised units as support on a 'stand-alone' basis without involving the main Brigade. These specialised units can often be seen in Murchison either passing through or attending the local Brigade. Murchison Fire Brigade is likewise often called to assist Brigades in other areas when the need arises.

Please stay safe. Think and act appropriately in accordance with best safety practice. If in doubt read the CFA publication 'Can I, or Can't I'.

Tractor and machinery owners must now have supplied and fitted a 9L water extinguisher as a primary method of spot fire control. Please don't get caught out, or short!

Attached are some photographs taken during recent incidents. Please take note of the remains of a ride on mower which caused a fire due to a spark. This was also very close to a dwelling and 75 acres

MURCHISON CFA - ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2022

At the recent 2022 Brigade Christmas function, achievement awards were presented to individuals from the Senior and Junior sections reflecting their outstanding commitment to the Brigade and Community at large over the recent 12 months.

Senior Members - presented by Capt. Thaniel Meyer and 1st Lieutenant Tino Catania:

- Firefighter Andrew Gell Firefighter of the Year Award
- Firefighter Ray Nicholls Encouragement Award

Junior Members - presented by Junior Leaders Bec Catania and Sharon Reilly:

- Keighly Balmer: "Junior Encouragement Award"
- Seth Adams-Coulston: "Junior Firefighter of the Year Award"
- Ryan Gell: "Junior Firefighter of the Year Award"

Congratulation to all above! These awards were well deserved.

We also have the pleasure of welcoming both Seth and Ryan into the ranks of the Senior Section in 2023!

Special congratulations to the proud Gell family who achieved a unique father and son double.





MURCHISON MEN'S SHED INC

INC No. A01097471; ABN 47749064930; ATO, DGR 23 Impey Street Murchison Vic 3610

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

Unfortunately there has been little movement at the new men's shed site during the past month. Shed members have recently had a positive meeting with Josh Lee, Karen Tidd and Melanie Holt from Shepparton Council and have been assured that work should be completed by the 25th January. We also discussed a celebrated opening day possibly in April or May.

Our thanks go out to the owners of the Longleat Estate Winery, who have allowed us to continue to use our small men's shed on Wednesdays from 10.00 am to approx. 3.00 pm until we are able to build somewhere else.

The morale of the guys is still high, with members helping with the cooking of the free BBQ at Murchison East Hotel honouring the SES and volunteers who helped during the floods.

Murchison Men's Shed held their family Christmas Dinner on Saturday the 10th of December where members and their partners enjoyed a two-course meal at the Murchison East Hotel.

On 11th December members manned a stall at the Christmas Carol and Market Event held at Murchison Riverside Gardens and attended by so many residents and their children.

Our mission for 2023 is now to move into our new shed, increase our membership, and obtain tools and machinery needed for woodworking, metalworking, restoration, gardening, exercising and any other project members are willing to undertake.

Murchison deserves and aims toward having an active men's shed, where men regardless of age or background are welcome to be involved in community projects, or just socialise and communicate with other men over a coffee.

Men's health is our primary concern and we have potential members waiting to see what our future brings. Contacts

Dennis McCullagh (President) | 0428 148 210 | murchisonmensshed@gmail.com Con Scarvelis (Secretary) | 0421 525 665 | conscar2019@gmail.com

Make sure you drive carefully, stay safe during the festive season and have a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

It's now the new year and work has started again at the shed. The front roller door has been installed, electricians have started on the electricals inside the shed, and timber has been delivered for the amenities.

We have also received a new completion date of 25th January 2023. If this does happen, we will be looking at having an open day some time mid-March, April or May.

Future Events

Thursday January 26th - BBQ for Australia Day Celebrations at Murchison Swimming Pool Thursday April 6th - Sausage Sizzle at Murchison Pharmacy | 8am - 2pm Sunday April 9th - Easter Raffle

MURCHISON SWIMMING POOL

Murchison Swimming Pool is owned and operated by the community and is the place to be in the heat of summer. Drop in for some lap swimming, water aerobics or just to cool off.

Check out the Facebook page for more information about activities and events (including Australia Day at the pool).





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MURCHISON SWIMMING POOL AQUA AEROBICS

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY 6:15PM - 7:15PM

\$5.00 PER PERSON PER SESSION OR A MEMBER + YOUR ACTIVITIES PASS

THE SESSIONS WILL BE RAN BY HALLY, WHO IS VERY EXCITED TO SEE OLD AND NEW PROPLE COMING ALONG FOR SOME FUN. ALL PITNESS LEVELS AND AGES

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MURCHISON SWIMMING POOL LAP SWIMMING

> TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 6:00AM - 7:00AM

\$5.00 PER PERSON PER SESSION OR A MEMBER + YOUR ACTIVITIES PASS

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Greater Shepparton Women's Charter Award Nominations

NOW OPEN

Bach year the Greater Shepparton Women's Charter Advisory Committee encourages members of the community to nominate an individual who has made a positive difference to women in the community.



eatershepparton.com.au/gawcac





MURCHISON RETIREMENT VILLAGE INC- WYBALENA VILLAGE LIVE LOCAL, RETIRE LOCAL AND REMAIN LOCAL.

A SHORT STORY ABOUT ANOTHER OF OUR RESIDENTS, AND THE MURCHISON RETIREMENT VILLAGE COMMUNITY.

DENNIS AND MARION HIPPERSON - HAVE BEEN ACTIVE RESIDENTS OF THE WYBALENA VILLAGE FOR JUST ON 9 YEARS.

Marion & Dennis first met while they were in the NZ Air Force and they both continue to have a love for aircraft. They married in 1966 and had three children, Melanie, Stace and Jamie.

"In 1981 we came to Melbourne and I worked as a Maintenance Engineer. We then purchased the franchise of a Brumby's Bakery where Marion's accounting and organizational skills were fully utilized with the sales, books and 26 employees. I loved making the bread, I inherited my Mum's cooking abilities and used my sense of taste and smell to produce what Marion thinks was the best bread and the most beautiful Hot Cross Buns."

Both Marion and Dennis were active in the Faith Bible College in NZ and have been Christians since 1970s. Their decision to come to Murchison and go to Bible College was made in faith. They continue their faith with the Generations Church in Tatura.

Dennis continued, "I then got my dream job. I had always been interested in aeroplanes as a hobby, ended up being able to use my hobby to fly unmanned aerial vehicles (drones). I purchased my first computer in 1981 so was playing around with PCs and with my military experience and security clearances, at 55 I broke my way into a specialized job, flying drones all over the world. Marion and I travelled overseas with this job to Alaska, Weipa, Woomera, I also went to Japan and Galapagos Islands. It was an exciting time working with weather bureaus and NASA.

I retired as soon as I was 65. We decided to look for a home in country Victoria. Marion always loved coming to Murchison, driving into town over the river and bridge. We came to look at houses and we got talking to the Lion's Club people who were having a street raffle, and we said we were looking to buy a home here, John Dunlop introduced himself, we had a few questions and he explained that there was an Aged Care Centre, Doctors, Ambulance and Retirement Village close by, so there and then he took us around to look at the Wybalena units. We were smitten, where else in all of Australia could we have got something like this." Interestingly Marion was born and spent the first few years of her life in the town of Murchison in New Zealand.

We appreciate Dennis and Marion making the time to tell everyone a little about their life's journey and how they have found life at Wybalena Village.

All members of the Village appreciate your support.

Please check out future editions of 3610 for more information but if you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the Committee members.

NEW EXCITING POWER SAVING BONUS PROGRAM FROM 1 JULY 2022

As you all might be aware of by now, Premier Dan Andrews recently announced a \$250 million funding package to help ease cost of living pressures for Victorian households.

From 1 July 2022, a new \$250 payment will be open to all Victorian households who use the Victorian Energy Compare website to compare their energy deal and seek out a better price.

This new program will be open to all households, and concession card holders who previously received the bonus will be able to apply for it again.

Just over 220 Neighbourhood Houses are currently participating in the Power Saving Bonus outreach program, facilitated by Neighbourhood Houses Victoria and Good Shepherd in partnership with the Department of Environment, Water, Land and Planning (DELWP).

MURCHISON.ORG.AU





Summer is here and there is plenty happening with Goulburn Valley Libraries.

A reminder for the kids out there that Goulbourn Valley Libraries has plenty of free things for you to do this summer.

You'll remember from the last newsletter that the Big Summer Read has started. You can sign up online or pick up an entry form at any Goulburn Valley Library branch or the Mobile Library. There will be challenges, activities, rewards and prizes to keep you reading and entertained right through till 31st January, 2023.

There are also free activities happening in library branches across the region. The 'Marvelous Makers' holiday program is on again with new activities to join in and the National Gallery of Victoria Kids on Tour program: Let's Make Art is also visiting some of our branches, including Euroa and Shepparton.

Keep an eye on our website www.gvlibraries.com.au or drop into your library for more information.

The Mobile Library will continue to visit the Murchison community over the Christmas and New Year period. It is only off the road on public holidays and days of extreme or catastrophic fire danger. Don't be surprised to find it's the library van instead of the truck for the next couple of visits. The truck has a tummy ache and is off the road for a short while. André or Rebecca will be bringing items on hold and a small selection of items for loan in our plain-clothes van – it is new and we haven't had a chance to have library logos painted on it yet. We will be following the regular Mobile timetable, so come down and see how many books can fit into one small van!

Too hot or too wet to come out? Check out our huge range of eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines, or watch movies and documentaries on our Kanopy streaming service – information about all these services can be found at www.gvlibraries.com.au. All free with your Goulburn Valley Libraries membership.



Fabulous February is here with Goulburn Valley Libraries.

The library lockers at Murchison are now available!

Located in the Heritage Centre carpark, the Library Locker provides a great way to pick up your books any time. You can also browse our website and place holds on items you would like to borrow.

Mobile Library staff will load your items into the lockers weekly. You'll get a text to your phone when your items are available. Just tap the link in the text to get the QR code, scan it at the locker and take your items.

The lockers are available 24/7 in a well-lit area and are easily accessible to all. There are a variety of locker sizes, so you can get a single item or a whole stack of books! You can also return any items to the library – just scan the library barcode on each item and drop it into the return lockers at the bottom.

The lockers are available 24/7 in a well-lit area and are easily accessible to all. There are a variety of locker sizes, so you can get a single item or a whole stack of books! You can also return any items to the library – just scan the library barcode on each item and drop it into the return lockers at the bottom.

The Mobile Library will be in attendance on its usual schedule, available at www.gvlibraries.com.au/mobile-library. If you'd like a hand using the lockers for your first time, our friendly staff will be happy to help you.

A mural by local Nagambie artist Trudy Oldaker will be unveiled at the Nagambie Library on Tuesday 14th February at 10.30am. Titled "Nagambie Library is for everyone" the mural is collaboration between Trudy, Wendy Cook and Joan Loughnane, with support from Nagambie Lakes Community House and the Lions Club. It depicts life in Nagambie and will be situated at the entrance to the library, easily viewable to community and visitors.

Begin the New Year with a new mindset. The Euroa Library is offering you the opportunity to learn meditation in a free session hosted by Gen Kelsang Dornying. This session, to be held on Wednesday 15th February at 11am, is the ideal way for you to begin your meditation journey.

Gen Kelsang Dornying is a Buddhist Monk and teaches regularly in Victoria. He is an inspiring and light-hearted meditation teacher who makes teachings clear, accessible and applicable to modern life.

The session is suited to beginners and the curious alike, but all are welcome. Chairs will be used throughout the session so it is accessible to people regardless of mobility. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn from an experienced and accomplished facilitator.

Spaces are limited so book by calling Goulburn Valley Libraries a call on 1300 374 765 or online via Eventbrite.

If you would like more information check out our website www.gvlibraries.com.au or contact Goulburn Valley Libraries on 1300 374 765. You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more information and announcements.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE CHRISTMAS ELF?



Hello Murch. One of the friendly elves that was staying in Murchison Riverside Gardens over Christmas is missing and we're hoping someone might know where he's hiding. He's made of wood, has a hole where his face is meant to be and he misses his mates. If you've seen him around, please contact Louis at the Neighbourhood House on 03 5826 2373 or at manager@murchison.org.au.

Help us reduce waste Pick up some



MURCHSION COMMUNITY ALL WELCOME



Meet at the Neighbourhood House 23 Impey Street, Murchison

Followed by barista made coffee and a homemade slice at the Neighbourhood House Coffee Hub

Neighbourhood House Murchison

Do you like arts and crafts? Are you interested in sewing?

Come join the fun

Murchizon Community

SEWING GROUP

at the Neighbourhood House



3 Impey Stree 03 5826 2373



Do you play an instrument? Do you sing? Are you looking for people to play with? Do you wanna learn and practice music skills?



23 Impey Stree 03 5826 2373

