

NEWS + SPORT + PROPERTY GUIDE



New show is a real beauty

Gisborne Secondary College students are inviting you to be their guest when they take to the stage in *Beauty and the* Beast.

The show features 100 students from years 7-12 who are ready to say "bonjour" to the audience.

Co-director Narelle Cocks said she was looking forward to bringing a tale as old as time to the stage.

"I love Beauty and the Beast, I've seen the show many times," she said.

"I've never done a Disney show before at the school and I thought a Disney one would be really good.

"I always stayed clear of Beauty and the Beast because it has such grand sets and grand costumes. But I got approached by one of the mothers who is a seamstress and she volunteered to make all our costumes for us."

Ms Cocks said cast and crew members were thrilled to perform the classic tale.

"Last year they did Annie and Chicago so this is a completely different show and I think they really like the magic and fantasy about the show," she said.

Beauty and the Beast will be performed at the college's Barcham Theatre, Melton Road Gisborne on August 2-3 and 9-10. Tickets: bit.ly/2GelWII

Jessica Micallef

Marble vandals return

By Jessica Micallef

Stores in Sunbury's Link Arcade have once again been attacked by vandals.

young people have been caught on camera firing marbles into store windows from the roofs of neighbouring buildings.

Hidden Cafe was one of the Link Arcade stores targeted.

It's the second time in three months the stores

"I just got back from overseas and I was informed by my wife while I was overseas that damage had happened again," he said.

"My wife left the shop on Saturday [July 13] According to business owners, a group of at 2.30pm. The damage must have occurred between 2.30pm and 7am the following morning because she came in again on the Sunday morning and saw the damage.

"My wife found marbles that day. The costume shop was targeted and she's got her big front window damaged. It looks like a bullet

Mr Beamer said the vandalism was distressing and was costing him thousands of dollars to the replace the damaged windows.

"If I replace the windows immediately, will it happen again?" he said. The window was replaced in May at a cost

of \$5000 to the insurance company with an excess of \$500 from me. I will be another \$500 out of pocket when I get the window replaced again."

Mr Beamer said he was dissatisfied with the

"They don't even come down to take a look. "I know there is a shortage of police here in Sunbury and they just don't seem to care.

"The first time it happened, I went to the police station in person and the guy was sympathetic. He said to me that there are four police in Sunbury, two on patrol and two at the station and that's just ridiculous. The population is nearly 40,000."

Sunbury Acting Sergeant Matt Schappacher told Star Weekly in May there had been four shop vandalism incidents reported in Sunbury dating back to January 21.

have come under attack.

Hidden Cafe owner Martin Beamer said the vandals, believed to be the same people, struck again at his store earlier this month.

hole

"It's definitely a sling shot with marbles. "I am very angry because I don't know when this will stop."

police response.

"When my wife rang on the Sunday to report it, the police asked to send photographs," he said

Police have urged anyone with information to contact Sunbury police station on 9744 8111.



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College students prepare plans to plant

Salesian College Sunbury students are ready to roll up their sleeves and dig deep.

Year 9 students will be taking part in National Tree Day on the weekend and they won't be mulching around.

Acting principal Angela Romano said students hoped to plant 500 trees and shrubs.

"Our students are ready to roll up their sleeves and put their gloves on as part of School Tree Day," she said.

"Students want to put their hands in the earth and help play their part in preserving the environment."

"It is a great chance for students to learn about the local environment whilst giving back to their community.

"Events such as this one will help them better understand the importance of planting native species to tie in with the conditions of the area, the local bird and insect species and to provide links to existing remnant bushland.

Ms Romano encouraged people to take part the college's event and lend a helping hand.

"Our Parent Engagement Group at Salesian College Sunbury acknowledges the long-lasting benefits for the ensure community of National

Tree Planting Day," she said.

"Do something positive on this day. Connect with nature, restore care for your local landscape and give back in a meaningful way," she said.

National Tree Day at Salesian College will be on Sunday, July 28 between 10am-midday at 1 Macedon Street. Lunch will be provided.

Jessica Micallef

Year 9 students Tara and Natalie will take part in National Tree Day. (Joe Mastroianni)



An egg-cellent business

By Jessica Micallef

Josh Murray has cracked into the business scene and is making sure everyone is clucking about it.

The face of Josh's Rainbow Eggs in Monegeetta, Josh started out as a nine-year-old who wanted pocket money. Now 18, he is selling his eggs into 42 supermarkets across the state.

"Mum and dad realised this could be a way to teach me about business, so they gave me enough chickens so that I could sell the eggs," Josh said.

"I was also homeschooled at the time so I

44 The chickens literally live the best life they possibly can ⁷¹ - Josh Murray

had a bit of time on my hands. I started going to Gisborne every Friday and I sold eggs to the people who worked inside the shops.

"I did that for about a year but you can only sell so many eggs like that."

Josh then decided he wanted to sell his eggs at local farmer's markets.

"It was really great," he said.

"I sold 187 dozen eggs in Sunbury one time at a farmer's market – that was my record for a while.

"The one good thing I got from farmer's markets, other than sales experience, was that I met someone who was the manager of Riddells Creek Foodworks. I met her and I thought to myself I could sell eggs there.

"She said 'yes' and that's when I started expanding into other various independent supermarkets. I spent about a year trying to maximise sales there by being in the store and talking to customers."

Josh's Rainbow Eggs then made their way to local Coles and Woolworths supermarkets in 2015.

"The business just grew from there," Josh said.

"That's why I stopped doing farmer's markets



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Josh Murray with his hens. (Joe Mastroainni)

because you have consistency. If I knew I was going to sell 127 dozen eggs each week, I'd lock that in.

"That's why supermarkets were my next move."

Josh prides himself on ethical free-rang eggs that he provides for his customers.



"There is no suffering caused by our business, it's just that simple," he said.

"The chickens literally live the best life they possibly can. We treat our staff well, we respect our customers, we're sustainable," he said.

"We aren't selling eggs as much as we are selling trust."



EPA rescinds river warning

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has lifted the health warning it applied to the Campaspe River between Kyneton and Lake Eppalock.

On May 31, EPA approved an emergency discharge for Coliban Water to release class B recycled waste water into the river.

However, class C recycled water was mixed with class B recycled water and was released into the Campaspe River.

As a result, the EPA issued health warnings for residents last month.

EPA compliance and enforcement team leader Paul Ratajczyk said the latest water flow and quality data from Coliban Water showed the Campaspe River had constantly good flows

"Those good flows mean Coliban Water can meet their EPA discharge licence requirements for water quality and consequently we have advised Coliban Water to lift the health warnings along the river," Mr Ratajczyk said.

"Coliban Water and EPA will continue to monitor the discharge and river flows to ensure the water quality continues to comply with Coliban's licence."

EPA will issue Coliban Water with legal notices that require it to undertake works to prevent any further non-compliant discharges of treated water to the river.

"While it is good news that the warnings have been lifted, and water from the Campaspe River is once again suited to normal uses for water, EPA reminds the community that untreated river water in any river system is never recommended for drinking," Mr Ratajczyk said.

Jessica Micallef

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Volunteers James, Lou and Anita. (Shawn Smits)

NEWS STARWEEKLY.COM.AU

Taking it to the bank

The Piggy Bank Appeal is hoping to bring a very important purpose." home the bacon.

A giant piggy bank, stretching to three metres in height and weighing 700 kilograms rolled its way to Kyneton's Commonwealth Bank last week to raise \$1 million for children with life-threatening conditions.

Very Special Kids chief executive Michael Wasley said the annual appeal was a great way to support local families.

"It's a 21-year campaign that is basically an awareness and fundraising drive for the organsiation," he said.

We are close to over 80 per cent self funded which is quite unique.

"It has its pressure but it also makes us think about ways to give back to the community with

Mr Wasley said the while the locations the piggy bank stops have changed over the years, the message behind the event has stayed the same. "The underlying concept hasn't changed much at all. The children aspect has been a big part of our design of the campaign. We've all grown up with piggy banks and pocket money.

"The money goes towards supporting our children for respite in our hospice and also supporting the family.

"We focus largely on helping the whole family, including helping the child cope [and] maximise the time they have together and hopefully that's a very long time."

Jessica Micallef



Briefs

Hardware store burglary

Macedon Ranges detectives are investigating a burglary at Kyneton Home Hardware on Monday, July 8. During the burglary, a number of Makita cordless tool box sets were stolen. Anyone with information can contact Macedon Ranges Crime Investigation Unit on 5421 2900.

Rural zone say

Macedon Ranges council wants residents to have their say on the rural conservation zone areas. The survey is the next stage in consultation for the Rural Land Use Strategy, which will provide guidance on the future use, development, and protection of land. Print copies are available at council's service centres. Residents have until Monday, August 12 to complete the survey at mrsc.vic.gov.au

Expressions of interest

Macedon Ranges council is calling for expressions of interest to join the Macedon Ranges Shire Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee. The committee provides input and advice on a range of council programs and services, meets quarterly and community members serve a four-year term. For more information, visit council service centres in Gisborne, Kyneton, Woodend or Romsey or call 5422 0333. Applications close August 9.

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Bendigo train times on the improve

By Jessica Micallef

Punctuality on Bendigo line train services has improved, with 87.9 per cent of services arriving at their destinations on time last month.

The result is an almost 8 per cent improvement on the same month last year, according to new figures.

A V/Line spokesperson said they were pleased with last month's results.

"While this improvement in performance came in at 80 per cent.

is pleasing, we are always looking to further improve our services," the spokesperson said.

Reasons for delay to the Bendigo line services in June included track faults, congestion and delays on tracks shared with metropolitan trains.

This is the fifth time this year that performance on the Bendigo line has been higher than 87 per cent and is more than 8 per cent higher than June 2018 when punctuality came in at 80 per cent. Sunbury line punctuality for the month of June was 87.5 per cent.

Reasons for delay to the Sunbury line services in June included track faults, congestions and delays on tracks sharing metropolitan and regional trains.

There was also a delay because a person was hit by a V/Line train at Ginifer Station on June 5 which suspended Sunbury train services between Sunshine and Watergardens.

A weather event caused more than 50

Sunbury trains to run late on a single day in June, while punctuality was also impacted by a number of ill passengers.

Metro Trains has introduced a number of initiatives to help passengers get on and off trains faster. This includes markings on platforms to assist passengers clear space for those getting off the trains, and the trial of a 'burn' line on station platform displays to alert passengers when trains are departing.

Novel idea for writers

Budding writers can feast their thoughts on writing workshops in Sunbury.

Author Beverley Eikli will be hosting two writing workshops in July and August at the Sunbury Youth and Library Centre.

"The library wanted to make available a couple of workshops for people in the area that are interested in writing, whether it was fiction writing, or memoir writing, for people to come along and just trial it for a couple of sessions," Eikli said.

"Each session is an hour and a half and the idea of having it a month apart is so that people can get fired up with enthusiasm in the first session and then go back and work on what they learnt on the first sessions."

Eikli said the workshops were a great way for aspiring writers to hone in on their writing skills.

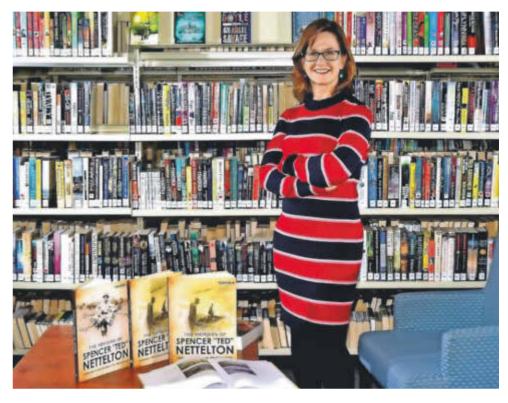
"I am looking forward to the development and seeing what they've come up within the month in between and then working with them to send them in the right direction," she said. "I think it's a great opportunity for people with a broad range of interests to come along and see what the potential is for developing their own writing," she said.

"Sometimes people don't know how they want to approach their life stories or their stories so I think a class like this is really to help people decide on the approach they want to take on their family stories or their fiction."

The workshops will be on July 27 and August 24 at 51-53 Evans Street Sunbury, 10-11.30am both days.

To register: 9256 6970.

Jessica Micallef



workshops in Sunbury. (Joe Mastroianni)

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Author Beverley Eikli will be hosting writing workshops in Suphury (Joe Mastrojanni)



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Sacred Heart College Kyneton is a Catholic Secondary School in the Mercy Tradition where students thrive in a vibrant learning and caring community.

Enrolment applications for students entering Year 7 in 2021 (currently in Grade 5) will close on Friday 26 July.

Contact the College Registrar for enrolment enquiries, or download your enrolment application form via the College's website.

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KYNETON

A Vibrant Life

Rotary's new president

By Jessica Micallef

Geoff Phillips is the new president of Kyneton Rotary.

Mr Phillips said it was an honour to lead a group of 40 men and women who are dedicated to supporting the community.

"It's a real privilege," he said.

"Social activity and enjoyment is part of rotary which welcomes new members to be involved in an organisation that has 1.2 million members in over 200 countries."

4 All of a sudden you've got 40 people you run into down the street **77** - Geoff Phillips

Mr Phillips moved to Kyneton with his wife Fay three years ago. One of the first things he did was make contact with the local rotary club.

"I thought it was one way to make a quick connection with the community and it works very well," he said.

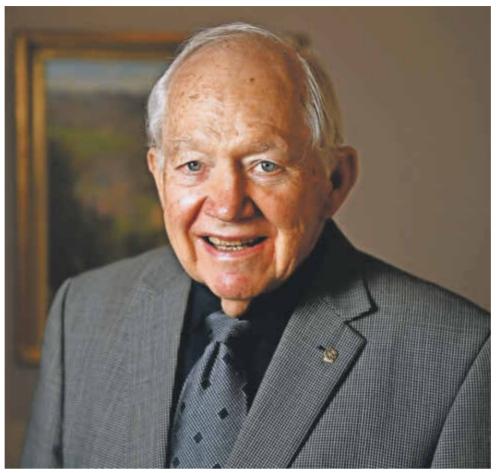
"All of a sudden, you've got 40 people you run into down the street and at the shops.

"One of the best things about rotary is the hidden benefits. Not only do we help many people throughout the world that are underprivileged but we also help ourselves with better physical, social and psychological wellbeing.

"The social aspect of rotary is incredibly important. We have members whose families have been in Kyneton for generations."

Mr Phillips said he was looking forward to continuing the work of the rotary.

"Kyneton Rotary will continue with its current local and international projects and investigate new ways of making the world a



Geoff Phillips is the new president of Kyneton Rotary. (Damjan Janevski)

better place," he said. "Examples of Kyneton Rotary's work include supporting the re-establishment of Kyneton Scouts, assisting with running the Daffodil Festival, providing a weekly fresh fruit Friday at the Malmsbury School ... supporting the rejuvenation of Kyneton's river front, organising an alternative schoolies week in Vietnam and providing fresh water tanks to a Kenyan village."

Kyneton rotarians share a weekly meal at the Shamrock Hotel in Mollison Street.



Distinctive Options Sunbury client Tim is keen for The Lion King. (Shawn Smits)

Lion King to help fundraise

Distinctive Options Sunbury is inviting the community to feel the love.

The disability service and support organisation will be hosting a fundraiser movie screening of *The Lion King* at the weekend.

Distinctive Options development officer Sarah Quigley said the money raised from the night will go towards new programs at the organisation.

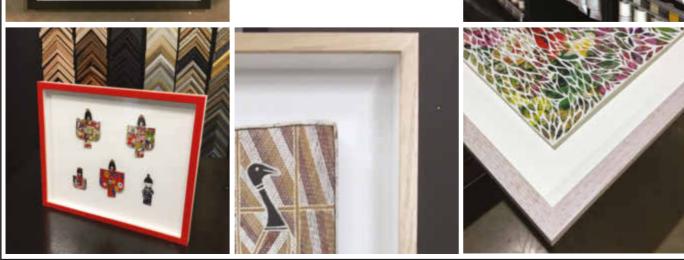
"With the NDIS providing very minimal funding, fundraising is vital to ensure we can continue innovating and providing options no one else does," she said.

"We chose a movie that is family friendly where the whole community can appreciate and can cater to different generations.

The fundraiser will be on Sunday, July 28 at 4pm at Reading Cinemas Sunbury, Horne Street. Tickets cost \$25 and include admission, popcorn and a drink. Tickets: bit.ly/2LuCN9t

Jessica Micallef





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Garden a blooming good idea

By Jessica Micallef

It may be winter, but spring is certainly in the air at the Riddells Creek Neighbourhood House.

The house's community garden is ready to bloom after nine months of restorations. House assistant Raewyn McColley said the

garden began its life as a memorial.

"It started off as a little fairy garden in memory of a little girl who sadly passed away a few years ago," she said.

"We thought we'd do something nice and have a little fairy garden and then it's grown

from there to include other little things.

"Everyone has donated bits and pieces to the garden and it's been a big community effort."

The house received \$3000 from the Macedon Ranges council last year to revamp the garden.

"They've been really helpful along the way," Ms McColley said.

"One of the volunteers from the garden, she knows a lot about native bees in particular. We've got some little bee houses on site and information signs so it's a bit of an education thing as well.

"We've also got the vegetables growing in the garden.

"We're planning on having children's gardening activities as well when the weather warms up a little bit to teach them about plants and do little gardening related activities.

"It's an open space for the community and it's also an outdoor room for when people come to the house. They can come outside and do some yoga."

The garden will officially open on Thursday, August 1 at 59 Main Road, Riddells Creek. The launch will run from 4-6pm.

Raewyn and Mercedi in the garden with children Eloise, Olivia and Kaela. (Joe Mastroianni)



Sirens sound for preps

It's a small world after all at Macedon Primary School.

The prep classroom has been set up with mini play stations that teach them about the services in Macedon.

Prep teacher Millie Strong said the focus for term three was learning about the people who help the community.

"We're looking into the fire brigade, the police, we're also looking at things like the supermarket [and] mechanics so lots of different professions within the Macedon community," she said.

"We do play-based learning in our classroom so we set up different play stations in the classroom for the students.

"We decided to set up the fire station as one of our play stations this term."

The mini fire station is accompanied with a pizza shop, florist, supermarket and farm.

"In Macedon, it's quite a high fire risk area so it's really important for students to have an understanding of what the CFA do and how they can be fire safe," Ms Strong said.

The prep teacher said the pupils have embraced the set up.

"We have time four days a week where students get to play in all the different stations and get to investigate and they absolutely love it," she said.

"I think it's super important that they know about all the different services in the community and that they know how to stay safe and who they can contact so that they can stay safe."

Jessica Micallef

Preps Lucy, Bella, Millie, Joshua, Thomas and Xander learn about the CFA. (Joe Mastroianni)









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MY PLACE

Praveen Vegunta is the owner of Nutbug restaurant in Sunbury. The food enthusiast chats with Jessica Micallef about the business and his go-to order at the American style waffle house.

What is your connection to the Sunbury and How popular as the restaurant been with **Macedon Ranges?**

My wife and I fell in love with Sunbury when we first drove past the suburb. We thought it's a great suburb to raise our two very young boys because Sunbury has a rural charm and a community vibe with urban conveniences. When I moved to Sunbury I realised the locals are excited to have something new. That was when the idea of Nutbug was conceived.

We have received a great amount of love and

locals and visitors?

acceptance from the very tight knitted Sunbury community and almost half our regular customers are locals. We are also very proud that we have customers coming to Sunbury from all corners of Melbourne.

What would be your go-to order at Nutbug?

What are you passionate about?

Food and great company, that's why I've initiated a new concept called the Nutbug Project as the first step towards building a community get-together for the people to enjoy a meal with local surplus food donations from businesses. On the last Sunday of the month we have a community dinner get-together at Nutbug with local business' surplus food donations. All are welcome.

Your store Nutbug is not your average store you usually see in Melbourne - what food does it offer customers?

Nutbug is an American-style waffle house serving chicken and cone with a waffle base for the first time in Australia. We also offer waffle burgers with pulled-pork and beef brisket and house-made waffle fries. There's sweet and savoury waffles, weekly specials and we cater for gluten-free, vegan and vegetarian options.

Chicken and cone for savoury lovers or berry waffle or waffle churros if you have a sweet tooth.

What do you enjoy most about owning Nutbug?

I'm very excited owning and operating Nutbug. It gives me an opportunity to do what I love by introducing something new to Australia while helping other local businesses. After being in the food industry for over 15 years, I understand the importance of a freshly cooked meal. As a big fan of a nice home cooked meal myself, my aim was to offer the same quality and freshness at my cafe.

What would people be most surprised to know about you?

Since I'm Indian-Australian, people are often surprised that I have an American restaurant as they expect me to have an Indian restaurant.



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A special NAIDOC ceremony was held in Sunbury. (Supplied)

Sunbury celebrations

Sunbury Aboriginal Corporation Group marked NAIDOC week with a family friendly celebration earlier this month.

Group Aboriginal engagement officer Abby Johnson said about 150 people of all ages joined in the celebrations.

"It was a fantastic event," she said.

"The day began with a Welcome to Country followed by a traditional dance and didgeridoo performance and a visit from a dingo.

"We had about 30 or 40 children attend which was brilliant. The children's activities were popular with plaster fun and storytelling stations [and] we had cultural activities such as basket weaving.

"A lot of the feedback from people was that it was a really informative event and a great chance for people to learn a little bit about Aboriginal culture.

Ms Johnson said NAIDOC week was the perfect opportunity to celebrate Indigenous culture with the community.

"It provides an opportunity for the community to embrace our first nation's people and the importance of that group," she said.

"It's a nice opportunity to see positives and promote positives because there are often a lot of negatives about the Aboriginal community.

"It's really nice when we have that week of celebrations and it's something that we all should celebrate. It's not just for Aboriginal people."

Jessica Micallef



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WANT YOUR EVENT LISTED? Community Calendar is made available free of charge to not-for-profit organisations to keep the public informed of special events and activities. Send item details to Star Weekly Community Calendar, Corner Thomsons Road and Keilor Park, Drive, Keilor Park, 3042, or email to communitycalendar@starweekly.com.au. Deadline for copy and announcements is noon Tuesday.

Keep calm and cook

Piper Street Co. will host a Best of British cooking class on Saturday, August 3, at 2/89a Piper Street, Kyneton, from 10am-2pm. The class will focus on pies and pasties. Recipes and lunch provided. Cost \$185.

Tickets: bit.ly/2IDUGjA

Kyneton vintage fair

The Kyneton Antique and Vintage Fair will be held between August 30 and September 1 at Kyneton Town Hall, 129 Mollison Street. Tickets \$7 for adult, children free. Hanne, 0428 878 048

Oil-painting workshop

Join artist Richard Chamerski for an oil paint workshop on Saturday, July 27, between 10am-4pm at the Woodend Art Group gallery rooms at the Woodend Railway Station. Margaret, 0409 193 369

Comedy fundraiser

Melbourne and Sydney International Comedy Festival comedians will attend a comedy evening at the Gisborne Golf Club, 25 Daly Street, on Saturday, August 3 from 7pm to support Swinburne Avenue Kindergarten in Gisborne. This will be an 18 and older event. Cost \$35 for adults. Tickets: bit.ly/2WYWkUW

Youth awards

Celebrate the achievements of the Macedon Ranges youth at the 2019 Youth Awards on Tuesday, August 20, at Kyneton Town Hall,



nominations are open until Sunday, July 21. To nominate: bit.ly/2NAj8qm. To attend the event, RSVP youthdevelopment@mrsc. vic.gov.au by August 13.

Council meeting

Macedon Ranges next council meeting

is on Wednesday, July 25 from 7pm at Gisborne Administration Centre, 40 Robertson Street Gisborne.

Comedy evening

Comedian Arj Barker will return to Kyneton Town Hall with his new show We Need To Talk on Friday, August 16 from 8pm at 129 Mollison Street. The show will focus on subjects such as millennials, life hacks, technology and children, all with a positive

Farmers market

Fine produce and farm products from the Macedon Ranges will be for sale at the Lancefield and District Farmers Market, on Saturday, July 27, from 9am-1pm. Free event.

spin. Cost is \$49.90 per person and groups of 10 or more cost \$46.90 per person. ■ 1300 888 802 or bit.ly/2WBpdqB

Indigenous hip hop workshop

Enjoy a performance and dance workshop by Indigenous Hip Hop Projects at the Kyneton Mechanics Institute, 81 Mollison Street on Sunday, August 4 between 1-2pm. To reserve your place email: shiley@mrsc.vic.gov.au

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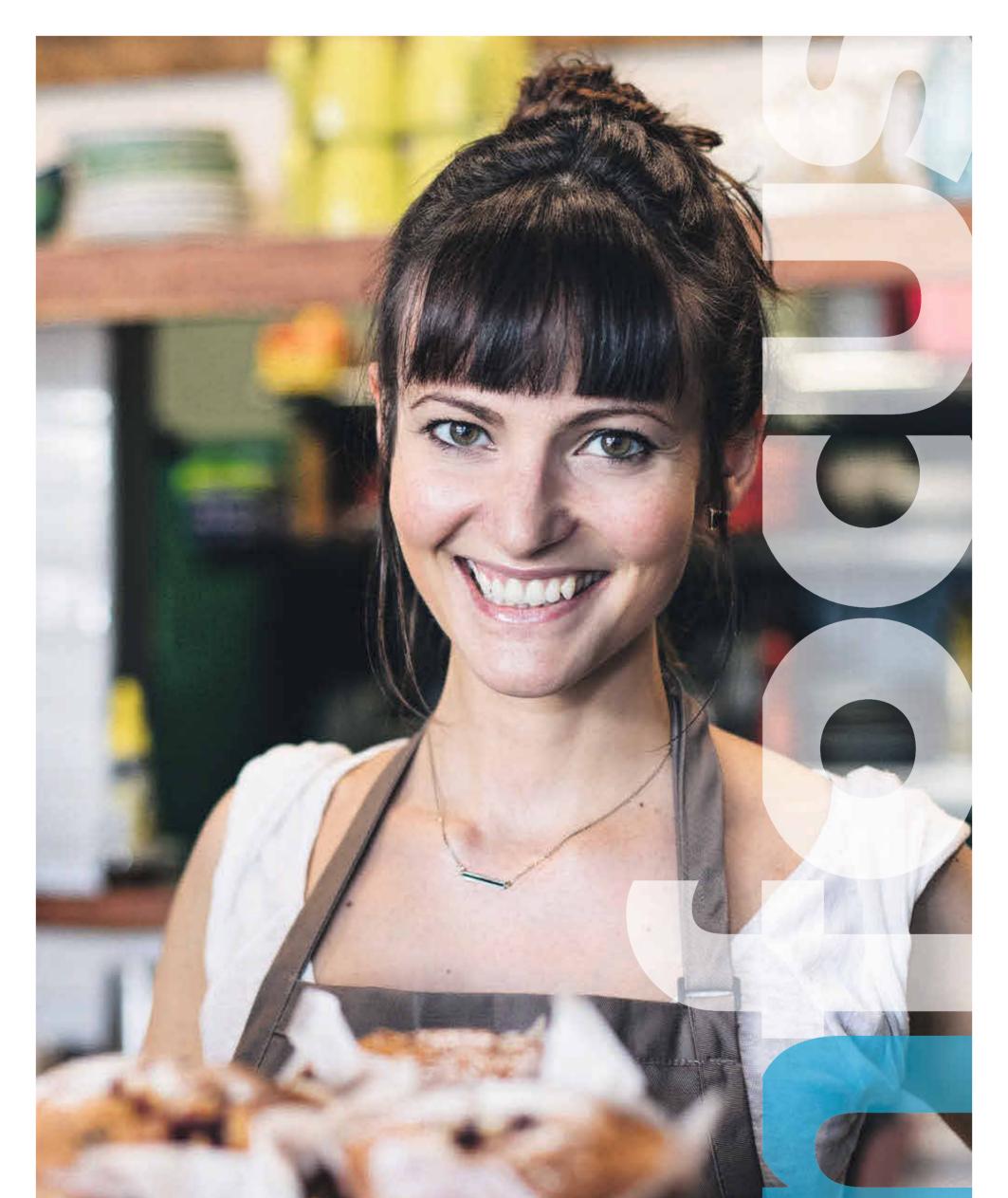
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SHOWCASING LOCAL BUSINESS



The Italian heart of Sunbury

Italian food, when cooked with heart and according to time-honoured tradition, is pretty well unbeatable – so it's little wonder that locals have flocked to Piazza Di Spagna since it opened late last year.

he classic Italian eatery is owned by Barbara Mosticone, who named her restaurant for the famous piazza at the bottom of the Spanish Steps in Rome, close to where she was born and grew up.

At her own Piazza Di Spagna, she employs chefs who share her passion for authenticity and understanding of the generous hospitality that goes hand in hand with her native culture.

"We promise to take our diners on a culinary journey through Italy's many regions," Barbara says.

"We believe we offer some of the finest flavours the culinary world has to offer – and it's served with warmth and pride."

The menu sings with just about every Italian favourite, with a host of pasta and risotto dishes, along with top-notch steaks and seafood. Chicken, veal and lamb dishes are listed alongside snazzy Mediterranean salads.

While never straying too far from the classics, the kitchen also pumps out some mod-Aussie twists.

The goats cheese wantons with blueberry sauce and the trio of delicious sliders on the entree list are examples.

Of the six dessert choices, five are deliciously Italian and the other is ever-popular Aussie stalwart – sticky date pud.

They all go beaut with coffee made by baristas who know their stuff.

The kids' menu isn't shabby either, with



Alessandro, Alessio and Barbara. (Pictures: Joe Mastroianni)

seven terrific dishes to tempt even fussy eaters.

On Wednesdays, Piazza Di Spagna serves up parmas of the world and a pot.

Thursdays are great for getting together around handcrafted cocktails and perhaps

a light meal.

The eatery is bright, breezy and casual and opens for breakfast 'til late.

It's right next door to Readings Cinema, so perfect for a pre- or post-movie lunch or dinner. Home delivery is available from 9am-9pm - order online at Menulog.com.au.

Piazza Di Spagna, 41 Horne Street, Sunbury. Opens 8.30am-late Tuesday-Sunday. Inquiries: 9744 5200 or piazzadispagna.net

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Enjoy a landmark dining experience

Galli Restaurant has been weaving its magic on locals and visitors for a long time and it continues to do so for very good reasons: fine food and wine, wonderful ambience and an attentive floor crew.

anager Rebecca Dietz says there's a great sense of pride in what Galli Restaurant offers.

"We love seeing our regulars come in and welcoming new visitors because we know we can deliver a satisfying experience on all levels," Rebecca says.

"Our chefs create interesting dishes, many remaining on the menu for a long time because they're firm favourites, and others that respond to changing trends.

"And, of course, our multi-award-winning wines are another big attraction. The grapes are grown according to organic viticulture principles, in the rich soil of Sunbury and Heathcote.

"Our staff can offer suggestions for matching our beautiful wines with food, while our cellar door is a fab way of exploring the wine selection at a more intimate level."

The restaurant's arched steel building, a landmark in the area, perches in a lovely rural setting with views over the vineyards – best enjoyed, wine in hand, from one of the large decks.

Inside, it's all about well-spaced tables under the soaring arched ceiling and, at this time of year, a roaring fire in a feature fireplace. Along with the wines, the bar serves all the favourite tipples.

Private dining rooms can be booked out for all types of functions – from christening and corporate affair to wedding and work do. Rebecca is very happy to discuss menu



The staff at Galli Restaurant. (Pictures: Joe Mastroianni)

options and organise everything to make it hassle-free, with the focus always on "what our customers want".

The restaurant opens from noon until late from Wednesday-Sunday.

"On Wednesday nights, we offer a three-course meal and a glass of wine for

just \$35. This is a popular night where we see different groups coming in – it makes a great girls' night out," explains Rebecca.

"On Fridays, we have our Weekend Warm-Up that includes the same for \$39. We reckon it has to be the best value Friday night around." Galli Restaurant,

1507 Melton Highway, Rockbank. Opens noon-late Wednesday-Sunday; every day in December. Inquiries: 9747 1433, visit gallirestaurant.com.au or Facebook: Galli Restaurant

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Precious haven for special babies

Sandra Hallo believes she has now fulfilled her personal mission to open an early learning centre with a home-like environment, one that parents would feel immediately comfortable to leave "their precious babies".

working mother with four children, Sandra says she found trying to juggle both wasn't always easy, and felt she had no choice but to use long daycare.

"After seeing what was available and the lack of a 'beautiful service', I was determined to open my own centre that not only felt homey but also had clean, modern amenities and an engaging outdoor landscape," she says.

"My vision was to provide a place for children to use natural resources and materials where possible, and engage in messy mud play and art and crafts - in other words, do all the things that we don't get to do with them at home."

Six months ago, Sandra opened family-operated Gumboots Early Learning Centre, with places for 100 children, aged three months to school age, as well as a kinder program for four year olds.

She says the centre offers an enriched learning program and employs only passionate and dedicated team members.

"Our curriculum is based on 'learning through play', taking inspiration from the Reggio Emilia approach. This centres on giving our children opportunities for self-directed, experiential learning.

"The learning program includes extra activities, such as music and movement, Italian language, and art classes and yoga.

"Sustainable practices are also a big part of our philosophy. We teach children about the fundamentals of caring for our environment and reducing waste. We have vegie gardens, chooks and worm farms, with the children involved in daily composting.'

Gumboots' four year old kinder program is led by qualified teachers who have a passion for what they do. Sandra says they go out of their way to make children feel welcome and special, as well as keeping safety a top priority.

Recently, the go-ahead centre launched a Bush Kinder program. Centre manager Beck, who is described as "warm and caring" and has 18 years experience in early childhood education, explains the program.

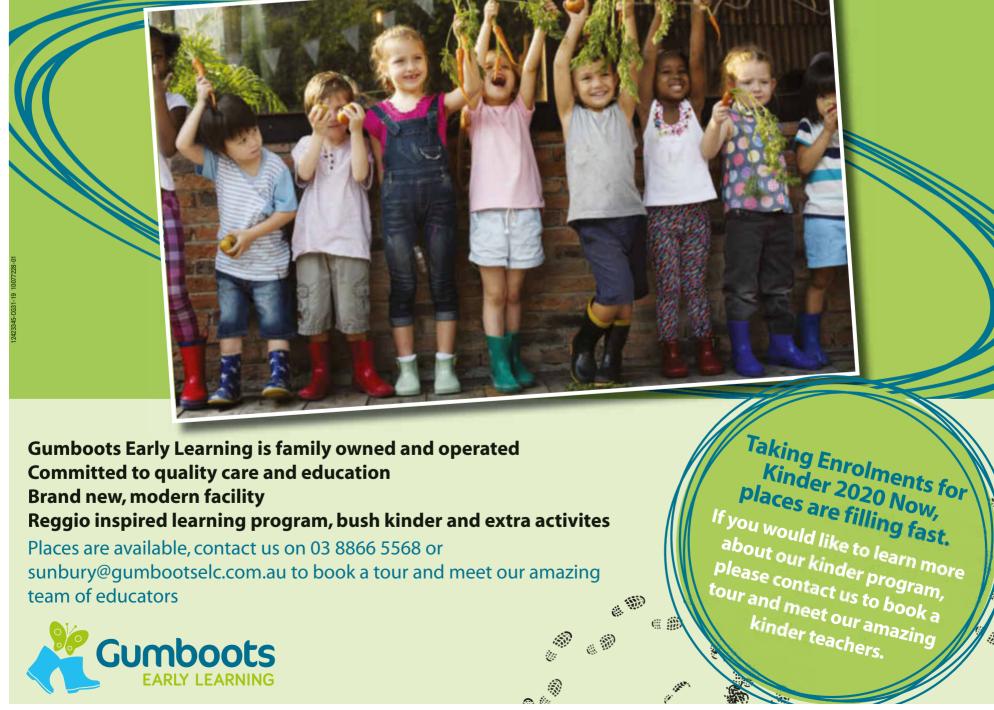
"We take the children out of the classroom for nature walks to further learn and explore – using no toys, just natural resources found in our environment. And we continue to look at new ways to offer extra benefits from varying incursions and excursions."

Gumboots is now taking enrolments for the 2020 four year old kinder program.

Gumboots Early Learning Centre, 730 Elizabeth Drive, Sunbury. Opens 6.30am-6.30pm Monday-Friday. Inquiries: 8866 5568, email southmorang@gumbootselc.com.au or visit gumbootselc.com.au



Top: Sandra Hallo (right) with staff Rebecca, Jess and Leisha. Above: Educator Darcy; The outdoor play space. (Pictures: Joe Mastroianni)







Medical centre's next level care

More than 20 years ago, Dr Philip Wood chose Sunbury as the place to begin his dream of owning a medical centre. Not just your usual centre, though - he had bigger plans. What Dr Wood and his Sunbury Medical Centre went on to achieve not only makes the dream a reality, but also bestows an indispensable asset to his much-loved community.

ith the opening of a new, purpose-built centre in February, there are now seven spacious treatment bays at Sunbury Medical Centre. Explaining their significance, Dr Wood says patients who normally had to go to a hospital emergency department now don't need to.

"We have a team of highly skilled doctors here who can eliminate a trek to Sunshine Hospital when, for example, 'Jack' breaks his arm or 'Jill' needs an IV drip for pneumonia ... or 'Joe' experiences acute asthma," he says. "Anyone experiencing this type of incident is understandably anxious, especially children, and the last thing they want is a 30-minute ambulance or car trip.'

"If one of our patients does need an ambulance, there's an ambulance bay right here. In fact, we offer almost everything a patient could need, from allied health services to laser cosmetic treatments. It's a true medical hub with facilities I'm proud of."

Recently, the centre won a state award for research.

"Our team assisted medical students from Melbourne University who successfully identified the benefits of aspirin to patients with bowel cancer," Dr Wood explains. "This is a significant finding and it was exciting and rewarding to be a part of it."

Apart from scientific endeavours and

providing a range of medical services (listed



Dr Charles Aitken, Dr Faramarz Foroughi, Dr Philip Wood and receptionists Julia Reid and Sue Millett. (Pictures: Damjan Janevski)

on the website), the centre is also a highly regarded training practice.

Experienced registrars completing their GP fellowships attend teaching sessions lead by Dr Wood and his colleagues, GP Fellows Dr Foroughi and Dr Halliwell, who also practice at the centre.

"The registrars bring invaluable expertise to the centre. They offer a good mix of skills, the latest knowledge and a wealth of experience. We all benefit, most especially our patients."

Sunbury Medical Centre, 38-40 Gap Road, Sunbury. Opens 7.30am-8pm Monday-Friday and 8am-4pm Saturday-Sunday. Inquiries: 9744 8999 or sunburymedicalcentre.com.au

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An enriching home for learning

Principal Mark Brockhus believes Salesian College Sunbury "prepares students for the future, encouraging them to strive in all aspects of life and inspiring them to enthusiastically engage with the world around them for the purpose of making a difference in the world".

e says the college is distinct in being Salesian-inspired, providing quality education in a community of faith, with the promotion of specific values in the classroom and everyday life of Community, Learning, Excellence and Faith.

While those values are constant, Mr Brockhus says the type of activities undertaken in schools decades ago are very different to the programs run now.

"We offer project-based learning as a vehicle to assist in our pedagogical development, making it more student-centred and focused on the development of key habits and skills that good learners need for their future endeavours," he says.

"Learning is designed to enrich, engage and empower students. We inspire our students to find and pursue ideas that matter, encouraging them to have a voice in all aspects of their learning.

"They have access to varied subjects to allow them to move out of their comfort zone, be challenged and open their minds to the potential in their future.

"Our students deserve the best educational programs, based on the latest educational research, and access to educational technologies.

"Our values are instilled in all our students, allowing them to become lifelong learners, looking for ways to contribute to society and be respected members of the community."



Principal Mark Brockhus with students. (Pictures: Supplied)

A Senior Open Day on Friday, October 25, will be an ideal time to experience what the senior (years 10-12) campus has on offer.

"Parents and prospective students will get the chance to discover what makes us 'a home that welcomes' and a school for the future," Mr Brockhus says. Enrolments for Year 7, 2021, close on Friday, August 23. Applications can be made at the website below.

Salesian College, Salesian College Sunbury, 1 Macedon Street, Sunbury. Inquiries: 9744 0000 or visit salesiansunbury.vic.edu.au







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Over the ter Taylor says the Carpet Court team know they offer the best price and service and they're now making sure their customers know it too. "Our Best Price Guaranteed promotion ensures customers know that if they have a quote from elsewhere we will match the price on the same product."

The importance of offering customers really good advice, with varying budgets taken into account is the focus of all the staff.

Sean at the Sunbury store understands it's not every day that people buy flooring or window coverings.

"It can sometimes be quite daunting choosing colours and textures and materials," he says. "But we can show our customers how they work in their homes, with their particular practical and/or budgetary needs in mind."

Although the Carpet Court stores are an obvious choice when it comes to all types of carpet and rugs, they also have a big range of other flooring options.

"We have engineered timber floor planks from Australian Selected Timber, exclusive to Carpet Court, along with vinyl planks and hybrid, laminated and solid timber floorboards," he says. "Our offerings cover on-trend and more traditional flooring, with a free measure-and-quote service provided on weekdays."

Rugs are another Carpet Court specialty, although not yet available in Kyneton. Julia



Sean is on hand to help customers at the Sunbury store. (Joe Mastroianni)

explains a rug's impact on a room.

"Rugs can be a strong design statement, with many different textures and shades and sizes available," she says.

says. "Size is important to get right, to keep a room in balance. It's that sort of detail we can really help with – it's better to go without than have a rug that's too small." And custom-made window coverings? Carpet Court has the lot – beautiful plantation shutters, streamlined roller and venetian blinds, elegant roman blinds and super-practical panel gliders.

super-practical panel gliders. Pop in and say "Hi!" to Linda in Gisborne; Carol, David and Sam in Kyneton; Barb and Di in Wallan; Leah and Julie in Kerang; or Christie and Sue in Kilmore. Carpet Court Sunbury, 4/57-59 Horne Street Sunbury. Opens Monday-Friday 9am-5pm and Saturday-Sunday 10am-3pm. Inquiries: 9740 7777.

Kyneton 5422 3900; Gisborne 5420 7969; Kilmore 5782 1788; Wallan 4701 0823; and Kerang 5450 3664. Open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm and Saturdays 9am-noon.



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Advertising feature



Playtime is serious about service

Trevor Hill has been steeped in all-things automotive since he was 16 years old, eventually establishing his own exhaust shop, then a chain of stores, before selling up and concentrating on his latest venture, Playtime Auto Parts in Sunbury.

The family-owned and run business, employing up to 10 locals, has a team of qualified mechanics, welders and painters who, together, contribute an impressive 50 years' experience in the game.

Trevor says his team has all the skills needed to work on exhausts and all automotive and 4x4 needs. But there's another string to Playtime Auto's bow.

"We manufacture our own exhaust system under the Ignite Exhausts brand," Trevor says.

Ignite sits well alongside other well-known systems and suits standard and sports vehicles in most models.

"If anyone wants to come and take a manufacturing workshop tour, they're more than welcome. They can have a look at what we do and how we go about it. They might want a chat with us, too, about how we can find solutions to lots of automotive issues.

"We're a friendly bunch, always up for a chinwag.

"Working with a group of workmates and my family makes every day a good one – and this rubs off on how we interact with our customers. It's all good." Playtime Auto is an authorised dealer for some of Australia's leading brands of exhausts. These are sold from the premises as well as online, and are now distributed all over Australia.

Some of those brands include Xforce, Redback, Zetti, Lightforce, Idrive, Thunder, GME and Pacemaker – among others.

The product range is constantly expanding and customers are encouraged to check out the specials available on the website (below) and Facebook.

Products can be ordered online, while auto work is done at the Sunbury fitting shop.

Playtime Auto Parts, 1 Bubeck Street, Sunbury. Opens 7am-5pm Monday-Friday and 7am-noon Saturdays. Inquiries: 9740 8885 or visit playtimeautoparts.com.au

Trevor, Jackson and Samuel Hill with Ignite exhausts. (Damjan Janevski)





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Near-new and packed with country charm, this residence perched on a huge 2024 square metres, has tree-changer written all over it. The rural views from most rooms set the mood, while a large shed out back, with power, concrete floor and wood heater, provides plenty of options.

A large living room, running the length of the front verandah, has matte oaken floor planks, a palette of greys, and drifty sheers dress the big windows.

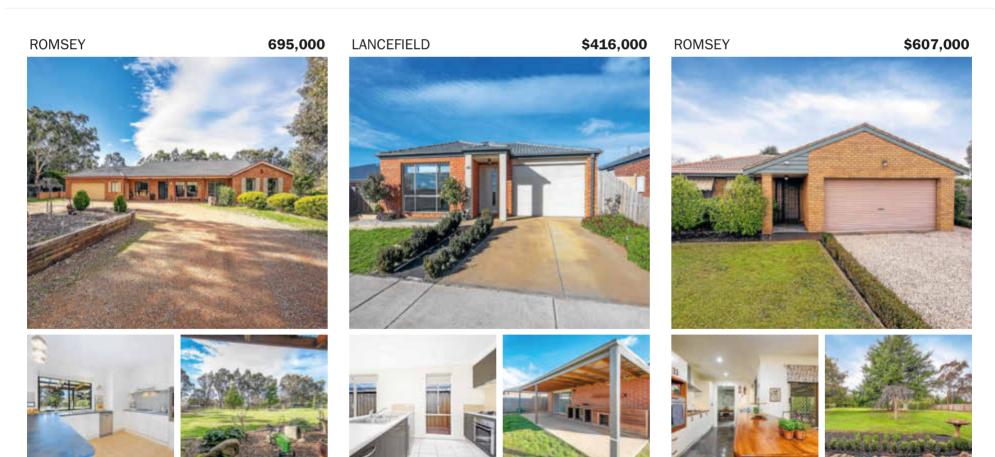
Adjoining a dining space, the kitchen has lavish bench space in black granite, heaps of storage with numerous pot drawers, a walk-in pantry, large subway tiles on splashback, plus all the mod-cons.

As well as a study (or fourth bedroom), there are three large, grey-carpeted fitted bedrooms, the main with an extra-big walk-in robe and a sleek fully tiled en suite. The shared bathroom is also swish, with the same tiling plus a contemporary oval tub.

A large covered deck, with pull-down blinds, a heater and ceiling fan, and a built-in barbecue, links with a deck in private garden surroundings. A paved area in the deck is ideal for a firepit.

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I Be quick to get into the property market with this very affordable home which offers convenient, low maintenance living
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Bedrooms 2 and 3 will accommodate double beds and both have built in-robes

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Attractive family room

- Single garage and alfresco area
- Wide side access for a caravan, boat or trailer



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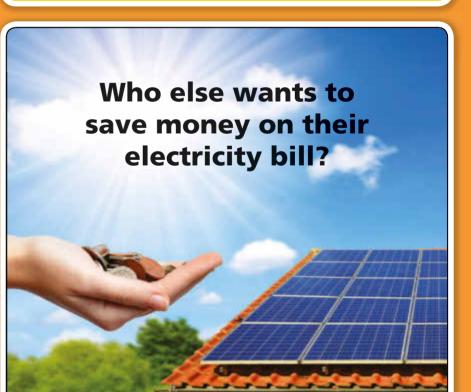
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SPORT 7

Rupertswood responds with solid win over Wallan

Rupertswood has overcome Wallan and the wind to come away with a vital win in the Riddell District Football League.

With both sides already assured of playing finals, the result of Saturday's match was important in shaping final positions.

The Sharks were wasteful in front of goal, but came from behind to win 8.16 (64)-6.9 (45).

Sharks coach Nick Ash said it wasn't a pretty game, with the four to five-goal wind making it hard for both sides.

"It was really windy to the city end," he said. "It was one of those games that wasn't a pretty spectacle.

"It took away from the contest a little bit. We were lucky [that] when we had the wind, we were able to kick a few more goals."

Ash said that while the wind played a part in the poor kicking for goal, at times his players took shots when they should have passed off.

Ash said the players had been challenged in the lead-up to the match after a poor performance against Diggers Rest the previous week.

He was thrilled with how they responded. "It was a game in which we needed to respond," he said.

We got shown up and cannot turn up and think it will happen.

"We put the onus on the boys to go up to Wallan and perform where we don't normally play too well."

Ash said Brent Swallow was clearly best on ground - not just when he had ball in hand, but also for his leadership.

Jordan Tentonello, in his third senior game, was the other stand-out for the Sharks.

The win has the Sharks sitting in fifth, with just one game separating the top six.

Ash said it was a really even season.

"I think this year more than any other year, it doesn't matter where you finish," he said.

"Anyone can beat anyone. It'll be about who has the right players on the park at the right time."

The Sharks will have some selection headaches in the lead-up to finals, with several players to return.

The side that played Wallan had seven changes from the Diggers Rest game.

Among those to return are Brett Chambers, Patrick Scanlon, Kayne Murphy, Cam McRorie and Billy Cannolo.

Chambers and Cannolo are yet to play this season

Ash said the club weren't taking any risks at this time of year.

"We'll have several come back this week and about four or five the week after," he said.

"A couple have been training for the last couple of weeks - we're making sure we get the load into them.

"This time last year, we were injury free and playing with the same side – and then we had injuries in the first final.

"This year we have played 45 or 46 players in the senior side, so they've got senior experience."

Riddell, Diggers Rest, Macedon and Lancefield were the other winners.

Tara Murray



Brent Swallow was best on ground for Rupertswood. (Shawn Smits)



Tom Carland will step down at the end of the season. (Shawn Smits)



By Tara Murray

"You need to have on field success." Carland said there had been a lot of leaves the club in a better place.

club make massive improvements off field and

Sports shorts

Big V

The ladder leading Sunbury Jets had no trouble accounting for the Bulleen Boomers in the Big V women's state championships. The Jets won three of the four quarters on the way to a 96-61 win, including scoring 39 points in the final quarter. Orla O'Reilly top scored with 24 points. The Jets finish the regular season against McKinnon Cougars. The Jets men's side returned to the winners list, beating Western Port Steelers 75-69. Arthur Trousdell top scored with 25 points. The Jets sit fourth heading into the final round, where they play Melbourne University Black Angels.

Bendigo FL

Gisborne fell short in the top of the table clash in the Bendigo Football League. Facing Strathfieldsaye, which beat them earlier in the season, the Bulldogs were looking to get one back. There was nothing in the game until half time. The Storm kicked six goals to two after the main break, to win 13.7 (85)-8.9 (57). Pat McKenna kicked three for the Bulldogs. Kyneton almost made it two wins in a row. In a close game all day, Kangaroo Flat got the win 10.6 (66)-9.9 (63). In the A-grade netball, Gisborne had a win, but Kyneton suffered a loss.

RDNL

An under-strength Rupertswood proved too strong for Wallan in the Riddell District Netball League. The undefeated Sharks came away with the 41-26 win against the third-placed Wallan in windy conditions. Romsey snuck home against Riddell, 42-38, while Macedon was too strong for Woodend-Hesket. Diggers Rest and Rockbank were the other winners

Woodend-Hesket playing coach Tom Carland will finish up at the Riddell District Football League club at the end of the season.

The Hawks announced on Thursday night that Carland won't coach on next season after two years in charge.

Hawks president Paul Podbury and Carland said it was a mutual decision.

Carland said having not played finals in his time at the club was a big reason for the decision. The Hawks currently sit eighth with four wins.

"I don't want to stay there and stagnate," he said. "The club asked what I wanted to do. I didn't achieve what we wanted to achieve in making finals.

"That makes it tough. Year on year you can have good off field success, but you need everything to work.

improvements at the club in his time there and things were looking good for the long term future of the club.

He said the culture had improved, there were ideas in motion to help fundraise for the club and the senior and junior clubs had a better relationship than ever.

Podbury said the conversations between himself, football manager Dennis Barker and Carland had been honest. "Tom is very candid and direct to the point," he said.

"He felt like finals was something he wanted to achieve in his first two years.

"You could go into a third year and take improvement, or get someone else in to take the next step." Podbury said there had been numerous reasons why the club had been unable to make the step into the top six this year. Podbury said Carland had helped the

"On field we are better set-up," he said. "In 2018 and 2019 we've played a lot of kids.

"He has brought good leaders into the club and we're confident most are staying.

"He has helped out with the juniors and run a veterans day and got people on the committee.

"He has gone over and above his role. Hopefully with the pressure off, he can enjoy the last five weeks."

Carland said he was unsure what his football future holds after this season, though he won't be at the Hawks. "It's to early to tell," he said.

"All my conversations have been with Woodend and around my future here. There's five weeks of football left and I want to help with the transition and make it as smooth as possible.

On Saturday, the Hawks lost to Macedon 11.14 (80)4.5 (29).

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Lions cement spot in the top six with a solid win

The Sunbury Lions came away with a solid win against Melton South in the Ballarat Football League.

In a match the Lions needed to win to cement their spot in the top six, it took them a while to get going.

But once they did, the Lions did what they had to, as they came away with a 16.14 (110)-8.9 (57) win.

Lions coach Travis Hodgson said it wasn't a match that would make the highlights reel.

"It was nothing to write home about," he said. "It made it hard to gauge with a big ground

and windy conditions. "They were competitive and in front at

quarter time.

"We were able to open it up in the second quarter and able to climb a little bit throughout the game.

"It was nothing outstanding, but it's hard to be critical of a 10 goal win on the road."

Alec Goodson kicked three goals for the Lions, with Andrew Duhau, Alik Magin, Mick

Edwards and Tom Werner kicking two goals each. Hodgson said Jayden Eales in the ruck and

Magin in the middle were the two standouts. Mick Edwards played his best match of the

season. Hodgson said first gamers Connor Lever and

Jordan Taylor also performed really well. He said they were making a focus of giving the younger guys a go.

"Our 19s are going quite well and are sitting third on the ladder," he said.

"We've played 43 players in the seniors. We've played seven under-19s in seniors and its a good experience for them.

"It's a no-brainer to squeeze them when we can."

The Lions moved up the ladder to fourth and are percentage behind second.

Second through to fifth are just a game behind first.

Hodgson said any team could beat any one on their week.

The Lions this week face Ballarat.

Hodgson said would be a challenge. "Ballarat have a good record at home," he said. "It's has danger game written all over it.

It's a big challenge for us. "It will highlight how far we have come. You

have to win finals up there." In the A-grade netball, the Sunbury Lions

were at their best against the Panthers. The Lions were quick out of the blocks and

led by 14 goals at the first break. They continued to push in the middle two

quarters and led by 29 goals at the last break. While they could have taken their foot off the

pedal, the Lions continued on, with a 20-3 last quarter, to seal the 72-26 win.

The win keeps the Lions sitting on top of the ladder. This week they face Ballarat.

Tara Murray

Alik Magin starred in the midfield for the Lions on Saturday. (Shawn Smits)



Hope springs eternal

By Tara Murray

It was a double celebration for Hope Evans on Saturday.

The star goal shooter celebrated her 200th game for Romsey Netball Club and her 350th match overall, having also played 150 games for the Sunbury Lions Netball Club.

Evans said she had been thinking about the milestone in recent weeks.

"It is huge," she said.

"It's a long time playing netball and not something I had really thought about too much until recently.

"I've been fortunate enough to not have too many injuries.

"Netball is part of my life and I love it."

Evans started her career with the Sunbury Lions when the club joined the Ballarat Football Netball League and needed to have netball teams.

Since then the only time she hasn't played is when she had her three children.

Evans said she would be lost on Saturday's without netball.

"Looking back at everything that has happened over the years, I've made a lot of grand finals and made a lot of good friends.

"I've always enjoyed the club atmosphere.

"I'm lucky that I've played my best netball since the kids have been born and they've been able to come every week and watch.

"My kids are involved in netball now."

Evans thought until recently that she had only played 100 games at the Lions, not 150. A message to former teammate Lauren Gilcrist, who recently played her 350th game, found otherwise.

Starting as a 16-year-old, she quickly fell in love with the game.

"We won a grand final in that first year in 1997," she said.

"We had the same team for the majority of the time. It was the same seven or eight girls for five or six years and there were a couple of grand final losses by the smallest of margins." Personally, Evans claimed a league best and fairest in her early 20s.



Finals still on radar as Tigers look to build

Kyneton continues to make progress in the Central Victoria Football League women's competition.

Now in their fourth season, the Tigers director of women's football Natalie Korinfsky said it had been a good season.

"There has been a few good wins and a lot of good new players," she said.

"We're starting to make some progress. We'd love to get a couple more wins before the end of the season."

The Tigers remain in finals contention with three rounds remaining but need luck to go their way.

On Sunday, Kyneton went down 2.6 (18)-0.2 (2) against Eaglehawk.

"We're taking each game as it comes and setting goals in each game," Korinfsky said.

"We need to win two games to be in with a chance, but we're not counting our chickens.

"We have three games left and two are against the top teams which will be difficult."

Korinfsky said this season they had attracted a number of new players to the club including some from Castlemaine and Daylesford.

"We are a destination club now, which is good.

"Those new players have taken the game up quickly and added so much."

Korinfsky said the competition itself had developed this season, with a bit less predictability.

She said hopefully there would be more teams join the competition next

Evans moved to Romsey in 2008 and it was through a mum's group she got asked to come and play with Romsey.

She joined the club in 2010 and hasn't looked back. She's just the second netballer to play 200 games at the club.

"It was the natural progression to get involved in the community and I'm glad we did.

"I'll always be there and it's a great club."

Like at Sunbury, Evans played in a premiership in her first year at the Redbacks.

She said that and the 2013 premiership were two standout memories.

"That first year we had Mez Blair coach and Beck Locker [Anstey] at the club.

"The 2013 premiership stands out ... We 26 SUNBURY & MACEDON RANGES STAR WEEKLY \ JULY 23, 2019

d Hope Evans during game 350. (Shawn Smits)

started the season slow.

"Danni Davidson had taken over as coach and we had a lot of young girls. We finished fifth and peaked at the right time."

Evans' shooting saw her claim a number of individual awards during her time at the Redbacks, both at club and league level.

She said the 2015 Riddell District Netball

League Player of the Year award was really special.

The 38-year-old stepped back to B-grade last season. She said she has no plans on retiring in the near future.

The Redbacks B-grade side got a win on Saturday, beating Riddell 35-30. Evans shot 24 goals. season.

"There's a few new teams in the competition this season which has shifted things around a bit.

"It's been a really good and interesting season.

"The other four teams have been close and going in, anyone can knock anyone off.

"You don't know what will happen." Even with the season coming to an end in the coming weeks, Korinfsky said they were still looking for players. "We're always keen on getting new players and we always want to develop the list."

Tara Murray



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Ends 04/08/19. Harvey Norman® stores are operated by independent franchisees. Images are for illustrative purposes only. *1. Discounts are off the normal ticketed prices.

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