

The Boolarra Link

Volume 30, Edition 1

BOOLARRA FOLK FESTIVAL

FRIDAY NIGHT LAUNCH at ARC - YINNAR

The festival kicked off on Friday night at the Art Resource Collective (ARC) in Yinnar. The ARC Switchroom is a cosy venue with superb acoustics and with dinner over and the entertainment warming up, the tables were moved out and there was standing room only!

Four great talents performed at the launch including **Lauren Taylor** with her guitar, singing original acoustic pop tunes and accompanied by her father Andy, also on guitar.

Next up was **Borderline** - made up of three experienced musicians Dan Boothman, Terry Cupples and Carolyne Boothman performing a wide range of songs with a bluegrass and old time flavour.

Nigella and the Celtic Rhythms is a recently formed local act performing traditional Celtic tunes and songs from Ireland, Scotland and England. Jigs, reels, airs, laments and rollicking songs of roving and rebellion from years past were rendered with authenticity.

To round off the evening's entertainment, **In Spite of Ourselves** - a 3-piece group that started as a "one off" support act for the Gippsland Acoustic Music Club,



Lauren Taylor at the launch of the 9th Boolarra Folk Festival

Photo courtesy of Bert Kokshoorn

performed for a very appreciative crowd. Based in Tyers, the group's repertoire has grown to include acoustic folk and contemporary music, jazz, blues and electric party and rock music.



Fabulous weather, beautiful setting and terrific entertainment all contributed to a perfect festival day

A PERFECT FESTIVAL DAY

Once again the festival proved a huge success with an estimated 7,000 people visiting Boolarra to enjoy the music, atmosphere, markets, food and catching up with friends. We were blessed with absolutely perfect weather for our 9th festival with sunlight filtering through the trees on all the festival goers.

It was a wonderful sight to look across the crowd to see couples enjoying a glass of wine, friends sitting together in their camp chairs, old mingling with young, picnic rugs strewn with programs, snacks and clothes, children dancing and rolling around in the grass, - a great family atmosphere. The highlight of the festival, the music, was very well received with people coming and going from the park area as it suited them throughout the day.

The day's entertainment kicked off with the **School Drumming**, led by Steve Shultz, followed by the sweet harmonies of Boolarra girls, **Shelly and Jess McGrath** along with **Bronte Den Toom**.

Continued on Page 2

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Feedback, articles, photos and correspondence can be provided via email to BoolarraLink@hotmail.com or by letter addressed to The Boolarra Link and dropped off with Gwenda or Roger at the Boolarra Post Office.

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FOLK FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

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Terry Cupples	ARC Yinnar Event
Bronwen Hilton	Website Manager.
Darren Cornell	Logistics Officer (New Position)

Contact President, Ray Stewart on 5169 6275 or email razzmond1@bigpond.com

Continued from Page 1

Jenny Biddle was a very popular act with such an expressive face and sensational guitar talent. Jenny generously appeared at both pre and post festival events to rapturous applause.

The Molly Maguires played set after set of Irish toe tapping tunes whilst fans of **The Go Set** could be seen dancing to their punk/folk/rock sound and celebrating the close of the festival.

As always the variety of music meant there was something for everyone to enjoy. From the bluegrass/folk feel of **The Stetson Family** and **John Flanagan and the Begin Agains**, to the psychedelic/country rock from singer-songwriter **Kristian Mizzi** and his five-piece band the **Sirens**.

The many blues fans were spoiled for choice and lay back to enjoy **The Powerhouse Blues Band** playing a variety of originals and standards, while **JC Apthorpe's** high energy acoustic sound and the soulful, intense rhythm of **Brody Young** left the crowd wanting more.

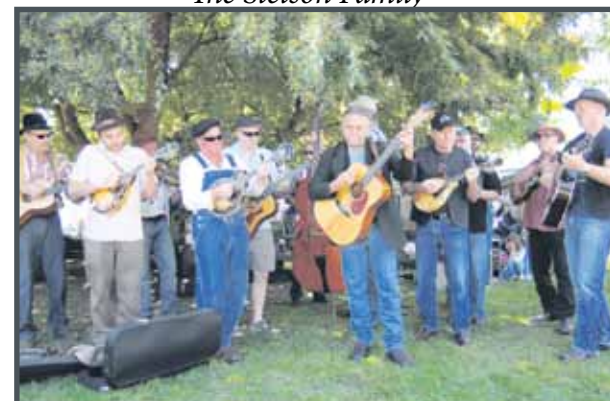
The up-tempo sound from **Takin' Time** with Susan's beautiful singing voice was a crowd pleaser and very popular, as was the folk/rock/pop music of **The Buttons**.



Musician Brody Young is originally from Yinnar



Luke Richardson and Nadine Budge from 'The Stetson Family'



Well known group 'The Strzelecki Stringbusters'

Lloyd Bosch (left) wows the crowd as his folk-thick vocals, rustic strumming and ethereal chords merge and split through his performance.

Lawrie Havrillay

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A very happy crown dispersed at the end of the day's entertainment, with the sounds of their favourites still echoing in their heads.

The **Open Mic Event** on Saturday night at the Boolarra Football/Netball Club also proved very popular, with budding artists full of inspiration from the festival performances doing their own interpretation of a variety of music. The tables were all full and the audience were very encouraging of the new talent performing on the night. Keep up the good work and see you at the festival next year!

More caravans and campers than ever before set up their temporary homes in the grounds provided, with many travellers making a detour after hearing about the festival as they made their way through Gippsland. After having such a wonderful time many intend to make it an annual event and we look forward to their company in our beautiful town again.

Kristy Mills has taken on the role of Market Co-ordinator this year and her organization of the ever increasing number of stalls was very well done. Stallholders were kept busy throughout the day and were very pleased with their turnover.

Darren Cornell, a new committee member in the role of Logistics Co-ordinator, worked tirelessly from dawn until dusk, together with his band of helpers, to keep everything running smoothly. Well done all of you for your contribution to making the day run so smoothly.

Festival President, **Ray Stewart**, was kept very busy catching up with many people from as far afield as Ballarat, Melbourne, Sydney and Queensland.

One of the most pleasing aspects for the committee would have to be the increase in the amount

of volunteer assistance this year. Volunteers staffed the wine tents, directed traffic, collected donations and sold programs amongst other vital tasks and again, thank you all for your efforts in making the festival such a success.

Special thanks go to the **Gleeson family** who generously allowed us to use their farm paddock for car parking.

Thank you also to the wider community for supporting the day in such large numbers. The festival is an important event in our local and regional calendar and next year's celebration of the 10th anniversary of the festival will be bigger and better than ever.



Festival goers relax and enjoy the music

Anyone who would like to get involved in the staging of the festival is asked to contact Ray Stewart on 5169 6275 or take a look at www.boolarrafolkfestival.com for more information.



Record numbers of stall holders were kept busy throughout the day

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One of a number of buskers entertaining the crowds

Boolarra Folk Festival Healing Tent

This year the Healing Tent was busy and buzzing from early in the day. We had 16 healers participating, offering a wide range of treatment techniques. Garryelle Rose and Marie Ward were a team effort in the Tee Pee offering Auric Balancing, Meditation, Reiki, flower essences and massage.

Samantha Brick, Sue Kemsley and Maddy Harberts from Gippsland Massage & Wellbeing Centre offered Massage, Reiki, and Optimum Health Balances. Optimum Health Balance uses muscle testing and cards with special icons to identify what is causing stress – by enhancing our natural healing ability to help with a variety of chronic issues, the stress is relieved and the person can move on with their life.

Dan Aveling, Steve Stainsby and Paul Jones all did massages and added some male energy to the team. Friends Rhonda Clark and Anne Smith provided Bowen Therapy - a vibrational energy therapy which uses sequences of small gentle moves at specific sites of the body to stimulate energy flow, which activates the body's own resources for healing.

Healers from Pearcedale: Sharmin Knol - NLP & Hypnosis Master Practitioner and Intuitive who has been practising for the past 3 years helping and guiding people who are looking for the answers that lie within. She uses several tools, techniques and intuitive guidance to help remove any perceived mental or emotional blocks. Teresa Harkin is a Registered nurse working with people living with cancer. Teresa offered Child of Light Healings - a gentle and powerful healing

designed specifically for the children in this day-and-age and is equally effective on adults, addressing any inner-child hurts and traumas that we as adults may carry.

Pentagram Therapy - a deeply nurturing, gentle, blissful, relaxing, experience using essential oils lavender and rose with aurum to give a harmonising and balancing effect to help bring you back to yourself. Esoteric Healing - balancing, revitalising and energising healing, where the energy centres and corresponding organs in the body are balanced. The individual releases the debris that we accumulate in our day to day lives.

Long term supporters of the Healing Tent are Maz and Dee from Newborough did not bring the Crystal Shop this year but they brought their lovely selves. Maz offered Reiki treatments and Dee did several Tarot Readings. Reiki Treatments were provided by Carmel Pye (who has been involved for many years) and Mareila Cao (who is building up her business locally).

Margie Poole and two other staff from Endota Spa (soon to open at Century Inn, Traralgon West) provided free hand or head and neck massages using their lovely natural products as part of the massage.

Robern Lubawski, representing the Boolarra Churches had an area where people could come for a chat and prayer. Jeanette Teague was distributing literature and balloons for 'Donate Life' and 'Transplant Australia' to spread the word about the importance of Organ donation.

Lovely helpers at Reception had the important role of advising services available and bookings for treatments. Thank you Elaine, Liz, Maddy,

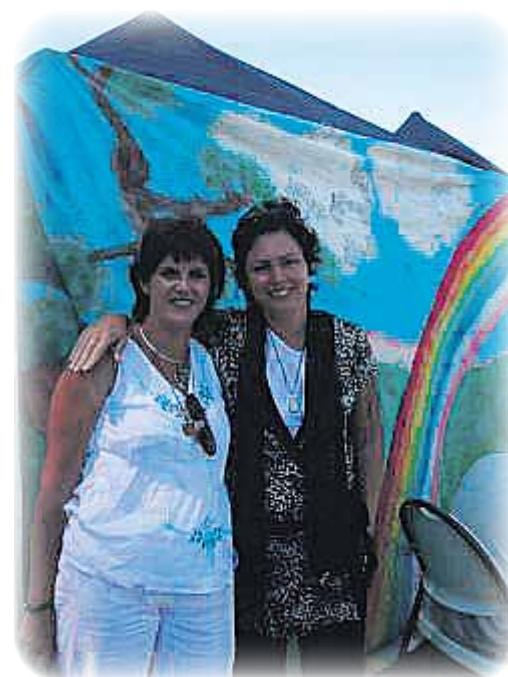
Garryelle, Sharmin and Sue.

Together we saw over 70 people for relaxing treatments. We raised \$475.00, which will be donated to a specific project in a flood affected town in Victoria.

We want to thank Latrobe City Council Fire Recovery group and the Victorian Bushfire Recovery and Rebuilding Authority (VBRRA) for Donations toward the running of the Healing Tent. Thanks also go to the Boolarra Community Development Group for managing the funds.

We are looking forward to seeing you all again at next year's Boolarra Folk Festival Healing Tent.

If you have any questions or would like further information regarding practitioners, please contact Samantha Brick on 0427 824722.



Teresa Harkin & Sharmin Knol - two of the Healers from Pearcedale

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The Boolarra Folk Festival Committee wish to sincerely thank our wonderful Sponsors, without whom there would simply be no Festival.

Victorian Government
Latrobe City Council
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Churchill Lions Club
Boolarra Community Development Group

Message from Russell Northe

As this is my first contribution to the new look Boolarra Link, I'd like to wish all community members a Happy New Year and I hope that your holiday season was restful and enjoyable. 2011 has already been extremely hectic in terms of events with strong attendances at our local Australia Day celebrations despite the less than ideal weather.

I'd like to congratulate all the winners of Boolarra Community Recognition Awards received on Australia Day. It is fantastic to see our local residents being actively involved and duly recognised for their contributions.

I pass on my congratulations to the following recipients of awards:

Emma Cooke, Michael Schiller, Faye Taylor, Kristy Cupples, Mandy Peter, Michael Taylor, Lisa Papa, Garryelle Rose, Samantha Brick, Catheryn Thompson, Gwenda Pither and Dr Margaret Costello.

These people have shown immense dedication and commitment to Boolarra and District and I'd like to thank each of the recipients for being active citizens and for taking the time to make Boolarra and District a richer community.

I'd also like to congratulate a previous award winner, the Boolarra Folk Festival Committee on their organisation and dedication to the Festival, held on Saturday 5 March 2011. I for one look forward to attending the Festival each year, which always has a fantastic turnout, great activities and acts on the day and never disappoints.

The Folk Festival is always a huge drawcard for the town and I am sure it will continue to be a success in the future. The community should be very proud of itself for hosting an event such as this, and I thank all those involved for making the event a success each year.

Dr M Costello

Practice Opening Times:

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10.00 am–12.00 noon

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3.30 pm–4.30 pm

Friday

9.30 am–12.00 noon

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5169 6688

I recently spoke in Parliament on the second anniversary of the Black Saturday and Delburn Complex bushfires of 2009 and want to pass on my best wishes to those who are still recovering from the events of that traumatic period. Whilst our thoughts are, of course, with those who were impacted by the fires in January and February of 2009 we should also acknowledge those who have assisted in the recovery which still continues.

The courage, dedication and commitment of so many individuals, organisations and businesses has been absolutely amazing and I congratulate one and all for assisting those in their time of need. It has been a hard couple of years, but I know the community is resilient and are continuing to stand by one another, which is heartening and comforting. I ask the community to please

spare a thought and a hug for your neighbours, your friends or your family who may be silently suffering at this time.

I'd also like to welcome all students back to school. I hope all primary, secondary and tertiary students take the opportunity this year to exceed all expectations and put 100% into their studies. For those beginning Year 12, I wish you all the best for the year and I am sure the dedication and brain power you put into your school work will see you succeed.

I wish every member of the community the best for 2011 and I hope that it is a prosperous year, filled with many memorable moments.

Russell Northe



SOROPTIMISTS INTERNATIONAL GIPPSLAND

Sorooptimists International [SI] is a community service organisation and a local club is being established in Gippsland. SI is a world-wide organisation for women in management and the professions, working through service projects to advance the status of women and girls. There are 13,000 Clubs in 126 countries and 14 Clubs in Victoria.

Our Program focus goals are to ensure women and girls

- enjoy equity and equality,
- live in safe and healthy environments,
- have access to education, and
- have leadership and practical skills.

Membership offers many opportunities to:



Samantha Brick

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- participate in Community Service work in Australia and overseas,
- have the opportunity to become aware of issues of concern and advocate on behalf of those affected,
- interact with women from different spheres of life,
- Meet other women and make new friends at home and abroad,
- transfer membership if relocated, and
- continue membership after retirement.

Often members state that fitting SI into their already busy lives is very worth while, as they meet like-minded women and can give something back to their communities.

SI has benefitted Boolarra already and would like to find other service projects that we can undertake in Boolarra and other parts of Gippsland. The Boolarra Netball Club has received a 3 year sponsorship from SI Bushfire Relief. They have received funding for uniforms, first aid kits and a trip to Melbourne.

Boolarra's animals were remembered in a service funded by the SI Bushfire Relief. The Memorial Stone is located near the entrance to the Rail Trail.

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SOROPTIMISTS INTERNATIONAL GIPPSLAND

We invite you to our meetings on Wednesdays 20th April 6.00pm and 25th May 5.30pm 2011, at Traralgon Neighbourhood Centre, 11-13 Breed Street, Traralgon. Refreshments are provided.

Information is available on the Internet; www.sorop.org, or www.soroptimistinternational.org

I do hope you will be able to attend the meetings- doing so does not mean you have committed to membership. That is a decision to be made after learning more about our organisation and our project work.

Please contact Samantha Brick (0427 824 722) for more information.

POLICE REPORT

In early December 2010, a 26 inch mountain bicycle in very good condition was located in the Boolarra Township. If you are missing a bike that fits this description, enquires should be made at the Boolarra Police Station.

*Leading Senior Constable
Gary Mills*



BOOLARRA BOOK CLUB

We are starting this year with a book of Edna Wallings on gardening, so this could generate much discussion as most of us are keen gardeners. We read when it's wet and weed when it's dry.

Our meetings start at 8.00 pm at a variety of homes. This year we will have eleven meetings - nine with AE books, one with a film and one to share our own favourites.

Remember, you can borrow books in Boolarra on Monday mornings at the Primary School Community Library from Roz. It's a good place to visit to see what they have on offer.

Books build bridges and brighten your days.

If anyone is interested in joining, we still have a few places.

Please contact **Robern on 5169 6494**

MEN'S SHED PROPOSAL FOR BOOLARRA

A hard-working Boolarra Community Development Group (BCDG) Sub-Committee has been working towards the establishment of a Men's Shed in Boolarra. A Flyer was recently distributed seeking input from the Community and a number of people responded expressing interest as either users or facilitators.

The site for the proposed shed is the old Department of Sustainability & Environment (DSE) yard beside the Fire Station and clean-up works have already been completed. Handover of the site will take place shortly and signage designating the yard as "Site of the proposed Men's Shed" will be erected. Funding for building erection and some equipment costs have been approved in principal and merely awaiting handover of the site.

Interest in Men's Sheds is usually from men, however, other groups or individuals from the wider community, which may include women and youth, are also invited to express their interest.

Some suggested activities may include:

- **Woodwork**
- **Steelwork**
- **Mechanical**
- **Art & Craft,**
- **Leatherwork**
- **Youth Mentoring**

Interest groups will be governed by volunteer availability and involvement and activities could be run on a regular or semi-casual basis.

If you have any further queries or suggestions, please contact **Jeff Henderson on 5169 6218.**

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BOOLARRA PONY CLUB

The 2011 season has started with the unfortunate cancellation of our Gymkhana, on Sunday the 6th February. Heavy rain throughout Friday and Saturday ensured that the main oval at Boolarra was far too wet for the event to proceed, causing disappointment to keen horse riders within the district. Even though the event was cancelled, a huge thank you goes out to members of the public, who each year volunteer their services to enable this event to be staged here in Boolarra.

The club recently completed the installation of 25 equestrian holding yards. This was only made possible with a generous Community Grant provided by Latrobe City Council. The yards will provide a safer environment when the horses are being rested at Pony Club Rallies and other events.

During December 2010, the club took possession of much needed Equestrian Game equipment, (Polocrosse & large balls), this will allow riding members to develop skills whilst competing in team events. This equipment was only made possible with the wonderful support and generosity from Salvation Army, Eastern Victorian Division.

Construction of our Cross Country course is progressing at a steady pace. Approximately one third of the jumps have been constructed and installed.

With the cancellation of the Gymkhana, the Boolarra Folk Festival became our major fundraiser for the financial year and we look forward to everyone's ongoing support.

*Gary Mills
President - Boolarra Pony Club*

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BRIEFLY . . .

BOOLARRA TABLE TENNIS



Table Tennis has started again on **Monday nights at 7.00 pm at the Boolarra Hall**. It is a free event and open to all ages and abilities, supper will be provided. Just come along wearing runners, comfortable clothes and bring a bottle of water.

It is a non-competitive, fun activity, with lots of laughter, no experience needed. We will show you how to play and we hope to get some professional coaching in the future.

No matter how able or disabled you are, you can always play Table Tennis!

Table Tennis – the Sport for life!

We would also like to hear from anyone who would like to play during the day, so we can get a “Keenagers” group started (older people), day to be determined.

Please contact **Marietta Herni** on 5169 6355 or **Jill Parker** on 5169 6386

MEETINGS in BOOLARRA

Boolarra Community Development Group - Monthly - 1st Thursday at 7.30pm - Memorial Hall

Boolarra Historical Society - Monthly - 3rd Tuesday at 7.30pm - Museum

Cemetery Trust - Contact Glenys Morgan - 5169 6721

Red Cross - Monthly - 2nd Monday at 1pm - Hotel

Boolarra Memorial Hall - Monthly - 3rd Thursday at 7.30pm - Memorial Hall

PLEASE NOTE:- If there are changes to any of these days or dates, please notify the Boolarra Link Secretary

Lois Thornton on 5169 6618

MORWELL STROKE SUPPORT GROUP

The Morwell Stroke Support Group is a community organization where those attending can learn more about stroke, share their experiences, and become inspired to move forward. We are a happy band of people and you would be most welcome to pop in some time. Come and see for yourself if this is a group that suits you.

We usually meet on the **first Tuesday of each month at Nicholson Rehabilitation Ward meeting room, Latrobe Regional Hospital, at 1.30 p.m.** Occasionally we have an outing, so it would be wise to contact one of the below mentioned people if you are intending to come.

All enquiries can be made to:

Marlene Austin - 5668 1355 or

Coralie Pickett - 5169 6496.

BOOLARRA BLAZERS The Walk & Talk Club

Welcome Walkers to 2011

Our year began with a walk at Churchill, followed by lunch, then some of us made blood donations (are we fit?).

We will continue to meet at the oval at 9.00am on Thursdays with a monthly walk somewhere special. All ages and abilities are most welcome.

Slip, Slop, Slap

Wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes. Bring a bottle of water. You can exercise, solve the world's problems and keep fit all at once.

For more information contact **John Lubawski** - 5169 6494

BOOLARRA DISTRICT GARDEN GROUP

On Tuesday 1st February a group of 15 members set out on a trip to Yarra Junction to visit the Blue Lotus Water Gardens. After a stop in Nerrim South for morning tea and a chat of course, we got back in the bus on a very hot day to arrive at the garden about 11:15 am.

After admiring the gardens for a few hours we were feeling hot and bothered, so we found a shady pavilion to sit for a rest and to cool down.

We then headed back for lunch, where we sat overlooking a small lake filled with beautiful lotus and water lilies. After a quick look around the nursery we decided to head back home as the day was just getting hotter. After a short stop again at Nerrim South for drinks and ice cream we arrived safe and sound back in Boolarra.

Our next trip is to visit a garden in Leongatha and perhaps a stop at a nursery as well.

Any enquires please contact **Jill Simmonds** on 5169 6516.

CAN YOU HELP??

The **Multi-purpose Building Committee** are looking for photographs/information regarding the construction of the building.

If you have anything please contact:

Stella Ibbotsen - 5134 2324

Sue Warren - 5169 6395 or

Pauline Beer - 5169 6382

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*The community of Boolarra and District
are cordially invited to attend an*

***ANZAC Service at Boolarra
on Sunday 17th April at 10.00 am***

The service will be held opposite the Hall
at the RSL Commemorative rock.

***All ex- service men & women are
particularly encouraged to attend.***

This Service has been organised with the assistance
and support of the Morwell RSL.

*During the service there will be an opportunity
to lay a wreath/flowers.*

***The Service will be followed by a morning tea
at the Boolarra Memorial Hall.***

***If the weather is inclement the service will be
held at the Memorial Hall.***

Roz Carstairs, Organiser

POSTCARDS OF BOOLARRA

Photographers in Boolarra may be interested to know that the Boolarra Community Development Group (BCDG) Committee are presently looking for a selection of photographs depicting sights, scenes and situations in and around our beautiful town. The Committee will choose eight different photos to be printed as Postcards which will be sold locally to show off, beyond our boundaries, what we as a community enjoy every day.

If you have a photograph you would like to submit for consideration, please deliver it in printed or disc form to the Post Office, complete with your name, address, telephone, email address and a short description of the subject.

All photos and discs will be returned. Photographs chosen will have the photographer's name acknowledged on the Postcard.

Scenes could include the Folk Festival, Railway and Centenary Parks, The Old Pub, Tarwin Streetscape, Historical Buildings, Morwell River Falls, Rail Trail, town valley views etc.

What's on in BOOLARRA

MONDAY

EXERCISE CLASS - All ages 9.30 am - Boolarra Memorial Hall - Kathleen Millett 5122 2591

TABLE TENNIS - 7.00 pm - Memorial Hall - Free event - Contact Marietta Hernie 5169 6355 or Jill Parker 5169 6386.

BOOK CLUB - 1st Monday of the month - 8.00 pm - Contact Roborn Lubawski 5169 6494

WEDNESDAY

YOGA - Gentle Class - 6.00 – 7.30 pm **OR** Advanced Class - 7.45 – 9.15 pm - Primary School Multi Purpose Room - Contact Kristy Mills 5169 6226.

More on Page 9

*They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*



Lest We Forget.

'The ODE'

The extract at left has become 'The Ode' for the Returned & Services League (RSL) and has been used in association with commemoration services in Australia since 1921.

'The Ode' comes from 'For the Fallen', a poem by English poet & writer Laurence Binyon, first published in London in 'The Winnowing Fan: Poems of the Great War' in 1914.



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BOOLARRA MEMORIAL HALL

The Boolarra Memorial Hall now has the addition of a new audio/light system for the stage. The Theatre Group were instrumental in obtaining assistance from the Salvation Army in this project. The Salvation Army also assisted the Hall Committee in purchasing a new fridge to suit the new commercial kitchen. Many thanks.

The Committee has set new hiring charges for 2011. They are as follows:

1. Main Hall & Facilities including kitchen (weddings, cabarets, dances etc.) - \$150 plus \$100 Refundable Deposit (to be paid upfront upon hiring. Can be used for cleaning costs).
2. Stage & Kitchen (Private & Outside Groups) - \$70 (Hirer cleans).
3. Stage & Kitchen (Local Community Groups) - \$50 (Hirer cleans).
4. Stage & Kitchen (Meetings only-tea making) - \$20 (Hirer cleans).
5. Kitchen Only (Commercial use) - \$20 per hour.
6. Community Kitchen use - \$20.
7. Session Hire - \$10 an hour.

Hiring charges cover use of all facilities at the Hall. Any other or previous hiring charges are at the discretion of the Hall Committee.

Private Hire - Trestles \$5, Chairs \$1, Crockery/Cutlery \$3 for 10 items, Tablecloths \$5.

**Next Meeting will be Thursday,
19th May at 7.30pm.
All Welcome.**

Roz Carstairs
Secretary

Advertisement

Russell Northe MLA
Member For Morwell

I encourage you to contact me if I can be of assistance on any State Government matter.

66 George Street
Morwell VIC 3840
ph 03 5133 9088 fax 03 5133 9388
russell.northe@parliament.vic.gov.au

Authorised by Russell North MLA, 66 George Street, Morwell Vic 3840

www.russellnorthe.com.au

INTERNATIONAL POWER SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

On Friday 28th January 2011, Boolarra South Landcare Group hosted representatives from International Power, who presented cheques to community groups from Boolarra, Moe South and Yinnar South.

Jean Quick from 'Jean E Us Wildlife Shelter' received a generous grant of \$10,000 for the wildlife shelter on Darlimurla Road. Since the bushfires 2 years ago, Jean and volunteers have been working hard to restore yards and fencing etc. Jean acknowledged that without all the donations and volunteer help she would have been unable to continue her work helping so many animals recover from injury and loss of maternal care through accidents and in the aftermath of the bushfires.

Boolarra South Landcare Group received a very generous contribution of \$20,000 for the development of the Old Mill site. This donation will be used to provide a Gazebo and enable a picnic area to be developed. The improvements to the walking tracks at the Old Mill site have been proceeding steadily and it is now possible to enjoy a circular walk through the forest.

Another track from the cemetery is almost finished and has some very nice rest spots along the way. The materials for these seats were a kind donation from the Mirboo North Men's Shed. Other tracks are now ready to be graded and topped with crushed rock. A number of townsfolk are already enjoying the new tracks, come and see these for yourself if you have not done so already.

We would also welcome anyone who would like to help with this project. Collecting weeds, especially Ragwort, Blackberries and Thistles, raking out crushed rock, clearing rubbish or planting ferns; there are all sorts of jobs that need doing. If you can spare a few hours contact Mick Schiller on 5169 6425 and he will happily give you a job.

The Landcare Group also have regular working bees, so if you could help phone Linda on 5169 6702 and she will give you information.



*International Power's Community Grants presentation
From left - Jean Quick from Jean-E-Us Wildlife Shelter, representatives from Moe South and Yinnar South CFA, Boolarra South Landcare members Mick Schiller and Linda Minter*

Continued from Page 8

What's on in BOOLARRA

THURSDAY

WOOL GROUP - 11.00 am – 3.30 pm - Multipurpose Building - Contact Lois Thornton 5169 6618

WALKING GROUP - Meet 9.00 am at Boolarra Recreation Reserve - Contact John Lubawski 5169 6494

GLORY TO THE KING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY - Mid-week worship - 7.30 pm - Cnr Young & Bastin Streets

SUNDAY

HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 2.00 - 4.00 pm - 1st Sunday of the month - Old School House (Museum)

PONY CLUB RALLY - 2nd Sunday of the month - Recreation Reserve



australia day in Boolarra

The kids were eager to participate in the Gumboot Throw and Sack Races and the adults consulted over the Trivia Quiz which had a distinctly “local” flavour. It’s amazing how many chocolates Lori Mansfield won! Jeannie Quick was there with several of the animals she currently has in care at the Wildlife Shelter.

Our Mayor, Cr. Darrell White, was an apology due to his attendance at the opening of Callignee Multipurpose Hall. Well-known Boolarra Community Development Group (BCDG) members Colin Brick and Rob Herni presided over the formal proceedings. Presentations of Community Awards were made to twelve deserving locals. They were:

Emma Cooke

For her energy, persistence and leadership in battling the red tape, coordinating the youthful artistic endeavours and designing the final display to bring the Boolarra Fire Art project to fruition.

Michael Schiller

For his inspirational work on the redevelopment of the Morwell River Falls and the Old Mill site. The many hours of hard physical work to developing tracks and installing seating and signage are a testament to his 100% enthusiasm and energy.

Faye Taylor

Her long-standing encouragement of and dedication to Boolarra’s young women through the sport of netball, in particular, the significant contribution she makes as a committee member and general support to all at the Boolarra Football Netball Club.

Our National Day in Boolarra dawned grey and mild, with wet grass underfoot in lovely Railway Park where celebrations were held. Nothing dampened the Community spirit though, as a large crowd of locals and assorted visitors lined up for the cooked breakfast provided by our CFA stalwarts and other helpers. We sincerely thank them for giving up part of their Australia Day holiday, and we also thank the many other helpers on the day.

Kristy Mills (Cupples)

Her lovely calm persona belies the energy, artistry and commitment she focuses on her passions, including the Boolarra Primary School garden and surrounds, the Youth Theatre Company and her Yoga classes.

Mandy Peter

For her unstinting efforts in her four years as School Council President. In a sometimes difficult and time consuming role, Mandy conducts herself as a great team player; with tact and integrity and is unfailingly supportive of the school.

Michael Taylor

For his tireless work as Greens Keeper and Bar Manager for the Boolarra Bowling Club. Michael has demonstrated his commitment through the outstanding job he has done despite ongoing health problems.

Lisa Papa

For her enthusiasm and commitment during the establishment of the Boolarra and District Youth Theatre Company. Her fine work as Secretary and her efforts behind the scenes has enabled the new group to operate smoothly and effectively.

Garryelle Rose

Recognised for her enthusiasm, vision and ongoing commitment to the community through projects such as the Youth Theatre Company, Christmas in July and the Carols. Garryelle makes Boolarra a richer place to live.

*BELOW LEFT - Australia Day
Community Award recipients*

Samantha Brick

The Boolarra community recognises her for her commitment to Boolarra over many years. Her organisational skills, drive and enthusiasm have been a key factor in the success of the healing tent, pamper day and Youth Theatre Company. She has a commitment in her professional and private endeavours to achieving improved outcomes for all associated with her.

Catheryn Thompson

As a passionate conservationist, has been very prominent and active, both hands on and organizationally, in many worthy local area conservation activities. These include organizing weed control and water awareness seminars, and some great work on the upper Morwell River, especially the falls area.

Gwenda Pither

For her wonderful efforts to promote community activities and to help people. Her coordination of the Boolarra Stompers Relay for Life team deserves full praise for the money raised, the enjoyment experienced by the team members and the recognition it provided to Boolarra as a community.

Dr. Margaret Costello

In her quiet, unassuming way she provides the community of Boolarra with a friendly, reliable and skilled medical practice that most rural communities could only dream of, with bulk billing, no appointments required and house visits when required.

Sack races in the park on Australia Day



It was really nice to see so many younger members of the Community honoured this year – perhaps an indication of the “passing of the baton” so to speak.

Volunteering is something we in Boolarra do really well and it was heartening to see so many busy Mums rewarded for their involvement.

After the presentations, some “Bool Aria” members led us all in the singing of the National Anthem and the flag was raised.

In true Aussie spirit, it was announced that half the proceeds of our Open Gardens Day last November had been voted by the BCDG to be donated to Victorian Flood Relief. A donation bucket was also passed around on Australia Day, with donations of \$300 being collected.

This Australia Day, maybe more than ever before, people will reflect on what it means to be an Aussie, certainly typified by helpers in our recent disastrous floods.

Aussie, Aussie, Aussie – Oi! Oi! Oi!

GLORY TO THE KING **CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**

**Corner of Young and Bastin Streets,
Boolarra**

Church Service every Sunday at 4.00 pm
Healing Service 1st Sunday of month
Mid-week worship Thursday at 7.30 pm

Missions Shop & The Quiet Place open
for prayer or reading:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
afternoons from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm

Rev Fran Marston 5169 6263 or
Rev Lynn Fowler 5169 6788

INTERNATIONAL RECORDING **ARTIST - JULES RIDING** **TO VISIT BOOLARRA**

International recording artist Jules Riding will be performing at Glory to the King (GTK) Christian Community, corner of Young and Bastin Streets, Boolarra, on **Wednesday 20th April at 7.15 pm** as part of his Australian tour to promote his tenth album, "Cataclysm." Admission will be free, but an offering will be taken.

Jules began his involvement with Christian music in 1976 with the St. Pauls Singers in Auckland, a creative itinerant church choir that wrote songs and released albums. Since that time he has written many songs used in the Songs of the Nations, Songs of the Kingdom and the New Harvest song books. His songs have been recorded by Scripture in Song and Maranatha Music amongst others. He has had three songs from 'Kids Time 2' selected for the Song Discovery program (USA), released Oct 2007.

A Primary School Teacher for five years, and a folk guitar teacher / photographer for two, he won a secular songwriting competition 'Unsung Heroes' in 1983 which resulted in a Top 40 single 'Round the Bays' being released on the CBS Label.

In 1984 he released his first solo album On This Night, followed in 1987 by Heartstrings. Both albums won Gospel Album of the Year at the New Zealand Music Awards, equivalent to a Dove Award in the USA. Both albums were eventually combined onto one compact disc 'Pilgrim In Paradise'. In 1991 his album 'Revelation' gained gold album status. This was followed by 'Homecoming' in 1992 and 'The Fisherman' in 1994. Two kids albums followed, and the worship album 'Amazing Sacrifice'. Then in 2001 he released 'Jerusalem'.

Jules lists his musical influences as Bob Dylan, James Taylor, Paul Simon, Cat Stevens, The Beatles, Enya, Sting, Jews Brothers (secular) Keith Green, John Michael Talbot, Sons of Korah, Derek Lind, Bruce Coburn and Michael W Smith (Christian).

Some of Jules' performances can be seen on his YouTube channel, <http://www.youtube.com/julesriding>

MISSIONS NIGHT TO FEATURE **KENYA/UGANDA VISIT**

A Missions Night will be held at Glory to the King Christian Community (GTK), Boolarra at **7.30 pm on Wednesday 11th May**. The night will feature video footage of Rev. Lynn Fowler's recent missions trip to Kenya and Uganda.

During the five week trip, Rev. Lynn traveled through western Kenya and east to west across Uganda, visiting 16 different churches, mostly pastored by men who are affiliated with Glory to the King Ministries International. The purpose was to meet and encourage the pastors, to see first hand the work they have been doing, and to minister in their churches. Some of the churches were ones for which GTK has held fundraising projects over the last couple of years, and she was able to see how the money raised is being used.

As well as the video presentation, there will be photos and displays of the work of GTK affiliated pastors in other areas.

All are invited to attend. Supper will be provided at the end of the evening.



BOOLARRA POST OFFICE

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Boolarra

MEMORIUM



SHIRLEY HOLMES (VALE)
(1922-2010)

Family and friends gathered in North Balwyn recently to pay their respects to well-known Boolarra identity, Shirley Holmes. Shirley and her husband George Holmes moved from the Holmes' family hardware shop at Kew Junction in 1966 to run 'Laughing Waters', a large dairy farm on the Limonite Road.

Shirley was well prepared for such a life change, having been born and brought up on a dairy farm in Echuca in 1922. She had a tremendous capacity for work, finding the time and energy to join many community groups such as Red Cross, Girl Guides, Mothers' Club at the Boolarra Primary School, the Pony Club at Boolarra and Berry's Creek, Friends of the Morwell Art Gallery, Community Aid Abroad, the Boolarra Historical Society and others.

Sadly, her husband George Holmes died in 1980 and Shirley continued farming with her son, Keith, until she retired to Morwell a few years ago.

A great traveller, Shirley made many trips overseas to Europe, Russia, America, Canada and China. Her great love and pride though, was her family – Susan, who died tragically in a car accident, Keith, Mary and Richard and their children.

Her friends in Boolarra and the Latrobe Valley will miss her.

*Beautiful Morwell River Falls flowing
after plenty of summer rain*

FRIENDS OF THE UPPER MORWELL RIVER INC RECEIVE PRAISE FOR THEIR CONSERVATION EFFORTS

With scrumptious food and a photo presentation, the Friends of the Upper Morwell River Inc hosted a happy get-together at the Boolarra Hall on Australia Day. Two of the friends, Mick Schiller and Catheryn Thompson had received awards from the Boolarra community thanking them for their involvement in conservation projects around Boolarra. The Friends of the Falls photo presentation was begun with an acknowledgement from Catheryn of the cultural significance of land and water to the GunaiKurnai people.

"All the Friends love the river", said Catheryn, "and we have had many working bees before and since the formation of the Friends in 2009".

The Friends meet on the last Sunday of the month, rain or shine, to reclaim tracks that were once diligently maintained by prisoners from the now closed Morwell Prison Farm.

Mick has been constructing tracks & infrastructure at the Morwell River Falls and the Landcare Old Mill Site in Boolarra, while Catheryn has focused on projects along the Upper Morwell River and the Morwell River Falls. *"Reclaiming the tracks from years of neglect is hard physical labour," says Mick, "but it's easy doing something you love".*

The slide show presented over 400 photos taken mainly by Yakshideva, with some by Alan Hall, Rodney Lloyd & Denise Schiller. The photos showed the many happy faces of people who enjoy the falls, the rainforest species that dominate the Falls, the flora and fungi changing through the seasons, and the Falls themselves either charged with water at high water flow, or rocky over the hotter months.

Platypus sightings have been recorded at the Falls and above Fox's Hole. One man reports he was recently lying in the pond above the top falls when he saw a huge platypus cruising gracefully by him. Ancient crayfish hang out in the dark bottoms of the pools and yabbies have been seen scaling the falls walls. As well at this, as every

camper knows, the dawn chorus of birds is truly spectacular.

Some may not know it, but there are three drops of the Morwell River Falls and when visiting from the Morwell River road, the tracks take you through pungent mountain ash regenerated forest and down through wet forest to cool temperate rainforest glades.

The Friends know that many people love the river and they are hoping for the day when the funding for railings to assure the safety of the new tracks is available, so that they can be officially re-opened.

"We know how important this river is to the health and vitality of Boolarra and the region", said Catheryn, "and over the summer months there were many campers enjoying the beauty of the river and the coolness under the trees, with many visiting the Morwell River Falls as the highlight of their trip".

Along with the ongoing tasks of blackberry control, invasive weeds and litter control (unfortunately some visitors are not as clean as they could be), the Friends educate themselves on various river management issues.

The next working bee is on **Sunday 27th March** when we will meet for a BYO lunch at 12.00 noon at the Falls then continue with our work to reclaim the tracks.

Info is available from the Boolarra Post Office or Top Shop or Phone **Catheryn - 0435 048 153 or Denise - 5169 6425.**





Bushfire Skills Broker Program

The Bushfire Skills Broker Program provides support, assistance and advice to Gippsland residents affected by the 2009 bushfires. Throughout 2011, we will work with individuals, organisations and industry to meet training needs and skills requirements. This assistance covers training from any local Registered Training Organisation, and accredited or non-accredited training.

The program provides residents with access to a free advisory service and funding support in an effort to improve employment and study opportunities within affected communities. Assistance is also provided to facilitate training and up-skilling within communities and organisations to address existing needs. Grants of up to approximately \$500 per person may be provided to help individuals meet those costs associated with further study. Such costs may include enrolment fees, educational materials, child care and transport. We can also provide free training courses to come to your community, or your workplace at no cost to the participants.

Support for Individuals

The Bushfire Skills Broker can provide:

- Assistance to those unable to access funds or assistance through other funding avenues.
- Funding to meet costs associated with study, such as childcare, educational materials, transport costs etc.
- FREE Financial and advisory support to individuals wishing to gain access to training and/or

skills development, to change careers or use prior experience or learning (RPL) to gain a qualification.

- Advice and career guidance and support to those who require it.

Support for Community

The Bushfire Skills Broker can assist:

- Community groups and/or organisations that have identified a training need within the group or community
- Communities who have identified the need to develop new skills or knowledge in a specific area in order to strengthen the community
- Community groups and/or organisations who wish to up-skill, re-train or upgrade prior qualifications for the members within their group
- Individuals within a bushfire affected community who wish to drive further training and skills development within their community
- Bushfire affected communities who wish to 'host' a series of workshops/training programs to boost exposure to their town, tourism and the local economy.

Support for Industry

The Bushfire Skills Broker Program also works with organisations and industries within bushfire affected areas to meet existing training needs and foster future growth.

The program can help local industry and organisations to up-skill their workforce and fast-track qualifications by providing Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for previous employment and on the job experience.

This service is also committed to providing FREE advice and guidance to industries and their work-

force regarding training and skills development. Support is also offered to those organisations and industries looking to develop a strategic alliance and/or partnership with the Bushfire Skills Broker Program and GippsTAFE to strengthen relationships and the outcomes for the community.

We are holding the following **FREE** training sessions in March in your area, please contact Ami on the details below to book a place.

Food Hygiene/Food Handlers course – Mirboo North Golf Club - (parts I and II) 7th and the 9th of March (6-10pm)

Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) – Gormandale Football Club – 15th of March (6-10pm)

Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) – Boolarra Football Club – 16th of March (6-10pm)

Food Hygiene/Food Handlers course – Gormandale Football Club – (parts I and II) 21st and the 23rd of March (6-10pm)

Food Hygiene/Food Handlers course – Boolarra Football Club – (parts I and II) 28th and 30th of March (6-10pm)

PLEASE NOTE: *If you have missed any of the above courses, more dates for Churchill, Hazelwood and Callignee will be available for April 2011, so contact Ami Summers for more information.*

For further information and bookings please contact:

Ami Summers Phone: (03) 5120 4576

Mobile: 0488 233 226

Fax: 1300 094 661

Email: amis@gippstafe.edu.au

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BOOLARRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Fabulous Start to the School Year

Our students settled in extremely quickly this year. Learning Programs were up and running immediately. Our new Prep students Paige Anderson, Meila Cupples, Elise Patrick, Matthew Andrews, Quin Aveling, Maddison Smith and Dara Kendall-Jones were well supported by their grade 6 buddies and seemed very relaxed and comfortable. The transition program we conducted at the end of last year, along with the super job their parents and other family members did getting them ready for school clearly paid off!

2011 Structure

We will operate 4 small classes, two grade P 1/2s, a grade 3/4 and a 5/6. All will have fewer than 20 students, allowing us to provide individual programs for students with special needs and extra talents. Our Reading Recovery program will again operate to ensure our high student literacy levels are maintained. Ms Karen Twomey will provide an Arts program whilst Ms Leanne Emond will conduct Personal Development sessions to promote social skills, self assurance and resilience. Computers will be an essential learning tool in all classes.

Budget Difficulties

As we lost 4 students we were not expecting to lose and some funding formulas changed, we will struggle to maintain our 4 grades for the whole school year. We had until the 28th February to obtain some more students or work out a way to prop up our budget. If necessary we will reconfigure our grade structure in the second half of the year to have 3 classes. This is not ideal but at least our children will have had the benefit of small classes for the first two terms.



Lydia being presented with her Junior School Councillor badge

Teachers

We are delighted to welcome Ms Tammy Estcourt, who joins us from Liddiard Road PS and will teach our 3/4s. Ms Finley Smith is another new addition to our staff and is commencing her teaching career with us taking a P/1/2 class, which is very exciting. Both these teachers were able to spend time with us last year getting to know their students. They, like all our staff, spent many hours over the holidays setting up their classrooms so they are stimulating and well organized learning centres. They are very lucky to be working with the exceptionally talented Ms Cheryl Hilton, Ms Karen Twomey and Ms Liz Tingay. We will employ male replacement teachers whenever possible to provide male role models for our boys. Mr John Duck is already booked to help train our students for the forthcoming Athletic Sports.

New Building Arrives!

After a long wait, work finally commenced on our new building late last year, with trees felled and concrete ripped up. This was highly entertaining to our students. Early in the new year, Boolarra folk probably saw 8 big trucks deliver our building in bits which were lowered from the car-park by a massive crane onto the prepared concrete foundations. Work was underway fitting out our building but this stopped once school resumed and we're not sure when it will commence again. Even in its incomplete state, the building looks fabulous. It is far more spacious than we anticipated and very modern with cream and green corrugated iron cladding that matches our existing building colours really well. There are verandas on two sides, lots of windows and a great many ceiling fans. We're not sure when it will be completed but anticipate that it will be during this term. We hope to relocate our Library, Computer Lab and grade 3/4 and 5/6 classes into our new facilities, which will allow all our classes to operate in very large, spacious classrooms. This is a very exciting time for us. Last year our parents fundraised \$5,000 which we will use to add lots of extra goodies to our new learning space.

Folk Festival

Steve Shultz again worked with our students to develop the drumming routine performed to kick off the musical program. We also had an Art Display in the Boolarra Bowls Cub Rooms. Our Art teacher, Ms Karen Twomey, along with one of our parents, who is a celebrated artist, Abbas Mehran, helped our students develop portraits on display. With free entry, lots of people passed through and admired our students' artwork. A midday auction was held to raise money to get solar heating for our school pool.

Fence Beautification

Later this year Matt and Melissa Pavey, the art-

ists who helped us to develop the large murals on our Art room / Budgereee Building, will help us to create lots of smaller murals to go along our front school fence. Each of our families will have the opportunity to work with Matt and Melissa to design and develop a mural. The first mural will be created by the Hassett family who have 4 daughters who have attended our school; the youngest Eden is in grade 6 this year.

Adult Computer Classes

Thanks to funding we obtained through the Boolarra Community Development Group we are able to continue our adult internet access and computer classes at the school. Highly experienced and very patient computer teacher Pauline Garood provides lots of support and encouragement. At the same time visitors can borrow books from our extensive community library. Everyone is welcome. Classes will be on Tuesdays from 3:30 pm until 5:30 pm (unless we are busy moving into our new building!).

Welcome Get Together

It was wonderful to see so many of our families take the opportunity to meet one another at our Get Together staged in the first full week of school in Railway Park. It was great to see our parents making themselves known to newcomers to the school – this highlights what a friendly community we have. It was also fabulous to observe how well our past and present students played together. This reflects what we see at school every day: children happily socialising across different age groups.

Congratulations to Our 2011 Student Leaders:

Our School Council President, Mandi Peter, presented badges to our Student Leaders at our Welcome Get Together.

Our **School Captains** are Lauren Alexander & Erin Hoghton.

House Captains are:

Irving (Blue) Bella Papa & Mia Cornell, **Vice Captain** is Siobhan Hall.

Morrow (Red) Lauren Alexander & Kayla Napier, **Vice Captains:** Mitchell Schelling & Daina Howard.

Penaluna (Green) Erin Hoghton & Ella O'Kane, **Vice Captains:** Eden Hassett & Lydia Reiske.

Strzelecki (Yellow) Darius Mehran & Alannah Green, **Vice Captain:** N/A.

Our Junior School Councillors are: P/1/2S Darius Mehran & Rhianne Cameron, P/1/2H Daina Howard & Mia Cornell, 3/4 Lydia Reiske & Rivan Aveling, 5/6 Lauren Alexander & Samuel Birkbeck. These students are already showing that they are worthy of their special roles.

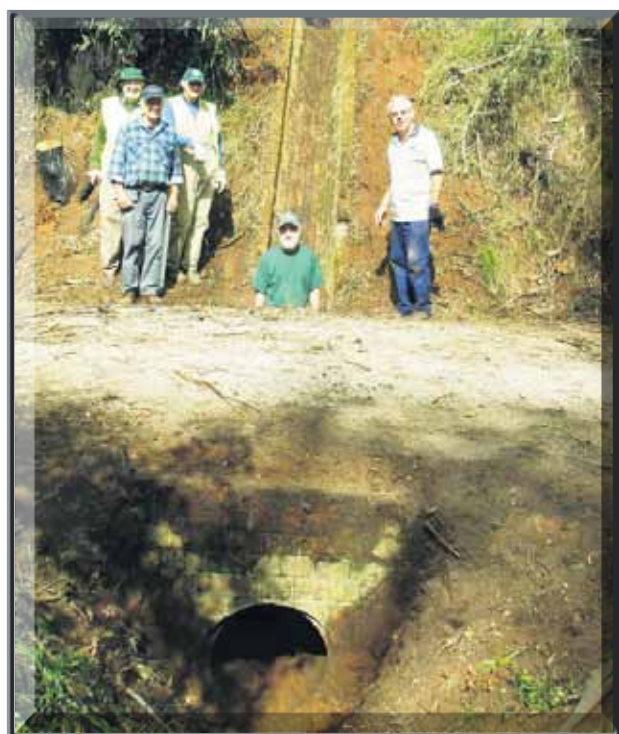


Grade 3-4 students in action

Friends of Lyrebird Forest Walk **- Wednesday Warriors**

It's hard to imagine we are already into March of the new year and two years has passed since heat and bushfires dominated our hearts and minds. Last Wednesday the Warriors were pleased to welcome the return of a few members, so we had a good roll up of willing workers who split up into two teams. Some of us worked along the Rail Trail close to the Boolarra end. Our president Neil Cartwright (bless his soul), on behalf of the Friends of the Rail Trail asked us to help clear up a small historic site (circa late 1800's).

This site comprises a beautifully crafted hand-made brick drain, still largely intact after more than 100 years. The drain runs down the steep side of a railway cutting and under the track to the lower side, thereby allowing storm water to drain away without harming the track. The site was seriously covered with undergrowth and long lengths of tree bark. The drain pipe under the track (also hand-made brickwork) was blocked with years of silt and rubble. Just the sort of challenge us Warriors can deal with in an instant.



Warriors complete restoration work to reveal the beautiful 100 year old hand-made bricks

>>> BRING YOUR ART TO SHOW <<<

As part of our community development, which involves organising activities and events which enrich and enhance our creativity and our lives, we are planning to have a two-day-event Art Exhibition with the involvement of all members of the Boolarra community. Our main objective is to celebrate our common creative spirit and to share. We believe that we humans are all creative and have been involved in many creative activities during our life time. However, due to the common belief that only artists are creative and should show their artwork, most of our creative endeavours are overlooked and have not been shared with others.

Let's come together to break this taboo, show off our created artworks and share our experience. Let's make art achievable to everyone.

If you have ever, either as a hobby or professionally, drawn or painted a picture, made an object from some raw or readymade materials, have taken, enhanced and enlarged a photograph with a creative vision, made a family photo story board, woven a fine quilt, etc, bring it to show and share.

The Exhibition

The exhibition will be held at the **Memorial Hall during 17 - 19 June 2011**. All Boolarra residents, including children, are encouraged to participate.

Works include but are not limited to: paintings, drawing, made objects, photo stories mounted on a board. Videos, computer art, and object installations may be included if they can be installed properly and by prior arrangement.

The main purpose of the exhibition is sharing our ideas and creativity manifested in the form of an artwork. However, artworks could be for sale, exchange, donation, and so on. In the case of any sales, 25 percent of sales proceeds will be retained as commission for our community's future art projects.

As the drain began to be revealed amongst the flurry of Warrior activity, we were all impressed by the original craftsmanship and the fact it has survived largely undamaged for all these years. Whilst admiring their handiwork one can't help feeling a little sad that the era of artistic craftsmen is a thing of the past. Hopefully we have adequately repaired the small amount of damage to this piece of history and it will survive for a further 100 years.

Similar to other isolated historic places we have visited, I'm sure I heard the ghosts of those master craftsmen chattering away as they went about their work so many years ago. I'm sure they would be pleased to know people still admire their workmanship. It is a good thing that future Rail Trail users will now remember these men and wonder at their skills as they pass by this little bit of history. I understand the hand-made bricks used on

Audiences are encouraged to vote for their best choice of artwork, and art prizes will be awarded to the winners.

Terms and Conditions

1. Each participant can submit up to 3 artworks.
2. A committee of 4 members will be in charge of the selection of the artworks.
3. Limitations are numbers, size of the works, and suitability of social and moral contents.
4. Recommended size: less than a meter on each side, and numbers: 1-3 depending on availability of the space.
5. Entry fee to exhibit works: children \$2 and adult \$5 per work.
6. Artworks should be framed or mounted on cardboard, plywood, etc, for ease of hanging and display.
7. Participants should complete an Entry Form (which will be available at the Post Office counter) and send it to: 17 Tarwin Street, Boolarra Vic 3870 or email it to: abbasmehran@bigpond.com
8. To receive the electronic version of the Entry Form, please email Abbas at the above email address.
9. The completed form should be accompanied by a photo or digital image of submitted artworks and received before the **30th April 2011**.
10. The committee will contact the participants whose works have been selected to arrange delivery of the artworks and payment of the entry fee.

this site came from the (long abandoned) quarry and brickworks near Darlimurla.

We noted that the Boolarra entrance to the Rail Trail is in need of a good tidy up, as is the rest of the Trail. The Warriors hope to return in a few weeks as the appeal of the Entry Arch to the Rail Trail is a tad lost amongst its somewhat untidy surroundings. Hopefully it will all be cleaned up by the time the new bridges are opened.

Not to be distracted by the sentimental nostalgia of the Rail Trail platoon, the rest of the Warriors stayed behind at our shed to continue cutting and splitting more firewood, ie., they did the 'real' work for the day. The resultant firewood was loaded onto Ron's big truck and delivered to some of those people patiently waiting for their firewood. There are still lots of big post-bushfire logs on site waiting to

Continued on Page 16

Continued from Page 15
be cut and split into firewood, so we are not likely to run out of work in the near future. Sometime in the future we may even get back to doing more great things at the Lyrebird Forest Walk.

*Digby Watson, News Facilitator
Friends of Lyrebird Forest Walk*

BOOLARRA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

The year 2010 ended for our society with a very pleasant excursion to the farm of the Love family near English's Corner. It was an ideal chance to see one of those more remote dairying properties that functioned until milk tankers grew so enormous that they could no longer fit through gates or around turning circles. Consequently dairying became unviable. Jean Beamish (nee Love) and her sister, Ellen, led us through the Budgerie hills to the Grand Ridge Road junction and then down Jenkins Road to the old farmhouse where they grew up. It nestles, a little worse for the weather, on a ridge just above valleys that flow down south towards Jack River. The girls showed us with pride around the old property with its fruit trees, steep inclines and simple working sheds. Farming here is not for the faint-hearted and the Loves worked harder than most to carve out a living. We were full of admiration for their endeavour. The farm now is worked as a beef property by Jean's brother, Vic. We thank them for their welcome and the opportunity to visit other historical areas nearby, such as Gunyah, Ruyton and Livingston.

Our first meeting for 2011 was held in the new Boolarra Fire Brigade shed. Thanks to the generosity of the CFA committee we were privileged to have a special viewing of the new facilities. Secretary Di Billingsley gave us a short history of the CFA in Boolarra using the photographs they

have collected and displayed on the walls of the meeting room. She explained how funds for the renovations were gathered from donations after the fires from local people as well as Australians everywhere. But she paid tribute to the work of the brigade who put in hours of fundraising at local events over many years. We were astounded at the quality of the extensions, obviously the result of the good planning and forethought of the group and of the almost space-age equipment.

It was interesting to learn that the Boolarra CFA was started in 1945 after the terrible 1944 fires that began in Yallourn and that its first president was Cr Alan Hall of Budgerie. Alan's son Bruce Hall, who was past president of the Historical Society, was present at that inaugural meeting. Fire trucks then were often primitive hand-me-downs from larger towns, not a patch on the present glistening giant. And the communication system was probably reliant on the local post office or railway attendant. The original fire shed was a small tin shed squashed among the saleyards, now Railway Park.

The Boolarra CFA is proud of its history and has paid respect to its past committee members by installing large honour boards. At present the Mirboo CFA shares Boolarra's facilities and is remembered in the same way. The new CFA is a great achievement!

We intend to continue these excursions this year but it is a source of regret that we will not be able to share them with long-time Boolarra residents and BHS members, Diane and Derek James. They are leaving their Fishers Road farm and heading to Ballarat. We wish them a long and happy retirement on the shores of Lake Wendouree.

The Boolarra Historical Museum is open on the 1st Sunday of each month from 2-4 pm, or by appointment with the Secretary, Mengar Hibbins (5169 6216).

The Boolarra and District Historical Society meets at the Boolarra Museum on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. New members are always welcome, and information on our activities can be obtained from Mengar Hibbins (5169 6216), Judy Webster (5169 6351) or Beth Price (5169 6241).

Boolarra Wool Group



We have been back to our regular meetings for 7 weeks now, refreshed and ready for another social and productive year. Hopefully we'll come up with some very exciting group projects again like the teddy bear making that we all enjoyed so much. I know there are quite a few of us who would like repeat this lovely experience.

Lori invited us all to her beautiful new home, and was very happy to give us a grand tour before we all settled down to work. It was obvious that Lori had put much thought into the planning of her and Steve's new home, and we spent a lovely relaxing day there. Thank you for your hospitality Lori.

Mengar had some very exciting news to share with us. She and Ian are looking forward to becoming Grandparents in the near future, so I presume most of her efforts will be in producing lots of lovely, very small knitted garments from now on.

By the time this has gone to press we would have enjoyed an excursion to Nickelby At Darnum, an alpaca farm and shop, where we'll be enjoying a walk and talk and then coffee and cake in the café. But more of that next time.

We meet every Thursday from 11.30 am to approximately 3.30 pm in the Multi Purpose Building; and we share a lovely lunch. *If you would like to join us, please contact Lois Thornton 5169 6618.*

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ATTENTION - ALL LOCAL BUSINESS/SERVICE OWNERS/MANAGERS
AND GENERAL PUBLIC

We would like to encourage support for our local Boolarra businesses. Please list your type of business in the green register book located at the Boolarra Post Office for people to contact you when needed. Even services like cleaners, gardeners, dance instructors, anything - big or small.

If you can't get to the Post Office, please ring us to insert your information for you.

Doug Black phone 5163 1221

Carol Craddock phone 5169 6640 (answering machine)

And to the general local folk, feel free to search through for any services you may need. Hopefully we will have the contacts you need as time goes by.

If we get enough contacts for essential services we hope to create a simple printed local directory to be distributed.

Alcoholics Anonymous is there for everyone

Hello,

My name is Bert, if alcohol is costing you more than money and it is a problem to you, we at A.A. might be able to help you. You see nearly 30 years ago I was one of those people who wanted to stop but just couldn't, I was a hopeless, useless, good for nothing that was living to drink and drinking to live. I was gone in every department, mental, spiritual, emotional and financial.

My life started to change dramatically when I first admitted I had a problem, and then accepted the fact that I am an alcoholic, and hey no big deal about that, everyone else knew I was in trouble with the booze!

I sought help from A.A and my life started to get back on track. It took a long time, as after all I drank alcoholically for over 20 years so I really couldn't expect it to be fixed over night.

My life now is something I couldn't ever have dreamed of, and I'm not talking financially but emotionally. Today I can do everything anyone else does but I don't take alcohol to do it! And that is a fantastic feeling, I travel anywhere where a free man can travel and never have to look behind me to see if the police are there.

When I see a booze bus I don't have to look for a side road, I drive up and usually have a laugh and a joke with the officer, a big change from 30 years ago believe me!

Alcoholics Anonymous is there for anyone and it is free and if you feel like coming along we just ask you to keep an open mind, listen for the similarities and not the differences.

People ask me "What do you get out of this?" and I simply reply someone did this for me once and saved my life!

I do a talk at the Pine Lodge Hospital on regular occasions for the patients in there and that does me so much good to see where I once was and I could end up back there if I was to pick up a drink. You see once an Alcoholic always an Alcoholic!

Please call me if you want to have a chat about your drinking problem.

Bert 0408 598 215

Or A.A. Victoria on 03 9429 8133

Church Services in Boolarra & Yinnar

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Tarwin Street, Boolarra.

Mass at 10.30am on 2nd & 4th Sunday in Boolarra &

10.30am on 1st & 3rd Sunday in Yinnar

Liturgy at 10.30am on 2nd Tuesday of the month

Contact - Pam Crowley 5169 6465 or

Denise Schiller 5169 6425

ANGLICAN & UNITING CHURCHES
IN CO-OPERATION

Tarwin Street, Boolarra

1st Sunday 11.00am & 2nd Sunday 10.00am
in Boolarra

3rd Sunday 11.00am & 4th Sunday 10.00am
in Yinnar

Contact Roborn Lubawski 5169 6494

BOOLARRA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Contact Paul McGuire 5169 6424 for times

'JEAN E US' WILDLIFE SHELTER

985 Darlimurla Road, Boolarra 3870

Phone: 5169 6606

OPEN LETTER

*I am writing this Open Letter as a way of saying a huge **THANK YOU** for all the help I have received at Jean E Us Wildlife Shelter in Boolarra.*

Since our bushfires 2 years ago, I have received monetary donations large and small, in kind support, and volunteer labour to restore yards and fencing etc.

Without all this help I would have been unable to continue my work helping so many animals recover from injury and loss of maternal care through accidents.

I view the role of a Wildlife Carer as a privilege and I appreciate the help of several volunteers who assist me in various ways.

I am far too busy with the animal care for all but official Wildlife record keeping, and so many names are unknown, but your donations and help are not forgotten and much appreciated -

"Thank You All"

Most sincerely,

Jean Quick

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BOOLARRA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The AGM was held on 12 August 2010 at the Bowling Club. Rob Herni thanked the Bowling Club for the warm welcome, hospitality and the quality of the catering. 22 people attended and enjoyed interesting speakers from the Mirboo North Community Bank and the Mirboo North community foundation.

The following committee was elected:

Chair	Rob Herni
Vice Chair	Mark Cooke
Secretary	Colin Brick
Treasurer	Les Hunt
Asst Treasurer	Gwenda Pither
Committee	Marietta Herni
Committee	Doug Black
Committee	Jill Simmonds
Committee	Emma Cooke
Committee	Sue Webster
Committee	Pat McAlister

It is a strong committee and it is pleasing to see a couple of members that became involved through the fire related Community Recovery Committee (CRC) activities put their hand up to join the general committee. It should also be recognised that several of the members are feeling the strain that has been imposed on the group and the community generally, as a result of extra work load and stresses associated with fire recovery.

Fire recovery activities continued to be a major focus for the group over the last few months and it is pleasing that positive progress is being made on a number of fronts. The CRC has been working with Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority (VBRRA) and Latrobe City Council (LCC) to identify

and classify wood piles on fire affected properties and a program has commenced, in consultation with property owners, to address and resolve the issues. The fencing issues are also almost resolved and a TAFE team has done extensive work in the Boolarra/Yinnar area assisting owners of fire affected properties.

Development of the Local Emergency Action Plan (LEAP) has been completed and was launched at a public meeting of around 150 people on 28 November 2010. Unfortunately quality assurance and printing issues meant the final document was unavailable for distribution at the meeting, however, they were distributed to all residents before Christmas. If anyone does not have a copy of the document leave your name at the Post Office and arrangements will be made to deliver one to you. The group developing this have received very positive feedback from other areas that will be looking to use the Boolarra/Yinnar model as a template for their region. John Harris and Tim Delany from Yinnar and Les Hunt and Dave O'Brien especially, are to be commended for the time and effort they have devoted to developing a quality outcome. Thank you also to the "street captains" who contributed their time to notify people of the public meeting and to deliver the final documents.

The first edition of the new Boolarra Link was fantastic. On behalf of the Boolarra Community Development Group (BCDG) and the general community I would like to thank the people who have offered their time and effort to make this happen. They seem very enthusiastic and to have a good complementary range of skills and I'm sure they'll do a great job. Another bonus from a community perspective is that there are a number of "new-comers" getting involved in community activities. All the best for many great future editions.

At our last couple of meetings we have had presentations firstly from Gippsland Water, who spoke about the planned extension in 2011 of the Moondarra based water supply from Yinnar to Boolarra and secondly, following concerns expressed at the first meeting, a presentation and discussion on fluoridisation of the water supply which will occur once we are connected to the Yinnar water line. The new supply will provide a better quality of water and also reduce the level of restrictions imposed, as we will be on the same level of restrictions as Morwell and Churchill.

The switchover to digital TV for Boolarra will have occurred by the time this edition comes out. Hopefully, the changeover is smooth and was facilitated by the well attended public meeting arranged by the BCDG to enable an expert presentation on the switchover. Community thanks are due to Les Hunt for his unceasing advocacy on this issue and other communication related issues with LCC and local politicians.

Refurbishment and upgrade of the Multi-purpose Building (MPB) was listed as the number one community priority in Boolarra's Recovery Action Plan. Substantial funding has been confirmed although insufficient to complete the work to the submitted plan. The BCDG is currently in discussions with the MPB committee, VBRRA and LCC to determine what can be achieved to best meet the community's needs and has pledged to support the MPB in the development and implementation of plans.

Funding has been received for a Men's Shed, which will also incorporate a garage facility for the community bus and refrigerated trailer. The funding received will still require a significant proportion of volunteer labour for the erection

Continued on Page 20

BOOLARRA PUB

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ALL WELCOME



QUIET FIRE SEASON SO FAR

In the past few months we have only attended 6 grass and scrub fires, 2 MVA's (Motor Vehicle Accidents), 2 structure fires – a shed in Boolarra and a house in Jumbuk and one false alarm. Members also attended the fires in Yarram and Nowa Nowa as members of local Strike Teams and several volunteered to assist with the Victorian flood recovery efforts but were not called.

BE CAREFUL WHEN FIRE RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED

Residents are warned to take extra care if they attempt to burn piles of garden waste, branches and logs when the fire restrictions are lifted this year. Although much of the country is green, there is much well cured flammable material that could easily ignite and spread if proper precautions are not taken. The amount of fuel in some areas around Boolarra – both in the bush and in uneaten paddocks is still very much a concern and could cure very quickly if we experience a few warmer days. Historically the lifting of fire restrictions results in many call outs – so please take care!

FIRE FIGHTING TRAILER AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE

If you are planning to burn a pile of rubbish when the fire restrictions are lifted, why not borrow our specially equipped trailer as a precaution just in case your fire spreads unexpectedly. The trailer is equipped with a full 400 litre water tank, hoses with nozzles, a pump and numerous other fire fighting incidentals like rake hoes and a fire lighter to make things safer for you. A briefing session is conducted prior to the trailer being taken to ensure the borrower knows how to use it. Book the trailer through Roger at the Post Office. Remember to report your burn off to VICFIRE on 1800 668 511 prior to lighting it. In this way the Boolarra Tanker will not be turned out by VICFIRE if someone else reports it on "000".

SMALL EXTENSION PLANNED FOR THE FIRE STATION

A small extension is being planned for our fire station to house our four trailers – the four trailers carry our "Quick Fill Pump", our "Community Fire Fighting Unit", our "mobile BBQ" and our "portable cool room".

SCRAP METAL BRINGS IN \$9000.00

Our brigade is ecstatic that the sale of SCRAP METAL that the community has deposited in our Sims scrap metal bin, (situated in the enclosure behind our fire station), has now surpassed \$9000.00. The money raised is being used to fund our station

LOCAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN (LEAP)

HAVE YOU RECEIVED YOUR BOOLLARRA & YINNAR LOCAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN?

It is thought that all residents of Boolarra and district should have, by now, received their copy of our LEAP. (Local Emergency Action Plan)

**IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOURS,
COULD YOU PLEASE PICK ONE UP AT THE POST OFFICE,
OR RING DAVE ON 0428 696 462
and one will be forwarded to you immediately.**

CORRECTION TO LEAP

The telephone number for the Victorian Bushfire Information Line given on the **GREEN** panel which forms:

- Page 3 of the full LEAP plan, and
- the front page of the summary LEAP for wall mounting
MAY BE INCORRECT in the copy you have.
Unless a sticker with the correct number
(1800 240 667) has already been attached to your copy, please correct **BOTH** of the green panels.



Left - CFA members get up close to "Marty" the Erickson Air Crane

Below - John Collins & Peter Morrison cook up a storm at the CFA BBQ

extension to house our trailers. Please keep depositing your unwanted scrap metal in the bin – 'cos it sure beats selling barbecued snags!

REMEMBER TO REPLACE YOUR SMOKE ALARM BATTERIES

With the end of Daylight Saving soon approaching you are asked to ensure that you change the batteries in your smoke alarms. As the winter months are the most common time for house fires to occur, it is imperative that the batteries in your SMOKE ALARMS are replaced when we alter our clocks for Daylight Savings. As a community service, our CFA members will happily assist local residents who may have difficulty replacing their smoke alarm batteries. Please contact Roger at the Post Office 5169 6209 or Dave on 5169 6462 or 0428 696462, if you need assistance.

SPECIALISED TRAINING FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

Recently two members successfully completed the B.A.- Search and Rescue course to bring to 10 the number of qualified members who can enter a burning house wearing Breathing Apparatus to rescue people and attack the fire. This course takes many weeks and participants have to undergo a gruelling assessment process at the CFA Training Complex at West Sale to qualify. Five of our members are also completing the Mobile Communications Van (MCV) Managers' Course that will enable them to operate the MCV anywhere in

Victoria if it is called. In future weeks the MCV may be housed at our station so our members can familiarize themselves with it.

MEMBERS INSPECT THE ERICKSON AIR CRANE – "MARTY"

A large number of our members recently inspected "Marty" the Erickson Air Crane that has been based at the Latrobe Valley Airport for the fire season. "Marty" is one of 6 hired for the fire season across Australia with 2 positioned in Victoria. The identical air cranes costing \$25 million each, carry 9000 litres of water at a time. Three pilots, from NZ, Canada and the US, share the piloting duties with two needed to fly "Marty" at any one time. We all remember how valuable "Elsie" and her mate were in the Boolarra fires two years ago.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT BY
PURCHASING YOUR FOOD
FROM OUR STALL WHILE ENJOYING THE
BOOLLARRA FOLK FESTIVAL**

BOOLARRA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Continued from Page 18

and installation of fittings. Arrangements are currently underway for the transfer of the DSE yard to BCDG management. DSE have given in principle support to the transfer. The Folk Festival committee are also considering developing some storage facilities at the yards.

The Community Bus has been used quite extensively by the Gipps TAFE crew that is doing bush-fire recovery work. Jared Mills has taken on the role of coordinating the bus. Thanks to Jeff and Val Henderson for their efforts, unfortunately, Jeff was unable to continue the role due to his knee operation. There has been a range of community feedback suggesting that the hire rates are set too high for the bus; a revised set of rates has been distributed and will hopefully stimulate greater patronage of the bus.

The Boolarra South Landcare Group (BSLG) are doing some wonderful work at present on beautification and installation of tracks at the Old Mill site. To assist them in this project the BCDG allocated \$6,000 of fire related funding towards materials for bridges and tracks. The BCDG also allocated \$1,000 of events funding towards the opening of the new CFA Fire Station, which was a wonderful occasion. The CFA and the community should be very proud both of the way the ceremony was conducted and the facility we now have.

The Australia Day celebrations were once again a great success. A dull damp morning indicated numbers might be down and we were a bit slow getting underway with the cooking. However, the people quickly turned up and the place was soon buzzing with conversation. Thanks to the CFA and other volunteers on the BBQ; next year we'll cook earlier and more as numbers just keep rising. Thanks also to the helpers on the kids activities and to the Bool Aria members who helped make the national anthem a bit more tuneful than normal. There was a rumour that Roz almost raised the flag upside down, at least it is better than a couple of years ago when we almost raised a Dutch flag by mistake. Congratulations to the 12 people who received richly deserved Community Appreciation Certificates and one also received a rousing chorus of Happy Birthday (well done Faye!).

Finally, a couple of months back Dan & I called in at the Yinnar Community Market and I saw Jack Richards gazing over the oval. We got chatting and Jack regaled us with 65 yo tales such as paying two shillings (2/-) for the bus trip to get thrashed at footy against Erica on the hill they called an oval. It was very interesting and very funny and it

brought home to me again how much we lose as a community when the old folk such as Thelma Deppeler, Maisie Fox and Arthur Robbins pass away. The Boolarra we know and love owes a lot to people such as these and we are poorer for their passing.

*Colin Brick
Secretary
Boolarra Community Development Group*

Boolarra Bowls & Recreation Club

From the Ladies Section

Our bowls season is drawing to a close. Ladies Division Two pennant team have finished equal top with Yinnar on the ladder at the conclusion of the home and away games. At the play off on Monday February 21st Yinnar won by 9 shots - Contratulations Yinnar!

A big thank you to the men who have been helping us out during the season. To celebrate we enjoyed a pennant dinner at the Italian Australian Club, who are one of our valued sponsors.

In a high standard game Joy Prior defeated Janice Whelan in the final of the Ladies Club Championship. Our congratulations to Joy who went on to represent Boolarra at the Gippsland Association level. Other club games are yet to be decided.

During the past few months we have been saddened by the passing of two of our dedicated long time former members in Shirley Holmes and June McRae. Both ladies were in nursing homes and well into their eightieth year. Our condolences have gone out to their families.

On a brighter note our congratulations and best wishes have been extended to Jean and Bill Welsh of Yinnar on their sixtieth wedding anniversary. Jean and Bill are also former valued members of our club both being past presidents.

Once again during the Folk Festival on 5th March Boolarra Bowling Club served our very popular Devonshire tea at the club. This was very popular, with plenty of people coming in to take a break and sit down in comfort to have a cuppa and a scone.

The ladies still have two main fundraisers before the season ends - a fours tournament on 22nd March and Invitation Day early April.

Betty Fox

Boolarra Tennis Club News

The 2010-2011 tennis season is nearly over.

The Section 4 Seniors were Champions the last 2 seasons but lost some strong players to other clubs or commitments. This year we have enjoyed a nice social hit, have played through some light and heavy rain, but have had few wins.

The Juniors have 3 teams and they are playing well and enjoying the season. The weather has not been kind and the juniors have had many wash-outs. Section 5 is 2nd on the ladder. Section 6 is 7th on the ladder. Section 8 is top of the ladder.

New Members are always welcome, all enquiries for next season can be directed to:

Barb Webb (President) - 5176 5228 or
0415 696 144 (btc_inc@iprimuscom.au)
Samantha Brick (Secretary) - 5163 121 or
0427 824 722
Sharyn Giles (Junior Co-Ordinator) - 5169 6204
or 0410 036 175

Yours in tennis
Barb Webb, President BTC Inc

CAN YOU HELP THE NETBALL CLUB??

We are interested in gathering records of the earlier days of the Netball Club, especially any premierships, player awards or notable incidents.

If you have anything, we would appreciate a copy to add to our records. Please send to:

Boolarra Netball Club, c/o PO Box 366
Boolarra Vic 3870 or to
Jasmin at jazzy.87@hotmail.com - 0478 096 160
Jackie at bentline@internode.on.net - 5169 6507
Please include your address if you would like the material returned.

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BOOLARRA UNIT

Well, it has been a summer Australia won't forget in a hurry - devastating floods in Queensland, northern N.S.W and Victoria; a catastrophic 'inland Tsunami' in the Lockyer Valley and Toowoomba; the extreme force of Cyclone Yasi, and to top it all off, raging bushfires in the outer suburbs of Perth. Through all of these catastrophes that Mother Nature has flung at us, the indomitable Aussie spirit shone brightly through.

As always in a time of crisis, the Red Cross has been there; organising evacuations, setting up and staffing relief centres, offer comfort and counsel to traumatised people and assist with the massive clean-up after these events - along with other Aid Agencies including SES, CFA, the Armed Forces and volunteers from all walks of life. Our sincere thanks go out to each and every person involved in this massive effort.

On a lighter note, our Christmas raffle raised \$1,130.00 and our February spring bulbs orders raised \$342.50.

Our major fund raiser for the year was held at the Boolarra Bowls Club on 23rd February and raised a total of \$1,028.65. Special thanks go to the Boolarra Bowls Club for the use of their marvellous facilities, in particular to Nat Roy and the local Red Cross ladies for all their hard work on the day, and of course to all the visiting lady bowlers who made the day such a great success!

The combined proceeds from these three events raised \$2,501.15, which will be forwarded to the Victorian Head Office with a request that \$500.00 be allocated to the Victorian flood appeal. The remaining funds will be distributed to where they are most needed.

In February 2011 we received a cheque for \$200.00 from donations received at the Strzelecki Polled Hereford Stud sale, with a request that it be sent to the Victorian Flood Appeal. This generous donation will be in addition to the \$500.00 raised on Bowls Day.

In November 2010 we received a very welcome donation of \$100.00 from the Yinnar C.W.A and our thanks go to them for their generosity. We must also thank the Wucherpfennig family, who generously provide the funds for the winning teams on Bowls Day.

Our stall at the Folk Festival distributed Red Cross magazines and Information Kits to pas-

sers-by and our rattling tin became heavier as the day progressed! Thank-you to all the generous people who made a contribution.

March each year is '*Red Cross Calling*' month, and as in the past, the wonderful Scouts from Yinnar will be door knocking in both towns - Yinnar on 21st March and Boolarra on 29th March. A big "thank you" in advance to the Scouts and to all those who contribute.

During the month of April we will be selling raffle tickets for the Mothers' Day raffle - \$2.00 each - 3 excellent prizes to pamper mum on her special day. Tickets available at the Top Shop, Boolarra Post Office, Boolarra Pub and Yinnar General Store - drawn on Wednesday, 4th May 2011 at 2.00pm.

On behalf of Red Cross Australia, I would like to thank everyone in Boolarra, Yinnar and surrounding areas for their generous and continued support of the Boolarra Unit.

Glenys Morgan
Treasurer



LATROBE CITY TRUST (LCT) - ROUND TWO APPLICATIONS OPEN

The LCT is currently inviting grant applications for round two of funding under the Latrobe City Community Gaming Support Fund (LCCGSF) for 2010/2011.

Under the terms of the Trust, LCC provides local gaming venue operators with a general rates waiver of 100% in return for contributing an amount equivalent to 110% of their general rates to the fund.

The Trust would welcome applications for suitable programs and projects and encourage organisations to submit by close of business on **Friday 25 March 2011**. For more information please contact Rosie Berry at Latrobe City on 1300 367 700 or email Rosie.Berry@latrobe.vic.gov.au.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON LATROBE CITY COUNCIL'S DRAFT INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PLAN (IRP)

Latrobe City Council (LCC) residents are encouraged to have their say in order that the LCC "draft" IRP 2011-2014 is well understood by the community and has captured community expectations.

Written submissions will be received until close of business on **Thursday, 31 March 2011**; emailed to David.Elder@latrobe.vic.gov.au; mailed to David Elder, Latrobe City Council, PO Box 264, Morwell VIC 3840; or dropped off at any LCC service

centre. All submissions will be considered public documents unless specified otherwise by the submitter.

Cr Darrell White, Mayor
(Firmen Ward)

BUSHFIRE RECOVERY HIGH COUNTRY HORSE RIDE GETAWAY

In February this year four people affected by the Delburn fires, together with 20 other people affected by the Black Saturday fires, were given the opportunity to attend a 3 day horse ride getaway with Watson's Mountain Country Trail rides near Mansfield - 'Man from Snowy River' country.

The horse ride getaway was organised by Latrobe City Council and made possible with generous support from the Bendigo Bank Bushfire Appeal Program and Latrobe Community Health Service.

The group travelled to Mansfield by bus and after a quick lunch it was off to the stables to meet the horses. The guides explained some handy tips for first time riders, outfitted everyone with safety gear then chose the perfect horse according to their level of experience.

Heavy rainfall the previous week meant the itinerary was adjusted to suit river crossing levels and other possible hazards. After an hour or so even the most nervous beginners were gaining confidence as the horses were very well behaved and everyone had a safe and relaxing ride.

Riders tackled steep terrain, river crossings and observed Australian wildlife while enjoying the spectacular views of Victoria's stunning High Country. Each night the riders enjoyed swimming, fishing and chatting around the camp fire while enjoying home cooked meals at beautiful Lake Howqua.

All in all, the ride was a great success and the positive feedback received from participants indicated a renewed confidence in their riding ability, satisfaction at having completed a physical and mental challenge or just enjoying a much needed break from the day-to-day tasks required as part of their individual recovery from the fires.



One of the river crossing on the Bushfire Recovery High Country Horse Ride Getaway

JEERALANG BOOLARRA CRICKET CLUB PANTHERS



85 Piggery Road, Boolarra 3870 Ph: 03 5169 6428 ABN: 63 123 456 Inc: A004740G

People may have notice as they drive by our club-rooms that they have in fact started to be painted. This is one of many projects from our agenda this year. The colour scheme for the transformation of the rooms is of course the Panther colours of blue, gold and white.

This project has come about thanks to one of our wonderful sponsors - Tharren Kennedy of Inspiration 3D Paint who has provided us with all the colours and materials required to complete the task. It was agreed at a general meeting that it was time to give our rooms a lift and make them more appealing to the public. A big thank you must go to Matt Allan who has put the time and effort into actually painting the rooms and we thank him for the fabulous job he has done thus far.

On the 19th of December 2010 the club held its annual Christmas T/20 break up. Unfortunately the turn out wasn't as good as last year, perhaps due to the somewhat inclement weather. However everyone who showed up still had a fantastic day, catching up with mates, enjoying a cold drink and eating a massive roast lunch of pork, lamb and beef with all the trimmings. A big thank you to all those who helped make the day a success and we look forward to planning next year's breakup, to make it bigger and better and have more community involved than 2010.

As always the Jeeralang Boolarra Cricket Club is constantly searching for new players, supporters and volunteers for upcoming seasons. If you want to become a Panther, whether it's as a player, supporter or volunteer we would love to see you and encourage you to either contact the Club on 5169 6428, 0488 321 150 or attend training on Tuesday or Thursday night. All are welcome and we look forward to meeting you soon.

We must of course say a big thank you to all our wonderful sponsors for season 2010/2011. The contribution and support provided by you has been huge in helping the club to continue to grow and be as success as it has so far this year. Its wonderful to feel supported and backed up throughout this and past seasons and hopefully future seasons to come.

On behalf of the Jeeralang Boolarra Cricket Club we thank:

Boolarra Fish Farm
Boolarra Top Shop
Boolarra Hotel
International Power Hazelwood

Triangle Trophies Inspiration & Paint 3D

With the 2010/2011 season now come to a close and after witnessing some nail biting games to finish off the season, for the first time in many years the Jeeralang Boolarra Cricket Club saw both senior sides in Grand Finals.

After completion of the last round in the regular season the Panthers finished on top of the 2nd grade ladder with 8 wins, 6 draws and 2 losses. 3rd grade had 8 wins, 3 draws and 3 losses - sending both sides into semi finals to face Moe and Hazelwood North. It was a very close semi final in 2nd grade with the boys managing to pull off a triumphant win against Moe who were bowled out for only 58 runs and the 3rd grade boys pulling off a hard fought win over Hazelwood North by 4 runs and 2 wickets. This was an incredible situation that the club had never been in before. Huge congratulations go to all players and members of the club on this great achievement, due mostly to the hard work, determination and dedication shown by players and members alike.

Team positions on the ladder at grand final time and the success of the sides on field has been achieved through a lot of hard work behind the scenes, particularly since our switch back to the C.G.C.A. This year, after several in the evolutionary stage, the committee is reaping the rewards of its labor, with strong on field performances and a significant increase in player numbers.

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Grand final matches were played on Saturday, 19th March at Yallourn North and Maryvale Reserve with the Panthers to face Latrobe in 2nd grade and Moe in the 3rd grade.

Sadly, this year the Panthers did not bring home the biggest reward of all - that Premiership Cup. Hopefully, the determination and teamwork demonstrated by players week after week will carry over to next season and we will again be in the finals - this time with the Premiership Cup being ours in 2012.

GRAND FINAL RESULTS

2nd grade - Latrobe won the toss and sent the Panthers in to bat first. After 43.3 overs we had 100 runs - top scorers were Wicketkeeper R. Wilk with 28 runs, A. Brooker and S. Urbanic with 14 runs each. Latrobe won in the 1st innings with a score of 4 for 105 in 37 overs. Top scorers for Latrobe were J. Atkinson with 50 runs and D. Burridge with 19. ***Congratulations to Latrobe for a match well played.***

3rd grade - Panthers won the toss and sent Moe in to bat. Moe won in the 1st Innings with a score of 8 for 215 in 50 overs. Top scorers were Captain - M. Webber with 49 runs and C. Williamson with 45 runs. Panthers top scorers were P. Howes with 41 runs and N. Spark with 35 runs - with a total score of 173 runs in 45.5 overs. ***Well done and congratulations Moe.***

Presentation night is on the ***25th of March*** at the Boolarra Football Netball rooms. The night will start at 7:30 pm with dinner being provided and awards to follow. All are welcome and we hope to see you there to help us celebrate the wonderful success and achievements of both the club and players.

Congratulations Panthers!

HHC

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Boolarra Football/ Netball Club

For more club information visit
<http://www.boolarrafc.vcfl.com.au>

FOOTBALL NOTES

With the 2011 season almost upon us the Boolarra Football Netball Club is yet again set to improve both on and off the field. Yet again we have a strong committee and both the senior football and netball teams have recruited well over the off season. The senior club is currently looking for volunteers to help out around the club and new people are more than welcome. For enquiries contact President **Russell McGlade** on **0428 696 507** or **5169 6507**.

UNDER 10's back in action

The Boolarra Football Netball Club has been successful in being accepted into the Traralgon and District Football League. This is the first time in some years we will field a junior team and we look forward to seeing our new crop of future senior footballers in action. We are currently looking for community support in volunteering for coaches, support staff and participating players. Boys (10 and under) and Girls (11 and under) are eligible to play. All playing jumpers and helmets will be provided and all registration fees will be covered by the senior club. Training will be one night per week. Anyone interested in helping out or know of any players are encouraged to call **Shirley Carnes** on **0427 072 406** or **5169 6781**.

4ths and 3rds Football

Continuing on from last season our 4ths team looks strong with quite a few new players. The boys are back in action at training and are looking like a formidable unit. New coach Rob Hussey looks to have the game plan to take this team of budding young superstars to the finals. We are still aiming at getting a 3rds team up and running for this season. We are very close at this stage to getting a team. Any players or anyone who knows of any players are encouraged to contact **Junior Development Officer Alf Shiels** on **0409 541 260** or **5169 6368**.

Senior Football

Tony Giardina will coach the seniors again with Marcus Carnes returning as reserves coach. Num-

bers at pre-season training have been very strong so far and the club has recruited a few handy senior players to bolster our current list of young footballers. Recruit of the summer would have to be Boolarra favourite son Mathew Dyer, who has spent the last few years playing in the Geelong league. Superfit Mathew returns to the club as both a player and assistant senior coach and has had a tremendous effect on our young players so far this preseason having brought back with him an unsurpassed professionalism and desire to succeed. Our 3 other star recruits include ex Morwell players Courtney Sherrif and Daniel Metcalf who both look set to bolster our midfield and Mathew Buglisi from Cowarr who should play a big part in the backline. All the fans out there will also be excited to hear that Ken "The Ninja" Towt has signed up again and is a prime candidate to line up as our marquee full forward.

NETBALL NOTES

Our "Meet and Greet" night was held on 2nd February to mark the official start to the training season, although some of the keener girls had already been training for a few weeks. We had about 60 girls turn up on a hot and humid evening to be put through an hour of circuit training by Heather, before we adjourned to the clubrooms for well deserved cold drinks and BBQ prepared by Rusty and helpers. Thanks to everyone who helped with the organising and running of the night. The girls were then introduced to the committee and coaches, who all did a great job of explaining responsibilities and requirements and sorting out the necessary paperwork.

Coaches for: A & B Cherry Prior
Assistant: Jasmin Hornsey
C Kobie Notting
D Heather Notting
U17's Jody Shiels
Assistant All Grades: Teigan Pike
U15's Janelle Warner
11&U Darren Cornell

It's not too late though. If you know someone interested in having a go, especially A Grade or younger ones for Under 11 and 13, please contact us. We are planning an interesting and varied year, with training also available to those wanting to do umpiring and coaching.

Training will continue to be on Tuesday and Thursdays. Tryouts were held on 15th and 17th February and Teams announced on 22nd and 24th February. It's great to see so many enthusiastic players and we are looking forward to seeing this team spirit in action by having a successful season, starting with the first game against Yarra-gon on April 2nd.

We are expecting to have the asphalt courts resurfaced early this year and are looking forward to

fewer injuries on a more comfortable playing surface. Thank you to Latrobe City Council for assisting with this. We would also like to thank the Soroptimist International Club for their ongoing support of the club in the form of equipment and training resources.

As always we are indebted to all the locals who help us out with coaching, being on a committee, food preparation, catering, checking equipment, packing up, cleaning, transport, sponsorship and all those other jobs that keep us operating. Thank you, and there's always room for more.

The senior netball teams also look set to go from strength to strength this year, retaining a majority of last year's players and adding quite a few new ones. This, coupled with our dedicated coaches and a big pre-season should see the girls continue to improve dramatically throughout the 2011 season. Boolarra has the most friendly netball club around and any new players are encouraged to get involved.

Meals

The club kitchen has been recently refurbished, so anyone looking for a good value, healthy and delicious meal and maybe a beer or two from the bar, feel free to drop in.

Meals will be available from 7.30 pm onwards, **EVERY Thursday** and **HOME GAME Saturdays** from March. All members of the community are also welcome to come along to support the club and try our menu.

Part of our Club's focus is to promote a fun, healthy and inclusive environment for mainly younger members of our community and we welcome new ideas and anyone willing to help out in any way. Even if you aren't a top sportsperson, joining the netball club is a great way to meet others in the community.

Anyone interested in joining us, playing or non playing, is welcome to contact me, **Nancy McAllister** on **5169 6526**, our Secretary **Jackie McGlade** on **5169 6507** or **Coach Cherry Prior** on **5169 6368/ 0427 696 368**.



September 2010 Visit by President Elect of Soroptimists International Alice Wells with Boolarra Netball Team & Community Members