



# The Boolarra Link

Established 1981 - Volume 34, Edition 1



Colin James, past Boolarra resident shares vocals with singer Catherine Rutten.

## Colin James and Neatly Folded Goat

Hard working, high energy and award winning band 'Neatly Folded Goat' performed at 4:15pm a set described as a 'Standout', by Folk Festival MC Rick Teychenne. For accordion player and front man Colin James it was a happy return home to Boolarra. Taking the stage before the huge crowd opposite Railway Park, to prove beyond doubt his local colours, Colin shared the fact he'd been a passenger on the historic 'Last Train' from Boolarra in 1974 - then asked the crowd had anyone else done so, and it was surprising the positive show of hands among the very large crowd. During the lively set, Colin also took a moment to thank Boolarra Postmistress of the time 'Mrs G', his original tutor with the accordion. Neatly Folded Goat - a 2015 Boolarra Folk Festival highlight.



Steve Schulz starts off the entertainment with the children's drumming.



Section of the estimated 9000 visitors.

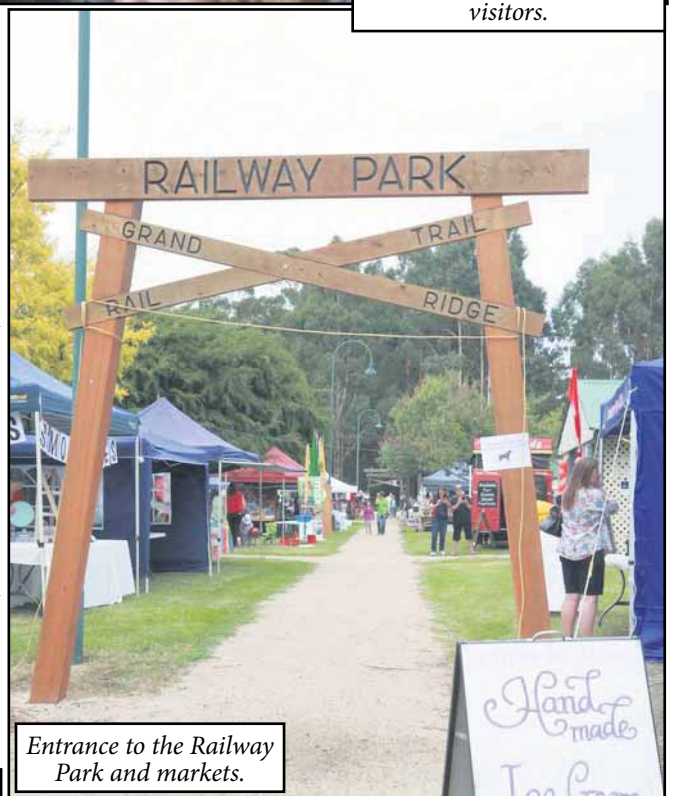
Boolarra was at its finest during the recent Folk Festival. Pleasant weather, increased attendance and the beautiful town common contributed to the success of the day. One of the highlights was to see the Old Pub open and the smell of coffee and cake emerging from its doors with musicians in session under the wide verandah.

This year's festival attracted much local talent with a number of repeat performers and debut acts. It was pleasing to see some familiar faces of Boolarra and Mirboo North in Acoustic Kitchen, Subtle-T, Chelsea Stewart, Garryelle Rose and Madelyn Minter-Barnes. The Cupples clan were well represented on the day supporting their talented performer father/grandfather Peter and enjoying a family reunion. Other venues such as the Hall and the Bowling Club were filled to capacity for

drumming sessions, evening meals and late night entertainment.

The Pre-school fundraisers were on the move with their fundraising wares, weaving between the crowd. Boolarra Primary School had a very creative stall co-ordinated by Karen Twomey and Leanne Emond, featuring tie-dyed socks, bags and tea towels. Many school mums assisted with food preparations whilst their children developed their money-handling skills, serving fresh fruit salad with a smile. Boolarra Football Netball Club and Boolarra Pony Club members worked tirelessly on their stalls whilst the queues formed all day. Kristy Mills is again to be congratulated for her co-ordination of the market precinct and the 90 stalls within it.

continues page 4.



Entrance to the Railway Park and markets.



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The Committee members are:

Luke Potter - President - Ph: 0418 530 682

Helen Seales - Treasurer

Alan Hall - Secretary

Helen Seales - Advertising Officer

Sylvia Sauppe - Editor - Ph: 5169 6321

Alan Hall - Sub-editor

Alan Hall - Proof reading

Dave Holt - Proof reading

Roz Carstairs - Proof reading

Tammy Richards - Photographer Ph: 5169 6328

*Feedback, articles, photos and correspondence can be provided via email to*

*[BoolarraLink@hotmail.com](mailto:BoolarraLink@hotmail.com) or by letter addressed to The Boolarra Link and dropped off with Gwenda or Roger at the Boolarra Post Office.*

*Website: [thelink.boolarra.vic.au](http://thelink.boolarra.vic.au)*



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## Boolarra ANZAC SERVICE

The 2015 Boolarra Anzac Service will be held on Friday, 24 April at 10:30am at the RSL Memorial Rock opposite the Hall. If the weather is inclement, the service will be held in the Hall. This year the Boolarra Primary School will be involved in the service. There will be an opportunity to lay wreaths/flowers during the service. Twenty-fifteen is a special year in regard to remembering our fallen and returned men and women: it will be a time to remember the brave sacrifice the volunteer soldiers of Australia, New Zealand, Britain and France made on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25 April, 1915. So mark the date on your calendar and join together on Friday, 24 April.



*Roz Carstairs,  
Anzac Service Convenor.*

## Remembrance Day

It's 100 years since the Gallipoli landing in WW1 and there will be several special remembrances in Boolarra this year, one being a service and activities on Friday, 24th April. On the weekend of 7th and 8th of November (the nearest weekend to Remembrance Day, Wednesday, November 11th) the Memorial Hall Committee is planning an exhibition and service to remember our soldiers from all conflicts with a particular emphasis on WW1 and Gallipoli. The Cemetery trust is also part of this, with graves being marked by poppies and information posted at the cemetery. The Hall Committee would like people who have family treasures and memorabilia related to any of the conflicts, to contact them if they would like to display their family's history. More about this will follow but if you are interested please ring Robern 5169 6494 or Roz 0429 383 686.

*Robern Lubawski.*

## Honouring those that fought in WW1

A Poppy Tile is to be attached to headstones of those who enlisted to fight in WW1. This is the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of WW1 in 1914.

For those soldiers who enlisted and fought in WW1 and are buried at the Boolarra Cemetery.

A short commemorative service on **Saturday 18th April at 10:00am** will be held at the Cemetery for descendants of these soldiers and for interested community members.

*Glenys Morgan  
Ph. 5169 6721.*



## Business Directory 2015

A very successful innovation in 2014 that we would like to see an ongoing Link feature, the Boolarra Business Directory is set to return mid 2015. If you have a business that operates out of Boolarra or her surrounding districts, or you provide products or services to the people of Boolarra, then please let us know. Give us a call on 0418 530 682 or send an email to [boolarralink@hotmail.com](mailto:boolarralink@hotmail.com) with your details. All listings in the Boolarra Business Directory are free. If you already have a paid advertisement, then your business will be automatically included. Tell your local community about your great business. Be a part of the Boolarra Business Directory.



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## BOOLARRA MEMORIAL HALL INC.

Your Memorial Hall continued to provide a fantastic venue for community activities during 2014 and will continue to do so in 2015. Your Community Hall is ably managed and maintained by a small but diligent committee who always welcome new members. We meet roughly every month on the third Thursday, at 7:30pm at the Hall.

Hall Committee for 2014-2015:

President: Roborn Lubawski 51696494

Secretary: Roz Carstairs 51696445

Treasurer: John Lubwaski

Committee Members: Liz Black, Kat Kershaw, Clayton Cupples.

The Committee warmly and sincerely thank Bill Armstrong for his voluntary work at the Hall over a number of years. Bill has kept the Hall lawns beautifully mowed and took pride in the job he did. Bill is unwell at the moment so we wish him all the best and hope he recovers soon. Meanwhile a Community Work Group will undertake the task for us. They have big shoes to fill! For all Hall bookings please use diary at the Boolarra Store. The Hall Committee thank Mick and Robyn for being willing to continue this service for the Hall.

Roz Carstairs,  
Secretary.

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Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



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## Boolarra Open Gardens 2015.

**Sunday, 1 November 10:00am - 4:00pm.**

Once again the Boolarra Open Gardens will be held. I would like to thank all the garden owners who opened their gardens in 2013, as the day was a great success, with very positive feedback from many visitors on the day. So this can go ahead, I need gardens. If you are interested and think you would like to open, please feel free to contact me on 5169 6516 for more information. As we are now holding the Open Gardens biannually, I hope that it will be easier to find enough gardens to make the day a success as over the years many community groups have benefited from the proceeds. The Plant Sale will be held again this year. It will be organized by the Boolarra & District Garden Group and will be held in the park. So if you are dividing or pruning, take cuttings and pot them up.

Jill Simmonds,  
Coordinator Boolarra Open Gardens,  
5169 6516.



## COMMUNITY

The dictionary defines 'community' as a group of people living together or sharing something in common, the people of a district or town, people living in the same place and subject to the same laws, ownership together. If a community exists then both freedom and security may exist as well. A community then takes on a life of its own as people become free enough to share and secure enough to get along. The community I live in embodies all of this. When an achievement is met or an event of significance happens then my community embrace this. When hardship or tragedy strikes at the very heart of us, we rally and support each other. When a member of our community experiences personal illness or death, they are held close and comforted. My community welcomes and farewells, laughs and cries, builds and creates, supports and comforts but most of all loves. I give thanks every day that I live in such a community. Boolarra.

Roz Carstairs.

*"One can stand anything except a succession of ordinary days"*  
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



## BOOLARRA POST OFFICE



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We still have a few Post Office Boxes available and remember, if you live in town then you are entitled to a reduced rate because there isn't a town mail delivery.

**WE HOPE YOU HAVE A HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER**

**Gwenda, Roger and Team.**



from page 1.

The festival would be nothing without the committee behind it. To highlight but a few of its members: Kathy and Tim Ryan organize the pre-event logistics; Kath Aveling ably controls the treasury; Ariane Ramsay keeps the money rolling in through our many valued sponsors and Darren Cornell toils leading up to and on the day of the festival to ensure services run smoothly. There are many who work quietly behind the scenes during the year to keep you informed... Bronwen Hilton manages the website and Facebook sites whilst Jared Mills photographs and records the memories. His timelapse photography of the 2015 festival really illustrates the action of the day. Thirteen-year festival President Ray Stewart enjoys chatting to the crowd whilst collecting donations and he is always very appreciative of the help that is given by locals and volunteers on the day. Thank you to all who contributed to the day and we are grateful to the following sponsors: Tourism Victoria, Latrobe City, Russell North MP, Mirboo North and District Community Foundation, Australian Paper, HVP Plantations, Bendigo Bank, CFMEU, Admiral Towing, GrandRidge Computer Services, Strzelecki Plumbing, Gregory's Sports and Musical Equipment, Newborough, Laurie Ziebell, JW & HL O'Connor & James Transport.

Kate Reiske,  
Publicity Co-ordinator,  
Boolarra Folk Festival.



Stallholders had an early setup for the Folk Festival market.



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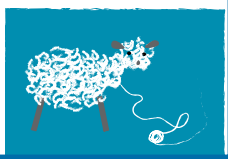
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## WOOL GROUP YARNING



We've all returned to Wool Group refreshed and ready for the year ahead. We had a good turn out for our Christmas lunch and had the opportunity to catch up with some past members that we don't get the chance to see all that often. Attendances have been very good this year with roughly twelve ladies present each week.

Most weeks Sue, Carla and I have been taking our spinning wheels along. Sue is gradually working through her stash of fleeces, Carla has been spinning a fleece she bought already cleaned and dyed and has plied a couple of different colours together and I'm spinning rainbow-coloured Merino which will probably end up as a felted bag. Carla has also been knitting a lovely jumper for her husband in five ply, which is quite a slow process. Sue hasn't decided yet what she plans to do with her fleeces once they're spun.

Kate completed a baby's blanket in the interest of using up 'her stash' and is now working on an-

other blanket in bright colours, which will be sent off to Perth on completion. Lori has been as productive as ever; she made herself a lovely pink summer jumper recently and is current-

ly knitting a jumper for her husband.

Anne L is still knitting a scarf in sock wool, which is nearing completion.

Anne T is working on a latch-hook cushion that was started years and years ago. Robyn's on her second attempt of 'monster-size socks'. The first fitting was done a couple of weeks ago and so far so good, so she's pressing on.

Our new member Elaine is working on a scarf and enjoying meeting new friends. Denise, Marg and Lori have been knitting poppies, which will be used on Anzac Day. Marg has also managed to finish some long time UFO's, while Denise is completing another rug to give away. Kerryn has just started on a new pair of socks for her family as well as completing a sock wool scarf.

I've just finished a Mohair vest in various pastel shades. I didn't have a pattern to follow, so a lot of 'trying on' during the knitting process was needed,

but I'm very happy with the result and am looking forward to some colder days so it can be worn. If you would like to join us at Wool Group, we meet every Thursday at 11:30am at the Multi-Purpose Building and we enjoy a shared lunch each week. We pay \$3.00 to cover rent, tea, coffee etc. If you would like more information, please contact me on 0400 722 716.

Just before Christmas we were all very saddened to say goodbye to the matriarch of our group, Kathleen Burge. Kathleen was a much loved and devoted member of the group for many years. She was very talented in the skills of craftwork, cake decorating, music, cooking and vegetable growing. Over the years Kath has won many awards for her beautiful work and she was always very willing to pass on her many skills and talents to others. A large number of us gathered at the Boolarra Cemetery and then at the Multi-Purpose Building to bid her farewell and to relate the many wonderful stories and memories that we all shared with her; she will be missed by us all. Rest in peace Kathleen.

*Lois Thornton (Member).*

## BOOLARRA FRIENDS OF THE



Our first activity for 2015 was the sale of Spring bulbs to brighten up our gardens. We don't have final figures as yet, but hope it will be a promising start to the years' fundraising.

March is 'Red Cross Calling' month; once again the Yinnar Scouts have been door-knocking the towns of Boolarra and Yinnar (\$417.60 Boolarra, \$667.85 Yinnar). We also have collection tins at the Boolarra Post Office, Boolarra Store and at other businesses in Churchill, Yinnar and Mirboo North.

Mark down Monday, 4 May on your calendar for the 'Mothers Day Fashion Parade' to be held in the Multi-Purpose Building at 2:00pm. We had a great time last year and once again we will have a 'Mystery Raffle' and lucky door prizes, together with a scrumptious afternoon tea - admission is \$5.00.

Our group of ladies were saddened by the passing of one of our members, Kath Burge, in December. Kath was an amazing person and a highly valued member of Red Cross. Rest in Peace Kath.

*Glenys Morgan, Secretary.  
Ph. 5169 6721.*

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## William Edmund (Bill) Penaluna

07.03.1930 - 02.09.2014.



In a family of five, Bill was the third child, and first surviving son, of Edmund and Myrtle Penaluna. He was born in Morwell, but was raised in, and lived his entire life in Boolarra. His father was a dairy farmer, his mother a homemaker. Both were very active in the community, often in leadership roles.

Bill also had this strong commitment to his local community, but he was a lot more quiet in his participation. Never a leader, but always giving support quietly and, often, invisibly. Such support may have been in a physical, financial, or emotional form. He gave unobtrusive assistance to many of the local associations and was known to be a big brother/uncle/friend to many a young man in need.

Though a bachelor all of his life, Bill became a father figure in his mid twenties to his sister Florence's five children upon the deaths of her husband Martin Pedersen and his mother Myrtle when they came to live with him and his father.

The Penaluna family was one of the first to settle in Boolarra. Bill was the last member of his family to work the family farm. He loved farming. He was a diligent farmer - not a weed to be seen and the work was always done.

He only occasionally left Boolarra and that was on livestock buying trips or to a horseracing event.

Like his father and grandfather, Bill enjoyed the horses - both the animals themselves and the sport of racing. He shared the ownership of several horses. His greatest pride was in his part ownership of the successful horse Delmar.

In his early years he was a good sportsman - football as a youngster, tennis, golf, bowls, darts, cards and a good dancer (he was a favourite with a lot of the younger single ladies). In his later years Bills hearing deteriorated and he was always having trouble with the modern technology.

The pub- the centre of his social activities, often referred to by others as Bill's 'Office'. Daily attendance required. Great mates with each new publican who established themselves in the town. In his latter years, his support.

Bill was a proud and stubborn man, but was a gentleman of the old school. Gentleman did not swear, degrade or disrespect women - and he held other men to this standard. Bill was a man of integrity, a man of his word, a generous man, a shy man, a man of few words, a gentle man. A man not easily forgotten.

*Garry Pedersen.*

## George Walton 23.11.2014.



This is George's story. Born in Collingwood, George Walton came to Boolarra 12 years ago with his wife Marj to be with family and to retire in the country. George got himself a nice mobility scooter, sold his car and everyday made his way to the Boolarra Pub. You would see him speeding along, flag on top, sometimes too fast. Once he was not looking properly and ran over a big stick and came off on the rail trail and there he stayed on a hot 40-degree day until help arrived. He was given a lift home to fix the cuts and bruises, but that never stopped him. The next day off he went again to enjoy a yarn up the Pub. Even poor health didn't stop him. He loved all the dogs at the pub, who all knew and greeted George and on a cold day he would sneak them inside by the fire.

Sadly George passed away on 23 November 2014, but if we look hard we can still see George on the red scooter with his Collingwood hat and stickers on the handle. We won't forget you George.

*Pauline Garood*



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## Kathleen Mary Burge

19.12.1926 - 15.12.2014.

Kath and her first husband Clyde Kidd moved to Boolarra while they built their home in Mechanics Street. Kath was one of the early members of the Boolarra Wool Group and what a talented lady she was! She entered two hand spun and hand dyed rugs in the Royal Melbourne Show and won first prize for each. Kath produced exquisitely embroidered tablecloths, serviettes, pillowslips and cross-stitched baby quilts. Every winter Kath knitted beautiful cardigans and jumpers.

Kath also won a swag of Blue Ribbons over the years at the Traralgon Show for scones, cakes, jams and fresh produce. You name it, she grew it or baked it! Her contributions to Wool Group lunches were all delicious, but she was famous for her salads (of home grown produce), sandwiches and apple cake. Her garden produced enormous quantities of beans, peas, spinach, tomatoes, pumpkin, bantam eggs and lemons, which were generously shared with everyone.

Kathleen and Clyde bred and showed dachshunds – once again winning many prizes.

Kath and fifteen other local residents answered the call to join the local CFA in a recruitment drive that was orchestrated after our CFA numbers began to dwindle in 2005. Three of the new recruits were over the age of 65 but were accepted into the brigade, as there are always roles to be carried out that do not involve direct or frontline fire fighting.

So Kath, together with the other recruits, underwent the intensive Minimum Skills Training Program that all new members have to pass before they can be accepted into the ranks. Minimum Skills covers both theoretical and practical aspects of fire science and fire fighting and at the completion of the 12 week course new members have to pass a 2 ½ - 3 hour written theory exam followed by a range of practical tasks

such as starting the pump, drafting water from a dam, rolling out a hose, using a rake hoe and operate the radios competently. Kath passed all aspects with flying colours and immediately took over the reigns as our catering coordinator.

From that day on Kath provided sausage rolls, cakes, scones, slices and Anzac biscuits for all training and meeting nights. Other local brigades loved coming to Boolarra on special training nights, as they knew there would be a fantastic supper provided. Nothing was too much trouble for her and even if she couldn't be present on a particular night we would find a note on the bench alerting us to the fact that the supper was in the fridge.

Kath refused to be reimbursed for any money she spent on the ingredients or food and often stated that she had never put into community organisations before and this was her chance to pay the community back and she loved doing it. The Brigade eventually repaid her in a small way by providing her with firewood each year.

Word got back to the CFA hierarchy that Boolarra had organised a highly successful recruitment drive so they sent a reporter/photographer to cover the story of how Boolarra went about it so they could share the process used with all other brigades across the state who were suffering falling numbers. However when the reporter visited the Brigade to write the story he was so impressed with Kath, her age, her attitude and the supper she provided that he returned three weeks later to do a story specifically about her.

Thus in a period of two months Boolarra featured in two stories in the glossy CFA publication 'The Brigade'. The first, a one-page article with a small photo on our recruitment drive and the second, a two-page feature article, complete with several photos of Kath in her yellows holding her cakes.

Kath resigned from the brigade in May 2012 after contributing to the increased weight of most members. Kath was respected and loved by all members

of our brigade.

When Kath finally retired from the CFA Red Cross welcomed her with open arms. As well as baking both savoury scones and regularly making sandwiches and apple cake for afternoon teas, she also generously donated many items for the Stroke Support Group and was a loved and respected member.

When Clyde passed away in 1990 Kath was left with her garden and bantams. One morning she was up early watering the front garden when a man on his way to the shop stopped to chat with her. He asked her if she liked beans? Early next morning Lindsay knocked at the front door with a large bag of home grown beans! He became affectionately known as 'the bean man' to family and friends. A friendship was formed that developed into a romance. Kath and Lindsay were married surrounded by family and friends. Sadly they had less than 3 years together of marriage, but Kath had very happy memories of her 'bean man'.

My fondest memories of Kath are sitting on her veranda to soak up the view and enjoy the lavish morning teas! Together we would solve the world's problems, give the politicians the necessary boot to shake them up and laugh over funny stories and incidents from the past.

It is very easy to bandy around words like wonderful, compassionate, amazing, kind, caring, generous, talented and special - Kath Burge was all of these, but essentially she was a good person who cared about her fellow man.

After 3 years of battling cancer, Kath passed away surrounded by her loving and devoted daughter Vivien and her two beautiful granddaughters Renee and Megan.

Glenys Morgan,  
Dave O'Brien.

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# News of Yinnar & District Community Garden

Q. What's a-Buzz at the Yinnar & District Community Garden?

A. Bees, Flowers, Fruits and Vegies.

The garden is producing really well at the moment - with an array of summer vegies, fruiting trees and visiting bees. The new edible climbers are established on the pergolas, extended flat beds have been built on compost and a new biodynamic compost heap has been made with donations of horse manure.

As well as this the Central Mosaic now has the planetary display and the star signs of Capricorn, Scorpio, Libra, Virgo, Leo, Cancer and Gemini are completed.

Workshops for the other star signs will be held every Saturday from 1:00pm if not too hot, otherwise from 3:00pm, until the centrepiece is finished.

Our main focus this year, now that all the infrastructure from the grant is completed, is to spend time enjoying the garden while gardening, developing the soil and garden maintenance (weeding etc). The biggest challenge is keeping the Couche and Kikuyu

under control - especially in the raised beds.

Bizzy Bees held every second and fourth Saturday of the month from 1:00pm if cool enough, and starting from 3:00pm if hot. Join us to garden and yak. You don't have to be really active, as there are lighter jobs to do as well. The Bizzy Bees include a shared afternoon tea where we meet, chat and share any excess produce from the garden or our home gardens. It's a fun and learning time with all ages welcome.

We'd also like to have a regular weekday gardening day. If you have a preference for a day please email and let

us know.

Our future plans include community food swaps, extending the bush tucker garden, pyrography for sign making, tours to local interesting sustainable gardens, theatre and music events, and cook-ups with the Community Pizza Oven that's coming via ARC Yinnar.

Monthly meetings are generally held on the first Saturday of the month, at 3:30pm in the undercover area, out the back of ARC. Prior to the meeting new members can have an induction into the garden.

We love having visitors to the garden, but please remember you can only pick



Garden President Sari Anderson holding community garden produce.

the delicious organically grown fruit and vegies if you are a current member. Membership is a great bargain at \$10 per year per person, due on 1 July each year. You can now pay your membership online via internet banking - contact

Rosemary at yinnarcg@gmail.com for account details. This year we have become an independent incorporated body. Memberships help us to cover costs such as insurance, so feel free to pay membership as either a member or supporter.

For further Info or Tours contact Catheryn at YinnarCG@telstra.com for Membership info contact Rosemary at YinnarCG@gmail.com; for Mosaic Workshops contact Sari at [sarianderson@yahoo.com](mailto:sarianderson@yahoo.com).



Zodiac mosaic, Yinnar Community Garden.

Catheryn Thompson,  
Secretary,  
Yinnar & District Community Garden  
0435 048 153  
[YinnarCG@telstra.com](mailto:YinnarCG@telstra.com)

## PILATES

Kathleen Millett has been conducting the exercise classes in Boolarra and Yinnar and other venues for over ten years and is a highly qualified instructor in many and various exercise regimes. She would be interested in teaching Pilates in either Boolarra or Yinnar if there are enough people interested.

Pilates is an excellent exercise, which strengthens the core muscles and helps with balance, strength and flexibility. If you would be interested in attending a Pilates class locally, please give Kathleen a call on 5122 2591 or send her an email at [kathleenmillett@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenmillett@gmail.com).



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## BOOLARRA GARDEN GROUP

We had a planning meeting in January to initiate discussion about our activities for 2015. Our first outing was to Berwick Botanical Gardens in February and we had a good long walk around the lake. The shady picnic tables were convenient for our morning tea and lunch. We then went to Berwick potteries for some inspiration for garden decor. Sue had to find room for her giraffe on the homeward journey. Her pond is also getting a new inhabitant and she hopes the floating crocodile head will stop the birds from eating the fish. It looks real so it might work.

We were planning to visit gardens in March but might change our plans and head to the Cranbourne Botanical Gardens in conjunction with the Quilters. There is a quilting exhibition on featuring Australian fabric designs and we could do the gardens and see the quilts. This year is an 'Open Gardens' year and Jill would love to hear from anyone who would be willing to share their garden for this event. Ideally 6-8 gardens are needed to make this a worthwhile project. We will also have a plant stall so all those with green fingers please pot up things for the stall. You have plenty of time to get things ready for November. The Open Gardens' day brings visitors from afar to Boolarra and is a really good way to showcase the town and promote any businesses and activities. For further information about the group or the Open Gardens contact Jill Simmonds.

Denise Schiller,  
Garden Club.

*"It is not doing the thing we like to do, but liking the thing we have to do, that makes life blessed."*

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



Lunchtime at Berwick Botanic Gardens, Arthur, Marg and Cheryl, Thelma and Jill.

## Boolarra Trail Blazers

The walking club has started already (some very keen people walked in January). We have had a great walk on the new Cemetery Trail (bridges and all) and a walk in the Trafalgar National Park. It's a great fitness and social activity - good for both physical and mental health. We start every Thursday at 9:00am finish by 12:00. Three days a month we have a local walk and once a month we venture further afield. We have enjoyed some wonderful places so if you are free on a Thursday morning come and join us (dogs are welcome). Enquiries ring John 5169 6494.

John Lubawski.



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(Coordinator) to book in on another day

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## Boolarra South Landcare Group

Our first event for 2015 was an evening picnic at Fox's Hole in February. We were fortunate to have a hot night and the river was very inviting. It was an enjoyable start to activities. Work has been proceeding steadily at the Mill Site. Unfortunately the Green Army numbers have fallen and we are not going as quickly as planned, however we are making progress. Two Mick's Track now has a bridge as well as a walkway and the track is being sheeted with crushed rock. Some impressive rockwork in the gullies will stop erosion and it is really looking good. Quite a bit of track maintenance has also been done. It's a con-

been a real community effort.

Our second event was an Owl and Mothing evening at the Mill Site. It included a great BBQ as usual and attracted an amazing crowd of 70 adults and about 20 children. The Field Naturalists led by Dr Rolf Willig, David Stickney, David Mules and Ken Harris are always fascinating and are happy to pass on their knowledge. Rolf had a Power Point presentation describing all the Owls and we listened to their



Green Army and Malcolm Thompson building the boardwalk.



The Men's shed putting in the bridge beams.

calls and tried to get them to call back. Ken and his mates set up sheets and lights to attract the moths and were keen to identify more species than they had at their last attempt. It was a perfect night for all of this and it was a very enjoyable event.

We are making plans for a workshop on the platypus as a couple of members wanted to see if there are many about and how well our river and tributaries provide habitat. They want to monitor platypus and Rikali (native water rats) and improve the habitat in the Morwell River and tributaries like the Little Morwell and O'Grady's

Creek. If you have seen platypus or know of any one with platypus in creeks or rivers on their properties, Malcolm Grant or Alison Craven would love to hear from you. On 1 March we had a Clean Up Australia Day clean up of 'Jack

stant battle to control the weeds, especially after the rain. The rain helped settle the new track work so it has been very beneficial. Some of our group have been very involved with getting all of this work done. Mick Schiller, Tony Minter, Mal Thompson, John Lubawski and recently Ron Schostek have toiled almost every day to push things along. The Men's Shed, Fred Edwards and Malcolm Grant have also helped so it has

Richard's' Park and surrounds, then Primrose Park and along the river to Apex Park. This was our first time as part of the Clean Up Australia program and we hope to get some others in the community involved. We also had the Landcare trailer at the Folk Festival and were able to talk to lots of people about our activities.

Denise Schiller,  
Publicity Officer.



The bridge just needs a roof.

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# FRIENDS OF THE UPPER MORWELL RIVER INC.

At our AGM in December Catheryn Thompson stepped down as President of the group. Catheryn has been President since the group's founding and has done great work. Her environmental expertise has been invaluable in conserving the Morwell River Reserve and Falls area. Her networking ability has also been very useful, especially in getting the Falls re-opened and in developing management plans. Although she is no longer President we are pleased that we are not losing those talents, as she is happy to remain a member of the group. Catheryn was thanked for her contribution as President and Brian McLure was elected to the position.

Our January working bee improved the track to the top falls by repairing some steps and laying crushed rock at the entrance. The track to the lower Falls also had work done to remove overhanging growth and repair water damage, drainage and slips. In February we built a groyne around a seat on the riverbank. Flooding had washed the seat surrounds away and left the seat high above the ground. We still need to finish this off but it has some big rocks protecting it and we hope they will be able to withstand the water next time the river floods. A sign directing visitors to take their rubbish home was erected in the clearing known as Yak's Camp. This is quite a popular camping area but unfortunately it is often left in a less than desirable state. We are hoping to educate the visitors to the heritage value of the forest in this area and teach them to be more aware of the effect of polluting the environment. Alan also did some restoration work on the monument at the picnic area. Sadly one plaque has rusted away and the other one is hard to read but we will try to preserve what is there.

Our next working bee will be on 22 March and we have a few repairs to do. One of our signs has been pulled out and will have to be replaced. We have another step to replace and will finish the seat restoration work. Bring your lunch to the picnic table at noon if you would like to help.

Denise Schiller.



Top: Phil and Mick spreading crushed rock.  
Centre: the repainted memorial.  
Left: Mick, Mac and Catheryn putting up the sign.

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# History of the Boolarra Railway, Part 1: The Early Years and Beyond

The first five miles of survey for the Boolarra (Morwell-Mirboo) Railway was completed in September 1881, carried out by a party led by a Mr J.D.Baxter. The final surveys were not completed until July 1882. Thick scrub and tall timbers growing almost the entire length of the route would have made the journey very tough for the surveyors, yet by mid 1882 surveys were sufficiently advanced to allow for a call of tenders for the construction of the line. On 18 January 1883, the tender of Mr J.S.White was approved, with the contract price being £74,901.6.11.

Construction was solidly underway by March 1883 with 350 men on site. Mr White however found that the works were costing a great deal more than he calculated, owing to the rugged terrain and the heavy clearing works. There was also rapidly growing dissatisfaction among the men over pay and conditions. Eventually, after reports of unsatisfactory progress the White contract was cancelled June 1883, after payments of £7000 had been received and spent on clearing works.

A new contractor, Mr. J. Robb was found and before long, gangs of men were at work again. Local farmers and local contractors were employed along the length of the line hauling timber for the bridges. By mid-1884 bridge works on the first 12 miles (19km) were well in hand and culverts were being finished off. Culverts were mostly brick construction, but a few were concrete or timber. A brick kiln was established at Darlimurla near the station site to supply bricks for the line. A total of 41,520 wooden sleepers were used. A regular tent town had come into existence at the 'Twelve Mile Peg', the distance from Morwell leading to the establishment of a school. An Inspector's survey in April 1884 found that of the 32 children here of school age, 31 were from railway families. In this way, the coming of the railway was directly responsible for the township of Boolarra.

Serious delays were caused by the very wet weather and the extreme difficulty of finding men to work in the locality. Flooding of the line occurred in April 1885 and after heavy rains, embankments and cuttings slipped in several places. An extension was granted on the contract due to the setbacks.

On 1 December 1885 the contractors' locomotive steamed into the Mirboo (renamed 'Mirboo North' in 1929) terminus for the first time. The official opening day of the railway came on 7 January 1886. A special train left Melbourne 9:30am conveying Mr A.J.Agg, Railway Commissioner and members of Parliament. A banquet was held at Mirboo that afternoon, followed by a ball with 'spirited' dancing until 5:00am.

Meanwhile, the Boolarra Railway Station had opened several months earlier, on 10 April 1885. Station buildings then consisted of standard wooden 'portables' for the Station Office, Waiting Rooms and Store Rooms with Van Shed. Cattle and sheep races were added in 1886, and 1889. When the first section of the line was opened to Boolarra, the timetable provided for a 'mixed train' (a goods train with one or two passenger cars attached). This left Morwell at 11:25am, arriving at Boolarra an hour later, at 12:25pm. Due to growing demand, a twice-daily service of mixed trains

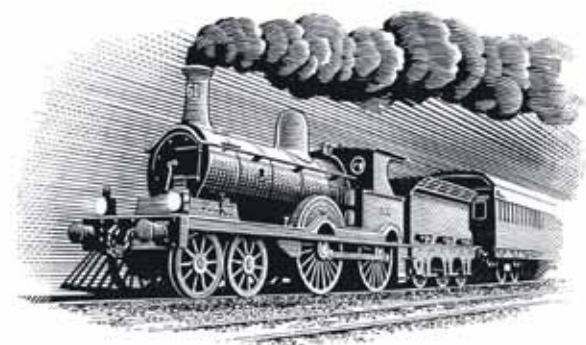
was introduced late in 1886. Example passenger fares of July that year were: Boolarra to Morwell First Class - 1 shilling 4 pence, Second Class - 11 pence. Many variations to the timetable and services followed over the years; including a busy period in the 1930's with separate goods trains, passenger motor rails, and a motor mail tricycle that carried 3cwt (153kg) of mails and parcels. Peak year for passengers on the line was 1890, when 6074 passengers travelled from Boolarra, 3006 from Darlimurla and 8854 from Mirboo North.

Timber and associated products formed the main traffic of the line in the early days, but as more land was farmed and industries developed, so did the range of goods expand to feature potatoes, butter, rabbits, chaff, hay, coal, bauxite, and in later years - superphosphate. A coal seam was worked at Boolarra where a horizontal shaft was mined into the steep hillside quite close to the railway about 1½ miles (3km) south of Boolarra Station. One of the largest Blackwood forests in Victoria was to be found in the Boolarra area. For some time until the forest was cut out or destroyed by fires in the early 1900's, large numbers of Blackwood logs were forwarded. Also, willow timber used in the manufacture of cricket bats was railed out. Several sawmills operated in nearby Darlimurla from the time of the coming of the railway, including one mill that operated in the station yard until the 1920's.

A very colourful personality in the early days of the railway was Mr Patrick Murray, possibly the first engine driver on the line, moving from Mordialloc 1883-84. It was said that while Pat Murray was driving, it was 'very much his train'. He stopped whenever he spotted a friend wishing to travel anywhere along the line, and at market days in Morwell the train did not leave by the timetable, but rather when he was finished with his market business. Mr Murray later became a Councillor of the Mirboo Shire. Many of the rail motor drivers became friends of people along the line, attending to the shopping needs of folk at either Mirboo or Morwell.

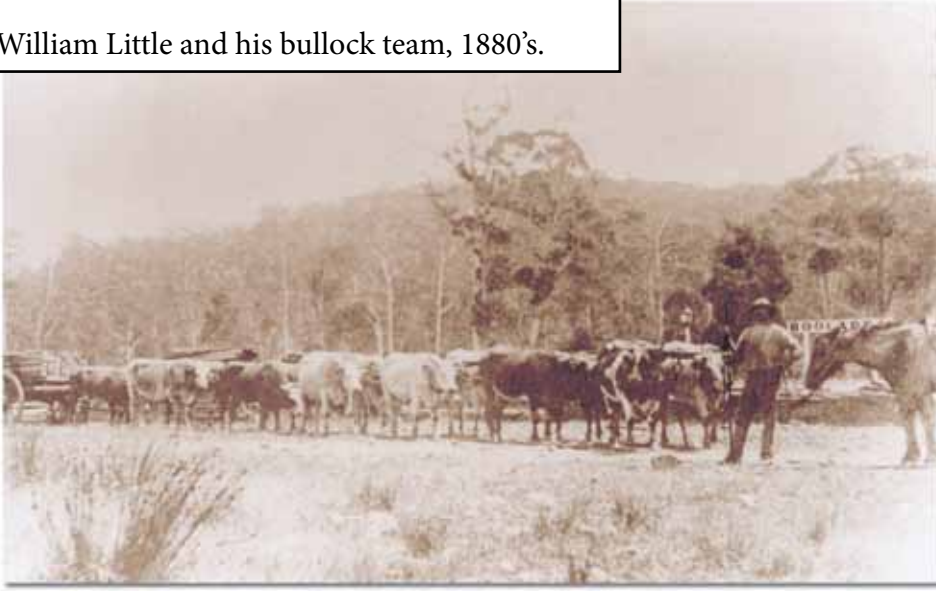
*Text sourced from 'The Morwell and Mirboo Railway – A Descriptive History and Lineside Guide', by R.K. Whitehead, published by the Australian Railway Historical Society, Victorian Division Inc., PO Box 748, Williamstown VIC 3016, Ph. 1300 220 220, [www.arhs.vic.org.au](http://www.arhs.vic.org.au)*

To be continued, 'Part 2: Later Years and The Last Train'.





William Little and his bullock team, 1880's.



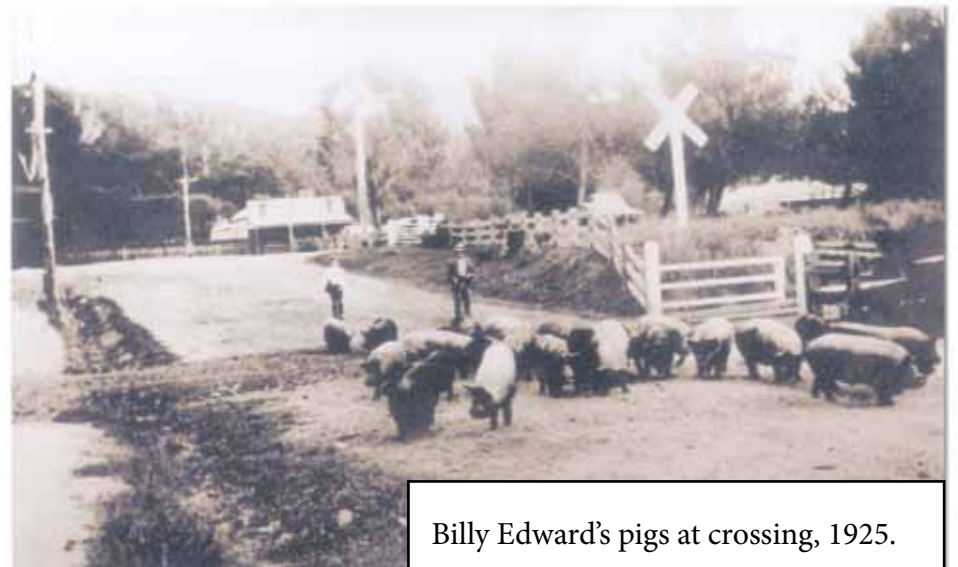
Return of Moreton Hall, Budgerie Boer War Veteran circa 1901.



Boolarra Railway Station, 1925. Occasion of the visit of the Duke of Gloucester to Melbourne. L-R: Bessie Meyer, Mary Penaluna, Elizabeth Hunter, Florrie Penaluna (baby), Laura Penaluna, and Myrtle Penaluna.

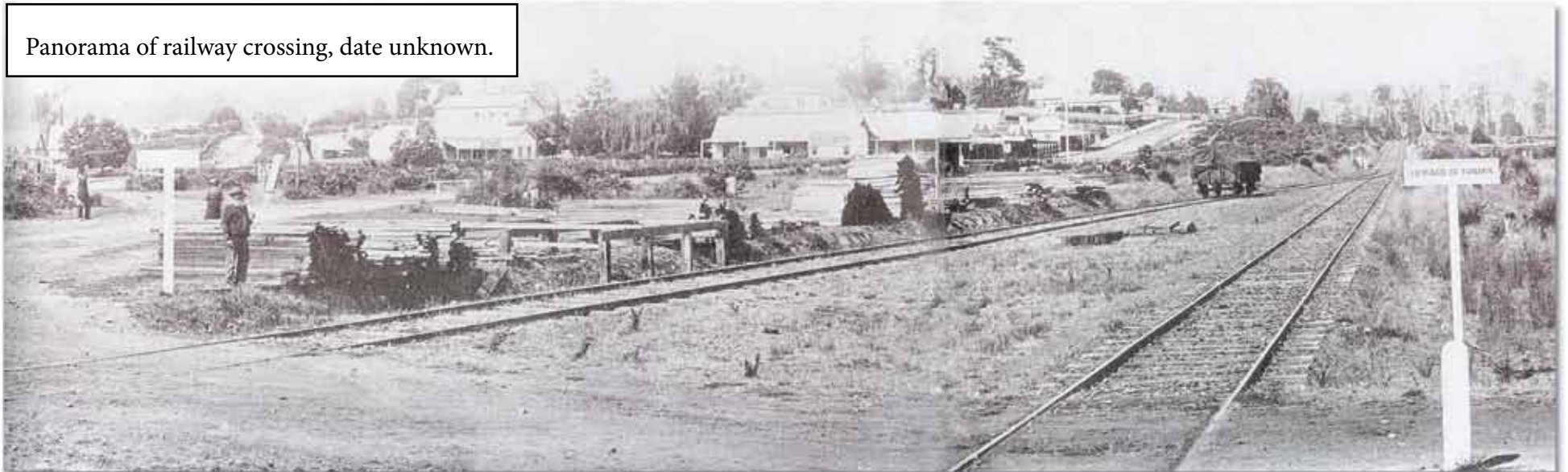
All images from Boolarra Historical Society, many thanks for assistance.

Boolarra Railway Station 1924.



Billy Edward's pigs at crossing, 1925.

Panorama of railway crossing, date unknown.







## BOOLARRA'S BURNING ISSUES BOOLARRA CFA NEWS



### THANKS FOR NOT PUTTING NASTIES INTO THE SCRAP METAL BIN

I am extremely pleased to report that no 'nasties' such as asbestos, asbestos piping, gas bottles or drums containing chemicals or hazardous substances have been placed in the Scrap Metal Bin since the last edition of The Link. Readers may remember that our Scrap Metal Bin was placed in jeopardy after asbestos piping was placed in the bin by someone.

### MORWELL RIVER PATROLS PROVED SUCCESSFUL

Each evening over the Xmas holiday period and prior to high and extreme fire danger days, members of our Brigade patrolled the Morwell River Road to visit sites where people were camping. On several occasions campers had fires that were not lawful and extinguished them when requested. Several campers at Jackson's Flat, and who were out of radio range, were unaware that it was a Day of Total Fire Ban, had their fires extinguished by our members. Campers were each given a copy of 'Can I or Can't I?' and seemed appreciative of our advice.

### BE CAREFUL WHEN FIRE RESTRICTIONS LIFTED

At the time of writing there has been no date set for the lifting of Fire Restrictions in our area. However, when the Restrictions are lifted, please exercise extreme caution if you light a fire as the bush is still extremely dry. Please register your burn on 1800 668 511 and ensure you obey all rules. It should be known that several people within the Morwell Group area have been charged with lighting fires in the Fire Restriction Period without a permit this summer - something that has rarely occurred in previous years.

### JUNIORS PROVE BRAVER THAN LEADERS AT ADVENTURE PARK

Boolarra Fire Brigade Juniors started the year by attending a 'High Ropes and Laser Tag' night at Parky's Adventure Park with the Morwell Fire Brigade Juniors. Eight Boolarra members and two intrepid Boolarra leaders donned safety harnesses and safety helmets to climb and scramble around bridges, swings and wires over three levels. It was a fun-filled night that ended with supper at McDonalds for both junior brigades.

The second session was spent revisiting our values of respect, teamwork and persistence, planning the program for the coming months and a treasure hunt on the tanker, refreshing members' knowledge of equipment locations and storage. The Juniors were then given an overview of the Ultra-Light Tanker, before having supper and heading home.

The Junior Brigade currently has nine members, welcoming two new people so far this year. We aim to run a program that is based on the senior

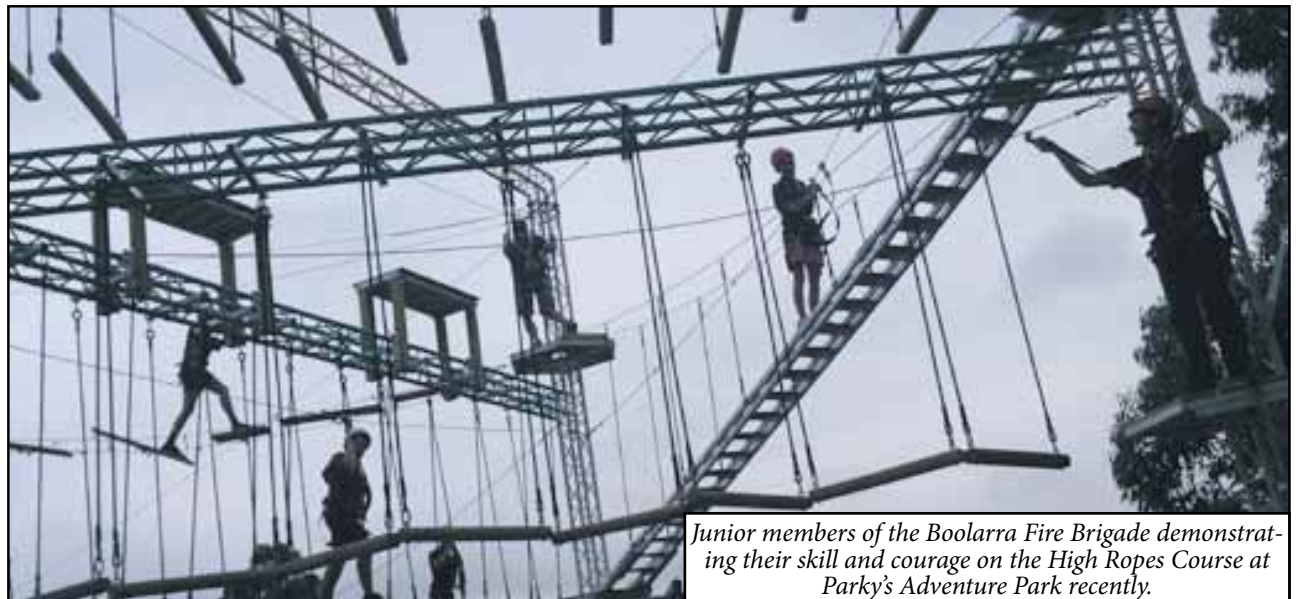
minimum skills, as well as fostering teamwork, positive relationship and persistence in the face of challenges. The Juniors have a lot of fun. Anyone who may be interested in joining can contact Todd Birkbeck or Di Billingsley on 0429 696 757.

### YINNAR SOUTH TRAINING WITH BOOLARRA


Yinnar South Fire Brigade members have been travelling to Boolarra recently to join us in training activities. Members from both brigades learn much about each other's trucks when this happens.

### SANTA'S XMAS EVE LOLLY DROP PROVES POPULAR

We would like to congratulate all the children and parents who lined up at their front gates and waited so patiently on their nature strip for Santa to arrive on the fire truck. It was only when the truck had completely stopped that Santa told them to come forward to receive their bag of lollies. It was really surprising to see so many teenagers, who obviously still believe in Santa, line up for their lollies. Santa distributed nearly 300 lolly bags and in return received a few 'cold gifts' himself - from appreciative parents.



Junior members of the Boolarra Fire Brigade demonstrating their skill and courage on the High Ropes Course at Parky's Adventure Park recently.

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**ARSONIST STILL ACTIVE - PLEASE BE OBSERVANT AND REPORT UNUSUAL HAPPENINGS**

Unfortunately there are still instances of deliberately lit fires occurring in our area. Police have asked everybody to be observant and report any unusual or suspicious people, behaviour or activities.



*Todd Birkbeck being welcomed back from his deployment at the W.A. Fires by Euan Ferguson, CFA Chief Officer.*

**TODD FIGHTS WESTERN AUSTRALIA FIRES**

In January of this year, Western Australia was experiencing some of the worst bush fires they had seen in years and due to the size and the time it would take to extinguish them they asked for assistance from Victoria and later from other states. On Monday, 2 February Todd Birkbeck was involved in the first ever deployment to W.A. 140 firefighters from both volunteers and professional ranks, including firefighters from CFA & DELWP flew to Perth where they were debriefed on their tasks required during their deployment. They then



*Well-behaved children and parents receive their bag of lollies from Santa on Xmas Eve. It appears that Boolarra's Relieving Policeman Tim wasn't interested in breathalysing Santa when he pulled him over on Xmas Eve.*

travelled some distance (as is the way in W.A.) to sleep the night. The next day the firefighters were split into different groups. Todd's group boarded a coach for a four hour journey to Northcliffe where we were advised about the W.A. firefighting safety processes and procedures and briefed on the type of terrain they would confront and the equipment they would be using. After that Todd's group of sixteen headed south to a small town called Walpole, a five hour drive south of Perth, where they spent the next four days completing a 40 km square back burn and then patrolling that burn to ensure it stayed within the control lines. One of the hopes Todd had when he joined the CFA was to have experiences like this that allowed him to

travel to other areas of Australia, meet fellow fire fighters and to experience different fire fighting techniques and equipment. Todd and his fellow fire fighters were welcomed back to Victoria and congratulated for their efforts by Euan Ferguson, CFA Chief Officer.

**CHECK YOUR CHIMNEYS AND FLUES BEFORE WINTER**

A reminder of the importance of checking and cleaning your chimneys and flues before you light your first fire for the year. Many house fires are caused through a blocked chimney or flue.

**THANKS FOR YOUR PATRONAGE AT FOLK FESTIVAL**

We are very appreciative of all those who supported us at the CFA BBQ at the Folk Festival. This event is our largest fundraiser for the year and the money raised allows us to purchase firefighting equipment and safety gear. The fantastic news is that we raised approximately \$1,200 on the day.

*Dave O'Brien*



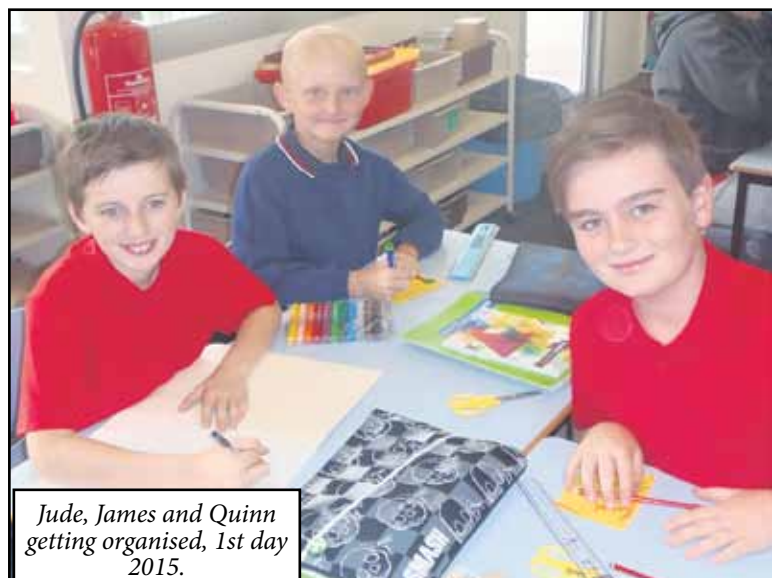
*CFA Members (L-R) Miriam Pickett, Peter Morrison, Rob Fransen, James Orr, Dave O'Brien, Steve Plath and Di Billingsley prepare for the onslaught of hungry patrons at the Folk Festival.*

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Jude, James and Quinn getting organised, 1st day 2015.

### Magnificent Start to the School Year!

From day one we had such a fantastic working tone in all classrooms. It did not feel like the start of the school year at all! Our seventeen incoming preps (and their families) and our new staff member, Ms Abby-Lee Brown all settled in brilliantly.

### 2015 School Captains:

We are delighted to have Mirabel Mc and Emre C as our School Captains with Darcy H and Jedd F as their Deputies. They are already doing a great job helping to run Assembly on Mondays. In April they will attend a Leadership Development training day in Sale.

### 2015 Student Leaders

Our Junior School Councillors and House Captains have also been elected and received their badges of office from School Council President, Dan Aveling at our 'Welcome Gathering' in the Park recently.

### School Structure

We are operating five classes this year – a P/1, a P/1/2, a 2/3, a 4/5 and a 5/6, each with sixteen or seventeen students. Karen Twomey provides a P/6 Art program, as well as a Literacy/Numeracy support. Jo Dryden provides BluEarth games and Mr John Duck Physical Education. We are extremely fortunate to receive lots of voluntary support from local Library Teacher extraordinaire, Roz Carstairs.

### School Council

This year we welcome two new parent representatives - Simone Redpath and Kirrilee Enders and two new staff members, Patrick Kilday and Finley Smith to this important body that oversees the financial and facilities management at our school.

### Toilet Mosaic Murals:

Last year our Junior School Council asked for the student toilets to be beautified. Our parents raised money for the materials and Ms Karen Twomey



School Captains Mirabel, and Emre with School Council President Dan and Principal Leanne.

involved all the students in designing and developing some magnificent mosaic murals. We had a celebratory shared picnic afternoon tea and an official unveiling of these wonderful additions to our school.

### Fundraising News

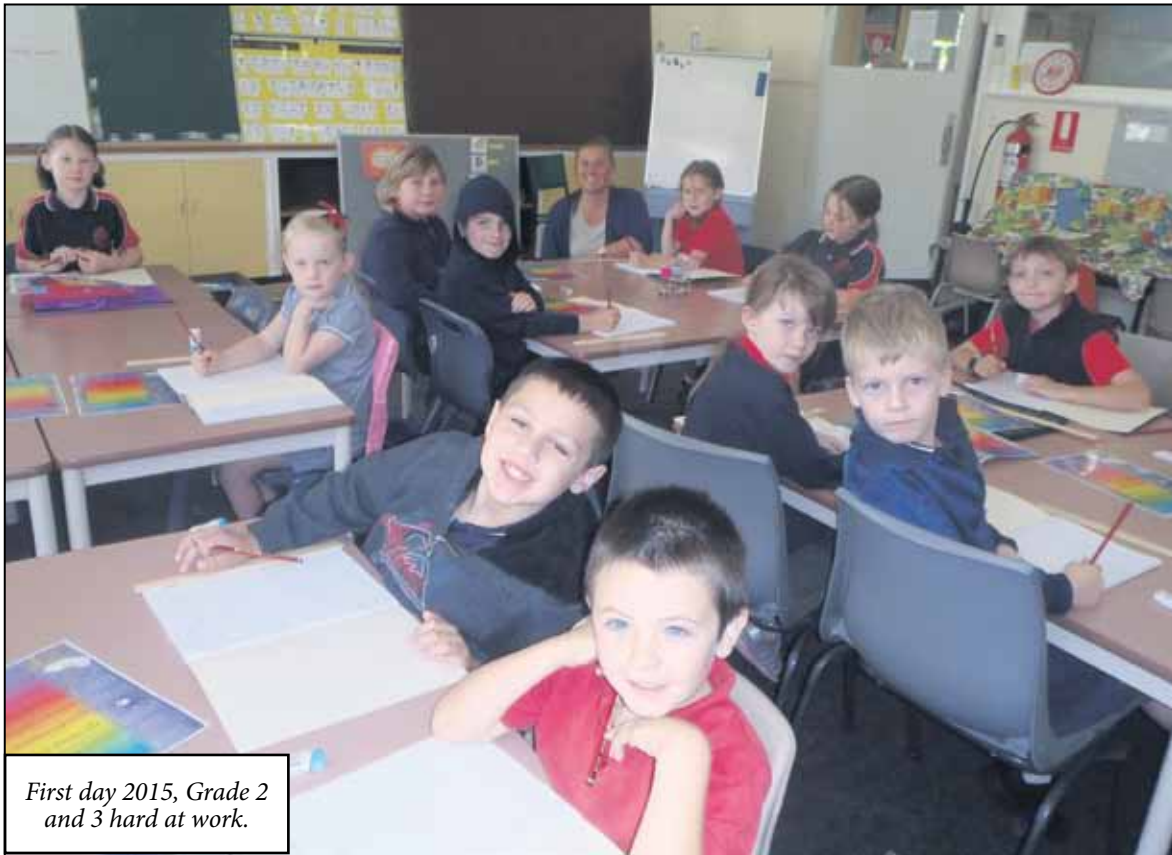
We hope to raise sufficient money to makeover the main entranceway to the school and to give all our garden beds a serious makeover. Our term 1 fundraising endeavour will be our Craft and Fruit

Salad Stall at the Boolarra Folk Festival. Under Ms Karen Twomey's guidance all our students made some very attractive tie dyed items (calico bags, socks and tea-towels) and wrapping paper. A team of our fabulous parents whipped up the Fruit Salad. In term 2 we hope to have a Pie Drive providing this doesn't clash with any other community group's fundraising efforts.



Our Junior School Councillors.





First day 2015, Grade 2 and 3 hard at work.

### Shop at Ritchies in Churchill?

If so could you please collect a 'Community Benefits Card' from the office and have it swiped when you shop? Last year we received over \$500 from Ritchies through this program which was used to buy books for our School Library. We hope to do the same again this year!

### Pancake Tuesday

We all enjoyed some delicious pancakes thanks to the efforts of local Church members John and Roborn Lubawski, Liz Black and others.

### Junior School Council (JSC)

This term we are raising money to support our wonderful, local 'wildlife warrior', Jean Quick. To this end icy-poles (99% fruit juice) are being sold for 50c at recess times. They have also set up a 'Friendship Table' where students looking for someone to play with can be looked after by other students.

Leanne Emond.



Pancake Tuesday.



Hand made items the school sold at the Folk Festival.



Ms Abbey-Lee Brown 1st day meeting a Prep student.



'Welcome Gathering' - Bec and Maddi.



Senior students at Toilet Mural unveiling.





## CHARTER OF SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GIPPSLAND

### Bright Year Ahead for SI Gippsland

The Soroptimist International Gippsland group has been very busy planning some exciting events for 2015 following the widespread success of their Lantern Parade in October last year. The parade attracted a crowd of 2,500 people as it lit up Kernot Lake in a spirit of recovery from the Morwell mine fire. Community groups, families and individuals made over 130 lanterns.

Some of the proposed fundraising events for 2015 include Sausage Sizzles at Bunnings, a film and supper night for the club's birthday, an antiques and collectables evening, a day out at the races, and a walking shopping tour, with more events to come as the year progresses.

SI Gippsland President, Helen McAdam, said 'Our role is to raise money that supports the community, particularly women and children. There is a lot of work involved in planning and organising these

events, but we do it with a sense of fun and enjoy the challenges that they provide. We are thrilled with the community support that we receive,' she added.

Soroptimist International is a world-wide organisation that aims to inspire action and create opportunities to transform the lives of women and girls by advocating for equity and equality, creating safe and healthy environments, increasing access to education and developing leadership and practical skills for a sustainable future.

The Gippsland Group meets on the second Wednesday of the month in Traralgon. New members and friends are always welcome and if you would like to know more, please contact Helen McAdam on 0438 164 528 or follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SIGippsland>.

*Jane Mrzygoski*

## LOCAL AUTHOR TO HOLD BOOK LAUNCH IN MORWELL



Rev. Dr. Lynn Fowler from Glory to the King Ministries International will be launching the Australian edition of her new book, 'Real, Radical and Revolutionary - Building Kingdom Relationships with God,

with Each Other and with the World' in Morwell on Saturday, 30 May 2015.

The launch will be held at the Saltbush Restaurant and Cafe, 148 Commercial Rd. Morwell (opposite the council building) from 1:00pm till 5:00pm. Those attending will be able to buy the book at a discount price and have it signed by the author. They will also receive a discount coupon for the digital version of the book and a free hot drink. For more information about the book, visit the book's web site <http://rrr.lynnbfowler.com>. If you sign up for Lynn's free newsletter, 'Lynn Fowler Writes', you will receive a free 'sneak peek' at Real, Radical and Revolutionary (the intro, first section intro and first chapter) and also a free .pdf copy of Lynn's spiritual warfare book, 'Called to Battle', as well as 'sneak peeks' at future books that Lynn releases.



*The SI Gippsland Shining the Light  
Lantern Parade – held at Kernot Hall  
in October 2014.*

### Boolarra Cemetery Trust

The trust were successful in obtaining a grant of \$600.00 to pay for the Poppy Tile Honour Board. After thoughtful consideration the Trust decided to also honour those who died on active service in World War 1. Poppy tiles will be placed on their graves as well as those who served and returned home to Boolarra. We plan to hold a short commemorative service on Saturday 18th April at the Cemetery for descendants of these soldiers and for interested community members.

We are waiting with fingers crossed, in the hope of

receiving sufficient funding from the department of Health to seal the Cemetery driveway. The result will not be available until late April or early May.

The records of burials displayed in the Gazebo are in the process of being updated. A list of annual burials will be posted each year and our website will also be updated every five years.

*Glenys Morgan, Secretary.  
Ph: 5169 6721.*

## Real, Radical and Revolutionary

Building Kingdom Relationships with God,  
with Each Other and with the World

- AUSTRALIAN EDITION -

**Lynn B. Fowler**

*"Night is the other half of life, and  
the better half."  
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*



As 2015 begins I'd like to wish all community members a Happy New Year and I hope that your holiday season was restful. The year has certainly already off to a cracking start with our local Australia Day celebrations being well attended and enjoyed.

I made my way to a number of community events during the course of the day including Churchill and Yinnar and all were terrific services. These events were well attended by people of all ages and it was wonderful to see all involved enjoying the festivities to commemorate our great nation. It is always great to see such exuberance when it comes to celebrating our national events and this year's Australia Day celebrations were no different.

A number of people were recognised on the day. I would like to congratulate all those who were nominated for and received Australia Day Awards this year. I commend you for your actions that led to your nomination. It is wonderful that we are able to celebrate the fantastic achievements of extraordinary people and highlight the work that they do each and every day for the good of our towns and residents.

I'd like to thank all service clubs that were involved

in putting on an excellent spread of food at various Australia Day events. It is certainly appreciated by the community and makes the day all the more Australian. Your hard work and commitment is to be commended! The 13th Annual Boolarra Folk Festival was held on Saturday 28 February with a day and evening of free entertainment on display. In addition to the quality entertainment there was a strong array of stalls, art and craft and food available for the many hundreds of visitors. Congratulations Ray and his Committee who did such a marvellous job in hosting this terrific local event.

We are now at the point of the six-year anniversary of the Delburn and Churchill complex of fires that hit our region in January and February of 2009. Many communities and individuals are still in recovery mode but one can only be amazed by the leadership and resolve of many individuals and community organisations over this period of time. We have come a long way since February 2009 but there is still more to do and I know many are working extremely hard though this recovery phase.

In the same context it's important to recognise the efforts of the CFA, career fire fighters and volunteers during the 2009 campaign fires. We are blessed in this region to have wonderful personnel serving our community in this capacity and we do thank you for your ongoing efforts. It's also a timely reminder that each

property owner takes on the responsibility in ensuring they have a fire plan in place in the event that a fire hits our region.

A reminder that Churchill will be celebrating 50 years since the proclamation of the township was made by the shire of Morwell on 15 March 1965. The commemorative ceremony and plaque unveiling will be held on Sunday, 15 March 2015 at the Churchill Town Hall Plaza, Philip Parade with a BBQ, displays and activities taking place throughout the day. For community groups wanting to have a stand at Churchill's 50th Anniversary Commemorative Celebrations on Sunday 15 March you can contact the Churchill and District Community Association for further information on 5122 2997 or 0407 876 443.

Finally, Latrobe Valley community members are invited to get a glimpse inside Victoria's historic Legislative Assembly and Council Chambers at this year's Parliament House Open Day on Sunday, 22 March. I encourage you to make the most of this opportunity to see inside and outside the historical Parliament House building, one of Melbourne's best known landmarks. The Open Day will run from 10:30am until 3:30pm and admission is free. For more information visit [www.parliament.vic.gov.au](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au), or phone 9651 8567.

## AROUND THE TRAPS...

"Order, Order!" cried Mrs Wombat, the president of Boolarra MSS100. "We are here today to review our 2014 year and address a most important item on the agenda". Mrs Rabbit hopped right in and said she felt that 2014 had been a skipping success and felt we should move to the agenda item.

"All in favour," cried Mrs Wombat. "Carried." they all cried. "The agenda item is of great importance as it affects the receiving of our communications. You are all aware that our communications are delivered by B.L.P.O. mail contractors and this is a free service."

"How lucky are we!" piped in Mrs Kanga, "I only

have to hop down to the P.O. to pick up paw print (signature parcels), most of the others are delivered". Mrs Rat called out from the rear of the circle, "But only if your delivery point is big enough to take it."

Mrs Wombat called for order again and suggested that those lazy boys check up on all the boxes and see if we can do our bit to help the contractors and save the unnecessary trips to town. Loud applause and cheering could be heard. "Well I declare this meeting closed, and the minutes will be sent out so the ones not here can keep up with events". If help needed, contact the Boolarra L.P.O. on 51696209.

Wishing everybody a safe Easter break.



## Book Club

Book Club has started again at Boolarra with the reading of 'Watcher on the Cast Iron Balcony' by Hal Porter. That made



us all remember our childhoods - this was in Bairnsdale. This year we are starting our meetings with tea and an informal discussion at 6:00pm followed by a more formal talk about the book. We usually finish between 8:00 and 8:30pm. This year we will read nine books; have a book share in April and a film later in August. It's a great night, if you would like to join please ring Robern on 5169 6494 - reading is the best thing ever.

Robern Lubawski.

## Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

(28 August, 1749 - 22 March, 1832)

was a German writer and statesman. His body of work includes epic and lyric poetry written in a variety of metres and styles; prose and verse, dramas; memoirs; an autobiography; literary and aesthetic criticism, treatises on botany, anatomy and colour; and four novels.

"We are never deceived; we deceive ourselves."

"One never goes so far as when one doesn't know where one is going."

"Talent develops in solitude, character develops in the stream of life."

This Year . . . .

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FANTASTIC  
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\$75

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5169 1573





*The successful Under 12's Cricket Team.*

After 17 years of no under twelve cricket team, Boolarra this season have fielded a team and what a team they have turned out to be! They have completed the season undefeated, with all players improving out of sight. With the guidance of coach and team manager Scott Gregor and members of the senior team, the boys have gone from bashing and chasing every ball to playing shots and know (most of the time) which balls to hit and which balls to leave. They have gone from bowling four or five no balls/

wides per over to in some cases none or just one. This is a fantastic effort from boys who have never played cricket before.

Two of our boys Jacob Carnes and Jedd Felmingham represented Boolarra in the Central Gippsland Cricket Association Representative side, which played Leongatha and District in Leongatha on Sunday, 15 February this year. Central Gippsland won the toss and elected to bowl having Leongatha all out for 95 off 33 overs. The best of the bowling figures being Taji Eden from Mirboo North three for three and one run out. Our boys did very well with the ball with Jedd taking one wicket and Jacob bowling three overs for five runs. Jedd helped open the batting with a slow, nervous start, but settled in and started to hit out crisply.

Jedd managed thirteen off four overs before being caught. The sound of the ball coming off the bat was exciting to listen to. There were great shots played and some great running between wickets. It wasn't long before Centrals had the run chase well in hand with only 25 overs bowled. Much to the delight of all players they played out the overs allowing all players to be able to have a bat. Jacob took to the field with four overs remaining and managed to make sixteen runs including a fantastic four, (the boys played on a full sized pitch and full sized ground) a mean feat for an adult let alone an under twelve boy. A great day was had by all but most of all for Jedd and Jacob. Well done boys!

Presentation night will be held at a later date.



*Jacob displays his cricket skills with the re-formed U12's.*



*"At the moment of commitment the entire universe conspires to assist you."*  
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



# BOOLARRA PONY CLUB



Annual beach ride at Reeves beach.

With the summer break out of the way, we kicked off this year's activities with our annual Gymkhana on 1 February. The event attracted in excess of 500 people and two of the Open judges, claimed that the Boolarra Gymkhana was a lot bigger than some of the local agricultural riding shows. None of this would be possible without the generous support from sponsorship and a community events grant from Latrobe City. The Boolarra Pony Club would like to thank their valuable sponsors: Latrobe City, Mirboo North and District Community Bank (Bendigo Bank) FJ Metal & Fabrications, Ken Graeme Motors, Boolarra Post Office, Morwell Bowling Club, JW & HL O'Connor cartage contractors, Moe Veterinary Centre, Horseman Lawyers, Smoothflow, Stockil Veterinary group, Simply Business, Hazelwood Hydraulics, CBT Psychologists, Star Ceilings, Alpine Country, Tackleworld Morwell, Castello Group, Apex Steel, Bullocks, Ultra Tune Dandenong, RST consulting, Supaflex, PJM Engineering, Gardenworld Café, Boctor Holdings, Surdex Steel, Autex, Flavour makers and Zaniti Hair Studio Churchill. Mid February we held our annual beach ride at Reeves Beach, near Woodside. This is a very popular event on our pony club calendar. The weather was just perfect, and the kids and horses had a great time.

Gary Mills,  
President Boolarra Pony Club.

## Boolarra - Yinnar Exercise Group

Boolarra Memorial Hall  
Monday 9:30am – 10:30am  
Yinnar Memorial Hall  
Friday 10:00am – 11:00am

Both groups are well underway after a short summer recess. Regulars agree our bodies miss the reminder to exercise. Kathleen, our qualified instructor, keeps up to date with health issues and makes us aware of any ideas to improve our well-being and 'joy de vivre'. Several new recruits have joined the Yinnar class and we would welcome newcomers to the Boolarra group to keep fit, improve posture and had a great chat as well. Thanks to funding from the Bendigo Community Bank at Mirboo North the cost per class has been reduced to \$8. Come along and join the fun and keep the brain and body active.

For further information call Kathleen Millet 5122 2591 or Kate Cartwright 5169 6592.



Mickey and Minnie Mouse appear at the Boolarra Gymkhana.



# BOOLARRA NETBALL CLUB

FOUNDATION CLUB M.G.F.L. 1935  
WEB SITE: [www.boolarrafc.vcfl.com.au](http://www.boolarrafc.vcfl.com.au)



We have good numbers attending training this season. We started pre-season in early February and have enlisted the skills of Sam Fenton who has been coming out to our training sessions on Wednesdays and teaching the girls strength and fitness exercises. So hopefully we will all be fit and strong at the beginning of the season and fitter and stronger by the end of the season.

The number of Junior players that are coming along is also very inspiring and will hopefully mean that the community of Boolarra has a good strong future in Netball for years to come.

This Year Boolarra will be fielding six teams in the Mid Gippsland Competition, which will begin 11 April with our first game being away at Yarragon. We will also be fielding two Junior teams in the Churchill Indoor Competition, possibly three if we can get a 15 and Under/17 and Under team up and running, as well as participants in the Net-Set-Go program.

The first game of the CINA Season is on 21 March.

The Coaches for Season 2015 are:

A Grade – Rebecca Crick

B Grade – Still working on a coach for B Grade

C Grade – Gabrielle Francis

D Grade – Ann Reiske

17 and Under – Monique Beamish

15 and Under - Jess Middlemiss and Cassie Hill

Our Junior teams Coaches are

13 and Under - Gabrielle Francis

11 and Under - Cherry Prior

Net Set Go – Jackie McGlade and lots of parent helpers.

The Netball Club is being well led again by Ann Reiske. Jess Middlemiss and Cassie Hill are both sharing the role of Secretary, whilst Faye Taylor

is once again the Treasurer. Who can remember how many years Faye has been doing such a wonderful job of keeping our finances in order?

We are very fortunate to have many other helpers around the club to share the load of the many small tasks that are required to be done each week to get the games on the court. This is a good chance to say thankyou to everyone for all the help throughout the season. So thankyou everyone! Hope to see you all keen to help again this season.

I must mention that one of our umpires has been Talent identified by Netball Victoria and has been doing some umpiring at the Eastern Region State League Netball Competition which is played in Churchill on Friday nights from January to March. Congratulations Jess Middlemiss, you're doing an amazing job.

The Social rooms will have meals available to the public on Thursday nights from the end of March onwards and on Saturdays after a home game. Our new Chef will be Micka Wilson. Thankyou to Annie Nottage who is retiring from the kitchen; thanks Annie for your many years of cooking for the club. We wish you well and hope to see you around.

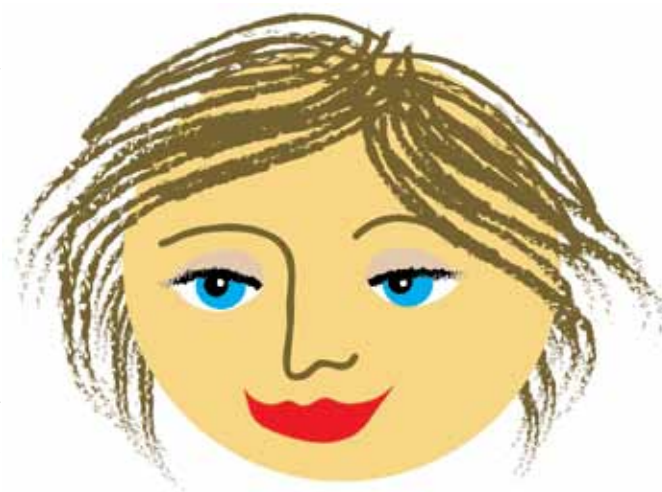
If you want to play netball or be involved in the Boolarra Football Netball Club please call Ann Reiske on 0427 696 451 or Jackie McGlade on 0448 318 314.

*Jackie Mc Glade.*



*One of our great training sessions.*

*"Difficulties increase the nearer we get to the goal."*  
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



*"There is nothing more dreadful than imagination without taste."*  
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



*Netball girls in training, Boolarra teams.*

**The Boolarra Football Netball Club would like to thank their valuable sponsors for Season 2014 and welcome them back for Season 2015 we ask that you get behind these businesses as they support our community club.**

Morwell Club, Prorent, Tony Antonelli Accounting, Lincon Hire & Services, Boolarra Store, Boolarra Pub, Anish Parekh The Good Guys, Mirboo North & District Community Bank, Slater & Gordon, Boolarra Fish Farm, Gibson Groundspread, Latrobe City, Owen Transport, Yinnar Community Hotel, Boolarra Post Office, Trafalgar Mens & Boyswear, Tradeweld, Valley Trophy Centre, Soroptimist International, Strzelecki Plumbing, J Smith Motors, Monacellars Wine & Spirits, Palms Apartments, Prosper Valley Excavations, Valleywide Tree Services, Cervus Equipment, Jims Building Inspections, Fitness 4 U, Electrical Trade Union, Riviera Display Kitchens, Mirboo North Golf Club, Kennedy Haulage/ Driffield Quarries, Prosper Valley Gravel, G & C Plasters, Out of Dough, Willaton Transport, BJ Bennett & Co Real Estate, Onsite Welding Services, Benson Timber & Hardware, Latrobe Valley Funeral Services, Bellebanne, Gatts Panel Works, Willys Bobcat Hire, Norm Oliver Butchers, GM Conveyancing, Young Signs, Latrobe Eyecare, Samantha Brick Health & Massage, Russell Northe, McDonalds, Morwell Tenpins, KFC Churchill, Future Flicks, Massaro Motors, Alfresh 2 Go.





# BOOLARRA FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDATION CLUB M.G.F.L. 1935  
WEB SITE: [www.boolarrafc.vcfl.com.au](http://www.boolarrafc.vcfl.com.au)



L to R:  
James Holmes (3rds Coach), Russell McGlade (President),  
Tony Giardina (Senior Coach).

Welcome everybody to Season 2015 of the Boolarra Football Netball Club, wishing everyone a great season with lots of fun and success. We would like to welcome all new players, sponsors and supporters to our club and hope they enjoy their time with us. Boolarra Football Netball Club would love to see new members of the community and surrounding areas so come along and support our club.

The club would also like to make the announcement that 2011 Senior Premiership Coach Tony Giardina will be staying on as Coach for a club record breaking 7th season at the helm of the club and assisting him as Reserves Coach for season 2014 will be 2011 Premiership Captain in Simon Buglisi who will be coaching for his second season. The Thirds will be coached by James Holmes this season in his first year as Thirds Coach after

having previously coached the Boolarra Under 12 team in the T&DJFL

On Saturday, 21 March at Boolarra Memorial Park, the club plays Woodside Football Netball Club in all grades of football and netball in a practise match. We would like to welcome all members of the community to come down to the park and watch the afternoon's football and netball. The week after on 28 March, Boolarra travel to Nilma/Darnum to play football and netball practise matches at their ground. The official Mid Gippsland season gets underway early on 11 April when Boolarra play Yarragon, at Yarragon.

The committee of the club would like to thank all the helpers who assisted at the 2015 Boolarra Folk Festival at the BBQ, which is a really great fundraiser for the club.

The draw for the first half of the MGFL season is Round 1: Yarragon (away), Round 2: Mirboo North (home), Round 3: Hill End (home Sunday), Round 4: Newborough (away), Round 5: Yallourn North (home), Round 6: Thorpdale (away), Interleague Mid Gippsland FL Vs Warrnambool & District FL, Round 7: Morwell East (home), Round 8: Yinnar (away Sunday) and Round 9: Trafalgar (home).

Darren Napier.

## UNDER 18 FOOTBALL RETURNS TO BOOLARRA

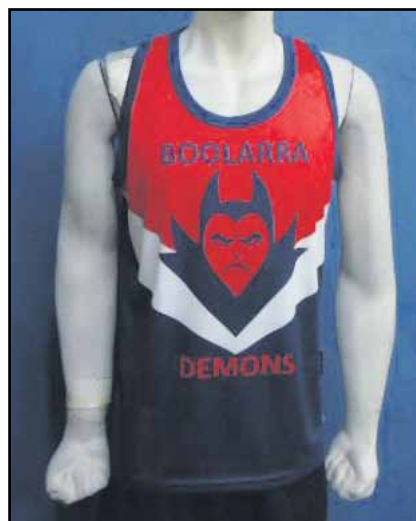
After a hardworking campaign over the summer Boolarra Football Netball Club is confident it has the numbers to field a team in the Mid Gippsland Football League Under 18's competition in 2015. The club was disappointed that it was unable to get the numbers for a team in 2014 and has made every effort in an extensive recruiting campaign. Club President Russell (Rusty) McGlade said, "We were delighted to appoint James Holmes as Coach for 2015. James is highly respected around the club. He is a local boy who started with us as a junior and has gone on to be one of our more experienced senior players having played in our 2011 Premiership team. He is very committed and has a really good relationship with the young fellas."

James said, "As someone that has come up through the juniors I know how important it is to be able to offer opportunities to the young blokes. I was really pleased to be offered the position as Coach and I am confident we can build a competitive team. We have some players that found themselves playing for other clubs that are keen to come back. Recruiting is going very well but we want to offer the opportunity to any other players that are keen to have a game. It is fantastic to have the support of my team mates from the senior team that are helping with training and doing skills development work with the boys."

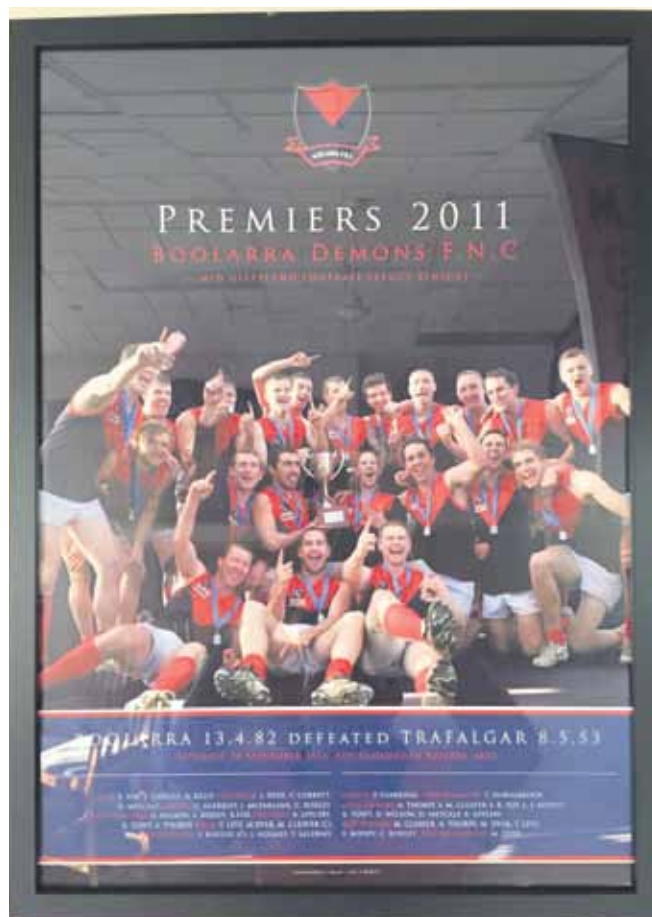
The club has a proud history as one of the founding clubs of the Mid Gippsland Football League. In recent times the club has developed a culture of good sportsmanship and achievement and has consistently played finals football. The club prides itself on its family friendly atmosphere, great facilities and great relationship with the netballers. Senior Coach Tony Giardina said, "Junior football is obviously important to the future of any club. This is a great opportunity for young players to get introduced to the game. I am very pleased that so many of our current senior team came up through the juniors and they are doing very well."

Russell McGlade said, "We are still looking for more players. Whether you have played before or not you will be welcome at the club."

Any potential players should contact Russell on 0428 696 507 or James Holmes on 0447 096 607.



The new 2015 training shirt.



Well we took our time but they are finally here!  
For anyone interested we have framed and unframed  
2011 premiership posters on sale at the club.  
\$50 unframed  
\$120 framed  
Contact the club if you'd like to get your hands on this  
little piece of Boolarra history.